



कनिष्ठ विधि अधिकारी (राजस्थान)

The Junior Legal Officer is the officer who advises a government department on the law in its everyday working. When the department enters a contract, runs disciplinary proceedings against an employee, becomes a party before a...



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वरिष्ठ व्याख्याता, डाइट बाड़मेर (सहयोग)
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कमलेश चौधरी

व्याख्याता (राजनीति विज्ञान) · रा.उ.मा.वि. टापरा

करियर मार्गदर्शन कार्यशाला, डाइट बाड़मेर (14-17 जुलाई 2026) में विकसित व लोकार्पित
Developed & unveiled at the Career Guidance Workshop, DIET Barmer (14-17 July 2026)

यह एक स्वतंत्र परियोजना है, जो सरकार की आधिकारिक करियर-मार्गदर्शन सामग्री पर आधारित है। · An independent project based on the Government's official career-guidance content.

1 About this career

The Junior Legal Officer is the officer who advises a government department on the law in its everyday working. When the department enters a contract, runs disciplinary proceedings against an employee, becomes a party before a court or tribunal, or issues an order, it is this post that checks whether what is being done is legally sound. The work includes preparing the replies the department files in court, coordinating with the government advocate, putting legal notes on files, and assisting in departmental inquiries. The most practical feature of the post is that it is open to a law graduate immediately — there is no requirement of two years at the Bar as there is for Assistant Prosecution Officer. For a student who wants to move from an LL.B. straight into government service, this is one of the most direct routes in Rajasthan.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	A Law Graduate from a university established by law in India or its equivalent, with a three years course of proficiency degree (Service Rules 1981, Schedule I)
Recruiting body	Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC), Ajmer — department: Law & Legal Affairs
Age limit	21 to 40 years, reckoned on the 1st of January following the last date for applications (Service Rules 1981) — the upper limit is relaxed for reserved categories and for women (detail below)
Starting salary	The pay matrix level is not given in the service rules — see the advertisement
Demand	100% by direct recruitment — nobody reaches this post by promotion

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- An interest in law and its practical application
- Work built on reading, writing and analysis
- Working inside administration and policy

ABILITIES

- Careful reading — catching a legal flaw in a proposal before it goes out
- Advising according to the law even under pressure
- Clear writing, because decisions are taken on a legal note

KEY SKILLS

- Working knowledge of civil and administrative law
- Preparing replies filed before courts and tribunals
- Legal noting on files and official correspondence
- Legal scrutiny of contracts and tender documents
- Service law and departmental disciplinary proceedings
- Coordinating with the government advocate and the Law Department

4 How to get there

- 1 Pass Class 12; the arts stream is the natural route here.
- 2 Become a law graduate — the rule requires the degree to be from a university established by law in India or its equivalent, and refers to a three years course of proficiency degree. Both the five-year integrated law course and the three-year LL.B. after graduation are ordinary routes; check the equivalence of your own degree against the advertisement.
- 3 One thing is worth knowing here in particular, because it separates this post from other legal posts: it requires no prior experience at the Bar. Assistant Prosecution Officer demands two years of practice; this post does not. You are eligible the moment the LL.B. is complete.
- 4 Your age must be between 21 and 40, and a working knowledge of Hindi in Devanagari script and a knowledge of Rajasthan culture are general conditions under these rules.
- 5 Focus preparation on civil and administrative law, service law, the law of contract and the Constitution — these are the subjects that arise in a department's daily working.

- 6 Apply when the RPSC advertisement appears.

MAIN EXAMS

- Recruitment is by the Rajasthan Public Service Commission and in the Schedule this post falls under the subordinate service, filled 100% by direct recruitment — no promotion percentage stands against it. Entry to the cadre is only through this door.
- The promotion structure is simple: the Senior Legal Officer post is filled 100% by promotion and requires five years of service as Junior Legal Officer.
- One point about the name should be known, because older advertisements and older rule text cause confusion. A notification of 23-10-2012 renamed "Legal Assistant" as "Junior Legal Officer", and by the same notification "Head Legal Assistant" became "Senior Legal Officer". The two are the ends of one pair — if you find a reference to Legal Assistant, it is this post under its former name.
- It is useful to compare this post with two neighbouring legal posts, because all three begin from an LL.B. but the work differs. The Vidhi Rachnakar writes the text of the law, is examined entirely on translation, and requires both English and Hindi as subjects in the B.A. The Assistant Prosecution Officer conducts criminal trials in court and must have two years at the Bar. The Junior Legal Officer is the department's legal adviser and carries neither of those additional conditions — which is why it is the most accessible of the three to a fresh law graduate.

- Note — this post is not in the Schedules to the CET Rules 2022, so a CET score is not required for it. It is a Commission post, not a Board post.
- Relaxation in the upper age limit — 5 years for male candidates of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, More Backward Classes and Economically Weaker Sections; 5 years for women candidates of the General category; and 10 years for women candidates of those same categories. Which means plainly that the bare figure printed against a post understates a reserved-category woman's eligibility by a decade — if you are in that category, work out your eligibility only after adding the relaxation. In Rajasthan, 30% of the posts in direct recruitment are reserved category-wise for women candidates. Widows and divorced women have no upper age limit at all — the rules say it in those words. It is Rule 13(9) of the Rajasthan State and Subordinate Services (Direct Recruitment by Combined Competitive Examination) Rules 1999, it appears again as the same proviso in the Rajasthan Medical & Health Subordinate Service Rules, and RPSC advertisements reproduce it. A widow must furnish a certificate of the death of her husband from the competent authority, and a divorced woman the proof of divorce. The exact terms of relaxation and reservation are given in that recruitment's own advertisement.

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- Government law colleges, Rajasthan — LL.B. — Jaipur, Jodhpur, Ajmer, Udaipur, Kota, Bikaner (<https://hte.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- National Law University, Jodhpur — five-year integrated law course — Jodhpur, Rajasthan (<https://nlujodhpur.ac.in/>)
- University of Rajasthan — Faculty of Law — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://uniraj.ac.in/>)
- Government colleges for the graduation that precedes a three-year LL.B. — All districts of Rajasthan (<https://hte.rajasthan.gov.in/>)

ONLINE

- विधि एवं विधिक कार्य विभाग, राजस्थान — This is the department the post belongs to (<https://home.rajasthan.gov.in>)
- India Code — Central and State Acts, free and authoritative — Government of India (<https://www.indiacode.nic.in/>)
- राजस्थान राजपत्र — नियम एवं अधिसूचनाएँ — Government of Rajasthan (<https://rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- eCourts — court records and cause lists — Government of India (<https://ecourts.gov.in/>)
- आर.एस.एस.बी. — पिछले प्रश्न-पत्र, उत्तर कुंजी व पाठ्यक्रम (निःशुल्क) — The Staff Selection Board's own site — the most reliable free preparation material there is (https://rsmssb.rajasthan.gov.in/show_archived?menuName=Xj4lCb9vGxpQnfls%2FxlZ2g%3D%3D)
- विभागीय सेवा नियम (कार्मिक विभाग) — पद की योग्यता व आयु मूल दस्तावेज़ में पढ़ें — The Department of Personnel publishes the service rules for every cadre. Read these before any coaching material — qualification, age and the method of recruitment are settled here and nowhere else. (<https://dop.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- स्वयं (SWAYAM) — भारत सरकार के निःशुल्क ऑनलाइन कोर्स — Free (<https://swayam.gov.in/>)
- राष्ट्रीय डिजिटल पुस्तकालय (NDLI) — Free books and study material (<https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in/>)
- एन.सी.ई.आर.टी. — निःशुल्क पाठ्यपुस्तकें — The foundation for general knowledge, maths and science (<https://ncert.nic.in/>)

FEES

An LL.B. costs very little at a government law college, and Rajasthan has one in every division. The practical convenience of this post is that eligibility arrives the moment the degree is complete — there is no need to wait out two years at the Bar, so no compulsory gap sits between study and recruitment. Preparation material is almost entirely free: the Constitution, the Contract Act, the rules of service law and the state Acts are all on India Code and the Rajasthan Gazette. The examination fee is a few hundred rupees with a concession for reserved categories. One point to note — enrolment with the Bar Council is not required for this post, though if you also want to practise, that is a separate decision.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Mukhyamantri Anuprati Coaching Yojana (free coaching, apply via SSO) (<https://sso.rajasthan.gov.in/signin>)
- Rajasthan Social Justice and Empowerment Dept scholarships (<https://sje.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- National Scholarship Portal (NSP) (<https://scholarships.gov.in/>)
- Buddy4Study scholarship search (<https://www.buddy4study.com>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

The legal cells of the secretariat and of departments, offices at district and divisional level, and work connected with courts and tribunals. The work is mainly office work and almost entirely written.

WORK CULTURE

This is law in its advisory rather than adversarial form. Much of the day goes in reading files, scrutinising proposals for legal soundness and writing notes — and the department decides on the strength of those notes, so the responsibility is greater than it looks. Deadlines are often set by the court: when a reply has to be filed by a date the pressure sharpens, and the pace is ordinary the rest of the time. Learning is quick in this post, because the questions a department brings are varied — a contract, a service dispute and a land matter can all arrive in one week. For a student who wants to work in law but not the life of arguing in court or the uncertain income of private practice, this is the fitting route.

WHO HIRES

- Law & Legal Affairs Department, Rajasthan
- State corporations, boards and autonomous bodies
- The legal cells of state government departments

DEMAND (2026)

The working of government departments is full of contracts, service disputes, land, tenders and cases pending in court, and the need for legal opinion on all of them is continuous, so the cadre is a permanent one. The cadre is nonetheless not large and the advertisement does not come every year. The most practical point in preparing for this post is that, because eligibility carries no additional condition, it can be aimed at in the years immediately after the LL.B. — while the other routes open to a law graduate stay open alongside: Assistant Prosecution Officer after two years of practice, Vidhi Rachnakar if the B.A. carried English and Hindi, the judicial service, legal aid and private practice. One degree opens several doors, and this post is the earliest of them to become available. The number of posts describes the department's requirement, not your chances of selection. One thing to be clear about — the "demand" described above counts posts, not your chance of getting one. Selection is by open competition and the number of applicants runs to many times the number of posts, so most candidates are not selected in any given recruitment. That is not an argument against this career; it is an argument against making it your only plan. Keep studying or building a skill alongside your preparation, so that the year is not lost whichever way the result goes.

7 Career growth

- 1 Junior Legal Officer — the entry post, 100% by direct recruitment (formerly Legal Assistant)
- 2 Senior Legal Officer — 100% by promotion, on five years of service as Junior Legal Officer (formerly Head Legal Assistant)
- 3 Legal officer level posts in the state service
- 4 Senior advisory responsibility in the Law Department and departmental legal cells

EARNINGS

Starting	विज्ञप्ति में घोषित पे मैट्रिक्स स्तर के अनुसार
Mid level	₹50,000 – ₹70,000 (भत्तों सहित, कुछ वर्षों बाद)
Senior level	₹85,000 से अधिक (भत्तों सहित, वरिष्ठ विधि अधिकारी एवं उससे ऊपर)

The 1981 service rules do not give a pay matrix level for this post, so no starting figure is printed on this page — it will be in that cycle's advertisement. The mid-level and senior figures above are approximate and are not confirmed from any official document; read them as a direction, not a promise. One comparison is useful: income in the early years of private practice is highly uncertain, whereas this post pays a regular salary from the first day — and that is its main attraction. The starting figure is BASIC PAY, so that it can be compared directly against other careers. Dearness allowance (60% of basic since 1 January 2026) and house rent allowance are added on top of it, so take-home pay is appreciably higher. The mid-level and senior figures are approximate monthly income including allowances, not basic pay. Note — in Rajasthan a direct recruit is a probationer-trainee for the first 2 years and is paid a fixed remuneration, not the pay scale; dearness allowance and house rent allowance are not payable in those two years (Rajasthan Service Rules, rule 7(30A)). The full pay scale applies once probation is completed. The pay matrix level for this post could not be confirmed on this page from an official document — it is not in the service rules and not in the CET Rules 2022 schedule. No level is therefore stated here. The correct figure is printed in the official advertisement for the recruitment; check it there before applying. The figures above rest on the Rajasthan 7th pay matrix, which is what applies as of 17 August 2026. The Terms of Reference of the 8th Central Pay Commission were approved on 28 October 2025 and it must report within 18 months of its constitution. State governments normally adopt a Central Pay Commission with modifications, and later than the Centre does — so Rajasthan pay will be revised too, though by how much and when is not yet settled.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- Eligible as soon as the LL.B. is complete — no prior experience at the Bar required
- 100% direct recruitment, so entry is not competed for against departmental promotion
- Work in law without the uncertain income of private practice
- Quick learning, because the range of subjects is wide
- Preparation material free on government websites

The challenges

- The cadre is small and the advertisement does not come every year
- The work is mainly files and notes — limited opportunity to argue in court
- The promotion ladder is short
- The former name (Legal Assistant) makes searching older advertisements confusing

9 If this route does not work out

One exam or one attempt does not close the door. The same subjects also open these routes — entry is usually easier, and you can return to this field later.

- Vidhi Rachnakar — Legal Draftsman (Rajasthan)
- Assistant Prosecution Officer (Rajasthan)
- Judge

10 Sources & further reading

1. Department of Personnel, Rajasthan — Rajasthan Legal (State and Subordinate) Service Rules, 1981 — https://dop.rajasthan.gov.in/writereaddata/modulCategory/202412110341149266459vidhi_merged.pdf
2. Rajasthan Public Service Commission — advertisements — <https://rpsc.rajasthan.gov.in/advertisements>
3. Home Department, Rajasthan — the Law & Legal Affairs Department site is not currently reachable — <https://home.rajasthan.gov.in>
4. India Code — Central and State Acts — <https://www.indiacode.nic.in/>
5. Rajasthan Staff Selection Board (official) — <https://rssb.rajasthan.gov.in/>
6. Department of Personnel, Rajasthan — service rules — <https://dop.rajasthan.gov.in/>
7. 8th Central Pay Commission — Cabinet approval of the Terms of Reference (PIB, 28 October 2025) — <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2183289>



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