



SAARTHI • सारथी

करियर मार्गदर्शन पोर्टल • Career Guidance Portal

"सही मार्गदर्शन, उज्ज्वल भविष्य।"

करियर शीट • CAREER SHEET

प्रदर्शन कलाकार

Performing artists present their craft — music, dance, acting or theatre — live before an audience or a camera. This career rests more on talent, daily practice and stage experience than on formal degrees. Rajasthan's rich...



Scan for everything on this career

Salary, exams, colleges, the routes in and the steps after — all on the portal.

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/performing-artist

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Principal, GSSS Jethantri • Master Trainer



श्री चेनाराम चौधरी

प्रधानाचार्य, डाइट बाड़मेर
Principal, DIET Barmer



श्रीमती संघमित्रा

वरिष्ठ व्याख्याता, डाइट बाड़मेर (सहयोग)
Sr. Lecturer, DIET Barmer (Support)



भरत चौधरी

अभिकल्पना व विकास • व्याख्याता (इतिहास)
Designed & developed • Lecturer (History)

विशेष धन्यवाद • SPECIAL THANKS



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सुरेश कुमार सैन

व्याख्याता (भूगोल) • रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



वनिता कुमारी

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) • रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



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

Performing artists present their craft — music, dance, acting or theatre — live before an audience or a camera. This career rests more on talent, daily practice and stage experience than on formal degrees. Rajasthan's rich folk-music and folk-dance heritage gives students a strong foundation to begin.

2 At a glance

Min. qualification	No fixed degree; training, audition/talent based
Work mode	Mostly freelance and project-based; stage/studio, irregular hours
Demand (2026)	Rising with OTT, events, the wedding industry and digital platforms
Top earning	Established artists can earn lakhs per show/project

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- Performing on stage and connecting with an audience
- Passion for constant practice and learning new art forms
- Interest in music, dance, storytelling and expression

ABILITIES

- Sense of rhythm, pitch and body coordination
- Memory, discipline and stamina
- Stage confidence and expressive ability

KEY SKILLS

- Technical mastery of voice/instrument or dance
- Acting, dialogue delivery and body language

- Stagecraft and coordination with fellow performers
- Social media and self-promotion (personal branding)
- Time management and financial discipline
- Audition and portfolio-building skills
- Ability to take feedback and improve

4 How to get there

- 1 Start training early under a guru/teacher in music, dance or acting.
- 2 Take part in school and college cultural programs and competitions.
- 3 Build stage experience through local theatre groups, folk platforms and workshops.
- 4 Give auditions and share your performances on YouTube/Instagram.
- 5 Optionally pursue a BPA/BA (Performing Arts) or a degree from institutes like NSD/FTII.
- 6 Start professional work through small events, weddings, web series and ads.

MAIN EXAMS

- Most entry is audition and portfolio based.
- NSD/FTII require written tests, interview and audition.
- University BPA/MPA entrance test/audition (e.g. University of Rajasthan).

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- Department of Music, University of Rajasthan (BPA/MPA/MA) — Jaipur
- Rajasthan Sangeet Natak Akademi — Jodhpur (<https://rajasthansangeetnatakakademijodhpur.com/>)
- Kathak Kendra (Sangeet Natak Akademi) — New Delhi (<https://sangeetnatak.gov.in/kathak-kendra>)
- National School of Drama (NSD) — New Delhi (<https://nsd.gov.in/delhi/>)
- Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) — Pune (<https://ftii.ac.in/>)

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- KM Music Conservatory (A. R. Rahman) — Chennai (<https://www.kmmc.in/>)
- Shiamak Davar Institute for the Performing Arts — Mumbai & other cities

- Whistling Woods International (film & acting) — Mumbai

ONLINE

- Shankar Mahadevan Academy (online music) — Online
- ipassio (Indian classical music & dance, live online) — Online

FEES

Government institutes and universities are low-cost (a few thousand up to about ₹30,000–40,000 per year), while private academies and film/dance schools can range from ₹1 lakh to several lakhs per year. Learning under the guru-shishya tradition is often the most affordable route.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- CCRT Scholarships to Young Artistes (Ministry of Culture) (<https://ccrtindia.gov.in/scholarship-fellowship/scheme-for-scholarships-to-young-artistes/>)
- Award of Scholarships to Young Artists (Ministry of Culture) (<https://culture.gov.in/offering/schemes-services/award-scholarships-young-artists-different-cultural-fields>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

Theatres and auditoriums, recording studios, film and TV sets, event and wedding venues, cultural festivals, and online/social-media platforms.

WORK CULTURE

Work is largely project-based with irregular hours — late rehearsals, travel and weekend shows are common. Income is uneven, so steady practice, networking and patience are essential.

WHO HIRES

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Theatre companies and drama troupes | • Film, TV and OTT production houses |
| • Event-management and the wedding industry | • Music labels and recording studios |
| • Schools, academies and private teaching (as a guru) | • Independent/freelance work plus culture departments and tourism boards |

DEMAND (2026)

Demand for skilled performers is rising with the growth of OTT, digital content, live events and the wedding industry. In Rajasthan, folk-art and tourism-based performances offer steady, ongoing opportunities.

7 Career growth

- 1 Student/trainee artist — training and local performances
- 2 Emerging artist — small shows, chorus, supporting roles
- 3 Professional artist — regular stage/studio work and recognition
- 4 Established/lead artist — lead roles, own band/troupe
- 5 Guru/director/choreographer — training and directing others

EARNINGS

Starting	₹10,000–25,000/माह (या प्रति शो)
Mid level	₹40,000–1 लाख/माह
Senior level	₹2 लाख+/माह या प्रति प्रोजेक्ट

Income is highly variable and depends on experience, fame and city; early on it is often per-show, while top artists can earn lakhs per performance.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- A chance to turn your passion and creativity into a career
- Recognition, travel and the chance to meet diverse people
- Pride in carrying forward Rajasthan's rich folk-art heritage

The challenges

- Irregular and uncertain income, especially in the early years
- Intense competition, rejection and long periods of struggle
- Irregular hours, travel and physical/emotional strain

9 Real-life journeys

Mame Khan

Rajasthani folk singer (Manganiyar community, Jaisalmer)

Born in Satto village near Jaisalmer, Mame Khan comes from the Manganiyar folk-music tradition. His 2012 performance of 'Chaudhary' on Coke Studio @ MTV brought him national fame, followed by playback singing in films like Mirzya and Sonchiriya. In 2022 he became the first folk artist to perform on the red carpet at the Cannes Film Festival.

Wikipedia · https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mame_Khan

Ila Arun

Rajasthani folk-pop singer and actress (Jodhpur)

Born in Jodhpur, Rajasthan, Ila Arun built her music around her folk-cultural heritage, gaining fame with albums like 'Vote for Ghagra' and the hit song 'Choli Ke Peeche'. She has also worked in theatre, Bollywood films (Jodhaa Akbar) and television (Samvidhaan), showing how folk roots can reach the national stage.

Wikipedia · https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ila_Arun

10 Sources & further reading

1. Sangeet Natak Akademi — <https://sangeetnatak.gov.in/>
2. National School of Drama (NSD) — <https://nsd.gov.in/delhi/>
3. Film and Television Institute of India (FTII) — <https://ftii.ac.in/>
4. National Career Service (NCS) — <https://www.ncs.gov.in/>
5. Ministry of Culture, Government of India — <https://culture.gov.in/>



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