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करियर शीट · CAREER SHEET

जनजातीय विधिक अधिवक्ता

A Tribal Legal Advocate is a lawyer who defends the constitutional and legal rights of Adivasi (tribal) communities. They represent tribal people before courts and the administration to enforce forest and land rights under the...



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श्रीमती संघमित्रा

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



भरत चौधरी

अभिकल्पना व विकास · व्याख्याता (इतिहास)
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विशेष धन्यवाद · SPECIAL THANKS



सुरेन्द्र सिंह राठौड़

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. कानाना



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

A Tribal Legal Advocate is a lawyer who defends the constitutional and legal rights of Adivasi (tribal) communities. They represent tribal people before courts and the administration to enforce forest and land rights under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 (FRA), Gram Sabha self-governance under PESA (1996), and the protections of the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution. They provide free or low-cost legal aid in cases of land alienation, displacement, wrongful prosecution and human-rights violations. It is a purpose-driven, dignified profession devoted to justice and dignity for India's Indigenous communities.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	5-year LLB after Class 12 (or 3-year LLB after graduation) + Bar Council enrolment
Course duration	LLB: 3–5 years
Starting salary	₹15,000–30,000/month (junior advocate)
Work mode	Court litigation, legal aid and rights advocacy

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- Deep interest in Adivasi rights and social justice
- A desire to stand with marginalised people at the grassroots and bring change
- Enjoy reading and understanding law, the Constitution and policy

ABILITIES

- Reasoning ability and clear, persuasive argument
- Careful analysis of documents, evidence and law
- Sensitivity to tribal language/dialect and culture, and patience

KEY SKILLS

- Working knowledge of the Forest Rights Act 2006, PESA and the Fifth Schedule
- Examining land records, revenue documents and forest-rights claims
- Understanding of human-rights and constitutional law
- Drafting petitions and pleadings and arguing cases in court
- Coordinating and counselling Gram Sabhas, claimants and officials
- Legal-awareness outreach and documentation in the local language

4 How to get there

- 1 Complete Class 12 (any stream) with good marks.
- 2 Take CLAT or a state/university law-entrance exam and join a 5-year integrated LLB (BA/BCom LLB); a 3-year LLB after graduation is also an option.
- 3 During LLB, focus on constitutional, human-rights and environment/forest law and intern on Adivasi-rights work.
- 4 Pass the All India Bar Examination (AIBE) and enrol as an advocate with the State Bar Council.
- 5 Gain experience with a senior advocate, a legal-aid body (NALSA/DLSA) or an Adivasi-rights NGO.
- 6 Build specialisation in forest-rights claims, PESA and land-alienation cases.

MAIN EXAMS

- Common Law Admission Test (CLAT) — for admission to NLUs
- All India Bar Examination (AIBE) — for the licence to practise

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- राष्ट्रीय विधि विश्वविद्यालय, जोधपुर (NLU Jodhpur) — Jodhpur, Rajasthan (<https://www.nlujodhpur.ac.in/>)
- यूनिवर्सिटी फाइव इयर लॉ कॉलेज, राजस्थान विश्वविद्यालय — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.uniraj.ac.in/>)
- जय नारायण व्यास विश्वविद्यालय — विधि संकाय — Jodhpur, Rajasthan (<https://www.jnvu.co.in/>)
- नेशनल लॉ स्कूल ऑफ़ इंडिया यूनिवर्सिटी (NLSIU) — Bengaluru, Karnataka (<https://www.nls.ac.in/>)

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- मणिपाल यूनिवर्सिटी जयपुर — स्कूल ऑफ़ लॉ — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://jaipur.manipal.edu/>)
- जगन्नाथ यूनिवर्सिटी — विधि विभाग — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.jagannathuniversity.org/>)

ONLINE

- CLAT कंसोर्टियम ऑफ़ NLUs — तैयारी व जानकारी — Online (<https://consortiumofnlus.ac.in/>)
- SWAYAM — कानून व मानवाधिकार पाठ्यक्रम — Online (<https://swayam.gov.in/>)

FEES

At government universities (University of Rajasthan, JNVU) LLB fees are very low — roughly ₹10,000–30,000 per year. At National Law Universities like NLU Jodhpur they are about ₹2–3 lakh per year, and at private law colleges ₹1–4 lakh per year. Scheduled Tribe (ST) students receive fee waivers and scholarships.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- राष्ट्रीय छात्रवृत्ति पोर्टल (NSP) (<https://scholarships.gov.in/>)
- अनुसूचित जनजाति हेतु पोस्ट-मैट्रिक छात्रवृत्ति (जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय) (<https://tribal.nic.in/Scholarship.aspx>)
- SJE राजस्थान — छात्रवृत्ति योजनाएं (<https://sje.rajasthan.gov.in/>)
- Buddy4Study — विधि/लॉ छात्रवृत्तियां (<https://www.buddy4study.com/>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

District and High Courts, Legal Services Authorities (NALSA/DLSA), Adivasi-rights and human-rights NGOs, Gram Sabhas, and field visits to Scheduled Areas and forest villages.

WORK CULTURE

The work mixes court litigation with village visits, documenting claims and dialogue with the community. Hours can be irregular and income is limited in the early years, but the work brings deep satisfaction and social impact. Respect for the dignity and consent of Adivasi communities is central to this profession.

WHO HIRES

- | | |
|---|--|
| • National, State and District Legal Services Authorities (NALSA/DLSA) | • NGOs and people's organisations working on Adivasi and forest rights |
| • Human-rights organisations and public-interest law firms | • Independent practice — in District/High Courts and the Supreme Court |
| • Ministry of Tribal Affairs and State Tribal Welfare departments (as legal advisers) | • Legal-aid clinics and research centres of law universities |

DEMAND (2026)

Millions of Adivasi families still have pending forest-rights claims, and cases of land alienation, displacement and wrongful prosecution keep rising, so advocates skilled in the Forest Rights Act and PESA remain in demand. Rajasthan's southern tribal-majority districts (Udaipur, Banswara, Dungarpur, Pratapgarh) and Scheduled Areas across India have a deep need for legal aid — though this is largely a purpose-driven field rather than a high-paying one.

7 Career growth

- 1 Junior Advocate (under a senior lawyer / legal-aid body)
- 2 Independent Advocate specialising in Adivasi/forest-rights cases
- 3 High Court Advocate / Legal Director of an NGO
- 4 Senior Advocate, public-interest litigation (PIL) expert or policy adviser

EARNINGS

Starting	₹15,000–30,000/माह
Mid level	₹40,000–80,000/माह
Senior level	₹1,00,000+/माह

An honest estimate: junior advocates earn modestly (₹15,000–30,000/month) and legal-aid/rights-advocacy work is largely purpose-driven. Income grows with experience, reputation and independent practice; NALSA/DLSA panel lawyers receive case-wise honorariums. Many renowned Adivasi-rights lawyers prioritise justice and community service over high earnings.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- Direct, meaningful impact on Adivasi lives and rights
- Backing of strong laws like the Constitution, the Forest Rights Act and PESA
- Social respect and deep personal fulfilment

The challenges

- Limited and uncertain income in the early years
- Long court processes, field travel and mental/physical strain
- Sometimes facing pressure, opposition or safety risks

9 Real-life journeys

Palla Trinadha Rao

Advocate and Adivasi land-rights specialist, Andhra Pradesh/Telangana

Dr. Palla Trinadha Rao is an advocate who has devoted his life to defending Adivasi land rights in the Scheduled Areas of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. He does deep legal work and research on implementing the Forest Rights Act 2006 and PESA, litigates against the alienation of tribal land to non-tribals, and has contributed to a Ministry of Tribal Affairs handbook on the 'promise and performance' of forest rights. His story shows how a lawyer can turn a legal education into a tool for grassroots rights and lasting change for marginalised communities.

Down To Earth · <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/author/palla-trinadha-rao>

Shalini Gera

Human-rights lawyer and co-founder, Jagdalpur Legal Aid Group (JagLAG), Bastar

Shalini Gera is a human-rights lawyer who co-founded the Jagdalpur Legal Aid Group (JagLAG), which provides free legal aid to Adivasi people in tribal regions of Chhattisgarh such as Bastar, Dantewada, Kanker, Sukma and Bijapur. She and her fellow lawyers defended tribal people facing false charges, unlawful detention and custodial abuse, and even fought a legal battle for the right to practise in this remote region. Her journey inspires girls who want to make law a means of protecting the dignity and justice of Adivasi communities.

Front Line Defenders · <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/profile/shalini-gera>

10 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.

- Tribal Liaison Officer
- Tribal Social Worker
- Tribal Environment Conservation Officer

11 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance – Tribal Legal Advocate — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/hi/career/%e0%a4%9c%e0%a4%a8%e0%a4%9c%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%a4%e0%a5%80%e0%a4%af-%e0%a4%b5%e0%a4%bf%e0%a4%a7%e0%a4%bf%e0%a4%95-%e0%a4%85%e0%a4%a7%e0%a4%bf%e0%a4%b5%e0%a4%95%e0%a5%8d%e0%a4%a4%e0%a4%be-tribal-legal-adv/>
2. Ministry of Tribal Affairs – Forest Rights Act (FRA) 2006 — <https://tribal.nic.in/fra.aspx>
3. National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) — <https://nalsa.gov.in/legal-aid/>
4. National Law University, Jodhpur – CLAT 2026 — <https://www.nlujodhpur.ac.in/>
5. Forest Rights Act (Wikipedia) — [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forest_Rights_Act_\(India\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forest_Rights_Act_(India))



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