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करियर शीट · CAREER SHEET

जनजातीय सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता

A Tribal Social Worker is a professional who works on the ground within Adivasi (tribal) communities — living and working alongside groups such as the Bhil, Meena, Garasia and Sahariya to advance their health, education,...



Scan for everything on this career

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

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/tribal-social-worker

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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



सुरेन्द्र सिंह राठौड़

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



सुरेश कुमार सैन

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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

A Tribal Social Worker is a professional who works on the ground within Adivasi (tribal) communities — living and working alongside groups such as the Bhil, Meena, Garasia and Sahariya to advance their health, education, livelihoods, women and child welfare, and awareness of their rights. They travel village to village to connect communities with government schemes (rations, pensions, forest rights, nutrition, scholarships), form self-help groups, bring children into school, and drive change while honouring the community's traditions and dignity. It is a meaningful career rooted in service and social justice, one that keeps Adivasi language, culture and self-reliance at its centre.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	Class 12 pass; then BSW/MSW or a social-science degree
Course duration	BSW 3 years + MSW 2 years
Starting salary	₹12,000–20,000/month
Work mode	Field work in Adivasi villages

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- Interest in serving Adivasi communities and in social justice
- A desire to bring positive change in education, health and women and child welfare
- Enjoy travelling village to village, connecting with people and hearing their concerns

ABILITIES

- Empathy and the ability to listen patiently
- Resilience and stamina in difficult field conditions
- Respect and sensitivity towards Adivasi culture and traditions

KEY SKILLS

- Building empathy and trust-based relationships with the community
- Understanding and speaking the local tribal language/dialect (Bhili, Wagdi, etc.)
- Running awareness and training on health, nutrition, education and rights
- Community mobilisation and forming self-help groups
- Program management, reporting and knowledge of government schemes
- Conducting surveys, documentation and data collection with the community

4 How to get there

- 1 Complete Class 12 in any stream (Arts/Science/Commerce).
- 2 Do a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW), or a social-science degree such as Sociology/Anthropology.
- 3 For better opportunities, do a Master of Social Work (MSW) or specialise in Rural Development / Tribal Studies.
- 4 During studies, do fieldwork and internships with an NGO working in tribal areas.
- 5 Learn the local tribal language/dialect and understand the community's culture and rights (Forest Rights, PESA).
- 6 Start as a field worker and grow with experience to project officer and program manager; also appear for government Tribal Development department recruitment exams.

MAIN EXAMS

- TISSNET (TISS National Entrance Test) — for MSW / social work admission
- University-level MSW entrance test / CUET-PG

5 Where to study**GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES**

- मोहनलाल सुखाड़िया विश्वविद्यालय (सामाजिक विज्ञान संकाय / MSW) — Udaipur, Rajasthan (<https://mlsu.ac.in/Faculty-of-Social-Science>)
- राजस्थान विश्वविद्यालय (सामाजिक कार्य / MSW) — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.uniraj.ac.in/>)
- टाटा सामाजिक विज्ञान संस्थान (TISS) – एमए सामाजिक कार्य (ग्रामीण विकास) — Mumbai / All-India (<https://admissions.tiss.ac.in/>)
- इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विश्वविद्यालय (IGNOU) – बीएसडब्ल्यू/एमएसडब्ल्यू (दूरस्थ) — Online / nearest centre (<https://www.ignou.ac.in/>)

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ रूरल मैनेजमेंट आणंद (IRMA) – ग्रामीण प्रबंधन पीजीडीआरएम — Anand, Gujarat (<https://www.irma.ac.in/programmes/pgdrm-post-graduate-diploma-in-rural-management>)
- निरमा विश्वविद्यालय / अन्य समाज कार्य विद्यालय — Western India (<https://tiss.edu/>)

ONLINE

- इग्नू ऑनलाइन – सामाजिक कार्य कार्यक्रम — Online (<https://www.ignou.ac.in/>)
- स्वयं (SWAYAM) – सामाजिक कार्य व ग्रामीण विकास पाठ्यक्रम — Online (<https://swayam.gov.in/>)

FEES

At government universities (Mohanlal Sukhadia, University of Rajasthan, IGNOU) BSW/MSW fees are roughly ₹5,000–25,000 per year, which is very affordable. Premier institutes like TISS charge more (about ₹1–2 lakh per year), but scholarships and fee concessions are available for Scheduled Tribe (ST) and economically weaker students.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- जनजातीय मामलों के मंत्रालय – अनुसूचित जनजाति छात्रवृत्ति (पोस्ट-मैट्रिक) (<https://tribal.nic.in/ScholarshiP.aspx>)
- उच्च शिक्षा हेतु राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति फेलोशिप (<https://fellowship.tribal.gov.in/>)
- राष्ट्रीय छात्रवृत्ति पोर्टल (NSP) (<https://scholarships.gov.in>)
- राजस्थान सामाजिक न्याय एवं अधिकारिता विभाग छात्रवृत्ति (<https://sje.rajasthan.gov.in/>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

Tribal-majority villages and districts (in Rajasthan: Banswara, Dungarpur, Pratapgarh, Udaipur, Sirohi), NGOs, the government Tribal Area Development (TAD) department, anganwadis and health centres, and field project offices.

WORK CULTURE

Work happens mainly in villages and fields, among the community; it often involves long travel, remote terrain and flexible hours. It is done in teams and with the community, and it is essential to respect Adivasi traditions, festivals and decision-making. The field offers dignified opportunities for women too.

WHO HIRES

- NGOs working in tribal areas (e.g. Vaagdhara, Seva Mandir, Aga Khan Foundation)
- UNICEF, UNDP and other United Nations agencies
- TRIFED (Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation) and livelihood missions
- Government Tribal Area Development (TAD) department and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) foundations and funding agencies
- Grassroots community organisations and self-help group federations

DEMAND (2026)

India has a tribal population of around 104 million, and the government and many organisations work continuously on tribal health, education, nutrition, forest rights and livelihoods, keeping demand for trained tribal social workers steady. In the southern tribal districts of Rajasthan, opportunities are growing in NGOs, CSR projects and the government TAD department. Those who understand the local language and community are especially valued in this field.

7 Career growth

- 1 Field Worker / Community Organiser
- 2 Project Officer
- 3 Program Manager
- 4 NGO Director / Executive Director

EARNINGS

Starting	₹12,000–20,000/माह
Mid level	₹25,000–45,000/माह
Senior level	₹60,000–1,20,000+/माह

Per CollegeDunia, a social worker in India starts at roughly ₹13,000–15,000/month on average; grassroots NGO pay is modest at entry. With experience, an MSW degree and program-management skills, income rises considerably — program managers and directors at reputed NGOs, CSR foundations and international agencies like UNICEF/UN earn well. Government Tribal Development department jobs offer better pay scales and stability.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- Meaningful, dignified work rooted in serving Adivasi communities and social justice
- Career opportunities across NGOs, government, UN and CSR sectors
- A clear path to grow from field worker to program manager and director

The challenges

- Travel to remote areas, difficult conditions and long hours
- Pay can be limited at the entry level
- Project-based roles can depend on funding cycles

9 Real-life journeys

Jayesh Joshi

Founder, Vaagdhara — social worker for the Adivasi communities of Southern Rajasthan

Since 2001, Jayesh Joshi has worked at the grassroots with the Bhil Adivasi community, based in Banswara, Rajasthan, and built the organisation 'Vaagdhara', which is active today across the tribal belt of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. He created a network of 5,000 tribal development volunteers and 26 self-governance organisations, reached 67,000 children with nutrition through the 'Poshan Swaraj Abhiyan', improved education access for 53,200 tribal children, and helped thousands of families earn livelihoods through farming and nutrition gardens. Blending Gandhian thinking with Adivasi traditional knowledge, his work shows how a tribal social worker can bring lasting change while honouring the community's dignity.

Jayesh Joshi / Vaagdhara · <https://jayeshjoshi.in/about/>

Chami Murmu

Adivasi social worker and women's empowerment leader, Jharkhand (Padma Shri 2024)

Born into a modest Adivasi family in Jharkhand, Chami Murmu supported her family through daily-wage labour after leaving school post-Class 10 following her father's death — yet she never gave up. In 1996 she founded the 'Sahayogi Mahila' organisation and, through nearly 2,800 self-help groups, helped around 30,000 rural and tribal women across 500+ villages become self-reliant through livestock rearing, farming and small enterprises, while also working on women's education, health, anaemia prevention and water conservation and planting over 3 million trees. For this she received the Nari Shakti Puraskar in 2019 and the Padma Shri in 2024. Her journey inspires every girl who wishes to grow in social work for the Adivasi community.

The Logical Indian · <https://thelogicalindian.com/jharkhands-lady-tarzan-chami-murmu-plants-over-3-million-trees-empowers-30000-rural-women/>

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 Legal Advocate
- Tribal Environment Conservation Officer

11 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance – Tribal Social Worker — <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%b8%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%ae%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%9c%e0%a4%bf%e0%a4%95-%e0%a4%95%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%b0%e0%a5%8d%e0%a4%af%e0%a4%95%e0%a4%b0%e0%a5%8d/>
2. Ministry of Tribal Affairs – Scholarship Schemes — <https://tribal.nic.in/ScholarshiP.aspx>
3. Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) – MSW Admissions — <https://admissions.tiss.ac.in/>
4. CollegeDunia – Social Worker Salary in India — <https://collegedunia.com/courses/master-in-social-work-msw/social-worker-salary-in-india>
5. TRIFED – Rajasthan (Tribal Development) — <https://trifed.tribal.gov.in/en/Rajasthan>



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