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करियर मार्गदर्शन पोर्टल • Career Guidance Portal

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करियर शीट • CAREER SHEET

मृदा वैज्ञानिक

Soil scientists study the properties, fertility and health of soil and advise on proper land use. Healthy soil is the foundation of good crops, so this work is directly tied to India's food security.



Scan for everything on this career

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

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/soil-scientist

राजकीय उच्च माध्यमिक विद्यालय, जेठन्तरी

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सुशील कुमार शर्मा

प्रधानाचार्य, रा.उ.मा.वि. जेठन्तरी • मास्टर ट्रेनर
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



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

Soil scientists study the properties, fertility and health of soil and advise on proper land use. Healthy soil is the foundation of good crops, so this work is directly tied to India's food security.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	B.Sc/M.Sc (Agriculture/Soil Science)
Selection exam	ICAR AIEEA, CSIR-NET
Work mode	Field and laboratory
Starting salary	₹40,000–55,000/month

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- Interest in science and nature
- Enjoy working outdoors in the field
- Enjoy experimenting and observing

ABILITIES

- Strong powers of observation
- Analytical thinking
- Patience and attention to detail

KEY SKILLS

- Soil sampling and testing
- Chemical analysis
- GIS and remote sensing
- Data analysis
- Use of laboratory instruments
- Report writing
- Understanding of crop and agronomy science

4 How to get there

- 1 Complete 10+2 in Science (Physics, Chemistry, Biology).
- 2 Earn a B.Sc in Agriculture, Soil Science, Chemistry or a related field.
- 3 Do an M.Sc in Soil Science / Agricultural Chemistry.
- 4 Pursue a PhD for a research career.
- 5 Sit ICAR / state agricultural university entrance exams for admission.
- 6 Gain experience through lab and field internships.

MAIN EXAMS

- ICAR AIEEA (UG/PG)
- CSIR-UGC NET
- ICAR JRF/SRF
- GATE (Agricultural Sciences)

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture & Technology — Udaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.mpuat.ac.in>)
- Sri Karan Narendra Agriculture University — Jobner, Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.sknu.ac.in>)
- University of Rajasthan — Jaipur, Rajasthan (<https://www.uniraj.ac.in>)
- ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) — New Delhi (<https://www.iari.res.in>)
- ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science (IISS) — Bhopal

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- Fergusson College — Pune
- Loyola College — Chennai
- Mount Carmel College — Bengaluru

ONLINE

- SWAYAM / NPTEL (Soil Science) — Online (<https://swayam.gov.in>)
- Coursera (Agriculture) — Online (<https://www.coursera.org>)
- Udemy (Soil) — Online (<https://www.udemy.com>)

FEES

Course fees range roughly from ₹7,000 to ₹4,00,000. Government agricultural universities charge much less. (Figures are indicative and vary by institute.)

SCHOLARSHIPS

- National Scholarship Portal (NSP) (<https://scholarships.gov.in>)
- Buddy4Study (<https://www.buddy4study.com>)
- Rajasthan SJE Scholarships (<https://sje.rajasthan.gov.in>)
- Vidya Lakshmi Education Loans (<https://www.vidyalakshmi.co.in>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

Agricultural universities, ICAR institutes, state agriculture departments, fertiliser companies, NGOs and environmental consultancies.

WORK CULTURE

This is not a desk job; work spans field and laboratory. You often lead a team. Usually 5-6 days a week, about 8 hours a day.

WHO HIRES

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| • Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) | • State agricultural universities |
| • State agriculture departments | • Fertiliser and seed companies |
| • Environmental consultancy firms | • Agricultural NGOs |

DEMAND (2026)

Demand for soil scientists is rising due to concerns over soil degradation, climate change and sustainable farming. Schemes like Soil Health Cards and precision agriculture keep opportunities strong.

7 Career growth

- 1 Soil Scientist
- 2 Senior Soil Scientist
- 3 Principal Scientist / Head of Research

EARNINGS

Starting	₹40,000–55,000/माह
Mid level	₹75,000–1,00,000/माह
Senior level	₹1,30,000+/माह

Salary depends on experience, institution and government pay scale. Figures are indicative and may change.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- Meaningful contribution to food security and the environment
- A balanced mix of field and laboratory work
- Stable careers in government and research

The challenges

- Often physical work outdoors in the sun and field
- A PhD is needed for good research positions
- Results come slowly, so patience is essential

9 Real-life journeys

Rattan Lal

Soil Scientist, World Food Prize 2020 Laureate

Born in Punjab, Rattan Lal transformed global food security through his work on soil health and carbon management. In 2020 he received the World Food Prize, regarded as agriculture's 'Nobel'.

The World Food Prize · https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rattan_Lal

Sunanda Biswas

Senior Scientist, Soil Science & Agricultural Chemistry, ICAR-IARI

Dr Sunanda Biswas researches soil health at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. Her work on soil health has earned recognition through a Best Researcher award.

ICAR-IARI · https://www.iari.res.in/sci_db/sci_details.php?scid=WmZva3V2WklybDVDN1NjJlRkBUlqdz09

Ashok Kumar Patra

Director, ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science; Glinka World Soil Prize 2022

Dr Ashok Kumar Patra studied agriculture at BHU and soil science at IARI. For 33 years of dedicated work in soil science, he received the Glinka World Soil Prize in 2022.

ICAR / FAO Global Soil Partnership · <https://icar.org.in/index.php/en/dr-ashok-kumar-patra-awarded-glinka-world-soil-prize-2022>

10 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance Portal — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/>
2. ICAR-IARI Soil Science Division — <https://www.iari.res.in>
3. National Scholarship Portal — <https://scholarships.gov.in>

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