

Topic: National Film Awards 2016

The **National Film Awards** is the most prominent film award ceremonies in India. Established in **1954**, it has been administered, along with the International Film Festival of India and the Indian Panorama, by the Indian government's **Directorate of Film Festivals since 1973**. Every year, a national panel appointed by the government selects the winning entry, and the **award ceremony is held in New Delhi**, where the **President of India presents the awards**. This is followed by the inauguration of the National Film Festival, where the award-winning films are screened for the public. Declared for films produced in the previous year across the country, they hold the distinction of awarding merit to the best of Indian cinema overall, as well as presenting awards for the best films in each region and language of the country. **First feature film award** was given to movie *Mirza Galib* produced by *Sohrab Modi* in 1954, first National film award for **Best Actor** was given to *Ashok Kumar* for movie 'Ashirwad' and first national film award for **best actress** was given to *Nargis Dutt* for movie 'raat or din'.

### Juries and Rules

The National Film Awards are presented in two main categories: **Feature Films and Non-Feature Films**. Feature films are between **70 and 210 minutes long**. Any other film, such as **short films, documentaries**, which do not pertain to this length is a non-feature film. The **juries are appointed by the Directorate of Film Festivals** in India. Neither the Government nor the Directorate has influence over which films are selected for consideration and which films ultimately win awards. There are strict criteria as to whether a film is eligible for consideration by the jury panels. Over 100 films made across the country are entered in each category (Feature and Non-Feature) for the awards and deemed eligible each year.

A **list of rules** is presented every year in a document of regulations known as the **National Film Award Regulations**. The criteria for eligibility contain many clauses. Among them, there is a direct requirement for the makers of a film, and particularly the director, to be Indian nationals. **Films entering the competition should be produced in India**, and in case of co-production involving a foreign entity, there are as many as six conditions which should be fulfilled in order for the film to qualify. According to the criteria, in order to be eligible for consideration of the jury, **a film should be certified by the Central Board of Film Certification between 1 January and 31 December**. Whether a film is considered a feature film or a non-feature film shall be decided by the Feature Film jury. The eligibility list includes a section of rules determining which films shall not be eligible for entry in the competition.

### Awards

The Awards are categorized in three sections; **Feature Films, Non-Feature Films and Best Writing on Cinema**. With each section having its individual aims, Feature Film and Non-Feature Film sections aim at encouraging the production of films of aesthetic and technical excellence and social relevance, contributing to the understanding and appreciation of cultures of different regions of the country in cinematic form, thereby promoting unity and integrity of the nation.



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The Best Writing on Cinema section aims to encourage the study and appreciation of cinema as an art form and dissemination of information and critical appreciation of the art form through publication of various books, articles, reviews, newspaper coverage and studies. In addition, a **lifetime achievement award, named after the father of Indian cinema Dadasaheb Phalke**, is awarded to a film personality for the outstanding contribution to the growth and development of Indian Cinema. **All the award winners are awarded with a Medallion, cash prize and a certificate of merit.**

The **63rd National Film Awards** ceremony is an upcoming event during which the Directorate of Film Festivals of India presents its annual National Film Awards to honour the best films of 2015 in the Indian cinema. The awards were announced on **28 March 2016 and the ceremony will be held on 3 May 2016.**

- Best Film: **Baahubali** – The Beginning
- Best Popular Film providing wholesome entertainment: **Bajrangi Bhaijaan**
- Best Director: **Sanjay Leela Bhansali** for “**Bajirao Mastani**”
- Best Actress: **Kangana Ranaut** “Tanu Weds Manu Returns”
- Best Actor: **Amitabh Bachchan** for “Piku”
- Best Supporting Actress: **Tanvi Azmi** for Bajirao Mastani
- Best Supporting Actor: **Samuthirakani** for Visaranai
- Best Lyricists: **Varun Grover** for Moh Moh Ke Dhaage from Dum Laga Ke Haisha
- Best Choreography: **Remo D’Souza** for Deewani Mastani song from Bajirao
- Best Cinematography: **Sudeep Chatterjee** for Bajirao Mastani
- Best Screenplay Writer (Original): **Juhi Chaturvedi** for “Piku” and **Himanshu Sharma** for “Tanu Weds Manu Returns”
- Best Music: ‘**A Far Afternoon**’ (Non feature)

**Read further:**

<http://indianexpress.com/article/entertainment/bollywood/63rd-national-film-awards-complete-list-of-winners/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/63rd\\_National\\_Film\\_Awards](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/63rd_National_Film_Awards)

<http://www.firstpost.com/bollywood/national-film-awards-its-unjust-to-let-commercial-success-of-films-undermine-craft-of-individuals-2699980.html>

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/bollywood/63rd-national-film-awards-complete-list-of-winners/story-76cVAe5oR9BtksnxBgDErM.html>