

**DIRECTORATE OF FILM FESTIVALS**  
**(Ministry of Information & Broadcasting)**  
**Government of India**

**56<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL FILM AWARDS FOR 2008**

**FEATURE FILMS**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of Award</b>	<b>Name of Film</b>	<b>Awardee</b>	<b>Medal &amp; Cash Prize</b>	<b>Citation</b>
1	<b>BEST FEATURE FILM</b>	Antaheen (Bengali)	Producer: Screenplay Films Pvt Ltd  Director : Aniruddha Roy Chowdhury	Swarna Kamal  Rs 2,50,000/-	<i>For lyrical blend of technical devices in the right proportion to depict shifting human relationships in an urban scenario.</i>
2	<b>INDIRA GANDHI AWARD FOR BEST FIRST FILM OF A DIRECTOR</b>	A Wednesday (Hindi)	Producer: UTV Motion Pictures  Director : Neeraj Pandey	Swarna Kamal  Rs 1,25,000/-	<i>For slick and searing exposure of the tension below the normal rhythm of life and the angst of the common man in Mumbai.</i>
3	<b>BEST POPULAR FILM PROVIDING WHOLESOME ENTERTAINMENT</b>	Oye Lucky ! Lucky Oye ! (Hindi)	Producer: UTV Motion Pictures  Director : Dibakar Banerjee	Swarna Kamal  Rs 2,00,000/-	<i>For its intelligent treatment of an off-beat subject that makes it different within the popular format.</i>
4	<b>NARGIS DUTT AWARD FOR BEST FEATURE FILM ON NATIONAL INTEGRATION</b>	Aai Kot Nai (Assamese)	Producer: Rajen Bora  Director : Manju Borah	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,50,000/-	<i>For its honest look at a burning problem in Northeast India, its attempt to break down artificial boundaries and giving it a human and aesthetic appeal.</i>
5	<b>BEST FILM ON FAMILY VALUES</b>	Little Zizou (English, Gujarati)	Producer: Studio 18 and Jigri Dost Productions	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,50,000/-	<i>For its witty and intelligent handling of the conflicts and convictions confronting the Parsi community.</i>

			Director : Sooni Taraporevala		
6	<b>BEST FILM ON SOCIAL ISSUES SUCH AS PROHIBITION, WOMEN AND CHILD WELFARE, ANTI-DOWRY, DRUG ABUSE, WELFARE OF THE HANDICAPPED ETC.</b>	Jogva (Marathi)	Producer: IDream Production Pvt Ltd  Director : Rajeev Patil	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,50,000/-	<i><b>For hard hitting comment on the victims of age old social customs.</b></i>
7	<b>BEST FILM ON ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION/ PRESERVATION</b>	Jianta Bhoota (Oriya)	Producer: Akshay Kumar Parija  Director : Prashanta Nanda	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,50,000/-	<i><b>For sensitive portrayal of exploitation of innocence in the name of development.</b></i>
8	<b>BEST CHILDREN'S FILM</b>	Gubbachigalu (Kannada)	Producer: Media House Studio  Director : Abhaya Simha	Swarna Kamal  Rs 1,50,000/-	<i><b>For imaginative portrayal of a magic world that exists in the minds of children.</b></i>
9	<b>BEST ANIMATION FILM</b>	Roadside Romeo (Hindi)	Producer: Aditya Chopra  Director : Jugal Hansraj  Animator: TATA ELXSI Ltd	Swarna Kamal  Rs 1,00,000/-	<i><b>For its technical achievements to further the craft of animation for mainstream audience.</b></i>

10	<b>BEST DIRECTION</b>	Naan Kadauul (Tamil)	Bala	Swarna Kamal Rs 2,50,000/-	<i>For its powerful handling of an extraordinary subject that focuses on marginal characters with great conviction.</i>
11	<b>BEST ACTOR</b>	Jogva (Marathi)	Upendra Limaye	Rajat Kamal Rs 50,000/-	<i>For his restrained yet powerful depiction of a complex character.</i>
12	<b>BEST ACTRESS</b>	Fashion (Hindi)	Priyanka Chopra	Rajat Kamal Rs 50,000/-	<i>For convincing portrayal of a whole range of emotions within a single character.</i>
13	<b>BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR</b>	Rock On !! (Hindi)	Arjun Rampal	Rajat Kamal Rs 50,000/-	<i>For his moving performance as a musician trying to rise above personal tragedy.</i>
14	<b>BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS</b>	Fashion (Hindi)	Kangana Ranaut	Rajat Kamal Rs 50,000/-	<i>For compelling portrayal of a down-and-out super model that enriches the impact of the film.</i>
15	<b>BEST CHILD ARTIST</b>	Thanks Maa (Hindi)	Shams Patel	Rajat Kamal Rs 50,000/-	<i>For his very natural depiction of a street child thrown into an unusual situation.</i>
16	<b>BEST MALE PLAYBACK SINGER</b>	Jogva (Marathi)	Hariharan  For the song “ Jeev Dangla Gungla Rangla ....”	Rajat Kamal Rs 50,000/-	<i>For his soulful rendition reflecting the agony of unfulfilled emotions.</i>
17	<b>BEST FEMALE PLAYBACK SINGER</b>	Antaheen (Bengali) & Jogva (Marathi)	Shreya Ghoshal  For the song “Pherari Mon.....” & “Jeev Dangla Gungla Rangla ”	Rajat Kamal Rs 50,000/-	<i>For her wide ranging rendition of human emotions</i>
18	<b>BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY</b>	Antaheen (Bengali)	Avik Mukhopadhyay  <b>Lab:</b> Filmlab, Mumbai	Rajat Kamal Rs 50,000/-	<i>For the poetically captured visuals with inspired use of light and shades to enhance the mood of the film.</i>

19	<b>BEST SCREENPLAY</b>	Gandha (Marathi)	Sachin Kundalkar	Rajat Kamal  Rs 50,000/-	<i>For its remarkable integration of three different plots using the sense of smell as a liet motif to focus sensitively on human relationships.</i>
20	<b>BEST AUDIOGRAPHY</b>	Gandha (Marathi)	Pramod J. Thomas	Rajat Kamal  Rs 50,000/-	<i>For its use of dramatically scripted sounds to heighten the mood of the film.</i>
21	<b>BEST EDITING</b>	Firaaq (Hindi)	A. Sreekar Prasad	Rajat Kamal  Rs 50,000/-	<i>For aesthetically weaving together unrelated sequences to heighten the dramatic impact.</i>
22	<b>BEST ART DIRECTION</b>	Firaaq (Hindi)	Gautam Sen	Rajat Kamal  Rs 50,000/-	<i>For its perfect use of props and choice of colours to enhance the ambience of a post-riot situation</i>
23	<b>BEST COSTUME DESIGNER</b>	Jodhaa Akbar (Hindi)	Neeta Lulla	Rajat Kamal  Rs 50,000/-	<i>For its painstaking detail to recreate the costumes and jewellery of Mughal era.</i>
24	<b>BEST MAKE-UP ARTIST</b>	Naan Kadaaul (Tamil)	U K Sasi	Rajat Kamal  Rs 50,000/-	<i>For its wide variety of make-up inputs to reflect the large spectrum of characters.</i>
25	<b>BEST MUSIC DIRECTION</b>	Jogva (Marathi)	Ajay Gogawle and Atul Gogawle	Rajat Kamal  Rs 50,000/-	<i>For its well-researched use of traditional and folk music to reinforce the theme of the film.</i>
26	<b>BEST LYRICS</b>	Antaheen (Bengali)	Anindya Chatterjee & Chandril Bhattacharya  For the lyric "Pherari Mon....."	Rajat Kamal  Rs 50,000/-	<i>For its simple composition of verses to contribute meaningfully to the film.</i>
27	<b>SPECIAL JURY AWARD</b>	Bioscope (Malayalam)	Producer: National Film Development Corporation  Director : K.M. Madhusudhanan	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,25,000/-	<i>For its exciting revival of a sincerely personal style to look back on a chapter of history.</i>

28	<b>BEST SPECIAL EFFECTS</b>	Mumbai Meri Jaan (Hindi)	TATA ELXSI Ltd	Rajat Kamal  Rs 50,000/-	<i>For its stunning use of technical effects of visual shots to mirror a man-made disaster.</i>
29	<b>BEST CHOREOGRAPHY</b>	Jodhaa Akbar (Hindi)	Chinni Prakash & Rekha Prakash  For the song "Azeem-o-Shaan Shaheshah...."	Rajat Kamal  Rs 50,000/-	<i>For its extravagant and dreamlike treatment of celebrations on a magnificent scale.</i>
30	<b>BEST FEATURE FILM IN EACH OF THE LANGUAGE SPECIFIED IN THE SCHEDULE VIII OF THE CONSTITUTION</b>				
I	<b>BEST ASSAMESE FILM</b>	Mon Jai	Producer: M. Maniram, Sabita Chanam, Jayanta Goswami  Director : M. Maniram	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,00,000/-	<i>For its honest exploration of ethical values confronting the youth.</i>
II	<b>BEST BENGALI FILM</b>	Shob Charitro Kalponik	Producer: Reliance Big Pictures  Director : Rituparno Ghosh	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,00,000/-	<i>Poetic treatment of an individual's sensitivities in a crisis.</i>
III	<b>BEST HINDI FILM</b>	Rock On	Producer: Excel Entertainment Pvt. Ltd.  Director : Abhishek Kapoor	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,00,000/-	<i>For an emotional story of musical bonding.</i>
IV	<b>BEST KANNADA</b>	Vimukthi	Producer: Navyachitra Creations  Director :	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,00,000/-	<i>For exploring different dimension of family ties.</i>

			P. Sheshadri		
V	<b>BEST MALAYALAM FILM</b>	<b>Thirakkada</b>	Producer: Capitol Theatre and Varnachithra BIGSCREEN  Director : Ranjith	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,00,000/-	<i>For its poignant story of an actress told with sincerity and conviction.</i>
VI	<b>BEST MARATHI FILM</b>	<b>Harishchandrachi Factory</b>	Producer: UTV Motion Pictures, Smiti Kanodia and Paresh Mokashi  Director : Paresh Mokashi	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,00,000/-	<i>For its original and stylized recreation of a slice of history.</i>
VII	<b>BEST TAMIL FILM</b>	<b>Veranam Airam</b>	Producer: Aascar Film Pvt Ltd  Director : Gautham Vasudeva Menon	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,00,000/-	<i>For its engaging depiction of a father and son relationship.</i>
VIII	<b>BEST TELUGU FILM</b>	<b>1940 Lookagramam</b>	Producer: Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Cinema  Director : Narasimha Nandi	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,00,000/-	<i>For its courageous handling of caste-based prejudices.</i>
31	<b>BEST FEATURE FILM IN EACH OF THE LANGUAGES OTHER THAN THOSE SPECIFIED IN SCHEDULE VIII OF THE CONSTITUTION</b>				
I	<b>BEST ENGLISH FILM</b>	<b>Land Gold Women</b>	Producer: Southpaw Entertainment	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,00,000/-	<i>For its intense depiction of the issue of honour killing.</i>

			Director : Avantika Hari		
II	<b>BEST KOKBOROK FILM</b>	Yarwng	Producer: Sampari Pictures  Director : Joseph Pulinthanath SDB	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,00,000/-	<i>For a meaningful story of displaced people looking to rebuild their lives.</i>
III	<b>BEST TULU FILM</b>	Gaggara	Producer: D'MA Cine Productions  Director : Shivadhvaj Shetty	Rajat Kamal  Rs 1,00,000/-	<i>For its attempt to preserve traditional folk forms.</i>

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**Non - Feature Films**

S. No.	Name of Award	Name of Film	Awardee	Medal	Citation
1	Best Non-Feature film	<b>AFSPA 1958</b>	Producer: Bachaspatimayun Sunzu & Haobam Pawan Kumar  Director : Haobam Paban Kumar	Swarna Kamal  Rs 1,00,000/-	<i>A courageous depiction of the non - violent resistance of the people of Manipur to protest against a legislation which undermines the values of self respect and the fundamentals of democracy. The documentation process by various crews and the way it is chronicled offers multiple perspectives.</i>

2	Best First Non-Feature Film of a Director	<b>VITTHAL</b>	Producer: New Moon Films & Manu Pushpendran  Director : Vinoos Cholibarambil	RAJAT KAMAL  Rs 50,000/-	<i>A sensitive portrayal of the latent violence building up in a child against the ritualistic social norms which are forced on him. The filmmaker demonstrates maturity and dexterity in handling the script and the actors, bringing out the complexity of a child's mind trapped in a world of adults.</i>
3	Best Anthropological /Ethnographic Film	<b>BOLIAY PITAIEER SOHOKI SOOTAL</b>	Producer: Unknown Films and Susanta Roy (Bapi)  Director : Altaf Mazid	RAJAT KAMAL  Rs 50,000/-	<i>A film which uniquely depicts the long arduous struggle of a community to build check dams using their indigenous engineering skills. An experiential journey which transcends documentation and makes the viewer participate in the process.</i>
4	Best Biographical/Historical Reconstruction/Compilation on film	<b>THE ASSASSINATION OF RAJIV GANDHI – A RECONSTRUCTION</b>	Producer: Films Division  Director : R. Krishna Mohan	RAJAT KAMAL Rs 50,000/-	<i>Traversing vast stretches of time and geographical space, this film deftly puts together strands of information, perception, evidence and historical contexts to reconstruct a compelling narrative about the gruesome assassination of a world leader.</i>
5	Best Arts/Cultural Film	<b>KARNA MOTCHAM</b>	Producer: MGR Film & TV Institute  Director : S. Murali Manohar	RAJAT KAMAL Rs 50,000/-	<i>Using powerful imagery and ironical juxtaposition, the film depicts the life of a Koothu artist. With subtlety, it captures the frustration and the hopelessness of a performer whose art is a misfit in a changing cultural world.</i>
6	Best Scientific Film (including method and process of science, contribution of Scientists etc.)/ Environment Conservation/Preservation Film (including awareness)	<b>TRIP</b>	Producer: Film & Television Institute of India  Director : Emmanuel Palo	RAJAT KAMAL Rs 50,000/-	<i>The film with a simple, almost lighthearted, treatment evolves into a powerful message of conservation. Using an unconventional music track and animation, the film jolts the viewer to re-look at waste and pollution.</i>

7	Best Promotional Film (to cover tourism, exports, crafts, industry, etc.)	<b>LOST AND FOUND</b>	Producer: Tailormade Films  Director : Harshavardhan G. Kulkarni	RAJAT KAMAL Rs 50,000/-	<i>Using a bottle as a metaphor for a journey of discovery, the filmmaker finds an innovative style to explore various locations through people and their experiences, challenging the classical promotional style of selling tourism.</i>
8	Best Agriculture Film (to include subject related to and allied to agriculture like animal husbandry, dairying etc.)	<b>THE LAND OF RUPSHUPAS</b>	Producer: Films Division  Director : A.K. Sidhpuri	RAJAT KAMAL Rs 50,000/-	<i>With breath taking images of the higher Himalayas and the nomadic people living in this harsh climate and terrain, the film effectively explores the relationship of the Rupshupas with their livestock and how critical it is for their survival.</i>
9	Best Film on Social Issues (such as prohibition, women and child welfare and dowry, drug abuse, welfare of the handicapped etc.)	<b>THE FEMALE NUDE</b>  &  <b>BURU GAARA</b>	Producer: PSBT  Director : Hemjyotika & Devi Prasad Mishra  Producer: PSBT  Director : Shriprakash	RAJAT KAMAL Rs 50,000/-	<i>A compelling portrait of a woman who rises above her circumstances in an unconventional way, carving out a position for herself irrespective of how others view her.</i>  <i>The journey of two adivasi women from Jharkhand, finding their identity and dignity using language - one through poetry and the other through grassroots journalism. The film creates a space where the narratives of the women emerge as powerful tales of their struggle for empowerment.</i>
10	Best Educational/Motivational/Instructional Film	<b>POLIO Vs. POLIO VICTIMS</b>	Producer: Gulshan Sachdeva  Director : Aman Sachdeva	RAJAT Rs 50,000/-	<i>An innovative campaign for the eradication of polio - the film follows the polio afflicted who take the initiative for mass awareness by going door to door.</i>

11	Best Exploration/ Adventure Film (to include sports)	<b>SHINGNABA</b>	Producer: Bachaspatimayun Sunzu  Director : Bachaspatimayun Sunzu	RAJAT Rs 50,000/-	<i>The film is an inspiring portrayal of an HIV positive person who dramatically transforms his life and becomes a champion body builder. A first person narrative, it provides a new perspective on AIDS and our understanding of sports.</i>
12	Best Investigative Film	<b>DISTANT RUMBLINGS</b>	Producer: Ms. Rongsenkala  Director : Bani Prakash Das	RAJAT Rs 50,000/-	<i>The film evokes painful memories of World War II as experienced by people of North East India, after the Japanese invasion. Through war wreckages found in the jungles and first person accounts, the film stitches together a moving story of affected families long forgotten.</i>
13	Best Animation Film	<b>PRINCE AND THE CROWN OF STONES</b>	Producer: Children's Film Society, India  Director : Gautam Benegal  Animator : Gautam Benegal	RAJAT Rs 50,000/-	<i>A well knit theme-oriented film, complemented by 2D graphics and a restrained colour palette. A strong message about leadership emerges through the film making it relevant to the contemporary times.</i>
14	Special Jury Award	<b>Director of CHILDREN OF THE PYRE</b>	Rajesh S. Jala	RAJAT Rs 50,000/-	<i>Constrained by the stifling and searing world of children working in cremation grounds, the film helps them to recreate a world of their own. The director captures rare reflexive moments of the children and makes the viewers live their pain, joys and dreams.</i>
15	Short Fiction Film	<b>STATIONS</b>	Producer: Film & Television Institute of India  Director : Emmanuel Palo	RAJAT Rs 50,000/-	<i>The film weaves a complex contemporary form of expression, through fragmented stories of a few sparsely connected lives in transit, over an omnipresent dark urban reality of economic disparity, alienation, and bad faith.</i>

16	Best Film on Family Values	<b>APPUVIN NAYAGAN- SPOTTY (My Hero)</b>	Producer: A.V. Anoop  Director : Madhavan	RAJAT Rs 50,000/-	<i>The film scores with a very tender story that transforms into a moving portrayal of a child's attachment to her toy and her grandfather's dilemma when he loses it. A sensitive film that offers fresh insights into a child's imagination and needs.</i>
17	Best Direction	<b>THREE OF US</b>	Director : Umesh Kulkarni	SWARNA Rs 1,00,000/-	<i>With immense sensitivity, the film offers a slice of life of a physically challenged person, which transcends into a telling cinematic practice of minimalism and control. A poetic exploration that breathes the indomitable spirit of these real characters playing themselves, way above its bleak mise-en-scene.</i>
18	Best Cinematography	<b>THREE OF US</b>  &  <b>WHEN THIS MAN DIES</b>	<b>Lab:</b> Adlabs, Mumbai <b>Cameraman:</b> Shariqua Badar Khan  <b>Lab:</b> Filmlab, Mumbai <b>Cameraman:</b> Jayakrishna Gummadi	RAJAT Rs 50,000/-	<i>With amazing discipline and sensitivity, the cinematography provides an intimate insight into the lives of a small family, living in a confined space, with exquisite use of composition, rhythm, lensing and lighting.</i>  <i>Using highly sophisticated texture and tonal work, with deep anticipation into the flow and narrative of the film, the cinematography strives to redefine ways of image making and experience.</i>
19	Best Audiography	<b>CHILDREN OF THE PYRE</b>	Mateen Ahmad	RAJAT Rs 50,000/-	<i>With multiple layers of sound, and the incessant crackle of funeral pyres that cease to sleep, the film grips its audience with a sense of entrapment around the life of children working inside a cremation ground. It is a telling example of diegetic sound design keeping its truth to the reality of the location.</i>

20	Best Editing	<b>STATIONS</b>	Manoj Kannoth	RAJAT Rs 50,000/-	<i>A delicately interwoven edit of three sparsely connected contemporary urban tales of alienation. Developing a rhythm with parallel and simultaneous stories, the cutting sculpts an extremely powerful contemporary form.</i>
21	Best Music Direction	<b>NARMEEN</b>	Vipin Mishra	RAJAT Rs 50,000/-	<i>A sensitive and evocative musical score, with an amazing use of the violin ensemble, which is both a deeply personal and universal experience.</i>
22	Best Narration/Voice Over	<b>SANA KEITHEL</b>	Elangbam Natasha	RAJAT Rs 50,000/-	<i>A gentle and intimate voice which leads you to a great treasure house of insights on markets run by women in Manipur.</i>
23	Jury Special Mention	<b>Child actor in VITTHAL</b>	Aniket Rumade	Certificate only	<i>For his excellent portrayal of a young boy, Vitthal, dealing with ritualistic norms forced on him and his struggle to contain the anger brewing within.</i>

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**BEST WRITING ON CINEMA**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of Award</b>	<b>Name of Book</b>	<b>Awardee</b>	<b>Medal</b>	<b>Citation</b>
1	<b>BEST BOOK ON CINEMA</b>	Bollywood Melodies (English)	Publisher : Penguin Books India Pvt. Ltd.  Author:	Swarna Kamal  Rs 75,000	Ganesh Anantraman sails down the mainstream of Hindi film music but manages to find rivulets of solace all his own. He blends substance with style, taking care not to appear too profound or flimsy. He brings out the lesser known aspects of popular Hindi film songs thereby infusing them with fresh dignity. Ganesh

			Ganesh Anantharaman		dives into the ragas of film songs, keeping some space for little banter between artists.
2	<b>SPECIAL JURY MENTION</b>	The Director's Mind (English)	Ujjal Chakraborty	Certificate	Ujjal Chakraborty gives a fresh insight into the works of timeless luminaries. That is no mean achievement considering Ujjal talks of works of some of the biggest film makers. Rather than confusing the readers with technical jargon, Ujjal brings to the fore the ethos of film making, revealing the masterpieces of past Masters.

2	<b>BEST FILM CRITIC</b>		Altaf Mazid  and  R.K. Bidur Singh	Swarna Kamal  Rs 75,000	<p>A straight laced expression marks Altaf Mazid's works. His simple narration of subjects is backed up by a researcher's keen eye. He talks of the specific in a universally acceptable manner. No flourishes, he focuses on Assamese film industry with steadfastness and perseverance. Quite appropriately too, for an industry that is now celebrating its Platinum jubilee.</p> <p>and</p> <p>R.K. Bidur Singh takes the readers to a state little known to our film makers. He understands cinema like few others, bringing with him an open mindset that accepts the plurality of thought. He upholds the cause of regional film makers and his ability to focus on cultural relativity does not leave him even when he talks of international cinema. He loves films and it shows in his works.</p>
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