



Sahitya Akademi Yuva & Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2025

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Why in News?

The **Sahitya Akademi (India's National Academy of Letters)** announced the **Yuva Puraskar for 23 writers** and **Bal Sahitya Puraskar for 24 authors** across 24 Indian languages for 2025.

What is Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar & Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar?

Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar

- **About:** Instituted in **2011**, this annual award recognises **young Indian writers aged 35 or below** for their **original literary works** in any of the **24 Indian languages**, including **English**, recognised by the Sahitya Akademi.
- **Award Components:** **Rs 50,000** cash prize, an **engraved copper plaque**, and a **citation**.
- **Eligibility Criteria:** Work must be **original** (creative or critical), published within the **last 5 years**, and at least **49 pages** long.
 - Award is given **once per author per language**.
 - **Ineligible works** include translations, abridgements, theses, e-books, posthumous publications, and works by **NRIs, PIOs, or dual citizens**.
- **Selection Process:** Public call for entries → Preliminary evaluation by referees → Final selection by a three-member language jury → Approval by Executive Board → Winners announced at a special function.

Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar

- **About:** Instituted in **2010**, it is awarded annually to honour **outstanding children's literature** meant for readers aged **9 to 16 years**, in the **24 Indian languages** recognised by the Akademi.
- **Award Components:** **Rs 50,000**, an **engraved plaque**, a **shawl**, and a **citation**.
- **Eligibility Criteria:**
 - Work must be **original and creative**, published within the **preceding 5 years**.
 - **At least 3 eligible books** are required in a language for the award to be considered.
 - **Myth adaptations** are allowed.
 - **Posthumous works** are eligible if the author passed away within the 5-year window.
 - **Ineligible works** include translations, anthologies, abridgements, theses, and works by **Board members, Fellows, or Bhasha Samman awardees**.

What is Sahitya Akademi & Its Awards?

- **About Sahitya Akademi:** It is an **autonomous organisation** established in **1952** and formally inaugurated in **1954**, dedicated to the **promotion of literature in the languages**

of India. It was registered as a society in **1956** under the **Societies Registration Act, 1860.**

- It has its **head office in Delhi** and **regional offices** in **Kolkata, Bangalore, Mumbai, Chennai, and Agartala.**

▪ **Functions:**

- Encourage **inter-lingual literary dialogue, mutual translations, and publication** of literary works.
- Produces **journals, monographs, anthologies, encyclopedias, bibliographies, and histories of literature.**

▪ **Awards & Honours:** The Akademi confers **24 Annual Literary Awards** (one in each recognised language) and **24 Translation Awards** for works translated **from and into Indian languages.**

- It also presents the **Bhasha Samman** for contributions to **unrecognised languages and classical/medieval literature.**
- Eminent writers are honoured through **Fellowships** (such as the **Anand Coomaraswamy** and **Premchand Fellowships**) and are elected as **Fellows and Honorary Fellows** of the Akademi.

▪ **Sahitya Akademi Awards:** Established in **1954**, these **annual literary honours** conferred by the **Sahitya Akademi** for **outstanding books of literary merit** in any of the **22 languages listed in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution**, as well as in **English** and **Rajasthani.**

- It is the **second-highest literary honour** by the Government of India, after the [Jnanpith award](#).

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