



# CONTRIBUTION OF TAMIL NADU IN RECOGNISING THE ARTISTES OF FILM MUSIC

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## Abstract

*Tamil Nadu's efforts in recognizing and supporting film music artists have ensured that they receive the respect and acknowledgment they deserve, both within India and globally. These awards have thus elevated Tamil Nadu's film music industry, creating a culture of respect and recognition for its artists. The consistent acknowledgment ensures that the contributions of film music artists are remembered and celebrated across generations*

**Keywords:** Awards, Film Music, Music Direction, Play-back singer, Background score, Tamil Cinema, Kolly-wood,

## INTRODUCTION

Musicians in India are acknowledged and celebrated through various means, reflecting their contributions to the rich cultural and musical landscape of the country. In India, film music is an integral part of the cinema industry, and there are several awards that celebrate excellence in film music. Here are the prominent awards dedicated to film music in India: These awards celebrate the contributions of music directors, playback-singers, lyricists, and other music professionals to the film industry. Tamil Nadu has played a pivotal role in recognizing and promoting film music artists, especially through its vibrant Tamil film industry, often referred to as Kollywood. The state has a rich history of nurturing talent and elevating film music as an art form. Tamil Nadu has made significant contributions to recognizing and honoring film music artists through various prestigious awards and initiatives. These awards celebrate the exceptional talent of composers, singers, lyricists, and instrumentalists, ensuring their contributions are recognized and appreciated.

## AWARDS – CATEGORISATION

Several awards for film music are being awarded by the Government and Private Sources in Tamilnadu.

### TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT AWARDS FOR FILM MUSIC

Tamil Nadu, with its rich cultural heritage, honors musicians and artists, including those in the film music industry, through various awards. These awards recognize excellence in classical music, film music, and other forms of artistic expression. Here are some of the key awards in Tamil Nadu for musicians and film music.

- Kalaimamani Award
- Tamil Nadu State Film Awards
- Isai Perarignar Award
- Sangeetha Kalanidhi
- Vijay Awards
- Ananda Vikatan Cinema Awards
- Jaya TV Music Awards
- Jaya TV Music Awards
- South Indian International Movie Awards (SIIMA)
- Ananda Vikatan Cinema Awards

### 1. KALAIMAMANI AWARD

Presented by: Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Manram (a government organization)

Description: The Kalaimamani Award is one of the most prestigious state awards given to artists in Tamil Nadu. It recognizes excellence in the fields of literature, music, dance, theater, and folk arts.





Categories: The award is given in various categories, including vocalists, instrumentalists, classical musicians, and film music composers.

Notable Recipients: A.R. Rahman, Ilaiyaraaja, S. P. Balasubrahmanyam, K. J. Yesudas, and Vairamuthu.

## 2. TAMIL NADU STATE FILM AWARDS

Presented by: Government of Tamil Nadu

Description: These awards are given to honor the best talents in Tamil cinema, including film music composers, playback singers, and lyricists.

The Tamil Nadu State Film Awards for Best Music Director are prestigious awards given by the Tamil Nadu state government to honor excellence in the Tamil film industry. These awards recognize the best in various categories, including Best Music Director. The award is usually given to music composers who have made significant contributions to Tamil cinema through their exceptional music scores in films released during a particular year.

These awards reflect the immense contribution of film music to Indian culture and its impact on audiences across the country and beyond. They recognize the creativity, talent, and dedication of those who have enriched Indian cinema through their musical contributions.

Categories:

- Best Music Director
- Best Playback Singer (Male and Female)
- Best Lyricist

Notable Recipients: A.R. Rahman, Ilaiyaraaja, S. Janaki, P. Susheela, and Vairamuthu.

Overview of the Awards:

Inception: The Tamil Nadu State Film Awards were started in 1967, and since then, they have been an important recognition of talent in Tamil cinema.

Categories: The awards cover various categories, including Best Film, Best Director, Best Actor, Best Actress, and of course, Best Music Director.

### Best Music Director Award:

Notable Winners: Some of the most celebrated composers in Tamil cinema, like Ilaiyaraaja, A.R. Rahman, Deva, and Harris Jayaraj, have won the Best Music Director award multiple times.

Criteria: The award is usually given based on the overall impact of the music in the film, including the composition, orchestration, and popularity of the songs.

Frequency: The awards are usually announced annually, but there have been years when the awards were not given.

Significance: Winning a Tamil Nadu State Film Award is considered a high honor and is a mark of recognition by the state government. It often boosts the careers of artists and technicians in the Tamil film industry.

These awards continue to be an important part of Tamil cinema, celebrating the rich musical heritage and the talents that contribute to the industry.

## 3. ISAI PERARIGNAR AWARD

Presented by: Tamil Isai Sangam (a cultural organization in Tamil Nadu)



Description: This award is specifically given for excellence in Tamil music, including both classical and film music. It is a prestigious recognition for contributions to the Tamil music industry.

Categories: Focuses on vocalists, instrumentalists, and composers who have made significant contributions to Tamil music.

Notable Recipients: This award has been given to stalwarts in both classical and film music fields.

#### **4. SANGEETHA KALANIDHI**

Presented by: The Madras Music Academy

Description: While this award primarily focuses on Carnatic classical music, it has occasionally been awarded to musicians with significant contributions to Tamil film music who have a strong background in classical music.

Categories: This is the highest honor given by the Academy to an outstanding Carnatic musician.

Notable Recipients: M.S. Subbulakshmi, Semmangudi Srinivasa Iyer, and G.N. Balasubramaniam.

#### **5. SANGEET NATAK AKADEMI AWARD**

Presented by: Sangeet Natak Akademi, India's National Academy of Music, Dance & Drama

Description: This is a national-level award, but several Tamil musicians, including film music composers and playback singers, have received this honor for their contributions to Indian music.

Categories: Includes various categories for music, dance, and drama, with specific awards for vocal music, instrumental music, and other art forms.

Notable Recipients: Ilaiyaraaja, A.R. Rahman, and T.V. Gopalakrishnan.

#### **6. VIJAY AWARDS**

Presented by: Vijay TV (a popular Tamil television channel)

Description: These awards are given for achievements in Tamil cinema, including categories for music directors, playback singers, and lyricists.

Categories:

- Best Music Director
- Best Male Playback Singer
- Best Female Playback Singer
- Best Lyricist

Notable Recipients: A.R. Rahman, Harris Jayaraj, and Anirudh Ravichander.

#### **7. ANANDA VIKATAN CINEMA AWARDS**

Presented by: Ananda Vikatan (a leading Tamil magazine)

Description: These awards recognize excellence in Tamil cinema, including music direction, singing, and lyric writing.

Categories:

- Best Music Director
- Best Playback Singer (Male and Female)
- Best Lyricist

Notable Recipients: Ilaiyaraaja, A.R. Rahman, and S.P. Balasubrahmanyam.

## 8. JAYA TV MUSIC AWARDS

Presented by: Jaya TV (a Tamil television channel)

Description: These awards are dedicated to honoring the best talents in Tamil music, including classical, folk, and film music.

Categories: Various categories for classical and film music artists.

Notable Recipients: Popular film music composers and singers from Tamil cinema.

These awards highlight the significant role of music in Tamil culture, celebrating both classical traditions and contemporary innovations in film music.

## 9 SOUTH INDIAN INTERNATIONAL MOVIE AWARDS (SIIMA)

Presented by: Vibri Media Group

Description: SIIMA honors excellence in South Indian cinema, including Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, and Malayalam films, with specific categories for music.

Music Categories:

- Best Music Director
- Best Lyricist
- Best Male Playback Singer
- Best Female Playback Singer

Notable Recipients: Devi Sri Prasad, Yuvan Shankar Raja, Anirudh Ravichander, and Shreya Ghoshal.

## 10. ANANDA VIKATAN CINEMA AWARDS

Presented by: Ananda Vikatan, a leading Tamil magazine

Description: These awards recognize excellence in Tamil cinema, including film music.

Music Categories:

- Best Music Director
- Best Playback Singer (Male and Female)
- Best Lyricist

Notable Recipients: Ilaiyaraaja, A.R. Rahman, Anirudh Ravichander, and Sid Sriram.

These awards reflect the diversity and richness of Indian film music, recognizing the talents of musicians, singers, and lyricists who have made significant contributions to the film industry.

## CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that Tamil Nadu's efforts in recognizing and supporting film music artists have ensured that they receive the respect and acknowledgment they deserve, both within India and globally. These awards have thus elevated Tamil Nadu's film music industry, creating a culture of respect and recognition for its artists. The consistent acknowledgment ensures that the contributions of film music artists are remembered and celebrated across generations.

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