Trends of Sahitya Akademi Awards: 2015-2024: A Bibliometric Study

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ABSTRACT: *The present topic shows the trends of Sahitya Akademi Awards through bibliometric analysis of conferment of awards to writers from 2015 to 2024. The study is based on conferment of awards in 24 Indian languages including English. Out of 240 awards, Sahitya Akademi has given 238 awards to writers for last 10 years i.e. from 2015 to 2024. The study shows Year wise distribution of awards; Year and genre wise (Indian Literature) conferment of award and Language and genre wise conferment of awards. The study reveals that maximum awards (9 out of 24=37.5%) has been conferred to poetry genre in the year 2021 and 2023; highest prizes come from poetry genre (9) in Sanskrit Language and most of the awards have been conferred to poetry writing (73 out of 238= 30.67%).*

I. INTRODUCTION

A bibliometric analysis is a quantitative research method used to reveal trends, patterns, and relationships within a specific research area or across multiple fields. The present study has been conducted to know the trends of awards conferred by Sahitya Akademi (An autonomous organization under Ministry of Culture, Government of India) in the field of Indian Literature including English. Every year since its inception in 1954, the Sahitya Akademi has given prizes to the most outstanding books of literary merit published in any of the major Indian languages recognised by the Akademi. The award amount was Rs.5,000 since inception, from 2009, it has been enhanced to Rs.1,00,000. The first Awards were given in 1955.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

There is few research have been conducted on bibliometric study on award citations. Some of these studies are arranged chronologically. Ahmad (2020) conducted a bibliometric study (2006-2015) on Sahitya Akademi Award Citations and showed through his study poetry writing is the most popular form of writings in which most of the Sahitya Akademi awards were conferred. Similar type of research was conducted by Lokman (2020) on Highly prestigious international academic awards and their impact on university rankings. This study used the checklist method, survey studies, and Highly Cited Researchers to identify 100 highly prestigious international academic awards. It was found that awards considerably change the rankings and scores of top universities, especially those that receive a large number of awards and those that receive few or no awards.

III. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the present study are:
- ❖ To assess year wise conferment of awards in various genre of literature and ranking them.
- ❖ To evaluate language wise conferment of awards in various genre of literature and ranking them.
- ❖ To find out maximum number of awards have been given in a specific genre during the period i.e. from 2015 to 2024.
- ❖ To show the trends of conferment (genre wise) of award during the period i.e. from 2015 to 2024.

IV. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The present study is confined to conferment of Sahitya Akademi awards during 2015 to 2024 (10Years) among writers.

V. METHODOLOGY

For conducing the present bibliometric study on Sahitya Akademi awards conferred to writers from 2015 to 2024, all data have been collected from Sahitya Akademi website. After collection and verification of data, they are arranged in an Excel sheet for analysing.

VI. DATA ANALYSIS

Year wise Distribution of Awards: Table 1 shows out of 240 awards, 238 awards have been conferred to writers during the year 2015 to 2024. No award has been given in Tamil in the year 2017 and in Bengali in the year 2024.

Year	No. of Awards Given	Remarks
2015	24	
2016	24	
2017	23	No award in Tamil
2018	24	
2019	24	
2020	24	
2021	24	
2022	24	
2023	24	
2024	23	No award in Bengali
Total 10 Yrs. →	Total Awards 238	No Award 02

Table 1: Year wise Distribution of Awards

Year and Genre wise conferment of Award: There are 12 categories (Poetry, Drama, Novel, Short Storis, Essay, Literary Criticism, Memoirs, Travelogue, Biography, Autobiography, Epic and Literary History) of books have been chosen for selection of Sahitya Akademi awards from the year 2015 to 2024. It has been found from Table 2 that maximum no. of books on Poetry (9 out of 24 = 37.5%) have been awarded in 2021 and 2023 followed by 2nd highest books on Poetry (8 out of 24=33.33% and 8 out of 23=34.78%) in 2020 and 2024 respectively. The 3rd position occupied books on Poetry (7 out of 24=29.16%) awarded in 2016, 2018, 2019 and 2022; Novels (7 out of 24=29.16%) awarded in 2018 and 2022 and Short Stories (7 out of 24=29.16%) awarded in 2016; followed by 4th highest books awarded on Literary Criticism (6 out of 23=26.08) in 2017; Poetry(6 out of 24=25%) in 2015, Novel (6 out of 23=26.08) in 2017 and (6 out of 24=25%) in 2016, 2023 respectively and Short Stories (6 out of 24=25%) in 2015, 2019 and 2020 respectively.

Year	Poetry	Drama	Novel	Short stories	Essay	Literary Criti-cism	Memo-irs	Travelo-gue	Biogra-phy	Auto-Biogr-aphy	Epic	Lite-rary Hist.	Total Award	Remarks
2015	6	2	4	6	2	3	0	0	0	0	1	0	24	
2016	7	1	6	7	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	
2017	5	1	6	5	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	No award in Tamil
2018	7	0	7	5	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	
2019	7	0	5	6	3	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	24	
2020	8	2	5	6	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	24	
2021	9	2	3	5	0	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	24	
2022	7	3	7	2	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	24	
2023	9	0	6	5	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	
2024	8	1	3	3	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	No award in Bengali
													238	

Table 2: Year and Genre wise conferment of Award

Language and Genre wise conferment of Award*:* Table 3 shows that most of the prizes come from poetry genre: Sanskrit Language (9), Gujarati (6), Bodo (Hindi (5) and Manipuri (5). Maximum no. of English novel (9) has been awarded in last 10 years. Table 3 reveals that maximum no. of books on Poetry (73 out of 238=30.67%) have been awarded in last 10 years i.e. from 2015 to 2024; followed by Novel (52 out of 238=21.84%); Short Stories (21.008%); Literary Criticism (10.92%); Essay (5.88%); Drama (5.04%); Autobiography (1.68%); Epic and Literary History (0.84%). The less no. of award (one award in each category) has been given in Memoirs, Travelogue and Biography respectively.

Language	Poetry	Drama	Novel	Short stories	Essay	Literary Criticism	Memoir	Travelogue	Biography	Auto-Biography	Epic	Literary Hist.	Total Award	Remarks
Assamese	3	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Bengali	1	1	4	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0		No award in Bengali in 2024
Bodo	5	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Dogri	2	2	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
English	1	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Gujarati	6	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	0		
Hindi	5	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Kannada	2	0	1	0	2	3	0	0	1	1	0	0		
Kashmiri	1	0	1	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Konkani	4	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Maithili	3	0	1	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Malayalam	3	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0		
Manipuri	5	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Marathi	2	0	3	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Nepali	0	1	2	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0		
Odia	3	0	0	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Punjabi	3	1	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Rajasthani	4	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Sanskrit	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0		
Santali	4	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Sindhi	3	1	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1		
Tamil	0	0	5	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1		No award in Tamil in 2017
Telugu	3	0	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Urdu	1	0	4	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	73	12	52	50	14	26	01	01	01	04	02	02	238	

Table 3: Language and Genre wise conferment of Award

VII.   FINDINGS

The bibliometric study on Trends of Sahitya Akademi awards is based on the data for last 10 years (2025-2024) collected from awards lists of 24 Indian languages (including English) in Sahitya Akademi website. During these 10 years, Sahitya Akademi has conferred 238 awards to writers. No award has been given in Tamil in 2017 and Bengali in 2024. The study also reveals that the 12 categories/genre of books have been selected from 24 Indian languages (including English) and maximum awards come from Poetry genre (9 out of 24) in the year 2021 and 2023 respectively. The study shows Poetry genre have bagged the maximum number of awards (73 out of 238). The study highlights that maximum number of books on poetry (9) in Sanskrit language and maximum number of books on English novel (9) have been awarded in past 10 years.

VIII.   CONCLUSION

It is concluded from the study that Poetry genre is most popular from other genre of Literature in which Sahitya Akademi has given priority for selection and conferment of award followed by Novel and Short Stories.

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