'Koodu' at IFFI: Tamil film on a village that saved a bird's nest

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News

The Tamil film 'Koodu' (Nest), the debut feature of director Joyal Vijay, was screened on 23 Nov 2026 in the Gala Premieres section of the 57th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), Goa (20–28 Nov); it is the only Tamil film in that section this year. At a press conference organised by the Press Information Bureau, the director, producers Rajesh Menon and Ganesh M and actor V. Jayaprakash said the film's message is that the earth does not belong to human beings alone, and that people must respect and live in harmony with other creatures. Inspired by a 2020 incident in Kothakudi village, Virudhunagar district, the story is set in Vachathi village: when a bird's nest with eggs is found inside an electrical transformer, the villagers choose to live without electricity for 35 days to protect it.

Key facts for the exam

Point	Details
Festival	57th IFFI, Panaji, Goa (20–28 November 2026)
Section	Gala Premieres (only Tamil film in it)
Theme	Environmental protection and community responsibility
Length	127 minutes
Story basis	2020 incident at Kothakudi (Virudhunagar); villagers lived without power for 35 days to save a nest

Background

- IFFI began in 1952 in Bombay (Mumbai) and was Asia's first international film festival of its kind. Goa has been its permanent venue since 2004. It is organised by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (through NFDC) with the Entertainment Society of Goa. The top award is the Golden Peacock.
- Constitution: Article 48A (Directive Principle) asks the State to protect and improve the environment and safeguard forests and wildlife; Article 51A(g) makes it a fundamental duty of every citizen to protect the natural environment and have compassion for living creatures.

Tamil Nadu link: Vedanthangal (Chengalpattu district), one of India's oldest bird sanctuaries, is famous because villagers protected the nesting birds for generations; it was declared a sanctuary in 1936 and became a Ramsar site in 2022. The first Tamil talkie was 'Kalidas' (1931).

Frequently asked questions

What is this news about?

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What are the key facts to remember for the exam?

Festival: 57th IFFI, Panaji, Goa (20–28 November 2026); Section: Gala Premieres (only Tamil film in it); Theme: Environmental protection and community responsibility; Length: 127 minutes.

What is the background to this news?

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Practice questions (with answers)

1. Tamil film 'Koodu' was screened in the Gala Premieres of which festival?

A) Int'l Film Festival of Keralam

B) Busan Film Festival

C) Chennai Int'l Film Festival

D) 57th IFFI, Goa

Answer: D – Explanation: Directed by Joyal Vijay, 'Koodu' is the only Tamil film in this year's Gala Premieres; Goa has hosted IFFI permanently since 2004.

2. In which year was the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) first held?

A) 1965

B) 1975

C) 1947

D) 1952

Answer: D – Explanation: IFFI began in Bombay in 1952, the first international film festival of its kind in Asia.

3. What is the top award given to the best film at IFFI?

A) Golden Bear

B) Golden Peacock

C) Palme d'Or

D) Golden Lotus (Swarna Kamal)

Answer: B – Explanation: The Golden Lotus is a National Film Award; the Golden Bear (Berlin) and Palme d'Or (Cannes) belong to other festivals.

4. Vedanthangal, one of India's oldest bird sanctuaries, is in which district?

A) Tiruvarur

B) Chengalpattu

C) Nagapattinam

D) Ramanathapuram

Answer: B – Explanation: Famous because villagers protected birds for generations, Vedanthangal was notified in 1936; 'Koodu' too is about a village protecting a nest.

5. 'Compassion for living creatures' is a fundamental duty under which Article?

A) Article 48A

B) Article 51A(f)

C) Article 51A(g)

D) Article 21

Answer: C – Explanation: Art. 51A(g): protect the environment and have compassion for living creatures. Art. 48A is the environment DPSP; 51A(f) is about valuing our heritage.