

REPORT ON

# FILM FEST 2026

(SHORT & DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL)



*Jointly organised by*  
**Information & Public Relations Department (I&PR),  
Gov't. of Mizoram  
& Entertainment Society of Mizoram (ESM)**



**Funded By**  
**North Eastern Council (NEC)**



# FILM FEST 2026

**Date** : 13- 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2026

**Venue** : I&PR Mini-Theatre, Treasury Square, Aizawl

**Chief Guest** : Mrs. Betsy Zothanpary Sailo, Secretary I&PR Dept.

**Special Guest** : Shilpika Bordoloi, Assam

*(National Award-Winning Filmmaker)*



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(SHORT & DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL)

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 **Venue** : I&PR Mini-Theatre, Treasury Square, Aizawl  
 **Chief Guest** : Pi Betsy Zothanpary Sailo, Secretary I&PR Dept.

**DAY 1** AUGUST 13, THURSDAY – 11:00AM

**Host** : C. Vanlalhraizeli (Hruaitel)  
**Inauguration & Speech** : Chief Guest  
**Short Speech** : Chairman, ESM

 **LUNCH BREAK**

**2nd SESSION (1:00PM)**

 **Short Film** : The Unforgiven Silence  
(Ruafela Mart Khiangte)  
(Q & A with Cast & Crew)

 **Master-Class** : Script Writing (Samuel L. Pachau)  
(Q & A) (Best Screenwriter - Mizo Film Award 2025)

 **Short Film** : Chanchinbu Mi (Christo Pa)  
(Q & A with Cast & Crew)

 **Master-Class** : Budget & Marketing  
(Gospel Ramdinmawia – Lersia Play)  
(Q & A)

**DAY 2** AUGUST 14, FRIDAY – 10:30AM

 **Short Film** : Noodle Soup  
(Zote Entertainment - Mike)  
(Q & A with Cast & Crew)

 **Master-Class** : Film Production  
(Drew Pachau – In-House Production)  
(Q & A) (Best Director – Mizo Film Award 2023)

 **LUNCH BREAK**

**2nd SESSION (1:00PM)**

 **Documentary** : Mau\The Spirit Dreams of Cheraw  
(Q & A)  
(Shilpika Bordoloi - National Award-winning Filmmaker)

 **Film Festival Experience** : Ruafela Mart Khiangte  
(Q & A)

**CELEBRATING STORIES  
INSPIRING FUTURES**



Organised by  
**ENTERTAINMENT SOCIETY OF MIZORAM (ESM)**  
Promoting Film, Creativity & Storytelling  
for a Stronger Mizoram

    

**Information & Public Relations Department**

## INTRODUCTION

*The Information & Public Relations Department, Gov't. of Mizoram and Entertainment Society of Mizoram (ESM) successfully organized the **Film Fest 2026 (Short & Documentary Film Festival)** on 13 - 14<sup>th</sup> August 2026 at I&PR Mini-Theatre, Treasury Square, Aizawl. We were honored to have Mrs. Betsy Zothanpari Sailo, Secretary - Information & Public Relations Department, Government of Mizoram, as our chief guest, who delivered an inspiring speech.*



*Chief Guest - Mrs. Betsy Zothanpari Sailo, Secretary I&PR Department*

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Mizo Film Industry has made significant progress in recent years, with a substantial increase in film production. The Entertainment Society of Mizoram is committed to promoting the growth of the Mizo Film Industry through various initiatives. The Film Fest 2026 was one of our flagship events, which brought together filmmakers and enthusiasts from within and outside Mizoram. We were overwhelmed by the response, and the event was a huge success.

Students from Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), Mizoram University and Govt. Johnson College were invited to attend Film Fest 2026, along with several local film enthusiasts. The theme for Film Fest 2026 is 'Celebrating Stories, Inspiring Futures'.

In this Short & Documentary Film Festival, several short films and documentaries were screened, and the film directors along with the cast & crew were invited, followed by a very fruitful interactive discussion with them. In addition to this, Master-Classes were also conducted, where film experts gave us valuable lessons, followed by question and answer sessions.



### **FESTIVAL OVERVIEW**

Film Fest 2026 (Short & Documentary Film Festival) was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, who spoke about the current status and future prospects of the Mizo film industry and gave a very encouraging speech to all film enthusiasts. A speech was also heard from the Chairman of the Entertainment Society of Mizoram (ESM), Mr. B. Lallawmkima, along with short speeches from I&PR Officials.

After this, short films were screened together, and the makers and actors were called on stage for a Q&A session. In between the film screenings, Master-Classes were conducted on selected topics by experts. Q&A sessions were also held, which were used as a time to clarify various doubts of the audience.

A very beneficial teaching on Script Writing was received from Samuel L. Pachuau, Mizo Film Award 2025 winner, which was highly appreciated by the audience. Gospel Ramdinmawia, CEO of Mizoram's most popular and oldest OTT platform Lersia Play, also gave a lecture on the topic 'Budget & Marketing', which was extremely useful for those who have made films and those who are going to make films in the future.



## FILM SCREENINGS AND REVIEWS

On Day 1, two short films - 'The Unforgiven Silence' and 'Chanchinbu Mi' - were screened, which was a real treat for the eyes and ears. After the directors shared about their films, a Q&A session was held, which was very fruitful. The maker of 'The Unforgiven Silence' is Mart Khiangte, who is not a stranger in the Mizo film industry. The maker of 'Chanchinbu Mi', Christo Pa, has also made several films before.



On Day 2, 'Noodle Soup' and 'Mau : The Spirit Dreams of Cheraw' were screened, which the audience found very beneficial. 'Noodle Soup' is a production of Zote Entertainment, and the audience pointed out many areas for improvement.



Shilpika Bordoloi's documentary 'Mau : The Spirit Dreams of Cheraw' was highly appreciated, and it received even more appreciation because it was made in Mizoram and it showcases Mizo cultural identity. Shilpika Bordoloi has already won a National Award for this documentary, and we learned a lot from her.



## MASTER CLASS

One of the highlights of Film Fest 2026 was the Master Class sessions conducted by renowned experts. The sessions were well-prepared, informative, and engaging, with opportunities for Q&A. Our esteemed Master Class instructors were:

1. *Mr. Samuel L. Pachuau (Best Screen Writer - Mizo Film Award 2025)*
2. *Mr. Gospel Ramdinmawia, CEO, Lersia Play Application*
3. *Mr. Andrew Vanaengmawia, Director, In-House Production  
(Best Director - Mizo Film Award 2023)*
4. *Mart Ruatfela Khiangte, Filmmaker.*



These experts gave excellent lessons, and their experiences and future plans were also heard. Mr. Andrew Vanaengmawia is a prominent figure in the film industry, known for producing high-quality films that consistently receive acclaim. His films are available on Lersia Play, and he holds the record for the highest-grossing Mizo film. He conducted a workshop on 'Film Production,' showcasing his expertise and sharing valuable insights.

Mr. Andrew Vanaengmawia is currently making a Bollywood film, and the audience highly valued listening to his interesting and joyful experiences.



## CONCLUSION

Film Fest 2026 (Short & Documentary Film Festival) was held for two days and was concluded smoothly and successfully. Around 80-100 people attended the venue, and everyone found it very beneficial. The event was a huge success, with engaging sessions, informative discussions, and a wonderful atmosphere.

The audience actively participated in Q&A sessions, with over 50 questions asked. Among the audience were professors, lecturers, and professionals from various fields. Their presence added depth to the discussions, and we are grateful for their participation. The attendees enjoyed the event, and the atmosphere was lively throughout.



The programme was well-coordinated, thanks to the efforts of the State Nodal Department (Information & Public Relations Department) and North Eastern Council (NEC). The venue was carefully selected and decorated, with a well-designed stage, banner, and photo booth. The event was a huge success, and we hope to build on this momentum in the future.

