

**Award presentation ceremony of the 16th and 17th Manipur State Film Awards (MSFA),
2024 and 2025 Edition on May 28 and 29, 2026**



Shri Ajay Kumar Bhalla, Hon'ble Governor of Manipur graced the award presentation ceremony of the 16th and 17th Manipur State Film Awards (MSFA), 2024 and 2025 Edition, at the Palace Auditorium of the Manipur State Film Development Society (MSFDS), Imphal on May 28 and 29, 2026. Organised by the MSFDS, the award is the highest State honour in Manipuri cinema and celebrates excellence, creativity and outstanding contributions to the film industry. The award aims to encourage artistic achievement, promote creativity and support the continued growth of the Manipuri film industry. The Hon'ble Governor conferred the 16th Manipur State Film Development Society (MSFDS) Lifetime Achievement Award 2024 to Ngangbam Swarnajit Singh in recognition of his pioneering role as Manipur's first professional artist in cinema and the 17th Manipur State Film Development Society (MSFDS) Lifetime Achievement Award 2025 to Dr. Arambam Lokendra Singh in recognition of his invaluable contributions to the aesthetic development of Manipuri cinema and his significant role in enriching its academic and intellectual discourse since its inception. I along with the Chief Minister and the Minister for Arts & Culture, also distributed the awards in the Books & Critic; Non-Feature and Feature Films categories to the winners. Speaking at the event, the Hon'ble Governor stated that Manipuri cinema stands as a powerful medium of storytelling and cultural expression, reflecting the aspirations, struggles, identity and resilience of the people and urged young filmmakers to preserve local stories, languages, traditions and values while exploring new perspectives and innovative cinematic techniques. The Hon'ble Governor appreciated the contribution of filmmakers, actors, writers, technicians, critics, researchers and all others associated with the growth of Manipuri cinema and also appealed to young and emerging filmmakers to continue telling authentic stories rooted in rich cultural traditions while embracing innovation and new forms of cinematic expression, adding that the future of Manipuri cinema rests on their imagination, talent and courage to explore new horizons.