

MANIPUR SANGAI FESTIVAL

'Manipur Sangai Festival', named after the State animal, Sangai, the brow antlered deer found only in Manipur in the whole world, is an important annual event organized by the Tourism Department, Government of Manipur from **21st to 30th November every year**. The Festival showcases Manipur's rich tradition and culture to the world at large. This is the biggest and grandest festival of Manipur where all the tribes and communities meet and celebrate the uniqueness of Manipur. It is the place where the varied cultural heritage of Manipur is showcased before the world. The ten day long Festival this year from 21 – 30 November, 2015 will be a continuous celebration of indigenous cuisines, adventure sports and other forms of entertainment.

Manipur literally meaning "A jeweled land" nestled deep within a lush green corner of North East India. It seems much like an exquisite work of art executed by the superb hands of nature and is indeed a state of exquisite natural beauty and splendors, the beauty of which once inspired Mrs. St. Clair Grimwood who described it as " A Pretty Place more beautiful than many show places of the world." Late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru paid a fitting tribute by describing it as "Jewel of India".

Surrounded by blue hills with an oval shaped valley at the centre, rich in art and tradition and surcharged with nature's pristine glory. Manipur lies on a melting pot of culture. It is the birth place of Polo. This is the place where Rajashree Bhagyachandra created the famous Ras Lila, the classical dance of Manipur, out of his enchanting dream by the grace of Lord Krishna.

Her folk dances reveal the mythological concept of creation of Manipur.