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Mizoram village revels in return of World War II-hit festival



CHENNAI – 16 Nov, 2026 Performer at the Leitlangpui Musical Festival, which returned to Serkawn village in Mizoram's Lunglei district 80 years after becoming an indirect casualty of World War 2. Photo: Special Arrangement

A village in south-central Mizoram's Lunglei district has revelled in the return of a festival that was an indirect casualty of the Second World War 80 years ago.

Serkawn, about 175 km south of Aizawl, the State's capital, organised the Serkawn Contest from 1932 to 1946 to celebrate the musical heritage and emerging creative talent in the erstwhile Lushai Hills. It was not held in 1942 due to World War 2, but the toll the conflict took on the global economy killed the concert after four years.

The concert staged a comeback at Serkawn from November 11 to 13 in a new avatar—the Leitlangpui Music Festival. It marked the return of a "heritage event" to a location deeply rooted in the history of modern Mizo music.

The Union Ministry of Tourism and the Mizoram Tourism Department organised the event with Bbyanimals as the official event partner.