



ATMA RAM SANATAN DHARMA COLLEGE (UNIVERSITY OF DELHI)

ARA: North-East Welfare Society

In the academic year 2024-2025, ARA, the North East Welfare Society at ARSD College, organized a diverse range of events to enrich the knowledge and personal development of its students, focusing on those hailing from the North Eastern States. These initiatives were designed not only to empower students but also to foreground and celebrate the distinct culture and heritage of North East India.

The year kick-started with the Orientation program on 21st September 2024. The Orientation was followed by an enlightening talk by Dr. Nongmaithem Manichandra Singh, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Aryabhata College, as the resource person.

A three-day (29th -31st January 2025) intercollegiate volleyball tournament for both boys and girls was organized to consolidate the unity and camaraderie of North East Societies across Delhi University through sports. Thirteen colleges of Delhi University participated, making it a huge success.

A book launch and discussion on *Roots & Wings: A Book of Haiku, Senryu and Haibun*, composed by fellow colleague and community member, Dr. Achingliu Kamei was held on 4th February 2025. The guest speaker, Dr Shubha Dwivedi, Associate Professor, Department of English, ARSD College, through a thought-provoking lecture, emphasized the poetic credo of Dr Kamei, inextricably linked with her strong regional identity, pride and concerns for her indigenous heritage as well as the struggle and resilience of her people and their representation in literature.

The screening of 'Keibu Keioiba', an animated Manipuri film, deeply embedded in Meitei folklore was held on 10th February 2025, in collaboration with TILT-The Filmmaking and Appreciation Society of ARSD College. Through a guided discussion, this event sought to promote understanding and appreciation for films and media originating from the North East. Dr. Achingliu Kamei delivered a compelling lecture that highlighted the vital importance of preserving the region's rich oral literature.

As the culmination of the series of delightful and memorable events, the society organized its annual Rainbow Fest on the 24th and 25th of February 2025, celebrating the cultural diversity of North East India through music, dance, art, and literature. The event aimed to foster respect for different cultures, promote friendship among students from varied backgrounds, and create an inclusive environment where all students feel valued and connected in the college and the city. The fest was graced by our esteemed chief guest Mr. Lucas

L. Kamsuan, Joint Secretary, Public Enterprises, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India, Principal of ARSD College, Prof. Gyantosh Kumar Jha, IQAC convener, Prof Vinita Tuli, and the Nodal Officer of North East Welfare Society, Dr Naorem Premjit. Special performances like fusion dance, singing, a band show, and a showcase of the cultural attires

of different ethnic groups of North East India were presented. Over the two-day fest, several competitions in various categories, including quizzes, debates, live photography, group dances, and group folk songs, were held. The fest attracted a large number of students from the prominent colleges of Delhi University, and was highly successful in creating an atmosphere of cheerful bonhomie and a sense of appreciation towards all cultures.