

NORTH EAST STUDENTS WELFARE COMMITTEE

Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies, University of Delhi

EVENT REPORT

PRELUDE TO 818

A Celebration of North Eastern Culture, Identity & Inclusivity

Event Overview

Event Name	Prelude to 818
Organised By	North East Students Welfare Committee (NESWC), SSCBS
Date	24th February 2026
Venue	Near College Ground (Adjacent to Amul & Nescafé Booth), SSCBS
Footfall	250+ attendees
Theme	Celebrating North Eastern Heritage - Culture, Cuisine & Community

About the Event

Prelude to 818 was a landmark cultural outreach event conceptualised and executed by the North East Students Welfare Committee (NESWC) of Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies. Serving as a vibrant precursor to the grand annual North East cultural festival 818, the event was designed to introduce the wider college community to the rich, diverse, and often underrepresented heritage of India's North Eastern states. Through authentic cuisine, traditional attire, regional music, and heartfelt interactive installations, the event created a powerful bridge between cultures, fostering curiosity, respect, and togetherness among students from every background.

Key Highlights & Activities

Singju Stall — Authentic North Eastern Cuisine

The committee offered complimentary Singju, a beloved traditional salad from Manipur, prepared as an entirely vegan dish to ensure inclusivity for all dietary preferences. The response was extraordinary; the preparation was exhausted well ahead of schedule, with hundreds of cups served, reflecting the community's enthusiastic appetite for authentic North Eastern culture.

Traditional Attire Try On Stall

Attendees were invited to don authentic garments from across the North East, admire themselves in a full length mirror, and capture photographs, creating memories steeped in cultural appreciation. The stall featured 13 carefully curated ensembles:

For Women: 1 Mizo Set, 1 Mizo Traditional Top, 2 Ladakhi Sets

For Men: 1 Ladakhi Set, 1 Mizo Set, 1 Tangkhul Attire

8 Ghamsas For everyone

The stall drew long queues and generated an outpouring of appreciation and joyful engagement throughout the day.

Live North Eastern Music Experience

The campus air was filled with the soul enriching sounds of North Eastern music played on a high powered speaker system, from the lilting folk tunes of Manipur to the rhythmic beats of tribal music, serving as a living soundtrack that drew students in and sparked conversations about the region's rich musical heritage.

India's Heartbeat — The Thumb Map Installation

Participants were invited to dip their thumb in paint and mark their home state on a large artistic map of India, creating a living, collective mosaic of the nation's diversity. A dedicated section was warmly reserved for international students with the message: "For our international friends leave your heart here," a gesture that underscored NESWC's unwavering commitment to inclusivity.

Heart & Candy Board, Ribbon Craft Station

A large decorative board of cups arranged in the shape of a heart, each filled with candies and surprise handwritten notes in some of the cups for the lucky ones that day, invited attendees to "Take a piece of our hearts" and poke through to claim their treat. Complementing this, a ribbon craft station allowed participants to fashion their own flowers and accessories, adding a creative, wholesome close to the day's festivities.

A Special Visit

In a moment that added great honour and warmth to the occasion, both of the college's Teachers in Charge graced the event with their presence. They engaged with the activities, experienced the cultural displays firsthand, and expressed their delight at the thoughtfulness and execution of the event, a recognition that the entire team held with immense pride. The North East Students Welfare Committee extends its heartfelt gratitude to both Teachers in Charge for their unwavering support, guidance, and encouragement, without which the successful execution of Prelude to 818 would not have been possible.

Event Statistics at a Glance

Metric	Details
Total Footfall	250+ attendees
Traditional Attire Sets	13 ensembles across 4 regional styles
Cuisine Served	Singju — Vegan Variant
Interactive Installations	3 (Thumb Map, Candy Board, Ribbon Craft)
Music Experience	Curated NE playlist on high powered speakers

Conclusion

Prelude to 818 was, by every measure, a resounding success, a heartfelt, immersive, and beautifully orchestrated celebration that left a lasting impression on all who attended. Every element of the event was thoughtfully designed to foster connection, pride, and belonging. The North East Students Welfare Committee reaffirms its commitment to building an inclusive, culturally enriched college community, one event at a time. Prelude to 818 was not merely a cultural showcase; it was a statement of identity, a celebration of diversity, and above all, an expression of love for the extraordinary heritage of India's North East.