



KRISTU JAYANTI (DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)

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City Highlights — 31 January 2026.

AARUNYA 2026 Showcases Northeast India's Cultural Richness at Kristu Jayanti University

BENGALURU

Kristu Jayanti (Deemed to be University) celebrated the vibrant spirit and cultural diversity of Northeast India with AARUNYA 2026, a North East Fest organised by the Kristu Jayanti Literary and Cultural Association, with model, influencer and Mr India 2021 title holder Songshim Rungnung as the Chief Guest on January 30.

The campus was transformed into a colourful cultural mosaic as students from eight Northeastern states, Meghalaya, Manipur, Assam, Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim, came together to showcase their unique identities, traditions and heritage. Students dressed in traditional attire set up state-wise stalls across the college turf and Humanities Block, featuring regional cuisines, handmade jewellery, ethnic clothing, indigenous artefacts and cultural relics.

An interactive session with the Chief Guest at the PG Block auditorium emerged as a key highlight of the fest. Songshim Rungnung engaged with students on themes of identity, representation and cultural pride, underscoring the importance of visibility for the Northeast community. AARUNYA is truly a great



platform to create awareness about the North Eastern community. Thank you for making us feel like we are truly at home," he said.

The formal inauguration began with a presidential address by the Vice-Chancellor of Kristu Jayanti (Deemed to be University), Fr. Dr. Augustine George, who welcomed the gathering and remarked that the university had taken on a different look with the celebration of Northeast cultures. He expressed pride in honouring not just cultural performances, but also the stories, food, languages and traditions of the region, reaffirming the university's solidarity with its Northeast student community. The fest was officially declared open after the Vice-Chancellor ceremonially struck the gong and invited the Chief Guest to inaugurate the event.

The celebrations continued with a series of vibrant cultur-

al performances, including melodious songs and energetic folk dances such as Bihu and Bamboo Dance, taking the audience on a visual and emotional journey through Northeast India.

Sharing their experiences, Lalringnunga, a student from Mizoram, said, we are around 150 people from the Mizo community in this college. We are extremely excited, the preparations went well, and we truly feel special.

Echoing similar sentiments, Disha Koraizim from Manipur remarked, as a community, we feel excited and heard. We felt seen.

The event concluded on a warm and celebratory note, leaving the campus filled with smiles and a renewed sense of cultural unity. AARUNYA 2026 stood as a meaningful initiative by Kristu Jayanti University to foster inclusivity and celebrate the beauty of India's Northeastern heritage.