

## **Workshop on Constitutional and Legal Rights for Christian Religious Minorities**

Human Rights and Training Unit of Indian Social Institute-Bengaluru (ISI-B) in collaboration with Ananya Educational and Empowerment Trust (AEET) Bengaluru, organised a state level workshop on “Constitutional and Legal Rights for Christian Religious Minorities” on November 1, 2018 at ISI-B. There were about 75 participants, coming from diverse backgrounds.

After invoking God’s presence, the workshop was inaugurated by lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries on stage, **Mr Franklin Caesar Thomas**, Advocate Supreme Court of India, **Dr Selvaraj Arulnathan**, Director ISI-B, **Mr Y. Mariswamy**, Director of AEET and Chairperson KSCPCR, **Dr Alwyn Prakash D’Souza**, Head, Human Rights and Training Unit at ISI-B and **Mr John Baptist D’Souza**, programme coordinator of AEET.



After the formal inauguration, Dr Alwyn Prakash D’Souza, Head, Human Rights and Training Unit at ISI-B, gave the keynote address, where he focused on the objectives and the relevance of the workshop in the current political context. Dr Selvaraj, the Guest of Honour, also emphasized the relevance of the workshop.



After the inaugural session, Mr Franklin Caesar Thomas, Advocate Supreme Court of India and a Human Rights Activist, made his presentation, covering a wide array of topics. His expertise combined with long years of experience in the legal field, left the participants in awe. Mr Franklin Caesar Thomas, not only inspired the participants but also challenged them.

Mr Y. Mariswamy, Director of AEET and Chairperson KSCPCR made the concluding remarks. John Baptist D'Souza, programme coordinator of AEET, proposed the vote of thanks. Ms Maria, Professor at Claret College, compered the program with aplomb. Ms Kanchana, Asst in the Human Rights and Training Unit, took care of the registration and other logistics. All the participants were highly appreciative of the program and stated that the program was very informative and well organized.

