

## **EBSB St. Thomas College of Teacher Education, Pala**

### **Report of celebration of Mathrubhasha Diwas - 20 February, 2020**

Recognizing the importance of our mother tongue in enhancing a child's overall development we celebrated the Mother Tongue day on 20th February 2020 at St.Thomas College of Teacher Education College, Pala. This was conducted on behalf of the "Bharanabhasha Matrubhasha" programme. As part of the programme, we screened two short documentaries, one on the origin of and development of our mother tongue language- Malayalam. The other was on the history of Thiruvithamkur.

#### **Documentary on History of Thiruvithamkur**

The documentary was based on the history of Thiruvithamkur. It had detailed description about the famous Sree Pathmanabha Swami temple and the cordial relation that existed between the temple and Thiruvithamkur. The documentary also showed the Thiruvithamkur lineage. The documentary also clearly stated the interactions of famous artists Kunjan Nambiar, Ramapurath Warriar etc to the royal family. The documentary also conducted a review of the royal family.

To sum up, the documentary screening was a very informative and resourceful session to the teachers as well as teacher trainees.

#### **Documentary on Malayalam Language**

The documentary dealt with many aspects like the first Westener who studied about our language, the birth of Malayalam, major writers, poets and works in Malayalam. The documentary also commented about Rev. Benjamin Bailey, who was a remarkable man in the cultural history of Kerala. In 1821 he established a Malayalam printing press. He translated the Bible into Malayalam, in 1846 published the first English-Malayalam dictionary, and in 1849 published the first Malayalam-English dictionary.

Mother tongue develops a child's personal, social and cultural identity. Using mother tongue helps a child develop their critical thinking and literacy skills. The documentary presentation helped in instilling the idea of promoting and preserving the mothertongue among the teachers and teacher trainees. It created the awareness about the need and significance of conserving our language. Around 55 individuals participated in the documentary screening.