

## Activities and achievements of the Directorate of Epigraphy, Archaeological Survey of India, Mysuru for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018

### TOURS UNDERTAKEN:

The technical staff and officers of the Epigraphy Branch conducted epigraphical survey. Dr. S. Nagarajappa, Asst. Suptdg. Epigraphist, Sri R. V. Anil Kumar and Dr. Meka V. Raghavendra Varma, Assistant Epigraphists, Mysuru visited Sravanabelagola, Hassan district, Karnataka and copied 130 stone inscriptions. Dr. Alok Ranjan, Deputy Suptdg. Epigraphist I/c, Northern Zone, Lucknow visited Gwalior and Datia districts of Madhya Pradesh and copied 08 stone inscriptions.

### PUBLICATION:

- The work of compiling *Annual Report on Indian Epigraphy for the year 2004-05* is in progress.
- The work of deciphering, transcribing and writing gist of the inscriptions copied for the year 2018-19 is in progress.

### REVIEW OF SOME OF THE INSCRIPTIONS:

Among the inscriptions examined by the technical staff at Mysuru, three terracotta votive tablets from Naulagarh, Begusarai district, Bihar (now preserved in K. P. Jayaswal Archaeological Museum, Dept. of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, G. D. College, Begusarai) are examined here. They are engraved in Sanskrit language and Early Nagari characters of about 9<sup>th</sup> century A. D. and records the Buddhist formula (*ye dharmma hetu . . . . . etc.*).

A Kannada record from Hebbal, Bengaluru urban district, Karnataka, engraved on a hero-stone inscription records the erection of a hero-stone by Pergundi and Kirugundi in the memory of a deceased hero named Kittayan of Kadandale, who was the brother-in-law of Kormora of the Ara lineage, while defending the village (*uralivu*) from the attack made by the army of Rattavadi, when Pel-Nagattarasa was administering over the Perbolalnadu-30 during the rule of the king Sripurusha of western Ganga dynasty. On palaeographical ground it can be assigned to the 8<sup>th</sup> century A.D.

Two inscriptions belonging to the Pandya king Komaran-jadaiyan (Virapandya) issued in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> (951 and 954 A.D) regnal years in Tamil language and Vatteluttu characters, engraved on sluice stones in the rain fed tank at Mela-neelithanallur in Sankarankoyil taluk of Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu are highlighted here. Of the two inscriptions, the first one, records the erection of a sluice in the tank at Neelinallur a *brahmadeya* village in Nechchura-nadu and registers the name of the donors. The inscription refers the erection of another sluice by Veliman-Panaiyandunan of Tuvvur in Tuvvur-kurram.

Among the inscriptions examined by this office are two inscriptions engraved on the wall of

the Durga cave at Durgakund in Mirzapur district, Uttar Pradesh. Among them, one inscription in Sanskrit language and Brahmi characters of about 5<sup>th</sup> century A.D., reads *Chalaka*. The other inscription in Sanskrit language and Nagari characters of about 8<sup>th</sup> century A.D. mentions the name of a person Nagavadu.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:**

The technical staff of the Epigraphy Branch, Mysuru, participated in the meeting of Town Official Language Implementation Committee (TOLIC) held on 19/11/2018 at Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysuru.

Library facilities were extended to the Scholars at Mysuru office.

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