

DATA FOR UPDATING ASI WEBSITE
Activities and achievements of the Directorate of Epigraphy, Archaeological
Survey of India, Mysuru for the period ending 30th September 2020

PUBLICATION:

Proof correction of the second draft of *Annual Report on Indian Epigraphy for the year 2019-20* is in progress.

South Indian Inscriptions Vol. XLII (Telugu inscriptions collected during the year 1954-57) edited by Dr. C. Somasundara Rao is sent to Tamilnadu Government Press, Chennai for printing.

The work of editing inscriptions by the technical officers /staff of the Epigraphy Branch and outside scholars for publication in various *South Indian Inscriptions* and *North Indian Inscriptions* volumes are in different stages of progress.

REVIEW OF SOME OF THE INSCRIPTIONS

Among the inscriptions examined by the technical staff at Mysuru, is a set of copper plates recovered recently during the course of renovation work in Gaṅṭa-maṭham at Śrīśailam, Kurnool district, Andhra Pradesh. It is a biscriptal inscription written in Telugu and Oḍiya script and is in Telugu language. It belongs to the reign of Kapilesvara Gajapati, dated Śaka 1348, Chitrabhanu, Magha ba. 14, Thursday (1463 A. D., February 17). It records the gift of 17 villages as *sarvamanya* in the following territorial division's viz., Rajamahendravaram, Kamavaram, Kondapalli, Kondavidu, Addanki and Vinukonḍa to the god Mallikarjunamahadeva of Sriparvata by the king on the occasion of Mahasivaratri for providing food offerings and conducting festivities in the temple. The same grant portion is written in Odiya script and Telugu language.

Two copper plate grants of Western Ganga dynasty found while doing the earth work for conservation of a Jaina basadi at Halebelgola in Channarayapattana taluk, Hasana district of Karnataka are examined. Among them, one was issued during the reign of the king Sripurusha, written in Sanskrit and Kannada language and Kannada characters of the 8th century A.D. It records the gift of a village Sokanevadi as *brahmadeya* to a brahmana Sokanebhatta of Kousika-gotra by the king. Further it registers the gift of 20 *khamduga* of land for the signatories of the grant.

The second charter issued during the reign of the king Rājamalla II, dated 879 A.D., October 21, Wednesday is written in Sanskrit and Kannada language and Kannada characters. It registers the gift of a village Agalivolal situated in Kalbappu-nadu-vishaya with all incumbrances by the king for renovation and conducting festivities in Satyavakya Jinalaya of Kalbappu tirtha. Further it mentions that the gift was entrusted to the preceptor Gunasenadeva of Mulasamgha.

A Tamil inscription of Chola dynasty issued in the 26th regnal year of the king Rajendra I (1038 A.D.), engraved on the *kumuda* in the eastern wall of the Siva temple at Bikshandarkovil, Manachanallur taluk of Tiruchirappalli district is also examined. It seems to record a sale of land at the rate of five *kalanju* of gold for providing services to the god by the members of the *sabha* at Kunachilamangalam in Kimalarru of Pachchil-kurram in Rajasraya-valanadu.

A bronze seal belonging to the Vakataka dynasty, discovered from the village Gojoli, Chandrapur district, Maharashtra (Photograph received from Mrs. Jaya Wahane, Curator, Central Museum, Nagpur, Maharashtra) is also examined. The seal consists of a figure of Lakshmi, seated on a lotus with the legend engraved below in four lines in Sanskrit language and Brahmi characters (box-headed) of the 5th century A.D. It states that, this is the decree of the victorious king Prithvishena [II] (*circa* 470-490 A.D.), the virtuous son of Narendrasena and lord of the glorious Vakataka family.

DIGITIZATION OF ESTAMPAGES

For the purpose of digitization, the work of pasting and mending some of the old estampages, copied during the year 1939 which are not in good condition has been taken up and the work is under progress. Digitization of estampages of copper plate inscriptions is under progress.
