

**DATA FOR UPDATING ASI WEBSITE**  
**Activities and achievements of the Directorate of Epigraphy, Archaeological**  
**Survey of India, Mysuru for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020**

**TOURS UNDERTAKEN:**

Sri M. Yesubabu, Asst. Suptdg. Epigraphist and Sri P. T. Nagarajan, Assistant Epigraphist of the Southern zone, Chennai went on tour and copied an inscription at Pattimitta, Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh.

**PUBLICATION:**

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

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 plate recovered recently during the course of renovation work in Ganta-matham at Srisailam, Kurnool district, Andhra Pradesh., issued by the king Pedda Komati Vema of Reddi of Kondavidu. It is written in Sanskrit language and Telugu characters, dated Saka 1326 (*rasa-nayana-agni-chandra*), Tarana, Pushya, which is equivalent to 1405 A.D., January 1, Thursday. It records the gift of the village Origani, situated in Velnatti-sima to the god Mallikarjunadeva of Srisailam for conducting festivities in the temple by the king on the occasion of solar eclipse. The gift was entrusted to Siddayyadeva, pontiff of the Bhikshavritti-matha. Further it records the gift of 15 *khandugas* of land in the same village to the following deities viz., Perumal, Mahadeva, Vighnesvara and goddess Gangadevi and also to the brahmanas viz., Potu of Bokkanalapalli and Tippu of Mandavadi as *devabrahmana-vritti*.

An inscription in Sanskrit language and Gaudiya characters of the 11<sup>th</sup> century A. D. engraved on the pedestal of an image of Tara from Pachna, Sheikhpura district and tehsil, Bihar (Photograph received from Dr. Anantashutosh Dwivedi, Director, Archaeological Exploration & Excavation Department, Heritage Society, Patna) is highlighted here. It records the pious gift of the image by a lady named Anagha, a Kayasthini (scribe) by profession.

An inscription in Sanskrit language and Nagari characters dated Samvat 1310 (1253 A.D.) engraved on a left side pillar at the entrance of the *mulaprasada* in the Neminatha temple at Kumbhariya in Dantia tehsil, Banaskantha district, Gujarat records the gift of a pillar as per the instructions of a pontiff Ratnaprabhasuri, a disciple of Paramanandasuri belonging to *Chandragachchha* in Arishtanemi *mandapa* located in Arasanaganara by *sre°* Asapala, son of *sre°* Vilhana along with his brothers Sidapala and Padmasiha belonging to Pragvata *jnati* for the merit of

his mother Rupini.

A copper plate inscription found while doing the earth work for conservation of a Jaina basadi at Halebeḷagola in Channarayapattana taluk, Hasana district of Karnataka is also examined. It belongs to the Western Ganga king Rajamalla III, son of Nitimarga II. It is dated Saka 855 (933 A.D.) and written in Sanskrit and Kannada language and Kannada characters. It registers the gift of a village Varadavadi as *sarvamanya* situated in Kalbappu-nadu vishaya for conducting repairs in the temple of Gangamahanayaka Jinabhavana of Kalbappu-tirtha by the king.

A Tamil record of 13<sup>th</sup> century A.D. engraved on a slab found near the Siva temple at Alagapuri in Marungapuri taluk of Tiruchirappalli district, Tamil Nadu is interesting. It states that asylum was given to the inhabitants of merchants by Alagaperumal *alias* Samanthar at Jayangondacholapuram *alias* Marungur in Marungur-nadu.

Among the inscriptions examined by the technical staff at Chennai, a Telugu record engraved on the three sides of a Nandhi pillar lying in the ruined Siva temple at Patimetta village, Yellasiri panchayat of Nellore district in Andhra Pradesh is in Tamil language and characters, It was issued during the reign of Rajaraja III (1216-56 CE) the Chola king, the chieftain of Maduranthaka Pottapicholan *alias* Era Sittarasan. It records the grant of a village Vellaicheri in Melaipadaiya-nadu of Paiyurilankottam in Jayankondachola-mandalam to the god Manuma-sithisuramudaya nayanar.

Among the inscriptions examined by the technical staff at Lucknow, three sealings preserved in the State Museum, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh are interesting. Among them, one sealing with legend written in Sanskrit language and Brahmi characters of 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> century A.D., reads *Sri Sarpagramasya*. Another sealing with legend written in Sanskrit language and early Nagari characters of about 7<sup>th</sup> century A.D., records that the seal belongs to the office (*adhikarana*) of the administrative division (*vishaya*) having its headquarters at Gaya. The third sealing with the legend written in Sanskrit language and Nagari characters of about 9<sup>th</sup> century A.D. reads *Ranchhakasya*.

## **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.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

A tentative list of important inscriptions for the proposed Epigraphical Museum is submitted to the headquarters.

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