

Activities and achievements of the Directorate of Epigraphy, Archaeological Survey of India, Mysuru for the period ending 31st December 2020

TOURS UNDERTAKEN:

Sri M. Yesubabu, Asst. Suptdg. Epigraphist and Sri P. T. Nagarajan, Asst. Epigraphist are on tour in Tamil Nadu for copying inscriptions and the work is under progress.

PUBLICATION:

Prof. M. R. Raghava Varier has submitted *South Indian Inscriptions volumes 43 (Malayalam inscriptions) to the office*. Final formatting of the press copy of *Annual Report on Indian Epigraphy for the year 2019-20* is under 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, This set of copper plate, found recently during the course of renovation work in Gantha-matham at Srisailam, Kurnool district Andhra Pradesh, is written in Sanskrit and Kannada language and Nagari script. It was issued by the Vijayanagara king Harihara II of Sangama dynasty, dated Śaka 1322 (netra-drig-agni-chandra), Vikrama, Pausha śu. Sunday, which is equivalent to 1400 A.D., December 19. It records the gift of eight villages viz., Agastera, Vamungallupuram, Talamanchalakatta, Yenamanambetla, Mamchinayanipalli, Chennamanenipalli, Cheppadinagulagrama and Chandrakallu, located in Panungallu-rajya as *sarvamanya* by the king to the god Mallikarjunadeva of Srisaila for conducting worship and festivities on the occasion of *makarasankranti* in the presence of the god Virupaksha.

A bilingual Inscription, dated 1555 A. D. written in Telugu language and characters and Persian language and crude Nastaliq characters engraved on a pillar kept in the garden outside the village Dondapadu in Pedda Vengi mandalam, West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh is also examined. It records the purchase of land to the southern side of the village Dondapadu, situated near the stream Tammileru in Eluru-sima for laying a garden to the merit of Hindus and Muslims by Anzam Khan Odeya, probably a provincial officer administering under the king Ibrahim Quli Qutub Shah (Qutub Shahi dynasty of Golconda).

DIGITIZATION OF ESTAMPAGES

The work of pasting and mending some of the old estampages which are not in good condition has been taken up and the work is under progress. The work of digitizing the estampages of 11,000 copper-plate inscriptions along with transcripts has been completed. The work of creating a website for the Epigraphy Branch with a software containing database of inscriptions copied by the office is under progress.
