

## Activities and achievements of the Directorate of Epigraphy, Archaeological Survey of India, Mysuru for the period ending 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### PUBLICATION:

Two *South Indian Inscriptions* volumes Nos. 39 and 42 edited by Dr. K. Karuppaiah (Tamil Inscriptions) and Prof. S. Somasundara Rao (Telugu inscriptions) were sent to the Tamil Nadu Government Press, Chennai for printing.

Final formatting of the press copy of *Annual Report on Indian Epigraphy for the year 2019-20* and *South Indian Inscriptions volume no. 43 (Malayalam inscriptions)* 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, is an inscription written in Prakrit language and Brahmi script of the 1<sup>st</sup> century B.C. - 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D., engraved on a boulder near the Manjira river, outside the village Nagasanipalle in Medak district, Telangana. It reads *He namo Budde(dda)ya*.

An inscription written in Sanskrit language and Nagari characters of the 9<sup>th</sup> century A.D., engraved in the premises of the excavated remains at Sarnath, Varanasi district, Uttar Pradesh, is examined. It mentions the name of a person *Sridevasrimitra*.

An inscription in Kannada language and characters engraved on a slab kept in survey no. 318-A1C of Kalugodu, Gummagatta mandalam, Anantapur district, Andhra Pradesh is also examined. It is issued in Saka 899 (977 A.D.) in the reign of Nolamba Pallava king Maydammarasa who was ruling from Baragūru. He can be identified with Mahendra II. It registers the gift of land as *kalnadu* by Nannigasraya Ayyapadeva to the family of Maydamma, son of Kalunenarasa who died as *kilgonte* on the account of the death of Eregangayya. The inscription was written by Yitachari who is described as *Kritayugacholan*.

A set of copper plate recovered recently during the course of renovation work in Gantamatham at Srisailam, Kurnool district, Andhra Pradesh is examined. It is written in Odiya language and characters and was issued in the 15<sup>th</sup> regnal year of Purushottamadeva, the Gajapati king of Odisha. The details of the date are Manmatha, Asvina ba. 7, Saturday, which corresponds to 1475 A.D., October 21. It records the grant of some villages in favour of the deity Mallikarjuna residing in the mountain Srisaila on the occasion of solar eclipse.

### DIGITIZATION OF ESTAMPAGES

All the technical staff from the Epigraphy branch, Mysore, North zone, Lucknow and South zone, Chennai, examined the estampages and transcripts year wise for the purpose of digitization. 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. Digitization of estampages of copper plate inscriptions is under progress.

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