

Activities and achievements of the Directorate of Epigraphy, Archaeological Survey of India, Mysuru for the period ending 31st January 2021

PUBLICATION:

Annual Report on Indian Epigraphy for the year 2019-20 is sent to Tamil Nadu Government Central Printing 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 plate, found recently during the course of renovation work in Gantha-matham at Srisailam, Kurnool district, Andhra Pradesh is written in Sanskrit and Telugu language and Telugu characters. It was issued by the Vijayanagara king Virupāksha III, son of Devarāya II of Sangama dynasty, dated Saka 1383 (*rama-naga-anala-sasi*), Vrisha, Ashadha, su. 15, Monday, which is equivalent to 1461 A.D., June 22. It records the grant of two villages, viz., Srirajachudapura and Kolvapalli and also some land in Pakinati by the king to Ramanāchārya, probably a priest of Somanatha temple at Huligeri, hailing from Kolvapalli belonging to Kasyapa-gotra on the occasion of lunar eclipse.

An inscription in Sanskrit language and Telugu characters, dated Saka 1101 (1179 A.D.), belonging to the reign of Vishnuvardhana II of Chalukyas of Jananathapura dynasty, found from the village Penumalla, East Godavari district, Andhra Pradesh is highlighted here. It records the grant of a village Edarupalli as an *agrahara* to 60 *brahmanas* who are masters in various *sastras* by the king. The original grant was made by the Pallava king Mukkanti Kaduvetti, in Guddavadi-vishaya on a solar eclipse. In due course of time as the descendants of the donees lost all the encumbrances, the king Vishnuvardhana II reissued the grant at their request.

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 creating a website for the Epigraphy Branch with a software containing database of inscriptions copied by the office is under progress.
