

DATA FOR UPDATING ASI WEBSITE

Activities and achievements of the Directorate of Epigraphy, Archaeological Survey of India, Mysuru for the period ending 30th June 2021

TOURS UNDERTAKEN:

The technical staff and officers of the Epigraphy Branch undertook epigraphical survey for copying inscriptions. Dr. K. Munirathnam, Director (Epigraphy) I/c went on tour for copying 3 sets of copper plate inscriptions recently found and preserved in the Sri Mallikarjuna Swamy temple, Srisailam, Kurnool district, Andhra Pradesh.

PUBLICATION:

The work of compiling *Annual Report on Indian Epigraphy* for the years 2011-2013, is under progress. The work of deciphering, listing and writing of introductory notes on the collections for the years 2020-2021 is under progress.

Annual Report on Indian Epigraphy for the year 2019-20, South Indian Inscriptions vol. XXIX, edited by Prof. P. N. Narsimha Murthy and South Indian Inscriptions vol. XXXIX, edited by Dr. K. Karuppiyah are published.

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, issued by the king Virabhadra Reddi, son of Allada Reddi of Reddi's of Rajamahendravaram. It is written in Sanskrit language and Telugu characters, dated Saka 1358 (*vasu-bana-visva*) Anala, Vaisakha, su.15 which is equivalent to 1436 A.D., April 30, Monday. It records the gift of the village Vemavaram after renaming it as Allada Reddi Vemavaram to the god Mallikarjunadeva of Sriparvata by the king, for the merit of his father Allada Reddi, on the occasion of lunar eclipse. The record was composed by Kommanamatya and engraved by Pina Numka, son of Goragapundii Numka. The record ends with the signature of Sri Markandesvara Vemareddi.

An inscription in Kannada language and characters of the reign of Sadāsivaraya , dated Saka 1476, Ananda , Vaisakha su. 10 which correspond to 1554 A.D. April 12, Thursday, engraved on a slab found in the cultivated land at Kanavi Timmalapura, Bellary district, Karanataka (Photograph received from Prof. S. Melkar, Dharwad) is highlighted here. It registers the gift of one *kolaga* of wet land below the tank located at Tirumaladevi ammanavara pete to the (god) Lakshminarasimha by a *mahemandalesvara* Ahobilaraju. Aliya Rāmarāya is also mentioned in the record.

Another Kannada record issued during the reign of Somesvara I of Kalyani Chalukya dynasty dated Saka 971, Virodhi, su. 5, corresponding to 1049 A. D., June 8, engraved on a slab kept at the premises of Virupāksha temple at Bommanahalli, Bellary District, Karnataka (photograph from Mr. N. C. Prakash, Dy. S. A. Retd.), is also highlighted here. It records the gift of land and *gadyanas* for offering food to the god Dandesvaradeva by Bammiyabbarasi. Further it records the gift of tax probably for the

maintenance of an alms house by *mahamandalesvara* Satyasraya.

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.
