

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

TOURS UNDERTAKEN

The technical staff and officers of the Epigraphy Branch undertook epigraphical survey and copied 25 inscriptions from different places. Shri. P.T. Nagarajan, AE has went on tour and copied 15 Stone inscriptions from Krishnagiri, Vellore, Chengalpattu and Kanchipuram districts of Tamilnadu. Sri Aditya Kumar Singireddy is on tour to Ahmednagar district, Maharashtra and copied 10 inscriptions. Sri Rajesh Kannajiya, Assistant Epigraphist is on tour to Shivapuri, Madhya Pradesh and the work is under progress.

PUBLICATION

Printing of South Indian Inscriptions volume XLIII for Malayalam inscriptions edited by Prof. M. R. Raghava Varier is completed and will be released at the earliest.

Printing of South Indian Inscriptions volume XXIX for Kannada inscriptions edited by Dr. P.N. Narasimha Murthy is also been completed and printed book are awaited from Tamil Nadu Central Printing Press, Chennai.

The work of compiling Annual Report on Indian Epigraphy for the year 2020-2021 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, two inscriptions found engraved on the *bodige* of pillars in the *patala amkana* of Chaluvanarayanawami Temple at Melukote, Pandavapura Taluk, Mandya district, Karnataka. These are written in Kannada language and characters of the 13th Century CE. Out of two inscriptions, the first one states that the Sovarasa was caused to made the bodige. The second one registers the gift of bodige by Tipparasa.

An inscription written in Sanskrit language and Nagari characters dated Samvat 1343, Magha su. 10, Saturday engraved on the pedestal of an image of a tirthankara in Meghanatha mantapa in the Neminatha temple at Kumbhariya, Danta tahsil, Banaskanta district, Gujarat is examined. It records the gift of an image of Arishtanemi tirthankara by sre° Desala son of sre° Chhahada along with his family members (names mentioned) belonging to Pragvata-anvaya, for the merit of his father.

An inscription belongs to the Pandya King Sundarapandya issued in the (1282 AD) 5th regnal year, in Tamil language and characters. It is engraved on a stone found in the varagunisvarar temple at Alundur in Sri Rangam taluk of Tiruchirapalli district., Tamilnadu. This inscription is damaged and it

seems to refer the asylum (asiriyam) who entered in the periyanttan matha at Varanuna Isvaramudaiyar temple at Alindhiyur.

Two inscriptions are found on a rock in the premises of the *Periya-nayagi-amman* temple at Paruttiyur in Oddanchattiram Taluk of Didigul district, are written in Tamil Language characters, dated 29th and 31st (29+1+1) regnal year of the Kongu Cholaking Vira Rajendra. First inscription records the donation of land at the rate of 10 *palankasu* to the goddess *Nachchiyar-Padariyar* at *Paruttiyur* by *Virarajendra-cheliya-Gangadevan*. The second inscription mentions the gift of some *palankasu* on the occasion of the marriage festival to the goddess *Nachchiyar-Padariyar* at *Ilaiyakudi* by an individual *Araiyar* of *Naduvipparuttiyur* in *Pongalur-nadu*.

Among the inscriptions examined by the technical staff at Lucknow, one inscription copied from Vidisha, Vidisha district. Engraved on chhatra of the Goddess preserved in *Prijamandla* museum and datable to 16th century CE, in *Nagari* characters and Sanskrit language. It records the gift of the image by *Sri Ratna Singh*.

Two inscriptions copied from Pimpalner, Ahmadnagar district both the inscriptions are in *Nagari* characters and Sanskrit & Marathi language. The first one engraved on the wall of the *Mahadeva* temple, records the construction of the temple by *Bhullaji* on saka 1591, Jyeshtha su. 1. The second engraved on the floor of the main entrance door of the same temple, records the opening of the temple.

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.
