

ORDINARY, MS.

Public DEPARTMENT.
G.O., DATED 20-9-93
No. 784.

INDEXED.

When given for copying.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Informing the Govt of India that the
are sufficient number of unpublished
inscriptions in this Presidency, to justify
the maintenance of an office & Estab-
lishment for a considerable period
for the purpose of publishing them.

27.6.03

6-8-09

16-8-11

21-11-12

27-1-14

12-5-19

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.
ARCHÆOLOGY.

File
Serial

Recd 11/11/93

To

ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND ADMINISTRATIONS.

Circular No. $\frac{48}{19}$

Dated Simla, the 25th July 1893.

Encl. No 1471
Referred to the Govt
ment Epigraphical
report and submis
of the information
called for in para 3
Administrative
Chief Secretary

35B
13/8 *oota cumund* }
22nd Aug 1893 }

SUBJECT.

Enquires whether it is likely that during the next few years unpublished inscriptions will be accumulated or discovered to an extent sufficient to justify the Government of India in maintaining an office and a small establishment for the purpose of publishing them.

FURTHER PAPER, No. *926* of 18 *17-11-93*

IN ORDER OF GOVERNMENT, DATED
18, No. , MISCELLANEOUS.

No.

MENT WITH DETO.

OF GOVERNMENT.

OF GOVERNMENT.

MENT WITH DETO.

NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DISPATCH
IN ORIGINAL (not paged).

N.B.—

- A = Copy in full.
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- P = Copy abstract only.
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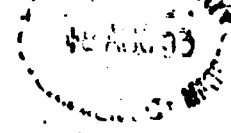
FROM

E. D. MACLAGAN, Esq., C.S.,
Under-Secretary to the Government of India,

TO

The Secretary to the Government of Madras,

Rev. & Agri. Dept.
Archaeology.



Simla, the 25th July 1893.

SIR,

I AM directed to draw attention to the 9th paragraph of this Department's Resolution No. 2-5-60, dated 5th May 1890, in which it was stated that the Government of India were desirous not to interrupt for the present the progress of epigraphical research in India, and were prepared to extend for a further three years the post of Epigraphist to the Government of India. 1893

2. The further term having now expired, I am directed to ask whether in the opinion of H.E. the Governor in Council, it is likely that during the next few years unpublished inscriptions will be accumulated or discovered to an extent sufficient to justify the Government in maintaining for five years, or for any further term, an office and a small establishment for the purpose of publishing them.

3. In replying to this circular some rough indication should be given of the amount of epigraphical material which has been ascertained to exist, but which is as yet unpublished.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Spare copies will follow by Packet Post

Public

No. 350.

From

Dr E. Hultsch,

Government epigraphist,

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,

Madras.

Sir,

With reference to your endorsement, 1471, dated the 2nd August 1893, Public, on enclosed circular from the Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department, I have the honor to submit a rough estimate of the number of inscriptions in the Madras Presidency.

2. On the basis of Mr Sewell's Lists of Antiquities, the number of inscriptions in the Telugu and Kanarese districts — excluding the Mysore State and the Nizam's Dominions — may be estimated at 5,000.

3. In the case of the Tamil districts, Mr Sewell's Lists, with the exception of a few instances, register only those inscriptions, which native informants were able to decipher and wish to report. Of the numerous records which the inscriptions

parts

are referred to, because Mr Sewell, as every European, was not permitted to enter those portions of the temples, and because no specially trained Hindu officers were at his disposal. If the average number of inscriptions, which I and my assistants have found in those temples of the same country that have been hitherto surveyed, holds good with those not yet visited, which is extremely probable, the total number will be about 45,000. Adding this figure to the total in paragraph 2, the result is about 50,000, of which, however, only one-fifth, i.e. 10,000, may be expected to be historically important and worth copying and publishing.

4. Since December 1886, I have copied about 1,500 inscriptions. This leaves a remainder of 8,500 to be done. If, of those, 100 are copied ^{every} year, there will be work enough to occupy me and my staff for 25 years or more.

5. As the above estimate is not based on actual figures but on probabilities, I suggest that, before deciding the question, the Government

should take for the opinion of a person whose great and varied experience will enable him to form an independent and perhaps a more correct estimate.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
your most obedient servant,
E. Hultzsch,
Epigraphist.

Pub Deptt.
The Government Epigraphist,
COLLECTOR'S OFFICE
No. 4 SEP. 93
BELLARY
The Chief Secretary to
Government.

closure 1- Pub Ct No 2145
Refd

350 of 26th August 1893.

Subject.

Submitting a rough estimate
the number of inscriptions
Madras Presidency.

No 1533.
Forwarded to Mr.
Sewell for favor of
early remarks.
Rednickhice
Chief Secy.

R. Sewell Esq.
S. C. I.

Ootacamund
1st September 1893

I have to state
that I entirely con-
cur with Dr. Hultzsch.
He is quite correct in
stating that the inscriptions
noted by me are only
a fraction of those that
exist & which one day
or another, if Govt. desire
ever to arrive at a real
history of the country, will
be copied and deciphered at
the expense of the State.

2. I reported in my list all
the inscriptions that I could hear
of.

Dated 5 September
From
R. Sewell Esquire
Collector of
Bellary
To The Chief Secretary to
Government
Madras
Sir,
I have the honor to state in reply
to your footnote No 1533 dated 1st Sept
appended to letter B. 350 dated
August last addressed to Governor
by Dr. H. Hultzsch Government Epigraphist
that I entirely concur with
Hultzsch. He is quite correct in stating
that the inscriptions noted by me are
only a fraction of those that exist
and which one day or another, if Govt.
ment desire ever to arrive at a
real history of the country, must
all be copied and deciphered at the
expense of the State.

2. I reported in my list all
the inscriptions that I could hear
of.

covered, and the information
that I had to go on was only that
which was supplied to me by Govern-
ment officials, and a few - very
few - interested amateurs.

I do not think that Dr Hultzsch
is at all above the mark in placing
the number of those containing matters
of historical value and interest at
less than 10000 and besides the history
there is to be considered the insight
that these inscriptions afford into the
institutions and customs of the people.
When all the inscriptions have been
made to teach us all that they can teach,
the information so received will I think
be found to be of very considerable
value to the Government.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

C. P. Hultzsch

Leipzig

and
clh

9.8671222-8-93

Public Dept.

Letter, 1/20th September 1893

N^o 784.

To the Secy to the S. of I.

Rev. & Agri. Dept.

ESPATCHED

27 SEP 93

IN M.S.

Sir,

In reply to Circular N^o 48/19 of the 25th July last, I am directed to inform you that it has been ascertained from Dr. Hultsch that taking Mr Robert Sewell's lists of antiquities as a guide - the number of inscriptions in the Telugu and Kanarese districts - excluding the State of Mysore and the Vizian's dominions - may be estimated at 5000. In regard to the Tamil districts the available lists - with a few exceptions - record only inscriptions which Mr Sewell's informants were able to decipher. Of the numerous inscriptions which exist in the inner parts of almost all the large temples there is hardly any record, for no European is permitted to

W 18 Sep

W 12 Sep

W 18/9/93

From

The Collector of Bellary

To the Chief Secretary to Government Public Dept

General Branch 2229

Dated 5 September 1893

Recd 8th Sept 93

Forwarding his opinion regarding the work to be done by the Govt Epigraphist and his establishment.

W 18 Sep

Will the C.A. kindly say whether 50 of 22 ultims re Dr Hultsch is not now from office

these, and at the time the lists were prepared there were no specially trained Hindus available to inspect the writings. Dr. Hultzsch reports that if the average number of inscriptions found in temples by himself and his assistants holds good in the cases of temples not yet visited - and it is probable ^{that} it will - the ~~total~~ number will be about 45,000 or a total of 50,000. Of these Dr. Hultzsch estimates 10,000 may be expected to be historically important and worth reproduction.

2. Since December 1886 1500 inscriptions have been copied, and it is estimated that the remainder would provide work for the epigraphist and his staff for another 25 years.

Mr Sewell, who has been consulted on the subject, fully concurs with Dr. Hultzsch in his estimates. He states that he recorded in his lists all the inscriptions he

heard of up to 1881, but the information he had to go on was ~~what was~~ ^{the} supplied to him by Govt officials and a few interested amateurs. Numbers of inscriptions have been discovered since his lists were completed.

H. Adverting to para. 2 of the circular under reply, the Govt. is of opinion that the maintenance of an office a ~~set~~ ^{sub}stantiated for the publication of inscriptions for a considerable further period is fully justified, but at present is quite impossible to fix a time. The value and interest of historical inscriptions as affording in addition - an insight into the institutions and customs of the people cannot be too highly estimated.

J.S.B.
11/9.

11/9/93

Circular No. 48.
19

FROM

E. D. MACLAGAN, Esq., C.S.,
Under-Secretary to the Government

TO

Rev. & Agri. Dept.
Archaeology.

Simla, the 25th July

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2. The further term having now expired, I am directed to ask whether in the next few years unpublished inscriptions will be accumulated or discovered to an extent sufficient to justify the Government in maintaining for five years, or for any further term, an office and a small establishment for the purpose of publishing them.

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I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

E. D. MACLAGAN,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of India.

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REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND ADMINISTRATIONS.

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