

File No.10/10/IAR/2003-2004/Tech.  
Government of India  
Archaeological Survey of India  
Dharwad Circle

Kalyan Nagar, Dharwad-7,  
Date: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2006

To  
The Director General  
Archaeological Survey of India  
Janpath  
New Delhi – 110 011

KIND ATTENTION: Dr. Amarendra Nath, Director (Planning)

Subject: Re-submission of Annual Report for the year 2005-06 – Regarding  
Reference: Letter No. 1-7/2005 – plg. dated: 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2006.

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I have the honour to inform that this office has already submitted the above required information vide this office letter No. 10/10/IAR/2003-04/Tech/12492 dated 19<sup>th</sup> December 2005. However please find here in enclosed a copy of the same as desired for necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully

Superintending Archaeologist

**Encls: As above**

# **MATTER FOR INCLUSION IN THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE**

IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 2004-2005 IN RESPECT OF  
DHARWAD CIRCLE, DHARWAD.

## **I-Excavation**

### **Scientific Debris Clearance at Pattadakal (Bachinagudda) Karnataka**

The Malaprabha River valley especially confining to the geographical area in which Aihole, Badami and Pattadakal are situated was considered to be very rich in archaeological remains. Number of scholars have carried out explorations in this region and brought to light evidences for many prehistoric and isolated Neolithic, good number of Megalithic burials and a very few Early historical sites. The place Pattadakal was mentioned as '*Petirgal*' by Ptolemy in his '*Geography*' (2<sup>nd</sup> Century A.D.).

Bachinagudda (15<sup>o</sup> 56' 42" N: 75<sup>o</sup> 47' 38" E), district Bagalkot, Karnataka is situated 3km south west of Pattadakal village, located on the left bank of river Malaprabha. The site is taken up for excavation to unravel the missing part of the history before the Chalukyan times in this region. There are clusters of four ancient mounds; Lower Terrace (Early Medieval), Middle and Upper Terraces (Early Historical) and Reserved Forest localities (Early Historical mound) located contiguously at the foot of Bachinagudda hill. Lower Terrace has yielded evidence of a brick structure having a cell on the west and a 16-pillared mandapa hall with an entrance platform on the east. The outstanding find from this locality includes sandstone Chaturmukha Shiva head, which is typical early Chalukyan time's art feature. There are lots of roof tiles in different shapes like pointed, 'U' shaped, heart shaped and double pointed at one end and a bent hook at the other end with flat surface, which indicate a roof over the temple. Middle Terrace has yielded Megalithic phase (characterised by black & red ware and black burnished ware) having well-preserved floor level used for cooking purpose with fireplaces. Upper Terrace

has yielded rammed floor, fireplaces with ash pits, smelting activity area & dumping area of waste products of household belonging to early historic period along with lead, copper coins belonging to Maharathis and Satavahanas, which were recovered from the floor levels apart from beads of semi precious stones and glass, iron and copper alloy implements, russet coated ware, rouletted ware & red polished ware.

### **(b) Trial Excavation at Nagara (Badami)**

Nagara is situated on the northwestern corner of the Nagnath temple, taluk Badami, district Bagalkot. The objectives of the trial excavation was to reveal the importance of the brick structure, which was encounter while digging the foundation of the boundary wall of the temple, to have an understanding about the relationship of the site with the Nagnath temple & to disclose the site as an individual entity. The trial excavation has reveal three burnt brick rectangular structures. All the three structures were built at different period of time & within the structure there are different structural phases of construction. The site shows as a residential complex on the basis of their plan, brick masonry, pottery & artifacts. The potteries are found in abundant viz. red ware (medium coarse fabric, ill fired & not well levigated), plain grey ware (medium coarse fabric, ill fired & not well levigated), black ware (medium coarse fabric, ill fired & not well levigated), fine red ware (fine fabric, well fired, well levigated & thin section). Other important findings were the Sprinkler (fine red ware with white glaze) & number of broken pieces of sprinklers, gold ear ring (broken), copper coin with inscription, unit weight of metal, oblong stopper/lid of shell, shell bangles, pendant ? of terra cotta & glaze bead. Further excavations may reveal their chronological relations. Excavation is in progress.

## **II- CONSERVATION OF MONUMENTS**

### **II A. DEVELOPMENT OF ENVIRONS,**

- Earthwork for leveling the area for providing garden, construction of compound wall with veneering & fixing available crimped wire mesh at Fort & temples with Upper & Lower Sivalaya, Badami
- Excavation & levelling the uneven area in front of Arabata inscriptions for developing garden at Kappe Arabata inscriptions, Badami.
- Excavation & leveling the uneven area in front of North Bhutanatha temples for developing garden at Bhutanatha tank, Badami.
- Earthwork excavation for levelling the area for providing garden, stone flooring, electrification for illumination of the monument at North Bhutanatha Group of Temples, Badami.
- Construction of compound wall with veneering & providing stone flooring over concrete bed in front of Kostaraya caves, Badami.
- Providing stone flooring over concrete bed at East Bhutanatha group of Temples, Badami.
- Earthwork excavation & levelling the area for providing stone flooring at Parking Area in front of Cave-I, Badami.
- Earthwork excavation & levelling the area for providing stone flooring at Agastya Theerth Tank, Badami.
- Earthwork excavation & leveling the undulated area & providing stone pavement over the C.C. bed at Kasivisveswara & Sangameshwara Temples, Pattadakal.
- After removal of thick vegetation growth around the temple, digging & removing the weeds work for laying the garden & dismantling the damaged & out of plumb wall of ancient well at Bhuvanarha Narasimha temple at Halasi.
- A garden is developed in front of the mosque providing with pipelines and sprinklers & pathway is provided using with curbstones at Sola Khambha Mosque, Bidar.
- Levelling work of uneven surface around the monument for laying the garden at Madarsa Mahmud Gawan, Bidar.

- Removal of the damaged stone flooring of the north & southern side at Nagnath Temple, Lakkundi.
- Repair to the damaged flooring & developing of garden on either side of the approach road at Haft Gumbaz, Gulabarga.
- Earthwork excavation for leveling the unlevelled area in the south of the monument, removal of sunken mini shrine stone blocks in the eastern side & removal of uneven stone flooring at Ratnatraya Basti, Bilagi.

## **II B. Conservation**

- Dressing new stone blocks for replacing the missing stone members & back filling at Fort Wall, Aihole.
- Water tightening to the leaky roof using combination of mortars besides reconstruction of the dismantled platform of the sub-shrine in the northern side at Charantimath, Aihole.
- Dressing new stone blocks for replacing missing stone members & reconstruction of the ancient well & filling the gaps, dressing of missing stone members for the renovation of small sub-shrines & removing the undulated paving stone for relaying the same on the base of concrete at Huchimalligidi, Aihole.
- Dressing new stone blocks for replacing missing stone members & dressing of missing stone members of ancient well at Mallikarjuna Temple, Aihole.
- Dressing new stone blocks for replacing the missing stone members like pillar base, capital stone & sidewall etc at Nadar Gudi, Aihole.
- For construction of the compound wall earthwork excavation for foundation & laying cement concrete bed & construction of veneering at Jaina Temple, Hallur.
- Reconstruction of the fallen, sunken steps after proper documentation over a cement bed at ancient gate leading to the Bhutanatha tank, Badami.

- Reconstruction of the fallen, sunken steps of the Bhutanatha tank at Yellamma Temple, Badami.
- Construction of dwarf compound wall over cement concrete bed & construction of UCR masonry wall using cement mortar at Naganatha Temple, Badami.
- Construction of compound wall with veneering & providing copingstone at Jaina & Vaisnava Cave, Badami.
- Reconstruction of the fallen portion of fortification wall using stone blocks as per to the original near to the Mallikarjuna temple & bastion at North Fort, Badami.
- The construction of compound wall & fixing crimped wire mesh frame & construction of steps & paving in front at North Bhutanatha Temple, Badami.
- Construction of compound wall with veneering & providing copingstone at Jaina & Vaishnava Caves, Badami.
- Dismantling of out of plumb / fallen fortification wall & bastion portion at Pallava Inscription, Badami.
- Providing stone flooring over concrete bed to pathway at Toilet Block, Pattadakal.
- Providing electrification & illumination at Group of Temples, Pattadakal.
- Construction of stone veneering was provided to the existing wall in the western side at Papanatha Temple, Pattadakal.
- Dismantling the sunken portion of the prakara wall and reconstruction of the same by using the old and new stone blocks, after strengthening the foundation at Virupaksha & Mallikarjuna Temple, Pattadakal.
- Providing underground pipeline from Jaina temple to group of temples Pattadakal, construction of dwarf compound wall with veneering stone, construction of missing outer wall around garbha griha, reconstruction of dismantled stone members of parapet wall above the mandapa at Jaina Temple, Pattadakal.
- Electrification has been provided to the temple at Basti Gudi, Devagon.

- The work of dismantling the sabhamandapa & procurement of the necessary materials at Chikkaleswar Temple, Konnur.
- The work of resetting of dismantled, dislodged & out of plumb portions at Suvarneswara Temple, Halsi.
- The constructions of the dwarf compound wall and veneering using with lime mortar and laying concrete stone slab flooring inside the monument at Jaina Temple, Vakkund.
- Removal of dead concrete over the roof of temple at Shiva Temple, Belgaum.
- Construction of compound wall in trap size stone masonry using cement mortar at Inner Fort, Bidar.
- Removal of rank vegetation at triple moat at Bidar Fort.
- Work of construction of rubble stone masonry using trap stone for foundation at Group of Monuments, Asthur, Bidar.
- Removal of thick vegetation growth over the structures of Jail Khana, Hazar Khutahari, removal of vegetation from Gumbaj Darwaja, Sherja Darwaja, Takht Mahal, Chini Mahal etc & providing and spreading gravels to the pathway leading to Sherja Darwaja, Gumbaj Darwaja, Takht Mahal etc at Bidar Fort.
- The work of providing polished Shahbad stone flooring over a proper base, construction of the masonry pillar for fixing MS grill providing oil paints to the doors, windows, filling the cracks of the wall using plaster of paris & electrification at Nizam Adalat, Bidar.
- The work of laying cement concrete bed with trap stone jelly for foundation, providing & construction of trap size stone masonry at Chaukhandi of Hazarat Khallilulla Shah, Asthur, Bidar.
- Removal of old damaged stone pathway in front of Office, Museum & Guest House & replacing with Shahabad polished stones at Bidar.
- Removal of dead lime concrete over the roof & Identification of the joints on the masonry and roof joints, drilled holes at necessary portions, removal of dust, and pressure grouting with cement water at Asarmahal, Bijapur.

- Removing the damaged steps and replaced with the new stone members at Ali II Roza, Bijapur.
- The sub shrines have been reconstructed providing with new stone members and replacing the broken stone members wherever necessary as per the original, the work of electrification, providing wood doorframe & providing & fixing MS grill over the dwarf wall at Shankarlinga Temple, Nimbali, Bijapur.
- The construction of dwarf compound wall, pointing the joints & providing M.S grill at Water Pavillions, Kumtagi, Bijapur.
- Construction of S. S. masonry, laying PCC pipes, providing grill at Arquilla Moat, Bijapur.
- Procuring of material like undressed stone at Hyder Burj, Bijapur.
- The work of dismantling the dislodged & out of plumb wall, pointing the joints & providing MS grill at Gagan Mahal, Bijapur.
- The work of providing lightening conductor & new electrification at Ibrahim Rouza, Bijapur.
- The work of providing & fixing MS grill to the car parking & the work of fixing the PVC pipeline including the earthwork excavation at Gol Gumbaz, Bijapur.
- The construction of compound wall after proper earthwork, pointing the joints & providing MS grill & the construction of UCR stone masonry work at Jod Gumbaz, Bijapur.
- The construction of UCR stone masonry wall after earthwork excavation & providing fixing MS grill & procuring of material like undressed stone of different size at Malik-E- Maidan Gun, Bijapur.
- The reconstruction of missing portion of the fort wall & the construction of compound wall using UCR masonry & pointing at the joints & providing & fixing the MS grill at Sangeet & Narimahal, Bijapur.
- Construction of compound wall & fixing of barbed wire towards western side at Mahadeva Temple, Ittagi, Koppal.

- The earthwork excavation for construction of dwarf compound wall and leveling the uneven surface for developing a garden at Doddabasappa Temple, Dambal, Gadag.
- The work of removing the thick vegetation growth and removal of the damaged barbed wire fencing and earthwork excavation for the construction of compound wall towards western side at Asokan Inscription, Koppal.
- The work of removing the dead plaster & providing fresh lime plaster to the inner surface of the domes of the mosque, scraping of peeled off color wash, scraping loose dead plaster from octagonal roofs & circular roofs, water lightening the leaky roof by scooping & applying plastic emulsion paint at Great Mosque, Gulbarga.
- Removal of the damaged stone flooring of the North & Southern side at Naganath Temple, Lakkundi.
- Dressing of roof stone slabs and capital slabs in the eastern side of the mandapa of the temple inside the fort at Gulbarga.
- Reconstruction work of missing members on right side of the main entrance, removal of vegetation in and around the monument, collection of heavy stone block similar to old fort structures, construction of missing basement and members, reconstruction of missing basement on left side of the gate at Fort, Gulbarga.
- Construction of retaining wall all around the toilet block and providing ramp to the handicapped leading to toilet block, water tightening of the roof of mosque by applying plastic emulsion paint, work of scraping peeled out old colour wash on pillars, arches, walls for applying colour wash as per original, scraping of loose dead plaster from octagonal roofs and circular roofs & the damaged entrance gate of great mosque work at Gulbarga.
- Clearing rank vegetation growth around dolmen at Prehistoric Site Rajan Kallur, Gulbarga.

- Reconstruction of damaged & out of plumb portion of fort wall in the northeastern side of the fort wall using dressed laterite stone, the work of removing the thick vegetation growth in & around the fort at Mirjan.
- The work of dressing of roof stone slabs for resetting the missing portion of roof & replacing of damaged R C C roof slabs with new roof slabs after proper dressing, towards eastern side at Jattappanayakan Chandranathadeva Basti, Bhatkal.

### **III. Archaeological Museums at Aihole, Badami and Bijapur**

#### **(a) Archaeological Museum, Aihole.**

The provision of CCTV (18 cameras) monitors & accessories, wall showcases for epigraphy / art & architecture gallery, preparation of bilingual labels for prehistoric/ art/architecture/epigraphy gallery, preparation of brass letter museum board to the entrance, replacing of damaged veneering of the heavy architectural members & sculptures in gallery-I, matching colour wash to the masonry pedestals & exterior of the museum building, polished/dressed sand stone veneering to the heavy architectural members/sculptures in gallery-I, improvement of reserve collection by procuring almirah/racks/steel boxes/tissue papers/cotton for safe keeping of the art objects, paving of dressed sand stone slabs over PCC bed in pathways leading to the museum, concealed wiring electrification to the office building reserve collection room & electrification fittings, removing the existing old & damaged rolling shutters & providing aluminium partition cum sliding doors & collapsible gates for security & elegant look in the galleries, & solar electrification of the museum & office building.

#### **(b) Archaeological Museum, Badami.**

Providing newly designed wooden/polished sand stone (veneered pedestals) & brass railing with teakwood poles to the Lajjagauri sculpture, provision of CCTV (11 cameras) / monitors / accessories, wall showcases for epigraphy/art/architecture gallery, preparation of extended bilingual labels for prehistoric / epigraphy / art / architecture galleries, preparation of brass letter

museum board to the entrance, replacing of damaged veneering of the heavy architectural members/sculptures in gallery, matching colour wash to the masonry pedestals & exterior of the museum building, polished / dressed sand stone veneering to the heavy architectural members / sculptures in gallery – I, visitors amenities water cooler with accessories, painting the galleries / interior / verandah ventilators, solar electrification, provision of plaster of paris finish & oil bound distemper to the open verandah of the museum office building, preparation of brass plaque of Chalukyan emblem & improvement of reserve collection of systematic up keep of antiquities procuring almirah/racks/steel boxes/ tissue paper/cotton etc.

### **(c) Archaeological Museum, Bijapur**

Preparation of aluminium / teakwood framed wall showcases for displaying photo enlargements of Adilshahi paintings, preparation & printing of colour bilingual brochure, preparation of backlit translights of Adilshahi monuments & portraits with captions, purchasing of slide projector/screen/other accessories & preparation of slides of monuments & select antiquities, preparation of extended labels, provision for two more CCTV cameras & requisite wiring in the ground floor of the museum entrance & sales counter, provision of brass pipe with teakwood poles railing to avoid visitors touching the displayed antiquities in galleries, painting of office building & wooden fittings of the office, preparation of laminated & label photo enlargements of museum & antiquities of Karnataka, South India for creating cultural awareness amongst the public, painting of galleries, provision for laying polishing shabad stone flooring over a PCC bed to the floor of the office building & provision for laying venoleum flooring in the gallery – V.

## **IV. OTHER IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES**

As a part of creating cultural awareness among the peoples and also for new generation about our rich cultural heritage, Dharwad Circle of Archaeological Survey of India has celebrated the WORLD HERETAGE WEEK from 19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 2004 also arranged a photographic Exhibition on

“Monumental Heritage of Karnataka and India” at the Archaeological Museum in Badami, and special emphasis given on Conservation at Badami, Aihole and Pattadakal.

The function was Inaugurated by Shri P.C.Gaddi Gowdar Honorable M.P District: Bagalkot and Shri M.K. Pattanshetty M L A, Badami and Dr M.V. Krishnappa, Professor and chairman Dept. of A.H and Archaeology, Mysore University, Mysore were on the Dias and they appreciated the efforts of A.S.I to upkeep the monuments of Aihole, Badami, and Pattadakal and assured to co-operate with A.S.I in overall development of the centrally protected monuments.

The valedictory function of this world heritage week celebrated on 25<sup>th</sup> of Nov 2004, Retd.Professor Dr.A.Sundara and Poojya Shri Jagadguru Tontadarya Siddalinga Mahaswamiji addressed the local people with thought providing speech on the rich heritage of Badami, Aihole and Pattadakal and created awareness among them to save and take care of our rich heritage.

Conducted various competitions for the school children and distributed prizes.

**VIP VISITS:-** Smt. Usha Ganesh, IAS Secretary ,Department of Kannada and Culture, Government of Karnataka has visited the Group of Monuments of Aihole , Badami, and Pattadakal.