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Sixty Years of Sanskrit Studies

Vol. 1: India

— Edited by —
Radhavallabh Tripathi

Preface

The world Sanskrit Conferences organised under the authority of the International Association of Sanskrit Studies (IASS) have been providing periodical opportunities to take stock of Sanskrit studies and their future prospects. Volumes devoted to the progress of Sanskrit studies have been published earlier on the occasion of some of the World Sanskrit Conferences. The exercise of bringing out these volumes not only involves the assessment of accomplishments, but envisaging the future prospects also. Considering the details that have been covered in earlier such volumes, we thought it proper to make a modest attempt to present documentations and analyses of the latest developments in Sanskrit studies in various states of India specially between 1950 and 2010, and present important issues related to Sanskrit studies in the national perspective in this volume being issued on the ceremonial occasion of the 15th WSC.

We are grateful to all the learned scholars who have contributed their papers for this volume at our request. The volumes edited by Prof. K.K. Mishra (1997) and (late) Prof. Vachaspati Upadhyaya (2001) under the same title *Sanskrit Studies in India* have been helpful in chalking out the plan for the present volume and in avoiding repetitions. This volume would not have taken the present shape but for the meticulous and assiduous efforts of Shri Susheel Mittal of D.K. Printworld. Thanks are also due to Dr. Prakash Pande, Officer on Special Duty for Publications at the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, for collecting and formatting the articles and corresponding with their authors.

Radhavallabh Tripathi

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schools offer classical language courses in the Telugu and Sanskrit. Students used to get a certificate named as OSSLC after completion of 10 years study in these schools. There was substantial scope for Sanskrit studies in this set-up. As per the records there were hundreds of these oriental schools in the whole state. Unfortunately, most of these schools either closed down or changed to modern schools as the times changed. Now we hardly find 20 oriental schools in the whole state. In the sector of government-aided educational institutions, the Oriental High Schools deserve to be specially mentioned. These schools are offering Sanskrit as a compulsory subject from class 7 to class 10. These Oriental High Schools are also serving as feeders to the Oriental Colleges.

JUNIOR COLLEGE LEVEL.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh is running hundreds of junior colleges, at the undergraduate level. Students are admitted for a two-year course of Intermediate. In these colleges too, along with other subjects Sanskrit is offered as a language. In Andhra Pradesh more than 80 per cent of Intermediate level students opt for Sanskrit. In this regard, the encouragement given by the parents is praiseworthy. Hundreds of private colleges too encourage the Sanskrit studies. The reason for this choice could be the possibility of getting high scores in the exams. Whatever be the reason, due to this phenomenon a good amount of job opportunities are created for Sanskrit students. This has resulted in a boom for students' entry in university departments of Sanskrit. According to the Intermediate Board of Education of Andhra Pradesh sources, 18,99,689 students have appeared in the Intermediate examinations in the academic year 2010-11. More than 10 lakh students out of them, might have opted Sanskrit as optional for second language. Same number of students will opt Sanskrit in degree colleges. Reason behind this

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Vol. 2: Countries other than India

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Radhavallabh Tripathi

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