

9. Even though the press-matter was ready, its printing took a long time and the first volume covering 631 pages was not out till the beginning of August 1957. The 9th of August was the 65th anniversary day of Prin. V. S. Apte and on this memorable date, Dr. R. P. Paranjapye, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Poona and himself a student of Prin. Apte in the Fergusson College, announced the publication of this volume at a ceremonial meeting, held for this purpose. The second volume (up to page 1296) was formally published on the 29th June 1958, when Dr. S. M. Katre, Director and Editor, Sanskrit Dictionary Department, Deccan College, Poona, kindly presided over the function. The third and the last volume took about 10 months thereafter, as it incorporated some Appendixes covering over hundred pages

10. We feel satisfaction at some appreciative remarks on the volumes so far out, from savants in India and abroad, a few of which are given below.

(1) Dr. Imanuel Olsvanger of Jerusalem—

“It is a splendid publication indeed, and I can see from a few words which I looked up, how much scholarly skill has been applied to this dictionary, far exceeding the original production of the late Apte.”

(2) Prof. Bhabatosh Bhattacharya (Bhatpara)—

“Though Prin. Apte completed in the short span of his life, the preparation and publication of this and other works, yet he is fortunate enough to leave behind him such a devoted and persevering group of scholars as Dr. Gode and Shri Karve, who have not only perpetuated his name but also added lustre to its glory by making this lexicon upto-date and more useful to Sanskrit scholars all over the world.”

(3) Dr. V. S. Agravala of the Banaras University—

“It is a magnificent production not only resuscitating Apte’s Magnum Opus, but also recording

through words, the progress of Sanskritic studies during this long interval.”

Only after the publication of this last volume, scholars can form a just opinion about this revised edition. We have done our duty and it is now left to them to accept it in whatever manner it appeals to them.

11. The Honourable Chief Ministers of Bombay State—Shri Morarji Desai and his present successor, Shri Yeshwantrao Chavan—and the then Director of Education—Shri S. S. Bhandarkar had been very kind to visit our Dictionary Department at our request and the Government of Bombay have been pleased to accord a grant of Rs. 5000 towards the publication of this edition. So also the Universities of Poona and Banaras were pleased to sanction publication-grants of Rs. 2000 and Rs. 1000 respectively. Some other Universities expressed their inability to help the work but showed their willingness to buy a few copies afterwards. We are very grateful to all these great friends and institutions.

12. We cannot close this Preface without expressing our gratefulness to all the members of our Assisting Board of Editors for their willing and enthusiastic co-operation in this work.

13. In conclusion, we have to record here our great appreciation of the spirit of public service displayed by our publisher, Shri Y. G. Joshi, in shouldering the entire financial burden of organising, preparing and publishing this edition, in spite of the risk involved in this work. We are personally grateful to him for all the courtesy and kindness showed to us throughout our protracted labour of six years on this edition.

P. K. Gode,
C. G. Karve.
Chief Editors.