

India whose kings were first conquered and then released by Samudragupta. Its ruler was Ugrasena. Palakka has been identified with Palakkaḍa, the capital of a Pallava viceroyalty and was situated in the Nellore district.⁶³² Law is inclined to identify Palakkaḍa with Palakalūru in the Guntur taluka.⁶³³ Allan and G. Ramdas locate it in the Nellore district.⁶³⁴ Smith places Palakka in the Nellore district.⁶³⁵ Dubreuil, however, identifies Palakka with a capital of the same name which was situated to the South of the Krishna and which is mentioned in many Pallava Copper Plates.⁶³⁶ The kingdom of Palakka might have extended westwards beyond the region now occupied by the districts of Auddepal and North Arcot.⁶³⁷ It was perhaps situated to the west of Kāñcī on the Eastern Ghāṭs.⁶³⁸

11. *Pratyanta* (No. 1, L. 22) :

It is mentioned in Inscription No. 1 that the kings of frontier (or border) states 'Samataṭa, Ḍavāka, Kāmarūpa, Nepāla and Kartṭpura' gratified the imperious commands of Samudrgupta, by giving all (kinds of) taxes and obeying (his) orders and coming to perform obeisance.⁶³⁹ We also find a reference to Pratyanta in the Girnar Rock Edict No. 2 of Aśoka.⁶⁴⁰

Law⁶⁴¹ contrasts between Āryāvarta and Pratyanta. He takes Pratyanta to mean the Mleccha country and quotes the Amarakośa, Divyāvadāna, Abhidhānacintāmaṇi and Smṛticandrikā.⁶⁴² But in the inscription⁶⁴³ the contrast is between Dakṣiṇāpatha and Āryāvarta while the word Āṭavikarāja breaks the link between Āryāvarta and Pratyanta. Moreover, all the border states mentioned in the inscription could not have been Mleccha and inhabited by Kirātas.⁶⁴⁴ The word Pratyanta and its substitutes in the Aśokan edicts also refer to the frontier states.

12. *Samataṭa* (No .1, L. 22) :

It is one of the frontier kingdoms which offered their submission to Samudragupta.⁶⁴⁵ Sen⁶⁴⁶ remarks that Samudragupta reduced the king of Samataṭa to the rank of a subordinate prince who had to part with most of his powers and was 'allowed to rule over a much reduced dominion as a vassal of the emperor'. Retaining only the control of its internal administration, he had to pay various kinds of taxes to Samudragupta, attend his durbars, render obeisance to him and gratify