

as well as the support of attributes in the forms of Brahmā, Viṣṇu and Rudra.

30. You are free from aberrations, O lord of all, you perform different activities incessantly. O lord Śiva, we all, Brahmā and others are your slaves.

31. O lord of gods, be pleased. O Śiva, protect us ever. O lord, we are your subjects and we ever seek refuge in you."

*Sanatkumāra said:—*

32. After eulogising Brahmā, other gods and the great sages, the gods remained silent with their minds fixed on Śiva's feet.

33. The great lord Śiva heard the auspicious prayer of the gods, conferred boons on them and then vanished immediately from the scene.

34. Brahmā and other gods were jubilant as the enemies had been killed. Delightfully singing the great glory of Śiva, they left for their own abodes.

35. This great narrative describing the suppression of Jalandhara is a sanctifying story of lord Śiva that destroys all sins.

36. This prayer of the gods is holy and destructive of sins. It bestows happiness on the devotees and is delightful to Śiva.

37. He who reads or teaches the two narratives, enjoys great happiness here and becomes the lord of Gaṇas hereafter.

## CHAPTER TWENTYSIX

*(The Vanishing of Viṣṇu's delusion)*

*Viṣṇu said:—*

1. O son of Brahmā, obeisance be to you. O excellent devotee of Śiva, you are blessed, since you have narrated this highly divine and auspicious story of Śiva.

2. O sage, now narrate lovingly the story of Viṣṇu. After enchanting Vṛndā what did he do? Where did he go?