

where around Oṣadhiprastha, the penance-grove of Śiva, the supreme lord, O excellent sage.

3. O great sage, the groves bloomed with special exuberance, O excellent sage, due to his power.

4. The fragrant flowers of Mango and Aśoka trees shone heightening feelings of love.

5. The water lilies with bees hovering on them proved to be the causes for the rise of love in the minds of everyone.

6. The sweet cooings of the cuckoos heightened emotions of love. They were exquisite and pleasing to the mind.

7. O sage, diverse sounds of the hummings of the bees rang sweet in the ears of everyone heightening temptations of love.

8. The bright light of the moon scattered all around appeared to be the emissary of lovers and their beloveds.

9. At that time the Kāladīpikā (brilliant lamp) induced reticent haughty persons to love. O good sir, the wind blew gently but distressed those who were separated from their beloveds.

10. Thus the vast diffusion of Spring caused the display of emotions of love. It was unbearable to the forest-dwelling sages.

11. O sage, then, even the insentient beings had the emotions of love. What about the state of sentient ones ?

12. Thus spring employed his unbearable power heightening the love of all living beings.

13. On seeing the untimely display of spring, Śiva the lord, who had assumed a physical body indulging in divine sports, thought it surprising.

14. But He, the chief of the self-controlled and the remover of man's misery continued his severe penance.

15. When spring spread everywhere, Kāma accompanied by Rati stood on his left side, with the arrow of mango blossom taken out and kept in readiness.

16. Enchanting all people, he spread his influence. Who was not enchanted on seeing Kāma in the company of Rati ?

17. Thus they initiated their dalliance. The sentiment of love too accompanied by coquettish gestures and