

*Menā said:—*

33. O Śivā, Hail, Hail ! O great goddess, If you consider me worthy of a boon, I shall choose one.

34. O mother of the universe, at first let me have a hundred sons endowed with longevity, heroism, prosperity and accomplishments.

35. After that let me have a daughter of comely features and good qualities who will delight both the families and who will be revered by the three worlds.

36. O Śivā, be my daughter for fulfilling the needs of the gods. O Goddess, be Rudra's wife and indulge in divine sports with the lord.

*Brahmā said:—*

37. On hearing the words of Menā, the delighted goddess spoke smilingly, fulfilling her desire.

*The Goddess said:—*

38. May hundred heroic sons be born to you. One of them very strong will be born at first.

39. I shall be born as your daughter since I am delighted by your devotion. Since I have been served by the gods I shall fulfil their desire and carry out their activities.

*Brahmā said:—*

40. Saying so, the Goddess Śivā vanished from there even as Menā was watching.

41. O dear one, on getting the desired boon from the Goddess, Menā attained immeasurable joy. Her misery occasioned by penance vanished.

42. Bowing down in that direction, the chaste lady of delighted mind returned to her abode repeating the benedictory word "Jaya" (be victorious).

43. She told her husband about the boon, which had already been understood by him through good omens, by her words which were rendered useless.

44. On hearing the words of Menā, the lord of mountains became delighted. He praised his wife who was devoted to Śiva lovingly.

45. O sage, when their mutual sexual intercourse took