

Guhyakas, the followers of Śiva with sharp-pointed arrows discharged from his bow.

20. The heroes Pradyumna and others jubilant over the war destroyed the armies of the enemies and fought terribly.

21. On seeing his army being scattered, Śiva became highly infuriated and roared terribly.

22. On hearing that, Śiva's Gaṇas too shouted and fought. They suppressed the opponents with their strength increased by Śiva's brilliance.

23. Kṛṣṇa discharged separate types of missiles from his bow towards the trident-bearing lord Śiva who without showing any dismay quelled them directly.

24. They discharged Brahmā-missile in counter to Brahmā missile; the mountain-missile to the wind-missile; the cloud-missile to the fire-missile and Śiva-missile to the Nārāyaṇa missile.

25. Defeated by the opponents, the army of Kṛṣṇa fled, O Vyāsa; it could not face the full refulgence of Śiva.

26. O sage, when his army was routed, lord Kṛṣṇa, the scorcher of enemies, discharged terrible fever missile named 'cold'.³²⁸

27. O sage, when the army of Kṛṣṇa was routed, the cold fever missile of Kṛṣṇa rushed at Rudra blazing the ten quarters.

28. On seeing that coming, lord Śiva discharged his own fever missile. The two fever missiles fought each other.

29. Oppressed by the fever missile of lord Śiva, the fever missile of Śiva cried aloud. Unable to secure succour elsewhere, it eulogised the bull-bannered lord.

30. The delighted lord Śiva, favourably disposed to those who seek refuge, eulogised by Viṣṇu's fever missile, spoke to the cold fever missile of Viṣṇu.

³²⁸. The mention of the missile of cold fever and of the counter missile to ward it off indicates the heights that India had attained in military science.