

Sanatkumāra said:—

40. After saying this, O Vyāsa, those two deities, Viṣṇu and Brahmā bowed to Śiva and stopped. They joined their palms in reverence and stood humbly.

CHAPTER THIRTYONE

(Śiva's advice)

Sanatkumāra said:—

1. On hearing these words of the distressed Viṣṇu and Brahmā, Śiva laughingly spoke in the rumbling tone of the cloud.

Śiva said:—

2. “O dear Viṣṇu, O Brahmā, cast off your fear from all sides. Certainly something good will result from the activities of Śaṅkhacūḍa.

3. I know all the details of his activities factually as well as those of Sudāmā the cowherd devotee of Kṛṣṇa.

4. At my bidding Viṣṇu has assumed the form of Kṛṣṇa and is stationed in the cowshed in the beautiful Goloka presided over by me.

5. Considering himself independent under a delusion he indulged in many kinds of sportive dalliance like a deluded licentious person.

6. On seeing his excessive delusion as a result of my deceptive art I suppressed their virtuous intellect and made them suffer curse.

7. Having thus performed my sport, I suppressed the illusion. Regaining knowledge they got rid of delusion and became well-intentioned.

8. They came near me in a piteous plight. After bowing to me they eulogised me devoutly and humbly with palms joined in reverence.

9. Overwhelmed by shame they told me all the details. Dejected, they lamented before me saying the words “Save us, O save us.”