

7. O Nārada, then Indra and other gods, went to Bṛhaspati's abode lovingly with humility, in their eagerness to achieve their self-interest.

8. Reaching there, all the gods including Indra bowed to Bṛhaspati and submitted every detail to him.

The gods said :—

9. O revered preceptor, please go to the abode of Himavat for the fulfilment of our task. After going there, you shall make disparaging remarks about the trident-bearing deity.

10-11. Pārvatī will not marry any other person except Śiva. The mountain will derive the benefit only after some-time if he gives the daughter in marriage without his full concurrence. Let the mountain stay on earth for the present. O preceptor, you shall make him stay on the earth as he is the support of many gems.

Brahmā said :—

12. On hearing these words of the gods, the preceptor of the gods, plugged his ears with his hands. He did not accept the proposal of the gods. He remembered the name "Śiva".

13. Then remembering lord Śiva, Bṛhaspati⁴⁶ of liberal mind rebuked the gods again and again and said.

Bṛhaspati said :—

14. All of you gods seem to be selfish in nature. You want to destroy other's interests. Indeed I will go to hell by disparaging Śiva.

15. O gods, one of you shall go to the mountain. Let him urge the lord of the mountains and achieve the desired object.

16. Let him stay in Bhārata after giving his daughter without willingness. It is certain he will attain salvation if he gives his daughter with devotion.

17. Afterwards the seven celestial sages will properly

⁴⁶ Bṛhaspati is designated as the family priest of divine community. He is the preceptor of the gods and intercedes on their behalf with the triad—Brahmā, Viṣṇu and Śiva, seeking their support.