

cause immense pleasure to your gracious Self. They will impart you useful instruction, though you need none, with pleasure every day.

34-35. O beloved, do you wish to go to the Himālayas, the king of mountains wherein there is spring for ever, which abounds in hedges and groves where the cuckoos coo in diverse pleasing ways and which contains many lakes filled with cool water and hundreds of lotuses.

36. It is of full grassy plains and trees that yield everything one desires and hence on a par with Kalpa<sup>280</sup> trees. You can see plenty of flowers, horses, elephants and cows there.

37. There in the Himālayas even the beasts of prey are calm. It is the abode of many sages and ascetics. It is an abode of devas and many deer move about in it.

38. It shines with ramparts of crystals, gold and silver. It is lustrous with the lakes—Mānasa and others.

39. It abounds in buds and full-blown lotuses with golden stalks studded with gems. Crocodiles, sharks and tortoises abound in the lakes.

40-41. O Goddess of devas, there are many beautiful blue lotuses emitting sweet fragrance. On the banks there are many grass lands, small and big trees and the saffron flowers increasing the fragrance of the waters with which the lakes are full.

42. The Apricot tree seems to dance with their oscillating branches. They seem to be fanning the self-born god of love. There are Sārasa birds and the intoxicated Cakravāka birds heightening its beauty.

43-45. The different parts of the mountain Meru seem to be echoing the pleasing sweet sounds of bees etc. which cause the incitement of love of the guardians of the quarters viz. Indra, Kubera, Yama, Varuṇa, Agni, Nirṛti, Marut (Wind)<sup>281</sup> and the Supreme lord (Īśa). Heaven, the

280. Kalpa-Vṛkṣa. One of the five trees of Indra's paradise fabled to fulfil all desires, the other four being मन्दारः पारिजातक, सन्तान and हरिचन्दन ।

281. Reference is to Indra, Kubera, Yama, Varuṇa, Agni, Nirṛti, Vāyu and Īśāna who are the lords of eight quarters.