

*Sanatkumāra said:—*

36. Even as the gods were listening to this speech with eyes gaping with wonder, the refulgence vanished.

37. On hearing the speech, the gods, urged by it bowed respectfully to Gaurī, Lakṣmī and Sarasvatī.

38. Brahmā and other gods eulogised the goddesses with various speeches and bowed their heads.

39. Then the goddesses appeared in front of them, suddenly, O Vyāsa, illuminating the quarters with their wonderful brilliance.

40. On seeing them, the gods eulogised them with great devotion and delighted minds. They submitted what they wanted to be carried out.

41. Thus bowed and eulogised, the goddesses who are favourably disposed to the devotees, faced the gods and addressed them eagerly after giving them seeds.

*The goddesses said:—*

42. "Sow these seeds in the place where Viṣṇu is standing. Then your task will be fulfilled."

*Sanatkumāra said:—*

43. O sage, after saying this, the goddesses, the Śaktis of Śiva, Viṣṇu and Brahmā, possessed of the three attributes, vanished.

44. Then Brahmā and other gods including Indra took the seeds and went to the place where Viṣṇu was standing.

45. The gods sowed those seeds in the ground where the pyre of Vṛndā had been lit. O sage, they stayed there thinking these as parts of Śiva's Śakti.

46. Out of the seeds sown, O great sage, three plants shot up—the Myrobalan, the Jasmine and the holy basil.

47. The Myrobalan is born of the creator's Śakti, the jasmine of Lakṣmī and holy basil of Gaurī, born of the attributes Tamas, Sattva and Rajas.

48. O sage, on seeing the plants in the forms of ladies Viṣṇu stood up with excitement of infatuation over them.

49. On seeing them he was deluded and his mind became overwhelmed by lust. The two plants—the holy basil and Myrobalan looked at him lovingly.