

12. The Gaṇas of Caṇḍī took their meals and then cracked jokes and talked merrily.

13. After taking meals and rinsing their mouths Viṣṇu and others went to their apartments for rest.

14. At the bidding of Menā, the chaste ladies requested Śiva humbly and made Him stay in the bedchamber where great festivities were going on.

15. Seated on a gemset throne offered by Menā, Śiva surveyed the bedchamber with pleasure.

16. It was brightly illuminated with hundreds of gemset lamps. There were many gemset vessels. Pearls etc. were gorgeously displayed.

17. Gemset mirrors, white chowries, pearl necklaces and gorgeous things were richly displayed.

18. It was unequalled in its divine exquisiteness highly pleasing and richly decorated.

19. It was evincing the powerful influence of the boon granted by Śiva. It appeared to be a replica of Śiva Loka itself.

20. It was richly rendered fragrant with various sweet smelling substances. It was very bright. There was sandal paste and aguru. Beds were richly strewn with flowers.

21. Many wondrous things of variegated colours and shapes were displayed there. It had been constructed in gems by Viśvakarman\* himself.

22. In some places replicas of Vaikuṇṭha, Brahmāloka and the cities of the guardians of the quarters were seen.

23. In a certain place the beautiful Kailāsa was represented. In another place Indra's palace was depicted. Over all was represented the Śivaloka.

24. Seeing all these wonderful representations lord Śiva praised Himavat and was very glad.

25. In that bedchamber, in a beautiful gemset couch lord Śiva lay down with pleasure.

26. Himavat fed all his brothers and others with pleasure and attended to the subsequent duties.

27. While the supreme lord had his sleep and the lord of the mountains was engaged in these duties, the night passed away giving place to dawn.

\*See Note 301 P. 401; Note 295 P. 389.