

A. Location : In the south (*dakṣiṇasyām*) 3. 86. 1; on the western coast (*aparānteṣu*) 1. 210. 1; in the middle of the ocean (very close to the ocean) (*samudramadhye*) 3. 83. 22. **B. Description :** Holy (*punya*) 1. 32. 4; 1. 210. 1; 3. 86. 1, 13; auspicious (*śiva*) 3. 86. 13; famous in the three worlds (*triṣu lokeṣu viśrutam*) 3. 83. 22; (*vikhyātam triṣu lokeṣu*) 3. 86. 12; adored by all people (*sarvalokanamaskṛta*) 3. 83. 22; undisturbed (*avyagra*) 3. 261. 54; a holy and auspicious lake having cool and ample water, difficult of access to those who have not purified their souls (*śītatoyo bahujalāḥ punyas tāta śivaś ca saḥ / hradaḥ paramaduṣprāpo mānuṣair akṛtātmabhiḥ*) 3. 86. 13. **C. A place sacred to Śiva :** Favourite place of Śūlapāṇi (*Śiva*) (*dayitam sthānam śūlapāṇeḥ*) 3. 261. 54; where Brahman and other gods, sages, Bhūtas, Yakṣas, Piśācas, Kinnaras, Mahoragas and many others, as also rivers, oceans and mountains wait on Umāpati (*Śiva*) 3. 83. 23-24; (also see sections D and F below). **D. Holiness :** Characterized by the presence of ascetics (*gokarṇe ca tapodhanāḥ*) 6. 7. 48; one who worships there Īśāna (*Śiva*) and fasts for three nights gets the fruit of performing ten Aśvamedha sacrifices and the status of a Gaṇapati (*gāṇapatyaṁ ca vindati*); by staying there for twelve nights one has his soul disciplined (*kṛtātmā bhavate naraḥ*) 3. 83. 25 (also see section F below). **E. Epic events :** (1) During his exile Arjuna went towards Gokarṇa from where, after visiting the *tīrhas* on the western coast, he went to Prabhāsa 1. 209. 24; 1. 210. 2; (2) Arjuna, protecting the horse of the Aśvamedha sacrifice, reached Gokarṇa from where he went to Prabhāsa 14. 84. 12. **F.**

Past and mythological events : (1) Gokarṇa was one of the sacred places where Śeṣa, abandoning his brothers and mother, practised severe austerities 1. 32. 3; (2) Catuḥśīrṣa Ālambāyana practised austerities at Gokarṇa for hundred years as a result of which he got a hundred sons from Śarva (*Śiva*) 13. 18. 5-6; (3) Out of fear from Rāma, Mārīca repaired to Gokarṇa to become an ascetic (*tāpasyaṁ samupāśṛitam*) 3. 261. 55; (4) Rāvaṇa went to Gokarṇa to meet Mārīca 3. 261. 54; (5) Gokarṇa was one of the holy places where Śeṣa practised austerities.

Godāvarī f. : Name of a river.

A. Location : Situated in the south (*dakṣiṇasyām*) 3. 86. 1-2; listed by Samjaya among the rivers of the Bhāratavarṣa; its water used by people for drinking 6. 10. 13. **B. Description :** Holy, most holy (*punya*) 3. 86. 2, (*punyaṭamā*) 3. 118. 2; auspicious (*śubhā*) 3. 86. 2; (*praśastā*) 3. 118. 2; charming (*ramyā*) 3. 261. 40; having ample water (*bahujalā*) 3. 86. 2; having many groves on its banks (*bahvārāmā*) 3. 86. 2; visited by ascetics (*tāpasācaritā*) 3. 86. 2; resorted to by Siddhas (*siddhaniṣevitā*) 3. 83. 30; going to the ocean (*samudragā*) 3. 118. 2, (*sāgaragā*) 3. 118. 3; one of the rivers which are described as mothers of the universe and very strong (*viśvasya mātaraḥ sarvāḥ sarvāś caiva mahābalāḥ*) 6. 10. 13, 35; **C. Epic event :** Yudhiṣṭhira, during his pilgrimage, reached Godāvarī; he bathed there (*āplutya*) and satisfied the manes and gods; he gave wealth to the chiefs among the twice-born 3. 118. 2-3. **D. Past events :** (1) One of the rivers seen by Mārkaṇḍeya in the belly of the Bāla (3. 186. 83 = Nārāyaṇa 3.