

ndara (Indra) (*purandarapurāt ... viśiṣṭam*) 3. 169. 27; the houses of the Nivātakavacas were made of gold, beset with gems (*veśmāni ... bahuratnavicitrāṇi śātakumbhamayāni ca*) 3. 169. 25; the golden and silvery houses of Hiraṇyapura, the houses shining like the sun (*veśmāni raukmāni ... rājatāni ca ... sūryarūpāṇi cābhānti*) described in some details 5. 98. 9-12; it was impossible to describe their appearance and the materials used for their construction; they were perfected in qualities; (hence) they had proper form and qualities (*naitāni śakyam nirdeṣṭum rūpato dravyatas tathā | guṇataś caiva siddhāni pramāṇaguṇavanti ca* ||) 5. 98. 13; there were places of amusement and the houses were provided with jewelled beds and precious vessels and seats (*ākriḍān paśya daittānām tathaiva śayanāny uta | ratnavanti mahārḥāṇi bhājanāny āsanāni ca* ||) 5. 98. 14 (Nl. on Bom. Ed. 5. 100. 14: *ākriḍān kriḍāsthānāni*); there were mountains, looking like clouds and full of streams, and trees giving flowers and fruits according to one's desire and moving at will (*jala-dābhāms tathā sailāms toyaprasravaṇānvitān | kāmāpuṣpaphalāms caiva pādapān kāmācārīṇaḥ* ||) 5. 98. 15; it was called *pura* 3. 166. 6, 7, 10, 11; 3. 169. 3, 22, 28; 5. 98. 1; *nagara* 3. 169. 21, 26, 35. D. History: As told by Mātali to Arjuna: The city once belonged to the king of gods (Indra); the Nivātakavaca demons practised severe austerities, satisfied Pitāmaha (Brahma-deva) and obtained as a boon this city for their residence and for freedom from fear of gods in battles (*idaṁ vṛtaṁ nivāsāya devebhyaś cābhayaṁ yudhi* ||); Indra, out of self-interest, agreed to what the demons had asked for (*vidhattām bhagavān atrety*

*ātmano hitakāmyayā*); the Nivātakavacas then drove out gods from this place and made the city their residence (*tato nivātakavacair itaḥ pracyāvitāḥ surāḥ*) 3. 169. 28-30; (*nivātakavacā nāma dānavāḥ ... prativasanty uta*) 3. 165. 10; 1. 2. 121; 5. 166. 34 (?). E. Epic event: Arjuna, at the instance of Indra, attacked the residence of Dānavas riding the chariot driven by Mātali (*tāms tatra jahi kaunteya ... tato mātaliṣaṁ yuktamprādān me ratham*) 3. 165. 10-12; (*dānavālayam atyugraṁ prayāto 'smi*) 3. 165. 23; battle described in 3. 166. 7-23; 3. 167-3-169. 20; when the Nivātakavacas were killed, their wives cried aloud in the city (*dārās teṣāṁ tu sarvaśaḥ | prākrośan nagare tasmin*) 3. 168. 21; Arjuna entered the town along with Mātali frightening the women by the loud sound of the chariot; after killing Nivātakavacas, Arjuna returned to the residence of the gods (*tato mātalinā sārddham ahaṁ tat puram abhyayāṁ*) 3. 169. 22; (*punar mātalinā sārddham agacchaṁ devasādma tat*) 3. 169. 35; (*nihatya ... nivātakavacāms caiva tato 'haṁ śakram āgamam*) 3. 170. 61; Mātali told Indra the killing of Nivātakavacas 3. 170. 63; according to Indra, Arjuna's feat excelled that of gods and Asuras (*atidevāsuraṁ karma kṛtam etad tvayā raṇe*) 3. 170. 66; the incident is referred to on several occasions: (1) In the list of the contents of the Āraṇyakaparvan in the Parvasamgrahaparvan (*nivātakavacair yuddhaṁ hiraṇyapura-vāsibhiḥ*) 1. 2. 121; (2) By Arjuna while describing his feats to Uttara (*ahaṁ pāre samudrasya hiraṇyapuram ārujam*) 4. 56. 11; (3) By Bhīṣma while addressing Duryodhana (*eṣa pāre samudrasya hiraṇyapuram ārujat | hatvā śaṣṭisahasrāṇi nivāta-*