

spirited, who proved their valour, very strong and who enjoyed pleasures (*vṛṣṇyandhakā ... sarva evendrakaalpāḥ | manasvinaḥ satyaparākramāś ca mahābalā yādavā bhogavantaḥ*) 5. 28. 12; (6) Arjuna described them as brave, high-souled, proud like lion, very strong, capable of bearing the strokes of *gadā*, *parigha* and *śakti*, having arms like *parigha*, having strong arms (*ye te śūrā mahātmānaḥ simhadarpā mahābalāḥ | bhojavṛṣṇyandhakā ... || gadāparighaśaktinām sahāḥ parighabāhavaḥ*) 16. 9. 9-10; (7) Vyāsa too called them high-souled (*diṣṭam etan mahātmanām*) 16. 9. 26; (8) (According to Bhūriśravas, however, the Vṛṣṇis and Andhakas could be treacherous); he, therefore, while blaming Arjuna for his misdeed asked him why he regarded them as authority (*vṛṣṇyandhakāḥ katham pārtha pramāṇam bhavatā kṛtāḥ*) 7. 118. 15. D. Epic events : (1) Viṣṇu was born among the Andhakas and Vṛṣṇis for the advancement of *dharma* (*dharmaśamvardhanārthāya prajājñe 'ndhakavṛṣṇiṣu*) 1. 57. 87; there in the lineage of Vṛṣṇis and Andhakas he shone like the moon among the stars (*kṣitāv andhakavṛṣṇinām vaimśe ... | parayā śuśubhe lakṣmī nākṣatraṇām ivodurāḥ*) 2. 33. 17; (2) Vṛṣṇis and Andhakas mentioned among those who approached Droṇa to learn the *astras* (*abhi-jagmus tato droṇam astrārthe ... vṛṣṇayaś cāndhakāś caiva*) 1. 122. 46; (3) They came to witness the *svayamvara* of Draupadī (*vṛṣṇyandhāś caiva ... prekṣām sma cakruḥ*) 1. 178. 8; (4) When Arjuna, during the period of his exile, visited Dvārakā, the Bhojas, Vṛṣṇis and Andhakas gathered in a crowd on the main road to see him; he was honoured by their sons and was greet-

ed by them (*diṛkṣavaś ca kaunteyam ... narendramārgam ājagmus ... bhojavṛṣṇyandhakānām ca samavāyo mahān abhūt | sa tathā satkṛtāḥ sarvair bhojavṛṣṇyandhakātmajaiḥ | ... sarvaiś ca pratinanditāḥ ||*) 1. 210. 17-19; (5) A great festival of the Raivataka mountain was observed by the Vṛṣṇis and Andhakas; they, along with the Bhojas, gave gifts to thousands of Brāhmaṇas in that festival (*tasmin raivatake girau | vṛṣṇyandhakānām abhavat sumahān utsavo nṛpa | tatra dānam dadur vīrā ... bhojavṛṣṇyandhakāś caiva*) 1. 211. 1-2; (6) When Bhojas, Vṛṣṇis and Andhakas heard the sound of the *bherī* sounded by the Sabhāpāla, they were agitated; they left their food and drink and rushed to the Hall; there the great heroes among the Vṛṣṇis and Andhakas took their royal seats (*kṣubdhāś tenātha śabdena bhojavṛṣṇyandhakāś tadā | annapānam apāsyātha samāpetuḥ sabhām tataḥ || ... bhejire ... vṛṣṇyandhakamahārathāḥ | simhāsanāni śataśaḥ*) 1. 212. 12, 14; (7) When Balarāma declared his intention to fight with Arjuna, Bhojas, Vṛṣṇis and Andhakas followed him (*anvadyanta te sarve bhojavṛṣṇyandhakāś tadā*) 1. 212. 32; (8) Rāma and Keśava, along with the chiefs among Vṛṣṇis and Andhakas, and Bhojas went to Khāṇḍavaprastha to give nuptial gifts after the marriage of Subhadrā (*ājagāma ... saha rāmeṇa keśavaḥ | vṛṣṇyandhakamahāmātraiḥ; ete cānye ca bahavo vṛṣṇibhojāndhakāś tathā; saha rāmeṇa keśavaḥ | vṛṣṇyandhakamahābhojaiḥ samvṛtāḥ*) 1. 213. 23, 29, 34; they were received and honoured by Yudhiṣṭhira and their gifts were accepted by him (*tāmś ca vṛṣṇyandhakaśreṣṭhān; pūjayām āsa tāmś caiva vṛṣṇyandhakamahārathān*) 1. 213. 38;