

called Deśas 6. 10. 68) of Bhāratavarṣa (janapadān nibodha) 6. 10. 37, 5: (puṇḍrā bhārgāḥ kirātās ca) 6. 10. 49; (oṣṭrāḥ puṇḍrāḥ sasairandhrāḥ) 6. 10. 56; located along the eastern ocean : From Magadha, Arjuna directed the Aśvamedha horse to the south along the sea passing through Vaṅgas, Puṇḍras and Keralas (pāṇḍavaḥ ... dakṣiṇām diśam āsthāya cārayām āsa tam hayam 14. 84. 1; tataḥ samudratīreṇa vaṅgān puṇḍrān sakeralān) 14. 83. 29; called Janapada also in 6. 46. 49-50 (puṇḍrāḥ ... ete janapadā rājan). B. Origin : Nandini, the cow of Vasiṣṭha, created Puṇḍras from her foam (puṇḍrān ... phenataḥ sā sasarja ha) 1. 165. 36. C. Social status : Pauṇḍras, listed among those Kṣatriyas who became degraded as vṛśala because they disregarded Brāhmaṇas (pauṇḍrāḥ ... kṣatriyajātayaḥ / vṛśalatvam anuprāptā brāhmaṇānām adarśanāt) 13. 35. 17-18; and also because they violated the dharma of Kṣatriyas (kṣatriyāḥ kecit ... teṣāṃ ... prajā vṛśalatām prāptā brāhmaṇānām adarśanāt || ta ete ... puṇḍrās ca ... / vṛśalatvam parigatā vyutthānāt kṣatradharmataḥ /) 14. 29. 14-16; called mlecchas (puṇḍrān sakeralān / tatra tatra ca bhūrīṇi mlecchasainyāny anekāśaḥ vijigye ... dhanamjayah) 14. 83. 29-30. D. Special feature : Their warriors fought riding elephants; they were skilled in fighting battles while riding elephants (gajayodhinah; gajayuddheṣu kuśalāḥ) 8. 17. 2-3. E. Epic events : (1) Pāṇḍu spread the fame of Kurus in the Puṇḍra country (puṇḍreṣu ... kurūṇām akarod yaśaḥ) 1. 105. 12; (2) King Vāsudeva was known as 'Pauṇḍraka Vāsudeva' among the Vaṅgas, Puṇḍras and Kirātās (vaṅga-

puṇḍrakirāteṣu rājā ... / pauṇḍrako vāsu-deveti ... lokeṣu viśrutaḥ) 2. 13. 19; Bhīma, in his expedition to the east (yayau prācīm diśam prati 2. 26. 1; 2. 23. 9) before the Rājasūya, defeated the king of the Pauṇḍra people in battle (pauṇḍrādhipam ... vāsudevam ... nirjityājau) 2. 27. 20-21; (3) Puṇḍra Kṣatriyas brought wealth in hundreds for the Rājasūya (āhārṣuḥ kṣatriyā vittam śataśo 'jātaśatrave) 2. 48. 15-16; they (Puṇḍrakas) also brought fine cloth, silk and woolen materials, and mantles; they were asked by the gatekeepers to bring more; when they brought additional tribute they were allowed to enter through the gate (for citation see Tāmralipta) 2. 48. 17-20; a Pauṇḍra king (not named, Vāsudeva?), among others, served as server at Rājasūya (yatra sarvān mahipālān ... sapauṇḍroḍrān ... yajñe te pariveśakān) 3. 48. 18, 22; (4) On the second day of war, Puṇḍras were one of the Janapadas who stood at the right wing (dakṣiṇam pakṣam) of the Krauñcāruṇavyūha (6. 46. 39; Krauñca 6. 47. 1) of Pāṇḍavas 6. 46. 49-50; (5) On the third day, Puṇḍras (puṇḍrāviśas tathā?) stood at the left wing (vāmam pakṣam) of the Gāruḍavyūha (6. 52. 2) of Kauravas 6. 52. 9; (6) Among the past exploits of Kṛṣṇa, Dhṛtarāṣṭra mentioned his victory over Puṇḍras in battle 7. 10. 15; (7) On the twelfth day, Pauṇḍras formed the back of the Suparṇavyūha (prṣṭhe ... pauṇḍramadrakāḥ) (7. 19. 4) of Kauravas 7. 19. 11; (8) On the fourteenth day, Arjuna killed Puṇḍras and others in hundreds and thousands (na te sma śakyāḥ samkhyātum vrātā śatasahasraśaḥ) 7. 68. 42-43; (9)