



48. *Surasundari*: This plump girl is a study of the sculptor's art at the highest level. The modelling of the face, with the almost amused expression in relation to the gentle manner of the hands extracting the thorn from her foot, shows the leisurely grace of the village woman used to walking in the nearby forests where thorny bushes still abound: Parswanatha Temple (photo by D. H. Sahiar)
49. *Siva-Parvati*: There is no image of Siva-Sakti even in the Hindu temples which shows the tenderness between the God and the Goddess so sensitively as this sculpture. Surely a masterly rendering of the divine pair in their state of complete conjugal acceptance of each other, he with his condescension, leaning towards her, even as he protectively puts his arms around her; she, fresh from the elaborate toilet holding the mirror in her hand and looking up to him, as the eternal seductive female. The powerful attraction of the male and the female is held throughout by the sculptor between them: Parswanatha Temple (photo by D. H. Sahiar)

