

# A philately operation

Iyappanthal physician has a collection of stamps of Indians honoured abroad

L. KANTHIMATHI

But for a stamp autographed by Mother Teresa, Dr. M.K. Sudhakar has got almost all stamps issued in her honour. The doctor has got a collection of Mother Teresa stamps issued by 80 countries which include Albania, Austria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia, Cuba, France, Germany and Mongolia.

The philatelist is a general medicine practitioner residing in Iyappanthal.

"Most of the stamps that I have collected can be themed as Indians honoured abroad. In addition to Mother Teresa's stamps, I have stamps of Mahatma Gandhi, Rabindranath Tagore and M.S. Subbulakshmi issued by other countries. Around 150 countries have issued stamps in honour of Mahatma Gandhi. The recent addition was a stamp issued in North Korea," says Sudhakar.

His collection of Tagore's



Dr. M.K. Sudhakar (right) and his collection of stamps.

PHOTO: G. KRISHNASWAMY

stamps are from Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Russia, Sweden and Mozambique.

He has preserved the stamps collected by his father as well.

"My father has collected stamps of Mahatma Gandhi. They have become crinkled with age. Preservation of stamps is a big challenge. I laminate them in oleophob-

ic-coated sheets and have them filed in albums. I also preserve the pamphlets issued along with the stamps. They give key information about the personality," says Sudhakar.

The other themes in his collection include Bharat Ratna awardees. The first day cover of Defense Research and Development Organisa-



tion autographed by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam and stamps on Air India are also part of his collection.

"For me, stamp collection is a stress buster. I find the act of arranging them categorically so relaxing. In the process, you learn a lot. As I chose to collect stamps issued in honour of great people, I got to know more about important events in history," says Sudhakar.

Sudhakar is an active member of South Indian Philatelic Association for Stamps.

# T. Nagar school student shines in athletics

ALBERT DEVAKARAM

It was a double joy for 18-year-old year-old R. Giridharini of Vidyodaya School in T. Nagar, when she clinched two gold medals in the three-day Republic Day sports meet held in Neyveli from November 10 to 12. This plus-two student clocked 12.2s in the 100 M and 58.09s in the 400M, held almost in quick succession,

with little time for recovery.

"I owe this win to my parents for encouraging me and sparing no efforts to help me achieve this glory. Also, I practice every day. The zig-zag exercises on the hurdles has helped me a lot" says Giridharini. She was thankful to her school principal and her PT staff.

**Other honours**

Giridharini is no newcomer to the "world of winners". The tall lanky athlete who won the silver in 100 M (12.48s) at the open national junior athletic championship in Ranchi, this year, vows to improve her timings in both 100 M and 400 M at the School Games Federation of India Championship (under 19 for boys and girls) to be held at Delhi in the first week of January 2019.



R. Giridharini.

PHOTO: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

## Book exchange drive on Nov. 18

Kuvikam Ilakkivayaasal, a forum meant for history and literature buffs, is organising a programme on November 18 in which works of eminent authors and artists will be discussed.

Time: At 3.30 p.m. Also, there will be a book exchange drive in which a participant can lend a book he has read and borrow another book.

Both Tamil and

English books can be exchanged.

Participants are requested to give a brief introduction and review about the books they are lending, says a press release.

The programme will be held at Kuvika Illam, Flat No:6, Third Floor, Silver Park Apartments, Thanikachalam Road, T.Nagar.

For details, call 9791069435 / 8939604745

## Music event at Teynampet

A programme on Rajasthani music will be held on November 17 at Tattvaloka, No: 76,

Eldams Road. Time: At 6 p.m. For details, call 044 - 2432 8124 / 2432 8125.

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