

Another quarter has passed by since our last newsletter. As usual there has been some great news to share with you. Two of our candidates have participated in world events—what better to ask for! After all, the Energy Projekt's mantra is to strive for excellence. Our kids need not be compelled to follow their dreams. Their passion itself would take them up higher and higher and drive them to consistently chase their dreams. Okay, let us not keep you in suspense anymore!

Our wonder kid does it again!

Close on the heels of his returning from Tashkent with a bagful of medals (2 gold and 1 silver) at the Asian Youth Chess Championship Under 8 (in Apr '17), our chess prodigy A. R. Ilamparthi participated in the World Cadets Chess Championships (Under 8 open) at Brazil (Aug 21–31). He had to play against the best brains from the United States, Russia, China, England, Canada, Mexico, Vietnam, Colombia and Mongolia. Out of the 72 contestants from across 30 nations, Ilamparthi, with his starting rank of 16 (based on ELO rating points), finished with a creditable FOURTH place! A great achievement indeed! He won in 7 rounds, drew in 2, and lost in 2. This kid is really a grandmaster material, and the Energy Projekt will do its best to nurture this talent and take him to that level. This time around, the Government of India sponsored his trip, bearing a major part of the expenses, with the Energy Projekt stepping in for the balance. Team Energy Projekt plans to discuss with his coach and draw a roadmap for the boy's chess career, the first target being the IM norm.

Prior to the world event, Ilamparthi had participated in a few meets: In the 7th St. Joseph's FIDE Rated Chess Tournament, Chennai (Under 8, June '17), he finished



FIRST; in the Commonwealth Chess Championship, New Delhi (Under 8, July '17), he finished 5th; and in the Modern School FIDE

Rating Tournament for school children, Chennai (Under 8, Aug '17), he finished 2nd and was awarded a cash prize of ₹ 18,000.

Our athlete M. Gokulakannan – at the World University Games

We had earlier informed you that Gokulakannan and his team (University of Madras) won the gold medal in the 4 x 400 meters relay event in the All India Inter University Athletic Meet, Coimbatore (Jan '17), with a new meet record. By virtue of this performance that at the National Selection Trials at Chandigarh in June '17, Gokulakannan was selected to represent India in the 29th Summer Universiade at Chinese Taipei (Aug 17). Twenty-four nations participated in the 4 x 400 meters relay. In the heats, Gokulakannan and team got the 2nd place, with their season's best timing (3:10.68), and qualified for the finals. However, in the finals, they could not keep up the momentum and



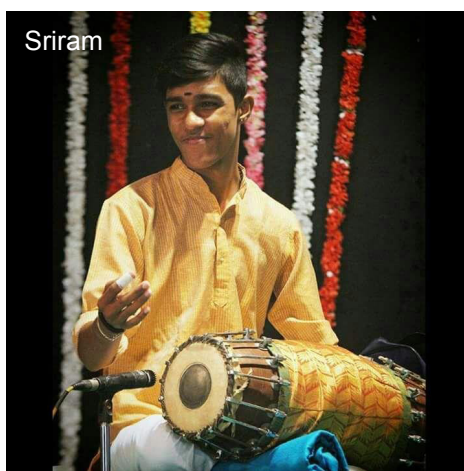
could finish only 7th. Taking into view that the World University Games is considered the second Olympics, this in itself is a great achievement. Surely this will motivate him to excel further! Kudos to Gokulakannan (and team) and his coach-cum-mentor, Mr. M. V. Rajasekhar, who has produced many champion athletes (who have represented the nation in the Olympics, Asiad, Commonwealth Games, etc.).

Other candidates in the news

In the 32nd Tamilnadu Inter District Junior Athletic Meet held at Madurai (Sep 1–3, '17), R. Pavithra bagged the first prize in the 10 km walk by clocking 1:01:35.

In the Tamilnadu State Senior Meet (24 Jun '17), A. Harikrishnan came 3rd (15:27) in the 5000 m run; in the Sandal City Mini Marathon Race (16 Jul '17), he finished 2nd (20:01) in the 6000 m run and got a cash award of Rs. 8,000; and in the Kanchipuram Half Marathon, he finished 4th (01:16:18) in the 21 km run.

In the 57th National Inter State Senior Athletics Championship held at Guntur,



Andhra Pradesh (15–18 Jul '17), Nithya came 4th in Discus Throw (41.41 m – her best), missing the third position by a whisker (just 2 cm!).

Y. Saranya participated in the Commonwealth Chess Championship held at New Delhi (Jul 2–10) and also participated in the National Challenger for Women at Mysuru (Jul 21–29). Through her good performance in the above tournaments, her rating could go north by 85 points. In the 7th Saveetha Open State Level Meet (Jul 16–17), she finished 7th out of 400 participants and got a trophy with cash award; in the 1st NITHM Fide Rating Open Chess Tournament, Hyderabad (Aug 3–8), she got a cash award of Rs. 10,000 in the below 2000 category; and in the SSN Trophy Team Tournament, she represented her college and finished 2nd and received a cash award of Rs. 6,000.

Greet our new stars

Effective from June '17, Team Energy Projekt has inducted a promising percussion artiste, Sriram, a disciple of renowned mridangist, Mr. T. V. Gopalakrishnan. An

undergraduate of Vivekananda College, Sriram has been awarded Youth Grade Artist of All India Radio after an audition conducted in their premises on 5 July 2017. This certification renders him eligible to play concerts in AIR. In the Spirit of Youth Series 2017 (Aug 1–10) by Madras Music Academy, Sriram has been adjudged the Best Instrumental Accompanist – Mridangam.

Mr. Vinoth identified, almost by accident, Sameer Bara, a passionate cricketer from the tribal district of Surajpur in Chhattisgarh. Being a medium-fast bowler (appreciated by Team India ace spinner Ravichandran Ashwin), he aims to break into the Ranji squad for his state and then to fall into the BCCI selectors' radar and ultimately be part of Team India! Cricket being the most pampered game in our country, we were initially reluctant to induct a cricketer, but given his passion to pursue cricket, rejecting job offers after graduating in B.E. (Computer Science), Team Energy Projekt has decided to support him initially for a few months and review his performance vis-à-vis his set goals for the period and take a call on whether to continue its funding.