

Sir,

I have the honour to present to you Shri Mudikondan C. Venkatarama Iyer, the recipient of the Akademi Award for vocal music of the Karnatic School.

Born on 15th October 1897 in a family of illustrious musicians, Shri Venkatarama Iyer was fortunate to have a number of veterans as his teachers, from whom he learnt vocal music since his childhood.

Shri Venkatarama Iyer is a specialist in *Ragam, Tanam, Neraval* and *Pallavi*. He is an expert both in theory and practice of Karnatic music, and strives to retain and demonstrate the true aspects of the traditional style. He has won acclaim from connoisseurs as an excellent performer.

Shri Venkatarama Iyer has received the honour of *Sangeetha Kalanidhi*. He is also an author of several books on music.

For his pre-eminence in music and for his life-long devotion and service to its cause, I pray, Sir, that you may be pleased to grant him recognition as Musician of the Year, in the field of vocal music of the Karnatic School, and award to him a shawl, a gold *Shrinkhal* and a *Sanad* in token of that recognition.

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