



Sarath in dual role in 'Aiyya'  
Cinesouth

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Reuters

Encouraged by their parents, the boys, all students of Classes 10 and 11, produced their first demo CD, which was widely circulated among anyone who would listen, mainly family and friends.

The director of "Karnataka", a Indian music NGO, noticed the talent of Girinandh and awarded him a scholarship after a competition in which 3,000 budding musicians from across India participated.

By this time, the band also grew, with 15-year-old Anirudh on the zanjira, Ramana on the mridangam and Karthik on violin.

"We thought we should have a name that should show how essential music is to life. We brainstormed and finally decided on Oxygen, essential to life. Our music is also very essential to us," Girinandh told IANS.

The director of Karnataka, K. N. Sasikiran, last year asked Girinandh if he wanted to do a solo album but his Class 12 examinations came in the way.

Having scored 92 percent, and written his engineering entrance, Girinandh said: "I thought that it was time to do something. I told him (Sasikiran) about our band and finally the CD was released in May."

Girinandh's father, businessman C. Vidyashankar, produced the album.

Asked what he wanted to do in life, the shy schoolboy said: "I want to be an engineer, maybe specialise in sound engineering> But, finally, I want to be a musician."

And like all schoolboys of that age, vowing commitments to boy things, he said: "I want to always stay with the band even if I get chances to go solo."