

THE  NEW

INDIAN EXPRESS

5th February, 2014

MAGIC

City to Witness Bullet-catching Act

It will be performed on February 10 as part of the unveiling of new projects of Academy of Magical Sciences

Express News Service

T'Puram: Award-winning magician Prince Sil will perform a thrilling bullet-catching act in the city on February 10 as part of the unveiling of new projects of Academy of Magical Sciences. The illusion involves the magician catching a bullet fired from a gun with his teeth. It is one of the most dangerous acts in magic. Sil has been performing it in public since 1977 with a variety of weapons, including rifles, muzzle-loading guns and revolvers.

According to the new project, the Academy plans to revive the age-old traditions of Indian magic, strengthen R&D activities and popularise the science behind the performing art, particularly among children.

Academy executive director magician Gopinath Muthukad said that they were planning Magic Planet, a uniquely-themed infotainment centre mainly for children, to learn the history of magic across the world and the 'magical' aspects of science, mathematics and literature

through fun and hands-on activities.

The project, expected to be completed within a year, will also have space for the fast-disappearing tribe of Indian street magicians and have an R&D centre to carry out research to revive magical tricks and illusions that were once the chief means of entertainment in towns and villages of India and confounded foreign visitors, he added.

"Our purpose is to show people, especially children, that this art has a very strong foundation in science. And very few people

realise that magic can be a powerful tool for social campaigning, for education, personality development and positive thinking," said Muthukad.

The Academy is also planning an international convention of magicians in Kerala later this year. The 'Magic Summit-2014' will be the largest gathering of its kind in India, bringing together some of the best-known global names in magic, including David Sousa, Norbert Ferre, Topas, Juliana Chen, Jeff Lee, Mike Chao and Do Ki-Moon.