

GM Srinath clinches title with a 27-move draw

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kolkata: GM Srinath Narayanan settled for quick draw against GM Shyam Sundar in just 27 moves in Sicilian Scheveningen opening in the ninth and final round to annex the title in the LIC 3rd Kolkata Open International Chess Tournament that concluded at the Newtown School on Tuesday. The meet was jointly organized by Dibyendu Barua Chess Academy and All Sports Foundation.

Srinath took home a purse of Rs 3 lakh, followed by GM Deepan Chakkravarthy (Rs 2 lakh) and GM Nigel Short (Rs 1.6 lakh).

GM Deep Sengupta's woes continued when he lost to Deepan. The latter shattered Deep's defences and rendered his King motionless at the centre of the board in English Opening. The win helped Deepan to fi-

nish with 7.5 points — same as Srinath — but the former was placed second in the final standings on the basis of better tie-break score.

On the second board, top-seed Short (7) drew with FM Erigaisi Arjun (7). Arjun kept pushing to gain advantage but Short did not budge in Reti Opening.

KOLKATA CHESS MEET

The draw helped Arjum to acquire his maiden GM norm. Short was placed third.

Priyanka Nutakki acquired her maiden Women International Master norm.

SELECTED RESULTS (FINAL RD)

GM Srinath Narayanan (7.5) drew GM Shyam Sundar (7); GM Nigel D Short (7) drew FM Erigaisi Arjun (7); GM Deepan Chakkravarthy (7.5) bt GM Deep Sengupta (6); GM Abhijeet Gupta (6.5) drew GM Vladi-

mir Burmakin (6.5); IM Harsha Bharathakoti (7) bt GM Sandipan Chanda (6); IM Nihal Sarin (6.5) drew IM Nguyen Van Huy (6.5); IM Raghunandan Kaumandur Srihari (6) lost to GM Adam Tukhaev (6.5); GM Karthikeyan Murali (6.5) bt IM Khusenkhojaev Muhammad (5.5); GM Farrukh Amonatov (6.5) bt GM Neeotpal Das (5.5); GM Ivan Rozum (6.5) bt IM Sayantan Das (5.5); IM Nitin (5.5) lost to GM Vishnu Prasanna (6.5); GM Lalith Babu (6) drew IM Ravi Teja (6); GM Valeriy Neverov (6.5) bt IM Tran Minh Trang (5.5); IM Rahul Srivatshav (5.5) lost to GM Ziaur Rahman (6.5); IM Rahul Sangma (5.5) lost to IM P Iniyan (6.5)

Final standings: **1)** GM Srinath Narayanan (7.5); **2)** GM Deepan Chakkravarthy (7.5). **3)** GM Short Nigel (7); **4)** GM Shyam Sundar (7); **5)** FM Erigaisi Arjun (7); **6)** IM Harsha Bharathakoti (7); **7)** GM Adam Tukhaev (6.5); **8)** GM Ivan Rozum Ivan (6.5); **9)** GM Vladimir Burmakin (6.5); **10)** GM Amonatov Farrukh (6.5)



Pradip Datta

Srinath Narayanan (left) with Dibyendu Barua and Surya Sekhar Ganguly after emerging champion in Kolkata Open International meet on Tuesday