

Srinath is sole leader

ASTAFF REPORTER

Calcutta: Grandmaster Srinath Narayanan became the sole leader at the end of penultimate round in the Kolkata Open International Grandmasters Chess tournament, here, at The Newtown School.

Srinath defeated overnight leader GM Deep Sengupta in 10 moves after the latter arrived 90 seconds later at the board and blundered a piece, rendering Srinath as the sole leader heading into the final round.

Top seed Nigel Short and GM Sandipan Chanda, who were the other leaders at the end of Round VII, made a draw in 34 moves. Sandipan's all attempts to attack and gain advantage was thwarted by the former world champion challenger and current candidate for Fide presidency.

On third board, GM Ivan Rozum of Russia made a tactical error which GM Shyam Sundar capitalised by taking the f6 pawn on move number 26 and he got another pawn in three more moves, which completely exposed his already weakened king.