Srinath beats Deep in 10 moves, grabs sole lead

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Kolkata: GM Srinath Narayanan emerged as the new sole leader at the end of the eighth and penultimate round of the LIC 3rd Kolkata Open International Chess Tournament at the Newtown School on Monday.

KOLKATA CHESS MEET

Srinath defeated local Grandmaster Deep Sengupta (6) in just 10 moves. Deep, who shared the lead with topseed Nigel Short and Srinath after six rounds, arrived 90 seconds late at the board and blundered a piece.

It allowed Srinath to blow him away and grab the sole lead heading into Tuesday’s final round as GM Short (6.5) and GM Sandipan Chanda decided to split a point after 34 moves. With seven points in his kitty, GM Srinath needs just a draw in the final round to clinch the title.

On third board, GM Ivan Rozum (3.5) of Russia made a tactical error which GM Shyam Sundar (6.5) capitalized on by taking the b6 pawn on move No. 26. He got another pawn after three more moves which completely exposed Rozum’s already weakened king. Shyam Sundar eventually won the game in 68 moves.

GM Deepan Chakkravarthy defeated GM Adam Tukhaev of Ukraine in just 33 moves arising out of Sicilian Defence Keres Attack.

SELECTED 8TH ROUND RESULTS

GM Srinath Narayanan (7) bt GM Deep Sengupta (6); GM Sandipan Chanda (6) drew GM Nigel Short (6); GM Shyam Sundar (6.5) bt GM Ivan Rozum (3.5); GM Adam Tukhaev (5.5) lost to GM Deepan Chakkravarthy (6.5); GM Vladimir Barmakin (6) drew IM Nihal Sarin (6); FM Ergaisi Arjunan (5.5) bt GM Lalith Babu (5.5); GM Laxman (5) lost to GM Abhijeet Gupta (6.5); IM Sayantan Das (5.5) drew GM Farrakh Aminov (5.5); GM Tran Tuan Minh (5) lost to IM RK Srihari (6); IM Ravi Teja (5.5) drew with GM Valeriy Neverov (5.5); GM Niaz Rahman (5.5) drew IM Rahul Sangma (5.5); Aradihya Garg (5) lost to IM Harsa Bharathakoti (6).