

SHAH MAAT CHESS COMMUNITY PRESENTS

# IITM BS CHESS CHRONICLES

@shahmaatiitm



## EVENTS IN JANUARY IN INDIA AND WORLD

BY HARSH VARDHAN

### Boris Savchenko wins the 2nd Indore GM.

The tournament was held from January 9th to 16th in Indore, Madhya Pradesh. GM Boris Savchenko won the event with 8.5 points out of 10, finishing 0.5 points ahead of 2nd place GM Alexei Fedorov.

### 1st Bangalore international Grandmaster tournament

Bangalore got to witness its first international GM tournament. The opening ceremony was held in the presence of the Chief Minister of Karnataka and the "Godfather of Indian chess" GM Vishy Anand. Held from 18th to 26th January in Sri Kanteerava indoor stadium, the tournament sets a new bar for Karnataka chess.

### Tata Steel: The thrilling encounter in Wijk aan Zee.

The 86th edition of the annual chess tournament was organized from 12th to 28th of January. The Master category fields exceptional talent like World champion Ding Liren, Women's champion Ju Wenjun, Candidates Vidit Gujrati, Praggnanandhaa R., Gukesh D., Ian Nepomniachtchi and many more strong players.

In the challengers section IM Divya Deshmukh, GM Harika, GM Leon Luke Mendonca were representing India.

The tournament was won by GM Wei Yi in Masters and by GM Leon Luke Mendonca in challengers.

# TRENDING IN IITM BS CHESS COMMUNITY

## MARGAZHI CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

The inter-house and inter-degree chess championship was organized by Shah Maat during Margazhi festival from 4th to 7th January.

**Winners:** The inter-house tournament was won by Nilgiri house (Soumyabrata Mahapatra, Rohit Raghavan, Shyam Kumar, Dweepr Modi and Ali Mafaz).

The DS v ES inter-degree tournament was won by the Data Science team (Vighnesh N, Md. Fazlur Rahman, Yajant, Shyam Kumar).

**Guests:** The community engagement part of the event was graced by GM Tejas Bakre and GM Ankit Rajpara who motivated the chess enthusiasts to contribute more to the chess community and to work harder on their skills.

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR IITM BS IN FEBRUARY

- Shah-Maat Classical tournament  
Date - TBD
- Shah-Maat 3+0 Blitz arena (1st All women's tournament)  
Date - Feb 18
- Friendly 3+0 Blitz arena (open category)  
Date - Feb 18



## THE KNIGHT DANCE

The world of chess was astonished after a game between GM Ian Nepomniachtchi and GM Daniel Dubov during the world Blitz championship. The game went as follows :-

1.Nf3Nf62.Nd4Nd53Nb3Nb64.Nc3Nc65.Ne4Ne56.Ng5Ng47.Nf3Nf68.Ng1Ng89.Nc5Nc410.Na4Na511.Nc3Nc612.Nb1Nb813.Nf31/2-½.

The chief arbiter decided that the game was a pre-arranged draw and penalized both the players by 0.5 points for bringing "disrepute" to the game of chess. It is interesting to note that Dubov lost the trophy by just 0.5 points at the end. The chess world seems divided on this game. 5 times world champion Vishy Anand stated that the game was "irresponsible" going as far as to say that the game was drawn in "ridiculous fashion."

As far as I am concerned the game did give us a meme fest and something to talk about for a long time. Tell us your opinion on it.

# KNOW YOUR CANDIDATE



GM R. Praggnanandhaa, the prodigy from India, secured his spot in candidates 2024 by securing the runner up position in FIDE Chess World Cup 2023. Pragg became a GM at the age of 12, being the 2nd youngest at the time to do so. He came into limelight after his performances against legends like Carlsen and Vishy. He defeated the current world champion Ding Liren in the Tata Steel masters 2024 while playing with black, making a statement about his chances for Candidates 2024. It is interesting to know that Pragg was motivated to play chess by his sister R. Vaishali who is the latest GM from India. Pragg and Vaishali are the 1st brother sister duo to become GMs.

R. Vaishali qualified for the candidates 2024 (women's category) by winning the strongest classical tournament of 2023, the FIDE Grand Swiss (women's). She achieved her final GM norm in December 2023. She is now the 3rd female player from India to achieve the GM title. She is also the latest recipient of the Arjun Award.

Fun fact - Both Pragg and Vaishali are trained by the recent Dronacharya award recipient GM RB Ramesh. IIT Madras BS chess community wishes Praggnanandhaa and Vaishali all the best for the candidates 2024.

## IN THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

The 1st world championship was held from January 11 to March 29 in the year of 1886. This marked a new beginning for chess as the formalized world championships developed a new sense of passion for the game.

Played between Wilhelm Steinitz and Johannes Zukertort, the matches were held in the United States of America. The first 5 games were played in New York City, next four in St. Louis and the final eleven in New Orleans.

Wilhelm Steinitz won the championship 10–5, winning his tenth game in the twentieth game of the tournament.



# SHAH MAAT SPECIAL

## STRATEGIC STAR AWARD

Shyam Kumar, a standout player in our Chess society, showcased an exceptional performance in various tournaments. In the Intra-House matches, he dominated with 23 wins out of 23, securing an impressive score of 93. His prowess continued in the Interhouse Blitz with 11 wins and 1 draw out of 12 matches, earning a score of 11.5. Additionally, Shyam triumphed in the Interdegree category, winning 7 out of 8 matches with a score of 14, all in blitz 3+0. This outstanding performance has rightfully earned him the prestigious Strategic Star Award, recognizing him as the player of the month. Congratulations, Shyam, on your well-deserved recognition, and we wish you continued success in your future chess endeavors!



## STRATEGIC NOVICE ACCOLADE



Juhi Parekh from Pichavaram House, a recent addition to our chess community, achieved an impressive feat by winning the puzzle race and engaging in an exhibition game with Grandmaster Ankit Rajpara. This commendable accomplishment has earned her the esteemed title of receiving the Strategic Novice Accolade, an award dedicated to recognizing emerging players of the month. We trust that Juhi's success serves as an inspiration, encouraging more female chess enthusiasts to step forward and showcase their exceptional skills on the board. Congratulations to Juhi for her outstanding performance!

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