



October 2008 एनआईआईटी NIIT In The News

























The Hindu Business line

New Delhi, October 22, 2008

NIIT net rises 41% in Q2

'Outlook for training sector positive; shift towards specialisation'

Our Bureau

New Delhi, Oct. 21
Talent development and IT training company NITT Ltd on Tuesday posted 41 per cent rise in its consolidated net profit for the quarter ended September 30, 2008, at Rs 29.7 crore, buoyed by growth in the individual learning solutions business, and the overall surge in enrolments.

The company's global system-wide revenue increased 17 per cent to Rs 468 crore against Rs 398.6 crore in the year-ago period.

The company said that despite the fact that turmoil in the global markets was infusing volatility in the corporate spending, the overall outlook in the training sector remained positive.

"The demand for specialised skills will go up. We see a shift from 'generalisation' to 'specialisation' as there would be a shortage of skills in areas such as business intelligence, business analytics, network management and security, and



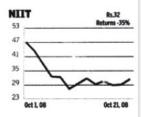
Steady growth: (From left) Mr P. Rajendran, COO, NIIT; Mr Rajendra S. Pawar, Chairman; and Mr Vijay K. Thadani, CEO; at a press conference in the Capital on Tuesday.- Kamal Narang

infrastructure management," NIIT CEO, Mr Vijay K. Thadani, said.

OPERATING MARGINS

He said that NIIT is trying to improve operating margins beyond 13 per cent through cost rationalisation and capacity consolidation. "We will improve it (core margins). The capacity to improve is 100-150 basis points," he added.

During the quarter, the net revenue surged 15 per cent to Rs 309.5 crore compared with Rs 270. 2 crore in the same period previous year. Commenting on the company's performance across various segments, NIIT Chairman Mr Rajendra S Pawar said that the individual learning solutions space recorded a 26 per cent year on year growth in revenue, while the overall enrolments were up 22 per cent



led by the engineers segment (up 25 per cent). Finance & Management Training recorded 37 per cent growth in net revenue; and the school learning solutions recorded growth of 32 per cent in net revenue.

"In corporate learning solutions segment, we are trying to reduce dependence on customs project, and focus on learning products and training outsourcing" Mr Thadani pointed out

With fresh order intake during the quarter at \$39.4 million, the pending order book as on September 30 stood at \$93.35 million, 65 per cent of which is executable over the next one year.

Times of India

New Delhi, October 13, 2008

INDUSTRY READY

NIIT has announced the availability of its first batch of GNIITians with Microsoft certification to meet industry requirements. These students, 170 in number, were felicitated by Lutz Ziob, worldwide



head, Microsoft Learning during his recent India visit. These students are skilled in the latest developer and database platforms comprising of technologies like visual studio, NET and SQL

server, which makes them a valuable resource for the industry. As part of this programme, the GNIIT students are also enabled to appear for relevant Microsoft certification examinations.

Business Standard

Hyderabad, October 14, 2008

NComputing to deploy solutions at 5,000 schools in Andhra

BS REPORTER Hyderabad, 13 October

NComputing Inc, a USbased provider of low-cost shared computing technology, has won the bid to provide 50,000 seats for computer learning in 5,000 secondary schools across Andhra Pradesh.

The contract, valued at Rs 400 crore, is part of the ICT school learning programme initiated by the central government, which is expected to benefit 10 million students across the country and 1.8 million students in Andhra.

Delhi-based IT education and training company NIIT Limited will be the largest contractor and will be responsible for managing 2,005 of these schools in eight districts.

The Rs 173-crore order bagged by NIIT includes installing desktop PCs and NComputing's low-cost shared computer systems, training the faculty and managing the learning labs for five years on a build, operate and transfer (BOT) model. The remaining schools will be operated by three other partners including

Educomm. The implementation of the project will be completed by this month end.

Announcing this here on Monday, Stephen A Dukker, chairman and chief executive officer of NComputing Inc, said India would become a bigger market than the US for NComputing by 2010 given the huge population here. "The wireless version of our technology is in an advanced stage of development. The product will be available in the second half of 2009," he said.

The privately-held company had sold a million pieces of its technology in over 90 countries in the last 20 months, with 70 per cent installations being in the education sector. In the US, it has installed 300,000 seats in 4,000 schools in 50 states. Since 2007, it has created 100,000 seats for education, government and business establishments across India.

NComputing's software creates virtual independent desktops inside a Windows or Linux PC, enabling up to 30 simultaneous users to run their own applications for Rs 4,000 per seat.



Stephen A Dukker (left), chairman and CEO of NComputing, and L Balasubramanian, president (school learning solutions), NIIT, at a press conference in Hyderabad on Monday

K Sudheer

NIIT to bid for more e-learning schemes

Hyderabad: NIIT Limited is planning to participate in the bidding process for implementing computer education schemes at 20,000 schools, tenders for which are yet to be called for by six state governments, NIIT president (school learning solutions), L Balasubramanian, said. "We are looking at bagging at least 30 per cent of these schools, in-

cluding in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh," he said, while declining to spell out the contract sizes. "The typical project size will be Rs 8.5 lakh per school," he said.

NIIT has been partnering the Andhra Pradesh government for the last six years bringing the benefit of ICT to over 5.4 million students.

Mid Day New Delhi, October 16, 2008

ber 16, 2008 · Mid Day, Delhi · NEWS 5

NIIT launches education solutions for city schools

IT education provider NIIT on Wednesday launched new educational products and solutions for the "schools of tomorrow" under the aegis of what the company calls NIIT eGURU.

The eGURU range of solutions for schools comprise of 'Interactive Classrooms' for teachers, 'Math lab' and 'IT wizard' for students, and 'Quick school', the company said in a statement.

The eGURU portfolio uses technology from Intel and software platform from Microsoft and has been designed around the guidelines of the National Curriculum Framework-2005.

"NIIT has strengthened its portfolio with the launch of NIIT eGURU solution, a holistic education package that Interactive Classroom solution addresses the needs of all key stakeholders within the education realm comprising students, teachers, school management and parents," NIIT CEO Vijay K Thadani said.



While, is based on Intel technologies and architecture, NIIT eGuru IT Wizard curriculum is based on Microsoft's Windows Vista and Office 2007 suite, it

-Agencies

Hindustan Chandigarh, October 14, 200



एनआईआईटी का निट ई-गुरु

एनआईआईटी (निट) ने निट ई-गुरु कार्यक्रम के तहत भविष्य के स्कूलों के लिए प्रोडक्ट्स एवं सोल्यूशंस का बाकायदा एक स्पेक्ट्रम लॉन्च करने की घोषणा की। निट ई-गुरु व्यवस्था वाले स्कूलों में टीचर्स के लिए इंटरेक्टिव क्लासरूम्स, तेज-तर्रार छात्रों के लिए मैथ्स लैब्स और क्विक स्कूल का इंतजाम होगा। इस कार्यक्रम का तकनीकी आधार इंटेल द्वारा तैयार किया गया है। नेशनल करिकुलम फ्रेमवर्क-2005 के दिशा-निर्देशों के तहत कार्यक्रम का कायाकल्प किया गया है।

Hindu Business Line

Hydrabad, October 16, 2008

NIIT package for schools

Our Bureau

New Delhi, Oct 15 NIIT has announced the launch of NIIT eGURU' solution, a package targeted at schools.

The products and solutions suite includes 'Interactive Classrooms' for teachers, 'Math Lab' and 'IT Wizard' for students and 'Quick School', an education resource planning solution for school management.

NIIT eGURU portfolio leverages technology from Intel and software platform from Microsoft and has been designed around the guidelines of the National Curriculum Framework 2005.

The package is priced between Rs 40 and Rs 250 per student per month, based on the components the school opts for.

"We have strengthened our school portfolio with this launch," Mr Vijay K Thadani, CEO of NIIT Ltd, said at a conference here.

Times of India Jaipur, October 08, 2008

Don't just code, specialise: NIIT

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: There's hope yet for IT job aspirants. The CEO of one of the country's largest IT trainers, NIIT, believes the demand for skilled manpower in India will continue to grow, despite the global economic slowdown and its adverse impact on the IT industry. Speaking to The Times of India, NIIT CEO Vijay Thadani said that India continues to be an attractive IT destination but the industry's manpower requirements might change, over a period of time.

Citing the findings of a research report, Thadani said that globally, over 7 million IT jobs are likely to be created by 2011, of which over 4 million jobs would be software-related. "There is a demand for qualified people in areas like business analytics, infrastructure management, animation, gaming, business in-telligence and KPO," he said. However, he added, the era of the "general purpose software



NIIT CEO Vijay Thadani

engineer" is over. "One cannot hope to survive the current climate by merely being proficient in coding. Definite competency in specific technologies is a must," he said.

Thadani said he was confident that the IT industry will recover soon from this "temporary aberration", adding that overall growth would not happen without large-scale addition of people. "Companies are definitely more careful while hiring now. But there is a clear signal for freshers to gain specialisation in emerging technologies," he said.

The Economic Times

Kolkata, September 24, 2008

IFBI to launch personal finance course for the common man

Nandini Sivakumar

FTER two years of imparting training to entry-level people in the banking, finance and insurance sectors, the Institute of Finance, Banking and Insurance (IFBI), a joint venture of NIIT and ICICI Bank, now plans to introduce a financial education course for the common people.

"This personal finance programme is another round of offering from IFBI. We felt it was necessary since too few people can manage their finances in a scientific manner," NIIT finance and management training solutions president Smarajit Dey told ET.

People take most financial decisions based on what they read and hear and from friends. However, what works for one person may not necessarily work for another. "Here, people will learn to manage their finances effectively and optimally," Mr Dey said.

The IFBI Swift Personal Finance programme will offer education in the personal finance domain to make individuals more aware with the ability to understand and take informed decisions about their wealth. "Today, youngsters have a propensity to save. Unlike courses conducted by other organisations, ours is impartial and independent," IFBI president S Venkatesh said. "While most information comes from a company perspective, information doled out as part of this initiative will be from a usage/personal perspective."

The course will help in making judicious choice in the fields of investments, insurance, savings, taxation, loans and real estate. The "usage-oriented" financial awareness training will have theme-based sessions, which would be a mix of activities, real life examples and case studies. It will be conducted by the IFBI's regular faculty, which includes experienced industry hands.

The programme will provide answers on how to invest in the stock market safely, whether to invest in shares or mutual funds and what the catch is in a 0% EMI offer, among others. Targeted at 20-35-year-olds, but open to other age-groups as well, the course will be conducted at two levels of 20-hour duration each. Students have the flexibility of opting for weekend classes or evening classes during weekdays.

Mr Dey said IFBI was sure that the current global financial mess will not dim the attractiveness of BFSI sector. Quoting from a 2006 survey that said the sector in India will have nearly 1.5 million people by 2010-11, Mr Dey added the impact of the Lehman collapse and the resultant financial turmoil will only have an impact in the short term.

The institute has trained 6,500 people through its retail operations across 22 centres in the country and about 4,000 under its corporate retraining programme and is looking at a three-fold growth in the next three to four years.



Hindustan Times

Mumbai, September 24, 2008

TOEIC test on Sept 28

NIIT will conduct a test of English for International Communication (TOEIC) on September 28, across Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi NCR, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai and Pune. TOEIC test is a global standard for communicative English ability in the international workplace and is part of Educational Testing Service (ETS) suite of products. Aimed at helping professionals at workplace and college students to communicate in the ever shrinking global village, the TOEIC test is a joint initiative of NIIT and ETS to enhance employability and provide advantage to Indian organizations in the global market place.

> Amar Ujala Lucknow, September, 2008

> > पहल

निट कराएगा टोफल की तैयारी

विदेशी युनिवर्सिटी में

टोफल स्कोर जरुरी

दारिवले के लिए

नोएडा। यदि आप विदेशी यूनिवर्सिटी में पढ़ाई करना चाहते हैं तो उसके लिए आपको अंगरेजी की परीक्षा विदेशी भाषा

के तौर पास करनी होगी। यह परीक्षा टेस्ट ऑफ इंग्लिश एज के फॉरन लैंग्वेज (टोफल) नाम से ली जाती है। इस परीक्षा में पास किए बिना विदेशी यूनिवर्सिटी में पढ़ाई का आपका सपना पूरा नहीं हो सकता। ऐसे छात्रों के लिए प्रसिद्ध कंप्यूटर शिक्षण संस्थान एनआईआईटी जल्द ही

ट्रेनिंग की व्यवस्था करेगा। लगभग 180 देशों के विश्वविद्यालयों में दाखिले के लिए इस परीक्षा का पास करना जरूरी होता है। एनआईआईटी की इस ट्रेनिंग प्रोग्राम में छात्रों को इंग्लिश लैंग्वेज की स्किल इम्प्रूव करना और टोफल में अधिकतम स्कोर करने की ट्रेनिंग दी जाएगी। टोफल

एजूकेशन टेस्टिंग सर्विस (ईटीएस) का ट्रेडमार्क है। ऑस्ट्रेलिया, न्युजीलैंड, कनाडा, अमेरिका समेत दुनिया भर

> के 180 देशों के 6000 से ज्यादा विश्वविद्यालय और कॉलेज में एडिमिशन के लिए टोफल स्कोर को प्राथमिकता दी जाती है।

> साढ़े चार घंटे की इस परीक्षा को चार हिस्सों में बांटा गया है। जिसमें रीडिंग, लिसनिंग, स्पिकिंग और राइटिंग शामिल है।

व्यक्तिगत विषय पर निबंध लिखना, चार से पांच पैसेज पर आधारित सवालों के जवाब, रिक्त स्थान भरना आदि उस परीक्षा में शामिल होता है। इस परीक्षा की तैयारी में छात्रों के लिए लैक्चर, फिल्म दिखाना, सेमिनार, रीडिंग, ऑनलाइन रिसर्च और प्रोफेशनल्स के साथ बातचीत कराई जाती है।

Hindustan Times

Mumbai, October 01, 2008

NIIT announces communication test

NIIT, a leading global talent development corporation administered its first Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC) Test on Sunday across Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi NCR, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai and Pune. TOEIC® test is offered in about 90 countries around the world with more than 9000 companies, government and public offices, accepting the test as an industry benchmark for assessment of a candidate's English proficiency for international communication. "Initially the TOEIC test will be offered across 10 centers in eight major cities, we plan to soon roll it out across 20 cities in the next three months," says Ashish Basu, president, New Business Incubation, NIIT Ltd.

Hindustan Business Line

Hydrabad, September 25, 2008

NIIT training schools

Bangalore, Sept 24

oftware training firm NIIT, which had announced a Sjoint venture with BPO firm Genpact for a training programme for aspiring BPO employees in June, launched three training schools in Gurgaon, Noida and Bangalore simultaneously. "There is an increased demand for skilled people in non-voice-based BPOs managing back offices for finance and accounting, supply chain, insurance and banking companies," said Mr Ashish Basu, President, New Business Incubation, NIIT Ltd. The four-month programme at the NIIT Institute of Process Excellence offers training in areas such as business processes, language skills and business communication, finance, accounting and supply chain. The institute is currently targeting 300 students in the three centres in the next two-three months, but expects to train at least 100,000 people in the next three years, Mr Basu said. Course fee for the four-month programme is Rs 19,000 per student. The institute is planning to set up similar centres in China and The Philippines before the end of the year, Mr Basu said. According to Nasscom estimates, the Indian BPO industry currently provides direct employment to over seven lakh people and is projected to generate an additional 1.4 million jobs by 2010. - Our Bureau

Hitavada

Nagpur, October 25, 2008

IFBI launches personal finance programme

■ Business Bureau

TWO years after conducting courses for entry-level manpower in banking, finance and insurance sector, Institute of Banking, Finance and Insurance (IBFI), a joint venture between NIIT and ICICI Bank, is set to introduce a financial education course for the layman, informs a press release.

"This personal finance programme is another round of offering from IFBI. We felt it was necessary since few people manage their finances in a scientific manner," NIITs finance and management training solutions President Dr Smarajit Dey said in a press conference. Individuals

take most financial decisions based on what they read and hear. However, what works for one person may not necessarily work for another. "Here, people will learn to manage their finances effectively and optimally," Dey added. The IFBI Swift Personal Finance programme will offer education in the personal finance domain to make individuals understand and take informed decisions about their wealth.

IFBI has trained 6500 people through its retail operations across 22 centres in the country and about 4000 under its corporate retraining programme and is looking at a three-fold growth in the next three to four years, stated the release further.

The Times of India Kolkata, October 21, 2008

Anand goes two up

Black 'Death' Again For Kramnik As Indian GM Wins In 35 Moves

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Viswanathan Anand took a major step towards winning the ultimate World chess crown when he inflicted a shattering 35-move defeat on Vladimir Kramnik in the fifth game in Bonn on Monday.

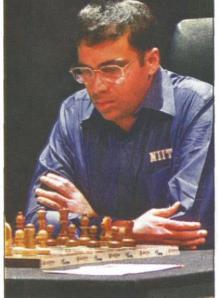
This was Anand's second consecutive win with black pieces and this could drive Kramnik to a desperate situation in the 12-game series as the Indian now leads 3.5-1.5 with seven more games to be played. Kramnik may



have to throw everything into the next couple of games to come out of the Anand spell.

Game 5 was a replay of Game 3 till move 15. If Anand was confi-dent enough to repeat the Slav Defence with black, Kramnik too was equal to the task, offering the Meran variation, the opening that cost him a full point in

The players almost blitzed the first 15 moves and Kramnik must have been encouraged by the fact that post-game analysis after Anand's victory in the third game suggested that white was in fact better in the middle game.



Anand: A big step towards winning the big one

However, Anand came up with an improvement by interchanging his move order. His 15th move with the rook taking control of the King-knight file was in fact executed one move later in Game 3. No wonder, Kramnik spent considerable time looking at the board before changing his 16th move from his previous white game.

Kramnik went into deep thought as Anand pushed his pawn on the Kingside. Like in the third game, Kramnik fell behind on the clock and the difference after move 18 was almost 45 minutes.

Anand's rooks looked threatening but Kramnik simplified the po-sition on move 23 by exchanging a rook. After white's 24th move. Anand had one hour and 10 minutes left to Kramnik's 26 minutes.

As Anand took control of the Queen-bishop file after the exchange of the rook, Kramnik first pushed his pawn and then went for a wild sacrifice of his knight for a pawn on move 29.

Anand quickly parried away all the threats, simplified the position, gave back the piece and promoted his pawn to get a Queen by move

Game 6 with Anand having white will be played on Tuesday.

Amar Ujala New Delhi, October 31, 2008

इस परिणाम ने यह भ्रम तोड़ दिया कि क्रैमनिक एक महान खिलाड़ी हैं

आनंद की बराबरी बेहद मुश्किलः कास्पारीव



नर्ड दिल्ली। रूस के पूर्व वर्ल्ड शतरंज थी। उन्होंने कहा, 'आनंद ने इस चैंपियन गैरी कास्पारोव ने लगातार दूसरी बार वर्ल्ड चैंपियनशिप खिताब जीतने पर विश्वनाथन आनंद की जमकर प्रशंसा की। कास्पारोव ने कहा कि युवा पीढ़ी के लिए विश्वनाथन आनंद को पीछे छोड़ना आसान काम नहीं होगा। बकौल कास्पारोव, 'यह शर्तरंज और आनंद के लिए एक अच्छा परिणाम है। किसी भी तरह से आनंद इस जीत के परी तरह हकदार थे और मैं उनकी इस जीत से बहत खश हं। यवा पीढ़ी के लिए आनंद को पीछे छोडना आसान नहीं होगा।' साथ ही कास्पारोव ने कहा कि इस पुरी चैंपियनशिप में आनंद बहुत निरंतरता के साथ खेले जबकि रूसी ग्रैंडमास्टर क्रैमनिक अपनी पुरी शक्ति के साथ नहीं खेले और उन्हें कुछ और ज्यादा मेहनत करनी चाहिए

चैंपियनशिप में शानदार खेल दिखाया। अगर 10वें गेम में उनकी हार को अलग कर दिया जाए तो वह निरंतरता के साथ खेले। इस परिणाम ने इस भ्रम को तोड दिया कि क्रैमनिक एक महान खिलाड़ी हैं।' दोनों खिलाडियों के प्रदर्शन पर कास्पारोव ने कहा कि आनंद अपने विपक्षी से भिड़ने के लिए परी तरह तैयार थे जबकि क्रैमनिक कछ ज्यादा ही डिफेंसिव थे। कास्पारोव ने कहा. 'आनंद की तैयारी क्रैमनिक से अच्छी थी। इस चैंपियनशिप से मझे 2000 लंदन में क्रैमनिक के साथ हुए मुकाबले की याद आ गई जहां क्रैमनिक की तैयारी मुझसे बेहतर थी। इस मैच में क्रैमनिक ने सफेद मोहरों से कड़ी चुनौती की उम्मीद नहीं की थी और इससे आनंद को फायदा मिला।'

लंबे समय से आनंद का लगातार अच्छा प्रदर्शन और उनका सफल कैरियर इस चनौतीपर्ण खेल की और उनकी कठिन मेहनत के साथ उनकी प्रतिबद्धता को दर्शाता है'। - राष्ट्रपति, प्रतिभा पाटिल

'एक बार फिर यह रिवताब जीतकर विश्वनाथन आनंद ने देश का नाम

रोशन किया है'

- लोकसभा स्पीकर, सोमनाथ चटर्जी

आनंद का विश्व चैपियन बनना गौरत की बात है। आनंद की खास बात यह है कि वह बेहद विनम्र और सज्जन हैं और यह भारतीय संस्कृति से परी तरह मेल खाता है।

- खेल मंत्री, एमएस गिल

Deccan Heralda

Banglore, October 30, 2008

CHESS / Indian master draws 11th game against Kramnik to retain the world title

Anand, a Bonn winner

30NN, IANS: The sword of Damocles that hung over Vladimir Kramnik's head finally fell as Viswanathan Anand grabbed a draw in the 11th game even as the Russian challenger tried his level best to create imbalances and make something of it and prolong his stay in the title-clash. The draw in the 11th game gave Anand a winning 6.4-4.5 lead that enabled him to retain his world title.

The win by a huge margin will also carry Anand to the top of the World Rankings when they are released next.

It also set to rest all talk that Anand was off-form on account of his poor display at the Grand Slam Cup in Bilbao. That result now clearly comes out as something Anand had virtually planned for and used as a match-situation experience.

The latest win also gave Anand the World Chess title in three formats — a 128-player championship format in 2000 followed by a closed tournament in Linares-Morelia last year and now in match-play against Kramnik. It also ended speculation over Anand's ability at the highest level in matchplay.

Anand started with white pieces with the strong possibility of this being the last game of the match, as the Indian needed only a draw.

dian needed only a draw.

Kramnik, many pointed out, had never beaten Anand with black pieces. However, the Russian had beaten Anand with black in rapid games and it has often been

ANAND ELATED

'I just did it'

BONN, PTI: "I just did it," was the cryptic reaction from world chess champion Vishwanathan Anand soon after retaining the title.

"He simply said I just did it," Anand's wife Aruna quoted her husband as saying.

Asked how they planned to celebration the achievement, Aruna said "by having a nice dinner."

the Russian's style not to stretch with black and concentrate on trying for wins with white. Despite needing only a draw, Anand started with a lot of pressure, having lost the previous game.

Anand opened with 1.e4 with the hope of steering towards a drawish position. Kramnik chose 1...c5 and then after 2.Nf3 d6 Anand avoided the comparatively drawish 3.Bb5+ and went for an Open Sicilian.

Then Kramnik needing to create unstable positions and now allowing drawish positions played what is an unusual move for him the 5...a6, in the Najdorf Variation. Kramnik has rarely played this and usually goes for Sveshnikov and that may have led to a quick draw.

Kramnik kept going for wild positions and staying away from draw-like positions. To that end he managed that for quite sometime. Into the middle game there were a lot of exchanges and Anand played perfectly and made no mistakes despite Kramnik trying to steer the game into the unknown.

Anand played 13.Qe3 which cleared the d-file and the fl-a6 diagonal while giving the queen two beautiful diagonals. That had Kramnik going into deep thought for nearly half an hour.

Thereafter, despite creating enough complications, Kramnik was unable to break through Anand's defence. The Indian played perfectly and did not allow the tension to get through to him. He handled the situation calmly and managed to wade through the maze that Kramnik tried to create and force confusion in his attempt to win and stay alive in the match.

The must-win situation may have led to the wild tactics that Kramnik adopted right from the start as he evaded all drawish lines and then his attempts even led to a situation where he may have lost. Ultimately with no possibility of finding that improbable win, Kramnik accepted the inevitable and took a draw that Anand accepted. The handshake ended a great match for Anand, who is now the undisputed World champion.

Anand had already won the World Blitz and World Rapid titles also in the past, besides the World classical title in three different formats



India's Vishwanathan Anand poses with the Chess World Championship trophy in the Art and Exhibition Hall, Bonn, on Wednesday. Anand beat Russia's Kramnik.

TOP 10 MILESTONES

2008: World Championship title

2008: 13th Rapid World Chess, Mainz

2008: Morelia-Linares

2007: World Chess Championship, Mexico City

2007: World Rapid Championship, Mainz

2007: Leon

2007: Morelia-Linares Super Grandmaster Tournament

2006: Mikhail Tal Memorial Blitz

2006: World Rapid Champ's, Mainz Classic,

2006: Amber Blindfold & Rapid Tournament

'A great job done, my son'

CHENNAI, PTI: "A great job done, my son," exulted Vishwanathan, the proud ther of Anand. He said the family had been tense for the last few days and the result came as a great relief.

"It was a lone battle Anand had fought. Today, he has the entire nation behind him," his father added. Meanwhile, Leader of the Opposi-

Meanwhile, Leader of the Opposition LK Adivani congratulated Viswanathan Anand for retaining the World Chess Championship.

"Viswanathan Anand has made the country proud once again by winning the world championship. I congratulate him on this achievement," Advani said. "Anand is an icon of the country and nothing less than the excellence and talent of the young generation personified," he said. Rajendra S Pawar, Chairman NIIT, congratulated him. Pawar said: "We congratulate Anand on becoming the undisputed World Champion. Anand has displayed a grand strategy in 2008 by choosing the games he wanted to win, foregoing an important tournament like Bilbao to win the ultimate match with Kramnik." NIIT is the sponsor of Anand for the last 10 years.

Daily News & Analysis
Mumbai, October 28, 2008

'Innovate or perish' is new quality education mantra

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bangalore: Innovation is the key to development and a better future. It is essential in all walks of life, especially education, said R Natarajan, former chairman of the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE).

Speaking at the sixth national summit on quality in education conducted by the Confederation of Indian Industry Institute of Quality on Friday, he said: "Innovate or perish should be the motto."

Natarajan also pointed out that peer pressure forces students to seek immediate employment, forcing research and teaching to take a back

seat. Stressing on the new role of teachers, he said they are no longer the sage on stage, but the guide by your side.

He added that institutions need autonomy and finance. "What the industry requires is not how much knowledge the student has gathered, rather what the student can do with the knowledge gathered.

The impetus in on output, not input," Natarajan emphasized.

K N Shenoy, chairman, CII Institute of Quality Education, said: "Administrators of education have great responsibilities owing to changes in aspirations and speed of life." He added that successful institutions should share ideas to enable India to achieve its dream



Former AICTE chairman R Natarajan lights the inaugural lamp at a national summit on education on Friday. CII Institute of Quality Education chairman K N Shenoy looks on

of becoming a developed country in the next decade.

NIIT CEO Vijay Thadani said only committed persons should be recruited as teachers, not those who enter the profession as a last resort. "The industry is haunted by acute shortage of skilled persons. There are 10 million jobs vacant in the service sector although 41 million have registered with employment exchanges. Over 300 million are underemployed and productivity too is affected," said Thadani.

Former director general of CII, N Srinivasan, highlighted the need to bring out the talents in the younger generation by instilling a competitive spirit in them to face the challenges of modern world.

Govt, pvt colleges will join hands

Bangalore: Commissioner of collegiate education N Nagambika Devi on Friday said government and private degree colleges may soon be involved in a partnership.

Speaking to reporters at the sidelines of a seminar on challenges before degree colleges, Nagambika said she visited colleges in Bangalore, Mysore and Dharwad to discuss the matter. "Such a partnership can facilitate exchange of faculty and resources. It will also benefit rural students. A final decision is to be taken," she said.

A 'teachers' adalat' will be held in the city on October 20 to address various issues related to teachers. She said computer literacy and certificate programmes will be introduced for all students.

N Jayashankaran, director general of Bharathidasan Institute of Management, said enrolment in higher education is only 10% even 60 years after Independence. "Colleges must take the initiative," he added.

Jayashankaran said institutes should go beyond the curriculum to attract more students and that there is a need for good teachers. He said teachers' pay package must be improved. TNN

Daily News & Analysis Mumbai, October 31, 2008



Training in niche IT skills offers a big opportun

Technology firms are seeking (MCTS) certification programme is now pre-trained staff to ensure better manpower utilisation

Amit Tripathi. Mumbai

As information technology companies go fast on lay-offs and slow on recruitment, one; area that is witnessing huge traction is training of individuals for IT skills, especially in niche technology.

To address the problem, IT firms are preferring IT graduates whose skill sets are diverse and who are well-trained in certain technology areas at the time of joining.

This has opened up a huge opportunity for companies that provide training, especially in niche technology.

'This demand is largely driven by the IT firms' aim at reducing people who are being used as standby," said Jitendra Nair, CEO, Karrox Technologies, a Mumbai-based IT and management training firm.

Some niche technologies that IT firms want aspirants to have in their bio-data are Tivoli, WebSphere, Lotus Notes (technologies for collaboration from US IT major IBM), SAP Certification, etc. Since telecom is a booming sector globally, technologies in the mobile space too are in huge demand, says Nair. ERP training is another niche area that has grown 30% annually.

Karrox has redesigned some of its curriculum in the last four months to meet the changed demand scenario. "We now recommend packaged training programmes that include diverse technology specialisations, said Nair. For instance, the earlier Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist

coupled with Oracle DB (a prominent database technology).

The global economic slowdown has made it crucial for companies to look for ways to better utilise their "bench" strength, or that part of the working population that draws salary without actually taking part in specific projects.

Benefits showing

The second-quarter results of IT companies show the benefits of better utilisation of manpower. Most firms have registered a significant improvement in utilisation

Industry observers say opting for nicheskilled people serves the twin purpose of enabling quick deployment of people on projects and also better utilisation of people.

The second-quarter results of IT companies shows the benefits of better utilisation of manpower. Most firms have registered a significant improvement in utilisation.

Wipro has increased its utilisation from 74.4% in first quarter of FY 2008 to 77% in the second quarter. Infosys increased its utilisation from 72.4% to 73.7%, TCS 78.3% to 81.1% and Satyam 75% to 76.6% between the first and second quarters this fiscal.

Suresh Senapaty, chief financial officer of Wipro, said, "Our continued emphasis on driving utilisation through an integrated delivery model resulted in utilisation moving up by 240 basis points." **Turn to Page 24**

Training in niche IT skills



These strong gains on operational front hélped us improve our margins in the IT services business.

The focus on improving utilisation has generated demand for people who can be put on projects right from day

one, says analysts. This also enables firms to cut their internal training budgets, especially those on induction and technology orientation training.

NIIT Ltd, India's largest IT training firm, says its corporate training segment has grown roughly 10% in the last year while the IT training and finance & management training segment has grown at about 30% and 120%, respectively. Karrox has seen a growth rate of 91% in its retail training segment, while the corporate training segment has taken a hit of about 25%

Karrox is scouting for innovative ways of delivering course content. "We have been enabling our distance education business by VSAT connectivity through which students in other locations can access content at the designated time and place. We are now talking to telecom firms to deliver our content over the Internet. Another area we are evaluating is the medium of IPTV to deliver content," added Nair.

The Times of India

Mumbai, October 31, 2008

TIMES SPORT

THE TIMES OF INDIA, MUMBAI FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2008

The king, fair & square

Viswanathan Anand Clinches It With Draw In Game 11 After 24 Moves

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: A brilliant move to shift his opening back to the King-pawn gave Viswanathan Anand the much-needed breakthrough. With his 24-move draw in the 11th game in the World Chess Championship match against Vladimir Kramnik in Bonn on Wednesday, Anand sealed his position as the undisputed champion. Anand won the 12-game match 6,5-4.5.

Anand took out his trusted

Anand took out his trusted opening move at the right time. The Indian opened with the Kingpawn after shielding it for his five white games in the current series. Kramnik avoided the Petroff and went for the Sicilian in an effort to get a decision in the game which was so crucial for him to stay alive in the match. Kramnik employed the Najdorf variation, which he has not played at top level chess for a long time.

for a long time.

It may be recalled that Anand had found success against the Najdorf of Kasparov in New York (1995) and on that day the famous Argentinian Grandmaster

Anand had

been tense,

says wife

(Miguel Najdorf) was present at the World Trade Centre to comment on Anand's victory over Kasparov.

After Kramnik's ninth move, shifting his Queen to the centre of the board, Anand thought for more than 10 minutes for his 10th move. Anand chose to castle on the Queenside and prepared his pieces for a Kingside offensive. One of the interesting features of the unusual opening was that it was slowly executed and by the time both the players completed the first 15 moves, they had used up an hour each on their clock.

Then in a tactical shot, Anand broke open the King-file and combined his pieces effectively. Kramnik was fighting with his back to the wall as he had a poor pawn structure and his King was exposed to the attack from the white pieces. When Anand forced the exchange of Queens on move 23, Kramnik realised that he had nothing more than a draw in the position. After 24 moves, Anand had 36 minutes left to Kramnik's 27 for the remaining 16 moves.

Chennai: "A great job done, my son," exulted the proud father of Viswanathan Anand on Wednesday. Viswanathan said the family had been tense for the last few days and the result was a great relief. "It was a lone battle Anand fought. Today, he has the entire nation behind him," he said.



OUICK MOVES

Anand unbeaten: Anand won games 3, 5, 6. Kramnik won Game 10.

Winner's purse (loser's as well): 0.75m euro (total 1.5m euro) — approximately Rs 5 crore) for each.

One-sided: This was one of the most one-sided contests

in recent World chess championship history.

What this victory means to Anand: It will take him back to where he was before his dismal performance in Bilibao. His rating will go up considerably and close to 2800 again. Very soon, he will be No. 1 again.

QUOTE: "On paper Anand may be world champion. B from my point of view, ther is a difference in significan between a title won in a

match, and in a tournamer

- Kramnik in 2007

UNQUOTE: Bonn victory was the best reply Anand could give to his opponent for his caustic remarks.

Anand's wife Aruna, who is in Bonn where Anand won the competition, told TV channels that the victory "happened so suddenly that he was taken aback".

Asked when she and her husband would return to India, she said, "We'll think about it calmly. We will be in India possibly in another

two to three weeks". Aruna said Anand had been tense for the last few days. Asked what is Anand's target after having won in all the formats of the game, Aruna said: "It's up to him but henceforth no finger will be pointed at him."

His wife further added, "We have been working on this since December. It's a total team effort. The Kramnik camp was staying at the same hotel since December, but we didn't talk to each other."

didn't talk to each other."
When asked how will
they celebrate this stupendous success, Aruna cheekily replied, "With a nice,
quiet dinner." The duo
deserves it! Agencies

WORLD

CHAMPIONSHIPS

CLASSICAL, CHALLENGER FORMAT

1991: Lost to Karpov in Challenger quarter-finals.

1994: Lost to Kamsky in Challenger final. 1995: Lost to Kasparov in

PCA final. 2008: Defeated Kramnik in

nnai

KNOCK-OUT FORMAT

1997-98: Won a challenger event in Groningen in knock-out format but lost to Karpov in the final at Lausanne.

2000-01: Nock-out title in Delhi and Teheran, beating Alexei Shirov in the final.

2001: Lost to Ivanchuk in knock-out format in Mexico

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

2005: Runner-up to Topalov in San Luis.

2007: Won in Mexico ahead of Kramnik.

OTHER TITLES

2000: Won World blitz title by beating Karpov, Gelfand and Svidler

2003: Won World rapid title by beating Kramnik in final

Data Quest

National, September 30, 2008

NIIT Announces TOEIC Test

NIIT has announced its first Test of English for International Communication (TOEIC) test the country on September 28, 2008 across Ahmedabad. Bangalore. INDUSTRY Chennai, Delhi NCR, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai and Pune. TOEIC test is a global standard for communicative English ability in the international workplace and is part of Educational Testing Service suite of products. The initiative is aimed to enhance employability and provide competitive advantage to In-

Hindustan Times

New Delhi, October 30, 2008



WOLFGANG RATTAY/REUTERS

BONN IDENTITY: Viswanathan Anand holds the winner's trophy after clinching the Chess World Championships in Bonn. Anand played a draw in the 11th game on Wednesday to retain his title with a 6.5-4.5 points victory over challenger Vladimir Kramnik of Russia.

Vishy Anand is king of chess, again

B Shrikant Bonn, October 29

VISWANATHAN ANAND on Wednesday gave millions of Indian fans the best Diwali gift they could ask for — the World Chess Championship title.

Anand, who had dominated the 12-game match against Russian challenger Vladimir Kramnik and had taken a commanding three-point lead at the midway stage, overcame hiccups to muster the unbeatable 6.5 points that helped him retain the world title with a game to spare.

Anand was under a bit of pressure when Kramnik won the 10th game to narrow the margin to two points. In the 11th game, the 38-year-old Indian Grandmaster came out of a difficult position to steer the game to a draw and win the match 6.5-4.5.

"I am more relieved than hap-

py," said Anand. "I knew I needed just half a point and it looked like an easy task. But there was a bit of nerves and Vlady (Kramnik) too put me under some pressure."

This is Anand's third World title—he first won it in Tehran in 2000 when there were two world championship organised by rival bodies. He then bagged the undisputed title at Mexico in September last year.

The retention of the world title could have been an encore for Anand's fans but for many European fans and traditionalists a title won in a one-on-one match was the real McCoy.

Anand has proved he's the best in the world, whatever be the format. Way to go Viswanathan, king of the chess world.

shrikant.bhagvatula@hindustantimes.com

Mid Day

New Delhi, October 31, 2008

How Aruna got behind her man

Manisha Mohite

BONN: 'Hello, talk to the World Champion,' remarked Aruna Anand while handing the mobile phone to Viswanathan Anand when his father called to greet him.

called to greet him.

This was one of the many chores that Aruna has been quietly doing on the sidelines. She has been handling Aruna Anand the media and other official matters right from the time the World Championship match was announced almost a year ago.

Anand said the biggest factor that helped him to focus totally on chess was Aruna. She took care of every single nitty-gritty without bothering him. Pre-match negotiations in terms of money, venue and playing conditions were also handled by Aruna. "She didn't even let me peek at the news reports and other stuff on the internet for it not to affect me during the game," said Anand.

In fact, from November, Hans Walter Schmitt and Frederic

game," said Anand.

In fact, from November, Hans Walter Schmitt and Frederic

(Friedel) started looking at the hofels where Anand would be comfortable and had the fastest possible internet connection ready. They did everything to ensure that Anand was mentally at peace when he was not playing," said Aruna.

"We were also lucky that the entire team was so highly motivated and the said of the said of

vated and everything started working in the right direction right from the first round," she added.



Meet Team Anand

Manisha Mohite sports@mid-day.com

BONN: "We started jumping and shouting in joy when (Viswanathan) Anand drew against Kramnik in the 11th game to retain the title," admitted Surya Shekhar

admitted Surya Shekhar Ganguly. Anand's seconds, who are now nicknamed the Fab Four, were holed up in the hotel for close to three weeks and were virtually invisible (as reported

in SUNDAY MiD DAY, Oct 26). However, all members of Anand's crew showed up at the venue after he retained his World title yesterday. One of the biggest factors which helped Anand retain the title was the superlative prepare.

neiped Anand retain the title was the superlative preparation he and his team worked on to send Kramnik packing. Peter Heine Nielsen, who has been working with the champ since 2004, said: "We gelled together like one fantastic unit."



VISHY'S TEAM: Former world champion Rustam Kasimdzhanov from Uzbekistan (extreme left) , Peter Heine Nielsen of Denmark (in red), Surya Shekhar Ganguly, Anand, wife Aruna and Radoslaw Wojtaszek of Poland (extreme right). PIC/MANISHA MOHITE



The Times of India

Mumbai, October 31, 2008



MASTER OF ALL FORMATS

Anand has won World chess championships in all formats. No one even comes close to this feat. Here's a

Faced with a financial crunch and unable to rope in the then world No.1 Garry Kasparov, world body Fide started this new format for World championships. It was like Grand Slam tennis matches with a main draw of 128 players. Because of chess' peculiarity of colours, each knockout match was to consist of two games (with either colour) with the final being of four games. In case of a tie, there were two rapid and blitz game to be played.

Anand's high: He won the KO World championship in Delhi and Teheran in 2000, beating Alexei Shirov in the

TOURNAMENT FORMAT:

As Fide's attempts to unify the world title failed, and Kasparov announced his retirement, the world governing body decided to conduct a World championship tournament to find a challenger to unofficial champion Vladimir Kramnik.
The tournament consists of eight players who play

double-leg (with each colour) between themselves. Anand didn't win this in his first attempt but finished ahead of Kramnik in Mexico City last year.

MATCHPLAY FORMAT:

MATCHPLAY FORMAT:

Kramnik unified the world title in 2006 with a condition that he should get a rematch in matchplay format. Fide agreed to it. The matchplay format is a purists' delight. It means only two players battle it out in head-to-head over a fixed amount of even games (minimum 12), where a personality of a player comes into the picture more prominently. For a large part of the previous century, till 1994, there was no limit on a number of matches to be played. A player needed to score six wins to clinch the title with draws not counted in scoreline. However, after a marathon 48-game match between Kasparov and Karpov in 1984, which had to be stopped because of fatigue (Karpov won five games, Kasparov three and 40 draws), the world governing body opted for fixed number of

Anand's high: Defeating Kramnik in Bonn in 2008. This is perhaps the most important title because Anand was considered to be suspect in matchplay format.

- It's interesting to note that in each of the above three formats, Anand did not taste success in the first attempt. He lost to Kasparov in 1995 in matchplay; lost to Karpov in 1998 in the first KO format; and finished second to Topalov in San Luis in 2006 in tournament format. Just goes to show that whatever Anand touched didn't turn into gold. But he never lost his cool and kept on trying.
- . In addition to the above three World titles, Anand also won World titles in mini formats (T20 types) of the game. The tournament and matchplay formats are played in classical time control (three and a half hours per player
- 2000: Anand won the World blitz title by beating Karpov, Gelfand and Svidler. Blitz tournament is generally played in all-play-all format where each players has just five minutes per game.
- 2003: Anand won World rapid title by beating Kramnik in final. Here 25 minutes are allotted per player per game over a fixed number of even games.

-Compiled by Amit Karmarkar

Indian Express New Delhi, October 31, 2008

T've won it once, now I want to win it twice'



Anand (right) and Kramnik at the post-match news conference in Bonn on Wednesday. Reuters

SANDEEP DWIVEDI MUMBAL OCTOBER 30

INNING world titles isn't new for Viswanathan Anand. Before Bonn, he has been blitz, rapid, knock-out and league format champion. But the classical match-play title had been elusive for the 39-year-old. The 6.5-4.5 win against Vladimir Kramnik has changed that as Anand's overwhelming domination of

the game is now undisputed.

In an interview with The Indian Express, Anand talks about how he thinks his feat is similar to a Grand Slam title in tennis. Although he is quick to add that the match-play title will not make him complacent since he thinks there is no harm in winning the title tw

Did it come as a surprise to you that you were leading by three points after

Yes, to some extent it was surprising.
But it was a perfect start for me. I could
get the positions that I had planned and could guide the way the game moved forward. And once I was in control, things fell in place. But, honestly, I didn't expect a three-point lead so early.

You had a forgettable outing at the Bilbao event before Bonn. You didn't play to your potential. Was it a deliber-

ate ploy to save your tactics for the 12 matches against Kramnik?

I agree I didn't have a great tournament in Bilbao. But with all my focus on Bonn, such things are expected. One certainly holds back a bit for an event as big as this one. Since I lost early at the Bilbao Grand Prix, I got more time

to prepare for this championship.

How important has been the role played by your seconds in this win?

Because of my seconds I was quite well-prepared for Bonn. They have worked really hard. Not just before Bonn but even during my match against Kramnik they were constantly prepar-ing me. All of them were up all night,

working on moves till 7 in the morning. After that they would meet me at breakfast to brief me about the moves they had been working on. So how did you celebrate with them

after the win?

Actually, they are more tired than me.

They all are sleeping right now. The only time they got to sleep was if I was playing a boring game. If the game got exciting, they would all be busy watching

it. One needs to understand that the role played by the hidden hands in my victory is quite big.

What has been the reaction like from

I have been receiving endless calls from India. The response has been tremendous. I was quite elated at the reaction I have got from home. The telephone hasn't stopped ringing and I

have been flooded with messages.

Can one compare your match-play win to a Grand Slam in tennis?

Yes, you can say that. I have now won blitz, rapid, the tournament format and match format too. There were many who said that I could not win the match play but now they can't say that. I do feel like someone who has won a Grand Slam.

Since you have won everything now, will motivation be a problem for you?

I am quite excited about winning the title. I will take a two-week break after this. This 'match play' world title doesn't mean that I will be content and take it easy. There is no way I will lose the mo-tivation to win after this. I have won this once, now I will try to win it a second time. So there are no issues with motivation for me.

The Stateman

New Delhi, October 31, 2008

Great result for chess

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI, Oct 30: Former world champion Carly Kasparov of Russia today hailed Viswanathan Anand's (In photo) triumph over Russian Vladimir Kramnik to retain the World Championship title in Bonn, Germany, saying it would not be easy for the younger generation to push the Indian aside.

"A great result for Anand and for chess. Vishy deserved the win in every way and I'm very happy for the younger generation to push him aside," Kasparov said.

The former great said while Anand played consistently, Kramnik showed decline in strength and had some work to do.

"It was a very well-played match by Vishy. Except for the loss of concentration in the 10th game he played consistently and managed to enforce his style. This result ends the illusion that Kramnik is a great match player," he was quoted as saying by 'Chessbase'.

Analyzing the perfor-

mances of the two players, Kasparov, who lost to Kramnik in 2000 in London, said Anand was well prepared to counter his opponent who appeared "overly defensive".

"Anand out-prepared Kramnik completely. In this way it reminded me of my match with Kramnik in London 2000. Like I was then, Kramnik' may have been very well prepared for this match, but we never saw it. I didn't expect the Berlin and ended up fighting on Kramnik's preferred terrain," he said.

"(In this match) Kramnik did not expect tough, sharp challenges with white, and this was the key for Anand. He kicked some sand in Kramnik's face and hit his weakness, his conservative approach to the game itself. Suddenly Kramnik had to fight in these sharp positions and he wasn't able to do it. "London was a unique occurrence and I still stand with Leonid Yudasin as the only players Kramnik has ever beaten in a match! Kramnik now has some work to do.'



All the titles

- 2008: Undisputed World Championship title, beating Vladimir Kramnik 6.5-4.5 in Bonn.
- 2008: 13th Grenkeleasing Rapid World Chess, Mainz, Germany Champion
- 2008: Morelia Linares Champion second time in a row: With this win, Anand has ensured that the No.1 ranking was solely his
- 2007: World Chess Championship, Mexico City, World Champion
- 2007: World Rapid Championship, Mainz Champion
- □ 2007: 20th Magistral Ciudad de Leon Chess tournament, Leon Champion
- 2007: Morelia-Linares Super Grandmaster Chess Töurnament, Champion
- 2006: Mikhail Tal Memorial Blitz Tournament, Moscow Champion
- ☐ 2006: Grenkeleasing World Rapid Champ's, Mainz Classic, Champion
- ☐ 2006: 19th Magistral Ciudad de Leon Chess tournament, Leon
- ☐ 2006: 15th Amber Blindfold & Rapid Chess Tournament Joint Champion
- 2006: Corus Chess Tournament, Wijk Aan Zee Champion: Made history by becoming the only player ever to win this tournament a record five times
- 2005: World Chess Championship, San Luis, finished Runner-Up to Topaloy
- 2005: Mainz Chess Classic, Mainz Champion: Took the title for the fifth year in a row
- ☐ 2005: 18th Magistral Ciudad de Leon Chess tournament, Leon Champion
- □ 2004: Corsica Masters, Bastia Champion: Anand won Corsica for the fifth year in succession
- □ 2004: Mainz Chess Classic, Mainz Champion: Anand was Champion at Mainz or seventh time
- □ 2004: Dortmunder Schachtage, Dortmund Champion
- 2004: Corus Chess Tournament, Wijk Aan Zee Champion
- □ 2003: Corsica Masters, Bastia Champion
- ☐ 2003: World Rapid Chess Championship, Cap D'Agde Champion
- ☐ 2003: Rapid Chess Classic, Mainz Champion
- □ 2003: Sparkassen Chess Meeting, Dortmund Runner-Up
- □ 2003: 12th Amber Chess Tournament, Monte Carlo Champion
- 🗖 2003: Corus Chess Tournament, Wijk Aan Zee Champion
- 2002: 6th Corsica Masters Rapid Chess Tournament, Corsica Champion
- □ 2002: World Cup, Hyderabad Champion
- 2002: Russia Vs Rest of the World, Moscow Champion, anchored the Rest of the World team to a historic victory in this unique event
- ☐ 2002: Chess Classic, Mainz Champion
- □ 2002: Eurotel World Chess Trophy, Prague Champion
- ☐ 2001: Corsica Masters, Corsica Champion
- 2001: "Duel of the Champions" Champion, Beat Kramnik in a rapid game match 6.5-5.5
- □ 2001: "Torneo Magistral de Ajedrez", Leon Champion
- □ 2001: 2nd Torneo Magistral, Mexico City Champion
- 2000: FIDE World Championships, Teheran and New Delhi World Champion - Beat Alexei Shirov in the final (3.5-0.5)
- 2000: FIDE World Cup, Shenyeng Champion Beat Bareev 1.5-0.5 in the final to register his best ever result in a FIDE event
- 2000 : Fujitsu Siemens Giants Rapid Chess, Frankfurt Champion

