



Divya Deshmukh Becomes Women's World Cup Champion

Why in News?

19-year-old **Divya Deshmukh** made history by winning the **FIDE Women's World Cup**, defeating **veteran Koneru Humpy** in a tiebreaker, and earning the **grandmaster title** despite starting the tournament without any norms.

Key Points

- **Grandmaster:** Divya is now **India's 88th Grandmaster** and the **fourth woman to achieve** this title, joining Harika Dronavalli, Vaishali Rameshbabu, and Humpy Koneru.
 - She defeated top players such as the World No. 6 from China, Zhu Jiner, the Indian veteran Harika Dronavalli, and former Women's World Champion Tan Zhongyi before facing Humpy in the final.
 - Starting as an **International Master**, her victory qualifies her to become India's fourth female Grandmaster, bypassing traditional norms under a special FIDE regulation.
- **Previous Achievements:** Last year, she was crowned the **World Junior Champion** in the girls' category.
 - Additionally, she played an important role in helping India win the gold medal at the [Chess Olympiad in Budapest](#), where she also **earned an individual gold**.
- **Future Prospects:** She is set to be a formidable player in future competitions, including the **Candidates Tournament**, where the top eight players battle for a chance to challenge the World Champion.
- **Historic Finale:** The presence of **both finalists from India** reflects the country's rising influence in women's chess, paralleling the success of **Gukesh and Praggnanandhaa** in the open section, and marking India's growing presence alongside the long-standing dominance of Chinese and Russian players.



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