

# Kolkata to Host 35 Nations For World Sudoku & Puzzle Championships 2026

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**KOLKATA, India, Sept. 28, 2026** — The World Puzzle Federation (WPF) is pleased to announce that the 19th World Sudoku and 33rd World Puzzle Championships 2026 (WSPC) will be held in Kolkata, India from October 11 to 18, 2026. As this year's host, Logic Masters India has invited elite solving teams from 35 nations for a marathon of strategy challenges and out-of-the-box thinking inspired by Indian epics. Teams will compete amid the festive buzz of Durga Puja in the City of Joy.

"Puzzle lovers from across the globe will come together for a week of competition, culture and camaraderie. We can't wait to welcome you to the City of Joy," says **Prasanna Seshadri, Ex-Director, WPF and Indian champion**. Mind sports are a booming interest, with chess grandmasters, academia and news publications playing a key role to support the ecosystem and combat cognitive decline. Logic Masters India expands on this by scouting for and training youngsters into future champions.

"India has been a tremendous host in the past. I have many memories from winning the World Sudoku Championship in 2008 in Goa. I expect to leave with memories of special puzzles that connect to epic characters, stories, and more." — **Thomas Snyder, USA | LinkedIn Games Editor | 3x World Sudoku Champion | World Puzzle Champion (2018) | Founder, Grandmaster Puzzles**

"Competitions in India always bring creative themes. I'm excited to visit Kolkata and share my journey with beginners (and hopefully as the 2026 WSC champion too!). I hope to inspire more people, especially female and minority solvers, to discover the joy of sudoku." — **Tantan Dai, China | World Sudoku Champion 2023, 2025**.

Photos from past Championships are [available here](#). Credit Line: World Puzzle Federation

## Championship History & Indian Milestones

The WSPC has been held jointly since 2011. The Indian team is selected via rigorous qualifiers, culminating in the Indian Sudoku and Puzzle Championships. Its best performers form the international A-team. **Team India's members for 2026 are:**

Sudoku: Nityant Agarwal (21); Kishore K. Sridharan (37); Kartik Reddy (24); Harsh Poddar (27)

Puzzles: Nityant Agarwal (21); Kishore K. Sridharan (37); Kartik Reddy (24); Jaipal R. Mogiligundla (51)

In 2022, Prasanna Seshadri won India's first silver at the World Puzzle Championship in Poland, while his protégé Nityant Agarwal bagged the U-18 gold at the World Sudoku Championship. Agarwal set a record for the best-ever finish by an Indian debutant, and is a podium hopeful for 2026. Previously, Logic Masters India has organised the 2008 WSC in Goa and the 2017 WSPC in Bengaluru. Noted as an intellectual hub, Kolkata is the first WSPC venue in Northern India.

The WSPC will also feature **Puzzle Palooza**: a first-of-its-kind Open Day for India on **October 14**. Here, icons such as **Will Shortz** (The New York Times Crossword), **Thomas Snyder** (LinkedIn Games), **Tantan Dai** and **Ken Endo** (World Sudoku Champions) will talk careers and critical thinking alongside best-selling authors and trivia influencers **Arey Pata Hai** and **Ria Chopra**. Indian billiards player **Manish Jain** is a special guest.



**TEAM INDIA 2026**  
Clockwise from Left - Jaipal R. Mogiligundla, Kartik Reddy, Nityant Agarwal, Kishore Kumar Sridharan and Harsh Poddar.

(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

"I think of logic puzzles as a universal "language" of the mind", says Snyder, noting that it transcends all cultural barriers. "The Open Day is a great opportunity to share stories and strategies on puzzlemaking with people of all ages, mindsets and skill levels".

## Facts, Figures & Media

### Past Press - A Selection

[The New York Times](#) | [The Indian Express](#) | [The Hindu](#) | [The Bridge](#) | [Quartz](#) | [The Times of India](#) | [Business Standard](#) | [DT Next](#) | [Scroll](#) | [China Daily](#) | [Asahi Japan](#) | [Official WSC Wiki](#) | [Official WPC Wiki](#)

### Community Numbers

WPF Member Nations: 35

Championship Categories: National Teams | Individual Solvers | U-18 | O-50 | Newcomers

Logic Masters India network: 24,000+ across India and the South Asian diaspora

The **Title Sponsor** for the World Sudoku & Puzzle Championships 2026 is mental math app Matiks.

**Team India's Sponsor** is MBA academy Rodha. The **Technology Partner** is B2B puzzle SaaS Amuse Labs.

### About Logic Masters India

Logic Masters India (LMI) is the Indian representative at the World Puzzle Federation, responsible for training and recruiting the national teams for the World Sudoku and Puzzle Championships. Founded in 2008, it runs year-round competitions — including the Sudoku Mahabharat, Puzzle Ramayan, Indian Sudoku Championship and Indian Puzzle Championship — alongside junior programs like Sudoku Champs to build puzzling talent nationwide. LMI has previously hosted the World Sudoku Championship (2008, Goa) and World Sudoku & Puzzle Championship (2017, Bengaluru). See [logicmastersindia.com](http://logicmastersindia.com)

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