

Kaziranga to host second Chess Carnival on June 7 with ₹1 lakh prize fund



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The second edition of the Kaziranga Chess Carnival is set to be held on June 7, 2026 at Resort Borgos, Kohora, near Kaziranga National Park. Organised by Adian Business Solutions Pvt. Ltd. in association with Assam Chess Club and Aaghun, the one-day rapid chess tournament will feature competitions in Under-10, Under-15 and Open categories.

The event is expected to draw over 200 participants, including FIDE-rated players, state champions, junior talents, coaches and representatives from academies across India and neighbouring regions.

The tournament will be conducted under the supervision of International Arbiter and former Indian chess coach Biswajit Bharadwaj under a 7-round Swiss League format with a time control of 10 minutes plus 5 seconds increment. Play begins at 9:00 AM, with the prize distribution scheduled at 3:00 PM.

A total prize fund of ₹1,00,000 has been announced, with cash prizes for the top ten finishers in the Open category. Top performers in the Under-10 and Under-15 categories will receive trophies and merit certificates.

The inaugural edition, held on June 1, 2025, saw 161 players participate. Building on that response, organisers say they aim to scale the event into a seven-day international chess festival in the future, potentially attracting over 1,000 participants from around the world.

Abhijit Gogoi, Director of Adian and Founder of Aaghun Foundation, said the event is part of a broader effort to develop Kaziranga as a year-round destination beyond its identity as a wildlife tourism hub. "Chess brings together intellect, travel, culture and community. By integrating sports and tourism, we can create year-round opportunities for local businesses, youth and the hospitality sector," he said.

Arbiter Bharadwaj described the carnival as a significant step for chess in the Northeast. "Such tournaments provide valuable exposure to young talents while helping promote competitive chess in emerging regions," he said.

Online registration for the second edition is currently open at www.aaghun.com.

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