

TATA STEEL INDIA

WEDNESDAY WORKOUT ■ SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

BY JJ LANG

PUZZLE 1.



BLACK TO MOVE

PUZZLE 2.



WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 3.



WHITE TO MOVE

PUZZLE 4.



BLACK TO MOVE

PUZZLE 5.



BLACK TO MOVE

PUZZLE 6.



BLACK TO MOVE

SOLUTIONS

PUZZLE 1. 28. ... b4! 29. cxb4 c3! 30. Rb3 Bc2 31. b5 Rcc8 when White resigned. (Keymer – Grischuk, Kolkata, 2023) **PUZZLE 2.** 27. Ra1! Bb7 28. Rb2! Only now, after forcing Black's bishop to a more passive square, can White go after Black's own weakness. 28. ... g6 The passive 28. ... Rc6 fails after 29. Rab1. 29. Rxb6 Nf5 30. Kf2 and White went on to win. (Krush – Agrawal, Kolkata, 2023) **PUZZLE 3.** 21. c4 In the game, play continued 21. ... f5, and after 22. cxd5 fxe4 23. Bg4! White won material by force: 23. ... Nc7 24. Bxc7 Qxc7 25. Bxe6+ Kh8 26. Bxc8. Most likely, Black overlooked that White could meet 21. ... Bc6 with 22. Rd2! Nd6 23. Nxd6 winning mate-

rial. (Praggnanandhaa – Arjun, Kolkata, 2023, analysis) **PUZZLE 4.** Black could have kept a significant edge with 31. ... Re3+. Instead, Krush played 31. ... Bf5?!, and after 32. Kb3! Re3+ 33. Ka2, White's king had reached safety. 32. Bd3 Note that 32. Rd3? Bf5 would win emphatically. White cannot capture, as Black would mate with 33. Rxe3? Qxe3+ 34. Bd3 Qxd3 mate. But now, 32. ... Qxg2 comes with a clear advantage. (Batsiashvili – Krush, Kolkata, 2023, analysis) **PUZZLE 5.** 20. ... Bxg2 21. Ne4 e5! In the game, 21. ... Qb7?? was played, but after 22. Nxc5! Black had nothing better than 22. ... Qd5 23. Qxd5 Bxd5, although she still went on to win later. 22. Kxg2 Qb7! Black is winning a piece. Note that 22. ... exf4 23.

Nxc5 was also good for Black. (Humpy – Krush, Kolkata, 2023, analysis) **PUZZLE 6.** 40. ... Rxc8 41. Rxc8 This recapture is forced, otherwise the bishop hangs on e2. But now, Black has a fantastic *intermezzo*: 41. ... bxa2! 42. Re8+ Kd6 43. Nc2 Bxe2 44. Ra8 Nf3+ 45. Kh1 a6! would have been decisive. Black still won after playing 45. ... Ne1?, but only because White missed 46. Rxa7!. Instead, she played 46. Na1? and after 46. ... a6 47. Rc8 Bd3 48. Rc1 Nc2 49. Rxc2 not 49. Rd1 Nxa1 50. Rxa1 when 50. ... Bb1! was the point. 49. ... Bxc2 50. Nxc2 Kc5 51. Kg2 Kc4, winning. 46. Rc8 Bc4 47. Na1 Nd2 48. Kg2 Nb3 49. Nxb3 Bxb3 50. Rc1 Bc4 51. f3 Kc5 52. fxc4 winning. (Humpy – Deshmukh, Kolkata, 2023, analysis)