

## **Sports Authority of India**

### **Compound Archery teams and Sindhu in badminton claim silvers; Table tennis claims first-ever Asian Games medal**

- **Men and Women's Compound archery teams lose to Korea**
- **Sindhu and Saina claims historic silver-bronze in badminton**
- **Indian hockey men score another big win, qualify for semi-finals**
- **Men's Table tennis team gets historic bronze medal**

**Jakarta, August 28:** It was a day of silver medals, as the men's and women's compound archery teams claimed the second prize, as did PV Sindhu in women's singles badminton at the 18<sup>th</sup> Asian Games on Tuesday. The men's table tennis team, which created history by reaching the semi-finals on Monday night, also lost in the semifinal and secured a historic bronze medal.

With the late evening athletics yet to begin, India had moved their tally forward by three silver and a bronze to get to 45 medals comprising eight golds, 16 silvers and 21 bronze.

Indian men scored another massive win in hockey, as they followed up their previous 26-0 win over Hong Kong and 17-0 over Indonesia with a 20-0 victory over Sri Lanka. Put alongside an 8-0 win over Japan and 5-3 against South Korea, India scored a record 76 goals and conceded three in their five league matches.

### **ARCHERY - Twin silver for India; men lose shoot-out; women, too, lose to Korea**

The morning session saw the Indian men's and women's archery teams in the compound event lose well-contested matches to South Korea, to take home the silver medal in both.

The Indian men's team with Rajat Chauhan, Aman Saini, and Abhishek Verma had a great start with a four-point lead, but the Koreans fought back to win the second by similar margin and the scores were 114-all.

India again took a narrow lead by winning the third set and were now 172-170 up going into the final set.

India were still leading when they went for the final three shots. That's when the tables turned once more. The Indians had a perfect bulls eye and two nines but the Koreans had a bulls eye and two 10s and that meant a tie at 229.

In the shoot out, both teams shot 29 out of 30, but the Koreans took the gold with a bulls eye on the first shot. Korea had one bulls eye, besides a nine and 10, while India had two 10s and a nine. The bulls eye made the difference.

A little before that, the Indian women's team comprising Muskan Kirar, Madhumita Kumari and Jyothi Surekha Vennam also lost the final narrowly against the Koreans with the final score of 228-231.

Indian women led winning first set 59-57, but the Koreans hit back with 58-56 in the second. The third set was tied 58-58.

In the final set, with both teams level, Korea had one bulls eye, three 10s and two nines, but India had just one bulls eye, one ten and three nines and one eight and that meant a 231-228 win for Korea.

Both the men's and women's Indian teams had beaten Chinese Taipei in the semi-finals on Sunday to set up the title clash against South Korea.

### **Badminton – Sindhu wins silver after final defeat, Saina gets bronze**

India's top stars, PV Sindhu and Saina Nehwal won historic silver and bronze medals. Sindhu was up for the gold but lost to World Number 1 and All-England champion Tai Tzu Ying, 21-13, 21-16.

The silver and bronze were the first-ever individual medals for Indian women in badminton, where the competition is almost like a World Championships. Nine of the Top-10 and 10 of the Top-11 were playing in Jakarta and the only one missing was Spain's Carolina Marin.

Sindhu had a slow start against Tzu Ying. She lost the first five points and was down 0-5, and after that she was always playing catch-up. Tzu Ying won the first game 21-13.

There were some signs of a fightback in the second, but it did not quite materialise and Sindhu lost the second game, too, at 16-21. Tzu Ying totally dominated the match and gave Sindhu very little opportunity to get back into the contest.

Sindhu was probably tired, too, as four of her five previous matches at the Games were taken to three games.

Earlier in the semi-final, Tzu Ying had accounted for Saina Nehwal, who finished with her first-ever bronze at the Asian Games.

Saina now has medals from each of the four big events – the Olympics (a bronze), the Commonwealth Games (gold), Asian Games (bronze) and World Championships (bronze).

### **Table tennis – Indian men win first-ever medal, a bronze**

Indian men won their first-ever Asian Games medal in table tennis as G Sathiyam, Achanta Sharath Kamal and A Amalraj lost their semi-final to the fancied Koreans, who go on to meet defending champions China in a repeat of 2014 edition in the title clash.

Sathiyam lost the first match 11-9, 9-11, 3-11, 3-11 loss to Lee Sangsu to go 0-1 down . Soon after even the experienced Sharath Kamal went down in five hard-fought games to Young Sik Jeong 9-11, 9-11, 11-6, 11-7, 8-11. That put South Korea 2-0 up.

In the third, Amalraj lost 5-11, 7-11, 11-4, 7-11 to Woojin Jang as South Korea wrapped up the tie 3-0 to enter the final.

India reached the semifinal after beating Japan 3-1 in the quarterfinals.

With China, Japan, Korea, Hong Kong and Singapore in the Asian Games Table tennis competition, a medal is as tough as at the Olympic Games.

It was a historic first for the men's team of Sharath Kamal (World No. 33), G Sathiyam (World No 39), Amalraj and Harmeet Desai.

Indian men beat UAE 3-0 but lost to 2-3 to Chinese Taipei before beating Macau 3-0. In their final group match, India beat Vietnam 3-0 to reach the quarter-finals, where they beat Japan to get into the medal rounds.

## **Hockey – India score another massive win, beat Sri Lanka 20-0**

India scored their second biggest win of the ongoing Asian Games as they beat Sri Lanka 20-0. India scored four goals in the first quarter, followed by three in the second and seven in the third. They rounded off the day with six in the last quarter for 20 goals, which meant one every three minutes.

This was the second biggest win after the 26-0 over Hong Kong. India also beat Indonesia 17-0; beat Japan 8-0 and South Korea 5-3. The total number of goals in the league stage was 76 against three in their five league matches.

Akashdeep Singh (6), Rupinder Pal Singh (3), Harmanpreet Singh (3), Mandeep Singh (3), Lalit Upadhyaya (2), Vivek Prasad, Amit Rohidas and Dilpreet Singh scored the goals for India.

India will meet the second placed team from Pool B, which is Malaysia. Pakistan topped Pool B.

Meanwhile, Indian women have been drawn to meet China in the first semi-final, while Japan will meet South Korea in the other semi-final.

India are the defending champions among men and Indian women are trying to improve on the bronze medal they won in 2014.