



Kashyap wins historic Men's Singles Gold,
Jwala Gutta and Ashwini Ponnappa took Silver Medal
P V Sindhu & Gurusaidutt took Bronze Medals

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Glasgow: Parupalli Kashyap on Sunday etched his name firmly in the history books by becoming the first Indian male shuttler in 32 years to win a Gold Medal in the Commonwealth Games.

The 27-year-old from Hyderabad thus joined Badminton legend Prakash Padukone and the late Syed Modi, who had won the Title in the past. While Padukone had won the Men's Singles Gold Medal at the 1978 Commonwealth Games in Canada, Modi retained it four years later.

A Bronze-Medallist at the Delhi Games, Kashyap rose to the occasion and played a sensational game of nerves to eke out a breath-taking 21-14 11-21 21-19 triumph against Derek Wong of Singapore in the final showdown which lasted for over an hour.

It turned out to be a red letter day for World No. 22 Kashyap who bagged the biggest title of his career. He had reached the quarterfinals of the London Olympics.

Kashyap was leading 14-8 in first game before Wong came back with the help of some precise smashes to gather four straight points but the Indian soon turned the tables. Kashyap put pressure on his opponent and gathered few points at the net to reach 18-12. Soon he garnered seven game points after Wong's return got buried into the nets.

In the second game, Wong changed his game plan and started penetrating the defence of Kashyap to lead 11—6 at the interval. Kashyap committed too many unforced errors and Wong too stepped up his game to move to 15—8. In the end, a service error, a down-the-line smash from Wong and a few wide shots helped the Malaysian to make a roaring comeback into the contest.

In the third game back to his winning court, Kashyap started the decider on a positive note as his smashes were more accurate and he judged the shuttle well too. But still he found it tough to break Wong's defence who used his tricky deceptive shots, better court coverage and better net play to lead 11-8. After the interval, Kashyap narrowed the lead to 11-12. At 13-11, the duo engaged in a long aggressive rally which the Indian won, amid loud cheers. Kashyap soon drew level at 14-14. Wong found the net again and Kashyap then earned a point with a cross—court smash to move to 19-16. The Malaysian, however, soon rubbed off the deficit with a three-point burst but he hit long and wide next as Kashyap burst into celebration.

Parupalli Kashyap on Sunday said his childhood dream of bagging a yellow metal for the Country has finally come true. "In this kind of big game to win Gold is a big deal for me. It's like a dream. I have dreamt of this since I was a child," Kashyap said after clinching gold in the finals of Men's Singles in Glasgow.

P.V. Sindhu took the Bronze Medal defeating Jing Yi Ting (Malaysia) 23-21, 21-9 in the losers' final in the Badminton events here on Saturday.



Sindhu thus made amends for her 22-20, 22-20 loss in the semifinal to Michelle Li (Canada). Where, the Indian looked quite tired throughout the semifinal match and was unable to stand up to the pressure applied by her rival in the crucial stages, she was a different girl in the bronze-medal match. Apparently disappointed with her show in the morning and wanting to make up for it, she put in a lot of effort to be in the match, especially in the close first set. But once she finally managed to take it in extra points, the second was just a formality.

Gurusaidutt too was able to land the Bronze Medal as he overcame a fighting Rajiv Ouseph in a tough three-set thriller. The Indian won the tie that last a little over an hour at 21-15, 14-21, 21-19.



India's golden hope with the defending Champions Jwala Gutta and Ashwini Ponnappa crashed after the duo faltered at the last hurdle of the Women's Doubles final. The Indian pair of Jwala and Ashwini lost in straight games 21-17, 23-21 to Malaysian pair of KW Woon and VKM Hoo.



It was just not the day for the 2010 Commonwealth Games Champions as they squandered five game points against a steely Malaysian pair to not push the match in the deciding last game.

Jwala Gutta and Ashwini Ponnappa got off to a good start in the first game where they led for majority of it till the Woon / Hoo took four straight points to pocket the opening game. In the second set, it was more of heartbreak for the cheering fans in the Emirates Venue as they held five game points but failed to convert any of it and finally lost it in straight sets. With the Silver Medal, the pair added fourth medal in Badminton event.

Defending Champions Jwala Gutta and Aswhini Ponnappa had an easy outing as they reached the Women's Doubles final. The Indian duo required just 27 minutes to dispose of the challenge from Malaysia's Ly Lim and L. Jing Pei 21-7, 21-12.
