

Siril Verma becomes first Indian boy in BWF World Junior - 2015 final

- Siril now joins Saina Nehwal (Gold in 2008), Gurusaidutt Bronze in 2008) and Aparna Popat (Silver in 1996) who have won Medals for India in the BWF World Junior Championships.

By Abhijeet Kulkarni, Mumbai Mirror | Nov 16, 2015,



Lima, Peru: Siril Verma become the first Indian Boy's Singles player to reach the BWF World Junior Championship final. He upset 14th seed Adulrach Namkul of Thailand 21-15 21-14 in the Semi-finals in Lima, Peru on Saturday night to create history.

Saina Nehwal won the World Junior crown in 2008 and Aparna Popat had reached the final in 1996 but no Boy's Singles player had managed to cross the Semi-final hurdle. Only Guru Sai Dutt had reached the last four in 2008 where he lost to eventual Champion Wang Zhengming for India's first Bronze in the category.

"For me the biggest strength of Siril is that he has the mental toughness to pull out matches when things are not going his way or no one gives him a chance," Gopichand told Mirror from China.

He first burst onto the scene when he clinched the Junior U15 Asian Championships title in 2013 and the very same year became the first Indian player to win the Badminton Asia Youth Championships.

Young Indian shuttler Siril Verma clinched a Silver Medal at the BWF World Junior Championships after suffering a narrow defeat against Chinese Taipei's Chia Hung Lu.

The 15-year-old Indian had a giant-killing run at the tournament where he defeated Netherland's Niels Veenstra, France's Thomas Baures, Thailand's Kantaphon Wangcharoen, Denmark's Anders Antonsen, Malaysia's Satheishtharan R and Thailand's Adulrach Namkul to reach the finals. But Siril could not cross the final hurdle as his fight ended with a 21-17 10-21 7-21 loss to Chia in a 50-minute battle at the Centro de Alto Rendimiento.

Siril, who had lost to Chia at the Badminton Asia Junior Championship in Bangkok in June, dominated the proceedings early on, leading 7-4 at one stage. But Chia clawed back with three points. The Indian then once again surged ahead to a 11-7 lead at the break. After the interval, Chia slowly crafted his way to turn the tables, leading 15-12. However, Siril engaged in a tense fight and from 17-17, he broke off to pocket the opening game with a four-point burst.



In the second game, Chia looked a different opponent as he completely dominated the game and didn't give any chance whatsoever to the Indian to make any comeback. He led from the start to end to roar back into the contest.

In the decider, things were no different as brimming with confidence, Chia zoomed ahead from 4-4 to a 9-6 lead and then marched ahead with giant steps.
