

# Saina Nehwal, P Kashyap laud PV Sindhu's landmark Olympic silver medal

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PV Sindhu's landmark Silver Medal at the 2016 Rio Olympics - making her the youngest Indian to win a medal at the Summer Games - has been hailed by Saina Nehwal and Parupalli Kashyap.

**"It is a phenomenal achievement for Sindhu. Just to have beaten the world No 2 and No 6 in consecutive matches to reach the final and thus ensure herself a Silver is outstanding. Yes, she lost to an exceptional player like Carolina Marin, the No 1 ranked player and top seed, but to push her repeatedly and win the first game is no small achievement and to beat her would have required Sindhu to play out of her skin," Kashyap** - who four years ago in London reached the quarterfinals where he lost to the top seed Lee Chong Wei - told TOI Sports shortly after an epic final.

**Saina, speaking from her home in Hyderabad, added: "It's been a super tournament for her. Congratulations to Sindhu and Gopi sir [coach P Gopichand]"**.

Sindhu, in her first Olympics, entered the pre-quarters with a grueling 72-minute win over Canada's Michelle Li 21-19, 21-15, setting up a very tough match against the London Olympics silver medalist Yihan Wang of China. In the end, she beat Yihan - seven years older than her - 22-20, 21-19 to become the second Indian after Saina to reach the last four at the Olympics. She then beat Japan's Nozomi Okuhara in straight sets 21-19, 21-10 in 51 minutes to become the first Indian in an Olympics Badminton final.

Hailing his compatriot, Kashyap was also sympathetic to Srikanth. "What an Olympics he had. It was just his bad luck that he ran into Lin Dan in the quarters. Srikanth played some excellent Badminton in Rio, and that's testament to his focus. Overall, this has been an outstanding campaign for Indian Badminton."

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