

Chinese presence at Syed Modi India GPG adds new dimension

Asheem Mukerji, TNN Jan 21, 2014,



LUCKNOW: Chinese shuttlers will play in the Syed Modi India Grand Prix Gold [badminton](#) tournament for the first time. The events begins at the BBD Badminton Academy, Lucknow on Tuesday. Though the super powers of Badminton will send only their second string, the presence of the Chinese will add a new dimension to a event where [Saina Nehwal](#) will try to end her title drought.

Sindhu, the second seed here. If every thing goes according to the seedings, the two will meet only in the final on Sunday. Sindhu, who was the runnerup last year, has never beaten Saina and will be trying to upstage her senior compatriot.

Also making her presence felt will be last year's winner Lindaweni Fanetri, the fourth seed from Indonesia. Fanetri has the game to trouble the best, but will require better consistency to repeat her crowning glory here. Nichaon Jindapon, the third seed, is another shuttler who can shut out the finest on her day. And it won't be any surprise if the doughty Thai transforms her talent into a winning cause.

Unlike the women's section , the men's will be a foursome battle between the Indian players led by [Parupalli Kashyap](#). The top Indian player has been billed to defend his title here, and providing him competition will be Ajay Jayaram, RMV Gurusaidutt and the ever dangerous Kidambi Srikanth. Srikanth, the new National Champion who made it into the quarterfinals of the Malaysia Open Super Series last week, will be the player to watch.

SEEDINGS

Men's Singles: 1-P Kashyap (Ind), 2-Ajay Jayaram (Ind), 3-RMV Gurusaidutt (Ind), 4-Anand Pawar (Ind), 5-Brice Leverdez (Fra), 6-K Srikanth (Ind), 7-HS Prannoy (Ind), 8-Sourabh Verma (Ind), 9-Song Xue (Chn), 10-Misha Zilberman (Isr).

Women's Singles: 1-Saina Nehwal (Ind), 2-PV Sindhu (Ind), 3-Nichaon Jindapon (Tha), 4-Lindaweni Fanetri (Ina), 5-Bellaetrix Manuputty (Ina), 6-Deng Xuan (Chn), 7-Desi Hera (Ina), 8-Di Suo (Chn).