

# PV Sindhu Defends Macau Open Grand Prix Gold Badminton Title

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**New Delhi:** Indian Badminton is on upward swing. Less than a fortnight after the historic wins of Saina Nehwal and Kidambi Srikanth at the China Open, young P.V. Sindhu underlined the increasing dominance of the country's players in World Badminton on yet another Sunday.

World No.11 Sindhu staved off the challenge of lower-ranked Korean Kim Hyo Min in the Women's Singles finals, to retain the Macau Open Grand Prix title in style. The 19-year-old won 21-12, 21-17. In the process, the Hyderabad shuttler also picked up her season's first title, to end the year on a high.

Bronze Medallist at the Asian Games and the World Championships, Sindhu rallied on her smashes to open up a 19-9 lead in the first game. The Indian also held the upper hand in long rallies as her opponent struggled with her returns, with the former sealing the issue in 20 minutes.

The second game was a close affair with the Korean unleashing brilliant slices but Sindhu caught up with her and went ahead 17-13. A couple of wide hits from Kim allowed Sindhu to lay her hands on the winner's cheque.

Said Sindhu from Macau, "It was a good match. Kim played really well, but I am happy that I could pull it off in the end." This season has been good for me. I have had a couple of good wins against some top players. Today's title win will motivate me to work harder and do better next year," she added.

Sindhu will next play the 2015 Malaysia Masters, after a month's break. Gopichand opined that it was one of the best years for Indian Badminton. "The hard work done over the years is paying off.

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