

IBL

Players' auction a grand success

BAI

President Dr Akhilesh Das Gupta terms it as a major step towards development of the game

New Delhi: The players' auction of the inaugural Indian Badminton League (IBL) turned out to be a grand success with the six franchisees picking up sixty players after a healthy but competitive auction process.

Badminton Association of India (BAI) President Dr Akhilesh Das Gupta was exceptionally happy about the outcome of the auction and said it only proved the growing popularity of the sport in India.

“A generous amount has been spent on Indian players by the franchisees, which is a very positive sign for the Indian players and the sport as a whole. Money is pouring to Indian players as other than auction money they would also be getting endorsement deals.

While world number one Lee Chong Wei of Malaysia was the most sought after the player, being bought by Mumbai Masters for \$135,000, India's shuttle queen Saina Nehwal was not far behind

as she commanded a price of \$120,000 from Hyderabad HotShots.

“Today’s auction reflected a healthy and exciting competitive streak among the franchisees and shed light on their game plan. The IBL auction has set the ball rolling for what promises to be an inimitable experience in sports entertainment,” said Dr Dasgupta, who is also the chairman of the IBL Governing Council.

“BAI’s support has ensured that the IBL takes off well. The players will benefit tremendously in terms of value and it will be a great support to all players,” Dasgupta added.

Present at the auction the Chief National Coach, P. Gopichand said, “ the BAI President and IBL Team has to be commended for bringing this wonderful event and hope the money which the players earned will only go to motivate them further in proving their performances.”

Asian junior champion P V Sindhu (\$80,000) went to the Lucknow Warriors and London Olympic quarterfinalist P Kashyap (\$75000) was picked by Banga Beat, the Bangalore Team. While the emerging stars like B Sai Praneeth and Guru Sai Dutt commanded a price of \$40,000.

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Udita Dutta
Founder Director
Artsmith-Concepts & Visions
+919899708223
artsmith.concepts@gmail.com

		Banga Beats		
	Nationality	Player	Base Price	Player Bought
1	Indian	P kashyap (MS)	\$50,000	75, 000
2	Intl	Hu Yun (MS)	\$50,000	50, 000
3	Intl	Tai Tzu Ying (MS)	\$25,000	25, 000
4	Intl	Carolina Marin (WS)	\$10,000	10, 000
5	Intl	Carston Margensen (MD)	\$50000	50, 000
6	Indian	Akshay Dewalkar(MD)	\$15,000	36, 000
7	Indian	Aparna Balan	\$10,000	12, 000
8	Indian	Aditya Prakash	\$5000	5, 000
9	Indian	Arvind Bhat	\$7,500	7, 500
10	Indian	J Meghana	\$4,000	4, 000

		Hyderabad Hotshots		
	Nationality	Player	Base Price	Player Bought
1	Indian	Saina Nehwal (WS)	\$50,000	120, 000
2	Intl	Taufik Hidayat (MS)	\$15,000	15, 000
3	Indian	Ajay Jayaram (MS)	\$25,000	25, 000
4	Intl	V Shem Goh	\$10,000	10, 000
5	Indian	Tarun Kona (MD)	\$15,000	28, 000
6	Indian	Pradenya Gadre	\$10,000	46, 000
7	Intl	Khim Wah Lim	\$10,000	10, 000
8	Intl	Tanongsak	\$15,000	15, 000
9	Indian	Kanthi Visalakshi P.	\$3,000	3, 000
10	Indian	Shubhankar Dey	\$3,000	3, 000

		Delhi Smashers		
	Nationality	Player		Player Bought
1	Indian	Jwala (WD)	\$25,000	\$31, 000
2	Intl	Wong Wing Ki (MS)	\$20,000	\$20 , 000
3	Indian	H.S. Prannoy (MS)	\$15,000	\$16, 000
4	Indian	Sai Praneeth (MS)	\$15,000	\$40, 000
5	Indian	Arundhati Panthawane (WS)	\$15,000	\$15, 000
6	Intl	Boon Hoeng tan (MD)	\$25,000	\$50, 000
7	Intl	Kien Keat Koo (MD)	\$25,000	\$50, 000
8	Indian	V. Diju (MD)	\$15,000	\$30, 000
9	Intl	Nichaon Jindapon	\$15,000	\$15, 000
10	Indian	Prajakta Sawant	\$7,000	\$7, 000

		Mumbai Masters		
	Nationality	Player		Player Bought
1	Intl	Lee Chong Wei (MS)	\$50,000	\$135, 000
2	Intl	Marc Zweibler (MS)	\$15,000	\$15, 000
3	Intl	Tine Baun (WS)	\$30,000	\$30, 000
4	India	Pranav Jerry Chopra (MD)	\$15,000	\$36, 000
5	India	Manu Attri (MD)	\$10,000	\$10, 000
6	India	Siki Reddy	\$10,000	\$11, 000
7	India	PC Thulasi	\$10,000	\$10, 000
8	Intl	Vladimir Ivanov	\$15,000	\$15, 000
9	India	Rasika Raje	\$3,000	\$3, 000
10	India	Sumeet Reddy	\$7000	\$7500

		Pune Pistons		
	Nationality	Player	Base Price	Player Bought
1	Indian	Ashwini Ponappa(WD)	\$25,000	\$25, 000
2	Intl	Nyugen tien Minh (MS)	\$25,000	\$44, 000
3	Indian	Saurabh Verma (MS)	\$20,000	\$20000
4	Indian	Anup Sridhar (MS)	\$5,000	\$6, 000
5	Intl	Juliane Schenk (WS)	\$50,000	\$90, 000
6	Intl	Joachiam Fischer Nielsen	\$35,000	\$35, 000
7	Indian	Sanave Thomas	\$5,000	\$5, 000
8	Indian	Arun Vishnu	\$10,000	\$26, 000
9	Intl	Wee Kiong Tan	\$15,000	\$15,000
10	Indian	Rupesh Kumar	\$5,000	\$5,000

		Lucknow Warriors		
	Nationality	Player		Player Bought
1	Indian	PV Sindhu (WS)	\$50,000	\$80, 000
2	Intl	Weng Fei Chong (MS)	\$25,000	\$25, 000
3	Indian	Guru Sai Dutt (MS)	\$25,000	\$40, 000
4	Indian	K Srikanth (MS)	\$15,000	\$34, 000
5	Intl	Sapsiree (WS)	\$15,000	\$15, 000
6	Indian	Ruthvika Shivani (WS)	\$3000	\$3, 000
7	Intl	Marcis Kido	\$15,500	\$15, 500
8	Intl	Maneepong Jongjit	\$10,000	\$10, 000
9	Indian	K Maneesha	\$4,000	\$26, 000
10	Indian	Nanda Gopal (MS)	\$10,000	\$10, 000