

Badminton Association of India announces reward for PV Sindhu for clinching Silver in Rio Olympics

- *BAI President Dr. Akhilesh Das Gupta announces Rs. 50 lakhs reward*
 - *Rs. 10 lakhs awarded to Coach P Gopichand*
- *Rs. 10 lakhs awarded to Srikanth Kidambi and Rs. 15 lakhs to Team Support Staff*

New Delhi, 19 August 2016: Badminton Association of India's President, Dr. Akhilesh Das Gupta, today announced a reward of Rs. 50 lakhs for PV Sindhu for clinching historic Silver Medal at the Rio Olympics. BAI also announced a reward of Rs. 10 lakhs for Dronacharya awardee Coach P Gopichand who trained Sindhu to achieve this feat. The World No. 10 lost to Spain's Carolina Marin by 21-19, 12-21, 15-21 in the thrilling Final match held at Riocentro. This is India's first Silver Medal in Badminton. Saina Nehwal won the first medal – Bronze – for India in badminton in 2012 London Olympics.

BAI also announced rewards of Rs. 10 lakhs for Srikanth Kidambi, who was very close to beat China's Lin Dan in the Men's Singles Quarter-finals, and Rs. 15 lakhs for Team Support Staff. World No. 11 Srikanth stunned the international badminton fraternity with his awe-inspiring performance against world no. 3 Dan.

Praising PV Sindhu's efforts, Badminton Association of India's President, Dr. Akhilesh Das Gupta said, "I congratulate her for this historical achievement and bringing laurels for India. This is a huge milestone in Indian Badminton fraternity and it shows the strength of Indian badminton at the world stage. This Silver Medal will surely motivate lakhs of children to take up the sport and inspire them perform above their ability. On behalf of BAI and Indian Badminton fraternity, I am congratulating her again for marvellous achievement."

"I also congratulate Coach P Gopichand who again took India to new heights. Padma Bhushan Gopichand brought many laurels in his playing days and now his players are achieving new feats. Indian Badminton fraternity is very lucky to have a coach and mentor like him," he added.

The 21-year-old shuttler is the first Women Player who reached final of Badminton discipline in the Olympics. The two-time BWF World Championship bronze medallist is also the first shuttler to have ever played for Gold and Silver Medal.