



Saurabh, Manu Attri-Ashwini Ponnappa enter Round of 32, Anand Pawar exits on Day 1 of Yonex-Sunrise India Open 2016

***Rituparna upsets PC Thulasi in Round 1
273 players from 25 countries participate in MetLife BWF World Super Series
Last Qualifying Tournament before Rio 2016 Olympics***

New Delhi, 29th March 2016: Saurabh Verma and Manu Attri-Ashwini Ponnappa duo marched on to the Round 3 of the Qualification in the **Yonex-Sunrise India Open BWF World Badminton Super Series 2016 – Powered by TWIST deodorant body spray** being played at the Siri Fort Sports Complex in New Delhi on Tuesday. However, Anand Pawar and P.C. Thulasi's campaigns came to an end as they lost their fights on Day 1.

Saurabh Verma, who is key player of Awadhe Warriors in the Premier Badminton League, registered a stunning victory over his fellow countrymen RMV Gurusaidutt by 21-18, 21-10 in the Men's Singles Round 1 at Tuesday morning. He continued his winning spree in the next round and defeated Japan's Kenichi Tago by 21-18, 21-12 to reach the Round of 32.

In another match, Rituparna Das outplayed P.C. Thulasi 21-19, 21-16 in a nail-biting contest of Women's Singles. Thulasi, who is part of PBL 2016 Champions Delhi Acers, started the match with her impressive shots. However, she lost the ground in next moment to dominating game by Rituparna. In the Round 2, Rituparna defeated Riya Pillai by 21-10, 21-7 with an ease to reach Round of 32.

In Mixed Doubles, Manu-Attri-Ashwini Ponnappa thumped down Saurav Agarwal-Sraddha Tiwari by 21-4, 21-8 in the Round 1 and got a bye in the Round 2.

The biggest upset of the day was the defeat of Anand Pawar in another Men's Singles, who lost Round 2 match against Indonesian Sony Dwi Kuncoro by 12-21, 21-18, 15-21. Anand, who plays for Bengaluru Top Guns in the PBL, came back strongly in the second set but failed to continue his momentum in the third set and eventually lost to Kuncoro, who represent Chennai Smashers in PBL.

All the matches are being played at Siri Fort Sports Complex from 29th March to 3rd April 2016.

About Badminton Association of India:

The Badminton Association of India (BAI) is the Governing Body for Badminton in India recognised by Ministry of Sports, Govt. of India as National Sports Federation. BAI is registered

under the Societies Act and affiliated to Badminton Asia Confederation (BAC), Badminton World Federation (BWF) and Indian Olympic Association (IOA).

BAI was formed in 1934 and Badminton Associations of all States / UTs are its Member Associations. BAI organises National Championships for all categories of Badminton players apart from Zonal Inter State Championships, All India Ranking Tournaments in India. BAI also conducts various International Tournaments in India like the India Open BWF World Badminton Super Series, Syed Modi India Grand Prix, India Junior International Championship and Tata India International Tournament every year.

For further information please contact:

Animesh Biswas / Arun Sharma

9891789639 / 8826387384

Adfactors PR