

The P. V. Sindhu: The Icon of Indian Sports

Overcoming the grim battles against poverty, patriarchy, gender biasness, superstition, feudal and religious mentality, lack of education and awareness, castism and 'Khap' fatwas, malnutrition, poor infrastructure, poor training, dirty politics, sexual abuses and others sports women of India are thriving.

Geeta Phogat first qualified in Olympic Final in wrestling. **Karnal Malleswari** first achieved Olympic Bronze in Weight Lifting and she was followed by **Mary Kom** in Boxing, **Saina Nehwal** in Badminton and **Sakshi Malik** in wrestling. Talented athlete **P.T. Usha** and Gymnast **Dipa Karmakar** narrowly missed bronze like the **Indian Woman Hockey Team** which twice missed Bronze in '74 World Cup and '80 Olympic. **Shiny Abraham** and others had commendable records in Commonwealth and Asian Games. **Arati Saha** and **Dolly Nazir** first represented in Olympic Swimming in '52 and later Saha crossed the English Channel. **Bachendri Paul** first scaled Mt. Everest, the **Santosh Yadav** twice and after losing her legs in a train accident national Volleyball Player turned Physically Challenged Mountaineer **Arunima Singh** scaled seven highest peaks of seven continents. **Sudipta Sen Gupta** and **Aditi Pant** first expedited Antarctica.



Anita Raj and **Jhulan Goswami** in cricket and **Sania Mirza** in Tennis have enviable track record in highest level tournaments. In spite all, **P. V. Sindhu**, the emerging Badminton Star, is the watershed of Indian Sports not only for her brilliant performances in Olympic (bagged Silver) and Chinese Super Series (became champion) in 2016, but her accelerated domination in world ranking as well as supremacy on height, stamina, athleticism, smashing power and aggressiveness which were absent in Indian Sports till date.