



A FIT-AGAIN Saina Nehwal had to dig deep into her reserves to get past Tzu Ying Tai of Chinese Taipei in a gruelling first round match at the Korean Super Series in Seoul on Wednesday.

The world number four Indian, who missed on-court action for more than a month due to a ligament injury in her right knee, eked out a 19-21 21-14 22-20 victory over Tzu Ying in the women's singles match following a 50-minute hard-fought battle.

The first game ended on a disappointing note for Saina as Tzu broke away from 18-18 to pocket the game. In the second game, Saina didn't give her opponent any chance and opened up a 5-1 lead and held her fort to roar back into the contest.

In the decider, both the shuttlers were locked in a fierce battle but it was Saina who had the last laugh as she erased a 8-13 deficit to ultimately clinch the game and the match at a close 22-20.

Among other Indians, Jwala Gutta and V Diju beat England pair of Nathan Robertson and Jenny Wallwork 21-19 21-18 in a 33-minute battle in the mixed doubles category. Jwala then combined with Ashwini Ponnappa to record a win.

The Indian pair came from behind against Hong Kong's Tsz Ka Chan and Hoi Wah Chau in the women doubles competition. The Indian pair won 18-21 22-20 22-20 after a 45-minute battle.