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Asia out-skills Europe



Sharmila Nicollet in action in Gurgaon on Tuesday.

Tribune photo: Sayeed Ahmed

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NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 6

The Asian select, represented by four Indians, overcame the European team to win the Hero Women's Indian Open Europe v/s Asia Skills Challenge, a pre-event of the Women's Indian Open, at the DLF Golf & Country Club in Gurgaon today. Today's challenge comprised of four categories. The 'Longest Drive' saw Europe's Sophie Gustafson fire a 286-yard effort. Asia's Sharmila Nicollet, managed a 282-yard drive.

Europe went into the '100-yard Pitch' contest, one-up. Sweden's Caroline Hedwall came to nine feet seven inches from the pin. But Asia's Neha Tripathi outdid all with a pitch that landed the ball five feet two inches from the target and Asia drew level.

Nalini Singh Siwach chipped to three feet, five inches from the green-side bunker which handed Asia a 2-1 lead.

The 'Monster Putt' contest followed and Nalini starred again with her putts coming to rest 13 feet from the cup. The European contingent of Christina Kim and Sophie Gustafson fell short by four feet with Christina's putt coming to a halt 17 feet from the pin.

The Women's Indian Open will be played from December 9 to 11. The tournament has prize purse of \$300,000. Golfers from 27 countries will be seen in action.