

# ANIRBAN LAHIRI SMASHES FOUR

## Cruises to 6-stroke win, makes it four wins in four starts on PGTI; Rahil Gangjee finishes runner-up

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**Ahmedabad:** Riding on his first day's performance, Anirban Lahiri cruised to a six-stroke win at the PGTI Ahmedabad Masters at Kalhaar Blues & Greens on Saturday. This was his fourth win in as many starts on PGTI. The Bangalorean scored three-under-69 in the final round, taking his tally to 14-under-274, six ahead of Rahil Gangjee (-8). Lahiri earned 900 points for his win in the first event of the PGTI Super Series.

"I feel I won it on the first day itself with a course record score of 64. It's great to win four on the trot at PGTI. It was fun playing with SSP today following a gap of six years. He complimented me for the way I've been playing," said the ace golfer while accepting the winner's cheque.

Lahiri (64-70-71-69), the overnight leader by four shots, faced stiff resistance from SSP Chowrasia early on as the latter birdied the first two holes to reduce Lahiri's lead to two shots. The former, however, sank a 15-foot birdie putt on the third to regain a four-shot lead as Chowrasia dropped bogey. There was no

looking back for Lahiri from then on. He maintained his four-shot lead till the 11th despite two bogeys and another birdie. "I played a solid round today. Hit it well and missed just two greens. I also played the par-5s much better as I found the green in two shots on three of the four par-5s. The birdie on the third was very crucial as it helped me wrest the momentum from SSP, who had started well. I was four ahead after 11 holes and knew just had to play level-par over the last seven holes to ensure victory," he added.

Gangjee (71-69-73-67) posted the day's joint best of 67. He was even-par for the day after 10 holes. But then picked up pace with three birdies and an eagle over the next four holes. "I made more putts today. I had a good run on the back-nine where the eagle made all the difference. I've played better on the back-nine through the week. It was easier to focus, especially not being with leader group and crowd following. There was less pressure," said Gangjee.

Abhinav Lohan of Faridabad secured third place at six-under-282 after his final round of 72

while Chowrasia's last round of 74 placed him fourth at five-under-283. Chandigarh's Harendra Gupta fired the day's joint best of 67 to claim tied 10th place at two-over-290 along with Rashid Khan and Himmat Singh Rai.

Feroz Singh Garewal of Chandigarh won the trophy for best performance by an amateur, finishing tied 23rd at 10-over-298. Kunaal Bhatia of Gurgaon made a hole-in-one on the 11th during his round of 73 to secure tied 46th at 20-over-308.

## GREEN QUOTE



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—Rahil Gangjee

