



## Athletes

SEARCH



**SATHIYAN  
GNANASEKARAN**



Table Tennis

Age **25** Born **01/08/1993** CHENNAI (INDIA)

Height **168** CM / **5'6"** Weight **49** KG / **108** LBS

### Medals

G (Gold)	S (Silver)	B (Bronze)
0	0	1

## Biography

### Beginning

He began the sport at age five at a neighbourhood table tennis academy in Chennai, India, where a coach noticed his talent and encouraged him to enrol in the academy. At age seven he started competing at state level, and by age 12 he was competing at national level.

(educationtimes.com, 31 Jul 2017)

### Reason

He was always passionate about the sport, but did not concentrate on it full-time until after he graduated from university. "There was a point in life when I was in a dilemma. I had to make a decision between education and table tennis. Table tennis has always been my first love. I had an immense passion for it, though I had a liking for science and computers too. When I was doing both at the same time [at university], that was when I realised that I should take up the sport as my profession, as that was the only thing which made me feel complete." (thefield.scroll.in, 23 Jul 2017; sportskeeda.com, 05 Sep 2017)

## Coach

N Ravichandran [club], IND; Massimo Costantini [national], ITA; Subramaniam Raman [personal], IND, from 2013 (ittf.com, 06 Jan 2018, 12 Jun 2017, 03 Sep 2017)

## Ambition

To win a team medal at the Olympic Games. (newslick.in, 25 Apr 2018)

## Memorable

Winning the men's singles title at the 2016 Belgium Open. (sportskeeda.com, 31 May 2017)

## Additional Information

### Grip

Shakehand (ultimatetabletennis.in, 01 Jul 2017)

### Style of play

Attack (ultimatetabletennis.in, 01 Jul 2017)

### General

#### BALANCING SPORT AND STUDY

He grew up in a family where the traditional focus was on education rather than sport. He

says it was difficult balancing his university degree in engineering with his training, and he would often compete at tournaments on just a few hours sleep due to his study commitments. After he graduated in 2014, he decided to dedicate himself to table tennis full-time. "The only reason I completed my engineering degree was because I wanted to get it out of the way. My dream is and always will be to be the world's best table tennis player, but every athlete who wants to represent their country needs to make sacrifices. This was mine, I needed to prove to my family that I'm strong enough to do both." (itff.com, 26 Sep 2016; thefield.scroll.in, 23 Jul 2017; sportskeeda.com, 05 Sep 2017)

## OCCUPATION

He works as a human resources executive for the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation of India [ONGC], as part of a sports quota programme that allows him to train and compete internationally. (Facebook page, 04 Nov 2017; Facebook profile, 15 Oct 2017)

## Influence

Indian table tennis player Sharath Kamal Achanta. (timesofindia.indiatimes.com, 27 Jul 2017)

## Education

Engineering - St. Joseph's College of Engineering, Chennai, IND

## Languages

English, Hindi, Tamil

## Highlights

Rank

Event

Year

Location

Rank	Event	Year	Location
<b>World Championships</b>			
13	Team	2018	Halmstad, SWE
25	Team	2016	Kuala Lumpur, MAS
2nd Round	Men's Doubles	2017	Dusseldorf, GER
2nd Round	Mixed Doubles	2017	Dusseldorf, GER
2nd Round	Singles	2015	Suzhou, CHN
1st Round	Men's Doubles	2015	Suzhou, CHN
1st Round	Singles	2017	Dusseldorf, GER
<b>ITTF World Tour</b>			
1	Singles	2016	De Haan, BEL
2	Men's Doubles	2017	Panagyurishte, BUL
3	Men's Doubles	2017	Stockholm, SWE
3	Men's Doubles	2016	Panagyurishte, BUL
Quarterfinal	Men's Doubles	2018	Gold Coast, QLD, AUS
Quarterfinal	Men's Doubles	2018	Doha, QAT
Quarterfinal	Men's Doubles	2017	Linz, AUT
Quarterfinal	Men's Doubles	2017	Brisbane, QLD, AUS
Quarterfinal	Men's Doubles	2017	New Delhi, IND
Quarterfinal	Singles	2016	Panagyurishte, BUL
Quarterfinal	Men's Doubles	2016	De Haan, BEL
Quarterfinal	Men's Doubles	2015	De Haan, BEL
2nd Round	Singles	2018	Gold Coast, QLD, AUS

Rank	Event	Year	Location
2nd Round	Singles	2018	Doha, QAT
2nd Round	Singles	2017	Brisbane, QLD, AUS
1st Round	Men's Doubles	2018	Budapest, HUN
1st Round	Men's Doubles	2016	Stockholm, SWE
1st Round	Men's Doubles	2016	Incheon, KOR
1st Round	Men's Doubles	2016	Otocec, SLO
1st Round	Singles	2018	Incheon, KOR
1st Round	Singles	2018	Hong Kong, CHN
1st Round	Singles	2017	New Delhi, IND
1st Round	Singles	2016	Stockholm, SWE
1st Round	Singles	2016	Olomouc, CZE
1st Round	Singles	2016	Otocec, SLO
1st Round	Singles	2016	Budapest, HUN
1st Round	Singles	2015	Stockholm, SWE
1st Round	Singles	2015	De Haan, BEL
<b>Asian Championships</b>			
8	Team	2017	Wuxi, CHN
8	Team	2015	Bangkok, THA
4th Round	Singles	2015	Bangkok, THA
3rd Round	Men's Doubles	2015	Bangkok, THA
2nd Round	Singles	2017	Wuxi, CHN
<b>South Asian Games</b>			

Rank	Event	Year	Location
1	Men's Doubles	2016	Guwahati, IND
1	Team	2016	Guwahati, IND
2	Singles	2016	Guwahati, IND
2	Mixed Doubles	2016	Guwahati, IND

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Commonwealth Games			
1	Team	2018	Gold Coast, QLD, AUS
2	Men's Doubles	2018	Gold Coast, QLD, AUS
3	Mixed Doubles	2018	Gold Coast, QLD, AUS
Quarterfinal	Singles	2018	Gold Coast, QLD, AUS

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World Ranking (as of 01 Aug 2018)			
39	Singles	2018	

## Social

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