

Sunitha targets Olympics medal

Sunitha Rao is ecstatic about playing in her maiden Olympics and is hopeful that together with Sania Mirza, they can win a medal for India in the doubles event in tennis.

US-born Sunitha along with Sania Mirza will compete in the women's doubles at the Beijing Olympics, having got a wild card entry Wednesday.

'It feels amazing. To represent India in the Olympics has been something I've dreamed about and hope to make India proud,' Sunitha told IANS.

'I really hope to do well in the Olympics. Of course getting a medal is the goal, she added.

It has been a good year for Sunitha, currently ranked 128th in doubles. The 22-year-old reached a career high doubles rankings of 108 in May and then went on to achieve her highest singles rankings of 149 in June.

Sunitha, who after Sania is the highest ranked Indian on the tennis circuit, says she is keen to play with the Hyderabad.

'I am very excited about playing with Sania, I played with her once before, at Fed cup, and enjoyed it, so I am very much looking forward to playing with her again.

'I received the news Friday morning, but have not yet had a chance to speak with Sania. We will speak soon and hopefully can play together a tournament or two before the Olympics,' she said.

Sunitha, who lost in the quarterfinals of the Boston ITF Saturday, says she will be in India for the Sunfeast Open in October.

Pragya Tiwari (© IANS / India eNews)