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# Silver for solid effort



**In sync:** Malaysia's Cheong Jun Hoong (left) and Pandeleda Rinong acknowledging the cheers after winning silver in the women's 10m platform synchro.

## Pandeleda-Jun Hoong display nerves of steel to finish second

AFTER five days of agonising wait, Malaysia finally landed a medal – a silver – at the Rio Olympics.

Thanks to the superb effort by Pandeleda Rinong and Cheong Jun Hoong, Malaysia finished second in the women's 10m platform synchro with 344.34 points. China's Chen Ruolin-Liu Huixia took the gold on 354.00. Canada grabbed the bronze through Meaghan Benfeito-Roseline Filion after collecting 336.18 points.

Pandeleda-Jun Hoong were always in contention for a medal – silver or bronze – right from the start as China were just too good for the rest of the field as they led from start to finish.

The Malaysians were joint second with Canada after the first two dives, with both recording identical 52.80 and 52.80 for a 105.60 total.

In the third dive, Pandeleda-Jun Hoong dropped to third despite a 76.50 effort. North Korea's Kim Yuk-



hyang-Kim Mi-rae recorded their best score of the day with 81.00 to move to second.

But Pandeleda-Jun Hoong fought back to regain second place with a 79.68-point show in the fourth round. It was the only time Pandeleda-Jun Hoong outshone Ruolin-Huixia, who could only manage 75.84.

In the fifth and final dive, Pandeleda-Jun Hoong displayed nerves of steel to record their best score of the day – 82.56 – to secure the silver.

Ruolin-Huixia registered 87.36 points – the best score of the day – with a splendid plunge while Canada jumped from fifth to finish third after recording 80.64 points.

"I was holding my breath during the fourth dive.

"Pandeleda and Jun Hoong were very focused and executed a dive better than the Chinese pair," enthused chef de mission Tan Sri Mohamed Al Amin Abdul Majid.

### How the silver was won

		Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	Rd 5	Score
CHN	CHEN Ruolin						
	LIU Huixia	55.80	55.80	79.20	75.84	87.36	<b>354.00</b>
MAS	CHEONG Jun Hoong	52.80	52.80	76.50	79.68	82.56	<b>344.34</b>
	PAMG Pandeleda Rinong	52.80	52.80	76.50	79.68	82.56	<b>344.34</b>
CAN	BENFEITO Meaghan	52.80	52.80	74.70	75.24	80.64	<b>336.18</b>
	FILION Roseline	52.80	52.80	74.70	75.24	80.64	<b>336.18</b>
PRK	KIM Kuk Hyang	49.80	53.40	81.00	76.80	61.44	<b>322.44</b>
	KIM Mi Rae	49.80	53.40	81.00	76.80	61.44	<b>322.44</b>
GBR	COUCH Tonia	50.40	50.40	75.60	79.68	63.36	<b>319.44</b>
	TOULSON Lois	50.40	50.40	75.60	79.68	63.36	<b>319.44</b>
MEX	ESPINOSA Paola	50.40	49.20	71.10	61.38	72.00	<b>304.08</b>
	OROZCO Alejandra	50.40	49.20	71.10	61.38	72.00	<b>304.08</b>
USA	COZAD Amelia	48.60	50.40	65.70	62.40	73.92	<b>301.02</b>
	PARRATTO Jessica	48.60	50.40	65.70	62.40	73.92	<b>301.02</b>
BRA	OLIVEIRA Ingrid	44.40	45.00	74.88	52.80	63.90	<b>280.98</b>
	PEDROSO Giovanna	44.40	45.00	74.88	52.80	63.90	<b>280.98</b>

## Medal leaves Al Amin at a loss for words

CHEF de mission Tan Sri Mohamed Al Amin Abdul Majid (*pic*) heaved a huge sigh of relief as Malaysia finally broke the medal drought at the Rio de Janeiro Olympics with a silver.

On the fifth day of competition on Tuesday, Pandeleda Rinong and Cheong Jun Hoong brought cheer to the country when they finished second in the women's 10m platform synchro at the Maria Lenk Aquatics Centre.

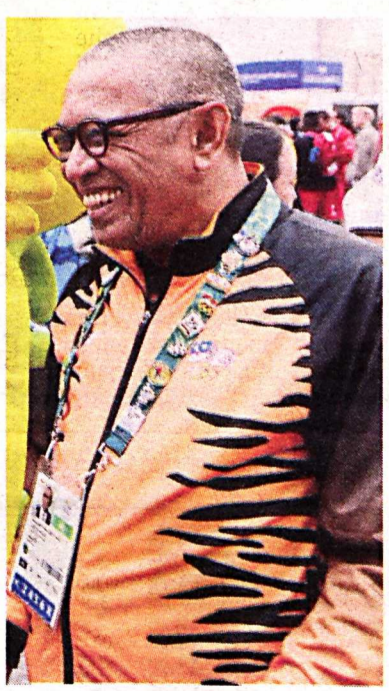
It was Malaysia's fourth silver in the history of the Games.

"I'm lost for words. It's beyond our expectations as we were only hoping for a bronze," said Al Amin.

"It was a very solid performance. I'm happy for them as they managed to rise to the occasion."

He admitted that he was under tremendous pressure following the success of the other Asean neighbours.

Thailand lead the way with two golds, one silver and one bronze. Vietnam have one gold while Indonesia have two silvers.



Like Malaysia, the Philippines also have a silver.

"The pressure is off now. I've been wondering every day when the first medal would come," said the smiling Al Amin.

"Last time, we won a bronze in diving (through Pandeleda in the 10m platform individual at the 2012 London Olympics). Now, we have the silver.

"We still have many events to look forward to here."

Deputy Youth and Sports Minister



- (All Malaysian time)
- TODAY**
- > **BADMINTON**
    - Men's singles**
    - GROUP A:** Lee Chong Wei vs Soren Opti (Sur) – 8.35pm.
    - Men's doubles**
    - GROUP B:** Goh V Shem-Tan Wee Kiong vs Johannes Schottler-Michael Fuchs (Ger) – 2.55am tomorrow.
    - Women's doubles**
    - GROUP C:** Vivian Hoo-Woon Khe Wei vs Heather Olver-Lauren Smith (Bri) – 10.55pm.
    - Mixed doubles**
    - GROUP C:** Chan Peng Soon-Goh Liu Ying vs Bodin Isara-Savitree Amitrapai (Tha) – 3.40am tomorrow.
  - > **GOLF**
    - FIRST ROUND:** Danny Chia and Gavin Kyle Green – 6.30pm.

Datuk M. Saravanan also witnessed Pandeleda-Jun Hoong's exploits at the pool.

"This is a historical day and a beginning for Malaysia in Rio," he said.