



Danisha in Malaysia World Table Tennis Champs By Iqbal Gaffoor

Lenasia's sensational Danisha Patel made it to the international stage once again in Table Tennis. She just recently returned with great memories after participating in the Perfect 2016 World Team Table Tennis Championships in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The South African Women's Team included Patel, Zodwa Mapanga, Khanyisile Madlala and Lakeesha Johnson (Junior) while the coach was Omar Zenalden.

"The reason we qualified for this tournament was because when we went to Egypt (February 2015) to participate in the African Team Championship the ladies team placed in the top 8 in Africa. The Men's team unfortunately didn't qualify." The next World Team Championships will be held in 2018 in Halmstad Sweden. However we need to qualify for that in November where we will be playing in Morocco (That's if I make top 4 in SA first).

I will be defending my title for the second time at the SA national championship that will be held in June/July in Pietermaritzburg," she said. The SA Teams participated in the Team Events – comprising of four divisions, based on rankings with South Africa playing in division 4. Other countries in the division included Mauritius, Maldives, and Nepal

"Division 1 had the world's best table tennis players, so watching them live for the first time was such a dream come true. Watching them train and play really shows what a long way we have to go to be the best. Still much more training needed every day. All these players will be at the Olympics as well. We only managed to tour a small part of the beautiful city of Kuala Lumpur. The table tennis was so good to watch, you would rather watch than tour." Said Coach Zenalden.

