

# No blanks for Ser

19-year-old Singapore star pips Thai in a shoot-off to finally win gold

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**VIENTIANE** – She is one of six elite athletes currently in the Olympic Pathway Programme run by the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports.

Shooter Jasmine Ser's big target is the 2012 Olympic Games.

For the first three days of the shooting competition here at the SEA Games, Ser endured a frustrating time, with only a team silver in her bag.

Just when it seemed as if the 25th Games would be one to forget for her, Ser struck gold yesterday in her final event.

The 19-year-old clinched the women's 50m rifle three positions gold, a first for Singapore in the event.

Ser edged out Thailand's Majchacheep Sununta 10.0 to 9.1 points in a shoot-off, after both had finished the final level on 677.6 points. Ser's team-mate Aqilah Sudhir took the bronze (675.2).

"It makes up for my disappointment in the 10m air rifle," said Ser, who competed

with a 6.5kg Anschutz rifle, compared to her regular 4.7kg Feinwerkbau.

"Because it is longer, it is more unstable," she explained. "I didn't know what the scores were and thought I was going for the bronze. But when I got into the shoot-off, my first thought was, 'if (team-mate Goh) Jia Yi can do it, so can I'."

On Thursday, Jia Yi, 14, claimed the women's 10m air rifle gold after a shoot-off. In the 50m rifle three positions, a shooter fires off 20 shots each in three positions: prone, standing and kneeling. In the final,

**You're winning so many golds, how about leaving some for us?**

A Malaysian team official was overheard teasing SSA chief Chng Seng Mok

a shooter fires 10 shots from a standing position.

Earlier in the day, Ser combined with Aqilah and Lim Chea Rong to win the team silver, posting a score of 1,717. Thailand won

Ser's (centre) gold in the 50m rifle three positions is a first for Singapore in the event. She also combined with Aqilah (left) Lim Chea Rong to win the team silver. TANYO-HINN



the gold (1,725) and Malaysia the bronze (1,702).

It took the Republic's tally to five gold, four silver and four bronze medals from the shooting range so far.

"We've had more pleasant surprises than disappointments at these Games," said Singapore Shooting Association (SSA) president Chng Seng Mok, beaming with pride.

Aqilah, Jia Yi and Ser leave for Doha today for the Asian Air Gun Championships, which also serves as a qualifier for the 2010 Youth Olympic Games in Singapore.