

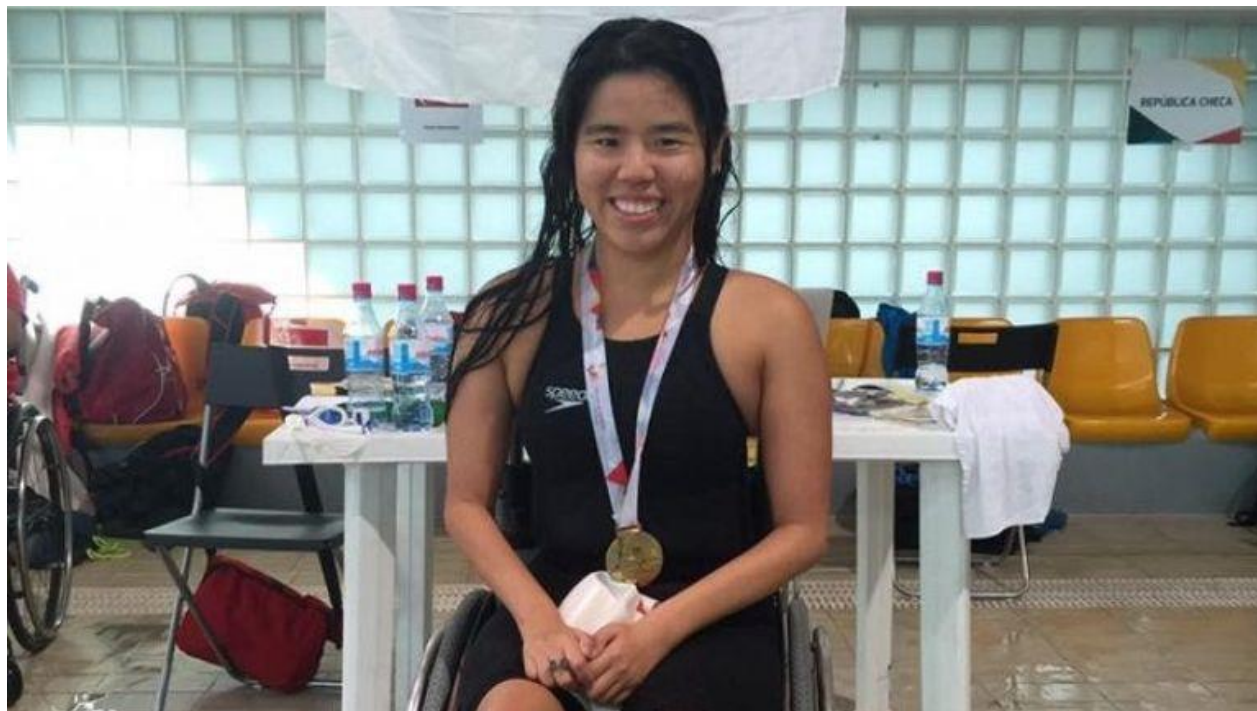
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Date: 7 May 2016

Headline: Singapore para-swimmer Yip Pin Xiu sets 2nd world record at European games

## Singapore para-swimmer Yip Pin Xiu sets 2nd world record at European games

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National para-swimmer Yip Pin Xiu at the IPC Swimming European Open Championships in Funchal, Portugal. (Photo: Singapore Disability Sports Council/Facebook)

SINGAPORE: Two days after she [smashed the world record](#) for the women's 100m (S2) backstroke, national para-swimmer Yip Pin Xiu broke another record at the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) European Open Championships in Funchal, Portugal on Friday (May 6).

Yip, 24, beat her own previous world record of 1min 1.61s in the women's 50m (S2) backstroke by nearly 1 second with a time of 1min 0.64s. Norway's Ingrid Thunem came in second (1min 6.53s) followed by Russia's Alexandra Agafonova (1min 6.75s).

The S2 classification refers to swimmers that mainly rely on their arms for swimming due to limited functions or coordination problems with their hands, trunks or legs, according to the IPC.

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Yip, a final-year Political Science student at the Singapore Management University who suffers from muscular dystrophy, had announced her decision to defer her studies to train full-time for the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games last November.

The European Open is the last major competition ahead of the Rio games on Sep 7 to Sep 18 this year, and is being run to give athletes as many opportunities as possible to qualify, according to the IPC.

Fellow national paralympic swimmer [Theresa Goh](#), 28, also set a new Asian record for the women's 100m (SB4) breaststroke with 1min 59.9s at the Open on Wednesday.

The SB4 classification is for swimmers with short statures and an additional impairment with a loss of control over one side of their body or paraplegia, the paralysis of the lower body.

In a Facebook post on Saturday, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong congratulated both swimmers for their achievements.

"Our athletes trained very hard to wear national colours at this competition. Pin Xiu and Theresa show that Team Singapore can do great things," he wrote.

- CNA/mz