Vani chases glory at Women's Indian Open

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Vani Kapoor put herself in pole position to end India's decade-long wait for a home winner at the Women's Indian Open as she took a slender one-shot lead on the penultimate day of the $500,000 Ladies European Tour event here on Saturday.

The 32-year-old carded a 3-under 69 for a 5-under total, staying one shot ahead of defending champion Shannon Tan of Singapore (68-77-67) and Thailand's three-time winner Pornanong Phatlum (72-71-69). Aditi Ashok was the last Indian to win the title a decade ago in 2016. Vani is thankful to be surrounded by family and friends to help her stay grounded. "They will keep reminding me that 18 holes are left, and there is work to be done, and that will help," she said.

Saturday turned out to be a profitable day for the Indian brigade. Battling illness and fatigue, Asian Games gold medallist Pranavi Urs slipped from her overnight T-2 but only just and finished in a tie for fourth at the end of Round 3. — PTI