# KKR breaks the bank for Cummins with ₹15.50 crore bid

Four of the five-most expensive signings are pace bowlers; Chawla is the priciest Indian star

### **IPL AUCTION**

AMOL KARHADKAR KOLKATA

As expected, pacers ruled the roost as the eight franchisees splurged a combined sum of ₹140.30 crore on 62 players who were sold during the 13th Player auction of the Indian Premier League on Thursday.

Bucking the trend of the big-hitters stealing the show at previous auctions, four of the five most expensive signing were pace bowlers.

While Australia's Pat Cummins attracted a historic bid of ₹15.50 crore from Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in a fiveway battle - the highest amount ever paid for an overseas cricketer and the second-highest across IPL auctions – Chris Morris, the South African pace-bowling all-rounder, joined him in the three-member league of players with nine-digit pay packets after a successful bid of ₹10 crore by Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB).

Separating the duo in the list of the highest expensive signings for the day was Cummins' compatriot Glenn Maxwell, the first big major signing of the day, with Kings XI Punjab bagging him for ₹10.75 crore.

Pacers Sheldon Cottrell (KXIP, ₹8.50 crore) and Nathan Coulter-Nile (MI, ₹8 crore) from West Indies and Australia respectively rounded up the top-five.

#### Unadkat stays with RR Besides these big signings,

more than a dozen other pacers joined the roster of teams. Rajasthan Royals retained Jaydev Unadkat with an effective price correction ₹3 crore as compared to ₹8.5 crore last time – while Kane Richardson (₹4 crore) and Dale Steyn (₹2 crore)







## Rahul named KXIP captain

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA NEW DELHI

India opener K.L. Rahul was on Thursday named KXIP captain for IPL 2020. Wasim Jaffer was appointed batting coach, Sunil Joshi as bowling coach and Jonty Rhodes as fielding coach.

"We are happy to appoint Rahul as our captain for the upcoming season. He has been through a lot in the last year or so and has come back strongly," said KXIP coowner Ness Wadia.

Shreyas Iyer was retained skipper of Delhi Capitals.





Busy day: The team owners and coaches met the media during breaks to explain their strategy. • RAJEEV BHATT

joined Royal Challengers Bangalore, with the South African legend being picked up for his base price towards the fag end of the auction that lasted well over five

Chennai Super Kings added England's seam-bowling all-rounder Sam Curran (₹5.50 core) and Australian wizard Josh Hazlewood (₹2 crore) to its squad. England's Chris Jordan (₹3 joined the RCB ranks.

Anil Kumble, the newlyappointed Kings XI Punjab head coach, said the onus on pacers was expected. "It's pretty obvious that bowlers are critical in T20s. Our gaps were evident. We had to fill fast bowler slots. The choice and money we had to spend we focussed on pacemen and middle-order folks," Kumble said.

### Tambe's feat

Besides the pacers and some promising young Indian batsmen, including five India Under-19 squad members, the spin duo of Piyush Chawla and Varun Chakravarthy also surprised many on the day, as did leggie Pravin Tambe, who at 48 became the oldest signing for IPL, beating Australia's Brad Hogg, who was 44 when he was in the KKR ranks in 2015.

At the end of the auction, Delhi Capitals owner Parth Jindal announced that the team has retained Shreyas Iyer as its captain for the

### WHAT THEY SAID

We got a few steals at base price. Very happy Akash Ambani, MI owner

We have a fairly set overseas roster. We didn't need a lot of overseas players. Someone like Mitch Marsh, we needed him there.

Five local Indian boys who are all good young players we want to give an opportunity to. Trevor Bayliss,

### SRH head coach

Our strategy was to bring in a death bowler. Pat Cummins or Woakes. Pat went above our budget. We're happy with Woakes. Parth Jindal, DC owner

We have seen one of the best captains in Indian cricket (Dhoni) being a 'keeper and a batsman, so I don't see a problem.

#### Anil Kumble, **KXIP** head coach

Aaron Finch brings a lot of experience to the group. Not as much as second captain as much as he is about helping

#### He is super experienced. Mike Hesson, RCB team director

Dinesh Karthik is definitely our captain. Morgan will be a perfect lieutenant for Karthik.

Yashasvi Jaiswal. Brendon McCullum, ■ FILE PHOTO: VIJAY BATE. KKR head coach

## Young India's shining stars

look at the uncapped Andians who struck it big on Thursday. Yashasvi Jaiswal (Raiasthan Royals, Price: ₹2.4 crore): The Mumbai left-hander left his hometown in Uttar Pradesh to move to Mumbai to pursue his cricketing ambitions. As a young boy, he endured several hardships, including selling paanipuri, to make a living while he played cricket. At 17, he became the youngest to hit a List A double-century, when he scored 203 in 154

balls against Jharkhand in

Royals, Price: ₹1.30 crores): The Uttar Pradesh fast bowler has played one first-class game and five List A games. He has featured regularly for the India under-19 team and is also part of the World Cup squad. **Priyam Garg (Sunrisers** Hyderabad, Price: ₹1.90 crores): Privam Garg will

the Vijay Hazare Trophy.

Kartik Tyagi (Rajasthan

be captaining India at the Under-19 World Cup in South Africa. The righthanded batsman from UP already has the experience of 12 First Class games, 19

List A games and 11 T20s. **Virat Singh (Sunrisers** Hyderabad, Price: ₹1.90 **crores):** Unlike his more well-known namesake, this Virat bats left-handed. He has already played 25 First Class matches for Jharkhand. In the T20 Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, he scored 343 runs in 10 games with three fifties at the strike rate of 142. Ravi Bishnoi (Kings XI **Punjab, Price: ₹2 crore):** The leg-spinner from Rajasthan is also part of the under-19 World Cup squad. He has played six T20s, taking six wickets.







■ FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

## **Look forward to CSK stint: Chawla**

Coach Fleming stressed on the leggie's rapport with Dhoni

AMOL KARHADKAR KOLKATA

Piyush Chawla feels the pressure of being in the auction pool. On each of the four previous occasions when he was part of the Indian Premier League (IPL) auction pool - full auctions in 2008, 2011, 2014 and 2018 - he preferred to be away from the television. Thursday was no different.

While his family was glued to the television in the afternoon, the leg-spinner opted to play a game of snooker at a club in Moradabad, his hometown. The moment he received a call from home, the veteran leg-spinner was relieved.

### 'Delighted'

"First, it was a sense of relief when they told me I have got bids. And when I heard the price and more importantly the team, I was extremely delighted." Chawla told The Hindu a day before he rejoins Gujarat for its Ranji

Trophy campaign. "I am really looking forward to playing for Chennai Super Kings (CSK). It's a great team with Mahi bhai (Mahendra Singh Dhoni), arguably the greatest captain in the world. Just couldn't have asked for more."

Stephen Fleming, the CSK



delighted when he heard the price and, more importantly. the team. ■ FILE PHOTO: K.R. DEEPAK

head coach, also stressed on Chawla's – who was a member of India's triumphant campaigns in the 2007 World T20 and the 2011 World Cup – rapport with Dhoni.

## More than handy

"We rate him very highly. The captain has a very good relationship with him. Obbiously, he is a different type of bowler from Karn Sharma, but we are happy to have him," Fleming said.

"We have a well-balanced squad. The home ground is spin dominant, so he will come in more than handy. Just trying to add some bases to what is a pretty good puzzle."

Chawla is no stranger to Chennai, having been a regular for India Cements in the TNCA League.

With 150 IPL wickets, the leggie hopes to make the most of his latest opportunity. "I love playing in Chennai and I hope I can contribute to the rich legacy of CSK."

Having emerged as the most expensive buy among Indians, it will be interesting to see if Chawla can repose the faith shown in him.

## Movers and **shakers**

Here's how the dugouts looked like after the IPL auction on Thursday

TOP BUYS Pat Cummins Glenn Maxwell Sheldon Cottrell Nathan Coulter-Chris Morris (KXIP) Players sold: **62** Players bought: 62 (33 Indians, Money spent: 29 foreign players) ₹140.30 crore Money spent: **₹140.30** cr expensive signing: Pat Cummins (**₹15.5** crore, Kolkata Knight Riders) most expensive overseas TM MOTORS player in the history of IPL and the second-highest bid in IPL auctions so far expensive Indian: Piyush Chawla (**₹6.75** crore, Super Kings)

**CHENNAI SUPER KINGS:** 

Pivush Chawla (₹6.75 cr.), Sam Curran (**₹5.5** cr), Josh Hazlewood (₹2 cr), R. Sai Kishore (₹20 L)

SQUAD ₹14.60

ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE: Chris Morris (₹10 cr), Aaron Finch (₹4.4 cr),

Joshua Phillippe (₹20 L), Kane Richardson (₹4 cr), Pavan Deshpande (20L), Dale Steyn (2 cr), Shahbaz Ahmed (20 L),

Isuru Udana (50 L) ₹27.90 21

₹6.40 cr

**DELHI CAPITALS:** Alex Carey (2.4 cr), Chris Woakes (1.5 cr).

Jason Rov (1.5 cr) Shimron Hetmver (7.75 cr), Mohit Sharma (50 L), Tushar Deshpande (20 L), Marcus Stoinis (4.80 cr), Lalit Yadav (20 L)

₹27.85 ₹9 cr

2020

PLAYERS BOUGHT • PURSE AT START • PURSE REMAINING MUMBAI INDIANS: Nathan Coulter-Nile (₹8 cr). Chris Lynn (₹2 cr), Saurabh Tiwary (₹50 L), Mohsin Khan (₹20 L), Digvijay Deshmukh (₹20 L), Prince Balwant Rai (₹20 L)

SQUAD SIZE: 24

(₹20 L), David Miller

Aniruddha Joshi (₹20

L), Andrew Tye (₹1 cr),

₹28.90 SQUAD SIZE:

₹14.75 cr

KINGS XI PUNJAB:

Sheldon Cottrell

25

Tom Curran (**₹1** cr)

(₹ 75 L), Oshane

Thomas (**₹50** L),

**KOLKATA KNIGHT RAJASTHAN ROYALS:** Javdev Unadkat (₹3 cr).

Robin Uthappa (₹3 cr),

RIDERS: Pat Cummins (**₹15.5** cr), Eoin (**₹2.40** cr), Anuj Rawat Morgan (₹5.25 cr), Rahul Tripathi (₹80 L), Akash Singh (**₹60** L), Varun (**₹20** L), Kartik Tyagi (**₹1.30** L), Ishan Porel

Chakravarthy (₹4 cr), M Siddarth (₹20 L), Chris Green (₹20 L). Tom Banton (₹1 cr), Pravin Tambe (₹20 L), Nikhil Naik (₹20 L)

SQUAD SIZE: 23

₹**8.50** cr

HYDERABAD: Virat Singh (₹1.90 cr), Priyam Garg (**₹1.90** cr), Mitchell Marsh (₹2 cr). B Sandeep (₹20 L), Fabian Allen (₹50 L), Abdul Samad (₹20

L), Sanjay Yadav

**SUNRISERS** 

**SQUAD** ₹17 SIZE:

₹10.10 cr

(₹ 8.5 cr), Glenn Maxwell (₹10.75 cr). Deepak Hooda (Rs 50 L), Ravi Bishnoi (₹2 cr), James Neesham (₹50 L), Chris Jordan (₹3 cr), Tajinder Singh (₹20 L), Simran Singh (**₹55** L)

25

₹16.50 cr

## Uthappa excited about Royals move



Robin Uthappa. ■ FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR M.R. PRAVEEN CHANDRAN

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Robin Uthappa, picked up by Rajasthan Royals for ₹3 crore in the IPL Auction, says he is excited at reuniting with Steve Smith. The Aussie and Uthappa have been together at Pune Supergiants.

The former India batsmen said he was also looking forward to sharing the dugout with Kerala teammate Sanju

"I wasn't aware of what was happening at the auction as I was batting. I was told about this after the match and I am excited at playing for Rajasthan Royals, especially with Steve Smith.

"I had played with him before and I am looking forward to sharing the dugout with Sanju. I played six seasons for Kolkata. It has been an exciting journey for me. The people in Kolkata loved me and I am thankful to them," he said.

Uthappa said Rajasthan Royals was a good team with world class players.

"I know quite a lot of players personally, so it won't be a problem for me to play for a new team. I am keen to play alongside Jofra Archer and Ben Stokes," he said.



MS Dhoni, Suresh Raina,

M Vijay, Ravindra Jadeja,

Mitchell Santner, Lungi

Ambati Rayudu, Narayan

Jagadeeshan, Harbhajan

Singh, KM Asif, Shardul

Thakur, Shane Watson,

Gaikwad, Deepak Chahar,

Additions: Piyush Chawla,

Sam Curran, Josh Hazle-

Imran Tahir, Ruturai

Monu Kumar, Karn

wood, R Sai Kishore

INDIANS

Sharma

Ngidi, Kedar Jadhav,

Faf du Plessis,

Virat Kohli, Moeen Ali, Yuzvendra Chahal, Parthiv Patel, Mohammed Siraj, Umesh Yadav, Pawan Negi, Devdutt Padikkal, Gurkeerat Singh Mann Washington Sundar. Shivam Dube, Navdeep Saini, AB de Villiers

Additions: Chris Morris, Aaron Finch, Joshua Phillippe, Kane Richardson. Pavan Deshpande. Dale Stevn, Shahbaz Ahmed, Isuru Udana

Rohit Sharma, Hardik Pandya, Jasprit Bumrah, Krunal

Mohsin Khan, Digvijay Deshmukh, Prince Balwant Rai.

Pandya, Ishan Kishan, Surya Kumar Yadav, Rahul Chahar,

Anmolpreet Singh, Jayant Yadav, Aditya Tare, Anukul Roy,

Quinton de Kock, Kieron Pollard, Lasith Malinga, Mitchell

Additions: Nathan Coulter-Nile, Chris Lynn, Saurabh Tiwary,

Shikhar Dhawan, Prithvi Shaw, Shreyas lyer, Rishabh Pant, İshant Sharma, Axar Patel, Amit Mishra, Harshal Patel, Avesh Khan, Kagiso Rabada,

Additions: Alex Carey, Chris Woakes, Jason Roy, Shimron Hetmver. Mohit Sharma. Tushar Deshpande. Marcus Stoinis, Lalit

Keemo Paul, Sandeep

Lamichhane

Mandeep Singh, Mayank Agarwal, Hardus Viljoen, Darshan Nalkande, Sarfaraz Khan, Arshdeep Singh, Harpreet Brar, Murugan Ashwin Additions: Sheldon

KL Rahul, Karun Nair,

Nicholas Pooran, Mujeeb

ur Rahman, Chris Gayle,

Mohammed Shami,

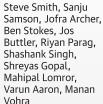
Cottrell, Glenn Maxwell, Deepak Hooda, Ravi Bishnoi, James Neesham, Chris Jordan, Taiinder Singh, Simran Singh



son, Nitish Rana, Rinku Singh, Prasidh Krishna, Sandeep Warrier, Harry Gurney, Kamlesh Nagarkoti, Shivam Mavi Additions: Pat Cummins, Eoin Morgan, Rahul Tripathi, Varun Chakra-

man Gill, Lockie Fergu-

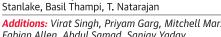
varthy, M Siddarth, Chris Green, Tom Banton Pravin Tambe, Nikhil

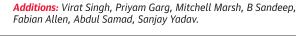


Maxwell, Deepak Hooda, Ravi Bishnoi, James Neesham. Chris Jordan, Tajinder Singh, Simran Singh Kane Williamson, David Warner, Manish Pandey, Vijay Shankar,

**Additions:** Sheldon

Cottrell, Glenn





Rashid Khan, Mohammad Nabi, Abhishek Sharma, Jonny Bairstow,

Ahmed, Sandeep Sharma, Siddharth Kaul, Shahbaz Nadeem, Billy

Wriddhiman Saha, Shreevats Goswami, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Khaleel