

# 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 five-way 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 (KKXIP, ₹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)



**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 hours.

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

Anil Kumble, the newly-appointed 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 Chakravarthi 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 forthcoming season.

## WHAT THEY SAID

We got a few steals at base price. Very happy about it.  
**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, RCB 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 us out.  
He is super experienced.  
**Mike Hesson, RCB team director**  
Dinesh Karthik is definitely our captain. Morgan will be a perfect lieutenant for Karthik.  
**Brendon McCullum, KKR head coach**



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

**Look at the uncapped Indians who struck it big on Thursday.**  
**Yashasvi Jaiswal (Rajasthan 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

## 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 Jonny 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 co-owner Ness Wadia.  
Shreyas Iyer was retained skipper of Delhi Capitals.

## Young India's shining stars

**The Vijay Hazare Trophy.**  
**Kartik Tyagi (Rajasthan 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):** Priyam Garg will be captaining India at the Under-19 World Cup in South Africa. The right-handed 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.



Yashasvi Jaiswal.  
■ FILE PHOTO: VIJAY BATE.



Virat Singh.  
■ FILE PHOTO



Priyam Garg.  
■ FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

## Look forward to CSK stint: Chawla

Coach Fleming stressed on the leggie's rapport with Dhoni

## IPL AUCTION

**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.



**Pleasant surprise:** Piyush Chawla said he was extremely delighted when he heard the price and, more importantly, the team. ■ FILE PHOTO: K.R. DEEPAK

**'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 re-joins 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

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. Obviously, 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.

## 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 batsman said he was also looking forward to sharing the dugout with Kerala teammate Sanju Samson.  
"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.

## Movers and shakers

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

**TOP BUYS**

Pat Cummins (KKR) ₹15.50 crore	Glenn Maxwell (KKXIP) ₹10.75 crore	Chris Morris (RCB) ₹10 crore	Sheldon Cottrell (KKXIP) ₹8.50 crore	Nathan Coulter-Nile (MI) ₹8 crore
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**Players sold: 62**  
**Money spent: ₹140.30 crore**  
**Most expensive signing:** Pat Cummins (₹15.5 crore, Kolkata Knight Riders) - most expensive overseas player in the history of IPL and the second-highest bid in IPL auctions so far  
**Most expensive Indian:** Piyush Chawla (₹6.75 crore, Chennai Super Kings)

**OVERALL:** Players bought: 62 (33 Indians, 29 foreign players)  
**Money spent: ₹140.30 cr**

### PLAYERS BOUGHT

● PURSE AT START ● PURSE REMAINING

<b>CHENNAI SUPER KINGS:</b> Piyush Chawla (₹6.75 cr.), Sam Curran (₹5.5 cr.), Josh Hazlewood (₹2 cr), R. Sai Kishore (₹20 L) <b>₹14.60 cr</b> <b>₹15 lakh</b> <b>SQUAD SIZE: 24</b>	<b>MUMBAI INDIANS:</b> 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) <b>₹13.05 cr</b> <b>₹1.95 cr</b> <b>SQUAD SIZE: 24</b>
<b>ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE:</b> 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) <b>₹27.90 cr</b> <b>₹6.40 cr</b> <b>SQUAD SIZE: 21</b>	<b>KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS:</b> Pat Cummins (₹15.5 cr), Eoin Morgan (₹5.25 cr), Rahul Tripathi (₹60 L), Varun Chakravarthi (₹4 cr), M Siddarth (₹20 L), Chris Green (₹20 L), Tom Banton (₹1 cr), Pravin Tambe (₹20 L), Nikhil Naik (₹20 L) <b>₹35.65 cr</b> <b>₹8.50 cr</b> <b>SQUAD SIZE: 23</b>
<b>DELHI CAPITALS:</b> Alex Carey (2.4 cr), Chris Woakes (1.5 cr), Jason Roy (1.5 cr), Shimron Hetmyer (7.75 cr), Mohit Sharma (50 L), Tushar Deshpande (20 L), Marcus Stoinis (4.80 cr), Lalit Yadav (20 L) <b>₹27.85 cr</b> <b>₹9 cr</b> <b>SQUAD SIZE: 22</b>	<b>SUNRISERS HYDERABAD:</b> 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 (₹20 L) <b>₹17 cr</b> <b>₹10.10 cr</b> <b>SQUAD SIZE: 25</b>
<b>KINGS XI PUNJAB:</b> Sheldon Cottrell (₹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) <b>₹42.70 cr</b> <b>₹16.50 cr</b> <b>SQUAD SIZE: 25</b>	<b>KINGS XI PUNJAB:</b> Sheldon Cottrell (₹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) <b>₹42.70 cr</b> <b>₹16.50 cr</b> <b>SQUAD SIZE: 25</b>

### FINAL SQUADS FOR 2020

<b>CHENNAI SUPER KINGS</b> MS Dhoni, Suresh Raina, Faf du Plessis, M Vijay, Ravindra Jadeja, Mitchell Santner, Lungi Ngidi, Kedar Jadhav, Ambati Rayudu, Narayan Jagadeeshan, Harbhajan Singh, KM Asif, Shardul Thakur, Shane Watson, Imran Tahir, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Deepak Chahar, Monu Kumar, Karn Sharma <b>Additions:</b> Piyush Chawla, Sam Curran, Josh Hazlewood, R Sai Kishore	<b>ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE</b> 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 <b>Additions:</b> Chris Morris, Aaron Finch, Joshua Phillippe, Kane Richardson, Pavan Deshpande, Dale Steyn, Shahbaz Ahmed, Isuru Udana	<b>DELHI CAPITALS</b> Shikhar Dhawan, Prithvi Shaw, Shreyas Iyer, Rishabh Pant, Ishant Sharma, Axar Patel, Amit Mishra, Harshal Patel, Avesh Khan, Kagiso Rabada, Keemo Paul, Sandeep Lamichhane <b>Additions:</b> Alex Carey, Chris Woakes, Jason Roy, Shimron Hetmyer, Mohit Sharma, Tushar Deshpande, Marcus Stoinis, Lalit Yadav	<b>KINGS XI PUNJAB</b> KL Rahul, Karun Nair, Mohammed Shami, Nicholas Pooran, Muejeb ur Rahman, Chris Gayle, Mandeep Singh, Mayank Agarwal, Hardus Viljoen, Darshan Nalkande, Sarfaraz Khan, Arshdeep Singh, Harpreet Brar, Murugan Ashwin <b>Additions:</b> Sheldon Cottrell, Glenn Maxwell, Deepak Hooda, Ravi Bishnoi, James Neesham, Chris Jordan, Tajinder Singh, Simran Singh	<b>Kolkata Knight Riders</b> Dinesh Karthik, Andre Russell, Sunil Narine, Kuldeep Yadav, Shubman Gill, Lockie Ferguson, Nitish Rana, Rinku Singh, Prasidh Krishna, Sandeep Warrier, Harry Gurney, Kamlesh Nagarkoti, Shivam Mavi <b>Additions:</b> Pat Cummins, Eoin Morgan, Rahul Tripathi, Varun Chakravarthi, M Siddarth, Chris Green, Tom Banton, Pravin Tambe, Nikhil Naik	<b>Rajasthan Royals</b> Steve Smith, Sanju Samson, Jofra Archer, Ben Stokes, Jos Buttler, Riyan Parag, Shashank Singh, Shreyas Gopal, Mahipal Lomror, Varun Aaron, Manan Vohra <b>Additions:</b> Sheldon Cottrell, Glenn Maxwell, Deepak Hooda, Ravi Bishnoi, James Neesham, Chris Jordan, Tajinder Singh, Simran Singh
<b>MUMBAI INDIANS</b> Rohit Sharma, Hardik Pandya, Jasprit Bumrah, Krunal Pandya, Ishan Kishan, Surya Kumar Yadav, Rahul Chahar, Anmolpreet Singh, Jayant Yadav, Aditya Tare, Anukul Roy, Quinton de Kock, Kieron Pollard, Lasith Malinga, Mitchell McClenaghan <b>Additions:</b> Nathan Coulter-Nile, Chris Lynn, Saurabh Tiwary, Mohsin Khan, Digvijay Deshmukh, Prince Balwant Rai.	<b>SUNRISERS HYDERABAD</b> Kane Williamson, David Warner, Manish Pandey, Vijay Shankar, Rashid Khan, Mohammad Nabi, Abhishek Sharma, Jonny Bairstow, Wriddhiman Saha, Shreevats Goswami, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Khaleel Ahmed, Sandeep Sharma, Siddharth Kaul, Shahbaz Nadeem, Billy Stanlake, Basil Thampi, T. Natarajan <b>Additions:</b> Virat Singh, Priyam Garg, Mitchell Marsh, B Sandeep, Fabian Allen, Abdul Samad, Sanjay Yadav.				