

KKR releases Bangladeshi cricketer Mustafizur Rahman amid tensions

STATE TIMES NEWS

GUWAHATI: Bangladesh pacer Mustafizur Rahman has been released by IPL franchise Kolkata Knight Riders after being instructed to do so by the Indian Cricket Board (BCCI) amid heightening diplomatic tensions between the two neighbouring countries.

KKR had acquired the services of the 30-year-old left-arm for Rs 9.20 crore from a base price of Rs 2 crore after an intense bidding war with Chennai Super Kings and Delhi Capitals at the players' auction last month.

The BCCI said KKR will be allowed to name a replacement player if required for the event scheduled to start on March 26.

"The BCCI has asked Kolkata Knight Riders to release Mustafizur Rahman from its squad. They can ask for replacement, if needed. And upon request, BCCI

will allow a replacement player," BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia told PTI here on Saturday.

Asked why the BCCI has asked Kolkata Knight Riders to do so, he replied, "Because of recent developments all across."

In a statement, the franchise said it has released the player as instructed by the BCCI.

"Kolkata Knight Riders confirms that BCCI/IPL as the regulator of IPL has instructed it to release Mustafizur Rahman from the squad ahead of the upcoming Indian Premier League (IPL) season.

"The release has been carried out following due process and consultations, upon the instruction of the Board of Control of Cricket in India," KKR said in a statement.

In Sylhet, Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) President Aminul Islam

Bulbul announced an emergency meeting of the body to discuss the issue later tonight.

"...we have arranged to call an emergency meeting at 9:30pm (10pm IST) to know about the matter in detail. Then, we will get a clear overview and may issue a media release.

"...we don't have the full information. That's why, we have called the emergency meeting," Bulbul said.

The pressure had been mounting on the BCCI over Rahman's participation after recent killing of a Hindu man in the country and India's expression of concern for the safety of minorities there.

The criticism has also extended to KKR co-owner and Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan with some politicians from the ruling BJP questioning the call to include the bowler in the current scenario.

Rahman has featured in eight IPL editions since 2016, missing the tournament only in 2019 and 2020.

He has played for teams such as Sunrisers Hyderabad, Mumbai Indians, Delhi Capitals, Chennai Super Kings and Rajasthan Royals. The upcoming edition was going to be his first for three-time IPL winners KKR. Neither him, nor the Bangladesh Cricket Board have reacted to the development yet.

Rahman was allowed to register for the auction by the Indian Board but the Indo-Bangladesh ties have grown more tense amid political unrest in that country. With Rahman's ouster, it remains to be seen if Bangladeshi players would be excluded from the IPL the same way their Pakistani counterparts have been for the past several years owing to political tensions.

Doon International School Jammu achieves global recognition

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Doon International School, Jammu has brought immense pride to the region by achieving international recognition on the global stage. The school has been conferred with the International School Award in recognition of its excellence in education, innovation, and global engagement at the vibrant city of Bangkok, Thailand.

Adding to this prestigious achievement, the Principal of the school, Dr. Vikesh Kaur, was also honoured with the International Principal of the Year Award at Bangkok.

The awards were presented during an International Educational Conference for Educators centered on the transformative theme of "Artificial Intelligence in Education: Ethics,



Principal DIS Jammu, Dr. Vikesh Kaur receiving International School Award.

Opportunities, and Global Perspectives."

This event was organised by an incredible organisation namely Centre For Educational Development (CED) in collaboration with Niti Aayog India and

recognised by MSME.

This international conference witnessed participation from leading educators, policymakers and

N.Tantray, Vice Chairman M.A.Tantray and the Founder Principal Dr. Vikesh Kaur to receive this prestigious global accolade.

The awards acknowledge the school's commitment to progressive education, innovative teaching practices, ethical integration of technology and its strong focus on global learning perspectives. Dr. Vikesh Kaur's leadership was especially recognized for fostering a future-ready educational environment that blends academic excellence with technological advancement and global values.

This remarkable achievement marks a proud moment not only for Doon International School Jammu but also for the entire region of Jammu & Kashmir, reinforcing its growing presence on the global educational map.

Yasha Mudgal reviews progress of works under SASCI projects



Commissioner Secretary YSS, Yasha Mudgal chairing high level review meeting.

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Commissioner Secretary, Youth Services & Sports (YSS), Yasha Mudgal, today chaired a high level review meeting at the Civil Secretariat Jammu to assess the progress of works being executed under the Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI) projects by Directorate of Youth Services & Sports and the J&K Sports Council.

The matches were witnessed by Sohail Kazmi, Editor-in-Chief, Daily Taskeen, and Vivek Shekhar Sharma, SP North Jammu, who appreciated the standard of cricket and lauded the organisers for promoting competitive sports in the region.

Also present on the occasion were Vikrant Sharma, Cluster Head North, 92.7 BIG FM, RJ Juhie, Morning Show Host,

along with Ahmer Ishaq and Sahil Choudhary, who thanked the teams, officials, media and spectators for their continued support as the BIG JKPL heads into its decisive semi-final stage.

Intimiaz Lefty led from the front with a brilliant 54 off 36 balls, smashing five fours and four sixes. He was well-supported by Aaqib Mir (45 runs), while Jeangir Lone added late momentum with a quick 30 off 13 balls.

Chasing 190, Nice Gems

struggled against a disciplined bowling attack and were bundled out for 127 runs in 16.5 overs, despite a fighting 54 off 31 balls by Samer Singh.

Intimiaz Lefty capped off a

memorable outing with figures

of 3/22, while Aaqib Mir claimed 3/36, and Rouf Bashir delivered an exceptional economical over, conceding no runs.

The second Quarter-Final saw Royal Goodwill Cricket Club register a dominant 62-run win over Nice Gems Cricket Club. Winning the toss and opting to bat first, Royal Goodwill posted 189/9 in 20 overs.

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