

Pandya's maiden 5-wkt haul goes in vain, LSG beat MI by 12 runs

Chasing 204 for a win, Mumbai Indians ended at 191 for 5 in 20 overs to expose the 5-time champions' vulnerability to chase big targets

PTI, LUCKNOW: Hardik Pandya's maiden five-wicket haul in T20 cricket and star batter Suryakumar Yadav's fluent 67 went in vain as Lucknow Super Giants beat Mumbai Indians by 12 runs in an Indian Premier League match, here, on Friday.

MI captain Pandya returned with magnificent figures of 5/36 in an inspiring bowling performance but couldn't stop LSG from posting 203 for 8 after being put into bat.

Chasing 204 for a win, MI, however, ended at 191 for 5 in 20 overs and exposed the five-time champions' inability to chase down big targets. Shardul Thakur's economical effort in the penultimate over, giving away just seven runs, tilted the scale in favour of LSG.

MI were reduced to 17 for 2 in 2.2 overs with both openers -- Will Jacks (5) and Ryan Rickelton (10) -- getting out cheaply.

Jacks, who replaced struggling Rohit Sharma at the top of the order after the India captain got hit on his knee at the nets, was the first to be dismissed off the bowling of Akash Deep who was playing his first match of the season after an injury lay-off.

Rickelton followed suit in the third over as Shardul claimed his wicket with Ravi Bishnoi, who came in as Impact Player in place of batter Mitchell Marsh, taking the catch. MI were in a spot of bother but India T20I captain Suryakumar Yadav and Naman Dhir steadied the run chase.

Dhir launched an attack on Akash Deep in the fourth over with two sixes and two boundaries in the first four deliveries to keep MI in the hunt. Suryakumar struck Avesh Khan for a six in the fifth over, and played second fiddle to Dhir.

MI were 64 for 2 at the end of powerplay, not much far behind the corresponding 69 for no loss of LSG in terms of runs at the same stage.

Leg-spinner Digvesh Rath, who was fined 25 per cent of his match fees for his unusual 'letter-writing' celebration after dismissing a Punjab Kings batter, broke the third-wicket stand worth 69 runs. He cleaned up Dhir in the first ball of the ninth over and did the same gesture, though far off from the departing batter.

Tilak Varma then came to the crease as Impact Sub for Vignesh Puthur as MI reached 101 for 3 at half-way stage. The asking rate kept on climbing as there was a dearth of boundaries in the middle overs.

Suryakumar, meanwhile, reached to his first fifty off 31 balls with a boundary off Bishnoi in the 14th over to keep MI in the hunt.

It was not going to be easy for MI as they needed 61 from the last five overs and Suryakumar got out in an inopportune time with Avesh Khan getting rid of him in the 17th over.

MI needed 40 runs from the last three overs and 29 from the last two with Pandya and Varma having settled down nicely.

TODAY'S IPL FIXTURES

Chennai Super Kings vs Delhi Capitals, at M A Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai, at 3.30 am

Punjab Kings vs Rajasthan Royals, at the PCA New International Cricket Stadium, Tira, Punjab, at 7.30 pm

■ Mumbai Indians captain Hardik Pandya returned with magnificent figures of 5/36 in an inspiring bowling performance but couldn't stop LSG from posting 203 for 8 after being put into bat

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MITCHELL MARSH

RUNS SCORED: 60

BALL FACED: 31

FOURS: 9

SIXES: 2

***HARDIK PANDYA**

WICKETS: 5

OVERS: 4

RUNS: 36

Lucknow Super Giants' Mitchell Marsh plays a shot during an Indian Premier League match against Mumbai Indians, in Lucknow, on Friday

SCOREBOARD

Lucknow Super Giants: Mitchell Marsh c & b Puthur 60, Aiden Markram c Bawa b Pandya 53, Nicholas Pooran c Chahar b Pandya 12, Rishabh Pant c sub (Bosch) b Pandya 2, Ayush Badoni c Rickelton b Ashwani Kumar 30, David Miller c Naman Dhir b Pandya 27, Abdul Samad c Naman Dhir b Boult 4, Shardul Thakur not out 5, Akash Deep c Santner b Pandya 0, Avesh Khan not out 2. **Extras:** 8. **Total:** 203 for 8. **Fall of wickets:** 1-76, 2-91, 3-107, 4-158, 5-173, 6-182, 7-200, 8-200. **Bowling:** Trent Boult 3-0-28-1, Deepak Chahar 2-0-23-0, Ashwani Kumar 3-0-39-1, Mitchell Santner 4-0-46-0, Vignesh Puthur 4-0-31-1, Hardik Pandya 4-0-36-5.

Mumbai Indians: Will Jacks c Ravi Bishnoi b Akash Deep 5, Ryan Rickelton c Ravi Bishnoi b Thakur 10, Naman Dhir b Rathi 46, Suryakumar Yadav c Abdul Samad b Avesh Khan 67, Tilak Varma retired out 25, Hardik Pandya not out 28, Mitchell Santner not out 2. **Extras:** 8. **Total:** 191 for 5. **Fall of wickets:** 1-11, 2-17, 3-86, 4-152, 5-180. **Bowling:** Shardul Thakur 4-0-40-1, Akash Deep 4-0-46-1, Avesh Khan 4-0-40-1, Digvesh Rath 4-0-21-1, Ravi Bishnoi 4-0-40-0.

Man-of-the-match: Digvesh Singh Rath

Stone likely to miss out out India Test series

PTI, LONDON: The England cricket team has suffered an injury setback ahead of the gruelling five-Test series against India later this year with pace bowler **Ollie Stone** sidelined due to a right knee injury during Nottinghamshire county's pre-season tour of Abu Dhabi.

The 31-year-old will likely miss the series beginning on June 20 at Headingley. The tour will conclude on August 4.

Stone, a key pacer in the England setup having played five Tests the last being the series against Sri Lanka in August-September last year, "experienced major discomfort in his right knee during Nottinghamshire's pre-season tour of Abu Dhabi in March," said ICC, quoting the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) on Friday.

The report added that Stone, who has 17 Test wickets so far, will target an August return to the England side.

"Further scans have revealed the requirement of surgery, which will take place later this week, and will sideline the 31-year-old for a subsequent 14 weeks. He will now begin rehabilitation, working closely with the medical teams at both the ECB and Nottinghamshire.

Stone is the second pacer on the injury list after fellow quick, Mark Wood was ruled out earlier this year.

sportspopup

ISSF World Cup: Chain Singh shoots down bronze

NEW DELHI: Asian Games medallist shooter Chain Singh earned India its first medal in the ISSF World Cup, winning a bronze in the men's 50m rifle 3-positions event in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Hungarian Istvan Peni won gold (461.0), his seventh ISSF top-podium finish, while China's Tian Jiaming (458.8) clinched the silver, as Chain notched up 443.7 points to settle for bronze. Earlier, two-time Olympian Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar, Niraj Kumar and Rio Olympian Chain had qualified for the final.

Time to say goodbye: Kevin De Bruyne to leave Man City

MANCHESTER: Kevin De Bruyne says he will leave Manchester City - confirming these are his "final months" with the Premier League champion. The Belgium playmaker, who is out of contract this summer, announced the news in an emotional post on X on Friday. "Nothing about this is easy to write, but as football players, we all know this day eventually comes. That day is here," he wrote. De Bruyne joined City from Wolfsburg for around \$71 million in 2015 and has gone on to win every major honor with the club, including six Premier League titles and the Champions League. In all he has won 14 major trophies at City and established himself as one of the all-time Premier League greats. "This city. This club. These people... gave me Everything. I had no choice but to give Everything back! And guess what -- we won Everything," he wrote.

Star-studded global javelin event featuring Neeraj to be held in Panchkula on May 24

NEW DELHI: The much-anticipated, star-studded global javelin event in India, featuring double Olympic medallist Neeraj Chopra competing against some of the best in the business, will be held in Panchkula on May 24. The event has been christened as the Neeraj Chopra Classic as the Indian star is actively involved in its organisation. World Athletics, the sport's governing body, has granted a category A status to the event which will be held at the Tau Devi Lal Stadium. World Athletics website, however, does not list the event as part of its Continental Tour for which the calendar was published before the start of the season. Chopra, who recently roped in legendary javelin thrower Jan Zelezny as his coach, is expected to start his season at the Doha Diamond League Meeting on May 16. The event in Panchkula will be his second competition of the season.

Being free of captaincy has given me a lot of space in my mind: Jos Buttler

MUMBAI: Feeling much "lighter" since stepping down as England captain after a challenging period, Jos Buttler is embracing a "relaxed" mindset and making the most of his newfound mental clarity in the Indian Premier League. The 34-year-old had entered into the ongoing IPL season under scrutiny, both for his form and his transition to new team after England's Champions Trophy campaign ended in the group stage under his leadership. But Buttler has been at the forefront of Gujarat Titans' batting attack with two fifties in three matches including a match-winning 73 not out. With 166 runs, he currently features among the top run-getters in the competition.

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