

Kohli, Patidar & Pandya script RCB's win

PTI, MUMBAI: Royal Challengers Bengaluru survived a massive scare from a doughty Mumbai Indians to end their six-match winless streak at the Wankhede Stadium with a 12-run victory in the Indian Premier League, here, on Monday.

Set a daunting target of 222, Mumbai Indians staged a stunning late recovery to turn the tables on their opponents but the task proved too difficult in the end for the hosts, who have not lost a game here against RCB since 2015.

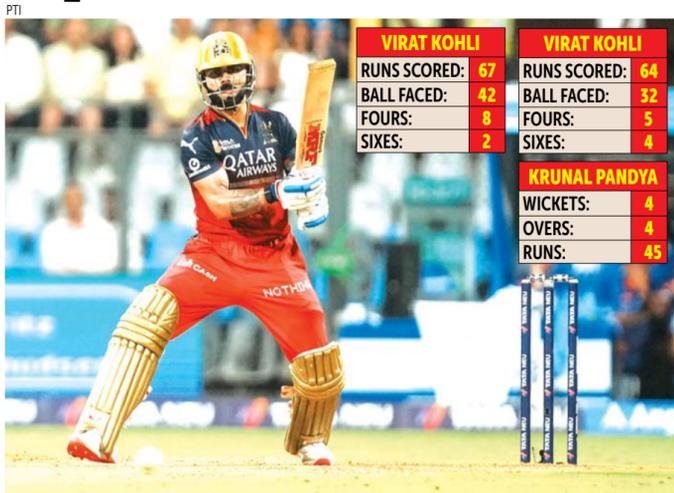
Mumbai Indians were reeling at 99 for four with their pursuit falling apart with the dismissal of Suryakumar Yadav (28), but skipper Hardik Pandya (42 off 15 balls) and Tilak Varma (56 off 29 balls) launched a stunning onslaught to bring them back into the contest.

Hardik went hammer and tongs while hitting three fours and four sixes, while Tilak also fought his way back into form, but the target proved far too much for Mumbai Indians who were again ordinary with the bat for a large part in their chase.

Rohit Sharma (17) was cleaned up by Yash Dayal (2/46) while swinging across an inswinging delivery and MI's best batter Suryakumar struggled during his 28-run knock for which he consumed 26 balls. On the other hand, Tilak brought up his maiden 50 of the season off 26 balls to make a comeback after being retired out in the last game.

The fortunes swung when Hardik clobbered two sixes and as many fours off his first four balls off Krunal Pandya in the 14th over.

Before Hardik cut loose, Tilak had raced to 30 off 15 balls to keep MI's faint



Royal Challengers Bengaluru's Virat Kohli plays a shot during the Indian Premier League match against Mumbai Indians, at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai, on Monday

SCOREBOARD

Royal Challengers Bengaluru: Philip Salt b Boult 4, Virat Kohli c Dhir b Pandya 67, Devdutt Padikkal c Jacks b Puthur 37, *Rajat Patidar c Ricketon b Boult 64, Liam Livingstone c Bumrah b Pandya 0, Jitesh Sharma not out 40, Tim David not out 1. **Extras:** 8. **Total:** 221-5. **Fall of wickets:** 4-1, 95-2, 143-3, 144-4, 214-5. **Bowling:** Trent Boult 4-0-29-0, Will Jacks 1-0-10-0, Mitchell Santner 4-0-40-0, *Hardik Pandya 4-0-45-2, Vignesh Puthur 1-0-10-1. **Mumbai Indians:** Rohit Sharma b Dayal 17, Ryan Rickelton lbw b Hazlewood 17, Will Jacks c Kohli b Pandya 22, Suryakumar Yadav c Livingstone b Dayal 28, Tilak Varma c Salt b Kumar 56, *Hardik Pandya c Livingstone b Hazlewood 42, Naman Dhir c Dayal b Pandya 11, Mitchell Santner c David b Pandya 8, Deepak Chahar c David b Pandya 0, Trent Boult not out 1, Jasprit Bumrah not out 0. **Extras:** 7. **Total:** 209-9. **Fall of wickets:** 21-1, 38-2, 79-3, 99-4, 188-5, 194-6, 203-7, 203-8, 209-9. **Bowling:** Bhuvneshwar Kumar 4-0-48-1, Yash Dayal 4-0-46-2, Josh Hazlewood 4-0-37-2, Suyash Sharma 4-0-32-0, Krunal Pandya 4-0-45-4.

Man-of-the-man: Rajat Patidar

TODAY'S IPL FIXTURES

Kolkata Knight Riders vs Lucknow Super Giants, at the Eden Gardens, Kolkata, at 3.30 pm
Punjab Kings vs Chennai Super Kings, at the PCA New International Cricket Stadium, Tira-Punjab, at 7.30 pm

hopes alive, which kept improving with every hit that the batters unleashed.

The asking rate had zoomed past 15 an over but MI kept clearing the ropes to remain in the hunt. But Tilak fell in the 18th over from Bhuvneshwar Kumar (1/48) and Hardik in the penultimate over from Josh Hazlewood (2/37).

In the final over, MI needed 19 runs to win but Krunal Pandya (4/45) took three wickets to shut the doors on them.

Earlier, RCB rode on scintillating fifties from Virat Kohli (67) and skipper Rajat Patidar (64) to post 221 for five. Kohli ruled the roost with a 42-ball 67 which gave RCB early impetus in Jasprit Bumrah's (0/29) comeback game. Later on, Patidar's 32-ball 64 (5x4s, 4x6s) and Jitesh Sharma's 19-ball 40 (2x4s, 4x6s) ensured the RCB ended on a blazing note.

Kohli first Indian to score 13,000 runs in T20

PTI, MUMBAI: Virat Kohli on Monday became the first Indian to complete 13,000 runs in T20 cricket during the Indian Premier League contest between Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Mumbai Indians here.

Kohli reached the landmark with his second half-century this IPL season to become only the fifth batter overall to have scored 13,000 runs in the shortest format of the game. The right-handed modern day great achieved the feat in a little over 400 matches in his career.

Kohli had retired from T20 Internationals in the middle of last year after helping India win their second T20 World Cup in the Americas, having played 125 matches to score 4,188 runs with one century and 38 fifties at an average of 48.69 and strike rate of 137.04.

He is the third-highest run scorer in T20Is after Rohit Sharma (4,231 runs) and Pakistan's Babar Azam (4,223).

Rohit is the second in the list among highest run-scorers in overall T20 cricket with 11,851 runs in 451 matches.

Overall, Kohli had scored 12,983 runs before the IPL clash on Monday with nine centuries and 98 fifties at an average of 38.93 and strike rate of over 132. The IPL season-opening contest between RCB and Kolkata Knight Riders on March 23 was Kohli's 400th game in the shortest format.

Chris Gayle leads the list of highest run-scorers in T20 cricket with 14,562 in 463 matches, followed by Alex Hales at the second spot with 13,610 runs, Shoaib Malik at third with 13,557 runs in 555 matches and Kieron Pollard at the fourth position with 13,537 runs in 695 matches.

Apuia guides Mohun Bagan SG into final

Face Bengaluru FC in summit clash on Saturday

PTI, KOLKATA: Riding on Lalengmawia Apuia Ralte's late stunner, Mohun Bagan Super Giant qualified for their third consecutive final of the Indian Super League after a 3-2 aggregate win against Jamshedpur FC in the two-legged semi-finals, which concluded, here, on Monday.

After losing the opening leg 2-1 last week, MBSG scored a 2-0 victory over the Men of Steel in the second game of the fixture at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan Stadium and are now set to square off against Bengaluru FC in the summit clash on Saturday.

The final will also be held at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan. Displaying positive intent from the beginning, Liston Colaco stretched the Jamshedpur FC defence on the right flank before hurling in a powerful cross inside the 18-yard box in the 16th minute.

The ball was cleared out but Jason Cummings pounced upon the same at the edge of the penalty area and unleashed an effort that landed high above the target.

Colaco and Cummings joined hands again after the half-hour mark, with the former distributing the ball to the centre from right. The striker played the ball to the left flank and a quick string of passes saw Asish Rai make a headed delivery precisely in Cummings' path. The forward could not sort his feet in time though, eventually making a feeble effort that was saved in the middle of the goal by Albino Gomes.

Cummings, who was a lively presence in the final third throughout the match, finally found his moment of reckoning in the 51st minute, courtesy of converting a spot-kick with impeccable ease. Pronay Halder's handball handed MBSG an opportunity to find the breakthrough and Cummings used his left foot to drill the ball into the bottom-right corner without breaking a sweat, thus bringing the aggregate level to 2-2 at this point. Colaco's corner in the 79th minute was meant to find Alberto Rodriguez inside the box, but a diligently organised Jamshedpur FC backline ensured that the ball did not reach the defender. Instead, Cummings latched upon the loose delivery on the right side of the box, but got into an imbalanced position fronting a crowded opposition. He tried his luck at dispatch-



Mohun Bagan Super Giant's Apuia Ralte celebrates after scoring the winner against Jamshedpur FC at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan Stadium, Kolkata, on Monday

ing the ball into the top left corner but the ball veered away from the crossbar.

Eventually, it required the star Indian midfielder duo of Anirudh Thapa and Lalengmawia Ralte to interlink and find the goal that sent MBSG into the summit clash.

Thapa's pass deep into the added time of the second half met the latter outside the box, and instead of furthering any build-up play, the former Mumbai City FC star backed his instincts to go for an ambitious shot from distance that rattled the top right corner of the net, gaining the home side an opportunity at winning the ISL Cup on Saturday. PTI

RESULT

Mohun Bagan Super Giant 2 (3) Jason Cummings 51', Lalengmawia Ralte 90+4'] Jamshedpur FC 0 (2)

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