

END OF OVER: 20 | 16 Runs | SRH: 207/4 | RR: 10.35

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| BCJ Cutting | 16 (6b) | SR Watson | 3-0-41-0 |
| DJ Hooda | 16 (12b) | TS Mills | 4-0-31-1 |
|  |  |  |  |

9.49pm Sunrisers have owned this innings. 207 for 4 in the first game of their tournament. Henriques and Yuvraj struck scintillating fifties, and some cameos all the way from No. 1 to No. 6. RCB struggled, and then struggled some more. Just couldn't find their lengths consistently enough. their fielding was shoddy. Batting has been their biggest strength, and they'll need something special to get close. Back in a bit.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 19.6 | 6 | Watson to Cutting, SIX, huuuge! Length delivery on off, sits up for Cutting. Hammered over |  |
|  | square leg for six. Can't bowl that length with medium pace. | |  |
| 19.5 |  | Watson to Cutting, no run, a bouncer. A nice change in length. Cutting ducks underneath |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |
| 200 in the first game of the season | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 19.4 | 2 | Watson to Cutting, 2 runs, a low full toss this time, hit over the bowler for a couple. Superb |  |
|  | ball-striking off some pretty good bowling | |  |
| 19.3 | 6 | Watson to Cutting, SIX, all power. Full and wide outside off, Cutting stays in his crease and |  |
|  | lofts the ball nonchalantly over deep cover. So much power behind that stroke | |  |
| 19.2 | 1 | Watson to Hooda, 1 run, excellent bowling. 133 kph, extremely wide. Hooda reaches out and |  |
|  | guides a run to point | |  |

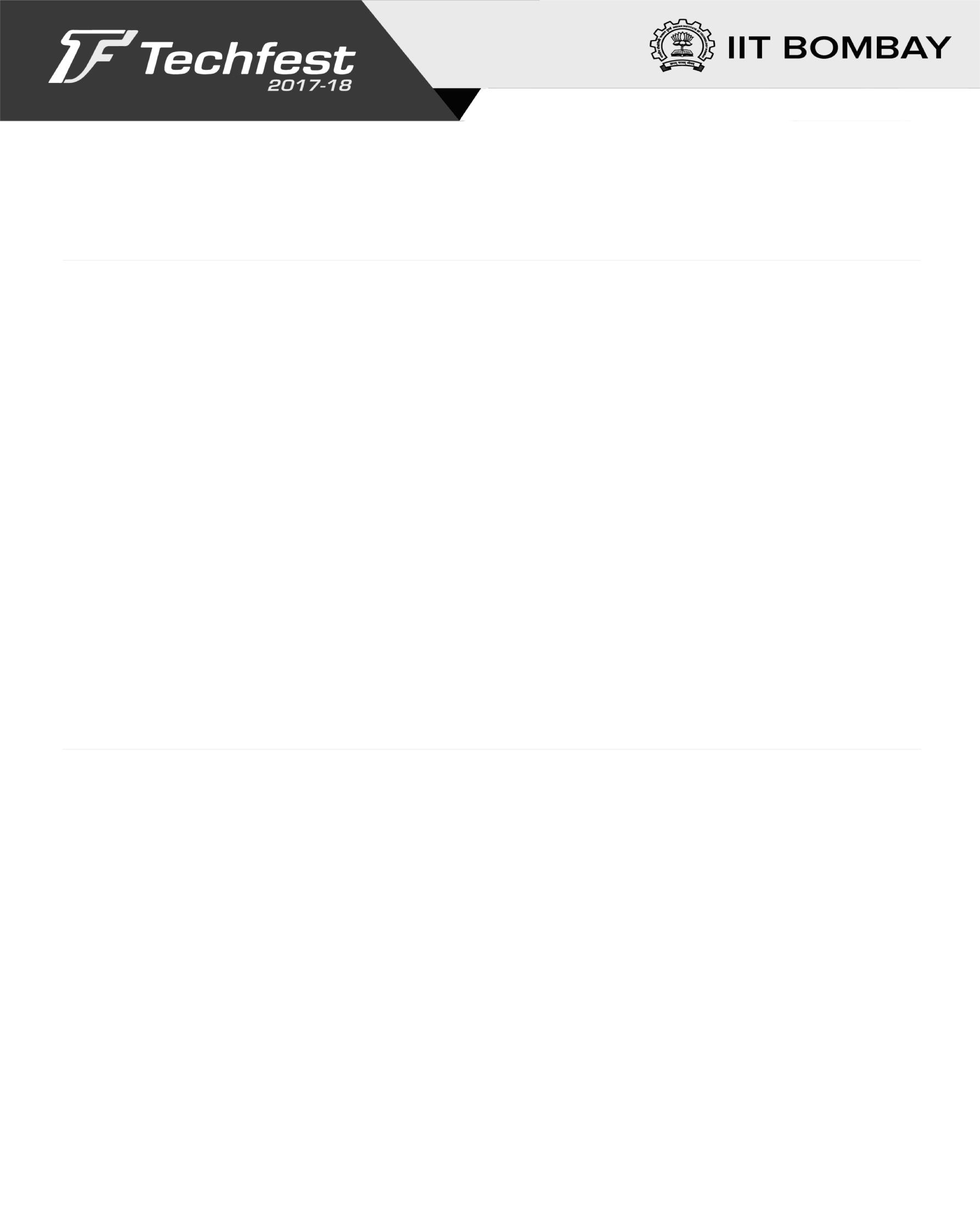
Jaymin Patel: "Different year, same scorecard for the RCB! Only two bowlers stepping up (Chahal & Mills)"

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 19.1 | | 1 | Watson to Cutting, 1 run, full and wide, well bowled. A thick outside edge to third man for a | | |  |
|  |  | run. Good options from Watson. Takes the six over square leg/midwicket out | | |  |  |
|  | Watson will finish. | | |  |  |  |
|  | | | |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 19 | 12 Runs 1 Wkt | SRH: 191/4 | RR: 10.05 | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | DJ Hooda |  | 15 (11b) | TS Mills | 4-0-31-1 |  |
|  | BCJ Cutting | | 1 (1b) | A Choudhary | 4-0-55-1 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |
| 18.6 | | 0 | Mills to Hooda, no run, good end from Mills. Considering the damage, this hasn't been a bad | | |  |
|  |  | debut from Mills. Length on leg, Hooda wants one to third man but fails to connect | | |  |  |
| 18.5 | | 1 | Mills to Cutting, 1 run, a length delivery on middle, pulled to long-on for a run. Nice length | | |  |
|  |  | again. | |  |  |  |

Sooryanarayanan: "23-ball fifty for Yuvi, while Choudhry gets there in 21 balls."

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 18.4 | W | Mills to Yuvraj Singh, OUT, bowled this time. And Mills is pumped. 143 kph. That is quite an |
|  | ideal delivery. Good length on middle, not full, not short. That indecisive length. Yuvraj looks | |





to hit that through midwicket but fails to connect. Beaten for pace too. Clips the top of the bail on leg and middle. A spectacular effort from Yuvraj.

Yuvraj Singh b Mills 62 (49m 27b 7x4 3x6) SR: 229.62

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 18.3 | |  | 6 | Mills to Yuvraj Singh, SIX, that sits up for Yuvraj. A back of the hand slower ball that is | |  |  |
|  |  | bowled short. Yuvraj picks the length and boom. Swatted over square leg. A lovely sound off | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  | the bat |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 18.2 | |  | 4 | Mills to Yuvraj Singh, FOUR, lovely shot. Full and straight, all pace. Yuvraj was setting | |  |  |
|  |  | himself for the slower ball and was prepared to improvise if the ball was quick. It was and he | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  | did well. Just a flick past short fine leg |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |
| 18.1 | |  | 1 | Mills to Hooda, 1 run, another back of the hand slower bouncer. Hooda is beaten, but then so | | |  |
|  |  |  | slow is the ball that he pulls to deep square leg. Good improvisation | | |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 18 | 17 Runs | SRH: 179/3 | RR: 9.94 | | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | DJ Hooda | |  | 14 (9b) | A Choudhary | 4-0-55-1 |  |
|  | Yuvraj Singh | | | 52 (24b) | TS Mills | 3-0-19-0 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17.6 | |  | 1 | Choudhary to Hooda, 1 run, went right across. Went behind the stumps too outside off. | |  |  |
|  |  |  | Choudhary misses an opportunity by not bowling that full and straight. Hooda flicks to deep | | | |  |

midwicket. Probably did that to convert a yorker into a full length

AmericanCricket: "Choudhary hasn't bowled too poorly this match. He has made a lot of chances, and none of them have been taken by his teammates. "

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 17.5 | 2 | Choudhary to Hooda, 2 runs, excellent bouncer. Back of a length on leg, Hooda, beaten for |  |
|  | pace, gloves his pull over the keeper for a couple. Good change in length | |  |
| 17.4 | 1 | Choudhary to Yuvraj Singh, 1 run, full and wide again, carved to deep point on the bounce. |  |
|  | The fielder is a lot finer now | |  |
| 17.3 | 4 | Choudhary to Yuvraj Singh, FOUR, sliced over point for four. Yuvraj makes fifty. Off 23 balls. |  |
|  | His fastest in IPL. Full and wide from Choudhary, not a bad area to bowl actually. But then | |  |
|  |  | why isn't the sweeper finer, towards point |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 17.3 | 1w | Choudhary to Yuvraj Singh, 1 wide, another wide called. Full and excessively wide outside off. |  |
|  | Outside the tramline, called | |  |
| 17.3 |  | Choudhary to Yuvraj Singh, 1 wide, full and very wide outside off, called |  |
| 1w |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 17.2 | 1 | Choudhary to Hooda, 1 run, over point for a run. A full toss on off, Hooda's slog skews to deep |  |
|  | point | |  |
| 17.1 | 6 | Choudhary to Hooda, SIX, parried for six. RCB's woes continue. A slower ball on middle, |  |
|  | Hooda swings. High in the air, Chahal moves back slowly, conscious of the boundary. In the | |  |





end, he reverse-cups the parry over the boundary Choudhary will finish

Mandy: "I somehow got a very good feeling about Tymal. Perhaps he is the answer RCB is looking at in the place of Mitch Starc"

END OF OVER: 17 | 7 Runs | SRH: 162/3 | RR: 9.52

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| DJ Hooda | 4 (5b) | TS Mills | 3-0-19-0 |
| Yuvraj Singh | 47 (22b) | YS Chahal | 4-0-22-1 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 16.6 | 1 | Mills to Hooda, 1 run, another slower variation to end the over. Good length outside off, |
|  | dabbed towards point | |
| 16.5 | 0 | Mills to Hooda, no run, flummoxes Hooda. The slower bouncer, back of the hand. Hooda |
|  | thinks it's pacey, but it isn't. Ducks underneath. | |

Tymal Mills has the best economy rate (7.25) in the end overs (16 to 20 overs ) in T20s since Jan 2015 (min 50 overs)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 16.4 | 1 | Mills to Yuvraj Singh, 1 run, there is that slower ball. Good length outside off, slapped to cover |  |
|  | for a run | |  |
| 16.3 | 4 | Mills to Yuvraj Singh, FOUR, four more. A bouncer on off, Yuvraj pulls, doesn't keep it down, |  |
|  | but hammers the pull into the gap in front of square | |  |
| 16.2 | 0 | Mills to Yuvraj Singh, no run, beaten for pace. Superb from Mills. Back of a length and close |  |
|  | enough to off stump. Yuvraj misses his dab to third man | |  |
| 16.1 |  | Mills to Hooda, 1 run, good length outside off, dabbed away to third man |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |

Mills dismissed Yuvraj with a lovely, back-of-the-hand slower delivery in the T20 in Bangalore between India and England. It's one of Mills' end-overs weapons. Here he is.

END OF OVER: 16 | 4 Runs 1 Wkt | SRH: 155/3 | RR: 9.68

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | DJ Hooda |  | 2 (2b) | YS Chahal | 4-0-22-1 |  |
|  | Yuvraj Singh | | 42 (19b) | S Aravind | 3-0-36-0 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15.6 | | 1 | Chahal to Hooda, 1 run, clipped through square leg for a run | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15.5 | | 1 | Chahal to Yuvraj Singh, 1 run, oh, fantastic stuff from Mandeep. A flat delivery outside off, so | | | |

wide would have been called had Yuvraj let that go. But he goes after it. Yuvraj lays into a lofted drive towards long-off. Mandeep runs to his right, and puts in a leaping, diving, one-handed effort. The ball just bounces out of his hands as Mandeep is mid-air. Five runs saved. Didn't look to save the runs, wanted the catch. Fantastic stuff.



|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 15.4 |  | Chahal to Hooda, 1 run, worked away to deep midwicket |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 15.3 | 1 | Chahal to Yuvraj Singh, 1 run, what? how? It's happened again. A googly on middle, Yuvraj |  |
|  | looks to pull but gets a leading edge which plonks near cover. Watson labours towards | |  |

it. Safe. Another life for Yuvraj

Strategic time-out. Hooda

Kohli, in a sidelines interview, says he will not play until he is "120%", and that priority is Indian cricket with the Champions Trophy coming up.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 15.2 | W | Chahal to Henriques, OUT, taken at the boundary. Full delivery on off, Henriques runs down, |  |
|  | but doesn't quite get to the pitch. He goes through with the stroke, and gets more elevation | |  |
|  |  | than distance. It goes straight up. Long-off takes a good catch at the boundary. A reverse- |  |
|  |  | cupped catch. They're having a look at the no-ball, but he's fine. Just! |  |
|  |  | MC Henriques c Sachin Baby b Chahal 52 (67m 37b 3x4 2x6) SR: 140.54 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 15.1 |  | Chahal to Henriques, no run, a flat delivery on off from Chahal, pushed back |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |

RCB's problems have always been their bowling. Chahal will finish.

END OF OVER: 15 | 19 Runs | SRH: 151/2 | RR: 10.06

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MC Henriques | 52 (35b) | S Aravind | 3-0-36-0 |
| Yuvraj Singh | 40 (17b) | SR Watson | 2-0-25-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

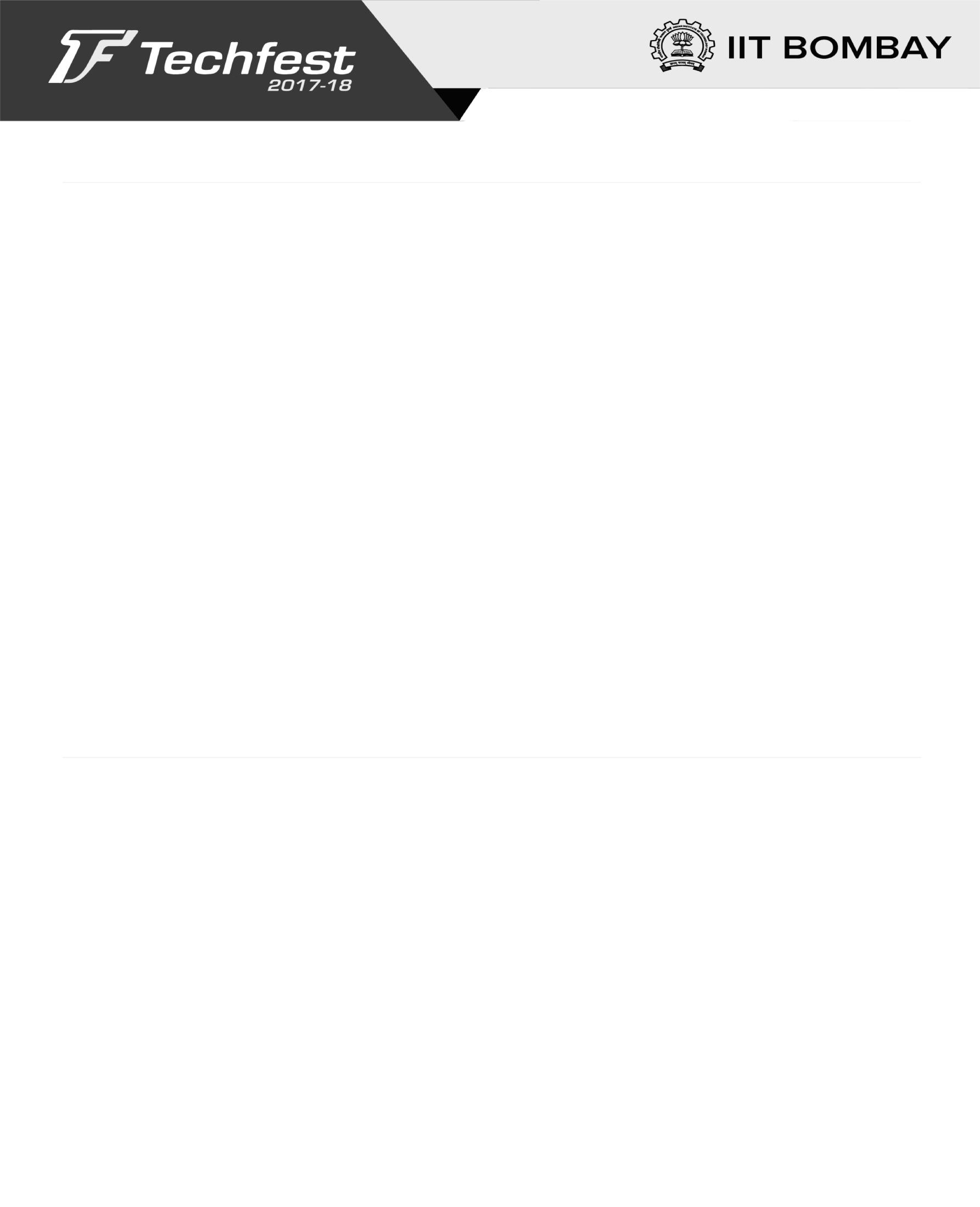
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 14.6 | | 1 | Aravind to Henriques, 1 run, full-toss on middle and leg, misses the yorker, punched to the | | |  |  |
|  |  | midwicket region | |  |  |  |  |
| 14.5 | | 6 | Aravind to Henriques, SIX, just short of a good length on off, another slower ball, this one | | |  |  |
|  |  | sits up. Henriques picks it up and dumps it over midwicket | | |  |  |  |
| 14.4 | | 1 | Aravind to Yuvraj Singh, 1 run, another hip-high short ball just outside off, stylishly whipped | | |  |  |
|  |  | to deep square leg | |  |  |  |  |
| 14.3 | | 6 | Aravind to Yuvraj Singh, SIX, Yuvraj launches another one into the stands. If you want to | | |  |  |
|  |  | bowl short, you have to target the badge. This is a hip-high short ball outside off, possibly a | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | slower one, picked up and pulled over midwicket | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 14.2 | |  | Aravind to Henriques, 1 run, back of a length on the leg stump, worked to square leg | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 14.1 | | 4 | Aravind to Henriques, FOUR, Henriques jumps down the track, Aravind goes shorter and | | |  |  |
|  |  | outside off, slapped away to the right of Chahal at sweeper cover | | |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 14 | 8 Runs | SRH: 132/2 | RR: 9.42 | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | MC Henriques | | 40 (31b) | SR Watson | 2-0-25-0 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Yuvraj Singh | | 33 (15b) | A Choudhary | 3-0-38-1 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13.6 | | 1 | Watson to Henriques, 1 run, really full on middle and leg, pushed down to long-on for one | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13.5 | | 0 | Watson to Henriques, no run, change-up. Slower and wider outside off, Henriques reaches | | | |  |
|  |  | out but can't touch the ball | |  |  |  |  |
| 13.4 | | 1 | Watson to Yuvraj Singh, 1 run, Yuvraj, standing on off stump, moves across off further, meets | | | |  |
|  |  | a full-toss on a fifth-stump line, and whips past midwicket | | |  |  |  |
|  | Yuvraj Singh's dot-ball percentage in the IPL before this innings was 47.5% (658 of 1384). Today, he has | | | |  |  |  |
|  | faced two dot balls. | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13.3 | |  | Watson to Henriques, 1 run, full and straight, clipped through midwicket | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 13.2 | | 1 | Watson to Yuvraj Singh, 1 run, full and wide outside off, throws his bat at the ball and edges it | | | |  |
|  |  | to third man | |  |  |  |  |
| 13.1 | | 4 | Watson to Yuvraj Singh, FOUR, hip-high short ball outside off, got to get the ball up higher, | | | |  |
|  |  | Yuvraj picks it up and stylishly picks it up over midwicket | | |  |  |  |
|  | Watson |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 13 | 18 Runs | SRH: 124/2 | RR: 9.53 | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Yuvraj Singh | | 27 (12b) | A Choudhary | 3-0-38-1 |  |  |
|  | MC Henriques | | 38 (28b) | S Aravind | 2-0-17-0 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12.6 | | 1 | Choudhary to Yuvraj Singh, 1 run, Dropped! Aravind shells it at deep square leg. Aniket | |  |  |  |
|  |  | ventures shorter and outside off, Yuvraj does not shy away from the pull. He hits it well | | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | enough, does not get enough distance on it, but gets away. Aravind makes a mess of a | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | regulation chest-high catch. He attempted a reverse cup, the ball hit his chest, and went down | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 12.5 | | 2 | Choudhary to Yuvraj Singh, 2 runs, back of a length and outside off, crisply cut away square of | | | |  |
|  |  | Mills at deep third man | |  |  |  |  |
| 12.5 | | 1w | Choudhary to Yuvraj Singh, 1 wide, really full and wide outside off, makes a mess of the wide | | | |  |
|  |  | yorker and goes too wide. Off-side wide. Jadhav does not look comfortable behind the stumps | | | |  |  |

Jmani: "There is no better sight in Limited overs cricket than watching Yuvi bat. When on song he is pure class and beauty"

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 12.4 | 0 | Choudhary to Yuvraj Singh, no run, much better. 134ks banged short and flies through to the |
|  | keeper. Yuvraj lets it pass | |
| 12.3 | 4 | Choudhary to Yuvraj Singh, FOUR, poor bowling. Hip-high short ball outside off, Yuvraj |
|  | camps back and nails a pull over midwicket for back-to-back boundaries | |



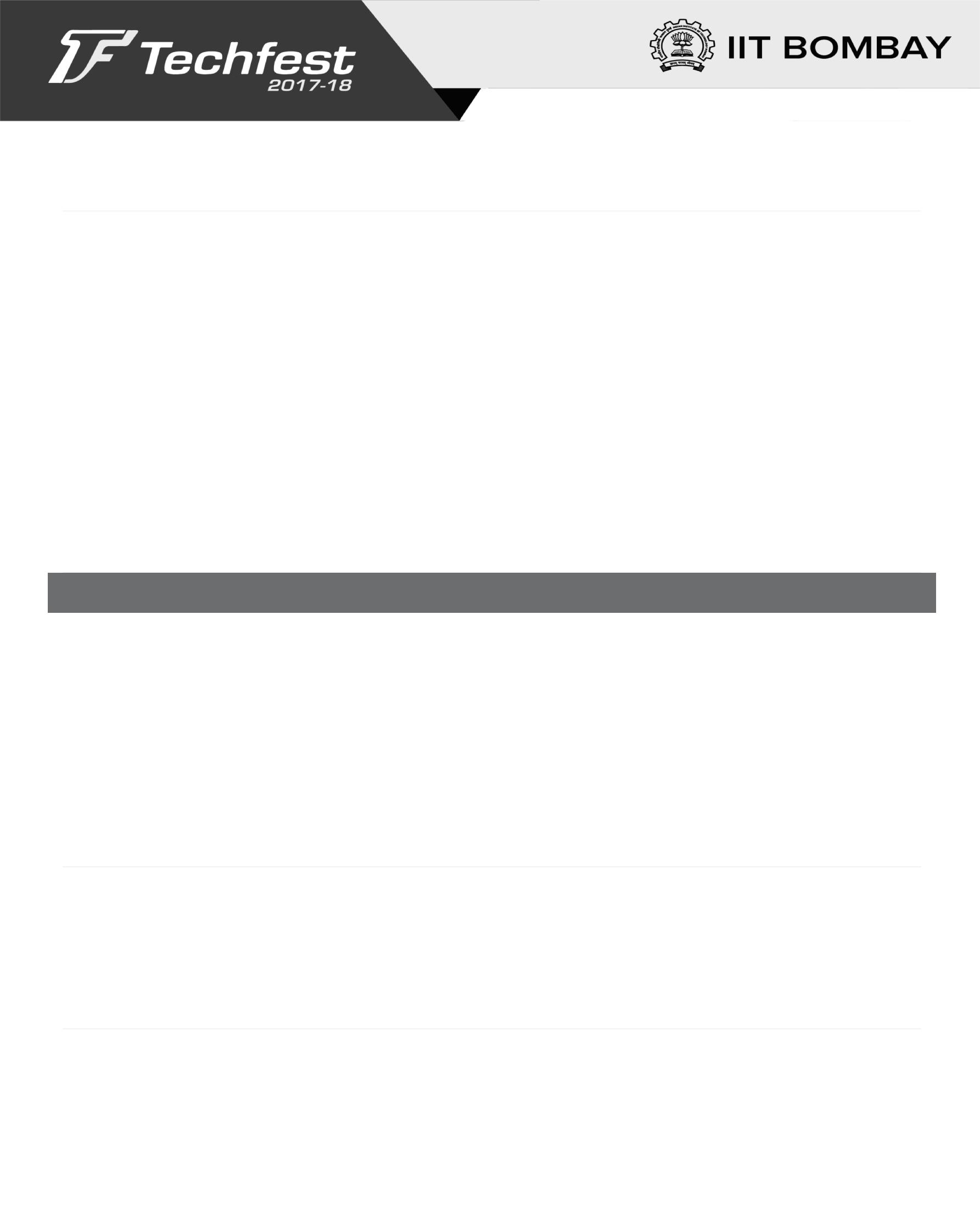
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 12.2 | | 6 | Choudhary to Yuvraj Singh, SIX, this is vintage Yuvraj, just driving through the line. Full and | | |  |  |
|  |  | outside off, Yuvraj opens up his arms and lofts it over extra cover | | |  |  |  |
| 12.1 | | 4 | Choudhary to Yuvraj Singh, FOUR, short of a length and outside off, Yuvraj attempts a pull | | |  |  |
|  |  | and ends up inside-edging past the leg stump. Rolls away fine on the leg side. Aniket can be | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | skiddy |  |  |  |  |
|  | Aniket is back, replacing Binny | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 12 | 8 Runs | SRH: 106/2 | RR: 8.83 | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Yuvraj Singh | | 10 (6b) | S Aravind | 2-0-17-0 |  |  |
|  | MC Henriques | | 38 (28b) | STR Binny | 1-0-10-1 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11.6 | |  | Aravind to Yuvraj Singh, 1 run, length and outside off, helped down to third man again | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 11.5 | | 4 | Aravind to Yuvraj Singh, FOUR, this is a Yuvraj special. Back of a length and just outside off, | | |  |  |
|  |  | picks it up and whips it with the wrists over midwicket | | |  |  |  |
| 11.4 | |  | Aravind to Henriques, 1 run, short and wide outside off, flashed away to square third man | | |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| 11.3 | | 1 | Aravind to Yuvraj Singh, 1 run, good length cutter outside off, Yuvraj waits for the ball to | |  |  |  |
|  |  | arrive, then glides it down to third man | |  |  |  |  |

Yuvraj, unlike Dhawan, is a big six-hitter down the ground - last season, he scored 38 off 22 balls (SR 172.72) in the V against spin. And that included four sixes.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 11.2 | 0 | Aravind to Yuvraj Singh, no run, good length on off, dabbed to backward point with soft |
|  | hands | |

Rishav: "They might have to play Mills and Badree together am afraid if their bowling remains this bad. They badly need Watto to perform with ball"

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 11.1 | |  | Aravind to Henriques, 1 run, length and angled across off, run down to third man | | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Aravind replaces Aniket. Over the wicket | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | |  |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 11 | 10 Runs 1 Wkt | SRH: 98/2 | RR: 8.90 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Yuvraj Singh | | 4 (2b) |  | STR Binny | 1-0-10-1 |  |  |
|  | MC Henriques | | 36 (26b) |  | A Choudhary | 2-0-20-1 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 10.6 | | 2 | Binny to Yuvraj Singh, 2 runs, Binny rolls his fingers across this slower offcutter, Yuvraj waits | | | |  |  |
|  |  | on it before opening his face and running it down to deep third man | | | |  |  |  |
| 10.5 | | 2 | Binny to Yuvraj Singh, 2 runs, just short of a good length and outside off, Yuvraj opens the | | | |  |  |
|  |  | face and glides it through backward point | | |  |  |  |  |



around the wicket to Yuvraj

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 10.4 |  | Binny to Henriques, 1 run, good length and floated in on off, tapped down to long-on |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
| Yuvraj at No.4 | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 10.3 | W | Binny to Dhawan, OUT, Dhawan can't clear long-on! Dhawan uses his feet and looks to slug a |  |
|  | length ball from outside off over the long-on boundary. He isn't really a big six-hitter down | |  |
|  |  | the ground. He can't get enough power and distance. Holes out to Baby |  |
|  |  | S Dhawan c Sachin Baby b Binny 40 (51m 31b 5x4 0x6) SR: 129.03 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 10.2 | 4 | Binny to Dhawan, FOUR, slower length ball outside off, Dhawan goes down on one knee, |  |
|  | picks it up and laps it away square of short fine leg | |  |
| 10.1 |  | Binny to Henriques, 1 run, half-tracker outside off, pulled away to wide long-on |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |

This score is better than the all the first-innings totals Sunrisers posted at home last season after ten overs. 88 is their third best overall at home.

END OF OVER: 10 | 4 Runs | SRH: 88/1 | RR: 8.80

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S Dhawan | 36 (29b) | A Choudhary | 2-0-20-1 |
| MC Henriques | 34 (24b) | YS Chahal | 3-0-18-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

Samraat: "Saw KL rahul was struggling with wicket keeping and Now Same with Kedar jhadav. RCB Can't ever get proper Wicket keeper. Part-timers won't work in the long run"

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 9.6 | 0 | Choudhary to Dhawan, no run, banged in short and outside off, Dhawan has a slash at the ball |
|  | and misses. Jadhav can't collect the ball cleanly | |

In the first 15 overs of a T20 innings, Dhawan's dot ball:single ratio is 0.838 (1335 dots v 1119 singles). Henriques's ratio is 1.17 (581 dots v 684 singles)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 9.5 | 1 | Choudhary to Henriques, 1 run, overpitched on leg stump, picked off square of long leg |
|  |  |  |
| 9.4 | 1 | Choudhary to Dhawan, 1 run, Dhawan skies a pull and gets away. Short of a length and |

outside off, Aniket hustles the batsman for pace. Hits the splice as Dhawan pulls. Watson follows the ball from mid-off, does not really attack the ball, midwicket moves to his right. But the ball lands in between them

Deep: "Baffles me that over nearly 10 seasons, RCB can't seem to get a decent bowling attack together. Too many medium-fast passengers every season mean that they are over-reliant on Gayle, ABD, and Kohli. And they don't even have that luxury today."

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 9.3 | 1 | Choudhary to Henriques, 1 run, short of a length on middle and leg, Aniket hits 140ks, |
|  | Henriques sits back and clips it away to midwicket | |

9.2

1



Choudhary to Dhawan, 1 run, full and wide outside off, nearly 140ks, Dhawan forces a single to the off-side sweeper

Vamsi: "Only 2 dot balls in the last 4 overs. That's some sensible batting from both the batsmen."

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 9.1 | | 0 | Choudhary to Dhawan, no run, Dhawan advances down the track, aiming for a pull over | |  |  |  |
|  |  | midwicket, this is dug in shorter, and bounces over the leg stump | | |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 9 | 9 Runs | SRH: 84/1 | RR: 9.33 | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | MC Henriques | | 32 (22b) | YS Chahal | 3-0-18-0 |  |  |
|  | S Dhawan | | 34 (25b) | TM Head | 1-0-11-0 |  |  |
|  |  | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | Eapen: "The "Strategic time out " still there?" --- Ah, yes, time for that now | | | |  |  |  |
| 8.6 | | 2 | Chahal to Henriques, 2 runs, fired outside off, forced away in the direction of long-on. Head | | |  |  |
|  |  | runs across from deep midwicket, takes his eyes off the ball, and lets it through his hands for | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | an extra run |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8.5 | |  | Chahal to Henriques, 2 runs, short and wide outside off again, slashed away to deep point | | |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| 8.4 | | 1 | Chahal to Dhawan, 1 run, looks like a googly outside off, Dhawan swats it away to deep | |  |  |  |
|  |  | midwicket | |  |  |  |  |
| 8.3 | |  | Chahal to Henriques, 1 run, tossed full on middle, driven to long-on | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8.2 | |  | Chahal to Dhawan, 1 run, short on the leg stump, swatted away to deep square leg | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 8.1 | | 2 | Chahal to Dhawan, 2 runs, Dhawan steps out early, Chahal lobbed it really wide outside off. | | |  |  |
|  |  | Asks Dhawan to reach out. He can only toe-end it over a leaping cover fielder | | |  |  |  |

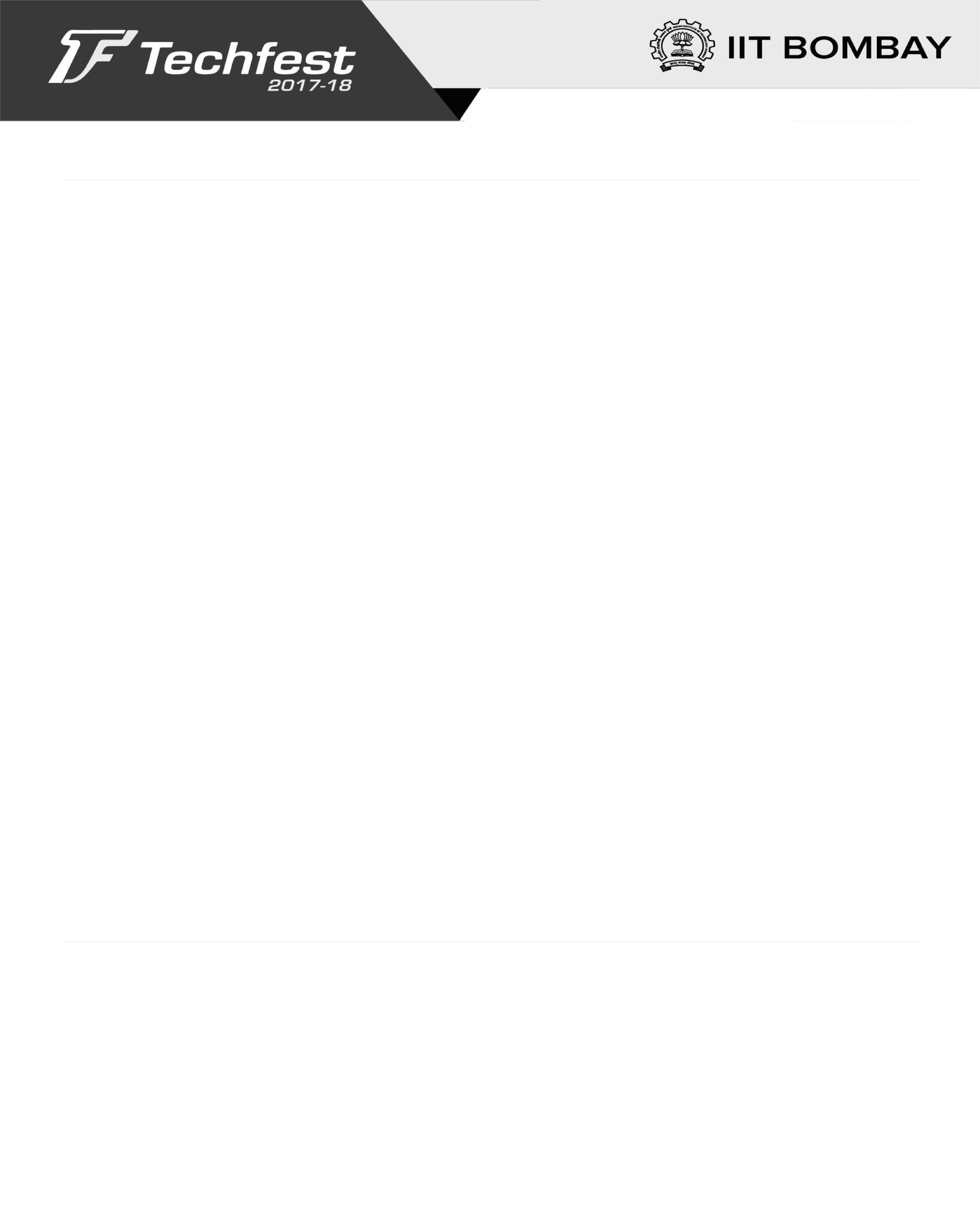
Before today, Henriques had smashed Chahal for 27 runs off 13 balls in T20 cricket. In this game he's scored only 4 off 6 balls from Chahal. Henriques is striking the others for plenty though.

END OF OVER: 8 | 11 Runs | SRH: 75/1 | RR: 9.37

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S Dhawan | 30 (22b) | TM Head | 1-0-11-0 |
| MC Henriques | 27 (19b) | YS Chahal | 2-0-9-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 7.6 | 1 | Head to Dhawan, 1 run, tossed up on the pads, Dhawan sits back and works it in the gap at |
|  | midwicket | |
| 7.5 | 1 | Head to Henriques, 1 run, another one that slides across off stump, this is shorter, cut away to |
|  | Mills at backward point | |
| 7.4 | 6 | Head to Henriques, SIX, speared across off, 91ks, Henriques forays down the track, gets close |
|  | to the pitch, and launches it with great authority over long-on | |





|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 7.3 |  | Head to Dhawan, 1 run, Dhawan uses his feet and drives a length ball to long-on running in |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 7.2 | 1 | Head to Henriques, 1 run, fired on middle from around the wicket, Henriques punches a |  |
|  | single to long-on | |  |

Asraar: "Of the last 2 overs Watson bowled to SRH, he has given 41 runs. 24 in last years final and 17 this match."

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 7.1 | 1 | Head to Dhawan, 1 run, full and slides on off, Dhawan opens the bat-face and dabs it gently to | | | | |
|  | point | |  |  |  |  |
| Head. Offspin. Around the wicket. Replaces his captain | | | | |  |  |
|  | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 7 | 5 Runs | SRH: 64/1 | RR: 9.14 | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | |  |  |  |  |  |
| S Dhawan | |  | 27 | (19b) | YS Chahal | 2-0-9-0 |
| MC Henriques | |  | 19 | (16b) | SR Watson | 1-0-17-0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 6.6 | 1 | Chahal to Dhawan, 1 run, tossed full and outside off, Dhawan stretches out and drives a single |
|  | down to long-off | |
| 6.5 | 1 | Chahal to Henriques, 1 run, chopped to the covers |
|  |  |  |
| 6.4 | 1 | Chahal to Dhawan, 1 run, skids on outside off, chopped to backward point. There was no run |
|  | there. Mills picks the ball up and throws it wildly well wide of Jadhav and concedes an extra | |
|  |  | run |
|  |  |  |
| 6.3 | 1 | Chahal to Henriques, 1 run, full and straight on off, driven on the front foot to long-on |
|  |  |  |
| 6.2 | 0 | Chahal to Henriques, no run, length ball outside off, slides off the deck, no real turn. |
|  | Negotiated on the back foot | |

Quite a beating for the RCB captain. 17 runs is way over Watson's usual Powerplay economy in the IPL, which is around 6.7. Last year his economy was 6.63 in the Powerplay.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 6.1 | 1 | Chahal to Dhawan, 1 run, dragged down short outside off, Dhawan sits back and pulls it along | | | | |
|  | the ground to deep midwicket | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 6 | 17 Runs | SRH: 59/1 | RR: 9.83 | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | |  |  |  |  |  |
| S Dhawan | |  | 24 | (16b) | SR Watson | 1-0-17-0 |
| MC Henriques | |  | 17 | (13b) | S Aravind | 1-0-9-0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 5.6 | 1 | Watson to Dhawan, 1 run, really full and outside off, driven through the line for one. 17 runs |
|  | off that over | |



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 5.5 | 4 | Watson to Dhawan, FOUR, chest-high short ball on middle and leg, fine leg is inside the |
|  | circle, square leg is inside the circle. Dhawan rolls his wrists and pulls it away to the square | |
|  |  | leg boundary |
|  |  |  |
| 5.4 | 4 | Watson to Dhawan, FOUR, Watson goes for the wide yorker again. The execution is bad. This |
|  | is a full-toss outside off, Dhawan this time stretches forward and crunches it past the covers | |
| 5.3 | 0 | Watson to Dhawan, no run, Watson goes for the wide yorker outside off, cross-seam, Dhawan |
|  | can only squeeze it back to Watson | |
| 5.2 | 4 | Watson to Dhawan, FOUR, boom. Dhawan races down the track, takes it on a half-volley and |
|  | simply belts a drive between Watson and Henriques. Drilled straight down the ground. 50 up | |
|  |  | in just 5.2 overs |
|  |  |  |
| 5.1 | 4 | Watson to Dhawan, FOUR, starts off with a hip-high short ball on the leg stump, Dhawan |
|  | happily swats it away through backward square leg | |

Padagal : "Looks like some records will be broken today. Warner didn't score half century against RCB and chahal's average will come down. " --- And here is RCB's stand-in captain Watson. He runs in from over the stumps

END OF OVER: 5 | 9 Runs | SRH: 42/1 | RR: 8.40

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MC Henriques | 17 (13b) | S Aravind | 1-0-9-0 |
| S Dhawan | 7 (10b) | YS Chahal | 1-0-4-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 4.6 | 0 | Aravind to Henriques, no run, big appeal. A thick inside edge. Flat delivery on off, Henriques |
|  | hits the ball into his body | |
| 4.5 | 4 | Aravind to Henriques, FOUR, that's rubbish. Back of a length down leg, Henriques pulls and |
|  | finds the boundary behind square. Easy pickings. | |
| 4.4 | 2 | Aravind to Henriques, 2 runs, goes over the infield. Very intentional. Full delivery outside off, |
|  | carved over extra cover for a couple | |
| 4.3 | 1 | Aravind to Dhawan, 1 run, a mow. Dhawan runs down and slaps a length delivery to mid-on. |
|  | On the bounce. Binny fields, but there's a run | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 4.2 | 1 | Aravind to Henriques, 1 run, pushed away towards mid-on for a single |
|  |  |  |

Chahal averaged 40.4 against Sunrisers before this game - his worst average against any IPL opposition.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 4.1 | 1 | Aravind to Dhawan, 1 run, good length delivery outside off, 129 kph, pushed towards cover. |
|  | An easy run with so many fielders on the ring | |

END OF OVER: 4 | 4 Runs | SRH: 33/1 | RR: 8.25



|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S Dhawan | 5 | (8b) | YS Chahal | 1-0-4-0 |
| MC Henriques | 10 | (9b) | TS Mills | 2-0-12-0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 3.6 |  | Chahal to Dhawan, 1 run, flicked to deep midwicket |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 3.5 | 1 | Chahal to Henriques, 1 run, nicely played. Flat delivery outside off, pushed to long-off for a |  |
|  | run. Whoa, miscommunication. Henriques should have been out. The fielder eases in, | |  |
|  |  | and throws the ball to the keeper. Dhawan called yes, Henriques hurries down for the second, |  |
|  |  | and gives up but returns quickly when he sees the throw is to the keeper |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 3.4 | 1 | Chahal to Dhawan, 1 run, worked away through midwicket for a single. Too straight again. |  |
|  | But it's good defensive bowling in the Powerplay | |  |
| 3.3 | 0 | Chahal to Dhawan, no run, lovely. Flight on off, Dhawan presses forward to defend. A hint of |  |
|  | turn too | |  |

Henriques strikes at 119 in the IPL when he bats in the Powerplay of a first innings - 63 off 53 balls before this game. That's not that high

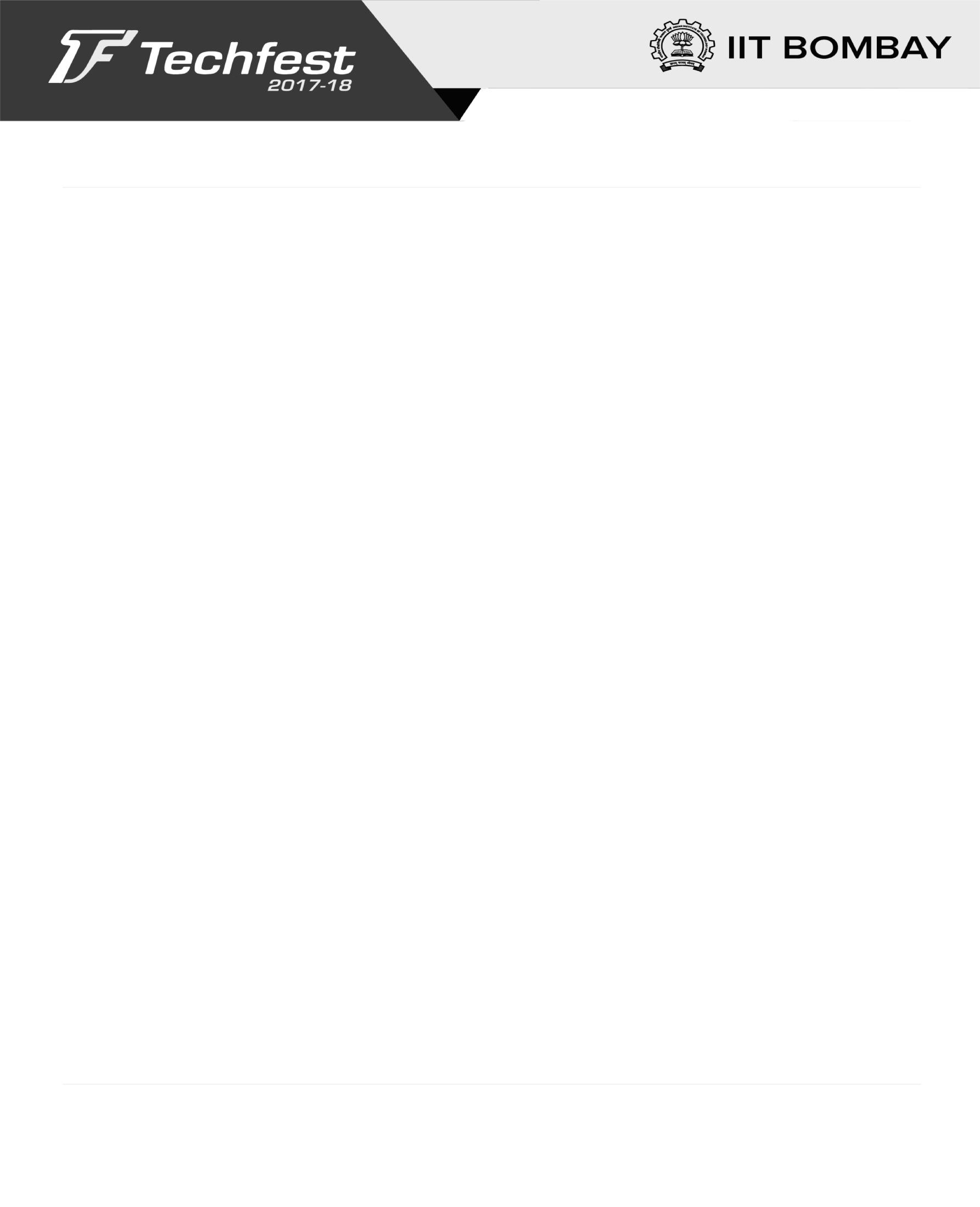
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 3.2 | |  | 1 | Chahal to Henriques, 1 run, worked away through midwicket for a run. Just a tad too straight | | |  |  |
|  |  | there | | |  |  |  |  |
| 3.1 | |  | | Chahal to Henriques, no run, nice. Pushed through on middle and leg, blocked | |  |  |  |
|  | 0 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Spin. Chahal. | | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 3 | 6 Runs | SRH: 29/1 | RR: 9.66 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | MC Henriques | | | 8 (6b) | TS Mills | 2-0-12-0 |  |  |
|  | S Dhawan | |  | 3 (5b) | A Choudhary | 1-0-16-1 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 2.6 | |  | 1 | Mills to Henriques, 1 run, really good single. Full delivery outside off, pushed towards cover. | | |  |  |
|  |  | Calls "yeah, yeah, yeah" immediately and gets the run easily | | | |  |  |  |
| 2.5 | |  | 1 | Mills to Dhawan, 1 run, that's a poor ball. Back of a length down leg, Dhawan works the ball | | |  |  |
|  |  | down to fine leg. Lovely stroke. | | |  |  |  |  |
| 2.4 | |  | 3 | Mills to Henriques, 3 runs, lovely stroke. Good length delivery on off, Henriques flicks his | | |  |  |
|  |  | wrists and the ball through square leg. Played that discernibly late to get it that fine. A fumble | | | | |  |  |

allows the third

Before this match, Henriques 90 off 57 balls from left-arm pace in the IPL, at 157.89. No dismissals.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.3 | 0 | Mills to Henriques, no run, 141 kph, full delivery, close to off stump. Henriques plays it down |
|  | by his feet. | |

Around the wicket

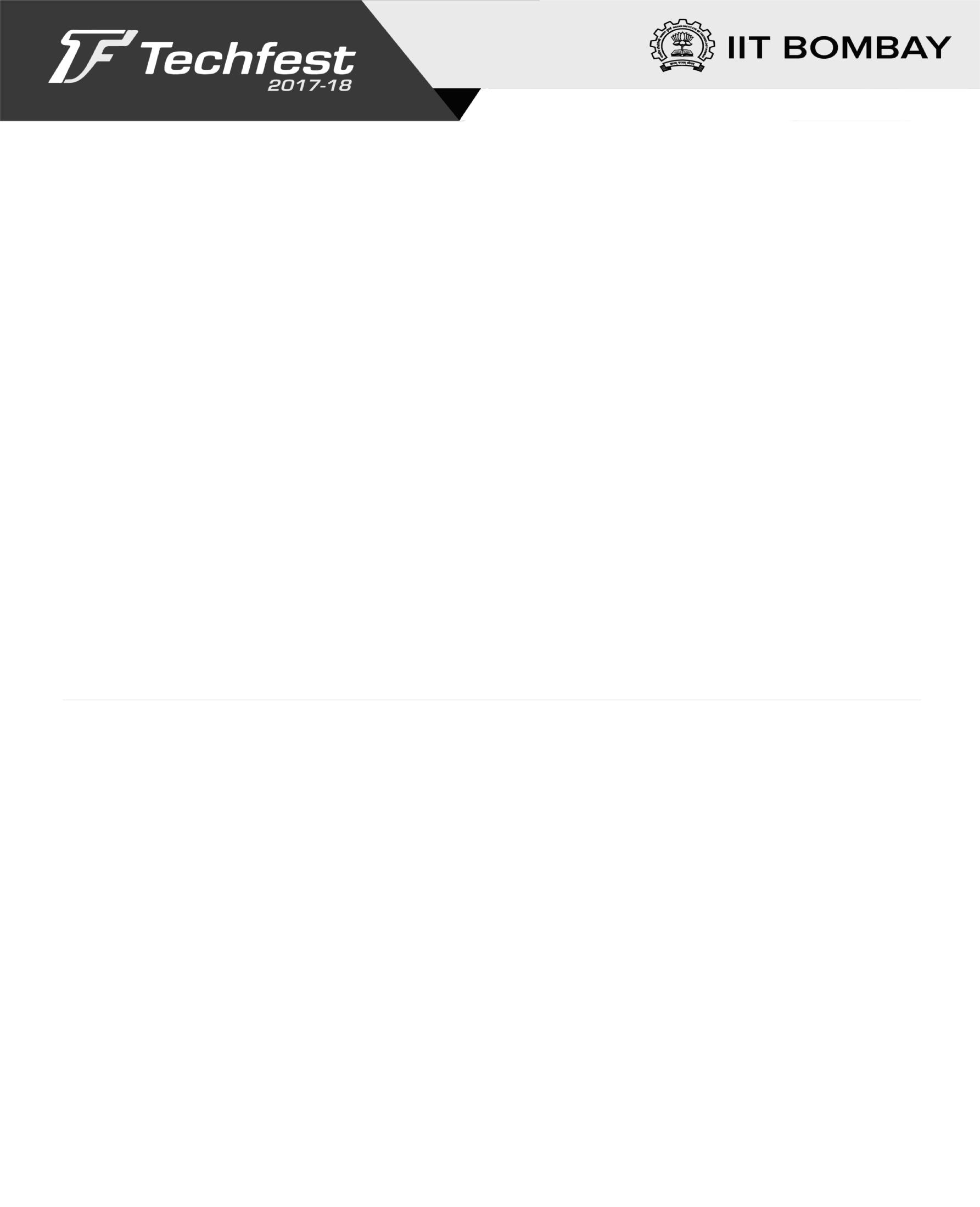


|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2.2 | |  | 0 | Mills to Henriques, no run, lovely stroke. Back of a length outside off, Henriques scythes a cut | | |  |
|  |  | towards backward point. Using the pace. | | |  |  |  |
| 2.1 | |  | 1 | Mills to Dhawan, 1 run, looking for a yorker. A full toss on middle and leg, worked to | |  |  |
|  |  | backward square leg for a run. Should have been two. There's one run that Sunrisers should | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  | have got that they didn't |  |  |  |
|  | Palpable nervousness | | | |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 2 | 16 Runs 1 Wkt | SRH: 23/1 | RR: 11.50 | | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | MC Henriques | | | 4 (2b) | A Choudhary | 1-0-16-1 |  |
|  | S Dhawan | |  | 1 (3b) | TS Mills | 1-0-6-0 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1.6 | |  | 4 | Choudhary to Henriques, FOUR, smashed for four. A good length delivery outside off, | |  |  |
|  |  | Henriques stays in his crease and cracks a cut through point. Too much width from the | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | debutant |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |  |
| 1.5 | |  | 0 | Choudhary to Henriques, no run, full delivery outside off, some swing back in. Dabbed away | | |  |
|  |  | to gully. Good stuff from Choudhary | | |  |  |  |
|  | Henriques | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |  |
| 1.4 | |  | W | Choudhary to Warner, OUT, there's the first wicket of the season. It's all happening. A loose | | |  |
|  |  | stroke by Warner. Full delivery outside off, there is some swing too. Warner lets his hands go | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  | through the line, an error because there is some movement. The ball skews off the outside half | | |  |
|  |  |  |  | and carries to backward point, a reverse-cupped catch. Hard hands. | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | DA Warner c Mandeep Singh b Choudhary 14 (10m 8b 2x4 1x6) SR: 175.00 | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |  |
| 1.3 | |  | 6 | Choudhary to Warner, SIX, that's the first six of IPL 10. Back of a length delivery outside off, | | |  |
|  |  | Warner stays back. Picks the length early and swats a pull very high. But got elevation and | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  | distance |  |  |  |
|  |  | | | |  |  |  |
|  | First free-hit of IPL 10 | | | |  |  |  |
| 1.3 | |  | 1nb | Choudhary to Warner, 1(no ball) , the first no-ball of IPL 10. Full delivery on the pads, Warner | | |  |
|  |  | misses a flick. Off the pad towards the keeper | | | |  |  |
| 1.2 | |  | 4 | Choudhary to Warner, FOUR, over mid-off. Sees a full delivery, and lets his hands through | | |  |
|  |  | the line of the ball. The stroke was accentuated with width. Full and wide outside off, Warner | | | | |  |

bends his knees and lifts the ball over mid-off. Shot

Supradeep: "No doubt Rashid Khan is an encouraging pick, but I am still not out of the fact that SRH have let go of karn Sharma and bought an overseas player for a like to like replacement. It's the small things that matter in these tournaments, SRH might have missed a trick of playing an extra foriegn player."

1.1



|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  | 1 | Choudhary to Dhawan, 1 run, good length delivery outside off, a hint of swing. Not much. | |  |  |  |
|  |  | Dhawan pushes towards mid-off and sets off for a single. A quality run. Intent matters, and | | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | adds a run too. |  |  |  |  |
|  | Choudhary | | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 1 | 7 Runs | SRH: 7/0 | RR: 7.00 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | S Dhawan | |  | 0 (2b) | TS Mills | 1-0-6-0 |  |  |
|  | DA Warner | |  | 4 (4b) |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0.6 | |  | 1lb | Mills to Dhawan, 1 leg bye, decent start from both sides. Good length on the thigh pad, | |  |  |  |
|  |  | Dhawan misses a flick. Off the body towards square leg for a leg bye | | | |  |  |  |
| 0.5 | |  | 0 | Mills to Dhawan, no run, 145 kph, harrying Dhawan for pace. Full on leg, no swing. So when it | | |  |  |
|  |  | hits Dhawan's pads, it looks like it's sliding down. It is | | | |  |  |  |
| 0.5 | |  | 2w | Mills to Warner, 2 wides, yikes, wayward. 146 kph though. Drifts down leg. Jadhav, RCB's | |  |  |  |
|  |  | new keeper, fumbles the collection | | |  |  |  |  |
| 0.4 | |  | 0 | Mills to Warner, no run, good length outside off, Warner allows the ball to hit the bat, instead | | |  |  |
|  |  | of going towards the ball. Hit to cover | | |  |  |  |  |

Warner has played seven matches for Sunrisers against Royal Challengers and has scored a fifty in each match

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 0.3 | 4 | Mills to Warner, FOUR, Warner may not have had a great Test series against India, but he's |
|  | right at home here, in the format, in this competition. Back of a length delivery outside off, | |
|  |  | Warner opens the bat face and guides the ball through point. Somehow finds the gap |
|  |  |  |
| 0.2 | 0 | Mills to Warner, no run, 138 kph, full and straight this time, not much swing. Not much |
|  | movement. But the pace is there. Worked to square leg. Warner wanted one, Dhawan didn't. | |
|  |  | Still nervy out there with so much noise |
|  |  |  |
| 0.1 | 0 | Mills to Warner, no run, 141 kph delivery to start. Pace, bounce, carry. Short of a length |
|  | outside off, Warner slaps a cut to cover. That should ease some nerves all around | |

Righto. All set. Defending champs v runners-up. Warner and Dhawan. RCB under a new captain, Shane Watson. A debutant will begin, left-armer Tymal Mills. He ripped through Gayle's defenses in a county game for Sussex against Somerset in the Natwest T20 Blast. He's known to bowl in excess of 90 mph. A slip in place. Let's roll.

7.45pm Three left-arm seamers in Royal Challengers' bowling line-up - Mills, Aravind and Aniket Choudhary. Four bowlers have dismissed Shikhar Dhawan three or more times in the IPL. Of the four, three - Faulkner, Zaheer and Mitchell Johnson - are left-arm quicks. The other bowler is Malinga.

Dhawan averages 10.75 or less against each of those three left-arm quicks.



Warner goes at a strike rate of over 150 against left-arm quicks, and Dhawan about 120-plus, which is better than his career strike rate in all T20s

Mills had earlier told Mark Butcher on Sky Sports, 40 minutes before the toss, that he wasn't initially part of the Royal Challengers XI, preferring Samuel Badree over him as the only overseas bowler.

7.30pm Royal Challengers Bangalore won the toss and chose to bowl

Sunrisers: Warner, Dhawan, Henriques, Yuvraj, Hooda, Ojha, cutting, Bipul, Nehra, Rashid Khan, Bhuvneshwar.

Royal ChallengersGayle, Mandeep, Watson, Jadhav (wk), Baby, Head, Binny, Aravind, Choudhary, Chahal, Mills

Shane Watson: "Had a week, heaps of time to prepare. We got a great squad, plenty of depth. We'll be tested. Aniket Choudhary and Tymal Mills are debutants."

David Warner: We would have bowled first. No pressure, we didn't start well last year, but we were champions. Guys are full of energy. Rashid Khan is playing."

Updated teams for you shortly.

7.20pm A reminder that Virat Kohli, KL Rahul and AB de Villiers will not be part of Royal Challengers tonight. Arun Venugopal tells me that Kohli was put through some drills by RCB trainer Shankar Basu.

Moises Henriques and Ben Cutting marked their run-ups a little earlier, so they may continue to hold their places in the Sunrisers XI.

Brad Hogg, Ajit Agarkar and Raunak Kapoor are on Matchday to kick-start the season. Look for it at the top right of this page.

Samraat: "So without Devillers and Kohli,RCB will be heavily lying on Senior men (Watson+gayle) 508matches 15,512 runs 266 wickets 21 centuries 93 fifties 1045 Sixes"

7.15pm Let's get to cricket, shall we? Toss in 15 minutes. I'm quite sure the captain winning the toss will choose to bowl, considering the unpredictability around how the pitch will play. Chasing is just generally easier. However, Sunrisers' strength last year was their bowling, so they preferred to bat first, as was evident in the 2016 final.

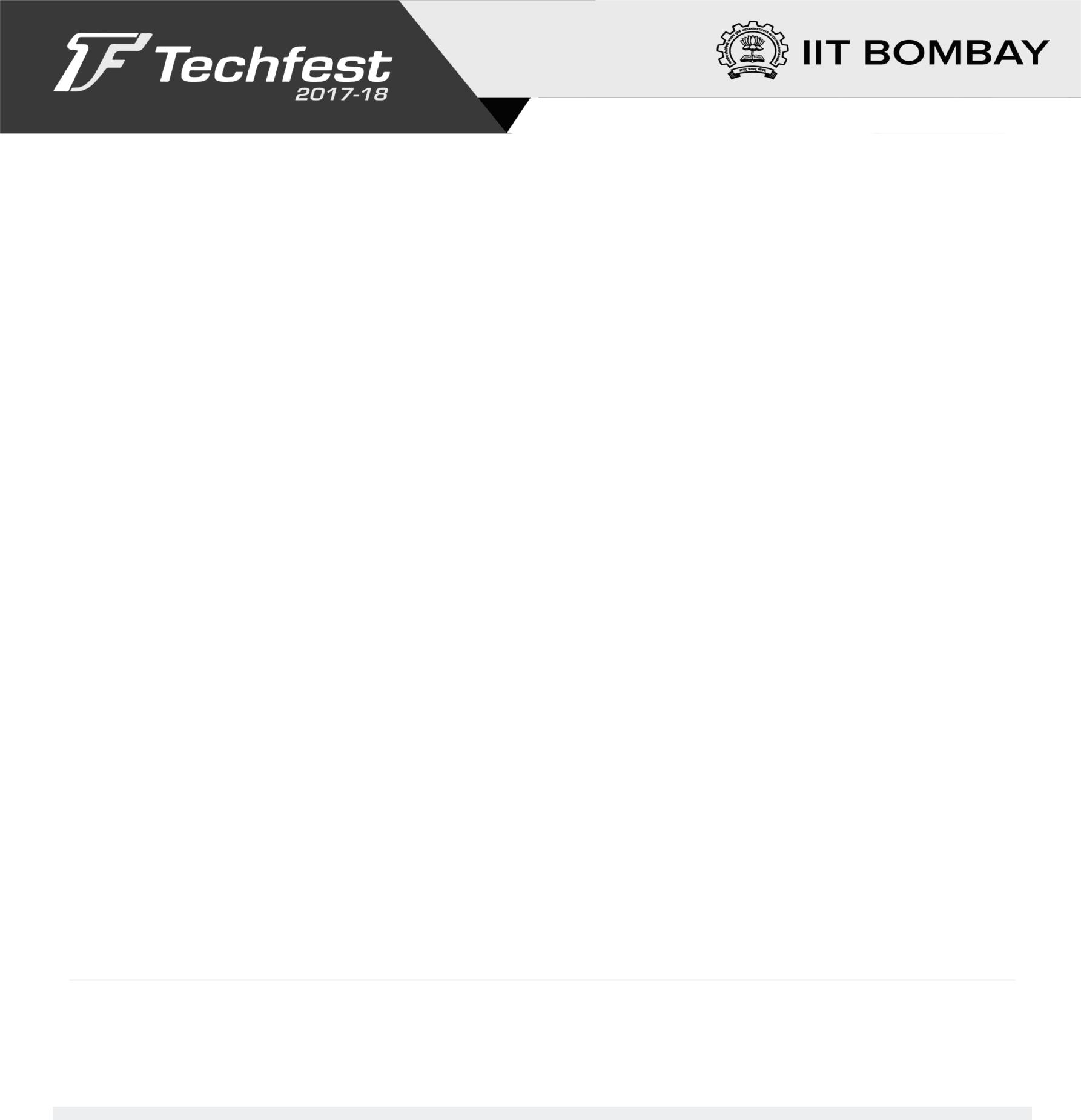
Since 2014, the team chasing has won 12 of 15 times in the IPL at this ground..

Here's what [Kane Williamson thought](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1089982.html) about the Sunrisers' 2017 season. Nagraj Gollapudi interviewed [Sunrisers coach Tom Moody too.](http://www.espncricinfo.com/magazine/content/story/1089855.html)

7.00pm Virat Kohli and David Warner being paraded around the outfield. Plenty of noise, props and whatnot. The usual pre-tournament stuff. The dancing continues. When did it ever stop?

An IPL auction was held in February, plenty of changes in all teams. How well have you kept up-to-date with those moves? [Take the quiz](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1089945.html). Some tricky ones in there. Here's also [our IPL #politeenquiries](http://www.espncricinfo.com/ci/content/video_audio/1090089.html).

Themainman: "Gayle vs Warner, Dhawan vs Bhuvi, yuvi vs Watson, Jordan vs mills, Rashid Khan vs Chahal...let the battles begin and players to watch out for me are the young Rashid and Tymal mills in the bowling and travis head/Yuvraj in the batting! Everyone is hungry and so are we!"



6.50pm Depending on where you are, there is still/only 40 minutes left to the toss. Until then, there's quite a bit to read. Firstly, [a look at the Sunrisers Hyderabad](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1089383.html). And the [Royal Challengers Bangalore](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1089640.html). And a combined [preview for game 1](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1089979.html). T20s are moving closer to a data way, so don't miss the stats-driven content in the preview to keep yourself updated.

Jigar: "Its that time of the year again when you want to enjoy the world class cricketers battle against each other with price tag justification on their mind. "

Nischay : "10 years ago Brendon McCullum lit up the tournament and showed us the sign of things to come. Still vivid in my memory - couldn't have asked for a better to start this whirlwind of emotions"

6.40pm Hyderabad warms up, almost literally, with an opening ceremony through MC Ravi Shastri. It's all glitz, glamour, glitter and orange at the Rajiv Gandhi Stadium. They are of course, defending champions, having beaten the Royal Challengers in the final last year in Bengaluru. Not much to worry about weather-wise. Hyderabad has a lovely dusky feel to it for the moment. Sachin Tendulkar, Virender Sehwag, VVS Laxman and Sourav Ganguly are all introduced to a crammed, packed crowd, and taken on a lap of honour.

Murtuza: "As a Hyderabad fan IPL gives me a sense of understanding why Premier League football fans go to matches for middle table teams. It's not about winning. It's just the excitement of watching your team play that is gripping all the time. Of course a SRH title is bonus, but I think about it only if we reach top 4.

Sathish: "RCB would be most frustrated ever because they were the ones who missed 2 maiden titles.. At least Hyderabad won in the name of Deccan earlier..."

6.30pm Agony. Elation. Frustration. Joy. An elusive maiden title. A maiden title. This was how these two teams, the Sunrisers Hyderabad and Royal Challengers Bangalore, left the IPL last year, after nine years. Ten months on, or thereabouts, these two teams will kick off season 10 of the IPL. In between, there was the almost-customary IPL auction. Some teams are stronger, some teams are weaker, some teams aren't much different. But the IPL almost never has depended on the strength of teams, on an evening or through the duration of the tournament.

It's been a wondrous journey since the inception in 2008, and Nagraj Gollapudi has summed up the phenomenon of the IPL [pretty neatly](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1089994.html).

The best players since the start of the IPL? [Vote here,](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1090115.html) on the best openers in this competition.



11.48pm A fantastic start by Sunrisers to begin the season. Clinical all the way through. Pretty much from the outset. RCB's fielding and bowling was far from par. They allowed Sunrisers to get off and running, and they didn't look back. RCB tried valiantly, got a decent start at the top, and kept their momentum through the middle. But Sunrisers just had too much penetration in all departments this evening.

Yuvraj Singh is the Man of the Match: "Every IPL you have to bring something new (haircut). Confidence. When you make a comeback and play well, you gain confidence.You don't have to worry that you have to make a comeback. I'm batting more hours, working on the short ball, the slower ball, hitting in the V. Was a bit lucky today, but have been playing the short ball really well."

David Warner: "Was going to be bit some dew, but fantastic the way the guys batted through the middle. Always mindful in a jam-packed line-up like theirs. Knew we had to negate their partnerships. The Yuvi of old we know."

Shane Watson: "All aspects, we were slightly off, We weren't as tight. Sunrisers got pretty much the same combinations, we are still finding ours. Last man standing, but it's a privilege to lead RCB. The wicket was slow, but very nice. We got plenty of firepower. Got to be better next time."

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 19.4 | W | Cutting to Choudhary, OUT, Chris Jordan makes his appearance in the IPL. A slower short |  |
|  | delivery on middle, pulled on the bounce to Jordan at midwicket. He picks up cleanly, and | |  |
|  |  | throws the stumps down at the bowler's end as Choudhary sent Chahal back. It's RCB's |  |
|  |  | worst loss - in terms of runs - since April 2013. Not the best way to start the season |  |
|  |  | YS Chahal run out 3 (9m 7b 0x4 0x6) SR: 42.85 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 19.3 | 6 | Cutting to Choudhary, SIX, nice way to start your IPL batting career. A bouncer on leg, |  |
|  | Choudhary gets a thick top-edge which flies over fine leg for six. | |  |
| 19.2 | 1 | Cutting to Chahal, 1 run, good length delivery on middle, pulled towards midwicket. The |  |
|  | fielder gets across and misses the stumps at the bowler's end. Out if he hit. | |  |
| A fantastic start by Sunrisers. Shows the value of utility players | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 19.1 |  | Cutting to Chahal, no run, good length delivery outside off, pushed away towards point. |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |

END OF OVER: 19 | 9 Runs 1 Wkt | RCB: 165/9 (43 runs required from 6 balls, RR: 8.68, RRR: 43.00)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| YS Chahal | 2 (5b) | B Kumar | 4-0-27-2 |
| A Choudhary | 0 (0b) | A Nehra | 4-0-42-2 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 18.6 | 1 | Kumar to Chahal, 1 run, legcutter on middle, worked to midwicket. A couple of wickets for |
|  | Bhuvi too, does his job | |
| 18.5 | W | Kumar to Mills, OUT, very very high in the air, and Warner takes it. A slower delivery on |

middle and leg, Tymal Mills gets underneath the mow. Soars high, Warner settles underneath and claims the catch.

TS Mills c Warner b Kumar 6 (6m 3b 0x4 1x6) SR: 200.00



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 18.4 | 6 | Kumar to Mills, SIX, smashed for six. Full and wide outside off, Mills unleashes a square |
|  | drive over point. Way into the stands, Surely a better No. 8 than Aravind | |

Sid: "Players playing for fantasy points now."

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 18.3 |  | Kumar to Chahal, 1 run, slower ball, nudged down to fine leg for a single |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 18.2 |  | Kumar to Chahal, no run, full and straight, defended to mid-off |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 18.1 | 1lb | Kumar to Mills, 1 leg bye, fullish on the middle and leg stumps, looked like a thick inside edge |  |
|  | into the pad for a run towards third man | |  |

Bhuvi will finish.

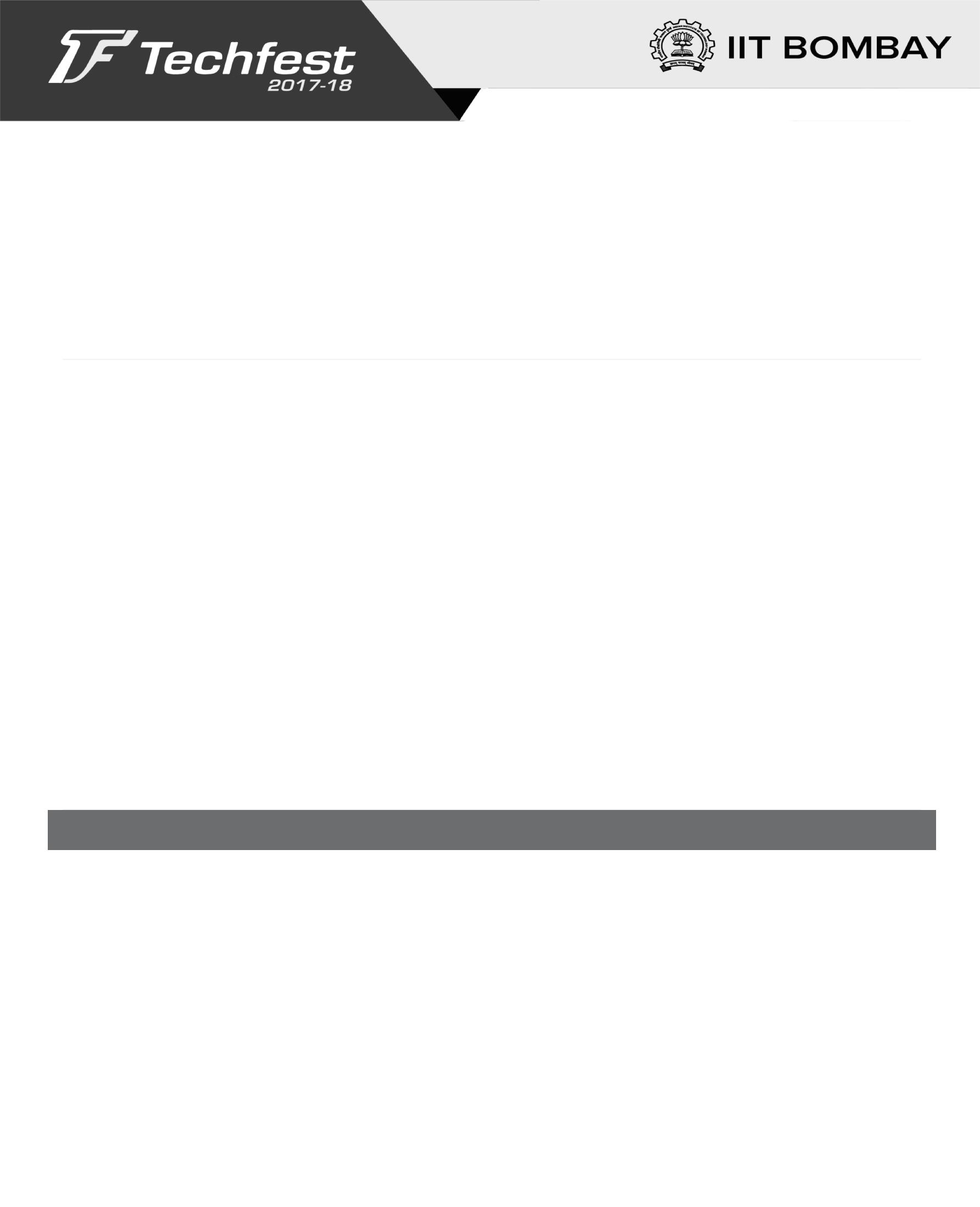
END OF OVER: 18 | 2 Runs 2 Wkts | RCB: 156/8 (52 runs required from 12 balls, RR: 8.66, RRR: 26.00)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| YS Chahal | 0 (2b) | A Nehra | 4-0-42-2 |
| TS Mills | 0 (0b) | B Kumar | 3-0-19-1 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 17.6 | 0 | Nehra to Chahal, no run, and again. Full and wide, Chahal plays a drive too early and is |
|  | beaten. Two wickets for Nehra in his spell | |
| 17.5 | 0 | Nehra to Chahal, no run, ooh, just past the outside edge. Full and wide outside off, Chahal is |
|  | beaten on the outside edge | |
| On a hat-trick | |  |
|  |  |  |
| 17.4 | W | Nehra to Aravind, OUT, bowled. Clean through. Araving gives himself room, but Nehra is full |
|  | and straight. Smashes into leg stump. Zing bails go everywhere. Nehra gets to 100 IPL | |
|  |  | wickets |
|  |  | S Aravind b Nehra 0 (5m 2b 0x4 0x6) SR: 0.00 |
| Tymal Mills. | |  |
|  |  |  |
| 17.3 | W | Nehra to Watson, OUT, that's the game. A full toss on middle and off, the ball moves away in |
|  | the air. Watson cannot time his heave. Gets a leading edge which hangs in the air for a bit | |
|  |  | before settling in midwicket's reverse-cupped hands. Simple. |
|  |  | SR Watson c Henriques b Nehra 22 (31m 17b 1x4 1x6) SR: 129.41 |
|  |  |  |
| 17.2 | 0 | Nehra to Watson, no run, there it is. Turns down the single. A full delivery down leg, Watson |
|  | misses a sweep. Off the pad towards midwicket | |
| 17.1 | 2 | Nehra to Watson, 2 runs, doesn't look quick. A low full toss on middle and leg, swept away to |
|  | deep square leg. Watson labours back for two | |

All on Watson now. He may even turn down singles with a No. 8. Not ideal for RCB. Nehra to finish.

END OF OVER: 17 | 3 Runs 1 Wkt | RCB: 154/6 (54 runs required from 18 balls, RR: 9.05, RRR: 18.00)



|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| S Aravind | 0 (1b) | B Kumar | 3-0-19-1 |
| SR Watson | 20 (14b) | BCJ Cutting | 3-0-28-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 16.6 | 0 | Kumar to Aravind, no run, full delivery outside off, a swing across the line makes connection |
|  | with nothing but air. | |

Bhuvneshwar's death-overs economy rate before today, for SRH, was 8.92. 16 wickets in 23 innings before today.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 16.5 | W | Kumar to Binny, OUT, this is an easier opportunity and taken. This is lovely bowling. It's a |  |
|  | length legcutter on off. The legcutter has some skid, some pace. Binny is hurried on his pull | |  |
|  |  | and just bunts a catch to Yuvraj at backward point. |  |
|  |  | STR Binny c Yuvraj Singh b Kumar 11 (14m 10b 0x4 1x6) SR: 110.00 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 16.4 |  | Kumar to Watson, 1 run, another wide yorker, outside-edged down to third man for a run |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 16.3 |  | Kumar to Watson, no run, an excellent wide yorker. Just inside the tramline |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 16.2 | 1 | Kumar to Binny, 1 run, oh phew. Naman Ojha has shelled a sitter. The fielding in this |  |
|  | game has been appalling. A slower delivery outside off, Binny's slog results in a leading edge | |  |
|  |  | which hangs in the air for quite a bit. Naman shuns everyone away. But gets underneath it |  |
|  |  | and lets it go through |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 16.1 |  | Kumar to Watson, 1 run, a nice yorker outside off, hit up to long-off for a run |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |

57 off 24 balls. I've seen IPL games won from here. Bhuvi to bowl 17 and 19. Divyanshu: "62 needed of 27. Exactly what Yuvraj made of same number of deliveries."

END OF OVER: 16 | 12 Runs | RCB: 151/5 (57 runs required from 24 balls, RR: 9.43, RRR: 14.25)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | SR Watson | |  | 18 (11b) | BCJ Cutting | 3-0-28-0 |  |
|  | STR Binny | |  | 10 (8b) | Rashid Khan | 4-0-36-2 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15.6 | |  | 1 | Cutting to Watson, 1 run, a low full toss on leg, clipped to deep midwicket for one | |  |  |
|  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |
| 15.5 | |  | 4 | Cutting to Watson, FOUR, through cover. Henriques at cover dives over the ball. Full and | | | |
|  |  | wide outside off, Watson cracks a lovely cover drive along the ground. | | | |  |  |
| 15.4 | |  | 0 | Cutting to Watson, no run, a slow legcutter outside off, driven up to mid-off. Watson sends | | | |
|  |  | Binny back | | |  |  |  |
| 15.3 | |  | 1 | Cutting to Binny, 1 run, what was that? Short third man backtracked instead of coming | |  |  |
|  |  | forward. That should have been taken. Complete misjudgement. Back of a length, Binny looks | | | | | |

to dab the ball over short third man, but can only lob it towards the fielder. Absurd. Never seen that before. A regulation catch if he went forward or even sideways.



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 15.2 | 6 | Cutting to Binny, SIX, got that alright. This one is straighter. Binny stays in the crease and |
|  | thwack. Waaay over midwicket. Timing again | |
| 15.1 | 0 | Cutting to Binny, no run, a legcutter outside off. Sprayed wide outside off intentionally. |
|  | Creeps underneath the bat | |

Cutting. Reckon that's the end of spin.

END OF OVER: 15 | 9 Runs | RCB: 139/5 (69 runs required from 30 balls, RR: 9.26, RRR: 13.80)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SR Watson | 13 | (8b) | Rashid Khan | 4-0-36-2 |
| STR Binny | 3 | (5b) | Bipul Sharma | 1-0-4-1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 14.6 | 6 | Rashid Khan to Watson, SIX, brute power. Back of a length on middle, can't drop short to |  |
|  | Watson. He rocks back and pummels a pull over long-on. So strong. Muscle was enough, Add | |  |
|  |  | timing and the result is pretty clear |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 14.5 |  | Rashid Khan to Binny, 1 run, cut to short third man, googly |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 14.4 | 0 | Rashid Khan to Binny, no run, just outside off. Flat delivery outside off, Binny didn't pick the |  |
|  | previous one, so the obvious reaction was the sweep. Rashid knew that so he fired it full. Gets | |  |
|  |  | underneath Binny's sweep. Big appeal, impact outside off |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 14.3 | 0 | Rashid Khan to Binny, no run, the googly, Binny doesn't read it off the pitch or in the air. |  |
|  | Convincingly undone. Hits Binny on the pad | |  |
| 14.2 |  | Rashid Khan to Watson, 1 run, a googly, worked away through midwicket |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 14.1 | 1 | Rashid Khan to Binny, 1 run, nudged to square leg for one. Excellent length. Ensuring it's |  |
|  | tough to hit | |  |

END OF OVER: 14 | 4 Runs 1 Wkt | RCB: 130/5 (78 runs required from 36 balls, RR: 9.28, RRR: 13.00)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| STR Binny | 1 (1b) | Bipul Sharma | 1-0-4-1 |
| SR Watson | 6 (6b) | Rashid Khan | 3-0-27-2 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 13.6 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Binny, 1 run, worked away through square leg for a run. Good stuff from |
|  | Bipul | |
| 13.5 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Watson, 1 run, punched to long-on from the back foot. Tidy over so far |
|  |  |  |

Watson strikes at 10.86 per over in the end overs (16 to 20) while chasing in the IPL. Binny at 8.58 per over. RCB need over 12 at the moment.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 13.4 | W | Bipul Sharma to Sachin Baby, OUT, taken. Bipul gets one. Henriques takes the catch. RCB |
|  | falling away rapidly. A flat, full delivery on the pads. Baby wanted to hit that over midwicket, | |



|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | but the ball slid on with the arm, resulting in a leading edge which hung in the air. Henriques |  |
|  |  | back-tracks and takes a simple catch, made that look easy |  |
|  |  | Sachin Baby c Henriques b Bipul Sharma 1 (5m 3b 0x4 0x6) SR: 33.33 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 13.3 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Watson, 1 run, pushed through, it's a good length, but Watson is very strong |  |
|  | on the pull. Hit to deep square leg | |  |
| 13.2 |  | Bipul Sharma to Sachin Baby, 1 run, shortish on off, hammered to long-off |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 13.1 | 0 | Bipul Sharma to Sachin Baby, no run, flat delivery on the pads, Baby misses a flick. Struck on |  |
|  | the pad | |  |

Bipul Sharma

rssampat: "With the kind of form & intent shown by the RCB batsmen today, with the inclusion of VK & ADV, every team batting first against RCB will feel that they need at least 250 on the board to have a decent chance of defeating the RCB while they chase."

END OF OVER: 13 | 8 Runs 1 Wkt | RCB: 126/4 (82 runs required from 42 balls, RR: 9.69, RRR: 11.71)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SR Watson | 4 (4b) | Rashid Khan | 3-0-27-2 |
| Sachin Baby | 0 (0b) | MC Henriques | 2-0-20-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

Strategic time-out

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 12.6 | 0 | Rashid Khan to Watson, no run, ooh. Flat delivery outside off, some turn, some bounce. Beats |  |
|  | the outside edge | |  |
| 12.5 | W | Rashid Khan to Head, OUT, Rashid Khan comes back and strikes. This is the wrong'un |  |
|  | outside off, Head hits against the turn and miscues this slog. The ball drops into the hands of | |  |
|  |  | long-on |  |
|  |  | TM Head c Yuvraj Singh b Rashid Khan 30 (39m 22b 3x4 0x6) SR: 136.36 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 12.4 | 4 | Rashid Khan to Head, FOUR, Rashid loses his length. Full-toss on the middle stump, Head |  |
|  | goes down on one knee and slogs it powerfully over midwicket. One-bounce four | |  |
| 12.3 |  | Rashid Khan to Watson, 1 run, flighted outside off, driven down to long-on |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 12.2 | 2 | Rashid Khan to Watson, 2 runs, tossed outside off, driven on the front foot to wide long-off |  |
|  | for two | |  |
| 12.1 |  | Rashid Khan to Head, 1 run, fired outside off, driven to long-off |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |

Rashid.

END OF OVER: 12 | 7 Runs 1 Wkt | RCB: 118/3 (90 runs required from 48 balls, RR: 9.83, RRR: 11.25)



|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | TM Head |  | 25 (19b) | MC Henriques | 2-0-20-0 |  |
|  | SR Watson | | 1 (1b) | A Nehra | 3-0-40-0 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11.6 | | 1 | Henriques to Head, 1 run, short and outside off, flashed to point | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11.5 | | 1 | Henriques to Watson, 1 run, short and outside off, stands tall and punches to sweeper | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Shane Watson in at No. 5, but in the last two years he averages only 14 at a strike rate of 106 in that position, in T20 cricket.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 11.4 | W | Henriques to Jadhav, 1 run, OUT, Ripping throw from Cutting. He effects a direct hit on |  |
|  | the full, nailing the top of the stumps at the striker's end from long leg. Kedhar premeditated | |  |
|  |  | a lap sweep. He went low, took a length ball from outside off and lapped it away to long leg. |  |
|  |  | Cutting swoops down on the ball and splatters the stumps. What a throw - full-toss hitting the |  |
|  |  | stumps from the deep - to catch the batsman miles short on the second |  |
|  |  | KM Jadhav run out 31 (38m 16b 4x4 1x6) SR: 193.75 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 11.3 | 1 | Henriques to Head, 1 run, just short of a good length and outside off, slogged away off the |  |
|  | inside half to deep square leg | |  |
| 11.2 |  | Henriques to Head, 2 runs, short on off, stands tall and forces it to wide long-on |  |
| 2 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 11.1 |  | Henriques to Jadhav, 1 run, good length and outside off, shimmies out and runs it to point |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |

END OF OVER: 11 | 13 Runs | RCB: 111/2 (97 runs required from 54 balls, RR: 10.09, RRR: 10.77)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| KM Jadhav | 29 | (14b) | A Nehra | 3-0-40-0 |
| TM Head | 21 | (16b) | MC Henriques | 1-0-13-0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 10.6 | 1 | Nehra to Jadhav, 1 run, short on leg stump again, Hooda had been moved to the deep before |  |
|  | this ball, pulled to long leg | |  |
| 10.5 | 4 | Nehra to Jadhav, FOUR, hip-high short ball on the leg stump, with short fine leg inside the |  |
|  | circle, this is helped square of Hooda there | |  |
| 10.4 | 4 | Nehra to Jadhav, FOUR, full-toss outside off, Jadhav brings his quick hands into play, |  |
|  | smearing it over midwicket | |  |
| 10.3 |  | Nehra to Head, 1 run, full-toss on off stump, picked up, and whipped away to deep square leg |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 10.2 |  | Nehra to Jadhav, 1 run, tucked off the pads to square leg |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 10.2 | 1w | Nehra to Jadhav, 1 wide, Jadhav shuffles across off, Nehra bowls it on a fourth-stump on the |  |
|  | leg side. Wide called | |  |



|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 10.1 |  | Nehra to Head, 1 run, Head shimmies out, and whips a full-toss to Dhawan at deep square leg |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |

Nehra is back

END OF OVER: 10 | 13 Runs | RCB: 98/2 (110 runs required from 60 balls, RR: 9.80, RRR: 11.00)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| KM Jadhav | 19 (10b) | MC Henriques | 1-0-13-0 |
| TM Head | 19 (14b) | BCJ Cutting | 2-0-16-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 9.6 | 4 | Henriques to Jadhav, FOUR, This smashed back to the bowler's right. Kedhar steps out, this |
|  | is shorter, drilled in the air, it was too quick for Henriques | |
| 9.5 | 1 | Henriques to Head, 1 run, really full on off, drilled back to the bowler, who lets it bursts |
|  | through his hands in his followthrough | |
| 9.4 | 0 | Henriques to Head, no run, slower offcutter outside off, 114ks, Head does not pick this. |
|  | Swishing and missing early | |

Ujwal: "Bipul is good at drying up the runs, Warner should bring him on"

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 9.3 |  | Henriques to Jadhav, 1 run, short of a length and outside off, cut away firmly to deep point |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 9.2 |  | Henriques to Head, 1 run, back of a length on off, punched down to long-on |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 9.1 | 4 | Henriques to Head, FOUR, full offcutter outside off, Head picks it , waits for the ball to |  |
|  | arrive, and smashes it straight of wide long-on | |  |
| 9.1 | 2nb | Henriques to Jadhav, (no ball) 1 run, full-toss above the waist, clipped around the corner, no- |  |
|  | ball | |  |

Head's highest score in his last 23 T20 innings is 45. Will he fire for RCB tonight? Here is Henriques.

END OF OVER: 9 | 11 Runs | RCB: 85/2 (123 runs required from 11 overs, RR: 9.44, RRR: 11.18)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| KM Jadhav | 13 (7b) | BCJ Cutting | 2-0-16-0 |
| TM Head | 13 (10b) | Rashid Khan | 2-0-19-1 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 8.6 |  | Cutting to Jadhav, 1 run, back of a length legcutter outside off, punched down the ground |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |

Dhir: "Even though Rashid has a wicket, he has not bowled that well. Lot of short stuff. May be a sign of nervousness but I hope he has some tricks left in him!"

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 8.5 | 6 | Cutting to Jadhav, SIX, short ball, you've got to get it up higher. This hip-high ball sits up, |
|  | Jadhav pulls and puts Cutting over the midwicket boundary | |
| 8.4 | 1 | Cutting to Head, 1 run, short of a length and outside off, Head slashes a cut to the right of |
|  | sweeper cover | |



|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 8.3 |  | Cutting to Jadhav, 1 run, skiddy short ball on off, hurriedly pulled to long leg |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 8.2 | 0 | Cutting to Jadhav, no run, short and outside off, Jadhav goes hard on the ball and flat-bats it |  |
|  | to mid-off | |  |
| 8.2 |  | Cutting to Jadhav, 1 wide, leg-side wide |  |
| 1w |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 8.1 | 1 | Cutting to Head, 1 run, short of a length and outside off, whipped on the back foot through |  |
|  | midwicket | |  |

END OF OVER: 8 | 13 Runs | RCB: 74/2 (134 runs required from 12 overs, RR: 9.25, RRR: 11.16)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| KM Jadhav | 5 | (3b) | Rashid Khan | 2-0-19-1 |
| TM Head | 11 | (8b) | DJ Hooda | 1-0-7-1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 7.6 | 4 | Rashid Khan to Jadhav, FOUR, rank long hop outside off, nearly 100ks, Jadhav camps back |
|  | and pulls it powerfully to the midwicket boundary. Duly put away | |
| 7.5 | 1 | Rashid Khan to Head, 1 run, short legbreak on the leg stump, Head hangs back and clips it |
|  | away to deep square leg | |

Kapil: "That Cutting over was the difference"

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 7.4 |  | Rashid Khan to Jadhav, 1 run, googly, spins in, inside-edged to midwicket |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 7.3 |  | Rashid Khan to Head, 1 run, pitched up and outside off, driven down to long-off |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 7.2 |  | Rashid Khan to Head, 2 runs, whipped away between wide long-on and deep midwicket |  |
| 2 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 7.1 | 4 | Rashid Khan to Head, FOUR, full and sliding across off, Head thumps a drive to the left of a |  |
|  | diving extra cover | |  |

END OF OVER: 7 | 7 Runs 1 Wkt | RCB: 61/2 (147 runs required from 13 overs, RR: 8.71, RRR: 11.30)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| KM Jadhav | 0 (1b) | DJ Hooda | 1-0-7-1 |
| TM Head | 3 (4b) | Rashid Khan | 1-0-6-1 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 6.6 | 0 | Hooda to Jadhav, no run, good dip for Hooda, Jadhav eyes up the leg side, and ends up |  |
|  | leading-edging the ball towards mid-off | |  |
| 6.5 |  | Hooda to Head, 1 run, full and outside off, driven down the ground |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 6.4 |  | Hooda to Head, no run, full and outside off, pushed to cover |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |



|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 6.3 | W | Hooda to Gayle, OUT, six and out! The offspinner takes down Gayle. Length ball outside off, |  |
|  | this does not turn much. Gayle steps out, aims for an encore. He miscues this. Warner runs to | |  |
|  |  | his right from long-off and pouches it well. He lets out a big roar |  |
|  |  | CH Gayle c Warner b Hooda 32 (30m 21b 2x4 3x6) SR: 152.38 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 6.2 | 6 | Hooda to Gayle, SIX, this is a massive, massive blow from Gayle. Full-toss outside off, Gayle |  |
|  | stretches forward and smites it into the night sky | |  |
| 6.1 |  | Hooda to Gayle, no run, darted outside off, chopped to cover |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |

Here is Hooda. Offspin v Gayle

END OF OVER: 6 | 6 Runs 1 Wkt | RCB: 54/1 (154 runs required from 14 overs, RR: 9.00, RRR: 11.00)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| TM Head | 2 (2b) | Rashid Khan | 1-0-6-1 |
| CH Gayle | 26 (18b) | BCJ Cutting | 1-0-5-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 5.6 |  | Rashid Khan to Head, no run, very full and outside off, driven through the line to mid-off |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 5.5 |  | Rashid Khan to Head, 2 runs, short on off, worked to leg on the back foot |  |
| 2 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

[Rashid Khan has just picked up a wicket on IPL debut. Rashid who? Here's the lowdown on the first](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1090201.html) [Afghanistan cricketer to play in the IPL.](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1090201.html)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 5.4 | W | Rashid Khan to Mandeep Singh, OUT, Rashid strikes in his first over in the IPL. |  |
|  | Googly? No, this is the quicker one, that skids off the deck. Mandeep plays back, is fooled by | |  |
|  |  | the trajectory, and drags an inside edge back onto the leg stump |  |
|  |  | Mandeep Singh b Rashid Khan 24 (26m 16b 5x4 0x6) SR: 150.00 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 5.3 |  | Rashid Khan to Mandeep Singh, no run, darted short and outside off, chopped to cover |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 5.2 | 4 | Rashid Khan to Mandeep Singh, FOUR, too full and outside off, Mandeep backs away and |  |
|  | shovel-drives it again, this time he finds the gap at cover and the boundary | |  |
| 5.1 | 0 | Rashid Khan to Mandeep Singh, no run, full and slides on outside off, Mandeep backs away |  |
|  | and shovel-drives it like Kohli to extra cover | |  |

Rashid. Over the wicket

END OF OVER: 5 | 5 Runs | RCB: 48/0 (160 runs required from 15 overs, RR: 9.60, RRR: 10.66)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CH Gayle | 26 (18b) | BCJ Cutting | 1-0-5-0 |
| Mandeep Singh | 20 (12b) | B Kumar | 2-0-16-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 4.6 | 4 | Cutting to Gayle, FOUR, length and outside off, Gayle has a leg-side slog and ends up |
|  | dragging an inside edge over midwicket. An excellent over, nevertheless | |



Cutting going full and wide, using the offcutter. He got Gayle in the 2016 final too

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 4.5 | 0 | Cutting to Gayle, no run, short and outside off, Gayle makes some room and flays the ball to |
|  | cover | |
| 4.4 | 0 | Cutting to Gayle, no run, back of a length and outside off, Gayle has a big mow to leg. He can't |
|  | connect | |
| 4.4 | 1w | Cutting to Gayle, 1 wide, another slower one. Really full and cuts away wide outside off. Gayle |
|  | throws his bat at it but can't reach it. Wide | |

Bilal: "Its good to see gayle batting in the way he used to be...as in psl he just scored 160 at an average of 17 in 9 matches.."

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 4.3 | 0 | Cutting to Gayle, no run, just short of a good length and outside off, Gayle hangs back and |
|  | flat-bats it to mid-of | |

It's been 15 innings since Gayle made a T20 half-century, and the 54 in the CPL in August 2016 is his only 50+ score in 25 innings.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 4.2 | 0 | Cutting to Gayle, no run, change-up, slower cutter, 118ks, Gayle was already through with the |
|  | slog. Beaten for the change of pace | |
| 4.1 | 0 | Cutting to Gayle, no run, begins with a bouncer on the leg stump, aimed at the head, Gayle |
|  | ducks under it | |

Cutting. Over the wicket

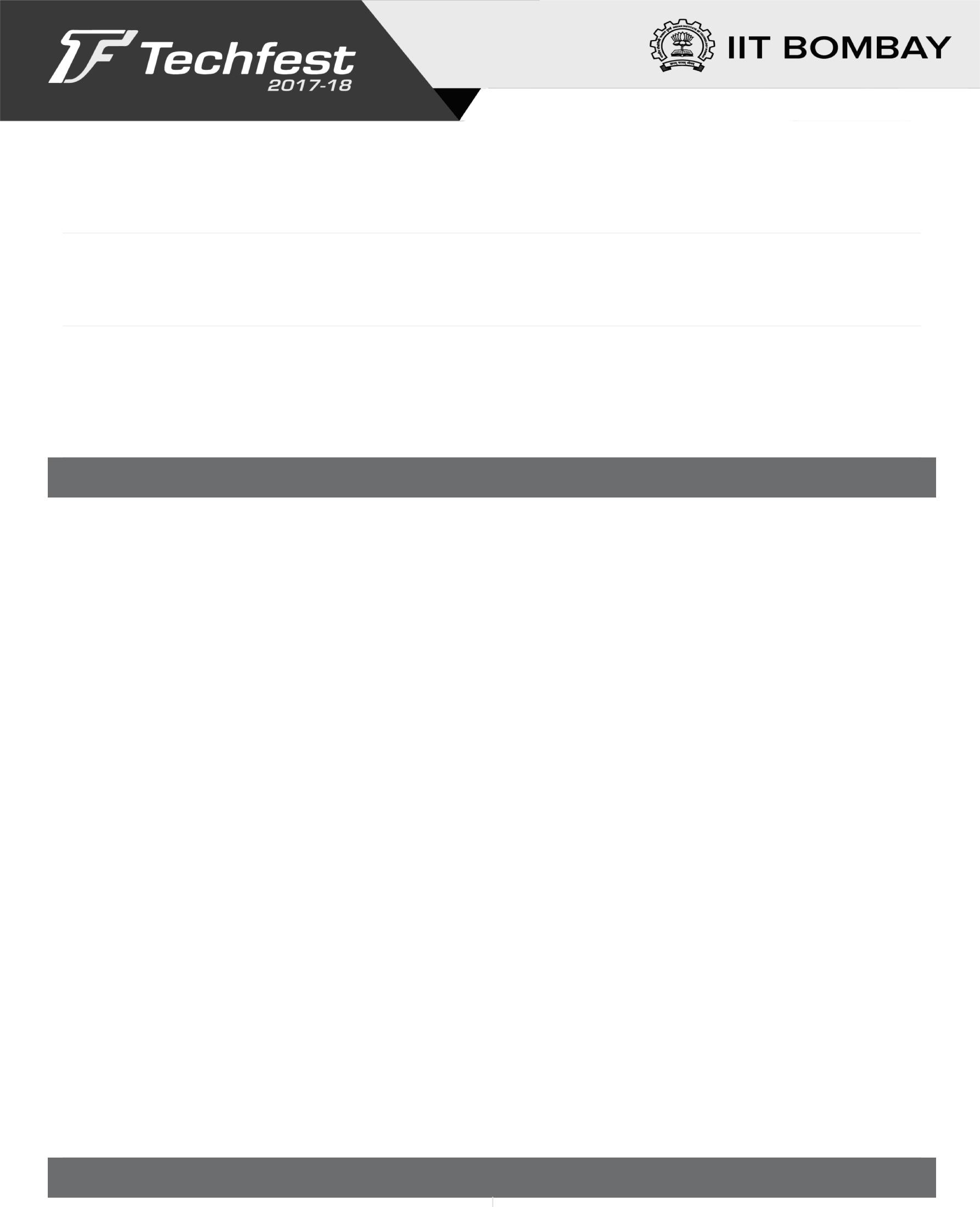
END OF OVER: 4 | 15 Runs | RCB: 43/0 (165 runs required from 16 overs, RR: 10.75, RRR: 10.31)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mandeep Singh | 20 | (12b) | B Kumar | 2-0-16-0 |
| CH Gayle | 22 | (12b) | A Nehra | 2-0-27-0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 3.6 | 4 | Kumar to Mandeep Singh, FOUR, 142ks, full from Bhuvneshwar, too full, a fierce whirl of the |  |
|  | wrists from Mandeep sends the ball to the wide long-on boundary | |  |
| 3.5 | 1 | Kumar to Gayle, 1 run, slower offcutter from Bhuvneshwar, 115ks, Gayle waits for it to arrive |  |
|  | and gently pats it down the ground | |  |
| 3.4 |  | Kumar to Gayle, no run, good length on middle, Gayle pokes it to the covers |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

Sifat Khawry: "Waiting for that historical moment of cricket in Afghanistan, The first over of Rashid Khan. Exitement!!"

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 3.4 |  | Kumar to Gayle, 1 wide, full-toss wide outside off, left alone. Too wide that it's called a wide |  |
| 1w |  |
|  |  |  |



[RCB will have to pull off their highest chase in the IPL to win this game. They chased down 204 against Kings](http://www.espncricinfo.com/ci/engine/match/419112.html) [XI, but that was a very different RCB, with Kallis and Uthappa doing the bulk of the chasing.](http://www.espncricinfo.com/ci/engine/match/419112.html)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 3.3 | 2 | Kumar to Gayle, 2 runs, short on leg stump, Gayle was sitting back for it, tucking to deep |
|  | square leg | |

Benoy: "Bhuvi's (PWI) bowling figures when Chris Gayle did 175\* vs Pune warriors india. :- 4-0-23-0"

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 3.2 | 6 | Kumar to Gayle, SIX, pitched up on off stump, Gayle lays into it, putting Bhuvneshwar over |
|  | the long-on fence with a clean, powerful swing | |
| 3.1 | 1 | Kumar to Mandeep Singh, 1 run, Mandeep skips out and drags an inside edge through square |
|  | leg. He wasn't close to the pitch | |

END OF OVER: 3 | 16 Runs | RCB: 28/0 (180 runs required from 17 overs, RR: 9.33, RRR: 10.58)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CH Gayle | 13 (8b) | A Nehra | 2-0-27-0 |
| Mandeep Singh | 15 (10b) | B Kumar | 1-0-1-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

Playing for RCB in the IPL before today, Chris Gayle had an average of 228.00 against left-arm seam while chasing.

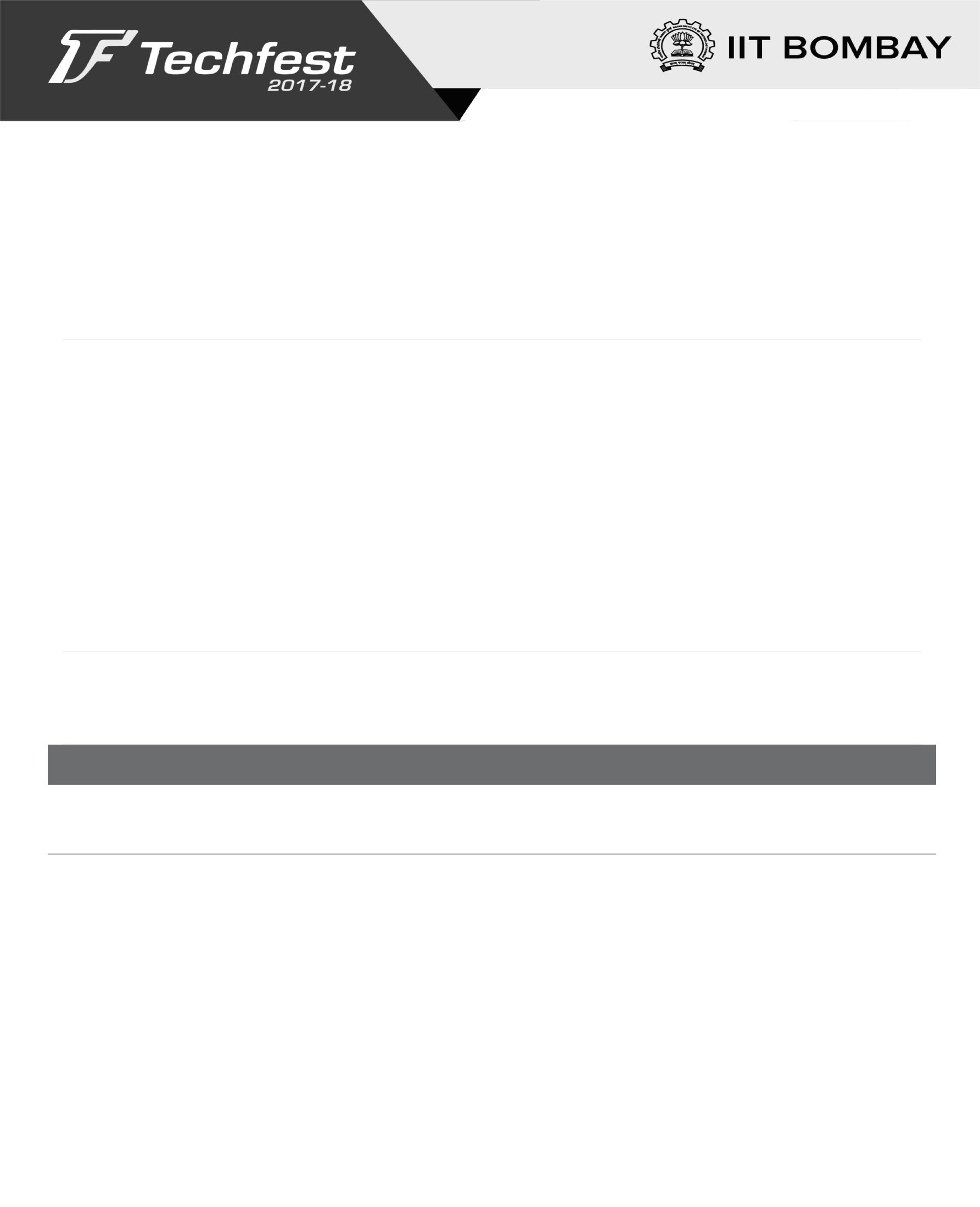
|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2.6 | 6 | Nehra to Gayle, SIX, Gayle gets into his groove. Length ball outside off, Gayle extends his |  |
|  | arms, and lofts it disdainfully over the long-on boundary. Sends it soaring into the stands | |  |
| 2.5 |  | Nehra to Mandeep Singh, 1 run, really full and wide outside off, squeezed down to third man |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 2.4 | 4 | Nehra to Mandeep Singh, FOUR, full on middle and leg, Mandeep swings it nice and clear |  |
|  | over wide mid-on | |  |

Aman: "Bhuvi will be important today as in THAT match where Gayle scored the 175, he went for 23 runs in his 4 overs. Other than Luke Wright who went for 4-0-26-1 everyone else went for more than 12 an over in that innings of 263. Defending 208 his bowling will be the match-breaker for SRH. "

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2.3 | 1 | Nehra to Gayle, 1 run, another hip-high short ball outside off, Gayle swats it away to deep |
|  | square leg | |
| 2.2 | 4 | Nehra to Gayle, FOUR, hip-high ball on the leg stump, swivels on the back foot and helps it |
|  | away to the right of short fine leg | |
| 2.1 | 0 | Nehra to Gayle, no run, length ball, swings in, Gayle has a big swing at it and does not make |
|  | contact | |

Before this match, Gayle has scored 803 Powerplay runs at an average of 47.23 and a strike rate of 142.38 while batting second for RCB.

END OF OVER: 2 | 1 Run | RCB: 12/0 (196 runs required from 18 overs, RR: 6.00, RRR: 10.88)



|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mandeep Singh | 10 | (8b) | B Kumar | 1-0-1-0 |
| CH Gayle | 2 | (4b) | A Nehra | 1-0-11-0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1.6 |  | Kumar to Mandeep Singh, no run, back of a length and outside off, flashed away to point |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |

Chris Gayle vs B Kumar in all T20s: - 95 runs from 66 balls - 58 % are dot balls while 84 runs from the 95 ( 88.5 % of runs are in boundaries) . Bhuvneshwar has dismissed Gayle once

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1.5 |  | Kumar to Mandeep Singh, no run, full on off, defended back to the bowler |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |
| This will be RCB's highest successful chase if they make it | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 1.4 | 0 | Kumar to Mandeep Singh, no run, full and outside off, Mandeep is nowhere near the pitch as |  |
|  | he mis-times a drive back to the bowler | |  |
| 1.3 | 1 | Kumar to Gayle, 1 run, good length and angling away outside off, Gayle opens the face and |  |
|  | steers it through point | |  |
| 1.2 |  | Kumar to Gayle, no run, full on middle, Gayle stays back and pushes to off |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |

Ankush Khanna: "Deja Vu! IPL 9 Last Match vs IPL 10 First Match: Powerplay 1 score - 59 runs, Total score - 208 runs. Being an RCB fan, I would love them to change the history.."

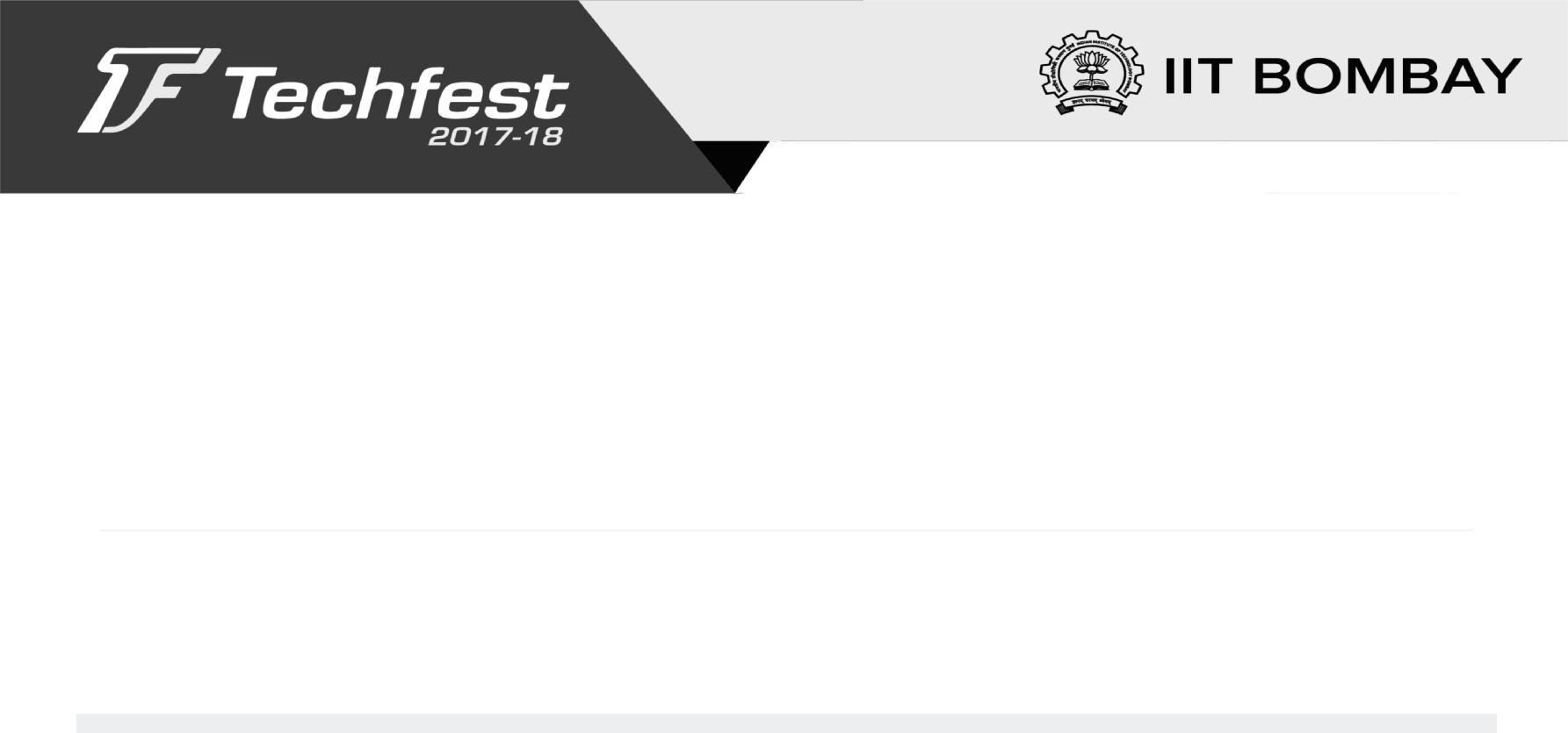
|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1.1 | 0 | Kumar to Gayle, no run, full and angling away outside off, Gayle has a leaden-footed swish |
|  | and only connects with thin air | |

Bhuvneshwar to Gayle. Over the wicket

END OF OVER: 1 | 11 Runs | RCB: 11/0 (197 runs required from 19 overs, RR: 11.00, RRR: 10.36)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mandeep Singh | 10 (5b) | A Nehra | 1-0-11-0 |  |
| CH Gayle | 1 (1b) |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 0.6 | 4 | Nehra to Mandeep Singh, FOUR, back of a length and angling across off, Mandeep reaches |
|  | out and punches it serenely past backward point. Beats square third man running to his right | |
|  |  | as well |
|  |  |  |
| 0.5 | 4 | Nehra to Mandeep Singh, FOUR, full on middle, right in the hitting slot, Mandeep opens up |
|  | his hips and swings it over midwicket. The fielder in the deep was squarer | |
| 0.4 | 2 | Nehra to Mandeep Singh, 2 runs, short on off, Mandeep sits back and shovels it away to the |
|  | right of mid-on | |
| 0.3 | 0 | Nehra to Mandeep Singh, no run, back of a length and outside off, no lateral movement, |
|  | Mandeep flays it straight to extra cover | |
| 0.2 | 0 | Nehra to Mandeep Singh, no run, back of a length and angling away just outside off, 141ks, |
|  | Mandeep is hurried onto an off-side drive. Ends up skewing the ball through mid-on | |



|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 0.1 | 1 | Nehra to Gayle, 1 run, full outswinger outside off, Gayle opens the face and guides the ball |
|  | down to third man for one | |

10pm Hello again. Nehra has the new ball. Gayle to open with Mandeep. One slip in place. Nehra comes from over the wicket to the left-hander

Vishal Pawar: "Could the last over by Watson again prove to be decisive just like the last season's final?"