

END OF OVER: 20 | 5 Runs | GL: 135/7 | RR: 6.75

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Basil Thampi | 13 (8b) | B Kumar | 4-0-21-2 |
| P Kumar | 7 (7b) | BCJ Cutting | 3-0-29-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

Think you can imitate the biggest cricketing stars? Then take part in our [#Playalike contest](http://www.espncricinfo.com/ci/content/video_audio/1089940.html)?

While we wait for Sunrisers to begin their chase, here's another heartwarming read courtesy our sister site espn.in. From Aleppo to Aizawl: [Sharda Ugra meets Mahmoud Amnah](http://www.espn.in/football/story/3098308/aleppo-to-aizawlan-unlikely-journey-of-heartache-and-hope-sharda-ugra-on-syrian-midfielder-mahmoud-amnah), the Syrian footballer who is helping Aizawl FC make a Leicester-like tilt for the I-League title while the carnage back home is heavy on his mind.

5.40pm First thoughts: don't think Lions have enough here, but that's what we thought last night too when RCB posted 158 at Chinnaswamy. Rashid Khan was excellent, mixing up the googlies with legbreaks. Sunrisers being rewarded for doing some solid research. Mustafizur last year, they've already had decent returns on investment through the 18-year old Afghanistan bowler so far this year. This is the best chance for David Warner to get back among the runs. Join us in 10 minutes for the chase

Mustafa Moudi: "Praveen Kumar will be crucial in their quest to defend this total. Hope Raina doesn't underutilise him."

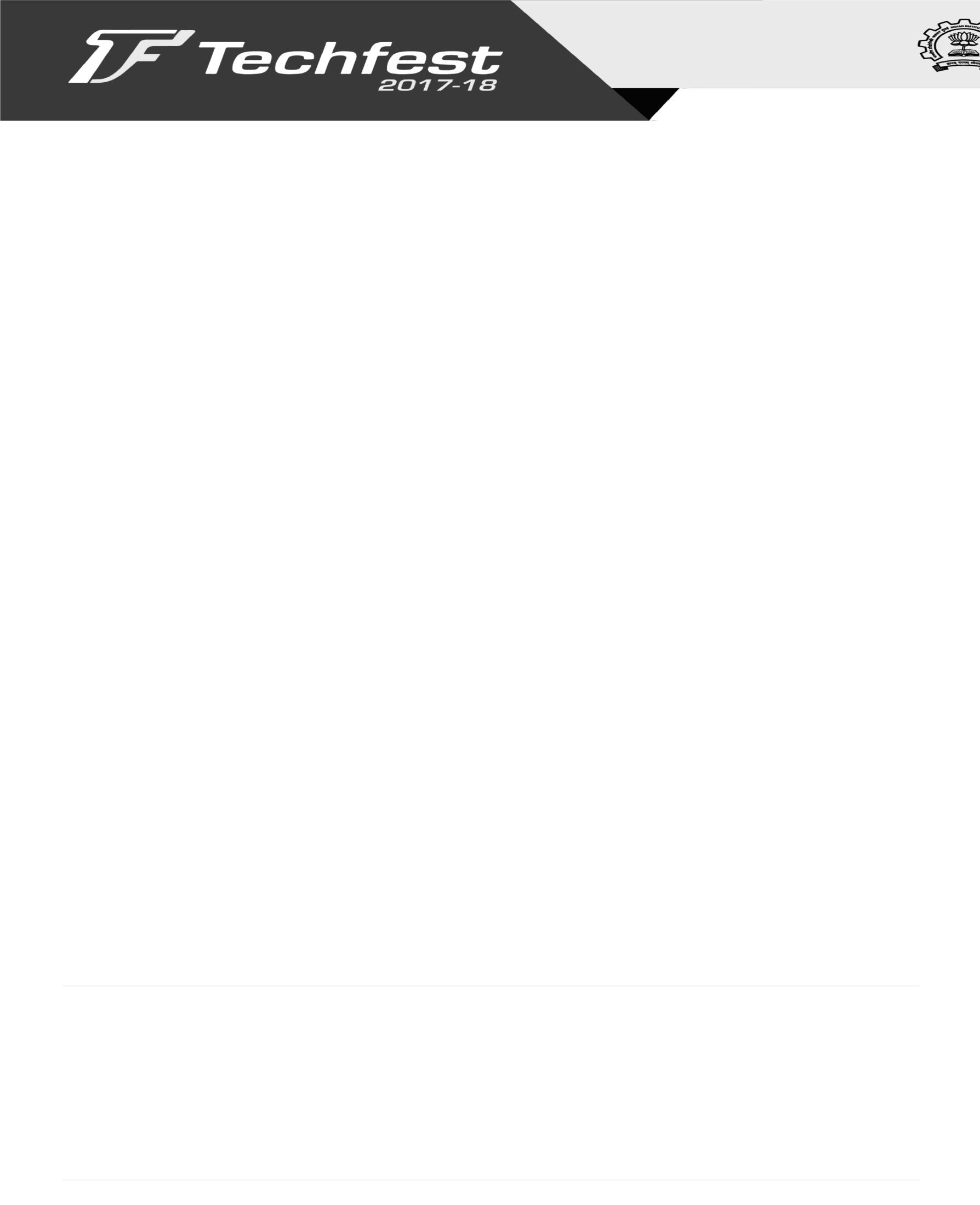
Rashid Khan: It's a wonderful moment for me to take this purple cap. Hopefully I'll try to keep this with me right till the end. The way I'm bowling, it's quite difficult for the batsmen to pick it. This is a tough track to bat on if you bowl wicket-to-wicket. I'm enjoying the experience here. I always try to bowl dots and build pressure on the batsmen. Brendon McCullum's is my favourite wicket so far. I'd like to thank the fans back home for their love, support and prayers.

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| 19.6 | 0 | Kumar to Basil Thampi, no run, swing and a miss. Played too early. Ojha did well to collect it |
|  | on the bounce and recover quickly to ensure they didn't sneak in a bye | |
| Bhuvneshwar's previous delivery registered a speed of 58 kph. No way that is legit | | |
|  |  |  |
| 19.5 | 1 | Kumar to Kumar, 1 run, heaved to the leg side where Rashid Khan comes in quickly from the |
|  | ropes at deep midwicket to keep it to a single | |
| 19.4 | 1 | Kumar to Basil Thampi, 1 run, looks to muscle this over deep midwicket, didn't get hold of it |
|  | this time. Down to deep midwicket off the toe end | |

Basil Thampi has played 23 domestic T20 games, but batted only twice. He hadn't scored a run in either of those innings. Might merit a small promotion after today's show.

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| 19.3 |  | Kumar to Kumar, 1 run, full toss outside off, he backs away and eases it to deep cover |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
| Bhuvi up against his mentor PK. | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 19.2 | 1b | Kumar to Basil Thampi, 1 bye, looked to swung across the line but played too early, they sneak |  |
|  | in a bye. PK was through halfway even before Thampi moved | |  |
| 19.1 |  | Kumar to Kumar, 1 run, heaved across the line to long-on |  |





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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Lions' previous lowest score batting first is 126, against the same opposition | | | | |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 19 | 13 Runs | GL: 130/7 | RR: 6.84 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Basil Thampi | | | 12 (5b) | BCJ Cutting | 3-0-29-0 |  |  |
|  | P Kumar | |  | 4 (4b) | A Nehra | 4-0-27-1 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 18.6 | |  | 2 | Cutting to Basil Thampi, 2 runs, yorker-length delivery outside off, looks to hit over cover but | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | gets a thick inside edge to midwicket where the fielder was caught napping. Aggressive | | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | running from PK |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 18.5 | |  | 2 | Cutting to Basil Thampi, 2 runs, crunching cover drive, confidently done. Right into the gap | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | between deep cover and long-off. Wow, is he a batsman too, I wonder. Clean strokes | | |  |  |  |
| 18.4 | |  | 6 | Cutting to Basil Thampi, SIX, right in the slot for the free swing of the arms. Slower delivery | | |  |  |
|  |  | at length outside off, Thampi picked the length early, waited, held his shape and swung this | | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | away over long-on |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 18.3 | |  | 1 | Cutting to Kumar, 1 run, flat bats a back of length delivery to cover. A direct hit at the bowler's | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | end from Henriques and PK was gone | |  |  |  |  |
| 18.2 | |  | 1 | Cutting to Basil Thampi, 1 run, he's smashed the cover off the ball. Advances and picks the | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | bone out of that length ball, straight to sweeper cover | | |  |  |  |
| 18.1 | |  | 1 | Cutting to Kumar, 1 run, flays a full length delivery to sweeper cover. Was standing outside leg | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | stump to manufacture room. Had to come back for the second but Thampi fumbled | | |  |  |  |
|  | Cutting from around the stumps | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 18 | 4 Runs 2 Wkts | GL: 117/7 | RR: 6.50 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | P Kumar | |  | 2 (2b) | A Nehra | 4-0-27-1 |  |  |
|  | Basil Thampi | | | 1 (1b) | B Kumar | 3-0-17-2 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17.6 | |  |  | Nehra to Kumar, 1 run, dabs it gently to cover as they hare across for a single | |  |  |  |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Prem: "Kulkarni at No.7 can only indicate lack of batting depth."

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 17.5 | 1 | Nehra to Basil Thampi, 1 run, hit on the up between cover and point to get off the mark |
|  |  |  |
| Basil Thampi wouldn't have expected to bat, but he'll have to try and get Gujarat past 130 | | |
|  |  |  |
| 17.4 | W | Nehra to Kulkarni, OUT, total miscommunication. Dhawal nudges this to the leg side, sets off |

for a single without looking at PK. Rashid swoops in from midwicket and effects a direct hit at the striker's end with a rocket throw. Dhawal wasn't even in the frame.

DS Kulkarni run out 1 (6m 2b 0x4 0x6) SR: 50.00





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| 17.3 | |  | 1 | Nehra to Kumar, 1 run, steps out to go over cover, ends up getting a thick edge down to third | | |  |  |
|  |  | man | | |  |  |  |  |
| 17.2 | |  | W | Nehra to Karthik, OUT, tickles one to the keeper. He looked to get down on one knee and | | |  |  |
|  |  | ramp this over the keeper's head but Nehra followed him. Cleverly done by the old war horse. | | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | The bounce did the trick this time, got too big on Karthik and he ended up getting some glove | | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | on it. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | KD Karthik c †Ojha b Nehra 30 (54m 32b 2x4 0x6) SR: 93.75 | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 17.1 | |  | 1 | Nehra to Kulkarni, 1 run, an overthrow from the midwicket fielder at the bowler's end results | | |  |  |
|  |  | in a single | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | Nehra's last over | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 17 | 3 Runs 1 Wkt | GL: 113/5 | RR: 6.64 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | |  | 30 (31b) | B Kumar | 3-0-17-2 |  |  |
|  | DS Kulkarni | | | 0 (0b) | BCJ Cutting | 2-0-16-0 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 16.6 | |  | 0 | Kumar to Karthik, no run, cuts but straight to Yuvraj who fires a throw at the bowler's end. A | | |  |  |
|  |  | direct hit and Dhawal was gone despite a dive | | | |  |  |  |
| 16.5 | |  | | Kumar to Karthik, no run, punches a length ball on the up to mid-off | |  |  |  |
|  | 0 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 16.4 | |  | W | Kumar to Smith, OUT, slower delivery angling in from wide of the crease, Smith drags this | | |  |  |
|  |  | from outside off to Vijay Shankar at deep midwicket. He looked to muscle it a lot straighter, | | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | but was hitting towards the longer boundary. The ball cut back in a wee bit as well which | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | ensured the bat face turned in his hand. Handy knock nevertheless | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | DR Smith c sub (V Shankar) b Kumar 37 (38m 27b 4x4 1x6) SR: 137.03 | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 16.3 | |  | 1 | Kumar to Karthik, 1 run, yorker-length delivery outside off, he jams his bat down in time to | | |  |  |
|  |  | squeeze that to the off side, quick single completed | | | |  |  |  |
| 16.2 | |  | 1 | Kumar to Smith, 1 run, forces this short of length delivery on off to the man at the edge of the | | |  |  |
|  |  | ring at cover | | |  |  |  |  |
| 16.1 | |  | | Kumar to Karthik, 1 run, thick edge, one hand off the b | |  |  |  |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Bhuvneshwar Kumar is back | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 16 | 8 Runs | GL: 110/4 | RR: 6.87 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | |  | 28 (27b) | BCJ Cutting | 2-0-16-0 |  |  |
|  | DR Smith | |  | 36 (25b) | Bipul Sharma | 4-0-24-0 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Strategic time-out





Elsewhere, there's plenty of exciting football action coming up, which you can follow on our sister site espn.in. It's derby day in Kolkata, but recent developments in Indian football have cast a shadow over the future of two of Asia's fiercest rivals. Debayan Sen looks at the [uncertainty that lies ahead](http://www.espn.in/football/india/story/3098469/on-derby-daykolkata-giants-battle-winds-of-change) for East Bengal and Mohun Bagan.

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| 15.6 | 1 | Cutting to Karthik, 1 run, looks to force this through the off side but gets a thick inside edge to |  |
|  | long-on | |  |
| 15.5 |  | Cutting to Karthik, no run, punches a length ball on off straight to Yuvraj at backward point |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 15.4 | 1 | Cutting to Smith, 1 run, right into the blockhole, hits Smith flush on the toe as he looks to flick |  |
|  | this behind square. Cry of anguish from him. Short fine was in | |  |
| 15.3 | 4 | Cutting to Smith, FOUR, cuts and cuts well. Too much width this time, Smith slashes at that |  |
|  | and ensured he managed to get enough bat on it to clear backward point. | |  |
| I'm told the attendance as of 5pm is 25,342 | | |  |
| 15.2 | 1 | Cutting to Karthik, 1 run, angles a length ball on middle from wide of the crease, Karthik eases |  |
|  | this behind point | |  |
| 15.1 |  | Cutting to Smith, 1 run, muscles a slow leg-cutter on off to wide long-on |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |

Right, how many can they muscle off the last five?

END OF OVER: 15 | 6 Runs | GL: 102/4 | RR: 6.80

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| DR Smith | 30 (22b) | Bipul Sharma | 4-0-24-0 |
| KD Karthik | 26 (24b) | A Nehra | 3-0-23-0 |
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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 14.6 |  | Bipul Sharma to Smith, 1 run, tossed up on middle and leg, bunted down to long-on |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 14.5 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Karthik, 1 run, too short, this time Karthik uses the depth of the crease to |  |
|  | whip that to deep midwicket | |  |
| 14.4 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Smith, 1 run, shapes to cut but the ball stops on him just a touch, can't get |  |
|  | enough power on the stroke, rolls to deep cover | |  |
| 14.3 |  | Bipul Sharma to Karthik, 1 run, slider into middle and leg, worked to square leg again |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 14.2 |  | Bipul Sharma to Smith, 1 run, fierce sweep all along the ground to deep square leg |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 14.1 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Karthik, 1 run, sees Karthik advancing and fires this into middle and leg, the |  |
|  | batsman adjusts and nurdles it to midwicket for a quick single | |  |

END OF OVER: 14 | 9 Runs | GL: 96/4 | RR: 6.85





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| DR Smith | 27 (19b) | A Nehra | 3-0-23-0 |
| KD Karthik | 23 (21b) | MC Henriques | 1-0-12-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 13.6 | | 6 | Nehra to Smith, SIX, right in the slot for him to swing his arms and Smith does so with | |  |  |  |
|  |  | magnificent ease. Lofted handsomely down the ground, ball smashes into the sightscreen | | | |  |  |
| 13.5 | |  | Nehra to Karthik, 1 run, width on offer, uses the pace to run it down to third man | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13.4 | |  | Nehra to Smith, 1 run, length ball on middle and off, Smith wrists it down to long-on | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 13.3 | | 0 | Nehra to Smith, no run, full-length delivery that tails away from middle. Henriques at cover | | |  |  |
|  |  | slides across and hurls a throw at the bowler's end. Karthik would've been gone had that | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | hit. despite a full-length dive |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13.2 | |  | Nehra to Smith, no run, short ball on middle and leg, he ducks under it this time | |  |  |  |
| 0 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 13.1 | | 1 | Nehra to Karthik, 1 run, floats a length ball across Karthik, who gets a thick inside edge on the | | |  |  |
|  |  | drive to midwicket | |  |  |  |  |
|  | Nehra |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 13 | 12 Runs | GL: 87/4 | RR: 6.69 | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | | 21 (19b) | MC Henriques | 1-0-12-0 |  |  |
|  | DR Smith | | 20 (15b) | Rashid Khan | 4-0-19-3 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12.6 | |  | Henriques to Karthik, 1 run, floats a full delivery outside off, smashed on the up to deep point. | | |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12.5 | |  | Henriques to Smith, 1 run, clubbed across the line to long-on. Flat hit | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 12.4 | | 1 | Henriques to Karthik, 1 run, gets forward and then opens the bat face late to ease it wide of | | |  |  |
|  |  | point | |  |  |  |  |

Coming back to the previous over, replays suggest Rashid should have had the wicket of Smith. There was a thin edge. Not given.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 12.3 |  | Henriques to Smith, 1 run, length ball on middle, worked to midwicket |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 12.2 | 4 | Henriques to Smith, FOUR, poor delivery. Too full on the pads and he's flicked that |  |
|  | effortlessly into the deep backward square leg boundary. Neat roll of the wrists that generate | |  |
|  |  | all the power and timing. |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 12.1 | 4 | Henriques to Smith, FOUR, fine shot, good old fashioned Smith slog. Full outside off, he |  |
|  | swings across the line to clear the infield, into the deep midwicket boundary. Picked the | |  |





slower delivery off the hand

END OF OVER: 12 | 7 Runs | GL: 75/4 | RR: 6.25

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| KD Karthik | 19 (17b) | Rashid Khan | 4-0-19-3 |
| DR Smith | 10 (11b) | BCJ Cutting | 1-0-8-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

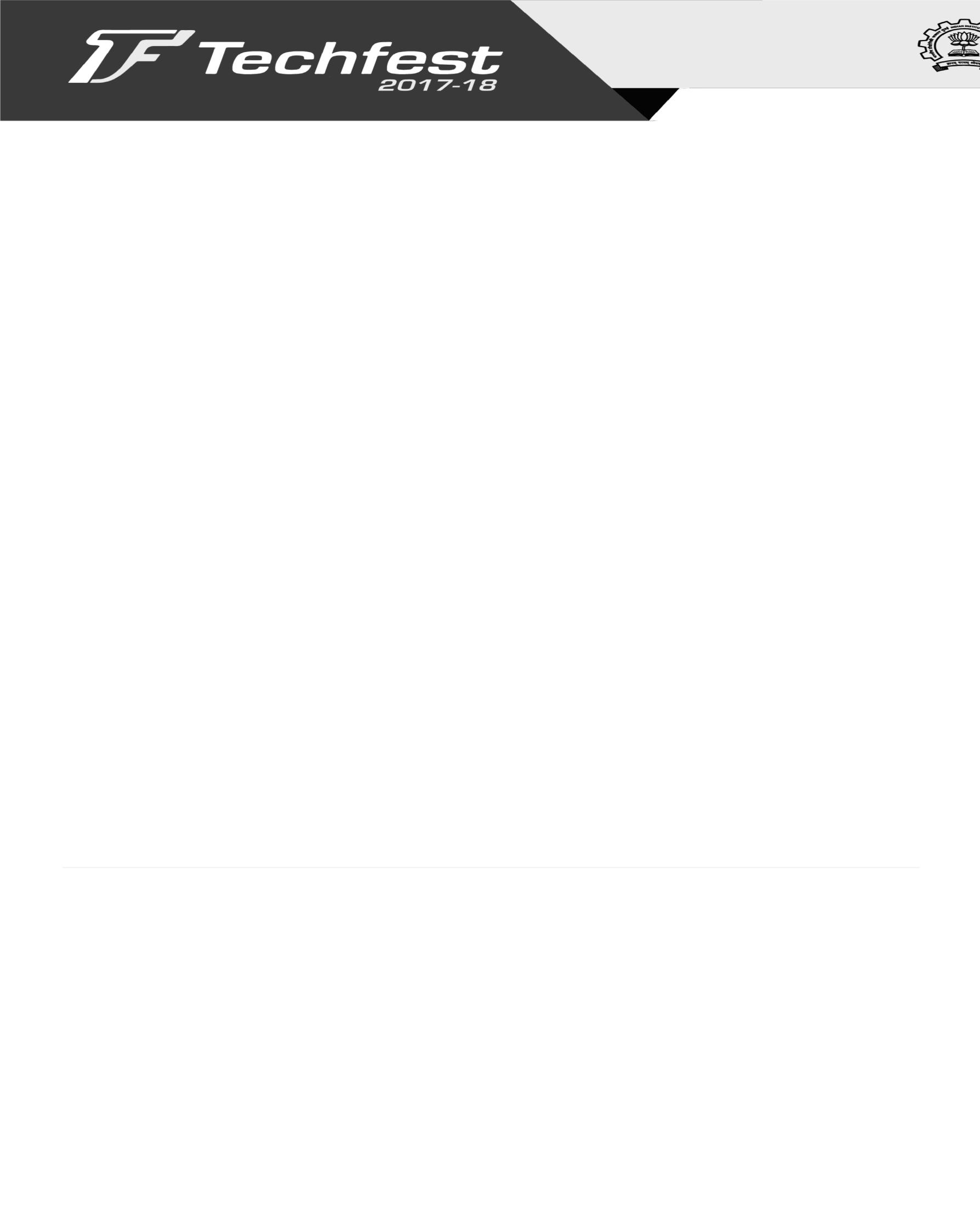
[Where did Rashid Khan come from? What's he been up to? Peter Della Penna has the lowdown on the](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1090201.html) [Afghanistan legspinner.](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1090201.html)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 11.6 | |  | 0 | Rashid Khan to Karthik, no run, beauty again. Sharp turn from outside off, DK plays inside | | | |  |  |
|  |  | the line as it fizzes through to the keeper. End of a fine spell. | | | | |  |  |  |
| 11.5 | |  | 4 | Rashid Khan to Karthik, FOUR, draws him forward with the length, the ball spins away to | | | |  |  |
|  |  | take the edge. Races past short third man | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | Rashid Khan is the first bowler to have three lbws in an IPL game | | | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11.4 | |  | | Rashid Khan to Smith, 1 run, slider that drifts into middle, worked to square leg | | |  |  |  |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 11.3 | |  | 0 | Rashid Khan to Smith, no run, peach of a delivery. Looked to flick but the ball deviated from | | | |  |  |
|  |  | the full length area to beat the outside edge by a whisker. There was some noise as ball passed | | | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | bat. | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 11.2 | |  | 0 | Rashid Khan to Smith, no run, googly that spins back in a long way, hit on the pad but the | | | |  |  |
|  |  | angle would've taken it down leg | | | |  |  |  |  |
| 11.1 | |  | 2 | Rashid Khan to Smith, 2 runs, gets to the pitch of the ball and crunches this into the gap at | | | |  |  |
|  |  | deep extra cover | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | Rashid to finish off | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 11 | 8 Runs | GL: 68/4 | RR: 6.18 | | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | DR Smith | |  | 7 (7b) |  | BCJ Cutting | 1-0-8-0 |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | |  | 15 (15b) |  | Bipul Sharma | 3-0-18-0 |  |  |
|  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10.6 | |  | | Cutting to Smith, 1 run, floats one into middle and leg, whipped to deep square leg | | |  |  |  |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Cutting may not have the numbers to impress, but his contributions during crucial moments in franchise cricket make him a player a team can never ignore, [writes Arun Venugopal.](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1091164.html)

|  |  |  |  |
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| 10.5 | 4 | Cutting to Smith, FOUR, thumped into the cover boundary on the up. Full swing of the bat, |  |
|  | delightful timing. Dhawan thought he was in with a chance but all he managed in the end was | |  |
|  |  | a swimming pool dive. |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 10.4 |  | Cutting to Smith, no run, looked to play a short-arm jab but played too early. It was another |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |





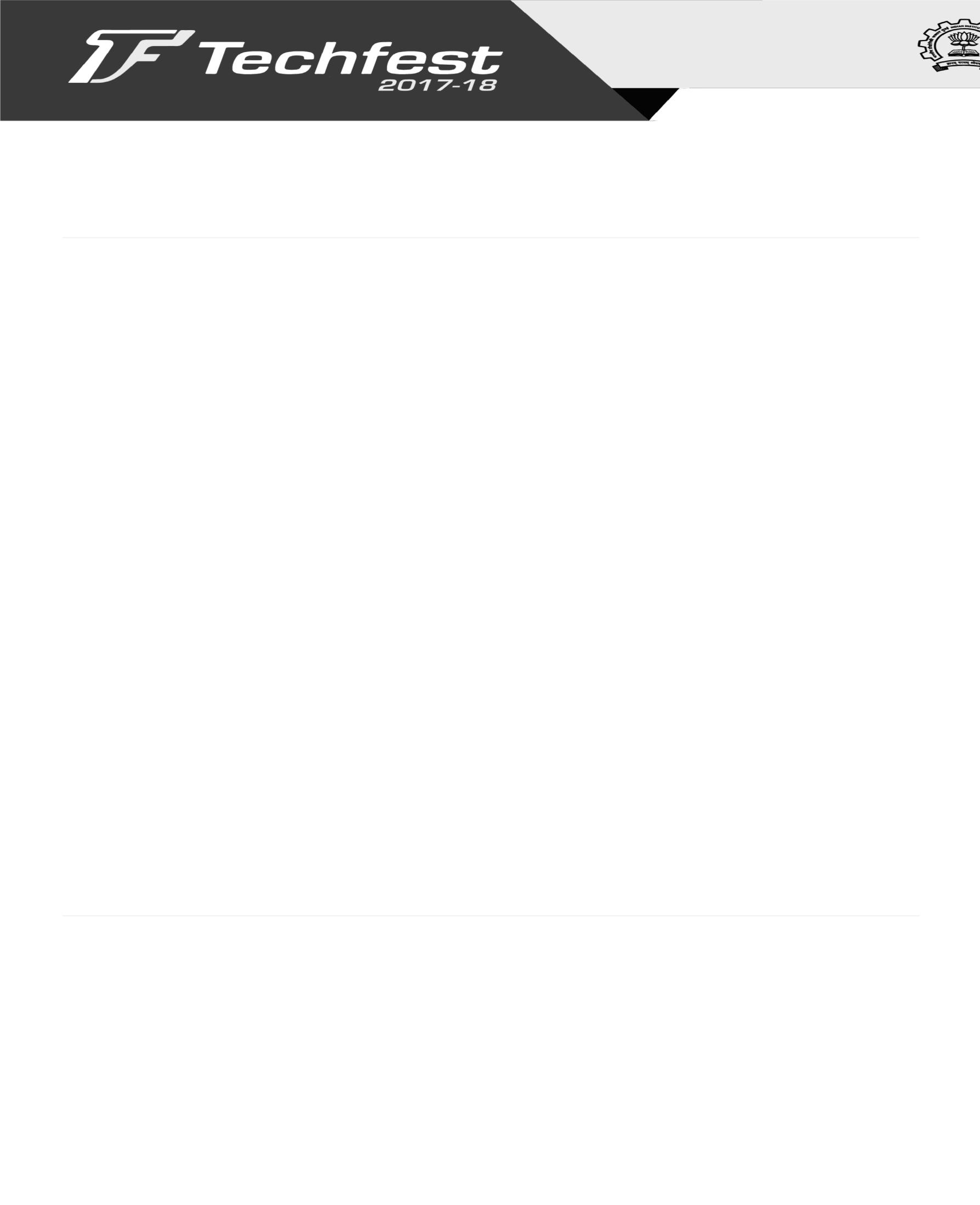
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  | slower leg-cutter that bounced much more than Smith expected. Waist-high | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 10.3 | | 1 | Cutting to Karthik, 1 run, slow leg-cutter from length outside off, steered wide of short third | | |  |  |
|  |  | man | |  |  |  |  |
| 10.2 | |  | Cutting to Smith, 1 run, angled into the pads, flicked to dine leg | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10.1 | |  | Cutting to Karthik, 1 run, length ball on middle, tucked to deep midwicket | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Here's Ben Cutting | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 10 | 3 Runs | GL: 60/4 | RR: 6.00 | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | DR Smith |  | 1 (3b) | Bipul Sharma | 3-0-18-0 |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | | 13 (13b) | Rashid Khan | 3-0-12-3 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9.6 | |  | Bipul Sharma to Smith, no run, gets a good stride forward and defends | |  |  |  |
| 0 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 9.5 | | 0 | Bipul Sharma to Smith, no run, excellent stop off his own bowling, moving swiftly to his left | | |  |  |
|  |  | on the followthrough and then dishing in a full-length dive to pull off a one-handed stop | | |  |  |  |
| 9.4 | |  | Bipul Sharma to Karthik, 1 run, drifting into middle and leg, worked to midwicket | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| 9.3 | | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Smith, 1 run, looks to clear long-on but didn't get underneath the flight, | |  |  |  |
|  |  | squeezed to the fielder | |  |  |  |  |

Bipul is one of the more tactical picks in the IPL. He bats at No. 8, and in 13 matches he has bowled his full four overs only twice despite an overall economy rate of under eight. In the final last year, he came to bowl as soon as AB de Villiers walked out, and stopped bowling as soon as de Villiers got out. In the last game, used Bipul only for Shane Watson. Now they have opened the bowling with him given McCullum's record against left-arm spin

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 9.2 | |  | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Karthik, 1 run, lunges forward and drives to cover where a misfield allows | | |  |
|  |  | the single | | |  |  |  |
| 9.1 | |  | 0 | Bipul Sharma to Karthik, no run, drifting into middle and leg, DK struck on the pad as he | | |  |
|  |  | looks to work it to the leg side | | |  |  |  |
|  | Bipul is back | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 9 | 3 Runs 1 Wkt | GL: 57/4 | RR: 6.33 | | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | |  | 11 (10b) | Rashid Khan | 3-0-12-3 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | A Nehra | 2-0-14-0 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 8.6 | W | Rashid Khan to Raina, OUT, this time he's foxes Raina with a traditional legbreak. Raina |
|  | plays down the wrong line, perhaps expecting a googly. He was a dead duck the moment it | |





smashed into the pad. As plumb as they come. Hitting middle of middle.

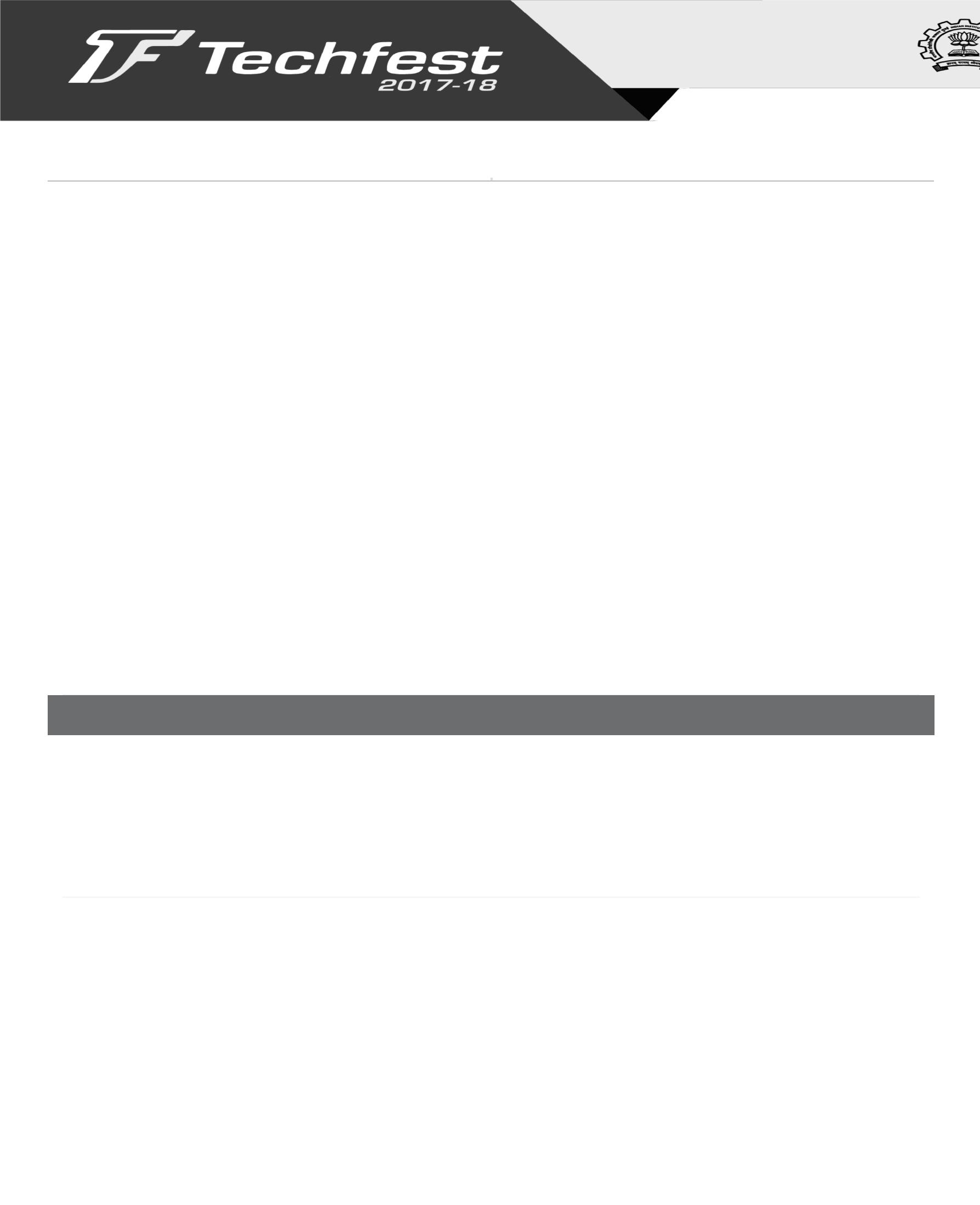
SK Raina lbw b Rashid Khan 5 (23m 8b 0x4 0x6) SR: 62.50

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 8.5 | |  | 1 | Rashid Khan to Karthik, 1 run, picks the googly. Gets outside the line and wrists it to deep | | |  |  |
|  |  | midwicket | | |  |  |  |  |
| 8.4 | |  | | Rashid Khan to Raina, 1 run, touch short and down leg, nurdled to short fine leg | |  |  |  |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 8.3 | |  | 1 | Rashid Khan to Karthik, 1 run, drifting into middle from wide of the crease, turned to square | | |  |  |
|  |  | leg as they pick an easy single | | |  |  |  |  |
| 8.2 | |  | | Rashid Khan to Karthik, no run, too full outside off, eased with an opened bat face to point | | |  |  |
|  | 0 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 8.1 | |  | 0 | Rashid Khan to Karthik, no run, beaten by a quicker delivery that fizzes away from outside | | |  |  |
|  |  | off. DK looked to steer it behind point | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 8 | 8 Runs | GL: 54/3 | RR: 6.75 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | SK Raina |  |  | 4 (6b) | A Nehra | 2-0-14-0 |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | |  | 9 (6b) | Rashid Khan | 2-0-9-2 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 7.6 | |  | 0 | Nehra to Raina, no run, gets this to stop on Raina who is early into the drive, checks his shot | | |  |  |
|  |  | at the last moment. On the bounce to cover | | | |  |  |  |
| 7.5 | |  | 1 | Nehra to Karthik, 1 run, plants forward and punches an away-going delivery on the up to | |  |  |  |
|  |  | long-off | | |  |  |  |  |
| 7.4 | |  | 0 | Nehra to Karthik, no run, dabs a length ball to the man coming in from point. Looks for a | | |  |  |
|  |  | single but is sent back | | |  |  |  |  |

hardik: "Don't see how Finch can be sent anywhere below No.3. He is being wasted. Will continue to be wasted at this position. Gujarat have created this problem, with having 5 batsman (including Raina) who wold ideally like to bat in the top three."

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 7.3 | |  | 2 | Nehra to Karthik, 2 runs, flicked wide of mid-on. Far from a half-volley but he still went | |  |  |  |
|  |  | through with the stroke | | |  |  |  |  |
| 7.2 | |  | 4 | Nehra to Karthik, FOUR, the confidence of a man in the form of his life. Overpitched from | | |  |  |
|  |  | Nehra, DK leans into the drive and blasts this down the ground. Super shot | | | |  |  |  |
| 7.1 | |  | | Nehra to Raina, 1 run, length ball outside off, punched uppishly to deep cover | |  |  |  |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 7 | 6 Runs 1 Wkt | GL: 46/3 | RR: 6.57 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | SK Raina | |  | 3 (4b) | Rashid Khan | 2-0-9-2 |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | |  | 2 (2b) | B Kumar | 2-0-14-1 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |





|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 6.6 |  | Rashid Khan to Raina, 1 run, leans forward and works the full delivery to midwicket |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 6.5 | 1 | Rashid Khan to Karthik, 1 run, didn't pick it off the hand again, played outside the line to get a |  |
|  | thick inside edge to square leg. Prodded with the bat well in front of the pad on that occasion | |  |
| 6.4 |  | Rashid Khan to Raina, 1 run, too full on off stump, squeezed to long-off |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 6.3 | 1 | Rashid Khan to Karthik, 1 run, turns the incoming length ball to the leg side gently to get off |  |
|  | the mark | |  |
| So the Finch experiment has failed. At No.4 in T20s: Ave of 13.77, SR of 100.81 | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 6.2 | W | Rashid Khan to Finch, OUT, he continues to weave his magic. This is another googly that |  |
|  | drifts in from wide of the crease. Finch didn't pick it off the hand and stabbed outside the line, | |  |
|  |  | only to see the ball cut back in to beat the inside edge and hit him plumb in front. Lions in real |  |
|  |  | rouble |  |
|  |  | AJ Finch lbw b Rashid Khan 3 (4m 5b 0x4 0x6) SR: 60.00 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 6.1 | 2 | Rashid Khan to Finch, 2 runs, full toss on middle and leg, flicked into the gap between deep |  |
|  | midwicket and long-on | |  |

A measure of the adjustment Rashid has made is that in T20 international cricket, he has bowled only one out of his 91 overs inside the Powerplay. Here, in both the IPL matches, he has bowled inside the first six

END OF OVER: 6 | 5 Runs 1 Wkt | GL: 40/2 | RR: 6.66

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| AJ Finch | 1 (3b) | B Kumar | 2-0-14-1 |
| SK Raina | 1 (2b) | Rashid Khan | 1-0-3-1 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 5.6 | 1 | Kumar to Finch, 1 run, lucky to get away with a leg-stump half-volley that has been flicked |
|  | straight to deep square leg | |

amith: "It's Bhuvi bowling, not Nehra ji." Thanks for the correction. Human error, being fixed.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 5.5 | 1Kumar to Raina, 1 run, gets on top of the bounce and tucks it off his hip to square leg | |
|  |  |  |
| 5.4 | 1lb | Kumar to Finch, 1 leg bye, once again it's a length ball on middle and leg which he look to |
|  | work leg side, misses and they get a deflection off the thigh pad | |
| 5.3 | 0 | Kumar to Finch, no run, nips back in sharply to hit him on the pad but the ball was sliding |
|  | down leg | |
| 5.2 | W | Kumar to Roy, OUT, once again looks to go leg side but doesn't get hold of the pull. Dhawan |

at midwicket dives forward to complete a low catch. Roy wasn't convinced it carried and queried to the umpires, who after the benefit of multiple replays, decided it was a clean catch. Dhawan claimed the catch immediately.





JJ Roy c Dhawan b Kumar 31 (27m 21b 5x4 0x6) SR: 147.61

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 5.1 | |  | 2 | Kumar to Roy, 2 runs, muscled into the deep midwicket region where Rashid charges across | | |  |
|  |  |  | and hurls a flat throw at the striker's end | |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 5 | 3 Runs 1 Wkt | GL: 35/1 | RR: 7.00 | | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | SK Raina | |  | 0 (1b) | Rashid Khan | 1-0-3-1 |  |
|  | JJ Roy |  |  | 29 (19b) | A Nehra | 1-0-6-0 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |
| 4.6 | |  | 0 | Rashid Khan to Raina, no run, Dropped! Sharp, sharp chance. This one is fuller in length, | | |  |
|  |  |  | Raina looks to go inside-out stroke over cover, but the ball drifts away late to take the edge to | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  | Warner who nearly managed to pull off a blinder at slip. Put his hand out to the right but | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | couldn't hold on |  |  |  |
|  | Raina in at No. 3 | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |  |
| 4.5 | |  | W | Rashid Khan to McCullum, OUT, what a big wicket, a potentially big moment. The dangerous | | |  |
|  |  | McCullum never looked in today. This is the wrong'un which he looks to sweep but plays too | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  | early and is beaten. Struck plumb in front of middle. Umpire had no hesitation in raising the | | |  |
|  |  |  |  | finger. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | BB McCullum lbw b Rashid Khan 5 (20m 10b 0x4 0x6) SR: 50.00 | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 4.4 | |  | 0 | Rashid Khan to McCullum, no run, whipped straight to square leg this time. Lucky to get | |  |  |
|  |  |  | away with the short ball | |  |  |  |
| 4.3 | |  | 2 | Rashid Khan to McCullum, 2 runs, backs away and then carves that into the gap at point. Had | | |  |
|  |  |  | to wait, wait and wait before giving all his might to beat the cover point fielder. | | |  |  |
| 4.2 | |  | 0 | Rashid Khan to McCullum, no run, drifting into the pads, McCullum late on the flick, deflects | | |  |
|  |  |  | off the pad to short fine leg | |  |  |  |
| 4.1 | |  | 1 | Rashid Khan to Roy, 1 run, sweeps a full toss from outside off to deep midwicket. Didn't get | | |  |
|  |  |  | hold of it though, on the bounce to the fielder | | |  |  |
|  | Rashid Khan into the attack | | | |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 4 | 7 Runs | GL: 32/0 | RR: 8.00 | | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | JJ Roy |  |  | 28 (18b) | A Nehra | 1-0-6-0 |  |
|  | BB McCullum | | | 3 (6b) | Bipul Sharma | 2-0-15-0 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |
| 3.6 | |  | 1 | Nehra to Roy, 1 run, looks to smack this over midwicket but toe-ended it to the fielder there. | | |  |
|  |  |  | This also kept a touch low which meant he couldn't time it as well as he would've liked | | |  |  |
| 3.5 | |  | 1lb | Nehra to McCullum, 1 leg bye, appeal for lbw but the ball pitched miles outside leg. McCullum | | |  |
|  |  |  | looked to pull and was too early into the stroke. The ball deflects to short third man | | |  |  |





|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 3.4 | | 0 | Nehra to McCullum, no run, back of length on middle, tucks McCullum up, defended to the | | |  |  |
|  |  | off side | |  |  |  |  |
| 3.3 | | 1 | Nehra to Roy, 1 run, chipped over the infield, too straight for mid-on to have a shout. Another | | |  |  |
|  |  | cutter from Nehra, he played too early and got a leading edge. | | |  |  |  |
| 3.2 | | 4 | Nehra to Roy, FOUR, swats this into the deep midwicket boundary. Too short, this was | |  |  |  |
|  |  | sitting up nicely for Roy to wind up and smack that. What power | | |  |  |  |
| 3.1 | | 0 | Nehra to Roy, no run, looks to reverse paddle Nehra, but gave away his intentions too early. | | |  |  |
|  |  | Nehra clevely bowls an off cutter and beats him outside leg stump | | |  |  |  |
|  | Here's Nehra | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 3 | 12 Runs | GL: 25/0 | RR: 8.33 | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | JJ Roy |  | 22 (14b) | Bipul Sharma | 2-0-15-0 |  |  |
|  | BB McCullum | | 3 (4b) | B Kumar | 1-0-10-0 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.6 | |  | Bipul Sharma to Roy, 1 run, makes room and punches the short ball to long-off | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 2.5 | | 4 | Bipul Sharma to Roy, FOUR, steps out and lofts him over Warner at mid-on. Didn't get it off | | |  |  |
|  |  | the middle but just about managed to clear the infield. Ended up dragging it just a wee bit | | | |  |  |
| 2.4 | | 4 | Bipul Sharma to Roy, FOUR, too short and punished. All the time in the world to rock back | | |  |  |
|  |  | and pull that in front of square, full swing of the bat to muscle that into the deep midwicket | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | boundary |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 2.3 | | 2 | Bipul Sharma to Roy, 2 runs, tries his hand at a switch hit this time, just manages to clear the | | |  |  |
|  |  | infield, Henriques runs back from point to cut tha off | | |  |  |  |
| 2.2 | | 0 | Bipul Sharma to Roy, no run, sees the batsman give him the charge and slows it down nicely, | | |  |  |
|  |  | shortens his length a touch as well, defended back down the pitch | | |  |  |  |
|  | short third man, point, cover point, extra cover and long-off in place | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 2.1 | | 1 | Bipul Sharma to McCullum, 1 run, drifting into middle and leg, he lunges forward and then | | |  |  |
|  |  | works it to midwicket | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 2 | 10 Runs | GL: 13/0 | RR: 6.50 | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | BB McCullum | | 2 (3b) | B Kumar | 1-0-10-0 |  |  |
|  | JJ Roy |  | 11 (9b) | Bipul Sharma | 1-0-3-0 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1.6 | 1 | Kumar to McCullum, 1 run, angles a short of length delivery on middle and leg, whipped to |
|  | deep square | |





Danish: "Cutting plays for the Heat along with Baz in the Big Bash, he'll definitely share some insights with Warner and the other bowlers."

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1.5 |  | Kumar to Roy, 1 run, wristy whip this time to deep backward square leg |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
| slip goes out. | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 1.4 | 4 | Kumar to Roy, FOUR, backs away and swats the short delivery on middle over cover point. |  |
|  | Cleared the front leg early to make the stroke a possibility. | |  |
| 1.3 | 4 | Kumar to Roy, FOUR, shimmies down the pitch and slaps him over mid-on. Got that off the |  |
|  | middle this time. Free swing of the arms to generate the power | |  |
| 1.2 | 0 | Kumar to Roy, no run, gets this to lift off the deck from short of good length, comes back in |  |
|  | long way to cramp Roy for room and hit high on the bat | |  |
| Warner is at wide slip | | |  |
| 1.1 |  | Kumar to Roy, no run, hint of away movement from length outside off, punched to mid-off |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |

Jason Roy has been dismissed seven times in just 58 balls by legspinners in T20s in Asia. Makes sense then to give Rashid Khan a go soon, surely. But Bhuvneshwar it will be for now with the new ball from the Pavillion end

END OF OVER: 1 | 3 Runs | GL: 3/0 | RR: 3.00

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| JJ Roy | 2 | (4b) | Bipul Sharma | 1-0-3-0 |  |
| BB McCullum | 1 | (2b) |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 0.6 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Roy, 1 run, not quite to the pitch of the ball but he drives through the line to |  |
|  | long-off. Tidy start | |  |
| 0.5 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to McCullum, 1 run, pushed through quicker, on middle and leg, tucked to |  |
|  | square leg | |  |
| 0.4 | 0 | Bipul Sharma to McCullum, no run, slows it down nicely, there's some loop on the delivery |  |
|  | too as he lands it on middle and off, McCullum deadbats that | |  |
| 0.3 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Roy, 1 run, spins away from length on middle, whipped to deep midwicket to |  |
|  | get off the mark | |  |
| 0.2 | 0 | Bipul Sharma to Roy, no run, drifting into middle and leg, tickled to short fine for a quick |  |
|  | single | |  |
| 0.1 |  | Bipul Sharma to Roy, no run, tossed up on off stump, pushed to cover |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |





McCullum and Roy will open again for Lions. Sunrisers will start with spin. Bipul Sharma with his left-arm spin first up. He'll bowl from around the wicket

Those wondering, Basil Thampi comes from Kerala and has a reputation of bowling over 145kph. He was signed by Lions for INR 85 lakhs. He picked up eight wickets in five matches at the inter-state T20s. He was selected into the south zone team for the inter-zonal phase of the T20 tournament. The numbers aren't astounding, but clearly the scouts have seen something. He's had a couple of stints at the MRF Pace Foundation in Chennai under Glenn McGrath.

Tejas Baroka , the 21-year old legspinner, hasn't played any representative cricket yet. He's played for Delhi University. He took a five-for in the semi-final of the inter-college DU tournament. He plays for Venkateswara College. What a stage to come in first up. He'll be up against a power-packed battling line-up.

Sunrisers Hyderabad: David Warner(c), Shikhar Dhawan, Moises Henriques, Yuvraj Singh, Deepak Hooda, Naman Ojha(w), Ben Cutting, Bipul Sharma, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Rashid Khan, Ashish Nehra

Gujarat Lions: Jason Roy, Brendon McCullum, Suresh Raina(c), Aaron Finch, Dinesh Karthik(w), Dwayne Smith, Praveen Kumar, Tejas Baroka, Dhawal Kulkarni, Shivil Koushik, Basil Thampi

David Warner wins the toss, unchanged Sunrisers will bowl. Raina says they would've batted first anyway. Contrasting thoughts from the captains. Warner thinks the surface won't change much, Raina thinks the heat will make the surface drier and make it tougher for Sunrisers.

Lions have left out Jakati and Gony. Kerala pacer Basil Thampi and Delhi legspinner Tejas Baroka get a game. That means they continue with their strategy of playing four overseas batsmen.

In all likelihood Bhuvneshwar Kumar will take the new ball, which is not good news for the Lions' power hitters. He has taken eight Lions wickets in 12 overs at an economy rate of just seven. In the IPL, McCullum and Aaron Finch have not even managed a strike rate of 100 against Bhuvneshwar. D Smith and Dinesh Karthik go at an even 100 against him, and Suresh Raina at under 150

Sunrisers have won all four tosses against Lions, and have won the previous three matches, all chasing Pramod : "Four overseas players for GL should be: Baz, Roy, Faulkner and Tye."

3.20pm Our stats team have worked hard to find some interesting patterns over the 10 seasons of the IPL. [One that stands out when we look at the Lions v Sunrisers match-up is how Warner has fared against Dhawal](http://www.espncricinfo.com/ci/content/video_audio/1091326.html) [Kulkarni.](http://www.espncricinfo.com/ci/content/video_audio/1091326.html)

It's 41 degrees in Hyderabad currently, but I'm told it feels much hotter than that. Large parts of the stadium has been left uncovered, so those making their way to Uppal are unlikely to walk off without a tan. How many will turn up is the question. What I can tell you with certainty is the whole of Afghanistan will be glued to watch one of their young stars make a splash.

3.00pm After an emphatic win in the tournament opener, the defending champions are back home to take on Gujarat Lion, a side they've beaten in each of the three games they played last season. On current form, there's every chance they could make it four in four.

Questions remain over Mustafizur's availability, but Sunrisers have seamlessly found an able replacement in young Afghanistan legspinner Rashid Khan. Lions have plenty of thinking to do as far as their foreign personnel go. Surely they're not going to go in with four overseas batsmen again? If they decide against the idea, there's every chance that Dwayne Smith could be asked to sit out. We'll find out soon.

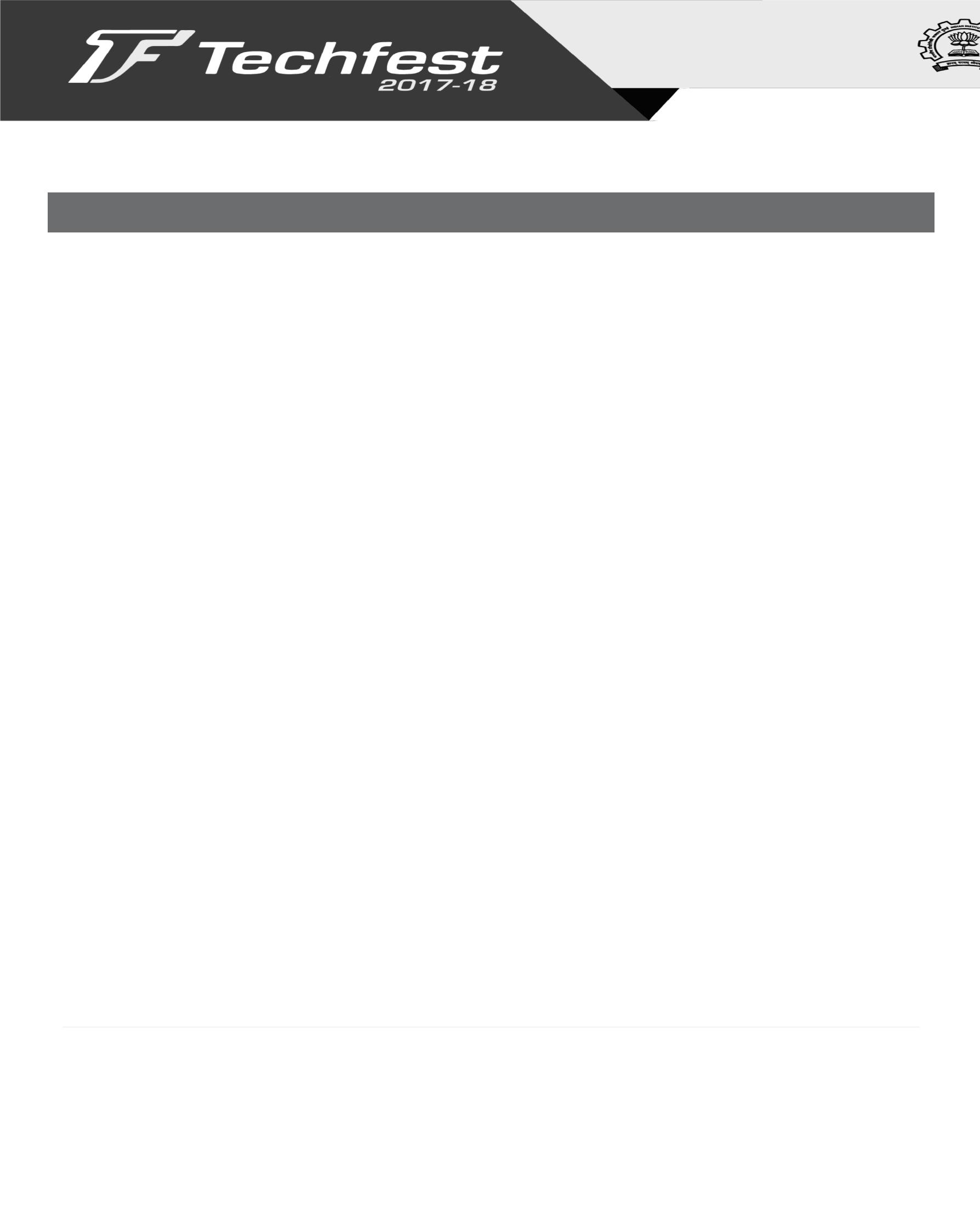




Vinod Rajpal: "J Faulkner a must for Lions if they want to win against Warner & co."

Before we get into the thick of things, contest time for folks keen on being featured on our site. Send us a video of you mimicking your favourite cricketer and you could be the winner of '[The playalike contest](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1089869.html).'





END OF OVER: 20 | 5 Runs | GL: 135/7 | RR: 6.75

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Basil Thampi | 13 (8b) | B Kumar | 4-0-21-2 |
| P Kumar | 7 (7b) | BCJ Cutting | 3-0-29-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

Think you can imitate the biggest cricketing stars? Then take part in our [#Playalike contest](http://www.espncricinfo.com/ci/content/video_audio/1089940.html)?

While we wait for Sunrisers to begin their chase, here's another heartwarming read courtesy our sister site espn.in. From Aleppo to Aizawl: [Sharda Ugra meets Mahmoud Amnah](http://www.espn.in/football/story/3098308/aleppo-to-aizawlan-unlikely-journey-of-heartache-and-hope-sharda-ugra-on-syrian-midfielder-mahmoud-amnah), the Syrian footballer who is helping Aizawl FC make a Leicester-like tilt for the I-League title while the carnage back home is heavy on his mind.

5.40pm First thoughts: don't think Lions have enough here, but that's what we thought last night too when RCB posted 158 at Chinnaswamy. Rashid Khan was excellent, mixing up the googlies with legbreaks. Sunrisers being rewarded for doing some solid research. Mustafizur last year, they've already had decent returns on investment through the 18-year old Afghanistan bowler so far this year. This is the best chance for David Warner to get back among the runs. Join us in 10 minutes for the chase

Mustafa Moudi: "Praveen Kumar will be crucial in their quest to defend this total. Hope Raina doesn't underutilise him."

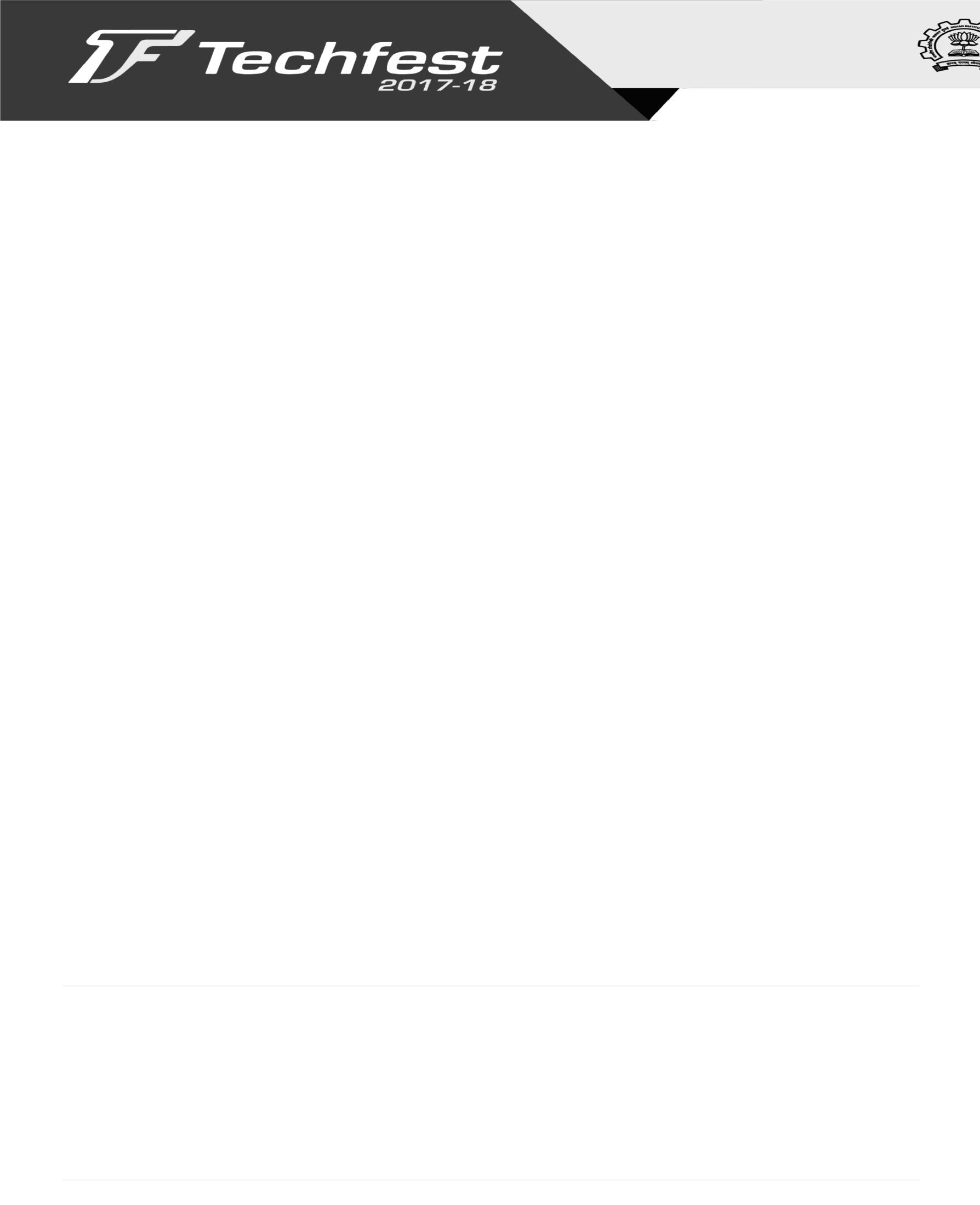
Rashid Khan: It's a wonderful moment for me to take this purple cap. Hopefully I'll try to keep this with me right till the end. The way I'm bowling, it's quite difficult for the batsmen to pick it. This is a tough track to bat on if you bowl wicket-to-wicket. I'm enjoying the experience here. I always try to bowl dots and build pressure on the batsmen. Brendon McCullum's is my favourite wicket so far. I'd like to thank the fans back home for their love, support and prayers.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 19.6 | 0 | Kumar to Basil Thampi, no run, swing and a miss. Played too early. Ojha did well to collect it |
|  | on the bounce and recover quickly to ensure they didn't sneak in a bye | |
| Bhuvneshwar's previous delivery registered a speed of 58 kph. No way that is legit | | |
|  |  |  |
| 19.5 | 1 | Kumar to Kumar, 1 run, heaved to the leg side where Rashid Khan comes in quickly from the |
|  | ropes at deep midwicket to keep it to a single | |
| 19.4 | 1 | Kumar to Basil Thampi, 1 run, looks to muscle this over deep midwicket, didn't get hold of it |
|  | this time. Down to deep midwicket off the toe end | |

Basil Thampi has played 23 domestic T20 games, but batted only twice. He hadn't scored a run in either of those innings. Might merit a small promotion after today's show.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 19.3 |  | Kumar to Kumar, 1 run, full toss outside off, he backs away and eases it to deep cover |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
| Bhuvi up against his mentor PK. | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 19.2 | 1b | Kumar to Basil Thampi, 1 bye, looked to swung across the line but played too early, they sneak |  |
|  | in a bye. PK was through halfway even before Thampi moved | |  |
| 19.1 |  | Kumar to Kumar, 1 run, heaved across the line to long-on |  |





|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Lions' previous lowest score batting first is 126, against the same opposition | | | | |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 19 | 13 Runs | GL: 130/7 | RR: 6.84 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Basil Thampi | | | 12 (5b) | BCJ Cutting | 3-0-29-0 |  |  |
|  | P Kumar | |  | 4 (4b) | A Nehra | 4-0-27-1 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 18.6 | |  | 2 | Cutting to Basil Thampi, 2 runs, yorker-length delivery outside off, looks to hit over cover but | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | gets a thick inside edge to midwicket where the fielder was caught napping. Aggressive | | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | running from PK |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 18.5 | |  | 2 | Cutting to Basil Thampi, 2 runs, crunching cover drive, confidently done. Right into the gap | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | between deep cover and long-off. Wow, is he a batsman too, I wonder. Clean strokes | | |  |  |  |
| 18.4 | |  | 6 | Cutting to Basil Thampi, SIX, right in the slot for the free swing of the arms. Slower delivery | | |  |  |
|  |  | at length outside off, Thampi picked the length early, waited, held his shape and swung this | | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | away over long-on |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 18.3 | |  | 1 | Cutting to Kumar, 1 run, flat bats a back of length delivery to cover. A direct hit at the bowler's | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | end from Henriques and PK was gone | |  |  |  |  |
| 18.2 | |  | 1 | Cutting to Basil Thampi, 1 run, he's smashed the cover off the ball. Advances and picks the | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | bone out of that length ball, straight to sweeper cover | | |  |  |  |
| 18.1 | |  | 1 | Cutting to Kumar, 1 run, flays a full length delivery to sweeper cover. Was standing outside leg | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | stump to manufacture room. Had to come back for the second but Thampi fumbled | | |  |  |  |
|  | Cutting from around the stumps | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 18 | 4 Runs 2 Wkts | GL: 117/7 | RR: 6.50 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | P Kumar | |  | 2 (2b) | A Nehra | 4-0-27-1 |  |  |
|  | Basil Thampi | | | 1 (1b) | B Kumar | 3-0-17-2 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17.6 | |  |  | Nehra to Kumar, 1 run, dabs it gently to cover as they hare across for a single | |  |  |  |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Prem: "Kulkarni at No.7 can only indicate lack of batting depth."

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 17.5 | 1 | Nehra to Basil Thampi, 1 run, hit on the up between cover and point to get off the mark |
|  |  |  |
| Basil Thampi wouldn't have expected to bat, but he'll have to try and get Gujarat past 130 | | |
|  |  |  |
| 17.4 | W | Nehra to Kulkarni, OUT, total miscommunication. Dhawal nudges this to the leg side, sets off |

for a single without looking at PK. Rashid swoops in from midwicket and effects a direct hit at the striker's end with a rocket throw. Dhawal wasn't even in the frame.

DS Kulkarni run out 1 (6m 2b 0x4 0x6) SR: 50.00





|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 17.3 | |  | 1 | Nehra to Kumar, 1 run, steps out to go over cover, ends up getting a thick edge down to third | | |  |  |
|  |  | man | | |  |  |  |  |
| 17.2 | |  | W | Nehra to Karthik, OUT, tickles one to the keeper. He looked to get down on one knee and | | |  |  |
|  |  | ramp this over the keeper's head but Nehra followed him. Cleverly done by the old war horse. | | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | The bounce did the trick this time, got too big on Karthik and he ended up getting some glove | | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | on it. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | KD Karthik c †Ojha b Nehra 30 (54m 32b 2x4 0x6) SR: 93.75 | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 17.1 | |  | 1 | Nehra to Kulkarni, 1 run, an overthrow from the midwicket fielder at the bowler's end results | | |  |  |
|  |  | in a single | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | Nehra's last over | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 17 | 3 Runs 1 Wkt | GL: 113/5 | RR: 6.64 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | |  | 30 (31b) | B Kumar | 3-0-17-2 |  |  |
|  | DS Kulkarni | | | 0 (0b) | BCJ Cutting | 2-0-16-0 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 16.6 | |  | 0 | Kumar to Karthik, no run, cuts but straight to Yuvraj who fires a throw at the bowler's end. A | | |  |  |
|  |  | direct hit and Dhawal was gone despite a dive | | | |  |  |  |
| 16.5 | |  | | Kumar to Karthik, no run, punches a length ball on the up to mid-off | |  |  |  |
|  | 0 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 16.4 | |  | W | Kumar to Smith, OUT, slower delivery angling in from wide of the crease, Smith drags this | | |  |  |
|  |  | from outside off to Vijay Shankar at deep midwicket. He looked to muscle it a lot straighter, | | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | but was hitting towards the longer boundary. The ball cut back in a wee bit as well which | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | ensured the bat face turned in his hand. Handy knock nevertheless | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | DR Smith c sub (V Shankar) b Kumar 37 (38m 27b 4x4 1x6) SR: 137.03 | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 16.3 | |  | 1 | Kumar to Karthik, 1 run, yorker-length delivery outside off, he jams his bat down in time to | | |  |  |
|  |  | squeeze that to the off side, quick single completed | | | |  |  |  |
| 16.2 | |  | 1 | Kumar to Smith, 1 run, forces this short of length delivery on off to the man at the edge of the | | |  |  |
|  |  | ring at cover | | |  |  |  |  |
| 16.1 | |  | | Kumar to Karthik, 1 run, thick edge, one hand off the b | |  |  |  |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Bhuvneshwar Kumar is back | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 16 | 8 Runs | GL: 110/4 | RR: 6.87 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | |  | 28 (27b) | BCJ Cutting | 2-0-16-0 |  |  |
|  | DR Smith | |  | 36 (25b) | Bipul Sharma | 4-0-24-0 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Strategic time-out





Elsewhere, there's plenty of exciting football action coming up, which you can follow on our sister site espn.in. It's derby day in Kolkata, but recent developments in Indian football have cast a shadow over the future of two of Asia's fiercest rivals. Debayan Sen looks at the [uncertainty that lies ahead](http://www.espn.in/football/india/story/3098469/on-derby-daykolkata-giants-battle-winds-of-change) for East Bengal and Mohun Bagan.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 15.6 | 1 | Cutting to Karthik, 1 run, looks to force this through the off side but gets a thick inside edge to |  |
|  | long-on | |  |
| 15.5 |  | Cutting to Karthik, no run, punches a length ball on off straight to Yuvraj at backward point |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 15.4 | 1 | Cutting to Smith, 1 run, right into the blockhole, hits Smith flush on the toe as he looks to flick |  |
|  | this behind square. Cry of anguish from him. Short fine was in | |  |
| 15.3 | 4 | Cutting to Smith, FOUR, cuts and cuts well. Too much width this time, Smith slashes at that |  |
|  | and ensured he managed to get enough bat on it to clear backward point. | |  |
| I'm told the attendance as of 5pm is 25,342 | | |  |
| 15.2 | 1 | Cutting to Karthik, 1 run, angles a length ball on middle from wide of the crease, Karthik eases |  |
|  | this behind point | |  |
| 15.1 |  | Cutting to Smith, 1 run, muscles a slow leg-cutter on off to wide long-on |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |

Right, how many can they muscle off the last five?

END OF OVER: 15 | 6 Runs | GL: 102/4 | RR: 6.80

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| DR Smith | 30 (22b) | Bipul Sharma | 4-0-24-0 |
| KD Karthik | 26 (24b) | A Nehra | 3-0-23-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 14.6 |  | Bipul Sharma to Smith, 1 run, tossed up on middle and leg, bunted down to long-on |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 14.5 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Karthik, 1 run, too short, this time Karthik uses the depth of the crease to |  |
|  | whip that to deep midwicket | |  |
| 14.4 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Smith, 1 run, shapes to cut but the ball stops on him just a touch, can't get |  |
|  | enough power on the stroke, rolls to deep cover | |  |
| 14.3 |  | Bipul Sharma to Karthik, 1 run, slider into middle and leg, worked to square leg again |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 14.2 |  | Bipul Sharma to Smith, 1 run, fierce sweep all along the ground to deep square leg |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 14.1 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Karthik, 1 run, sees Karthik advancing and fires this into middle and leg, the |  |
|  | batsman adjusts and nurdles it to midwicket for a quick single | |  |

END OF OVER: 14 | 9 Runs | GL: 96/4 | RR: 6.85





|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |
| DR Smith | 27 (19b) | A Nehra | 3-0-23-0 |
| KD Karthik | 23 (21b) | MC Henriques | 1-0-12-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 13.6 | | 6 | Nehra to Smith, SIX, right in the slot for him to swing his arms and Smith does so with | |  |  |  |
|  |  | magnificent ease. Lofted handsomely down the ground, ball smashes into the sightscreen | | | |  |  |
| 13.5 | |  | Nehra to Karthik, 1 run, width on offer, uses the pace to run it down to third man | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13.4 | |  | Nehra to Smith, 1 run, length ball on middle and off, Smith wrists it down to long-on | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 13.3 | | 0 | Nehra to Smith, no run, full-length delivery that tails away from middle. Henriques at cover | | |  |  |
|  |  | slides across and hurls a throw at the bowler's end. Karthik would've been gone had that | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | hit. despite a full-length dive |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13.2 | |  | Nehra to Smith, no run, short ball on middle and leg, he ducks under it this time | |  |  |  |
| 0 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 13.1 | | 1 | Nehra to Karthik, 1 run, floats a length ball across Karthik, who gets a thick inside edge on the | | |  |  |
|  |  | drive to midwicket | |  |  |  |  |
|  | Nehra |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 13 | 12 Runs | GL: 87/4 | RR: 6.69 | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | | 21 (19b) | MC Henriques | 1-0-12-0 |  |  |
|  | DR Smith | | 20 (15b) | Rashid Khan | 4-0-19-3 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12.6 | |  | Henriques to Karthik, 1 run, floats a full delivery outside off, smashed on the up to deep point. | | |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12.5 | |  | Henriques to Smith, 1 run, clubbed across the line to long-on. Flat hit | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 12.4 | | 1 | Henriques to Karthik, 1 run, gets forward and then opens the bat face late to ease it wide of | | |  |  |
|  |  | point | |  |  |  |  |

Coming back to the previous over, replays suggest Rashid should have had the wicket of Smith. There was a thin edge. Not given.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 12.3 |  | Henriques to Smith, 1 run, length ball on middle, worked to midwicket |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 12.2 | 4 | Henriques to Smith, FOUR, poor delivery. Too full on the pads and he's flicked that |  |
|  | effortlessly into the deep backward square leg boundary. Neat roll of the wrists that generate | |  |
|  |  | all the power and timing. |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 12.1 | 4 | Henriques to Smith, FOUR, fine shot, good old fashioned Smith slog. Full outside off, he |  |
|  | swings across the line to clear the infield, into the deep midwicket boundary. Picked the | |  |





slower delivery off the hand

END OF OVER: 12 | 7 Runs | GL: 75/4 | RR: 6.25

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| KD Karthik | 19 (17b) | Rashid Khan | 4-0-19-3 |
| DR Smith | 10 (11b) | BCJ Cutting | 1-0-8-0 |
|  |  |  |  |

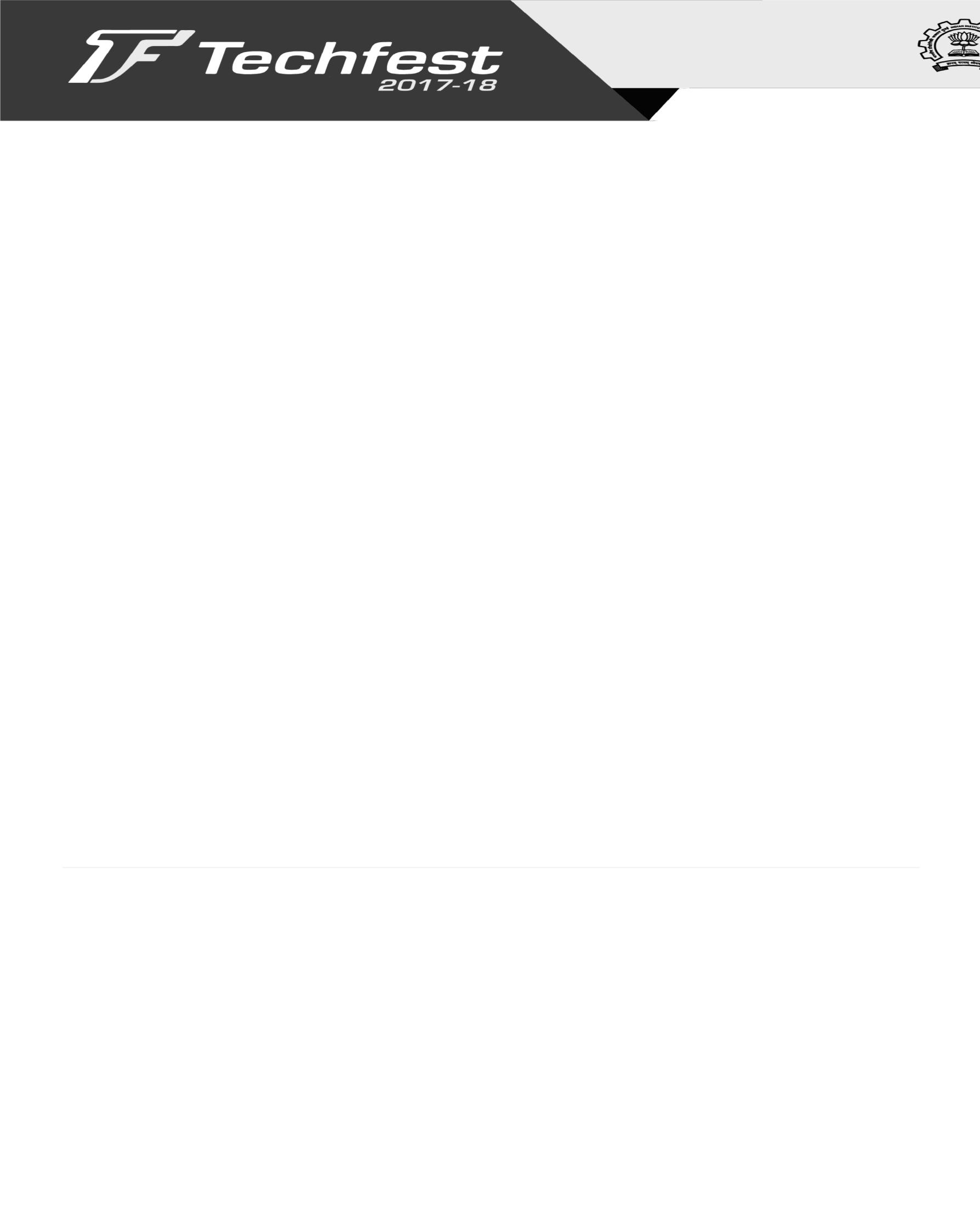
[Where did Rashid Khan come from? What's he been up to? Peter Della Penna has the lowdown on the](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1090201.html) [Afghanistan legspinner.](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1090201.html)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 11.6 | |  | 0 | Rashid Khan to Karthik, no run, beauty again. Sharp turn from outside off, DK plays inside | | | |  |  |
|  |  | the line as it fizzes through to the keeper. End of a fine spell. | | | | |  |  |  |
| 11.5 | |  | 4 | Rashid Khan to Karthik, FOUR, draws him forward with the length, the ball spins away to | | | |  |  |
|  |  | take the edge. Races past short third man | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | Rashid Khan is the first bowler to have three lbws in an IPL game | | | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11.4 | |  | | Rashid Khan to Smith, 1 run, slider that drifts into middle, worked to square leg | | |  |  |  |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 11.3 | |  | 0 | Rashid Khan to Smith, no run, peach of a delivery. Looked to flick but the ball deviated from | | | |  |  |
|  |  | the full length area to beat the outside edge by a whisker. There was some noise as ball passed | | | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | bat. | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 11.2 | |  | 0 | Rashid Khan to Smith, no run, googly that spins back in a long way, hit on the pad but the | | | |  |  |
|  |  | angle would've taken it down leg | | | |  |  |  |  |
| 11.1 | |  | 2 | Rashid Khan to Smith, 2 runs, gets to the pitch of the ball and crunches this into the gap at | | | |  |  |
|  |  | deep extra cover | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | Rashid to finish off | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 11 | 8 Runs | GL: 68/4 | RR: 6.18 | | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | DR Smith | |  | 7 (7b) |  | BCJ Cutting | 1-0-8-0 |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | |  | 15 (15b) |  | Bipul Sharma | 3-0-18-0 |  |  |
|  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10.6 | |  | | Cutting to Smith, 1 run, floats one into middle and leg, whipped to deep square leg | | |  |  |  |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Cutting may not have the numbers to impress, but his contributions during crucial moments in franchise cricket make him a player a team can never ignore, [writes Arun Venugopal.](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1091164.html)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 10.5 | 4 | Cutting to Smith, FOUR, thumped into the cover boundary on the up. Full swing of the bat, |  |
|  | delightful timing. Dhawan thought he was in with a chance but all he managed in the end was | |  |
|  |  | a swimming pool dive. |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 10.4 |  | Cutting to Smith, no run, looked to play a short-arm jab but played too early. It was another |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |





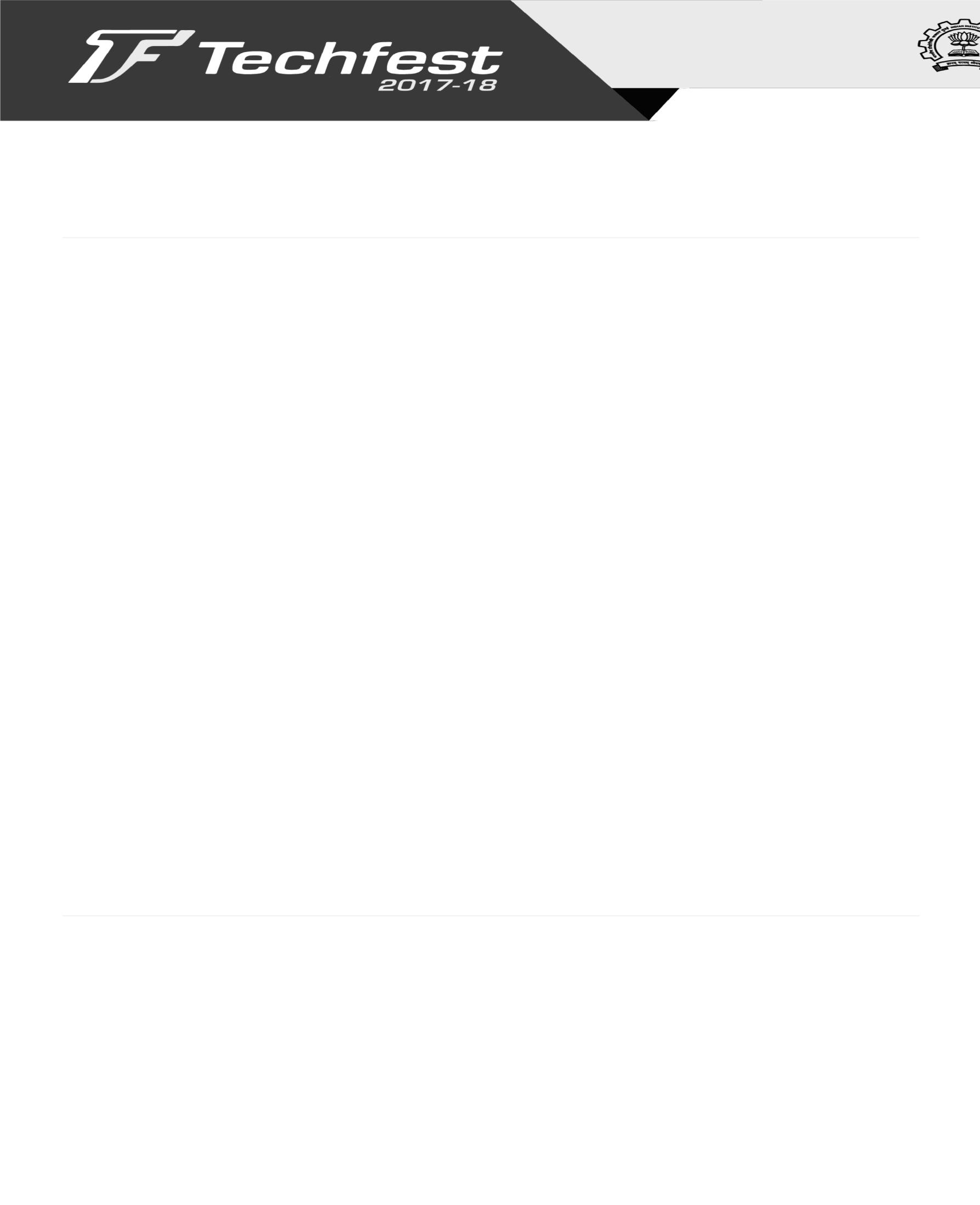
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  | slower leg-cutter that bounced much more than Smith expected. Waist-high | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 10.3 | | 1 | Cutting to Karthik, 1 run, slow leg-cutter from length outside off, steered wide of short third | | |  |  |
|  |  | man | |  |  |  |  |
| 10.2 | |  | Cutting to Smith, 1 run, angled into the pads, flicked to dine leg | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10.1 | |  | Cutting to Karthik, 1 run, length ball on middle, tucked to deep midwicket | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Here's Ben Cutting | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 10 | 3 Runs | GL: 60/4 | RR: 6.00 | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | DR Smith |  | 1 (3b) | Bipul Sharma | 3-0-18-0 |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | | 13 (13b) | Rashid Khan | 3-0-12-3 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9.6 | |  | Bipul Sharma to Smith, no run, gets a good stride forward and defends | |  |  |  |
| 0 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 9.5 | | 0 | Bipul Sharma to Smith, no run, excellent stop off his own bowling, moving swiftly to his left | | |  |  |
|  |  | on the followthrough and then dishing in a full-length dive to pull off a one-handed stop | | |  |  |  |
| 9.4 | |  | Bipul Sharma to Karthik, 1 run, drifting into middle and leg, worked to midwicket | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |
| 9.3 | | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Smith, 1 run, looks to clear long-on but didn't get underneath the flight, | |  |  |  |
|  |  | squeezed to the fielder | |  |  |  |  |

Bipul is one of the more tactical picks in the IPL. He bats at No. 8, and in 13 matches he has bowled his full four overs only twice despite an overall economy rate of under eight. In the final last year, he came to bowl as soon as AB de Villiers walked out, and stopped bowling as soon as de Villiers got out. In the last game, used Bipul only for Shane Watson. Now they have opened the bowling with him given McCullum's record against left-arm spin

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 9.2 | |  | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Karthik, 1 run, lunges forward and drives to cover where a misfield allows | | |  |
|  |  | the single | | |  |  |  |
| 9.1 | |  | 0 | Bipul Sharma to Karthik, no run, drifting into middle and leg, DK struck on the pad as he | | |  |
|  |  | looks to work it to the leg side | | |  |  |  |
|  | Bipul is back | | |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 9 | 3 Runs 1 Wkt | GL: 57/4 | RR: 6.33 | | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | |  | 11 (10b) | Rashid Khan | 3-0-12-3 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | A Nehra | 2-0-14-0 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 8.6 | W | Rashid Khan to Raina, OUT, this time he's foxes Raina with a traditional legbreak. Raina |
|  | plays down the wrong line, perhaps expecting a googly. He was a dead duck the moment it | |





smashed into the pad. As plumb as they come. Hitting middle of middle.

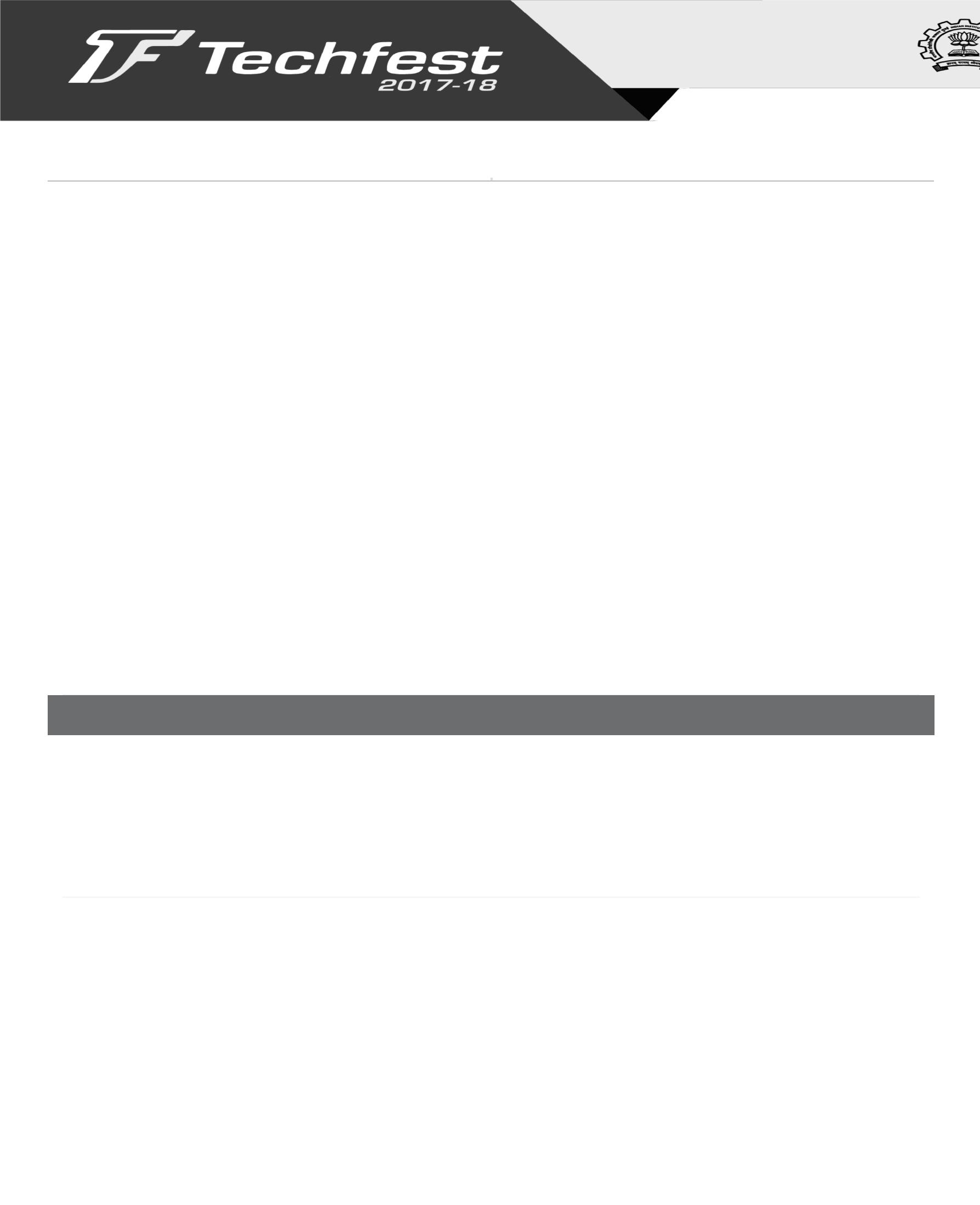
SK Raina lbw b Rashid Khan 5 (23m 8b 0x4 0x6) SR: 62.50

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 8.5 | |  | 1 | Rashid Khan to Karthik, 1 run, picks the googly. Gets outside the line and wrists it to deep | | |  |  |
|  |  | midwicket | | |  |  |  |  |
| 8.4 | |  | | Rashid Khan to Raina, 1 run, touch short and down leg, nurdled to short fine leg | |  |  |  |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 8.3 | |  | 1 | Rashid Khan to Karthik, 1 run, drifting into middle from wide of the crease, turned to square | | |  |  |
|  |  | leg as they pick an easy single | | |  |  |  |  |
| 8.2 | |  | | Rashid Khan to Karthik, no run, too full outside off, eased with an opened bat face to point | | |  |  |
|  | 0 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 8.1 | |  | 0 | Rashid Khan to Karthik, no run, beaten by a quicker delivery that fizzes away from outside | | |  |  |
|  |  | off. DK looked to steer it behind point | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 8 | 8 Runs | GL: 54/3 | RR: 6.75 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | SK Raina |  |  | 4 (6b) | A Nehra | 2-0-14-0 |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | |  | 9 (6b) | Rashid Khan | 2-0-9-2 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 7.6 | |  | 0 | Nehra to Raina, no run, gets this to stop on Raina who is early into the drive, checks his shot | | |  |  |
|  |  | at the last moment. On the bounce to cover | | | |  |  |  |
| 7.5 | |  | 1 | Nehra to Karthik, 1 run, plants forward and punches an away-going delivery on the up to | |  |  |  |
|  |  | long-off | | |  |  |  |  |
| 7.4 | |  | 0 | Nehra to Karthik, no run, dabs a length ball to the man coming in from point. Looks for a | | |  |  |
|  |  | single but is sent back | | |  |  |  |  |

hardik: "Don't see how Finch can be sent anywhere below No.3. He is being wasted. Will continue to be wasted at this position. Gujarat have created this problem, with having 5 batsman (including Raina) who wold ideally like to bat in the top three."

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 7.3 | |  | 2 | Nehra to Karthik, 2 runs, flicked wide of mid-on. Far from a half-volley but he still went | |  |  |  |
|  |  | through with the stroke | | |  |  |  |  |
| 7.2 | |  | 4 | Nehra to Karthik, FOUR, the confidence of a man in the form of his life. Overpitched from | | |  |  |
|  |  | Nehra, DK leans into the drive and blasts this down the ground. Super shot | | | |  |  |  |
| 7.1 | |  | | Nehra to Raina, 1 run, length ball outside off, punched uppishly to deep cover | |  |  |  |
|  | 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 7 | 6 Runs 1 Wkt | GL: 46/3 | RR: 6.57 | | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | SK Raina | |  | 3 (4b) | Rashid Khan | 2-0-9-2 |  |  |
|  | KD Karthik | |  | 2 (2b) | B Kumar | 2-0-14-1 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |





|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 6.6 |  | Rashid Khan to Raina, 1 run, leans forward and works the full delivery to midwicket |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 6.5 | 1 | Rashid Khan to Karthik, 1 run, didn't pick it off the hand again, played outside the line to get a |  |
|  | thick inside edge to square leg. Prodded with the bat well in front of the pad on that occasion | |  |
| 6.4 |  | Rashid Khan to Raina, 1 run, too full on off stump, squeezed to long-off |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 6.3 | 1 | Rashid Khan to Karthik, 1 run, turns the incoming length ball to the leg side gently to get off |  |
|  | the mark | |  |
| So the Finch experiment has failed. At No.4 in T20s: Ave of 13.77, SR of 100.81 | | |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 6.2 | W | Rashid Khan to Finch, OUT, he continues to weave his magic. This is another googly that |  |
|  | drifts in from wide of the crease. Finch didn't pick it off the hand and stabbed outside the line, | |  |
|  |  | only to see the ball cut back in to beat the inside edge and hit him plumb in front. Lions in real |  |
|  |  | rouble |  |
|  |  | AJ Finch lbw b Rashid Khan 3 (4m 5b 0x4 0x6) SR: 60.00 |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 6.1 | 2 | Rashid Khan to Finch, 2 runs, full toss on middle and leg, flicked into the gap between deep |  |
|  | midwicket and long-on | |  |

A measure of the adjustment Rashid has made is that in T20 international cricket, he has bowled only one out of his 91 overs inside the Powerplay. Here, in both the IPL matches, he has bowled inside the first six

END OF OVER: 6 | 5 Runs 1 Wkt | GL: 40/2 | RR: 6.66

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| AJ Finch | 1 (3b) | B Kumar | 2-0-14-1 |
| SK Raina | 1 (2b) | Rashid Khan | 1-0-3-1 |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 5.6 | 1 | Kumar to Finch, 1 run, lucky to get away with a leg-stump half-volley that has been flicked |
|  | straight to deep square leg | |

amith: "It's Bhuvi bowling, not Nehra ji." Thanks for the correction. Human error, being fixed.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 5.5 | 1Kumar to Raina, 1 run, gets on top of the bounce and tucks it off his hip to square leg | |
|  |  |  |
| 5.4 | 1lb | Kumar to Finch, 1 leg bye, once again it's a length ball on middle and leg which he look to |
|  | work leg side, misses and they get a deflection off the thigh pad | |
| 5.3 | 0 | Kumar to Finch, no run, nips back in sharply to hit him on the pad but the ball was sliding |
|  | down leg | |
| 5.2 | W | Kumar to Roy, OUT, once again looks to go leg side but doesn't get hold of the pull. Dhawan |

at midwicket dives forward to complete a low catch. Roy wasn't convinced it carried and queried to the umpires, who after the benefit of multiple replays, decided it was a clean catch. Dhawan claimed the catch immediately.





JJ Roy c Dhawan b Kumar 31 (27m 21b 5x4 0x6) SR: 147.61

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 5.1 | |  | 2 | Kumar to Roy, 2 runs, muscled into the deep midwicket region where Rashid charges across | | |  |
|  |  |  | and hurls a flat throw at the striker's end | |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 5 | 3 Runs 1 Wkt | GL: 35/1 | RR: 7.00 | | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | SK Raina | |  | 0 (1b) | Rashid Khan | 1-0-3-1 |  |
|  | JJ Roy |  |  | 29 (19b) | A Nehra | 1-0-6-0 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |
| 4.6 | |  | 0 | Rashid Khan to Raina, no run, Dropped! Sharp, sharp chance. This one is fuller in length, | | |  |
|  |  |  | Raina looks to go inside-out stroke over cover, but the ball drifts away late to take the edge to | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  | Warner who nearly managed to pull off a blinder at slip. Put his hand out to the right but | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | couldn't hold on |  |  |  |
|  | Raina in at No. 3 | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |  |
| 4.5 | |  | W | Rashid Khan to McCullum, OUT, what a big wicket, a potentially big moment. The dangerous | | |  |
|  |  | McCullum never looked in today. This is the wrong'un which he looks to sweep but plays too | | | | |  |
|  |  |  |  | early and is beaten. Struck plumb in front of middle. Umpire had no hesitation in raising the | | |  |
|  |  |  |  | finger. |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | BB McCullum lbw b Rashid Khan 5 (20m 10b 0x4 0x6) SR: 50.00 | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| 4.4 | |  | 0 | Rashid Khan to McCullum, no run, whipped straight to square leg this time. Lucky to get | |  |  |
|  |  |  | away with the short ball | |  |  |  |
| 4.3 | |  | 2 | Rashid Khan to McCullum, 2 runs, backs away and then carves that into the gap at point. Had | | |  |
|  |  |  | to wait, wait and wait before giving all his might to beat the cover point fielder. | | |  |  |
| 4.2 | |  | 0 | Rashid Khan to McCullum, no run, drifting into the pads, McCullum late on the flick, deflects | | |  |
|  |  |  | off the pad to short fine leg | |  |  |  |
| 4.1 | |  | 1 | Rashid Khan to Roy, 1 run, sweeps a full toss from outside off to deep midwicket. Didn't get | | |  |
|  |  |  | hold of it though, on the bounce to the fielder | | |  |  |
|  | Rashid Khan into the attack | | | |  |  |  |
|  | | | | |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 4 | 7 Runs | GL: 32/0 | RR: 8.00 | | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | JJ Roy |  |  | 28 (18b) | A Nehra | 1-0-6-0 |  |
|  | BB McCullum | | | 3 (6b) | Bipul Sharma | 2-0-15-0 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |
| 3.6 | |  | 1 | Nehra to Roy, 1 run, looks to smack this over midwicket but toe-ended it to the fielder there. | | |  |
|  |  |  | This also kept a touch low which meant he couldn't time it as well as he would've liked | | |  |  |
| 3.5 | |  | 1lb | Nehra to McCullum, 1 leg bye, appeal for lbw but the ball pitched miles outside leg. McCullum | | |  |
|  |  |  | looked to pull and was too early into the stroke. The ball deflects to short third man | | |  |  |





|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 3.4 | | 0 | Nehra to McCullum, no run, back of length on middle, tucks McCullum up, defended to the | | |  |  |
|  |  | off side | |  |  |  |  |
| 3.3 | | 1 | Nehra to Roy, 1 run, chipped over the infield, too straight for mid-on to have a shout. Another | | |  |  |
|  |  | cutter from Nehra, he played too early and got a leading edge. | | |  |  |  |
| 3.2 | | 4 | Nehra to Roy, FOUR, swats this into the deep midwicket boundary. Too short, this was | |  |  |  |
|  |  | sitting up nicely for Roy to wind up and smack that. What power | | |  |  |  |
| 3.1 | | 0 | Nehra to Roy, no run, looks to reverse paddle Nehra, but gave away his intentions too early. | | |  |  |
|  |  | Nehra clevely bowls an off cutter and beats him outside leg stump | | |  |  |  |
|  | Here's Nehra | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | | | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 3 | 12 Runs | GL: 25/0 | RR: 8.33 | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | JJ Roy |  | 22 (14b) | Bipul Sharma | 2-0-15-0 |  |  |
|  | BB McCullum | | 3 (4b) | B Kumar | 1-0-10-0 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.6 | |  | Bipul Sharma to Roy, 1 run, makes room and punches the short ball to long-off | |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 2.5 | | 4 | Bipul Sharma to Roy, FOUR, steps out and lofts him over Warner at mid-on. Didn't get it off | | |  |  |
|  |  | the middle but just about managed to clear the infield. Ended up dragging it just a wee bit | | | |  |  |
| 2.4 | | 4 | Bipul Sharma to Roy, FOUR, too short and punished. All the time in the world to rock back | | |  |  |
|  |  | and pull that in front of square, full swing of the bat to muscle that into the deep midwicket | | | |  |  |
|  |  |  | boundary |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 2.3 | | 2 | Bipul Sharma to Roy, 2 runs, tries his hand at a switch hit this time, just manages to clear the | | |  |  |
|  |  | infield, Henriques runs back from point to cut tha off | | |  |  |  |
| 2.2 | | 0 | Bipul Sharma to Roy, no run, sees the batsman give him the charge and slows it down nicely, | | |  |  |
|  |  | shortens his length a touch as well, defended back down the pitch | | |  |  |  |
|  | short third man, point, cover point, extra cover and long-off in place | | | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | | |  |  |
| 2.1 | | 1 | Bipul Sharma to McCullum, 1 run, drifting into middle and leg, he lunges forward and then | | |  |  |
|  |  | works it to midwicket | |  |  |  |  |
| END OF OVER: 2 | 10 Runs | GL: 13/0 | RR: 6.50 | | | |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | BB McCullum | | 2 (3b) | B Kumar | 1-0-10-0 |  |  |
|  | JJ Roy |  | 11 (9b) | Bipul Sharma | 1-0-3-0 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1.6 | 1 | Kumar to McCullum, 1 run, angles a short of length delivery on middle and leg, whipped to |
|  | deep square | |





Danish: "Cutting plays for the Heat along with Baz in the Big Bash, he'll definitely share some insights with Warner and the other bowlers."

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1.5 |  | Kumar to Roy, 1 run, wristy whip this time to deep backward square leg |  |
| 1 |  |
|  |  |  |
| slip goes out. | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 1.4 | 4 | Kumar to Roy, FOUR, backs away and swats the short delivery on middle over cover point. |  |
|  | Cleared the front leg early to make the stroke a possibility. | |  |
| 1.3 | 4 | Kumar to Roy, FOUR, shimmies down the pitch and slaps him over mid-on. Got that off the |  |
|  | middle this time. Free swing of the arms to generate the power | |  |
| 1.2 | 0 | Kumar to Roy, no run, gets this to lift off the deck from short of good length, comes back in |  |
|  | long way to cramp Roy for room and hit high on the bat | |  |
| Warner is at wide slip | | |  |
| 1.1 |  | Kumar to Roy, no run, hint of away movement from length outside off, punched to mid-off |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |

Jason Roy has been dismissed seven times in just 58 balls by legspinners in T20s in Asia. Makes sense then to give Rashid Khan a go soon, surely. But Bhuvneshwar it will be for now with the new ball from the Pavillion end

END OF OVER: 1 | 3 Runs | GL: 3/0 | RR: 3.00

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| JJ Roy | 2 | (4b) | Bipul Sharma | 1-0-3-0 |  |
| BB McCullum | 1 | (2b) |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 0.6 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Roy, 1 run, not quite to the pitch of the ball but he drives through the line to |  |
|  | long-off. Tidy start | |  |
| 0.5 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to McCullum, 1 run, pushed through quicker, on middle and leg, tucked to |  |
|  | square leg | |  |
| 0.4 | 0 | Bipul Sharma to McCullum, no run, slows it down nicely, there's some loop on the delivery |  |
|  | too as he lands it on middle and off, McCullum deadbats that | |  |
| 0.3 | 1 | Bipul Sharma to Roy, 1 run, spins away from length on middle, whipped to deep midwicket to |  |
|  | get off the mark | |  |
| 0.2 | 0 | Bipul Sharma to Roy, no run, drifting into middle and leg, tickled to short fine for a quick |  |
|  | single | |  |
| 0.1 |  | Bipul Sharma to Roy, no run, tossed up on off stump, pushed to cover |  |
| 0 |  |
|  |  |  |





McCullum and Roy will open again for Lions. Sunrisers will start with spin. Bipul Sharma with his left-arm spin first up. He'll bowl from around the wicket

Those wondering, Basil Thampi comes from Kerala and has a reputation of bowling over 145kph. He was signed by Lions for INR 85 lakhs. He picked up eight wickets in five matches at the inter-state T20s. He was selected into the south zone team for the inter-zonal phase of the T20 tournament. The numbers aren't astounding, but clearly the scouts have seen something. He's had a couple of stints at the MRF Pace Foundation in Chennai under Glenn McGrath.

Tejas Baroka , the 21-year old legspinner, hasn't played any representative cricket yet. He's played for Delhi University. He took a five-for in the semi-final of the inter-college DU tournament. He plays for Venkateswara College. What a stage to come in first up. He'll be up against a power-packed battling line-up.

Sunrisers Hyderabad: David Warner(c), Shikhar Dhawan, Moises Henriques, Yuvraj Singh, Deepak Hooda, Naman Ojha(w), Ben Cutting, Bipul Sharma, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Rashid Khan, Ashish Nehra

Gujarat Lions: Jason Roy, Brendon McCullum, Suresh Raina(c), Aaron Finch, Dinesh Karthik(w), Dwayne Smith, Praveen Kumar, Tejas Baroka, Dhawal Kulkarni, Shivil Koushik, Basil Thampi

David Warner wins the toss, unchanged Sunrisers will bowl. Raina says they would've batted first anyway. Contrasting thoughts from the captains. Warner thinks the surface won't change much, Raina thinks the heat will make the surface drier and make it tougher for Sunrisers.

Lions have left out Jakati and Gony. Kerala pacer Basil Thampi and Delhi legspinner Tejas Baroka get a game. That means they continue with their strategy of playing four overseas batsmen.

In all likelihood Bhuvneshwar Kumar will take the new ball, which is not good news for the Lions' power hitters. He has taken eight Lions wickets in 12 overs at an economy rate of just seven. In the IPL, McCullum and Aaron Finch have not even managed a strike rate of 100 against Bhuvneshwar. D Smith and Dinesh Karthik go at an even 100 against him, and Suresh Raina at under 150

Sunrisers have won all four tosses against Lions, and have won the previous three matches, all chasing Pramod : "Four overseas players for GL should be: Baz, Roy, Faulkner and Tye."

3.20pm Our stats team have worked hard to find some interesting patterns over the 10 seasons of the IPL. [One that stands out when we look at the Lions v Sunrisers match-up is how Warner has fared against Dhawal](http://www.espncricinfo.com/ci/content/video_audio/1091326.html) [Kulkarni.](http://www.espncricinfo.com/ci/content/video_audio/1091326.html)

It's 41 degrees in Hyderabad currently, but I'm told it feels much hotter than that. Large parts of the stadium has been left uncovered, so those making their way to Uppal are unlikely to walk off without a tan. How many will turn up is the question. What I can tell you with certainty is the whole of Afghanistan will be glued to watch one of their young stars make a splash.

3.00pm After an emphatic win in the tournament opener, the defending champions are back home to take on Gujarat Lion, a side they've beaten in each of the three games they played last season. On current form, there's every chance they could make it four in four.

Questions remain over Mustafizur's availability, but Sunrisers have seamlessly found an able replacement in young Afghanistan legspinner Rashid Khan. Lions have plenty of thinking to do as far as their foreign personnel go. Surely they're not going to go in with four overseas batsmen again? If they decide against the idea, there's every chance that Dwayne Smith could be asked to sit out. We'll find out soon.





Vinod Rajpal: "J Faulkner a must for Lions if they want to win against Warner & co."

Before we get into the thick of things, contest time for folks keen on being featured on our site. Send us a video of you mimicking your favourite cricketer and you could be the winner of '[The playalike contest](http://www.espncricinfo.com/indian-premier-league-2017/content/story/1089869.html).'

