



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S
EDITION**

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STUDENT EDITION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2020


WEB EDITION
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WETLANDS

X-PLAINED


WHAT India has named two more wetlands in Maharashtra and Sur Sarovar in Agra as wetlands of international importance. A wetland is an area of land that is either covered by water or saturated with water. In fact, wetlands are entirely covered by water for at least part of the year, though their depth and duration of seasonal flooding varies.

WHY Wetlands are the world's natural water filters, and one of the most productive ecosystems on the planet. The Lonar lake in Maharashtra is the only crater lake of the country. Sur Sarovar, also known as Keetham lake, is a bird sanctuary. Both have been added under the Ramsar Convention.

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance is a treaty for conservation and sustainable use of such sites. It is named after Ramsar, the Iranian city, where the treaty was signed in 1971. The places chosen for conservation under it are given the tag 'Ramsar site'



- India has 41 wetlands, the highest in South Asia
- Recently, Kabartal in Bihar's Begusarai district was recognised as a wetland of international importance – the first such wetland in the state.
- The other Ramsar sites in India include the Chilika Lake in Odisha, Keoladeo National Park in Rajasthan, Harike Lake in Punjab, Loktak Lake in Manipur, and Wular Lake in Jammu and Kashmir



Number-0-LOGY

40%

deaths in patients with chronic illnesses was caused by air pollution, according to Dr Randeep Guleria, Director, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS). The data from 'State of Global Air 2020' shows that 1.67 million or 17 lakh people die annually due to air pollution that comes to around 4,700 deaths per day, which means around half a million more people fell prey to air pollution last year than the number of lives claimed by Covid-19 virus till date, globally.

MENACE OF AIR POLLUTION
JUST LIKE THAT AJIT NINAN


places where air quality levels exceed the WHO limits.

3 BILLION AND ABOVE: people rely on polluting energy sources for cooking, which causes household air pollution.

91%

of the world's population lives in

Pollution levels were higher in Delhi this Diwali as compared to last year and it could be attributed to bursting of firecrackers, higher share of stubble burning and unfavourable meteorology during the festival season, according to the Central Pollution Control Board

NITISH SWORN-IN AS BIHAR CM

Nitish Kumar was sworn in as the Bihar chief minister for a fourth straight term on Monday at a ceremony, which was attended by the top BJP leaders, including Union home minister Amit Shah and party president J P Nadda.



Justin Bieber, Jennifer Lopez win at People's Choice Awards 2020



Justin Bieber, who was nominated in seven categories for this year's People's Choice Awards won the award for The Male Artist of 2020. Singer-actor Jennifer Lopez was titled People's Icon of 2019.

■ BTS proved to be the big winners of the night, winning The Group of 2020, The Song of 2020 and The Music Video of 2020 for their Billboard Hot 100 No 1 single 'Dynamite'

Jannik Sinner youngest in 12 years to clinch ATP title

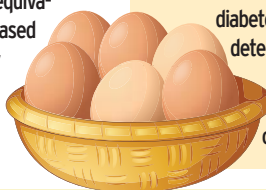


Italian teenager Jannik Sinner has become the youngest male to capture an ATP Tour title in more than 12 years after his title win at the Sofia Open. On Saturday, Sinner defeated Vasek Pospisil of Canada 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (3) in the summit clash to win his first ATP title.

- The last player to have lifted a tour-level trophy at a younger age than Sinner was **Kei Nishikori**, who had earned his maiden ATP Tour title as an 18-year-old at the 2008 Delray Beach Open
- Sinner's title run in Sofia completes a memorable 2020 campaign in which he claimed three top 10 wins and finished the year with a 19-11 record. As a result of his title run, he made it to the top 40 of the ATP Rankings for the first time ranking at number 37

AN EGG A DAY CAN TRIGGER diabetes too, warn researchers

Scrambled, poached or boiled, eggs are a popular breakfast food the world over, but a new research warns that excess egg consumption can increase your risk of diabetes. The study found that people who regularly consumed one or more eggs per day (equivalent to 50 grams), increased their risk of diabetes by 60%. The effect was more pronounced in women than in men.



While the association between eating eggs and diabetes is often debated, this study aims to assess people's long-term egg consumption of eggs and their risk of developing diabetes as determined by fasting blood glucose

'Friends' reunion special will film in March: Matthew Perry

'Friends' star Matthew Perry has revealed that HBO Max's reunion special of the cult sitcom is being rescheduled to film in March. The news comes after the special was delayed multiple times due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. All six original cast members—Jennifer Aniston, Courteney Cox, Lisa Kudrow, Matt LeBlanc, David Schwimmer and Perry—are set to come together for the reunion, which was officially ordered in February.

ENTERTAINMENT

- The reunion special will be shot at the iconic Stage 24 of the Warner Bros Studio lot in Burbank, where the original NBC series was filmed
- 'Friends' premiered in September 1994 and was a phenomenon during its decade-long run

YOU CAN NOW BUY A PIECE OF EIFFEL TOWER'S ORIGINAL STAIRCASE

Want to possess a part of the ultra-famous monument that symbolises Paris across the world? Well, a segment of an original staircase from the Eiffel Tower will be auctioned by Artcurial on December 1 as part of its Parisian Art Deco and Design Sale.

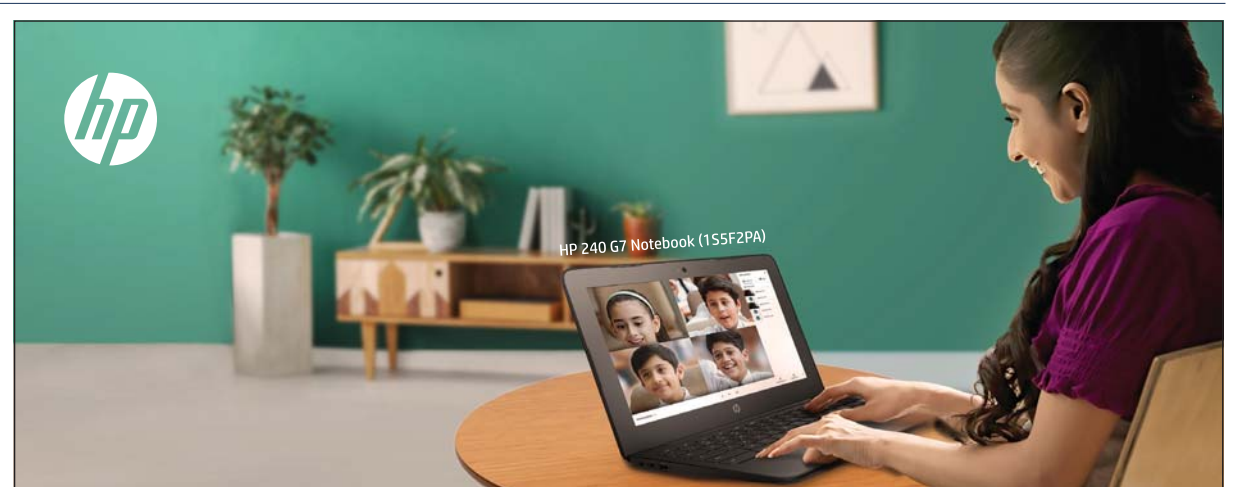


In 2016, a piece of the same staircase sold for 523,800 euros, far above its original estimate. In 2013, another 3.5-metre-high segment went for 220,000 euros during a previous Artcurial sale

■ The 2.6-metre segment comes from the historic spiral staircase built by Gustave Eiffel and his collaborators for the Universal Exhibition of 1889. A few years later, an elevator replaced the original staircase between the second and the third floor of the iconic monument, which is why the staircase was dismantled. It was separated into 24 segments, two of which measure nine metres

■ One of these long segments remains on the Tower's first floor, while three others were redistributed to Paris's Musée d'Orsay and Cité des sciences de la Villette and the Musée de l'Histoire du fer (Iron history museum) in Nancy (in east of France)

■ The segment of the staircase being auctioned off in December by Artcurial comes from a private Canadian collection. It is estimated to fetch between 30,000 and 40,000 euros



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STUDENT POLITICAL
REPORTER

DURGA BASU

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Over the past decade slowly our sphere of regional influence is shrinking and our cordial relations are turning sour. Pakistan and China's strained relations with India are well known (multiple wars have been fought, land is still disputed and the lines of control are not respected), but now our smaller neighbours are also being taken under Beijing's wing. Our neglect of our neighbourhood and growing Chinese influence are major reasons for relations dampening. China often tries to bring up India's internal affairs at the UN and Indian responses to China have been growing harsher. This summer, peace was yet again endangered by fighting in Galwan valley and Pangong Lake, which resulted in casualties for both countries. Both sides have agreed on a plan to withdraw but there is no agreement on the implementation of this plan, further skirmishes on the border will

India's frosty relations with the neighbours



Our smaller neighbours are also being taken under Beijing's wing. We must first prioritise SAARC and engage in open dialogue over border disputes to strengthen our neighbourhood ties...

Do you agree with the author? Let us know at times-nie175@gmail.com

not come as a surprise.

PAK AFFAIR

The border situation is similar if not worse with Pakistan, there are frequent reports of Pakistani government sponsored groups inciting terror attacks in India. Last year was particularly poor for Indo-Pakistani relations with the Pulwama attack and Balakot air strikes. Talks with Pakistan are often inconclusive. Unfortunately for India, Pakistan and China's alliance has been tightening and the China-Pakistan economic corridor's construction continues.

SRI LANKA, NEPAL AND MALDIVES

Not only Pakistan is drifting towards China but our traditional allies Sri Lanka, Nepal and The Maldives are also increasing their dependency on the second largest economy. India engendered goodwill in Nepal after providing earthquake relief, but that faded after the election of



KP Sharma Oli and the blockade disaster. Amidst growing anti-Indian sentiment, Nepal has also issued a controversial new map which claims Indian territory. In Colombo, the Rajapaksa brothers have leased an important strategic port to China for 99 years and have been building strong ties with the CCP. Sri Lanka has been a part of China's belt and road initiative while The Maldives has negotiated a free trade agreement with China while balancing relations with Delhi.

provided much needed medical, infrastructural and community aid to Afghanistan after the overthrow of the Taliban. Efforts to build bridges in Bangladesh had been moderately successful until recently. The NRC has angered Dhaka as they might have to accept thousands of emigres. But when the pandemic hit Bangladesh it was (yet again) China who provided them help.

WHAT WE CAN LEARN

The lesson here is that we must cooperate with our neighbours. We must use our warm relations with powerful western countries to present ourselves as a counter weight.

Before looking at the rest of the world we must first prioritise SAARC and engage in open dialogue over border disputes. Curbing Beijing's influence, respecting our smaller neighbours, promoting peace and fiercely fighting for democracy is the only way to win back old friends.

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THE GOOD NEWS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's neighbourhood first foreign policy plan has had some success stories. India has



That's so quotable!

Here are some of the best quotes on travelling



"All that is gold does not glitter,
Not all those who wander are lost."

J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Fellowship of the Ring*

"The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page."

St Augustine

"Wherever you go becomes a part of you somehow."

Anita Desai

"It is good to have an end to journey toward; but it is the journey that matters, in the end."

Ursula K. Le Guin, *The Left Hand of Darkness*

"We travel, some of us forever, to seek other states, other lives, other souls."

Anais Nin, *The Diary of Anais Nin*, Vol. 7: 1966-1974

"Travel far enough, you meet yourself."

David Mitchell, *Cloud Atlas*

"Why do you go away? So that you can come back. So that you can see the place you came from with new eyes and extra colors. And the people there see you differently, too. Coming back to where you started is not the same as never leaving."

Terry Pratchett, *A Hat Full of Sky*

"Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us, or we find it not."

- Ralph Waldo Emerson,
Emerson's Essays

3 Vitamins for better lung health

The drop in the temperature is often marked with a rise in the levels of air pollution. The small dust particles and pollen grains that enter our respiratory system lead to irritation and several other lung

related concerns. But some vitamins can boost your lung health and prevent cell damages. Increasing their intake can prevent problems like breathlessness, flu, etc.



Vitamin C

This essential vitamin helps our body in different ways and prevents lungs from chronic diseases. Sufficient intake of vitamin C can boost your immune health and promote collagen formation in the skin. Presence of free radicals and toxins in the lungs due to smoking and pollution can lead to inflammation in the body. Vitamin C, which is mainly present in citrus fruits, fights back against free radicals and toxins.

Vitamin A

This fat-soluble nutrient is the second most important nutrient needed for better lung health. It is important for boosting immunity, which helps in regenerating cells in the body. So by increasing vitamin A intake, you can initiate the natural repair process of lung tissue. Vitamin A is saved in the body for a long time and serves for a long time as it is required in small quantities.

Vitamin D

Apart from strengthening your teeth and bones, vitamin D protects against respiratory infection and may reduce the risk of Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) flare-ups. As per a study, low levels of vitamin D can increase the risk of wheezing, bronchitis, asthma and other respiratory problems. Increasing the intake of this nutrient can improve lung functions. It is not difficult to get an adequate amount of this nutrient as sunlight is the major source of vitamin D. Some other foods like tuna, salmon, sardines, oysters and egg yolks are also naturally high in vitamin D.



QUIZ TIME (MIXED BAG)

Q.1) Which is the first Indian state to launch a single emergency number?

A. Assam B. Punjab
C. Haryana D. Himachal Pradesh

Q.2) What is the 12th man in cricket jocularly called?

A. Handyman
B. Drinks Waiter
C. Reserve
D. Extra player

Q.3) Which country has launched the Asiatic Lion Conservation Project?

A. India B. Japan C. China
D. Russia

Q.4) In which state is the Lalitgiri Archaeological Museum situated?

A. Karnataka B. Odisha
C. Andhra Pradesh D. Kerala

Q.5) What is the liquid component of blood?

A. Plasma B. Sinovial fluid
C. Lymph D. None of the above

ANSWERS

1. D) Himachal Pradesh 2. B) Drinks Waiter 3. A) India
4. B) Odisha 5. A) Plasma

KNOWLEDGE BANK

TECHNOLOGY

5G

5G or fifth-generation services is the next generation cellular technology that will provide faster and more reliable communication with ultra low latency. The speed is expected to be in the range of 2-20 Gigabit per second. Without 5G, supercomputing, autonomous vehicles, augmented reality and virtual reality, global internet of things, artificial intelligence and drones will not be possible.

5G

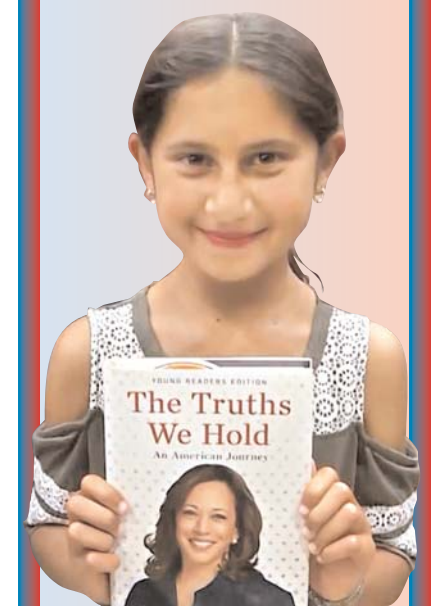
MANY FIRSTS Black Woman | South-Asian Descent | Daughter Of Immigrants Ever-Elected To National Office



USA's Wonder Woman



While I may be the first woman in this office, I will not be the last, because every little girl watching tonight sees that this is a country of possibilities. And to the children of our country, regardless of your gender, our country has sent you a clear message: dream with ambition, lead with conviction and see yourself in a way that others might not see you, simply because they've never seen it before. And we will applaud you every step of the way



FROM FAMILY ALBUM...

THESE ARE A FEW OF MY FAVOURITE THINGS

HER FIRST JOB GIVEN BY MUM



Kamala recalls how as a child she accompanied her mother to the lab after school. She says, as a teenager, her first job was to clean pipettes in her lab. "I was awful at that and she fired me," recalls Kamala, adding that besides this, everything went well between her and her mom.

ON HER MOTHER'S ROLE

"I'm grateful to the woman most responsible for my presence here today, my mother, Shyamala Gopalan Harris, she says. "When she came here from India at 19 years, she perhaps didn't imagine this moment. But she believed deeply in an America where a moment like this is possible."



HER SISTER MAYA



Bellbottoms were a rage and that's what we wore, says Kamala. As Kamala went through a growth spurt in her teenage years, she recalls how her mother took the hem out of her jeans.

HER GRANDPARENTS

It was during the annual visits to Chennai that she met her grandparents. Kamala recalls how her grandfather never smiled on photographs despite being an incredibly humorous person. Kamala says he had an infectious laugh and was incredibly fond of him. "He was my favourite person and we were pen pals forever," she says.



GROWING UP YEARS



Kamala recalls how she joined the sorority and had a particularly active time. She says they used to visit Rankin Chapel almost every Sunday for services.

HER HUSBAND

Kamala's favourite pic is also the wedding day one. "That's Dougie and me. He has been a prince, so supportive and I love my partner," she says.



US President-elect Joe Biden has said that he would be honoured to be serving with a "fantastic vice president" Kamala Harris, who scripted history by becoming the first woman and first daughter of immigrants ever elected to national office in this country.

The 56-year-old Democratic Senator from California became America's first female, first Black and first South Asian vice president-elect, representing a new face of political power.

"I will be honoured to be serving with a fantastic vice president — Kamala Harris — who will make history as the first woman, first Black woman, first woman of South Asian descent, and first daughter of immigrants ever elected to national office in this country," Biden said in his victory speech in Wilmington, Delaware on Saturday night.

Her record of accomplishment — fighting tooth and nail for what's right — is why I'm choosing her: There is no door Kamala won't knock on, no stone she'll leave unturned, if it means making life better for the people," he said. Biden, 77, and Harris would be sworn in as the president and vice president of the US on January 20, 2021.



8,000 MILES AWAY, A VILLAGE CELEBRATES

More than 8,000 miles from the White House, in a Tamil Nadu village, women made a "rangoli" to congratulate US VP-elect Kamala Harris on winning the polls.

Women in Thulasendrapuram village in Tiruvarur district of Tamil Nadu, the native village of



Harris, drew a special colourful "rangoli" to congratulate her. The message says, "Congratulations Kamala Harris, the pride of our village," along with "Vanakkam America".

In addition to this, locals in Thulasendrapuram celebrated her win by putting up posters, distributing sweets, and burning firecrackers.

1 Harris is the daughter of an Indian mother and African-American father from Jamaica.

3 Her mother, Shyamala Gopalan Harris, from Chennai, a cancer researcher, died in 2009. Harris' father, Donald, is a Jamaican American professor of economics.

2 Harris was born in Oakland, California, in 1964, to parents who raised her in a bassinet of civil rights activism.

4 Kamala often talked about how her activist parents would push her in her stroller at civil rights marches. Donald Harris and Shyamala Gopalan grew up under the British colonial rule, and hence, were vociferous about civil rights.

5 Kamala grew up in the Bay Area but took frequent trips to India to visit extended family. At 12, she and her sister, Maya, moved with their mother to Montreal, where her mother had secured a teaching post at McGill University and a research position at the Jewish General Hospital.

6 After graduating from Howard in 1986 for her undergraduate degree and from the University of California's Hastings College of the Law in 1989, Kamala passed the bar the following year and joined the Alameda County prosecutor's office as an assistant district attorney.

7 In 2003, Harris won her first race for San Francisco district attorney, becoming the first Black woman to hold such an office in California. In 2010, she was elected as California attorney general, and in 2016, she became the only second Black woman ever-elected as a US senator.

8 Harris, who visited the ancestral village in Tamil Nadu, when she was 5, has often recalled walks with her maternal grandfather on the beaches of Chennai during annual trips from the US. Those conversations with her grandfather, who was among millions of people who joined India's Independence movement, left a profound impact, Harris recalls.

10 For women who look up to her, Kamala advises, "You never have to ask anyone permission to lead. I have in my career been told many times, 'It's not your time', 'It's not your turn'. Let me just tell you, I eat 'no' for breakfast. I'd recommend the same to you."

I'm grateful to the woman most responsible for my presence here today, my mother, Shyamala Gopalan Harris. When she came here from India at the age of 19, she maybe didn't imagine this moment. But she believed so deeply in America where moments like this are possible."

"I am thinking about her and generations of women, black women, Asian, White, Latina, Native American women who throughout our nation's history have paved the way for this moment tonight.

CAN DHONI REINVENT HIMSELF?

Questions were raised over MS Dhoni's form and fitness as he struggled to find the rhythm with the bat in the recently-concluded IPL 2020. The Chennai Super Kings (CSK) captain returned to competitive cricket after a long gap of over a year and found it extremely difficult to get back to his best. He recorded his worst personal season as a batsman and failed to notch up a single fifty in the entire tournament

Dhoni could only manage to score 200 runs in 14 games at a strike rate of 116 in what was his worst IPL season with the bat. Dhoni's poor show played a major role in his team's downfall this season as CSK failed to make it to the playoffs for the first time in their history. The three-time champions managed only 12 points from 14 games to finish the league stage at the seventh spot on the points table. However, Dhoni confirmed in CSK's final game of the season that he will be returning to lead the side again in 2021.

FAF MAY REPLACE MSD AS CSK SKIPPER

So as far as I can understand, I feel that M S Dhoni may not be the captain next year and may play as a player and give the captaincy at this stage to Faf du Plessis for the transition to happen under Faf du Plessis... Because as of now, they do not have any other option as a captain and if you talk outside the team, in the auction or in the trading, none of the teams would be releasing a player who has the capability of becoming the captain of CSK.

Sanjay Bangar, former India batting coach



DHONI MUST PLAY DOMESTIC CRICKET

If Dhoni decides on playing only IPL every year, then it's impossible for him to perform. It's not a good thing to talk about age but at his age (39 years), the more he plays, the more his body will be tuned. If you don't play any cricket for 10 months a year and suddenly play IPL, you can see what happened. You can always have a season up or down if you have played so much cricket. It has happened to someone like Chris Gayle also.

Kapil Dev, former Indian captain



DON'T DOUBT DHONI'S ABILITIES

It is totally Dhoni's call. Age is just a number. Chris Gayle is 41 and he is doing well. This is the biggest example before us. We shouldn't doubt Dhoni's abilities. If he wants to play, he will. So, let's leave it to him. In 13 years, you might have one bad year. CSK have won titles thrice.

Kiran More, Ex India wicket-keeper batsman



COME BACK WITH BETTER FITNESS AND PERFORMANCE

MS Dhoni will be associated with CSK till the time he wants. Next season, I was thinking after seeing MS Dhoni playing the entire season, what captain MS Dhoni of 2010 or 2011 would tell MS Dhoni of 2020 in this situation. He would have said come next year with better fitness and performance and he will do that.

Irfan Pathan, former Indian player



3 PLAYERS RCB MIGHT DROP IN THE NEXT SEASON

Royal Challengers Bangalore qualified for the playoffs for the first time since 2016. Despite the qualification, it wasn't a season to remember for RCB. They are likely to release some of the players before going into IPL 2021 auction

UMESH YADAV

No surprises here. Given his seniority in the pecking order, Umesh Yadav was given the first preference. But the team management was quick to move on from him after went for 48 and 35 runs in the first two matches. Even in Navdeep Saini's unavailability, RCB decided against looking back at their senior pacer, clearly hinting that he isn't in the scheme of things. Umesh couldn't scalp a wicket in IPL 2020. The India Test pacer has so far spent three seasons with RCB. Bought by them for ₹4.2 crore in IPL 2018 auction, Umesh had scalped 20 wickets in IPL 2018. Given his price and performance in IPL 2020, the senior pacer is highly likely to be released.

DALE STEYN

In IPL 2019, Dale Steyn provided much-needed firepower to RCB's bowling attack but this year, he lacked that element. Steyn disappointed and only managed 1 wicket in three matches. Since he failed in the first two matches, he was dropped. In his comeback a month later, against MI, he went for 43 runs with no wicket. Bought by RCB at his base price of ₹2 crore, Steyn managed one wicket in 11.4 overs across three matches. He leaked 133 runs at a rate of 11.40. With 97 wickets in 95 IPL matches, is likely to finish his career with this tally.



JOSHUA PHILIPPE

Making his IPL debut, Joshua Philippe didn't exactly have the season he would have hoped. He was given the first preference and was included in the playing XI right from game 1. Although that backing lasted only two games. Philippe returned into the playing XI towards the end of the season and also gave good starts to the team. His strike-rate remained on the lower side and as a result, he lost team management's confidence. Despite good starts, he was dropped for the all-important Eliminator, where RCB brought in Aaron Finch but opened with Kohli. Next year, Kohli is likely to move back to the opening spot as he has enjoyed much success while facing the new ball. Philippe scored 78 runs in five matches at a strike-rate of 101.29.

