

Mighty MI meet revamped DC with rain in the air

NEW DELHI: In IPL 2025, Mumbai Indians (MI) had lost four of their first five games by the time they came to Delhi. The win against Delhi Capitals (DC), though, proved to be the turning point of their campaign. It started their six-match winning streak, and they made it to the playoffs.

This time, they are in Delhi having done something they had not since 2012: winning their first game of an IPL season. Not just that, they have a strong record against DC. Since the start of 2022, they lead the head-to-head 5-2, winning both games against them last year. Add to it that DC lost four of their five games here last season - their only win came via a Super Over - and MI look overwhelming favourites.

However, the IPL teams are a ship of Theseus. The current DC side is vastly different from the 2025 one. They have a new opener in Pathum Nissanka, a new No. 3 in Nitish Rana, an extra finisher in David Miller, and a new seamer in Lungi Ngidi. Not to forget a fit-again T Natarajan. So expect a much closer contest.



test.

Both teams are coming off wins in their opening games, but on Saturday afternoon, only one will go home with two points. Unless rain spoils the party.

Team news: Santner joins MI squad DC are likely to stick to the same side. The only change could be around their impact player. Depending on the match situation, they can pick either Sameer Rizvi or Ashutosh Sharma.

Delhi Capitals (probable): 1 KL Rahul (wk), 2 Pathum Nissanka, 3 Nitish

Rana, 4 Axar Patel (capt), 5 David Miller, 6 Tristan Stubbs, 7 Sameer Rizvi/Ashutosh Sharma, 8 Vipraj Nigam, 9 Kuldeep Yadav, 10 Lungi Ngidi, 11 Mukesh Kumar, 12 T Natarajan Mitchell Santner has joined the squad and should replace AM Ghazanfar in the playing XI.

Mumbai Indians (probable): 1 Rohit Sharma, 2 Ryan Rickelton (wk), 3 Tilak Varma, 4 Suryakumar Yadav, 5 Hardik Pandya (capt), 6 Naman Dhir, 7 Sherfane Rutherford, 8 Mitchell Santner, 9 Shardul Thakur, 10 Jasprit Bumrah,

11 Mayank Markande, 12 Trent Boult

In the spotlight: Lungi Ngidi and Jasprit Bumrah. In the last few months, Lungi Ngidi has emerged as one of the premier fast bowlers in the shortest format. He had an impressive T20 World Cup, where he took 12 wickets in seven games at an economy rate of 7.19. He started in a similar fashion in IPL 2026, picking up 3 for 27 against Lucknow Super Giants. His dipping slower one to dismiss Nicholas Pooran is an early candidate for the Ball of the Tournament.

Abhishek Sharma fined for code of conduct breach in KKR vs SRH

NEW DELHI: India star opener Abhishek Sharma has been penalised by the Indian Premier League following his team's victory over Kolkata Knight Riders at Eden Gardens on Thursday (Apr 2). The all-rounder received a 25 per cent deduction from his match fee along with one demerit point for using inappropriate language during the game. The match referee found him guilty of breaching Article 2.3 of the IPL Code of Conduct, which deals with the use of offensive or profane language that can be heard by spectators or broadcast audiences. The 25-year-old accepted the charge and the penalty from the IPL.

In an official statement, the IPL confirmed that he committed a Level 1 offence under Article 2.3 and as per the regulations, the match referee's decision in such cases is final. "Abhishek Sharma, All-rounder, Sunrisers Hyderabad, has been fined 25 per cent of his

match fees and has also accumulated one demerit point for breaching the IPL Code of Conduct during his team's match against Kolkata Knight Riders at Eden Gardens, Kolkata, on Thursday. He admitted to the Level 1 offence under Article 2.3 and accepted the Match Referee's sanction. For Level 1 breaches of the Code of Conduct, the Match Referee's decision is final and binding," read the statement from the IPL.

The exact moment wasn't officially confirmed, but it likely happened when he got out in a close call. Varun Chakravarthy took a catch near the boundary and even though the replay was unclear, Abhishek was given out, which made him frustrated. Despite the incident, Abhishek bounced back strongly after a quiet outing against Royal Challengers Bengaluru and played an aggressive knock of 48 runs off just 21 deliveries, hitting four fours and four sixes.

Who are the only two left-handed players at the chess Candidates at Cyprus?

NEW DELHI: It doesn't matter a jot. Not an iota in chess of the classical format, though ambidextrous players might find the blitz or the Armageddon to be a good go. But there are only two players at the Candidates tournament in Cyprus who might play left handed.

Both Americans Fabiano Caruana and Hikaru Nakamura play it straight up right, though Hans Niemann is a southpaw. Another American Awonder Liang plays with his left, according to a list prepared by Fuetelli on Reddit. Andrey Esipenko scrambled with right, and the only Russian leftie in the Top 50 might be Daniil Dubov. Gawain Jones of England and Kirill Shevchenko of Romania, Dmitrij Kollars of Germany are the other southpaw.

The highest rated male chess player, who would

have made an exciting addition to the Candidates, but didn't, is Indian Arjun Erigasi.

Arbiters at FIDE tend to choose which side the clock would be while pacing up and down the floor. The other activities needing non clumsiness are writing with the pen.

Some like Levon Aronian and MVL, who won the blitz world titles, is a piece-pusher with left too, as per Chess.com. Aronian however writes with right.

From the past, Boris Gelfand, Vassily Ivanchuk were lefties too, while Richard Rapport is sighted playing left handed.

All three Indians at the Candidates play with right, as do all 4 Russians and the Ukrainian. Matthias Blübaum, Javokhir Sindarov and Anish Giri play right. In the women, Tan Zhongyi and Zhu Jiner are both right handed, as well.

India top the list of suspended track and field athletes due to doping, surpasses Kenya

NEW DELHI: India have the most number of athletes in the latest Athletics Integrity Unit's (AIU) list of ineligible athletes due to doping violations, with 148 suspended track and field athletes surpassing the African nation Kenya.

The latest updated list is for the period up to April 1 this year. Russia took the third spot with 66 suspended athletes.

The Athletics Integrity Unit is an independent anti-doping watchdog established by World Athletics. It has jurisdiction over international-level athletes and their support persons.

The list features some prominent Indian names, such as 100m national record holder Dutee Chandigarh, middle distance runner Parvej Khan, and sprinter Dhanalakshmi Sekar. While Dutee is serving her four-year suspension from 2022, Parvej is banned till July 2030 serving a six year suspension. Dhanalakshmi has an eight-year suspension after she was caught for the second time last year during the Inter-State National Championships.

The list includes persons serving a period of ineligibility as a result of national-level cases and decisions. It also includes persons who have committed non-doping violations such as tampering, evading testing, trafficking, or missing whereabouts, which carry the same penalties as a doping offence.

Last year in December when World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) released their annual report for the year 2024, India featured on the top of the list with 260 athletes tested positive for prohibited performance-enhancing drugs. To put it in context, no other country in the world had more cheats in triple digits. At 3.6 per cent, India's positivity ratio, too, was among the highest in the world. The National Anti Doping Agency (NADA) collected 7,113 urine and blood samples of which 260 returned positive.



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Brook to sit out April, Root set for three Yorkshire appearances

NEW DELHI: Harry Brook will take April off and play twice for Yorkshire before England's first Test of the summer against New Zealand in June, as Ben Stokes challenged county cricketers to put themselves in the mix for selection.

Brook, who was cautioned on Wednesday by the Cricket Regulator for his late-night actions in Wellington late last year, played all 25 of England's winter fixtures and spent only a week at home between the start of October and mid-March. He will play Yorkshire's fixtures against Warwickshire (May 8) and Surrey (May 15) before linking up with England for the Test summer.

Joe Root, Brook's Yorkshire team-mate, will play three County Championship matches before the first Test, against Sussex (April 24), Somerset (May 1) and Surrey. Root has not played a competitive match since England's ODI tour to Sri Lanka in late January but has opted for a few weeks off before the start of the international summer.

Six members of the England squad that lost 4-1 in Australia are in action



in the first round of Championship fixtures, which started on Friday morning: Shoaib Bashir made his debut for Derbyshire, Zak Crawley and Matthew Potts were playing for Kent and Durham respectively, while Ollie Pope, Jamie Smith and Matthew Fisher were in action for Surrey at Edgbaston.

Pope lost his place at No. 3 to Jacob Bethell for the final two Ashes Tests this winter and came in at No. 4 for Surrey. Smith, England's Test wicketkeeper, was caught behind for 9 on the first morning after coming in at No. 3, with Ben Foakes due to take the gloves ahead of him. Gus Atkinson was deemed unavailable due to the hamstring injury he sustained in Australia.

Nottinghamshire's Ben Duckett and Josh Tongue were both rested after busy winters, while Ben Stokes (cheekbone) and Mark Wood (knee) were unavailable for Durham. Bethell, Jordan Cox, Will Jacks and Brydon Carse are all in India for the early stages of the IPL season.

England's heavy defeat in Australia means that there are likely to be changes to the Test squad for the New Zealand series in June. The position of national selector is still vacant after Luke Wright's departure following the T20 World Cup, but England have made clear that they will pay attention to early-season performances in the

Championship. Rob Key and Brendon McCullum spoke to county directors of cricket on Wednesday evening ahead of the new season, and Stokes used the ECB's media channels to tell players that he would be watching their performances closely.

"It's a great opportunity for a lot of people around the country," Stokes said. "The talent that we have in England is just unquestionable. The pool of players, the talent that we have, it's probably as good as it's been in a very long time."

"The first six or seven weeks of Championship cricket, it's going to be a very big one and people should use that as an opportunity to push their case as far forward as they possibly can. I hope they're giving themselves the best chance of coming up for selection when we get together to do that."

Earlier this week, Northamptonshire head coach Darren Lehmann criticised the dearth of county cricket played by most England players. "The players don't play enough county cricket," he told the BBC.

Not Arsenal, Real Madrid but this team could be become earliest league winners in Europe

NEW DELHI: Eyes of the football fans will be on Europe's top names as the race to win their domestic league gets intense with the final run-in. However, it won't take us until May before a new champion in one of Europe's top leagues is crowned. In fact, PSV could become the Eredivisie (top flight of the Netherlands) champions this Sunday if a certain set of results is met. This would mean they will become league champions as early as the first week of April, while some teams could take as long as the final week of May to lift their respective league title.

At the time of writing on Friday (April 3), PSV have 68 points from 28 matches and can reach a maximum of 86 points if they win all

their matches.

However, their equation of winning the title is simple if PSV beat Utrecht on Saturday, coupled with a draw or a defeat for Feyenoord in their match against Volendam on Saturday. This will mean PSV will have 71 points, while Feyenoord can't catch the to-be champions as they can reach a maximum of 69 points even if they win all matches. However, if PSV fail to better Feyenoord's result in the matchweek, the title race will head to next weekend. However, if PSV collect four points in their next two matches, they will be crowned champions albeit what happens in Feyenoord games. The title race in France is tight, with only one point separating PSG



and Lens, meaning the race will go to the final day. In Spain, only four points separate Barcelona and Real Madrid, meaning no immediate champions would be crowned. Interestingly, Bayern Munich and Arse-

nal both hold a nine-point lead over their rivals, thus meaning their title races could last until May. In Serie A, Inter Milan lead by six points over arch-rivals AC Milan in the race for the Scudetto.

Forget Wi-Fi this laser tech hits 360 Gbps at half the power

Modern life runs on fast, reliable wireless connections. Video calls, streaming, virtual reality, and connected devices all depend on networks that already support billions of users. Most of this data travels over radio-based systems like Wi-Fi and cellular networks. These technologies have powered decades of growth, but they are running into limits. Radio spectrum is becoming crowded, signals can interfere with each other in busy indoor spaces, and energy use keeps rising as more devices come online.

One emerging solution is optical wireless communication, which sends data using light rather than radio waves. Light has a much larger available bandwidth than radio frequencies, does not interfere with

existing wireless systems, and can be directed precisely to specific locations. These advantages make it especially appealing for indoor settings such as homes, offices, hospitals, data centers, and public venues where many users need fast connections at the same time.

In a study published in Advanced Photonics Nexus, researchers developed a compact optical wireless transmitter designed to deliver both high speeds and improved energy efficiency. The system is built around a tiny chip containing an array of semiconductor lasers, along with an optical setup that controls how light is distributed to users. Together, these components create a scalable platform for high-capacity indoor wireless communication.

At the core of the system is a custom 5 x 5 array of vertical-cavity surface-emitting lasers, or VCSELs. These infrared lasers are commonly used in data centers and sensing technologies because they are efficient and can operate at very high speeds. They can also be manufactured in large arrays using standard semiconductor fabrication methods.

Each laser in the array can be controlled independently and transmit its own stream of data. By running many lasers at once, the system dramatically increases total data capacity compared to a single light source. The entire array fits on a chip smaller than a millimeter, making it suitable for compact wireless access points and potentially even integration into devices like smartphones.

KiloClaw targets shadow AI with autonomous agent governance

With the launch of KiloClaw, enterprises now have a tool to enforce governance over autonomous agents and manage shadow AI.

While businesses spent the last year securing large language models and formalising vendor agreements, developers and knowledge workers started moving on their own. Employees are bypassing official procurement, deploying autonomous agents on personal infrastructure to automate their daily workflows.

This practice, known as 'Bring Your Own AI' or BYOAI, exposes proprietary enterprise data to unregulated external environments. To address this vulnerability, software provider Kilo launched KiloClaw for Organizations, an enterprise-grade platform built to rein in decentralised agent deployments and restore architectural oversight.

Kilo targets the lack of visibility surrounding agent deployment. When engineers set up autonomous agents to parse error logs, or financial analysts deploy local scripts to reconcile spreadsheets, they prioritise immediate efficiency over security protocols. These agents routinely gain access to corporate Slack channels, Jira boards, and private code repositories through personal API keys.

Since these connections happen outside official IT purview, they create blind spots for data exfiltration and intellectual property leaks. KiloClaw provides a centralised control plane for security teams to identify, monitor, and restrict these autonomous actors without blocking their productivity gains.

The current shift mirrors the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) era of the early 2010s, when employees used personal smartphones for corporate email and forced IT departments to adopt mobile device management.

The AI equivalent carries higher

stakes. A compromised phone might expose a static inbox, but an unmonitored autonomous agent has active execution privileges. It reads, writes, modifies, and deletes data across integrated platforms at speeds humans cannot replicate.

These autonomous scripts also frequently rely on external computational power. An employee might run an agent locally while the agent sends corporate data to third-party inference servers to process queries. If those providers use the ingested data to train future models, the enterprise loses control of its intellectual property.

KiloClaw, for its part, establishes a secure boundary around these processes. Instead of ignoring external deployments, the platform pulls them into a registry where compliance officers can audit behaviour and data flows.

Governing autonomous systems requires a different technical architecture than managing a human workforce. Traditional Identity and Access Management (IAM) systems are built for human credentials or static application-to-application communication.

Autonomous agents, however, are dynamic. Agents chain tasks together sequentially, formulating new requests based on the output of previous actions. An agent might request access to an enterprise resource planning database halfway through a task, and standard security software struggles to determine if this is hostile behaviour or a legitimate operation.

KiloClaw treats agents as distinct entities requiring restrictive, time-bound permission scopes. Instead of developers plugging permanent, high-level API keys into experimental models, KiloClaw issues short-lived, narrowly defined access tokens.

If an agent designed to summarise weekly marketing emails attempts to download a customer database, the

platform detects the scope violation and revokes access. This containment limits the blast radius within the corporate network if an open-source model behaves unpredictably.

Mandating a blanket ban on custom-built automation tools rarely works; it drives the behaviour underground, encouraging engineers to obfuscate traffic and hide workflows. Platforms like KiloClaw aim to construct a sanctioned environment where employees can safely register their tools.

For this governance framework to work, IT leaders need to prioritise integration. KiloClaw connects directly into the continuous integration and deployment pipelines that software teams already utilise. By automating security checks and permission provisioning, security teams remove the friction that causes employees to bypass rules.

Enterprises can establish baseline templates detailing what data external models can process, allowing workers to deploy agents within pre-approved boundaries. This maintains compliance without sacrificing workflow automation.

The development of shadow AI governance tools points to a new phase of algorithmic regulation. Early corporate reactions to generative models focused on acceptable use policies for text-based chatbots. Now, the focus is shifting toward orchestration, containment, and system-to-system accountability. Regulators globally are also examining how companies monitor automated systems, pushing verifiable oversight toward legal obligation.

As digital agents multiply within corporate networks, the concept of an 'Agent Firewall' is becoming a standard IT budget item. Platforms that map the relationships between human intent, machine execution, and corporate data will form the foundation of future security operations.