

“Virat Kohli needs confidence? What are you saying? I don’t see anything wrong with his game. The team management is not at all worried.”

India’s ODI captain Rohit Sharma on Virat Kohli’s form



No luck for Pucovski

AFP, Sydney

Luckless Australian batting prodigy Will Pucovski suffered another concussion Saturday in his comeback match after an extended break out of the game.

The 24-year-old is regarded as one of Australia’s best prospects, but his career has been blighted by a string of concussions, injuries and mental health issues, limiting him to just one Test appearance.

His latest concussion is believed to be the 11th of his short career, once more consigning him to an



uncertain future. He was reportedly struck on the head during a morning warm-up ahead of the final day of Victoria’s Sheffield Shield match against South Australia.

“Pucovski reported concussion symptoms to medical staff while fielding in the first session of play this morning,” Cricket Victoria said in a statement.

Pucovski was making his first appearance with his state team since his national Test debut against India at the beginning of last year.



Faf du Plessis celebrated his IPL call-up from RCB for a whopping seven crore rupees with a fantastic hundred in the BPL in Mirpur last night. The South African scored a 54-ball 101 – the fourth century of this edition – for Comilla Victorians in the last group stage match against Khulna Tigers.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

Jacks bails out Chattogram

SPORTS REPORTER

Will Jacks smashed a cracker of a match-winning innings and helped his side qualify for the playoff stage as Chattogram Challengers beat Sylhet Sunrisers by four wickets in the day game of the Bangabandhu Bangladesh Premier League at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

Chasing a competitive 186-run target set by Sylhet, Jacks played his career-best T20 knock and remained unbeaten on 92 off just 57 balls. The Englishman featured four sixes and five fours as Chattogram eventually reached their target with five balls to spare.

With five wins in ten matches, Chattogram finished the group stage with ten points and occupied the third spot after Fortune Barishal and Comilla Victorians had already confirmed the top two spots for the Playoffs.

Earlier, Sylhet posted a fighting total of 185 for 6, riding on quick-fire forties from Lendl Simmons and skipper Ravi Bopara while Mosaddek Hossain remained not out on 35 off 22 balls. Left-arm seamer Mritunjay Chowdhury bagged three wickets while Shoriful Islam and Mehedi Hasan Miraz each took a wicket for Chattogram.

Jacks, who struck his fourth fifty of

the tournament, informed he was wary of the situation where he had to play a responsible knock if Chattogram wanted to qualify for the last four.

“We obviously had a great win today [yesterday] and we needed a bit of emotion to get the momentum carried forward and play good cricket. We’ve qualified for the top four and would’ve been happy if we were in the top two,” said Jacks after the game yesterday.

“I’ve come here and done what I wanted to do and I am near among the top run-scorers and it has been great to learn about the Bangladeshi pitches and challenge myself in different conditions.”

Delhi buy Mustafizur; no takers for Shakib

STAR SPORTS DESK

Left-arm paceman Mustafizur Rahman was roped in by Delhi Capitals for the base price of two crore rupees in the Indian Premier League (IPL) auction in Bengaluru on Saturday.

Delhi were the only one to bid for the left-arter in the auction. Having represented Sunrisers Hyderabad, Mumbai Indians and Rajasthan Royals, the left-arter moves to the Indian capital for the tournament that is expected to be held in April-May this year.

Rajasthan Royals’ director of cricket Kumar Sangakkara was seen interested and seemingly talking to the Royals’ team management when Mustafizur’s name came up in the auction. However, no bid came from the Royals’ table.

Earlier, Bangladesh’s premier all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan went unsold in the first bid of the two-day IPL auction.

The all-rounder, who had a poor season with the KKR last season when he scored only less than 100 runs and took four wickets in eight matches, was not bought by any team in the first round of bids for all-

rounders. Shakib, who has been in fantastic form

recently in the ongoing BPL with five man-of-the-match awards in last five matches, could still be bought on the second and final day of the

auction today alongside

Liton Das, Taskin Ahmed and Shoriful Islam – the three other representatives from Bangladesh in the auction.

India’s Shreyas Iyer fetched the top price in the first round of the auction for the Indian Premier League on Saturday.

Iyer went to Kolkata Knight Riders for \$1.62 million in the two-day auction in Bangalore.



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