









The silence is **deafening**

Can you hear it?



Season

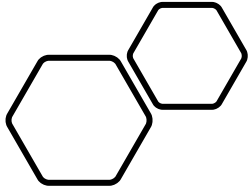
2021 ▼

Team			M	W	L	NRR	Pts	Last 5				
1		CSK	6	5	1	+1.475	10	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2		DC	7	5	2	+0.466	10	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
3		RCB	7	5	2	-0.171	10	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓
4		MI	6	3	3	+0.071	6	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓
5		PBKS	7	3	4	-0.264	6	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗
6		KKR	7	2	5	-0.494	4	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
7		RR	6	2	4	-0.690	4	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓
8		SRH	6	1	5	-0.264	2	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗









- One of New Delhi's biggest hospitals, the Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan (LNJP), only received relief from oxygen shortage after it had been left with two hours of supply this week. Furthermore, three hospital staff died of Covid complications in the past few days alone.

































- Yet ,  
'the show must go  
on'

Or Does it?

- The **2021 Indian Premier League**, Vivo IPL 2021, is the fourteenth season of the Indian Premier League (IPL).
- The season is scheduled to start from 9 April, with the final taking place on 30 May at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.
- It is being conducted in a Bio-Bubble.





- Despite the high alert standards that the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has put in place to ensure that the bio-bubble is not breached and the tournament is not compromised, the realities of the pandemic have continued to affect playing staff.

- Rajasthan Royals' backup overseas opener Liam Livingstone was the first to leave for non-injury reasons, citing "bubble fatigue". Livingstone's teammate Andrew Tye and Royal Challengers Bangalore's bowlers Adam Zampa and Kane Richardson soon followed suit personal reasons



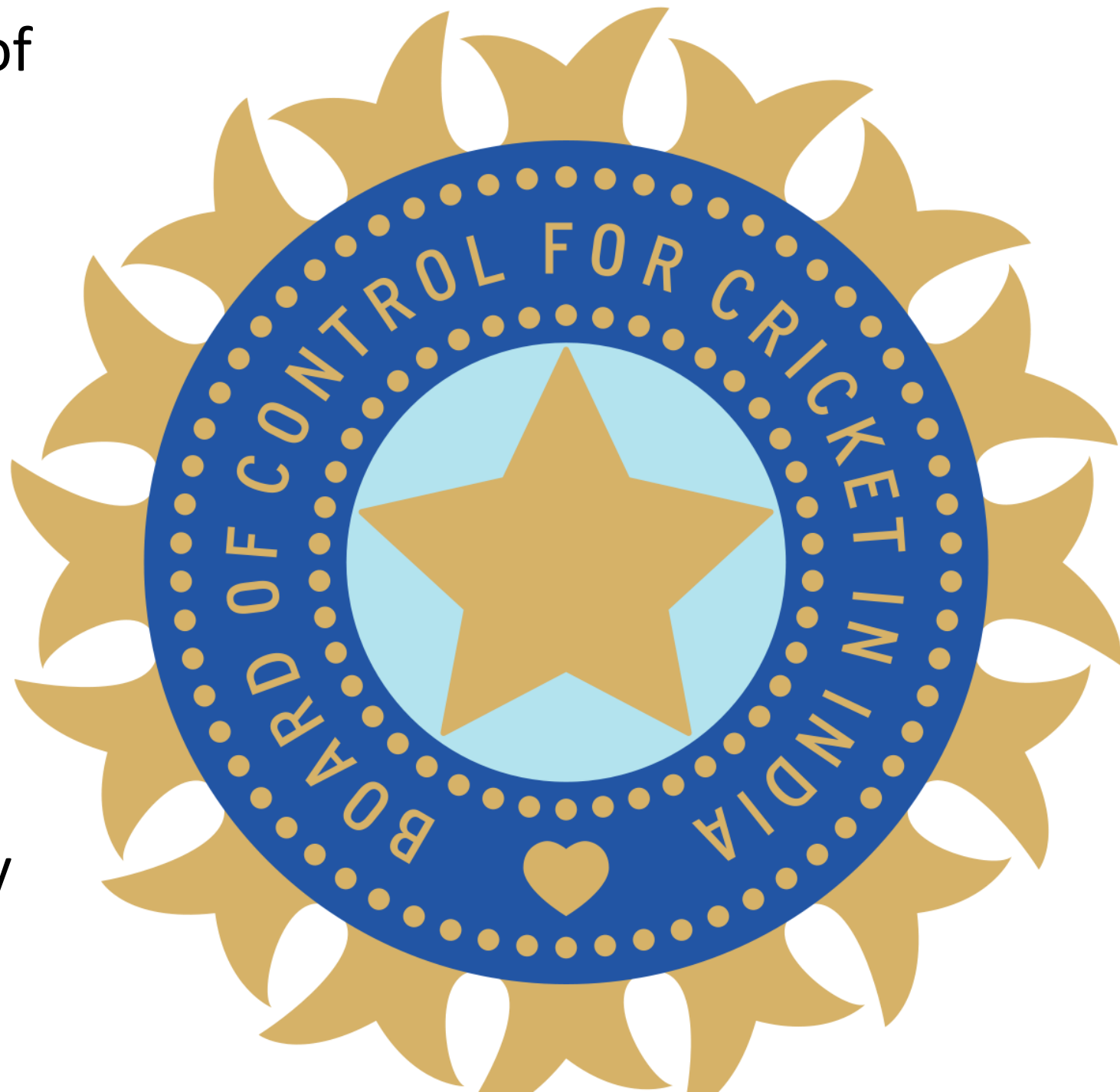
- For decades, cricket and its charismatic stars have commanded exalted status in India, where the once game attracts its biggest and most passionate fan base. Now, public anger is growing at , the Indian Premier League, which is playing matches in a “bio-bubble” without spectators that has drawn criticism for diverting resources from the country’s wider coronavirus fight.

- “There is a lack of empathy for dead bodies lying in crematoriums surrounding your stadium





- As hospitals face shortages of intensive-care beds, relatives of the sick broadcast desperate pleas on social media for oxygen, medicine and other scarce supplies.
- overwhelmed labs have stopped processing tests.
- But one group that seems unaffected is the wealthy and powerful Board of Control for Cricket in India, the regulatory body that oversees the Indian Premier League.



- The board has kept ambulances fitted with mobile intensive-care beds on standby outside stadiums where matches are being played in case a player falls sick. It is testing players every two days and has created a travel bubble between stadiums in the six states hosting matches, including dedicated airport check-in counters for cricketers.

- Meanwhile, some Indians say they cannot cross state lines to find hospital beds for Covid-19 patients.





But the league's safety protocols have only highlighted the gap between its star players — who have said little publicly in the face of criticism — and the rest of the country.

“That ambulance outside that stadium could have saved at least ten lives a day.

- Even a brief, sombre acknowledgement of the troubles facing people would have meant a lot to viewers and fans. Perhaps a message of hope from the superstars. A message of condolence or solace
- Virat Kohli tweets only ads and selfies. Rohit Sharma's handle has no mention of the pandemic.
- Watching IPL, or following the cricketers on social media, you would not know that there is anything the matter in India at all



**Virat Kohli** ✓ @imVkohli · Apr 24

One of the greatest to have ever played the game and an inspiration to many. Happy Birthday [@sachin\\_rt](#) paaji.



2.1K



11.5K



183.3K



**Virat Kohli** ✓ @imVkohli · Apr 23

Si Señor! 💪 And top signing for [@pumacricket](#) & [@RCBTW](#)



**PepTeam** ✓ @PepTeam · Apr 23

It's time to finally learn cricket's rules 🏏 Thanks to my friend for the shirt. Now is your turn to use your @ManCity shirt. [@pumaindia](#) [@pumafotball](#) #DUMAYPCR



While reiterating the safety of the bubble, however, the BCCI also told the players that they are “playing for humanity.”

how a potential century by Faf du Plessis might reduce Delhi's positivity rate, or how a possible 5-wicket haul from Rashid Khan would lessen the strain on Ahmedabad's hospitals.

And who made players in charge of humanity anyway?

Is it so difficult to reach out to your fans? To the people who worship the game? To the millions who are suffering so badly? So hard to break out of PR driven messages, the banality of sporting cliches, and







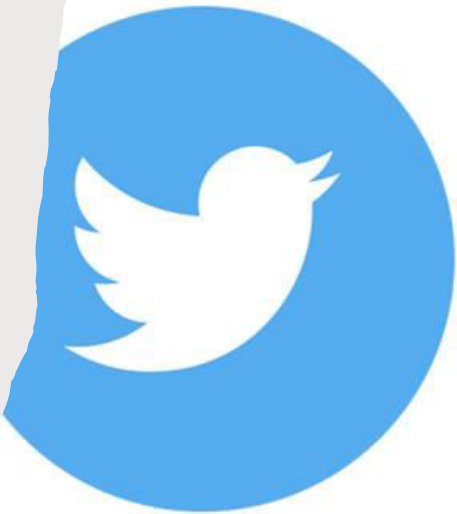
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