

Rayudu, Tiwary have been very impressive

Even as the third edition of the IPL comes to a close, the off field happenings have unfortunately overshadowed some top performances during the tournament and especially in the last week. There have been some sterling deeds and it has enabled what promise to be a mother of all finals between the Mumbai Indians led by Sachin Tendulkar and Chennai Super Kings captained by India skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni.

The Super Kings have been in one final and have lost at the very venue so will be looking to correct that. For the Mumbai Indians it is the first time that they have entered the knockout stage and so will be keen to make up for the disappointments of the earlier tournaments. That's why it promises to be a cracker of a final.



Whether Tendulkar will play is the big question but since great players like a big stage to show how good they are, the possibility of him playing is greater than him not turning up on such a big day. It is under him that the young players have flourished and prospered and made an impression and impact on those who matter. It is never easy to judge a player by how he does in limited formats but his temperament can be tested and seen in the version and that can help when he aspires to play in the longer version of the game.

The two who have impressed are Saurabh Tiwary and Ambati Rayudu. Both have loads of talent and in this tournament they have shown why they are highly rated. They have mainly been successful when their team has batted first where there is no pressure of the asking rate and their temperament will be tested fully when they are chasing and the asking rate is a healthy one. That is where their cool and aplomb will be really seen. However in the chances they have got to bat first they have been terrific and have kept the score moving rapidly and played some breathtaking shots.

Rayudu has also handled the additional responsibility of keeping wickets and his stumping down the leg-side off Harbhajan Singh was terrific. For his exciting batting combined with his glove work behind the stumps he is the CEAT Cricket Rating T20 Player of the Week.