



## IPL chairman expresses regret over Mustafizur issue



Also featuring Mustafizur and IPL chairman Dhumal. Photo: Collected.

IPL chairman Arun Dhumal has finally reacted to the controversy surrounding Bangladeshi pacer Mustafizur Rahman's exclusion from Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR), describing the incident as "unfortunate."

During last December's auction, Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) signed Mustafizur for 9.5 crore rupees. However, he was released within a month. It later emerged that the decision was not based on injury or performance, but was taken following instructions from the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

In an interview with the Financial Times, Dhumal said he was not fully aware of the detailed reasoning behind the decision but found the incident disappointing. He added that there should be no direct government interference in the administration of cricket, although in reality external circumstances can sometimes have an impact.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) protested the incident. Citing security concerns, they announced a boycott of the 2026 T20 World Cup, stating that Bangladesh would only participate if the tournament is moved outside India.

However, the proposal was not accepted by the ICC. Eventually, Scotland was given Bangladesh's place in the tournament.

Mustafizur Rahman is currently playing in the Pakistan Super League. He is representing Lahore Qalandars under a 6.44 crore rupee contract and is keeping busy on the field.