**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Qutub Minar echoes with excitement as Legends League Cricket Player Draft Unveiled, Raina to Captain one of the teams.**

**Cricket fever engulfs Qutub Minar: Squads Announced for the Upcoming season of LLC.**

**Teams make their Draft picks at the LLC Player Draft event held at the iconic Qutub Minar.**

**New Delhi, October 19, 2023**: Former Indian cricketer Suresh Raina will captain the new team Urbanrisers Hyderabad in the highly anticipated upcoming season of Legends League Cricket (LLC), which is to be played across five cities in India from November 18 to December 9, 2023.

Aaron Finch, Robin Uthappa, Hashim Amla, Praveen Kumar, Ravi Bopara, Morne Morkel, and Kevin Pietersen are among the marquee Legends who featured in the player draft held at the Qutub Minar in New Delhi on Wednesday. This year's Legends League Cricket will be a six-team tournament and will be played across five cities in India – Ranchi, Dehradun, Jammu, Vizag, and Surat.

The grand affair at the iconic Qutub Minar was a unique fusion of culture and sports, featuring a multitude of cricketing stars. This unique event had a live band playing at the heritage sight. The Player draft was hosted by RJ Sammy and Yashika Gupta in the presence of former Indian cricketers Suresh Raina, Nikhil Chopra, and Robin Singh. Chopra and Singh will be coaching Urbanrisers Hyderabad and Manipal Tigers respectively.

While Finch will captain the Southern Super Star, Harbhajan Singh will lead Manipal Tigers in the LLC following the grand affair which featured a multitude of cricketing stars.

Manipal Tigers also picked up former Indian batter Robin Uthappa. India Capitals which will be spearheaded by Gautam Gambhir, picked Kevin Pietersen, Bharat Chipli, and Hashim Amla to bolster their batting lineup.

The Gujarat Giants also left no stone unturned in assembling their squad as the side went for Liam Plunkett and S. Sreesanth, having already retained Parthiv Patel as their captain, the Universe Boss Chris Gayle, and Kevin O’Brien ahead of the draft event.

Irfan Pathan-led Bhilwara Kings, picked Lendl Simmons and Tilakaratne Dilshan to make a formidable batting unit at the top. Irfan, Yusuf Pathan, and Shane Watson were retained by Bhilwara Kings prior the event.

Urbanrisers Hyderabad also picked up former Indian spinner Pragyan Ojha and Morne Morkel to build a solid core strength. Southern Super Stars also drafted Ross Taylor, Ashoke Dinda, and Johan Botha.

**Raman Raheja, Co-Founder & CEO, Legends League Cricket said**, "Legends League Cricket is not just a tournament; it's a testament to the enduring love for cricket in our nation. Our journey has been driven by the passion of every fan and their love for the legends. We have kept innovating all along the past seasons to make it exciting. The essence has been to recreate and relive the glorious history of the sport and its legends. On the similar lines the draft at Qutub Minar presents our effort to somehow showcase the heritage of our country while we celebrate cricket”

Meanwhile, the defending champions, India Capitals, have retained their captain Gautam Gambhir, and the highest wicket taker of last season Pravin Tambe along with Ashley Nurse to solidify their squad.

Earlier this week, two new franchises were unveiled – Urbanrisers Hyderabad and Southern Super Stars which promises the excitement to go one step further as the tournament gears up to return with a bang.

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| **Bhilwara Kings** | **Gujarat Giants** | **India Capitals** | **Manipal Tigers** | **Southern Super Stars** | **Urbanrisers Hyderabad** |
| Irfan Pathan **(c)** | Parthiv Patel **(c)** | Gautam Gambhir **(c)**  | Harbhajan Singh **(c)** | Aaron Finch (**c)** | Suresh Raina **(c)** |
| Yusuf Pathan | Chris Gayle | Pravin Tambe | Mohammad Kaif  | Upul Tharanga | Martin Guptil |
| Shane Watson | Kevin O'Brien | Ashley Nurse | Corey Anderson | Abdur Razzak | Dwanye Smith |
| Ryan Sidebottom  | Elton Chigumbura | Morne van Wyk | Thisara Perera | Jesse Ryder | Peter Trego |
| Iqbal Abdulla  | Richard Levi | Rusty Theron | Robin Uthappa | Cameron White | Chamara Kapugedera |
| Pinal Shah  | Liam Plunkett | Ben Robert Dunk | Hamilton Masakadza | Suranga Lakmal | Morne Morkel |
| William Porterfield  | Seekkuge Prasanna  | Ricardo Powell | David White | Manvinder Bisla | Stuart Binny |
| Tim Murtagh  | S. Sreesanth | Fidel Edwards | Amitoze Singh | Ashoke Dinda | Asghar Afghan |
| Chirstopher Barmwell  | Sarabjit Ladda | Dilhara Fernando | Pankaj Singh | Bipul Sharma | Tino Best |
| Anureet Singh  | Dishant Yagnik | Kirk Edwards | Colin de Grandhomme | Andre McCarthy | Amit Paunikar |
| Jesal Karia  | Dane Piedt | Ishwar Pandey | Chadwick Walton | Rameez Khan | Mohnish Mishra |
| Solomon Mire  | Sulieman Benn | Hashim Amla | Mitchell McClenaghan | Amila Aponso | Christopher Mpofu |
| Lendl Simmons  | Nathan Reardon | Kevin Pietersen | Parvinder Awana | Pankaj Kumar Rao | Pawan Suyal |
| Dhammika Prasad | Rayad Ryan Emrit | K P Appanna | Pravin Gupta | Rajesh Bishnoi | Jerome Taylor |
| Prosper Utseya | Ahmed Raza  | Munaf Patel | Kyle Coetzer | Amit Verma | Sudeep Tyagi |
| Rahul Sharma | Abhishek Jhunjhunwala | Yalak Ganeshwar Rao | S. Badrinath | Tanmay Srivastava | Yogesh Nagar |
| Tilakaratne Dilshan | Chirag Khurana | Yashpal Singh | Imran Khan | Farveez Maharoof | Shiva Kant Shukla |
|  | Ben Laughlin | Bharat Chipli | Praveen Kumar | Ross Taylor | Pragyan Ojha |
|  | Abhimanyu Mithun |  |  | Johan Botha | Devendra Bishoo |
|  |  |  |  | Shreevats Goswami | Tirumalasetti Suman |
|  |  |  |  |  | Milind Kumar |