

IPL 2026 Auction: Zaheer Khan Reportedly Parts Ways with LSG After Clash with Owner Sanjeev Goenka

In the lead-up to the much-anticipated **IPL 2026 Auction**, the Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) have found themselves in the spotlight for reasons beyond player signings. Reports suggest that former Indian pacer and LSG's Director of Cricket Operations, **Zaheer Khan**, has parted ways with the franchise after a fallout with team owner **Sanjeev Goenka**.



The Reported Rift

According to sources, differences between Zaheer and Goenka surfaced during discussions over the team's auction strategy and player retention. While Zaheer was keen on investing in long-term prospects and building a balanced squad, the owner reportedly pushed for aggressive, high-profile signings to boost the franchise's brand value. The

disagreement is believed to have escalated, leading to Zaheer stepping away from his role ahead of the auction.

Zaheer's Contribution to LSG

Zaheer Khan, known for his cricketing acumen and calm leadership, had been instrumental in shaping LSG's bowling unit and overall team strategy since joining the franchise. Under his guidance, several young bowlers thrived, and the team managed to remain competitive in the tournament. His exit could leave a strategic void at a time when the franchise needs clarity and direction for the auction.

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Impact on LSG Ahead of the Auction

The timing of Zaheer's departure is particularly concerning for LSG. With the auction around the corner, the team will need to quickly realign its plans. The franchise may have to bring in an interim advisor or rely heavily on the coaching staff to finalize their strategy. Any disruption at this stage could affect their chances of building a balanced and competitive squad for the 2026 season.

What Lies Ahead

While neither Zaheer Khan nor the franchise has officially confirmed the reports, the buzz has already created waves in the cricketing community. If true, LSG faces a critical moment that could define their future in the IPL. As the auction draws near, fans and analysts alike will be watching closely to see how the franchise handles this unexpected twist.

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