

Ben Stokes ready for IPL experience, buoy Rising Pune Supergiants

England all-rounder Ben Stokes, the highest paid overseas player in this year's Indian Premier League auction, is ready to help Rising Pune Supergiants go from seventh last year to IPL title contention, and broaden his cricketing horizons.

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Rising Pune Supergiants introduce their marquee player Ben Stokes in New Delhi on Thursday. The England all-rounder will be a key member in skipper Steve Smith's team.(AFP)

One of the hottest players in world cricket, England all-rounder Ben Stokes will represent his national board's changed outlook towards [Indian Premier](#)

[League](#) this season, and he expects it to take his level of exposure in the game to a different level altogether.

The England board has for years been suspicious of the Twenty20 league's impact on its top players, and their commitment to Test cricket. Only Kevin Pietersen had warmed up to IPL very early, after being bought in 2009 along with former all-rounder Andrew Flintoff.

However, Ben Stokes was unveiled by his franchise [Rising Pune Supergiants](#) on Thursday at a launch conference attended by the team's Aussie skipper [Steve Smith](#) and India vice-captain, AjinkyaRahane.