

# Learning the layout, understanding BIC track's grip vital: Marquez

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**New Delhi:** Marc Marquez is a MotoGP legend. He is fast, fearless and handles pressure without fuss. Six premier class world titles add to his legendary status. In terms of world titles, he is just one behind another MotoGP legend Valentino Rossi.

The Spaniard's six world titles came between 2013 (his rookie season) and 2019 before he met with a nasty crash at the Spanish Grand Prix in July 2020 that saw him sus-

tain a right humerus fracture. Marquez went out of action after that.

He returned in 2021 and ended the year with four podium finishes, three of which were victories, 142 points, and the 7th position in rider's championship. During the season, he crashed a total of 22 times in 14 races.

In the 2022 season, Marquez crashed three times in practice at the Indonesian Grand Prix. After a fourth crash, a violent one during a warm-up session prior to the

race, he was rushed to the hospital. Later, he underwent further checks in Spain and was diagnosed with diplopia (simultaneous perception of two images of a single object a.k.a. double vision).

Marquez made a much-awaited return to the track in the 2023 season – ready to fight for the title again. He has not changed his team and stayed with Repsol Honda for the season.

But luck hasn't been on his side. Marquez endured another collision during the



**ALL SET:** Marc Marquez

main race of the Portuguese Grand Prix in March. The 30-year-old broke the first meta-

carpal of his right hand's thumb. The fracture was reduced and fixed internally with two screws. He again crashed out of the main race at the Italian GP in Mugello.

Just like the last three seasons, 2023 also hasn't gone to plan. But Marquez is hoping for a turnaround in the upcoming MotoGP Bharat at the Buddh International Circuit (BIC) in Greater Noida.

Ahead of the race, Marquez shed light on what needs to be done to come out trumps at the BIC track.

"First of all, what you do is try to work the circuit and find some preferences while discovering the best racing line. Learning the layout is crucial, and when you're on the bike, understanding the track's grip is equally vital," Marquez said.

The ace rider revealed that Turn 3 and Turn 4 of the BIC will be extremely crucial to win the "historic" MotoGP Bharat. "The key aspect (to winning) is to bring the information to the team as soon as possible. So that they have

clear data that will result in a correct setup on the electronics," said Marquez.

"For me, the most important part of the track will be Turn 3 and Turn 4 as the rest of the track is quite stop-and-go. The last corner will also be very important as it will be the place where many races will be decided."

With Marquez' proven experience in navigating challenging race tracks like the BIC, a return to the podium can be expected from the Spaniard at MotoGP Bharat.