

## Savita lauds Hockey India's commitment

**NEW DELHI:** Indian Women's Hockey Team goalkeeper and former Captain, Savita, has lauded Hockey India's commitment to gender equality overall and in the upcoming Hockey India League (HIL) 2024-25. For the first time in the history of the HIL, the tournament will feature not only men's teams but the women's teams as well, with both categories receiving equal prominence. This landmark move underlines Hockey India's progressive vision to promote women's hockey and expand the talent pool of female players across the country.

The HIL 2024-25 will be held from the last week of December 2024 to the first week of February 2025, in a window sanctioned by the International Hockey Federation (FIH). The tournament will witness the participation of 8 men's teams and 6 women's

teams. Notably, the Men's and Women's HIL will run simultaneously,



marking a unique moment in global sports leagues.

Savita expressed her admiration for this initiative, stating, "The Men's and Women's HIL will run simultane-

ously, which is something that I don't think has happened before in any other sports. Hockey India has always ensured that both men's and women's teams are treated equally. For instance, when the men's and women's teams win matches or a competition at the international level, the prize money is the same for both. This speaks volumes about Hockey India's dedication to promoting gender equality in sports. As a player, it feels empowering to be part of an organisation that values the contributions of women athletes just as much as their male counterparts."

Hockey India has long been committed to maintaining parity between the Men's and Women's national teams. Whether in terms of facilities, international exposure, or match rewards, both teams enjoy equal support.

## BFC maintain clean sheet record

**MUMBAI:** Though it was a listless 0-0 draw, Bengaluru FC achieved a remarkable feat by becoming the first team in ISL history to start a season with four consecutive clean sheets.

The match at the Mumbai Football Arena left both teams with mixed feelings as they struggled to capitalise on scoring opportunities throughout the contest.

As the final whistle blew at 90+5 minutes, neither side could find the back of the net, despite several promising chances. MCFC's Tiri came agonisingly close to breaking the deadlock just before stoppage time, but the Mumbai fans were left frustrated as the game concluded without goals.

Bengaluru's solid defensive performance, led by goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh

Sandhu, kept Mumbai's attack at bay, showcasing their resilience and discipline in defence.

The first half saw an evenly matched contest, with both teams creating chances but unable to convert. Bengaluru controlled the game's tempo, dominating possession with 62 percent, while Mumbai struggled to find their rhythm. The teams went into half-time with a scoreline of 0-0 after a hard-fought opening period.

In the second half, the game continued at a high pace, with both teams pressing for a breakthrough. Mumbai made tactical substitutions in hopes of changing the game's momentum, bringing on Krouma and Bipin. However, their efforts to breach Bengaluru's defence

were met with resistance.

Key moments included a near miss for Mumbai in the 79th minute, where Tiri's effort hit the crossbar, and a promising chance for Bengaluru's Jorge Pereyra Diaz, whose shot from outside the box rolled harmlessly past the post.

As the match drew to a close, Bengaluru's defence remained unyielding, while Mumbai's players displayed determination, albeit without the desired outcome.

This result leaves Mum-

bai City FC still searching for their first win of the season, following a draw against Mohun Bagan SG and a loss to Jamshedpur FC. In contrast, Bengaluru FC maintains their impressive form, having won all three of their previous matches against East Bengal, Hyderabad FC, and Mohun Bagan SG.

Both teams will look to regroup as they prepare for their upcoming fixtures in what promises to be an exciting season ahead in the ISL.

### INDIAN SUPER LEAGUE

## FC Goa to take on NorthEast United

**MARGAO:** FC Goa will take on NorthEast United FC in their upcoming Indian Super League (ISL) 2024-25 fixture today (Friday) at 7:30 pm IST at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Goa.

FC Goa returned to winning ways against East Bengal FC last week with a narrow 3-2 victory. Meanwhile, NorthEast United FC played out a 1-1 draw with Kerala Blasters FC.

FC Goa has struggled in their last two home fixtures, losing to Jamshedpur FC and Mumbai City FC. The Gaurs will be keen to avoid a third straight home defeat, which would mark only the third time they've

lost their first two home games of an ISL season.

NorthEast United FC have never been able to defeat FC Goa in consecutive games, setting up a fascinating narrative for this clash.





महाराष्ट्र शासन



नरेंद्र मोदी  
प्रधानमंत्री



एकनाथ शिंदे  
मुख्यमंत्री

एक रुपयात प्रधानमंत्री पीक विमा योजना

# बळीराजा

निश्चित राहणार

खरीप हंगाम २०२३ मध्ये राज्यात १.७१ कोटी शेतकऱ्यांचा सहभाग.

१.१५ कोटी शेतकऱ्यांना रु.७३९३.५९ कोटी नुकसान भरपाई मंजूर, त्यापैकी ९६.७७ लाख शेतकऱ्यांना रु.५३०२.९२ कोटी वितरीत.



आपलं सरकार  
लाडकं सरकार



अजित पवार  
उपमुख्यमंत्री



एकनाथ शिंदे  
मुख्यमंत्री



देवेंद्र फडणवीस  
उपमुख्यमंत्री

MAHARASHTRADGIPR | महिती व जनसंपर्क महासंचालनालय, महाराष्ट्र शासन