

Dempo SC, FC Goa & Mumbai City progress to RFDL Nat Group Stage

Team Herald

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Dempo Sports Club, FC Goa and Mumbai City FC became the first three teams to qualify for the Reliance Foundation Development League (RFDL) 2024-25 National Group Stage, on Sunday.

Dempo SC ended their Zonal Group Stage campaign in a spectacular fashion as they defeated Reliance Foundation Young Champs 3-0 in the final match at the Duler Stadium, here.

Mevan Dias opened the scoring for the Golden Eagles in the ninth minute, while Rahul Rodrigues doubled their lead in the 49th minute. Substitute Rohan Mangaonkar put the game to bed in the second minute of the stoppage time as Dempo SC defeated RF Young Champs to finish the phase at the top of the table.

Meanwhile, FC Goa too registered a 2-0 win over Mumbai City FC at the Duler Stadium to qualify for the RFDL National Group Stage. Likson Rebelo and Malsawmtluanga scored for the Gaurs in either halves to earn them the three points.

Despite the defeat, Mumbai City FC became the third team from the RFDL Zonal Group Stage in Goa to make it to the next stage of the competition, thanks to their superior points in the table.

In the other match at the Sirsaim ground, Maharashtra Oranje FC ended their campaign with a 2-1 victory over Sesa FA.

RESULTS

RFYC 0 Dempo SC 3 (9' Mevan Dias, 49' Rahul Rodrigues, 90+2' Rohan Mangaonkar); **Mumbai City FC 0 FC Goa 2** (18' Likson Rebelo, 84' Malsawmtluanga); **Maharashtra Oranje FC 2** (36' Gaisuangmei Kamei, 43' Duane D'souza) **Sesa FA 1** (10' Joshua Correia)

HERALD PICS



Dempo Sports Club ended their Zonal Group Stage campaign in a spectacular fashion defeating Reliance Foundation Young Champs 3-0 in the final match



FC Goa registered a 2-0 win over Mumbai City FC



Mumbai City FC became the third team from the RFDL Zonal Group Stage in Goa to make it to the next stage of the competition

Fracture Veterans, Anjuna advance

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MAPUSA: Fracture Veterans, Verem, registered a hard-fought 1-0 win over Just Fitness Veterans, Panjim, in the 3rd All Goa Siolim Veterans football tournament played at St Anthony's Church ground, Siolim, on Sunday.

It was a game of missed opportunity as both the teams missed to capitalise on numerous opportunities that were created by them.

VETERANS FOOTBALL

After a goalless first half, the all-important goal was scored in the 50th minute by Pratap Sawant with a neat placement from inside the penalty area, 1-0.

Shriram Gadekar, former Superintendent of Police was the chief guest and gave away the cash prizes for the first scorer Pratap Sawant and man-of-the-match to Matthew Gonsalves.

Earlier, Anjuna Veterans drubbed Nagoa Veterans 3-0. Vinayak Mulgaonkar put his team ahead and received an award for first goal of the tournament. As the match progressed, Lazarus Noronha and Mahindra pumped in two more goals. Lazarus Noronha received the man-of-the-match award. David (former football player of Dempo SC) was the chief guest, while Issac Dsouza (former football player of Sesa FA) was the guest of honour.

Francisco Fernandes was the special guest.

Bengaluru move to 4th spot riding on Noguera's brace

AGENCIES, BENGALURU:

Bengaluru FC downed Jamshedpur FC 3-0 in the Indian Super League match played at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium, on Sunday.

The Blues broke their three-game-long winless streak at home to progress to the fourth spot in the standings, with 31 points to their name from 20 matches now.

Albino Gomes was the star of the show in the opening 15 minutes, pulling off two exceptional saves to keep his team from getting off to a jittery start. He also became the goalkeeper to save the most penalties in the ISL (7) after denying Sunil Chhetri from the spot in the 12th minute.

Both Sunil Chhetri and Edgar Mendez made up for their respective earlier missed efforts by functioning seamlessly in tandem in the 43rd minute to break the deadlock.

Chhetri made a quick restart after winning a foul on the left wing and caught the Jamshedpur FC defence off-guard with a slick delivery for Mendez, who caressed the ball into the bottom right

corner from the centre of the box to get his side the lead. The Blues looked like they had regained their mojo and were flawless in their forward forays post this move.

Twelve minutes into the second half, Alberto Noguera stepped up on a free-kick from distance after Naorem Roshan Singh won a foul on the right flank. Noguera put in a long ball directed for defender Rahul Bheke positioned deep into the Jamshedpur FC box. While Gomes placed him in a spot to thwart Bheke's attempt, the ball failed to take a nick off his head and instead landed in the right side of the net directly to double Bengaluru FC's advantage.

The home side was in a relentless pursuit of stepping up the intensity, and it was visible with the expeditiousness with which Chhetri received a pass on the left flank and pulled off a quick footwork to lay a pass for Mendez in the middle of the 18-yard area. Mendez, too, immediately aimed for the top left corner but Gomes gauged and kept that effort

at bay in the 59th minute. Gomes was, however, unable to stop Bengaluru FC from tripling their lead, though his defender Lazar Cirkovic was at fault for that in the 82nd minute. In an attempt to initiate a build-up, Cirkovic gave in to Noguera's high-press and was dispossessed by the midfielder at the edge of the 18-yard box. Noguera sprinted for a mere moment before hammering the ball into the centre of the net to bag his brace to land an important victory for his team, given the present dynamics of the points table.

Both Jamshedpur FC and Bengaluru FC will play their next game against NorthEast United FC on February 13 and February 21 respectively.

RESULT

Bengaluru FC 3 (Edgar Mendez 43', Alberto Noguera 57' 82') **Jamshedpur FC 0**

ISL FIXTURE

Odisha FC vs Punjab FC at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar, at 7.30 pm

Fr Agnelo YSC book final berth

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RAIA: Fr Agnelo YSC, Paroda, became the first team to reach the final in the 1st Vauradeancho Ixtt Trophy 2025 organised by Margao Sports Club in association with Batora United, shocking United Sports Club of Seraulim 1-0 at the DSYA ground, Curtorim, on Sunday. In the first semi-final, both

teams were eager to score played an attacking soccer with short passes and control the game but couldn't break the deadlock till the half time.

The all-important goal came from the boots of Levon Clement of Fr Agnelo YSC from a powerful 30-yard shot that hit the crossbar and landed into the net in the 47th minute of play.

INACIO NORONHA



Deputy Superintendent of Police Wilson D'Souza presents the man-of-the-match to Levon Clement of Fr Agnelo YSC along with other guest

United Sports Club of Seraulim in semis

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RAIA: Hosts United Sports Club of Seraulim were fortunate to win against hot favourites St Anthony's SC,

Marna-Siolim 1-0 and to enter into the semi-finals of 17th All Goa Inter-Village Seraulim Panchayat Cup football tournament organised by United Sports Club of Seraulim at Seraulim

panchayat ground.

St Anthony's SC started the game with a bang. They combined like a well-oiled machine and created beautiful moves but failed to score during the first half

ending in goalless draw.

In the second half, USC Seraulim's all-important goal came through the boots of Shakshan Shanke just minutes before the final hooter.

Vedanta Sesa Goa empowers youth through Mayem Marathon 3.0

In a first, a dedicated segment was also incorporated to accommodate specially-abled fitness enthusiasts

HERALD PIC



The winners along with Mayem MLA Premendra Shet, Deputy CEO Vedanta IOG Dhirajkumar Jagdish, Mayem Vainginin Sarpanch Krishna Chodankar, Panch Vishant Pednekar, senior executives from Vedanta Sesa Goa and other dignitaries at Mayem

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PANJIM: As part of its commitment to youth empowerment and community development under the 'YouTheChange, YouThePower' initiative, Vedanta Iron Ore Goa proudly partnered the Shri Mahamaya High School Ex Students Association for the third edition of the 'Mayem Marathon'.

The event witnessed keen competition in various segments with Sidhesh Barje and Nandesh Gaonkar finish first as well as runner-up in the 21km category. The 10km category saw Hari Valip and Ayan Soares emerging victorious in the boys and girls categories respectively.

Parshuram Ghade won in the 5km category. Over 45 segment saw Sanjay

Kelkar, Suresh Murgaonkar and Drakshayni Murgod winning in the 21km, 10km categories respectively.

The prize distribution ceremony was graced by Mayem MLA Premendra Shet, Dhirajkumar Jagdish, Deputy CEO, Vedanta IOG, Krishna Chodankar, Mayem Vainginin sarpanch and Vishant Pednekar, panch, along

The 'Mayem Marathon' is now becoming a regular feature of the marathon schedule for Goa, with this year's registrations topping 1,500, highest till date for the event. The participants competed in various segments including 21km, 10km, 5km and 3km, along with separate categories for school students across age groups.

MAYEM MARATON 3.0

with other senior executives from Vedanta Sesa Goa.

This event served as a platform to bring together community members and fitness enthusiasts of the Bicholim taluka, while spreading awareness on environment and sustainability camaraderie and environmental stewardship under the theme 'Run for Nature, Preserve the Future.'

In a first, a dedicated segment was also incorporated to accommodate specially-abled fitness enthusiasts, underscoring the importance of inclusivity and resilience in sports. Distinguished para-athlete and 'Iron Lady' Sakshi Kale, bagged the first position in the 5km general category. Her exemplary determination

and performance served as a source of inspiration for all attendees. Overall, 20+ specially-abled athletes participated in the event.

Expressing his sentiments on the occasion, Premendra stated, "Events like the 'Mayem Marathon 3.0', play a vital role in promoting fitness, inclusivity and community spirit. It is inspiring to see such enthusiastic participation across all age groups."

Dhirajkumar remarked, "At Vedanta, we remain steadfast in our commitment to fostering a healthier and more sustainable future for the communities we serve. The 'Mayem Marathon' stands as a testament to the power of collective action, uniting individuals from diverse backgrounds to advocate for environmental conservation and physical well-being."

HERALD PIC



Calangute Association women's football team pose with third place trophy along with the club officials and dignitaries

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PANJIM: For the first time Calangute Association participated in the Goa Football Association-Vedanta Women's League 2024-25 and secured the third position from among the six participating teams.

They played 10 matches, won four, drew two, lost three and walkover one.

The team include Anna David (goalkeeper), Mickie Fernandes (goalkeeper),

Astrid Pereira (goalkeeper), Remediana Noronha (defender), Merrecia Tavares (defender), Aaroshi Govdekar (defender), Saniya Pednekar (defender), Annvia Pereira (defender), Angel Mascarenhas (defender), Natalia David (defender), Stessi Cardoso (midfielder, captain), Joizima Fernandes (midfielder), Elena Pereira (midfielder), Krishna Noronha (midfielder), Valaina Fernandes (midfielder), Agnela Antao (midfielder), Tanvi Khedekar (midfielder), Sharon Fernandes (forward), Alicia Fernandes (forward), Priya Sharma (forward), Delina Fernandes (forward), Sujata Naik (forward), Pearl Dealmedia (forward) and Sanvi Bhowar (forward).

The team management comprises Manager Gracy V Rodrigues, Head Coach Ramona D'Souza, Assistant Coach Reshma Souza and technical expert Maymol Rocky.

The Calangute Association player Aaroshi R Gov-

ekar won the best defender title of the tournament.

Valaina Fernandes got selected for U-17 India camp held at Bangalore.

"The Calangute Association will do its very best to promote women's, girls football in a big way in the years to come and thanks the Goa Football Association for promoting GFA women's football and for the smooth and timely conduct of the GFA Women's League 2024-25," stated Ryan Mascarenhas, general secretary, in a press release.

GOA DIARY

Women festival soccer at Curtorim

RAIA: The women festival soccer tournament organised by Batora United, Curtorim, will kick off from February 11, at the DSYA ground, Curtorim.

TODAY'S SPORTS

Goa Professional League: Goa Police SC vs Vasco SC, at Duler Stadium, Mapusa, 3.45 pm

GFA Division II League South Zone Play-Offs: Guidolim Club vs Vasco City SCC, at Cansaulim ground. South Goa United SC vs Rising Star SCC, at Don Bosco Oratory ground, Fatorda. Kick off 3.45 pm

GFA U-13 Division I-League: Geno FC vs Goa Police GFDC, at Parra ground. Sporting Clube de Goa vs Clube de Salgaocar, at Don Bosco Oratory ground, Panjim. Kick off 4.15 pm

Ambelim Sports Club inter-village Lourdes Soccer: Don Bosco Oratory, Fatorda vs Maina SC, at Ambelim ground, 4.30 pm

1st Vauradeancho Ixtt Trophy (semi-final): Guardian Angel SC vs Raia Sporting Club, at the DSYA ground, Curtorim, 4.30 pm

United Boys of Ambaulim all Goa volleyball: D X Boys vs Poojari Boys, Cansaulim, 8 pm; Astavinayak Assoldem Padi vs Piety Boys, 9 pm

All Goa Veterans football: Calangute Veterans vs Bardez Veterans, at Siolim ground, 4.30 pm

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