

Postiga is still not fit to play

A STAFF REPORTER

Calcutta: Atletico de Kolkata (ATK) marquee player Helder Postiga may not be fit enough to play the next two home matches.

"I am not 100 per cent fit now. We will decide with the coach (Jose Molina). I just started training with the team. After one week or so I think I think will be fit to play,"

Postiga, who picked up a rib injury against Kerala Blasters on October 5, in Kochi, said on Thursday.

ATK host Delhi Dynamos FC and Mumbai City FC at home on Saturday and Tuesday respectively.

Postiga also said that his injury this time is not as bad as the hamstring injury last year. Postiga had played just 74 minutes in the ISL II league opener versus Chennaiyin before he was ruled out of the tournament. "The injury is not like last year. It was different last year. This is not so bad," Postiga added.

He believes this time com-

petition would be harder than previous years as all the teams have more quality. "All the teams have quality this year. I think this year the championship is tougher.

"It's a short league. Last year FC Goa started badly, but still reached the final. It is important not to lose games. Two or three games you win and you are top of the table," he added. Postiga also congratulated Bengaluru FC

for reaching the AFC Cup final. "I saw the first 30 minutes. It is good news for Indian football. Indian players are a lot younger this time. They are better. This success will help Indian football," he added.

ATK have been conceding late goals and that is a worry for coach Jose Molina. Pritam Kotal believes with time defence will be more compact. "We are conceding goals for making silly mistakes. Sometimes our combination at the back is not working. It needs time. We are working on it. Hope the defence will settle down," Kotal said.



Helder Postiga