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**Live thread: Ronald Koeman's press conference ahead of tomorrow's game with Eibar.**



Koeman: "Tomorrow we face a very competitive rival and we will have to be good, like in Valladolid. If we're not good, the game will be very complicated."

Koeman: "Messi in Argentina? Leo had some ankle discomfort. He couldn't train or play tomorrow, that's why we have given him two more days of vacation. He returns after the game with Eibar. The doctors say that a week without training will be good for Leo."

Koeman: "Messi's interview? I think it's perfect for him to do an interview to make his opinions known. The only thing we can do is get the most out of Leo in games and we'll see what happens."

Koeman: "I haven't seen Messi's interview, but I'm grateful that he spoke well about me. I'm trying to get the team going, it's a year of transition and he's a very important player."



Koeman: "Dembélé is recovered, he has trained with the group and in principle he will be called up for tomorrow."

Koeman: "Planes and I are talking about things about the team that we can improve, players who don't have many minutes... Decisions must be made when a new President arrives."

Koeman: "I'm in a place where I wanted to be for a long time and I'm very happy. This is also a complicated place... I hope that next year things will be better in terms of COVID-19 and the club."

Koeman: "Pedri is an example of how someone has to behave being very good at that age. He's a boy from a very humble family and he knows exactly what to do. He has a great future."



Koeman: "If it's convenient for a young player to play half a year somewhere else, we will recommend it, but in the end it's the players' decision."

Koeman: "3-5-2 system? You can talk about tactics but the most important thing for me is the energy and hard work of the players."

Koeman: "If Leo says he sees himself as a sporting director, that's fine. I think that the best thing for Barcelona is that he continues at the club after his retirement."

That concludes Koeman's press conference. End of thread.