

# THE BEACON

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## Keiron Pollard becomes 2nd cricketer to hit 6 sixes in T20

Shahul Hameed H

It was a day of mixed emotions for Sri Lanka off-spinner Akila Dananjaya, as he was hit for sixes throughout an over by the West Indies skipper Kieron Pollard right after he scalped a hat-trick — a first in not just Twenty20 (T20) cricket but in all formats of the game. Sri Lanka posted 131 in the first of five matches against hosts West Indies at Antigua. Windies in reply went off to a flyer, scoring 48 for no loss at the end of three overs. In came Dananjaya with a master spell, picking up a hat-trick by sending off Chris Gayle and Nicholas Pooran for a duck.

The Lankans had their tails up after picking up four wickets in two overs, but Pollard muscled the score card from 62 to 98 in a single over by hitting all the balls over the boundary line. He would fall to Wanindu Hasaranga in the next over. Pollard thus became only the second person to achieve an over full of sixes in T20. The first was India's Yuvraj Singh, who smashed England's Stuart Broad for 36 in an over during the first-ever T20I World Cup in 2007. South Africa's Herschelle Gibbs has a similar record in ODIs.

## Bengaluru tops ease-of-living rankings

Riya Joseph

Bengaluru emerged as the top performer in the Ease of Living Index (EoLI) 2020 in the million-plus category with a score of 66.70, the Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs said in a statement on Thursday, March 4. Minister of State (Independent Charge), Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri on Thursday announced the release of the final rankings of EoLI 2020 and Municipal Performance Index (MPI) 2020.

On the EoLI list, Bengaluru was followed by Pune, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Surat, Navi Mumbai, Coimbatore,



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Vadodara, Indore, and Greater Mumbai.

In the "Less than million" category, which features cities with less than 1 million population, Shimla ranked

the highest in ease of living, followed by Bhubaneswar, Silvassa, Kakinada, Salem, Vellore, Gandhinagar, Gurugram, Davangere, and Tiruchirappalli.

Indore topped the MPI rankings in the million-plus category, followed by Surat, Bhopal, and Pimpri-Chinchwad. In the "Less than million"

category, New Delhi Municipal Council emerged as the leader with a score of 52.92, closely followed by Tirupati with a score 51.59 and Gandhinagar with 56.25.

The indices represent the performance of cities on parameters such as quality of life, development of infrastructure, and addressing challenges of urbanisation.

Frameworks such as education, health, SWM and sanitation, infrastructure, revenue management, expenditure management, digital governance, digital access, digital literacy, transparency and accountability, human resource, participation and effectiveness are also taken into consideration while calculating the performance.

## Law minister hails rules to safeguard women

Nandita Narayan

Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad on Thursday took to Twitter to spread awareness about a new framework of laws for social media aimed at safeguarding women, who are often subjected to trolling and threats from various corners.

"Intermediary Guidelines will empower the users of social media, especially women, as the social media companies will have to attend to the complaints on



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twitter.com/rsprasad

sexually explicit contents related to the users," he tweeted.

The guidelines state that

content with full or partial nudity or in the nature of impersonation, etc, will be removed to ensure the safety

of women users online.

The other option here is access to such content will be disabled within 24 hours of receipt of complaint about them.

Such a complaint can be filed either by an individual or by any other person on his or her behalf.

The Central government notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules 2021 in February this year.

The guidelines were brought in to ensure that social media

platforms are not misused to spread misinformation, blackmail women or jeopardise their dignity using obnoxious content, or to hurt religious sentiments and incite violence.

The guidelines will also look to regulate over-the-top (OTT) platforms by asking them to follow the law of the country where they are broadcasting.

The issue recently came into spotlight because some OTT shows were sued for defamation and other charges.

## Taj Mahal bomb hoax: Police arrest caller

Abhimanyu Sharma

The police in Uttar Pradesh have arrested a man from Firozabad on suspicion that he created a bomb hoax at the Taj Mahal on Thursday, March 4.

The Taj Mahal and its nearby areas had to be cleared out the local police control room got the call.

The Agra Police deployed an immediate search party around the site and the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) was alerted. They conducted searches on the premises of the Taj Mahal

and concluded that there was no bomb on the premises, as the caller had claimed.

The police said the caller claimed he was rejected during army recruitment because of fraud and that he had planted a bomb near the Taj Mahal.

The call was reportedly made from the Tota ki Taal area of Agra. When the cops traced the signal, they found that the caller was moving towards Firozabad.

He was picked up by the police from Firozabad. The police believe he might be mentally unwell.

## Passengers wary as airport contact number to go dark

Anna Mariam

**BENGALURU:** Flyers in the city are wary as the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru announced that its WhatsApp number will be temporarily unavailable from March 8 due to technical upgrades.

"I called the number on the message and that's the number for contacting the airport authorities," said Noel Varghese, an undergraduate student who is planning to travel abroad next week.

"However, you will have to further dial numbers 1,2,3, etc, depending on your needs. That way, I feel the



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WhatsApp mode was much convenient," he added. "But one has to find ways of

creating opportunities that can be utilised," he said. "If I had to contact them, I

would prefer calling because communication is always better that way than texting the authorities for anything," said Anna Grace Benny, an IT professional.

The airport, however, has multiple other customer care numbers and other means to contact them, so one can assume that they will be available.

"From what I have heard, these guys are pretty prompt, so they do answer queries if you just call on the customer care number of the airlines you're using," said Manasvi Bhowmik, a frequent flyer who is slated to travel on March 14.