



## Rapid Fire Current Affairs

### Affinity Test can Never be Conclusive: SC

According to the Supreme Court's judgment, **an affinity test cannot be an effective and definite way to decide a caste or tribe claim.**

An affinity test mandates the **study and preparation of a report by authorities on caste/tribe claims based on the peculiar anthropological and ethnological traits**, deities, rituals, customs, mode of marriage, death ceremonies, methods of burial of dead bodies, etc, of the particular caste or tribe and the applicant's knowledge of them.

Read More: [Supreme Court](#)

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### Finance Bill, 2023

The government of India recently completed its Budgetary exercise for 2023-24, **with both Houses of Parliament approving the Finance Bill, 2023**, along with a fresh amendment introduced by the Finance Minister **to rectify an error** in [Securities Transaction Tax \(STT\)](#) rates on options contracts in the earlier version of the Bill.

While the **Finance Bill contains provisions on financing the expenditure of the government**, an Appropriation Bill specifies the quantum and purpose for withdrawing money. Both appropriation and finance bills are **classified as money bills which do not require the explicit consent of the Rajya Sabha**. The Rajya Sabha only discusses them and returns the bills.

Once the **Lok Sabha passes the budget of the government or any other money-related law, the Rajya Sabha cannot reject it**. The Rajya Sabha **can only delay it by 14 days or suggest changes in it**, however, the former may or may not accept these changes.

Read More: [Rajya Sabha & Lok Sabha](#)

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### New NCERT Textbooks & Panchaadi Way

After nearly two decades, **school students at all levels will learn from updated National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) textbooks to be introduced in the 2024-25 academic year**. This is in keeping with the **National Education Policy 2020** and [National Curriculum Framework \(NCF\)](#) which was released in August 2022. **The textbooks will be developed in 22 languages.**

Currently, the government has released NCF for pre-school to Class 2, for children aged between three and eight years. **The framework for other classes is yet to be rolled out.**

NCF, in its guidelines, has emphasised that students' learning **should be planned to keep in mind Indian roots and has proposed a five-step learning process** or panchaadi for children at the preschool or foundational level. **Panchaadi includes aditi** (introduction of a topic), **bodh** (conceptual understanding), **abhyas** (practice), prayog (application), **and prasar** (expansion).

**Read More:** [National Council of Educational Research and Training \(NCERT\), National Education Policy 2020](#)

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