

13th July 2024

16th Finance Commission Constitutes 5-Member Advisory Council

16th Finance Commission (FC) headed by Arvind Panagariya established an advisory council comprising five eminent members. This council is tasked with advising the Commission on various Terms of Reference (ToR) and related subjects, enhancing its understanding and broadening its scope.



Key Points

- ❖ Dr. Poonam Gupta, the Director General of the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), has been selected as the Advisory Council's convenor.
- ❖ The Finance Commission (FC) is established by the President of India under Article 280 of the Constitution.
- ❖ K. C. Niyogi chaired the first FC, which was constituted by the President of India in 1951 and served from 1952 to 1957.
- ❖ The 16th Finance Commission (FC) was formed on December 31, 2023, with Arvind Panagariya, former Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog, serving as chairman and Ritvik Ranjanam Pandey as secretary. The commission consists of three full-time members and one part-time member.

Ibiza Wall Lizard Reclassified as Endangered on the IUCN Red List

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species now lists the Ibiza wall lizard (*Podarcis Pityusensis*) as "Endangered" rather than "Near Threatened" due to a 50% population loss since 2010.



Key Points

- ❖ The Ibiza wall lizard is found on the Balearic islands of Ibiza and Formentera, as well as neighbouring Spanish rocky islets.
- ❖ The Gran Canaria gigantic lizard (*Gallotia stehlini*) has been elevated to Critically Endangered from Least Concern.
- ❖ The Gran Canaria skink (*Chalcides Sexlineatus*) is now classified as Endangered, up from Least Concern.
- ❖ The La Gomera huge lizard (*Gallotia Bravoana*) has been upgraded from Critically Endangered to Endangered in the Canary Islands.

Ben Stokes joins Jacques Kallis-Garfield Sobers to have 6000 runs, 200 wickets

England all-rounder Ben Stokes on Thursday joined the company of West Indies great Garry Sobers and South Africa's legendary all-rounder Jacques

Kallis to become the third player and first England player to secure a double of 6,000-plus runs and 200-plus wickets in Test cricket.



Key Points

- ❖ Stokes accomplished this feat against West Indies in the first Test of the three-match series at Lord's.
- ❖ He is the sixth overall and first-ever England player to secure a double of 10,000 runs and 300 wickets in international cricket.
- ❖ West Indies all-rounder Carl Hooper, Sri Lankan legend Sanath Jayasuriya, Kallis, Pakistan's Shahid Afridi and Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib al Hasan are other players to have scored 10,000 runs and taken 300 or more wickets in Tests.

SC verdict on Muslim women's right to maintenance

The Supreme Court of India has reaffirmed that Muslim women can seek maintenance from their husbands under Section 125 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC). This provision is a secular law that applies to all women, regardless of their religion.

Key Points

- ❖ Section 125 of the CrPC is intended to provide a quick and effective remedy to neglected wives, children, and parents, ensuring they have the financial support they need.

Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986

- ❖ The Act was enacted to protect the rights of Muslim women who have been divorced by, or have obtained divorce from, their husbands. It provides for matters connected with or incidental to the protection of these rights.
- ❖ This Act was a response to the *Mohd. Ahmad Khan vs. Shah Bano Begum, 1985*. In which the SC held that section 125 of the CrPC is a secular provision applicable to all, irrespective of religion.
- ❖ The right to maintenance under CrPC is not negated by provisions of personal law.
- ❖ A Constitution bench of the SC had in its 2001 judgement in the case *Danial Latifi & Another vs Union Of India* upheld the constitutional validity of the 1986 Act and said that its provisions do not offend Articles 14, 15 and 21 of the Constitution of India.
- ❖ It extended the right of Muslim women to receive maintenance until they remarry beyond the iddat period.

Adani Group Announced as Principal Sponsor for Indian Team at 2024 Paris Olympics

Gautam Adani, Chairman of the Adani Group, announced that the Adani Group will be the Principal Sponsor of the Indian Team at the Olympic Games Paris 2024, which will take place in Paris, France



PRINCIPAL SPONSOR OF INDIAN OLYMPIC TEAM

Key Points

- ❖ The Adani Group also launched a campaign with the hashtag #DeshkaGeetAtOlympics.
- ❖ Over 100 Indian sportspersons, including 21 shooters, have qualified for the 2024 Paris Olympic Games.

Important Daily Current Affairs Question

1. Which company was announced as the principal sponsor for the Indian team at the 2024 Paris Olympics?
- (a) Reliance Industries
 - (b) Tata Group
 - (c) Adani Group
 - (d) Infosys

Answer- (c)

2. The Supreme Court reiterated that Muslim women can seek maintenance from their husbands under which section of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC)?
- (a) Section 123
 - (b) Section 124
 - (c) Section 125
 - (d) Section 126

Answer- (c)

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PW Web/App: <https://smart.link/7wwosivoicgd4>

PSC Wallah