

**May – 26**

## **TNPSC BITS**

- ❖ In the recently launched RISAT-2B satellite, the highly complex Radial Rib Antenna has been successfully unfurled and has been deployed in-orbit.
  - This 3.6 metre antenna was kept folded & stowed during launch and then later successfully unfurled & deployed in-orbit. It was indigenously built by ISRO in a record time of 13 months which usually takes 3 – 4 years.
- ❖ The Election Commission of India (ECI) submitted a copy of the notification issued by them under the terms of Section 73 of the Representation of People's Act, 1951 to the President.
  - Section 73 deals with the publication of results of General Elections to the House of the People and of names of persons nominated by the President. The House or Assembly shall be deemed to be duly constituted after the notification.
- ❖ Exercising powers vested in him under Article 75 (1) of the Constitution of India, the President Ram Nath Kovind appointed Narendra Modi to the office of Prime Minister of India.
  - The President requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi to advise him about the names of others to be appointed as members of the Union Council of Ministers.
- ❖ The Assam Rifles will soon have a presence in Jammu and Kashmir as the government has approved conversion and placement of one of its battalion into the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).
  - The Assam Rifles draws its strength of officers from the Army and functions under the command of the Union Home Ministry.
- ❖ Electronic and electric auto components manufacturer Flash Electronics India have filed a patent infringement lawsuit against two-wheeler maker Royal Enfield in the United States.
  - It alleges infringement in the production of a key component called “regulator-rectifier”. It converts the AC voltage produced in motorcycle engines into DC voltage driving the motorcycle's entire electrical systems.



## NATIONAL

### Women Parliamentarians

- ❖ With 78 elected women MPs, the 17th Lok Sabha will have the highest number of women representatives in the history of Indian Parliament.
- ❖ They will account for 14.39% of the entire strength of the Lower House.
- ❖ It was at 12.5% with a total 65 women MPs in the previous Lok Sabha.
- ❖ Women candidates also displayed a higher winnability factor or strike rate.
- ❖ They had a high winning ratio of 10.89%. (78 winners out of 716 contestants) than male candidates who's winning ratio is just 6.41%.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Commercialisation of Arctic

- ❖ Russia has launched a nuclear-powered icebreaker called Ural.
- ❖ It is a part of an ambitious programme to improve Russia's ability to tap the Arctic's commercial potential.
- ❖ 2 more icebreakers Arktika (Arctic) and Sibir (Siberia) are being built by Russia.
- ❖ In light of warmer climates, Russia is building new infrastructure and overhauling its ports.
- ❖ It readies for more traffic via what it calls the Northern Sea Route (NSR) which it envisages being navigable year-round.

### Northern Sea Route

- ❖ The Northern Sea Route is a shipping route defined by Russia as lying east of Novaya Zemlya and specifically running along the Russian Arctic coast from the Kara Sea, along Siberia, to the Bering Strait.
- ❖ The entire route lies in Arctic waters and within Russia's exclusive economic zone (EEZ).
- ❖ Parts are free of ice for only two months per year.
- ❖ Melting Arctic ice caps are likely to increase traffic in and the commercial viability of the Northern Sea Route.
- ❖ This route may increase heavy shipping traffic in the Arctic and a substantial drop in Suez traffic.

- ❖ Projected shifts in trade also imply substantial pressure on an already threatened Arctic ecosystem.



## Chagos Island Dispute

- ❖ The UN General Assembly passed a resolution asking the U.K. to withdraw its “colonial administration” from the Chagos Archipelago within six months.
- ❖ Chagos is officially part of the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT).
- ❖ Mauritius wants its sovereignty over the islands restored.

### A history of dispute

| Period       | Who ran Chagos Archipelago   |
|--------------|--|
| 18th Century | Chagos was part of Mauritius and ruled by France   |
| 1810         | UK captured Mauritius  |
| 1965         | Independence of Mauritius. But British illegally created (BIOT)                            |
| 1966         | US naval base set up in Diego Garcia (Biggest island of Chagos)                            |
| 2017         | UN intervention. Asks ICJ to decide legality of British possession of BIOT                 |
| 2019         | International court of Justice (ICJ) issues “advisory” to British to withdraw from Chagos. |



## ENVIRONMENT

### Traffic Pollution

- ❖ A study has found that exposure to Traffic-Related Air Pollution (TRAP) can alter brain chemicals in children.
- ❖ It may increase the risk of mental disorders such as anxiety and depression.
- ❖ Traffic-related air pollution contributes significantly to outdoor air pollution, especially in urban settings.
- ❖ Researchers from the University of Cincinnati in the U.S. checked for the levels of “myo-inositol” found in the brain of 145 children (average age 12 years).
- ❖ Myo-inositol is a naturally-occurring metabolite mainly found in specialised brain cells known as “glial cells”.
- ❖ They are responsible for
  - Maintaining cell volume and fluid balance in the brain
  - Regulating the hormones and insulin in the body.
- ❖ The research evidence suggested that central nervous system is particularly vulnerable to air pollution.

## STATES

### Chandrani Murmu

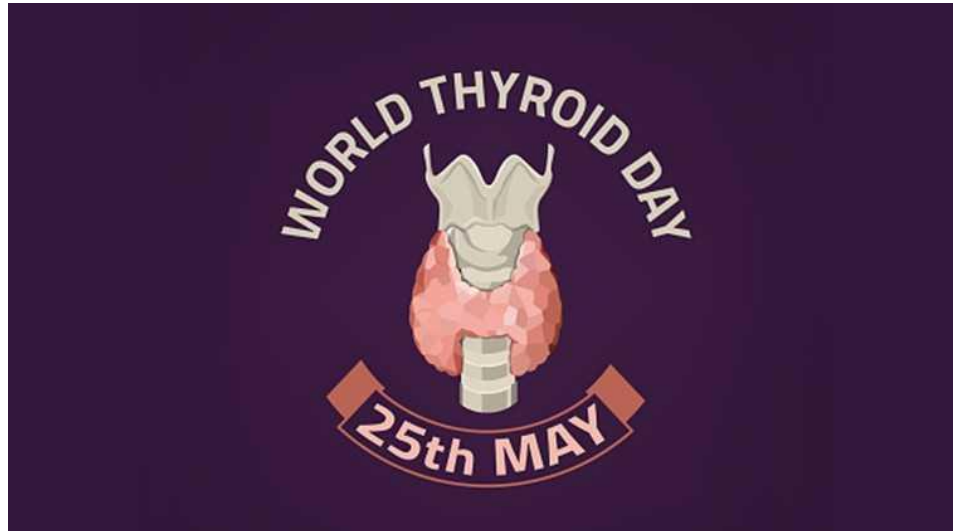
- ❖ A woman of tribal community, Chandrani Murmu has made history after winning the Lok Sabha seat from Keonjhar in Odisha.
- ❖ She has become the youngest Member of Parliament (MP) at the age of 25 years and 11 months.
- ❖ She defeated two-time BJP MP Ananta Nayak by a margin of 67,822 votes to win the Keonjhar Lok Sabha seat.
- ❖ Dushyant Chautala from Hisar Constituency in Haryana was earlier the youngest MP as he became MP at the age of 26 years.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Thyroid Day – May 25

- ❖ World Thyroid day is observed every year on May 25.

- ❖ The year 2019 marked commemoration of 11 years of Global Thyroid Awareness.
- ❖ World Thyroid Day was established in 2008 as part of a campaign led by the American Thyroid Association and European Thyroid Association.



- ❖ This day aims to spread awareness on thyroid diseases globally, availability of new treatment and to focus on urgent need for prevention programs.
- ❖ The thyroid is a butterfly-shaped gland in the centre of the neck, is the master gland of metabolism.
- ❖ Untreated hypothyroidism can lead to severe complications such as infertility and heart disease.

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