

May - 15

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ The Spirulina groundnut Chikki was developed by Mysuru-based Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI).
  - Spirulina is a biomass of cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) that can be consumed by humans and animals.
- ❖ The Ministry of MSME (Micro Small and Medium Enterprises) launched Champions Portal (Champions - Creation and Harmonious Application of Modern Processes).
  - The portal aims at creating modern ICT tools to assist Indian MSMEs.
- ❖ The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and NCDC (National Centre for Disease Control) are to conduct a sero survey.
  - A Sero Survey is testing of blood serum of individuals and determine the presence of antibodies against COVID-19.
- ❖ The Madhya Pradesh Government has launched “FIR Aapke Dwar Yojana”.
  - Madhya Pradesh is the first state in the country to launch such an innovative scheme on police subject.
- ❖ The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will provide \$3.6 million to assist India in its response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - The United States has been the world’s largest provider of bilateral assistance in public health.
- ❖ Rajasthan government is levying a 2 per cent Krishak Kalyan fees on agricultural produce brought or bought or sold in mandis.
- ❖ The Gujarat government has promulgated an Ordinance expanding the purview of the Agricultural Produce Markets (APMC) Act on the Act called Gujarat Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation Act, 1963).
  - It is to include livestock under agricultural produce and to provide better market access to farmers.
- ❖ Bharosa is a dedicated counselling helpline for the students of Central University of Odisha.
- ❖ The Supreme Court refused to restore 4G internet in Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir.
  - Earlier in January of 2020, in the Anuradha Bhasin case or popularly known as the Kashmir internet case, the Court ordered review of restrictions placed in J&K.



- ❖ India is to host the FIFA Under 17 Women's World Cup game in 2021.
- ❖ The All Indian Football Federation (AIFF) has nominated N Bala Devi and Sandesh Jhingan for the Arjuna Award of 2020.
  - Arjuna Award is an honour that has been bestowed by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- ❖ Telangana recently became the first Indian state to tell farmers what to grow.
  - The government will now be regulating the cultivation of crops and will limit the growing of paddy crops to just 50 lakh acres and Red Gram to 10 lakh acres.

## **NATIONAL**

### **India State-Level Disease Burden Initiative**

- ❖ It was launched under the collaboration of ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research) and Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI).
- ❖ The initiative has given its report on district-level trends of child growth and child mortality.
- ❖ The child mortality rate has dropped by 49% between 2000 and 2017.
- ❖ Though child mortality and child growth has improved, the inequality between the districts is high.
- ❖ The main causes of under-5 deaths according to the report are diarrheal diseases, preterm birth, lower respiratory infections, low birth weight and birth asphyxia.

**India State-Level Disease Burden Initiative**  
First comprehensive estimates of trends of key  
child and maternal malnutrition indicators in every  
state of India

#StateLevelMalnutritionTrends



## INTERNATIONAL

### Global Nutrition Report 2020

- ❖ It is the world's leading independent assessment of the state of global nutrition.
- ❖ India is among 88 countries that are likely to miss global nutrition targets by 2025.
- ❖ It also identified the country as one with the highest rates of domestic inequalities in malnutrition.
- ❖ India is identified as among the three worst countries, along with Nigeria and Indonesia
- ❖ The Global Nutrition Report was conceived following the first Nutrition for Growth Initiative Summit (N4G) in 2013.
- ❖ It is a multi-stakeholder initiative, consisting of a Stakeholder Group, Independent Expert Group and Report Secretariat (WHO or FAO is not involved).



## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### DRUVS Cabinet

- ❖ Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) premier lab, Research Centre Imarat (RCI), has developed an automated contactless UVC sanitization cabinet, called Defence Research Ultraviolet Sanitizer (DRUVS).
- ❖ It is having contactless operation.



- ❖ It has been designed to sanitize mobile phones, iPads, laptops, currency notes, cheque leaves, challans, passbooks, paper, envelopes, etc.
- ❖ The RCI has also developed an automated UVC currency sanitizing device, called NOTESCLEAN.

## ENVIRONMENT

### Spinosaurus aegyptiacus

- ❖ It is a giant theropod dinosaur that lived about 95 million years ago (Cretaceous period) in what is now North Africa.
- ❖ Recently its skeleton was found in the Kem Kem region of the Moroccan Sahara Desert.

- ❖ It is the world's only existing skeleton of this ancient predator.
- ❖ The study finds that it may have been a truly water-dwelling dinosaur.
- ❖ It makes history as it is the first known swimming dinosaur.



### **Ban on TB Drugs on crops**

- ❖ Recently, the Central Insecticides Board and Registration Committee (CIBRC) has recommended to ban the use of antibiotics streptomycin and tetracycline.
- ❖ Streptomycin has important use for previously treated tuberculosis (TB) patients.
- ❖ It is also used in multidrug-resistant TB patients and in certain cases of TB meningitis (brain TB).
- ❖ Exposure to antibiotics like Streptomycin can lead to development of antibiotic resistance in humans and animals.
- ❖ The CIBRC was set up by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare in the year 1970 to regulate the import, manufacture, sale, transport, distribution and use of insecticides.



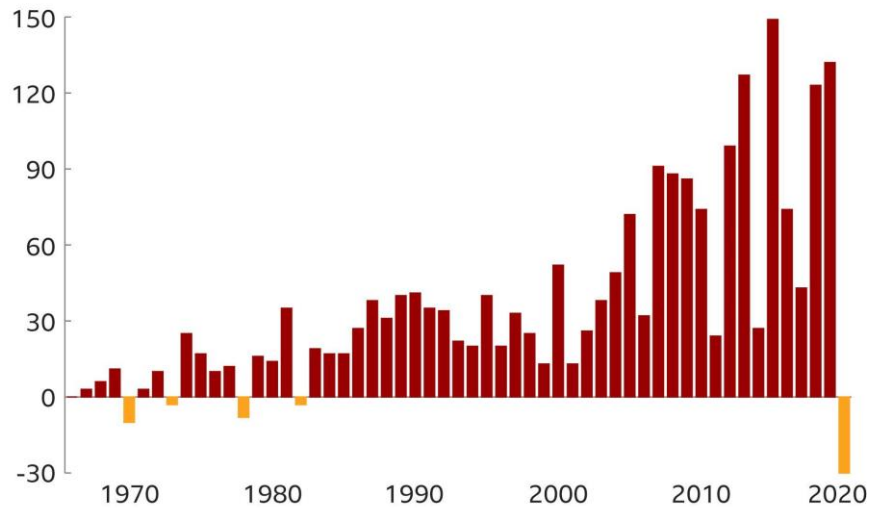
**BAN**  
the use of antibiotics  
**streptomycin and tetracycline**

## CO2 Emissions of India

- ❖ The Carbon dioxide Emissions in India has declined the least for the first time in the last four decades.
- ❖ It was a study conducted by Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA).
- ❖ It has reduced by 15% in March and by 30% in April.
- ❖ The carbon dioxide emission is slowed down due to slowdown in coal-fired electricity generation.
- ❖ The fall in the electricity use and competition from the renewables have weakened the demand for fossil fuels even before the COVID-19 hit.

### India's CO2 emissions fall for the first time since 1982

Millions of tonnes of CO2



Note: Figure is an estimate for financial year ending March 2020

