

TISSNET 2023

Chapter 2

Important Bullet Points for TISSNET 2023

- **Grammys 2022: Indian-American Singer Falguni Shah, Winner of Best Children's Music Album**
Indian-American singer Falguni Shah won a Grammy Award for A Colorful World in the Best Children's Album category. Falguni Shah has even performed and collaborated with music maestro AR Rahman and she is the only Indian-origin woman to be nominated in the Best Children's Music Album category at the Grammys twice. Falguni Shah was earlier nominated for a Grammy in the same category for her 2018 album Falu's Bazaar.
- **Khanjar 2022: The 9th edition of the India-Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise**
The 9th Edition of the India-Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise was held in March-April, 2022 at Special Forces Training School, Bakloh (HP). Special Forces contingents from India and Kyrgyzstan have shared their experience and best practices in terms of tactics, techniques, and procedures for countering present and emerging threats throughout the conflict spectrum.
- **Ex-IPS officer Lalpura reappointed National Commission for Minorities chief**
The central government has re-appointed retired Punjab-cadre IPS officer Iqbal Singh Lalpura as the chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities. Lalpura, who was first appointed as chairman in September last year, had to resign from the post in December to contest as the BJP candidate from the Ropar assembly constituency, which he lost.
- **Falguni Nayar crowned EY Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2021**
Falguni Nayar has been named as the EY Entrepreneur of the Year 2021, at the 23rd edition of the EY Entrepreneur of The Year India awards. She is the founder and chief executive officer (CEO) of beauty supply company Nykaa (FSN E-commerce).
- **PM Narendra Modi to be honoured with 1st Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award**
Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be honoured with the inaugural Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award which is instituted in the memory of the veteran singer of Lata Mangeshkar. PM Modi will receive the award for selfless service to the nation and society. The award ceremony will be held on April 24 which marks the 80th death anniversary of Master Deenanath Mangeshkar (singing legend's father).
- **Ecuador became 1st country to give legal rights to wild animals**
Ecuador, a South American Country, became the first country in the world to give legal rights to wild animals. The highest court in the country has ruled in favour of the case that focused on a woolly monkey named "Estrellita" who was taken from her home to a zoo, where she passed just a week later.
- **World Earth Day**, also known as International Mother Earth Day, is celebrated every year on April 22. The theme of Earth Day 2022 is to 'Invest in our planet'.

- **Russia test-fired the “RS-28 SARMAT,” world’s “most powerful” nuclear-capable intercontinental ballistic missile**
- Russian President Vladimir Putin said that his military had successfully test-fired an intercontinental ballistic missile capable of carrying a big nuclear payload, but the Pentagon said the missile did not pose a substantial danger to the US. Russia’s most powerful ICBM is the RS-28 Sarmat, dubbed “Satan 2” by NATO.
- **CM Nitish Kumar inaugurated nation’s first ethanol plant in Purnia, Bihar**
Bihar’s Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has inaugurated India’s first ethanol plant in Purnia district, Bihar. The plant has been set up by Eastern India Biofuels Private Limited at a cost of Rs 105 crores. Bihar came up with an ethanol production promotion policy in the first half of 2021. It is the country’s first grain-based ethanol plant.
The ethanol manufactured will be supplied to oil marketing companies for blending into petrol and diesel.
- **Kerala beat West Bengal to lift their seventh Santosh Trophy title**
Kerala beat West Bengal 5-4 in the penalty shootout to win the 75th Santosh Trophy 2022 at the Manjeri Stadium in Malappuram, Kerala. The teams were level 1-1 after extra time in a pulsating encounter in which plenty of chances were created at both ends with the finishing being astray.
- **World Press Freedom Day observed on 3rd May**
World Press Freedom Day is observed globally on 3rd May every year. It is also known as World Press Day. The day also pays tribute to journalists who have lost their lives. This year’s World Press Freedom Day theme “Journalism under digital siege,” spotlights the multiple ways in which journalism is endangered by surveillance and digitally-mediated attacks on journalists, and the consequences of all this on public trust in digital communications.
- **PV Sindhu won bronze at Asian Badminton Championships**
In Asia Badminton Championships, India’s P.V. Sindhu won her second Asian bronze medal after a heart-breaking three-game loss to top-seed and defending champion Akane Yamaguchi of Japan in the semi-final in Manila. She had won her first bronze in the Asia Badminton Championships 2014 Gimcheon edition.
- **Vinay Mohan Kwatra assumes charge as India’s new Foreign Secretary**
Vinay Mohan Kwatra took charge as India’s new Foreign Secretary. A 1988-batch Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer, Mr Kwatra succeeded Harsh Vardhan Shringla who retired from service. Mr Kwatra was serving as India’s envoy to Nepal before assuming the charge of the Foreign Secretary.
- **Asian Games 2022 in China postponed to 2023**
The Asian Games 2022, due to be held in Hangzhou, China in September, has been postponed to 2023 due to rising COVID-19 cases in the country, the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) announced. The Olympic Council of Asia, the governing body for the Asian Games, said it will announce the new dates for the 19th edition of the Games. The Asian Games 2022 were originally scheduled from September 10 to 25.
- **ISRO plans mission to Venus by Dec 2024**
The Indian Space Research Organisation will send a spacecraft to orbit Venus to study what lies below its surface, the space body’s Chairperson S Somnath announced. ISRO is expecting to launch the mission by December 2024 with an orbital manoeuvre planned for a year after

that. The orbital manoeuvre is the use of propulsion systems to change the orbit of a spacecraft. It enables a spacecraft to enter a planet's orbit.

- **Andy Jassy joins as Next Amazon CEO from 5th July 2022**

Jeff Bezos, who established Amazon exactly 27 years ago on July 5, 1994, has stepped down as CEO, and Andy Jassy, a long time AWS executive, has taken over as the company's new CEO. Jassy is currently identified as President and CEO of Amazon.com, as well as a member of the Board of Directors, on the Amazon investor relations website.

- **World Press Freedom Index 2022: India ranked 150th**

Reporters Without Borders (RSF) has released the 20th World Press Freedom Index 2022, which assesses the state of journalism in 180 countries and territories. The Index highlights the disastrous effects of news and information chaos – the effects of a globalised and unregulated online information space that encourages fake news and propaganda.

- **Max Verstappen won Miami Grand Prix 2022**

F1 world champion Max Verstappen has won the inaugural Miami Grand Prix for Red Bull after defeating the Ferrari rival Charles Leclerc. Leclerc (Ferrari) finished second and Spanish teammate Carlos Sainz (Ferrari) placed third in the Miami Grand Prix 2022.

List of 2022 F1 Race:

Bahrain Grand Prix: Charles Leclerc (Ferrari-Monaco)

Saudi Arabian Grand Prix: Max Verstappen (Red Bull – Netherlands)

Australian Grand Prix: Charles Leclerc

Emilia Romagna Grand Prix: Max Verstappen

- **Padma Vibhushan Pandit Shivkumar Sharma Passes Away**

Indian music composer and santoor player, Pandit Shivkumar Sharma passed away at the age of 84. He had been suffering from kidney-related issues for the last six months and was on dialysis. He passed away due to cardiac arrest. He gave the santoor, once a little-known instrument from Jammu and Kashmir, a classical status and exalted it along with other, more traditional and famous instruments such as the sitar and sarod. Pandit Shivkumar Sharma received the prestigious Padma Shri in 1991, and the Padma Vibhushan in 2001.

- **Reliance became 1st Indian company to cross USD 100 bn annual revenue**

Reliance Industries become the first Indian company to record annual revenue of more than a whopping \$100 billion. The company has recorded a 22.5% rise in net profit for the quarter ended March 2022. Reliance has recorded strong growth in retail, digital services, and the oil & gas business.

- **Pulitzer Prizes 2022**

The 106th class of Pulitzer Prize winners in Journalism, Books, Drama and Music were announced. The Pulitzer Prize is an award for achievements in newspaper, magazine, online journalism, literature and musical composition within the United States.

In Public Service category, Award was given to The Washington Post for its account of the assault on Washington on January 6, 2021.

- **Lionel Messi topped Forbes' highest-paid athletes list for 2022**

Lionel Messi has topped the list of Forbes Highest-Paid Athletes 2022 with a reported income of \$130 million, followed by Basketball player, LeBron James with \$121.2 million while Cristiano Ronaldo was third with \$115 million. Messi had moved from Barcelona to

Paris Saint-Germain in August 2021 and Cristiano Ronaldo rejoined Manchester United from Juventus in the same month. Forbes calculates the estimates based on prize money, salaries and bonuses, and sponsorship deals.

- **Union Bank of India launches Online Platform 'Trade nxt'**

The Union Bank of India (UBI) has launched an online platform, 'Trade nxt', which enables corporate, and MSMEs (Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises) to transact all cross-border export-import transactions from the comfort of their place, i.e., eliminates the need for companies to visit a bank branch for the same. It offers seamless entry and processing of letters of credit (LC), bank guarantees, export/import bills, disbursement of export credit, outward & inward remittances, dealer financing etc.

- **Campbell Wilson named as new MD & CEO of Air India**

Campbell Wilson has been appointed as the new chief executive officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) of Air India. He has 26 years of aviation industry expertise across both full service and low-cost airlines. He is the chief executive of Scoot, a subsidiary of Singapore Airlines.

Wilson's appointment comes after Turkey's IlkerAyci decided not to take on the role of chief executive of Air India after the announcement of his appointment led to opposition in India over his previous political links.

- **Rajiv Kumar appointed as next Chief Election Commissioner**

Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar was appointed as the next chief election commissioner. He will assume charge on May 15 after incumbent Sushil Chandra demits office on May 14, a notification issued by the Law Ministry said. In pursuance of clause (2) of Article 324 of the Constitution, the President appointed Shri Rajiv Kumar as the Chief Election Commissioner with effect from the 15th of May 2022.

- **India now the top beneficiary from overseas remittances**

According to the World Bank, India has surpassed Mexico as the top remittance receiving country in 2021, pushing China to third place. In 2021, India received remittances totalling more than \$89 billion, an increase of 8% above the \$82.73 billion received in 2020. Despite the fact that the world was significantly hit by Covid in 2020, remittances were somewhat higher than the \$82.69 billion in the non-Covid year of 2019.

- **Ramgarh Vishdhari notified as India's 52nd tiger reserve**

Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav has announced that Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve in Rajasthan has been notified as Rajasthan's 4th and the 52nd tiger reserve of India. It will help to conserve biodiversity and bring ecotourism and development to the area.

- **South Korea won the Uber Cup 2022, defeating China**

After a thrilling final at the Impact Arena in Bangkok, Thailand, Korea stunned defending champions China to capture their second Uber Cup title. Korea fought back from behind twice to deny China a record-extending 16th title in the famous team tournament in a tie that lasted close to 90 minutes apiece.

- **Forbes' Global 2000 list of public companies worldwide 2022 announced.** Forbes Global 2000 ranks the largest companies in the world using four metrics: sales, profits, assets and market value. Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd climbed two spots to No. 53 on Forbes' Global 2000 list of public companies worldwide 2022. Reliance is the top-

ranked Indian firm on the list, followed by State Bank of India at No. 105, HDFC Bank at No. 153 and ICICI Bank at No. 204.

Berkshire Hathaway took the No. 1 spot for the first time since Forbes started publishing the Global 2000 in 2003, dethroning the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, which dropped to No. 2 after nine consecutive years at the top of the list. Saudi Arabian Oil Company (Saudi Aramco) took the 3 Spot.

- **Manik Saha named as new chief minister of Tripura**

Rajya Sabha MP and BJP state president Manik Saha is all set to take over as the new Chief Minister of Tripura. Manik Saha, the BJP State unit president and lone Rajya Sabha MP from Tripura, was elected as legislature party leader at a meeting held at the Chief Minister's official residence. The decision was taken at a legislature party meeting following the resignation of CM Biplab Kumar Deb.

- **India's men's badminton team wins the Thomas Cup title for the first time ever** with a stunning 3-0 win over powerhouse Indonesia in the final. India took on 14-time winners Indonesia in the final of the Thomas Cup in Bangkok, Thailand and lifted the title defeating the defending champions by 3-0. India dished out a performance for the ages with World Championships medallist Lakshya Sen, Kidambi Srikanth and the world number 8 doubles duo of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy producing memorable performances.

- **Odisha won the 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship title**
Odisha women's team has won its first-ever gold in Senior Nationals as they defeat Karnataka 2-0 in the final of the 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National Championship.

- **Anthony Albanese sworn in as Australia's new prime minister**

Australia's Labor Party leader, Anthony Albanese was sworn in as the country's new prime minister. Albanese claimed the victory in the election, ending his wait for power after nine years and with this Anthony Albanese became the country's 31st Prime Minister. Outgoing Prime Minister Scott Morrison, who was heading the Liberal-National coalition has conceded defeat.

- **India receives highest-ever FDI inflow of \$83.57 bn in FY22**

The central government announced that India has recorded the highest ever annual FDI inflow of \$83.57 billion during FY22. In 2020-21, the inflow stood at \$81.97 billion. India is rapidly emerging as a preferred country for foreign investments in the manufacturing sector. FDI equity inflow in manufacturing sectors has increased by 76 per cent in 2021-22 (\$21.34 billion) compared to 2020-21 (\$12.09 billion).

- **In GIFT City, New Development Bank opened a regional office**

The New Development Bank (NDB), the Brics countries' multilateral bank based in Shanghai, will open its first regional office in India at the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) to address the country's infrastructural and sustainable development needs. The India office will concentrate on extending its presence in the country by developing, implementing, and monitoring new projects.

- Indian novel 'Tomb of Sand' wins International Booker Prize**
 Indian writer Geetanjali Shree and American translator Daisy Rockwell won the International Booker Prize for "Tomb of Sand,". Originally written in Hindi, it's the first book in any Indian language to win the high-profile award, which recognizes fiction from around the world that has been translated into English. The 50,000-pound (\$63,000) prize money will be split between New Delhi-based Shree and Rockwell, who lives in Vermont.
- Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus re-elected as Director-General of World Health Organization**
 World Health Organization has re-appointed Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus as Director-General of WHO for the second term with effect from 16th August 2022. His re-election was confirmed during the 75th World Health Assembly in Geneva. He was the sole candidate. Dr Tedros was first elected in 2017. Before joining the WHO, Dr Tedros was served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and as Minister of Health in Ethiopia.
- PM announces 'Yoga for Humanity' is the theme of eighth International Day of Yoga**
 'Yoga for Humanity' has been chosen as the theme of the eighth International Day of Yoga to be organised in India and across the globe on June 21. The theme has been selected after much deliberation and consultation and it appropriately portrays how yoga served humanity in alleviating suffering during the peak of the pandemic. Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the theme in his "Maan Ki Baat" broadcast.
- Israel and the United Arab Emirates signed the first Arab free trade deal**
 Israel has inked its first free trade agreement with an Arab country, with the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The agreement was signed in Dubai by Israel's Economy and Industry Minister Orna Barbivay and the UAE's Economy Minister Abdalla Bin Touq Al Marri.
- Haryana won Khelo India Youth Games 2021 title**
 Hosts Haryana won the Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG) 2021 title with 52 gold medals on the final day. Haryana also won 39 silver and 46 bronze medals, taking their overall medal tally to 137 medals – the highest cumulative haul by any state. The late surge helped Haryana leapfrog the 2020 champions Maharashtra on the KIYG medals table.
- UNCTAD's World Investment Report: India ranked 7th**
 According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), India jumped one position to 7th among the top recipients of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the last calendar year (2021) despite FDI inflows into the country declining. In its latest World Investment Report, UNCTAD said FDI inflows into India declined to \$45 billion in 2021 from \$64 billion in the preceding year. Outward FDI from India rose 43 percent to \$15.5 billion in 2021.
- India's 1st private train service flagged off under 'Bharat Gaurav Scheme'**
 The first train to be operated between Coimbatore and Shirdi by a private operator, under the 'Bharat Gaurav' scheme of the Indian Railways, was flagged off. Ministry of Tourism has informed that the first ever Bharat Gaurav Train has been flagged off on Coimbatore north to Sainagar Shirdi route. The train will cover several historical destinations on the route while giving the passengers an insight into the cultural heritage of the country.

- Russia overtakes Saudi Arabia to become India's 2nd biggest oil supplier**
 Russia has overtaken Saudi Arabia to become India's second-biggest supplier of oil behind Iraq as refiners snap up Russian crude available at a deep discount following the war in Ukraine. Indian refiners bought about 25 million barrels of Russian oil in May, or more than 16 per cent of all their oil imports. Russian-origin crude hit 5 per cent of India's total seaborne imports in April for the first time, rising from under 1% throughout 2021 and Q1 2022. After the U.S. and China, India is the world's third-largest consumer of oil, over 85 per cent of which is imported.
- Neeraj Chopra Sets New National Record With 89.30 Metre Javelin Throw**
 India's ace javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra set a new national record as he threw 89.30 metres at the Paavo Nurmi Games in Finland. Chopra's earlier national record was 88.07m which he had set in Patiala in March last year. He had won the Tokyo Olympics gold with a throw of 87.58m on August 7, 2021. Neeraj Chopra is India's first ever Olympic gold medallist in athletics and only the second individual gold medallist at Olympics.
- Finally, Microsoft's Internet Explorer retiring after 27 years**
 Microsoft has announced the retirement of 27-year-old Internet Explorer (IE) as the firm's oldest browser will be completely phased out from June 15. Microsoft released the first version of Internet Explorer in 1995 as an add-on package for Windows 95, the antediluvian era of web surfing dominated by the first widely popular browser, Netscape Navigator.
- IMD's World Competitiveness Index 2022: India ranked 37th**
 India has seen the sharpest growth among the Asian economies, with a six-position jump from 43rd to 37th rank on the annual World Competitiveness Index 2022. The Index has been compiled by the Institute for Management Development (IMD). Denmark has moved to the top of the 63-nation list from the third position last year, while Switzerland slipped from the top ranking to the second position and Singapore regained the third spot from fifth, a global study showed.
- Japan to participate in NATO summit for the first time**
 Japanese Prime Minister, Fumio Kishida will attend this month's NATO summit in Madrid, becoming the country's first leader to join a top meeting of the transatlantic alliance. The June 28-30 gathering is seen as a crunch moment for the 30 North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies, four months into Russia's war in Ukraine. South Korea's new President Yoon Suk-yeol will also be the first leader from his country to attend.
- S.S. Mundra appointed as chairman of BSE**
 S.S. Mundra, a public interest director to lead the world's largest stock exchange, according to the BSE. Justice Vikramajit Sen will be replaced by Mr. Mundra. After serving for three years, Mr. Mundra left his position as Reserve Bank of India's Deputy Governor in July 2017. Before that, he held the positions of Chairman and Managing Director at Bank of Baroda, until he retired in July 2014.
- 'Single-Use Plastic' use to be banned by Union Govt. from 1st July, 2022**
 'Single-Use Plastic' use to be outlawed from July 1st, 2022 by the Union government. Single-use plastics, particularly those made of polystyrene and expanded polystyrene, will be illegal to produce, import, stock, distribute, sell, and use starting on July 1, 2022, nationwide. A

national task group has also been established by the Environment Ministry to make coordinated efforts in this area.

- **Ranji Trophy 2022: Madhya Pradesh beats Mumbai by six wickets**

Madhya Pradesh wrote history as they won their maiden Ranji Trophy title, beating tournament heavyweights Mumbai by 6 wickets in the final at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru. Under the leadership of Aditya Shrivastava, the team defeated 41-time champions Mumbai. The team was coached by former India wicketkeeper-batsman Chandrakant Pandit. The Ranji Trophy is a domestic first-class cricket championship played in India between multiple teams representing regional and state cricket associations. The competition currently consists of 38 teams, with all 28 states in India and four of the nine union territories having at least one representation.

- **Global Liveability Index 2022 released**

The annual ranking of the world's most liveable cities has just been released by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), and 2022's Global Liveability Index shows some marked differences from the previous year.

2022's Global Liveability Index: The top cities

1. Vienna, Austria
2. Copenhagen, Denmark
3. Zurich, Switzerland

- **Parameswaran Iyer appointed as CEO of NITI Aayog**

Former Drinking and water Sanitation Secretary, Parameswaran Iyer has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of NITI Aayog for 2 years. He will succeed Amitabh Kant.

- **Rajasthan government will introduce India's first right-to-health bill**

The Rajasthan government is soon likely to introduce in the Assembly the Right to Health Bill, "the first of its kind in India", which aims to commit to quality and affordable health care services through government and private health care providers. In January, the government had prepared a draft bill that defines the rights of patients, their attendants and health care providers, as well as a system for addressing grievances of the stakeholders.

- **Google launched Startup School India, targets 10,000 startups in small cities**

Tech Giant, Google launched the Startup School India initiative, which aims to gather relevant information on startup building into a systematic curriculum to help 10,000 startups in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities. The nine-week virtual programme will involve fireside chats between Google leaders and collaborators from across the startup ecosystem.

- **Former Japan Prime Minister Shinzo Abe passes away after being shot**

Shinzo Abe, Former Japan's Prime Minister, who was shot at during an election campaign in western Japan's Nara city, has passed away. The Nara fire department had earlier said that the 67-year-old Abe was in cardiopulmonary arrest before he was taken to the hospital. They said that he had been wounded on the right side of the neck and the left clavicle.

- **India's first Monkeypox case reported in Kerala**

The first case of monkeypox was confirmed in India after a person who had returned to Kerala from UAE developed symptoms of the disease. His samples were sent to National Virology Institute in Pune which confirmed the disease. It was first found in monkeys in 1958.

- **World Youth Skills Day 2022 celebrates globally**
World Youth Skills Day 2022 is observed annually on July 15. It focuses on the strategic importance of equipping young people with skills for employment, decent work and entrepreneurship.
- **Ola introduces India's first indigenously made lithium ion-cell**
Ola Electric has unveiled the country's first indigenously developed lithium-ion cell. The Bengaluru-based two-wheeler maker will begin the mass production of the cell- NMC 2170, from its Chennai-based Gigafactory by 2023. The use of specific chemicals and materials enables the cell to pack more energy in a given space and also improves the overall life cycle of the cell.



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