

## 8th December, 2021 Current Affairs

### 1. According to RBI, Gujarat has grown as India's Largest Manufacturing Hub:



#### Key Highlights:

- Gujarat has left behind Maharashtra to grow as the country's leading manufacturing hub.
- The Data reveals that Gujarat witnessed its Gross Value Addition (GVA) in manufacturing increase by 15.9 percent yearly amidst FY12 and FY20 to reach Rs. 5.11 lakh crore.
- GVA is a financial metric that covers the supply of goods and services.
- Meanwhile, Maharashtra's annual growth rate persisted at half of Gujarat's at 7.5 per cent for the same period, and its GVA for manufacturing reached Rs. 4.34 lakh crore in FY20.
- Maharashtra is still the leading provider of services in India, with the state's services GVA growing by 12.6 percent yearly, accomplishing Rs. 15.1 lakh crore in FY20.

### 2. The United States recently declared a boycott of the 2022 Olympics:

#### Key Highlights:



- The winter Olympics of 2022 will take place in Beijing, and “China’s human rights ATROCITIES” is the main reason for its boycott and named it “Diplomatic Boycott”.
- This means that the US will not send any official or diplomatic representation to participate in the Olympics but will allow American athletes to participate.
- The US boycotted the Olympics in 1980 also. Then the boycott was to oppose the Soviet Union military presence in Afghanistan.
- The Chinese Government boycotted the Olympics in 1972, as china declared that the International Olympics Committee failed to recognize its team.
- China is hosting both the Summer and Winter Olympics for the first time in the Olympics history.
- Around six likely cities of Europe were left out due to the doping scandal.

#### What are the reason for boycotting:

- Situations in Taiwan and Tibet.
- The crackdown in Hong Kong.
- Abuse of minority Muslim Uyghurs in Xinjiang.

#### About Olympics:

- The Summer and Winter Olympics are held once every four years. The Summer Olympics is generally referred to as the Olympics with more countries participating.

- On the other hand, the Winter Olympics is a comparatively **more minor event**.
- The summer Olympics are **held once every four years**, and the winter Olympics are **held two years after that**.
- In 2008 **China hosted the Summer Olympics** and now will host the **Winter Olympics in 2022**.
- The significant cities from the world make **competitive bids every two years** to the International Olympics Committee.
- This bid is **conducted seven years** before the games. The IOC then makes rigorous audits to check if the city bid can host the games.
- This is because the **city has to accommodate many sportspeople, government delegates**, should provide security, etc. Based on these factors and the bidding, the members cast their votes. The winning city hosts the games.

3. [The Myanmar special court sentenced Aung San Suu Kyi to 4 years of prison for breaching coronavirus restrictions.](#)



[Key Highlights:](#)

- Aung San Suu Kyi **is a Burmese politician**. She served as State Counsellor of Myanmar **between 2016 and 2021**.
- Aung San Suu Kyi held the position of State Counsellor of Myanmar between 2016 and 2021, equivalent to the Prime Ministerial office. She is **Aung San's, the Father of Myanmar, the youngest daughter**.

- She was arrested before elections and house arrested for 15 years in 1989, **making her one of the** world's most notable political prisoners and was called the "Children of Gandhi"
- She was condemned to be prisoned for two charges - encouraging the public against the military of Myanmar and also **for breaching COVID-19 protocols.**
- She currently **suffers 11 charges** that can bring the highest arrest of 102 years.

#### The other major questionable cases against her are as follows:

- Alleged use of walkie-talkies by her security guards.
- Corruption in giving permits to buy a helicopter.
- Breaking the Official Secrets Act.

#### What is the issue?

- Aung San Suu Kyi is the head of the National League for Democracy. The military of **Myanmar holds 25% of the** total seats in the parliament.
- In 2021, the newly elected lawmakers were to hold the first session of the parliament. The military seized a state of **emergency just before the session claiming voting fraud in the elections.**
- Through emergency, the military seized control in a coup. This was the third time the military seized power in Myanmar since its **liberation from British rule in 1948**, and Aung San Suu Kyi was arrested after the coup.

#### 4. The Davis Cup 2021 has been won by the Russian Tennis Federation.



#### Key Highlights:

- The Davis Cup finals was held between **Daniil Medvedev and Andrey Rublev of Russia.**
- And Daniit Medvedev has won the match, taking victory to the **Russian Tennis Federation.**

### About the Davis Cup:

- The **Davis Cup** is also named the **World Cup of Tennis** as it is an international team competition in men's tennis.
- The **Billie Jean King Cup** is the women's equivalent of the **Davis Cup**. The International Tennis Federation conducts it on hard courts.
- The **first time it was held in 1900 as a trial between** the US and Britain, and **by 2016, 135 countries were** participating in the tournament.
- The most **victorious countries** of the Davis cup are the USA, Australia, New Zealand, where the USA has won the Davis Title 32 times, Australia has won 28 times.
- It is a **single-elimination tournament**, as each match's loser is immediately eliminated from the tournament.
- The other type of tournament held is Playoff, where the top competitors determine the league champion.
- The most common type is the **"regular season"**, also called Group Tournament. The **teams are divided into groups, and each group plays** a specific number of games against their opponent.

### About International Tennis Federation:

- The International Tennis Federation manages the Davis Cup. The **ITF is the governing body of beach tennis**, wheelchair tennis and world tennis. It collaborates with the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) and Women's Tennis Association (WTA) to govern professional tennis.
- **The ITF organizes Davis cup** (of men), Billie Jean King Cup (of women), Grand Slam, Hopman Cup.

## 5. The Exercise Ekuverin exercise held between India and Maldives.



- Ekuverin means “Friends” in the Dhivehi language and an Indo – Aryan language, spoken in India, Lakshadweep and Maldives.
- The Exercise has been conducted between India and Maldives since 2008.
- In 2019, the Exercise was conducted in Pune, Maharashtra and in 2018, it was held in the Maldives.
- The 2021 Exercise Ekuverin was held in the Maldives, aiming on enhancing interoperability among the armed forces of India and Maldives.
- It also incorporated counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations.
- This joint Exercise in 2021 also has sports and cultural activities to improve bilateral and defence relations.
- India’s Policy of the Indian Ocean is focused on implementing security and political stability to Mauritius, Maldives, Seychelles and Sri Lanka. India aims to counter the expanding face of China in the region as India views itself as a security provider in the Indian Ocean Region.
- India is the first responder in Human Availability Disaster Recovery Operations.
- The piracy in the Indian Ocean Region has increased so that Exercise Ekuverin will assist in all the above issues.
- The Exercise helps the militaries in understanding each other’s drills and procedures and disaster relief operations.
- It helps to overcome language barriers and aids in weapon familiarization which is essential in war or humanitarian aid.

## 6. 56th and 57th Jnanpith Award:



Assamese poet Nilmani Phookan Jr has won the 56th Jnanpith Award and Konkani novelist Damodar Mauzo has won the 57th Jnanpith Award.

### Key Highlights:

- Phookan is a **Padma Shri and Sahitya Akademi** awardee.
- He is a famed poet from Guwahati who has penned Surya Henu Nami Ahe Ei Nodiyedi, Gulapi Jamur Lagna, and Kobita.
- In 1990, Phookan was given the Padma Shri, and in **2002**, he was awarded the **Sahitya Akademi Fellowship**.
- Phookan is the third Assamese author to win the Jnanpith award.
- Before Phookan, Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya received the award in **1979**, and **Mamoni Raisom Goswami** received it in 2000.
- **Mauzo is based in Majorda, Goa**, and has won the Sahitya Akademi Award. He is most known for his books Karmelin and Tsunami Simon and his short tales Teresa's Man and Other Goa Stories.
- This is the second Jnanpith Award for a Konkani writer, with **Ravindra Kelekar** receiving the **first in 2006**.

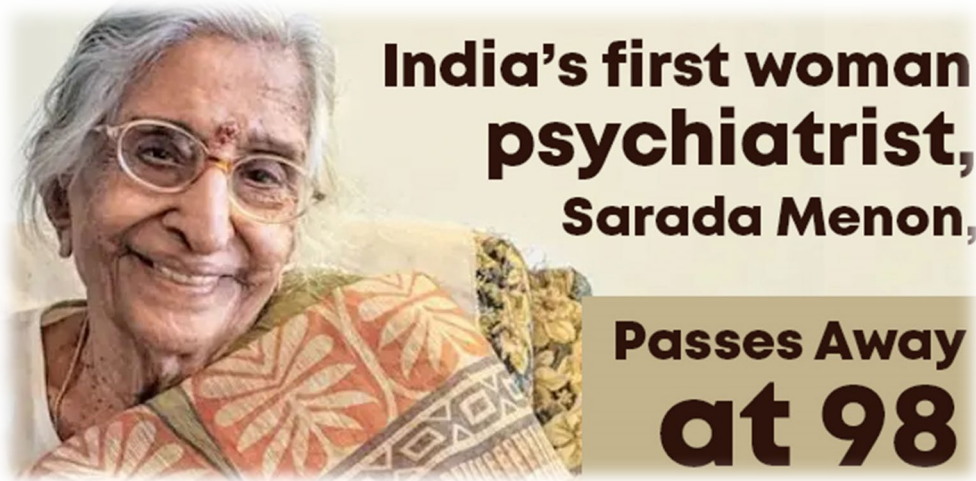
### About Jnanpith Award:

- The Jnanpith is the **country's highest literary prize** which is given to writers for "**great contributions to literature.**"
- The **Bharatiya Jnanpith organization bestows** the Jnanpith Award on a writer from India every year.

- This award was **established in 1961** and is **only granted** to Indian writers who write in both **Indian languages and English**.

7. **Padma Bhushan Dr. Mamballaikalathil Sarada Menon Passed away:**

**Key Highlights:**



- India's **1st woman Psychiatrist and the long-term head of the** Institute of Mental Health, Padma Bhushan Dr Mamballaikalathil Sarada Menon, **has passed away at 98**.
- She was born **on 5 April 1923** in a Malayali **family in Mangalore, Karnataka**. **She was bestowed** with Padma Bhushan in 1992 for her social works.

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**About Dr. Sarada Menon:**

- Dr. M Sarada Menon **started her career in 1959** as a Psychiatrist in the Institute of Mental Health in Kilpauk, Chennai.
- She became the **1st woman Director of the Institute of Mental Health in 1961**.
- She had founded the Schizophrenia Research Foundation (SCARF India) in 1984 and psychiatrist R Thara.
- She also established ASHA, a community-based platform assisting the families of those affected by mental illnesses.



8. **FICCI announced that Sanjiva Mehta will be designated as president:**



- Now the Chairman and Managing Director, of Hindustan Unilever Limited, **Sanjiva Mehta** will become the Senior Vice President of **FICCI** by replacing **media** veteran Uday Shankar.
- Sanjiva Mehta is also the **President of Unilever South Asia (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka & Nepal)** and is a part of the 'Unilever Leadership Executive', Unilever's Global Executive Board.

**About Sanjiv Mehta:**

- Sanjiva Mehta **has completed his Bachelors in** Commerce (India), Chartered Accountancy (India) and has also achieved his Advanced Management Program (Harvard Business School).
- Mr. Mehta is a **Chartered Accountant**.

**About FCCI:**

FICCI was **founded in 1927**. It is headquartered in **10 New Delhi**.

- The current FICCI President is Harshvardhan Neotia, and **Secretary-General is Arun Chawla**.