

Countries & Their Leaders 2026

Heads of State, Prime Ministers and heads of world bodies – checked on 30 September 2026

17 changes in 2026

40 countries + EU

20 world bodies

NABARD | RBI | SEBI

Leaders who changed in 2026

Most asked in exams – learn these first



United Kingdom

20 Jul 2026

PRIME MINISTER

Andy Burnham

Replaced: Keir Starmer (resigned)



Iran

8 Mar 2026

SUPREME LEADER

Mojtaba Khamenei

Replaced: Ali Khamenei (killed in an airstrike, 28 Feb)



Bangladesh

17 Feb 2026

PRIME MINISTER

Tarique Rahman (BNP)

Replaced: Muhammad Yunus (interim Chief Adviser)



Bangladesh

21 Aug 2026

PRESIDENT

Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir

Replaced: Mohammed Shahabuddin (resigned)



Nepal

27 Mar 2026

PRIME MINISTER

Balendra (Balen) Shah

Replaced: Sushila Karki (interim) – youngest PM of federal Nepal (35)



Myanmar

10 Apr 2026

PRESIDENT

Min Aung Hlaing

The Prime Minister post has ended



Vietnam

7 Apr 2026

PRESIDENT

To Lam

Replaced: Luong Cuong – To Lam is also Party chief



Vietnam

7 Apr 2026

PRIME MINISTER

Le Minh Hung

Replaced: Pham Minh Chinh



South Korea

1 Jul 2026

PRIME MINISTER

Han Seong-sook

Replaced: Kim Min-seok



Ukraine

16 Jul 2026

PRIME MINISTER

Serhii Koretskyi

Replaced: Yulia Svyrydenko (resigned)



Canada

8 Jun 2026

GOVERNOR GENERAL

Louise Arbour

Replaced: Mary Simon



Japan

Feb 2026

PRIME MINISTER

Sanae Takaichi

Re-appointed after the 8 Feb 2026 election



Thailand

19 Mar 2026

PRIME MINISTER

Anutin Charnvirakul

Re-elected after the 8 Feb 2026 election



African Union

14 Feb 2026

CHAIR FOR 2026

Evariste Ndayishimiye (Burundi)

Replaced: Joao Lourenco (Angola)

 **UN General Assembly**
PRESIDENT, 81ST SESSION
Khalilur Rahman (Bangladesh)
New session

Sep 2026

 **AIIB**
PRESIDENT
Zou Jiayi (China)
Replaced: Jin Liqun – first woman to head AIIB

16 Jan 2026

 **SCO**
CHAIR 2026–27
Pakistan
Replaced: Kyrgyzstan

1 Sep 2026

Major powers, G7 and G20

Country	Head of State	Head of Government
 India	President Droupadi Murmu	PM Narendra Modi Vice-President: C.P. Radhakrishnan
 USA	President Donald Trump (heads both)	
 UK	King Charles III	PM Andy Burnham NEW 2026
 France	President Emmanuel Macron	PM Sebastien Lecornu
 Germany	President Frank-Walter Steinmeier	Chancellor Friedrich Merz
 Italy	President Sergio Mattarella	PM Giorgia Meloni
 Japan	Emperor Naruhito	PM Sanae Takaichi
 Canada	King Charles III	PM Mark Carney Governor General: Louise Arbour (new 2026)
 Russia	President Vladimir Putin	PM Mikhail Mishustin
 China	President Xi Jinping	Premier Li Qiang
 Brazil	President Lula da Silva (heads both) Election on 4 Oct 2026	
 Argentina	President Javier Milei (heads both)	
 Mexico	President Claudia Sheinbaum (heads both)	
 South Africa	President Cyril Ramaphosa (heads both)	
 Australia	King Charles III	PM Anthony Albanese Governor-General: Sam Mostyn
 South Korea	President Lee Jae-myung	PM Han Seong-sook NEW 2026
 Indonesia	President Prabowo Subianto (heads both)	
 Saudi Arabia	King Salman	Crown Prince & PM Mohammed bin Salman
 Turkiye	President Recep Tayyip Erdogan (heads both)	
 European Union	Commission: Ursula von der Leyen	Council: Antonio Costa Parliament: Roberta Metsola

India's neighbours

Country	Head of State	Head of Government
 Nepal	President Ram Chandra Paudel	PM Balendra (Balen) Shah NEW 2026
 Bangladesh	President Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir NEW 2026	PM Tarique Rahman NEW 2026
 Sri Lanka	President Anura Kumara Dissanayake	PM Harini Amarasuriya

	Pakistan	President Asif Ali Zardari	PM Shehbaz Sharif
	Bhutan	King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck	PM Tshering Tobgay
	Maldives	President Mohamed Muizzu (heads both)	
	Myanmar	President Min Aung Hlaing NEW 2026 (heads both) No Prime Minister post now	
	Afghanistan	Supreme Leader Hibatullah Akhundzada	PM Mohammad Hasan Akhund Taliban – not widely recognised

West Asia, Europe, Africa, Oceania

Country	Head of State	Head of Government
 Iran	Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei NEW 2026	President Masoud Pezeshkian
 Israel	President Isaac Herzog	PM Benjamin Netanyahu Election on 27 Oct 2026
 UAE	President Mohamed bin Zayed	VP & PM Mohammed bin Rashid
 Ukraine	President Volodymyr Zelenskyy	PM Serhii Koretskyi NEW 2026
 Egypt	President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi	PM Mostafa Madbouly
 Nigeria	President Bola Ahmed Tinubu (heads both)	
 Spain	King Felipe VI	PM Pedro Sanchez
 New Zealand	King Charles III	PM Christopher Luxon Election on 7 Nov 2026

Southeast Asia

Country	Head of State	Head of Government
 Singapore	President Tharman Shanmugaratnam	PM Lawrence Wong
 Malaysia	King Sultan Ibrahim	PM Anwar Ibrahim
 Thailand	King Maha Vajiralongkorn	PM Anutin Charnvirakul
 Vietnam	President To Lam NEW 2026	PM Le Minh Hung NEW 2026
Philippines	President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. (heads both)	

Heads of world bodies

Banks, UN bodies and alliances

	SECRETARY-GENERAL Antonio Guterres Portugal – Term ends 31 Dec 2026		PRESIDENT (81ST) Khalilur Rahman NEW 2026 Bangladesh
	MANAGING DIRECTOR Kristalina Georgieva Bulgaria		WORLD BANK PRESIDENT Ajay Banga USA (born in India)
	DIRECTOR-GENERAL Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala Nigeria		DIRECTOR-GENERAL Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus Ethiopia
	DIRECTOR-GENERAL Khaled El-Enany Egypt – Since Nov 2025		DIRECTOR-GENERAL Qu Dongyu China

IFAD	PRESIDENT Alvaro Lario Spain	NDB	PRESIDENT (BRICS BANK) Dilma Rousseff Brazil
AIIB	PRESIDENT Zou Jiayi NEW 2026 China – First woman	ADB	PRESIDENT Masato Kanda Japan – Re-elected; new term from 24 Nov 2026
BIS	GENERAL MANAGER Pablo Hernandez de Cos Spain	NATO	SECRETARY GENERAL Mark Rutte Netherlands
OPEC	SECRETARY GENERAL Haitham Al Ghais Kuwait	INTERPOL	SECRETARY GENERAL Valdecy Urquiza Brazil
ILO	DIRECTOR-GENERAL Gilbert F. Houngbo Togo – Term ends 30 Sep 2027	UNICEF	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Catherine M. Russell USA
UNEP	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Inger Andersen Denmark	AU	COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON Mahmoud Ali Youssouf Djibouti

Who chairs what in 2026

BRICS  India 18th summit, New Delhi, 12–13 Sep	G20  USA Summit in Miami, 14–15 Dec	G7  France Evian summit, 15–17 Jun	SCO  Pakistan 2026–27, from 1 Sep
ASEAN  Philippines 49th summit, Metro Manila, Nov	AFRICAN UNION  Burundi Chair: Evariste Ndayishimiye	BIMSTEC  Bangladesh Chair since Apr 2025	COP31  Turkiye Antalya, 9–20 Nov

Coming up – these can change the list

4 Oct	Brazil general election (run-off 25 Oct if needed)
27 Oct	Israel Knesset election
3 Nov	USA mid-term elections for Congress
7 Nov	New Zealand general election
16 Nov	ILO Director-General election (term from 1 Oct 2027)
1 Jan 2027	New UN Secretary-General takes office (not chosen yet)
30 Jan 2027	Germany elects its next Federal President

Tip: In the exam, questions ask for the **new** name. Revise the red "NEW 2026" names first. Free daily current affairs and monthly PDFs: c4scourses.in | WhatsApp: **+91 87086 52887**