

Current Affairs 2026

*January to September — every major event for UPSC, SSC, banking,
railway and state exams, with practice questions*

SUBASH

The Year at a Glance

The thirty facts of January to September 2026 most likely to be asked. Revise this page first, and last.

- **Union Budget 2026-27** presented on 1 February 2026. Fiscal deficit target: 4.3 per cent of GDP. Capital expenditure: Rs 12.2 lakh crore.

- **Economic Survey 2025-26** tabled on 29 January 2026: growth of 7.4 per cent in 2025-26, and 6.8 to 7.2 per cent projected for 2026-27.

- **Repo rate** held at 5.25 per cent at every meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee from February to August 2026, with a neutral stance.

- **GDP grew 7.8 per cent** in April-June 2026, the first quarter of 2026-27.

- **New base years:** 2022-23 for GDP and industrial production; 2024 for the Consumer Price Index.

- **16th Finance Commission** report tabled on 1 February 2026, for 2026-27 to 2030-31. States' share of the divisible pool kept at 41 per cent.

- **India-EU Free Trade Agreement** negotiations concluded on 27 January 2026, at the 16th India-EU Summit in New Delhi.

- **Republic Day 2026** chief guests: European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Council President António Costa. Theme: 150 years of Vande Mataram.

- **India AI Impact Summit** held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, 16–21 February 2026. The New Delhi Declaration on AI Impact was adopted on 19 February.

- **Assembly elections:** results on 4 May 2026. New Chief Ministers: C. Joseph Vijay (Tamil Nadu), Suvendu Adhikari (West Bengal, the state's first BJP Chief Minister), V. D. Satheesan (Kerala). Himanta Biswa Sarma (Assam) and N. Rangasamy (Puducherry) returned.

- **Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, 2026**, meant to bring women's reservation into effect, was defeated in the Lok Sabha on 17 April 2026: 298 for, 230 against, short of the two-thirds needed.

- **Supreme Court** strength raised from 34 to 38 judges, including the Chief Justice of India.

- **Kerala to Keralam:** Parliament passed the Kerala (Alteration of Name) Bill, 2026 in August.

- **Census 2027** began with house-listing from 1 April 2026: India's first digital census, with self-enumeration.

- **First Vande Bharat sleeper train** flagged off on 17 January 2026, from Malda Town, on the Howrah–Kamakhya route.

- **18th BRICS Summit** at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, 12–13 September 2026, under India's chairship.

- **26th SCO Summit** in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 31 August–1 September 2026.

- **2026 Iran war:** strikes by the United States and Israel on Iran began on 28 February 2026; a conditional ceasefire was declared on 8 April. The Strait of Hormuz was shut and oil prices surged.

- **Bangladesh:** Tarique Rahman sworn in as Prime Minister on 17 February 2026. **Nepal:** Balen Shah sworn in on 27 March 2026, the country's youngest Prime Minister.

- **Artemis II** flew four astronauts around the Moon: launch on 1 April, splashdown on 10 April 2026.

- **New service chiefs:** General Dhiraj Seth (Army, from 30 June 2026) and Admiral Krishna Swaminathan (Navy, from 31 May 2026).

- **India has 101 Ramsar sites** (August 2026). The latest is Glaw Lake in Arunachal Pradesh.

- **Padma Awards 2026:** 131 awards, including 5 Padma Vibhushan.

- **60th Jnanpith Award** (for 2025): Tamil poet and lyricist Vairamuthu.

- **ICC Men's T20 World Cup:** India beat New Zealand by 96 runs in the final at Ahmedabad on 8 March 2026. Third title, the first successful defence, and the first win by a host.

- **IPL 2026:** Royal Challengers Bengaluru beat Gujarat Titans in the final on 31 May, their second title in a row.

- **FIFA World Cup 2026:** Spain beat Argentina 1–0 after extra time on 19 July. Golden Ball: Rodri.

- **Commonwealth Games, Glasgow:** India fourth with 39 medals (13 gold, 17 silver, 9 bronze).

- **Chess:** Javokhir Sindarov won the Candidates and will play D. Gukesh for the world title. R. Vaishali won the Women's Candidates.

- **Chess Olympiad, Samarkand:** India won silver in the Open section and bronze in the Women's section.

CHAPTER 1

Five Assembly Elections

Elections to the legislative assemblies of four states and one union territory — Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Puducherry — were held in April 2026. The results were declared on 4 May 2026, and three of them changed the government.

Tamil Nadu. The Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK), the party founded by actor Vijay, won 108 seats. With the support of the Indian National Congress, which won five, it formed the government. C. Joseph Vijay was sworn in as the 22nd Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu on 10 May 2026; Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar administered the oath. The result ended nearly six decades in which the state had been governed by one of the two Dravidian parties.

West Bengal. The Bharatiya Janata Party won the state for the first time. Suvendu Adhikari was sworn in as West Bengal's first BJP Chief Minister on 9 May 2026.

Kerala. The Congress-led United Democratic Front won, ending the Left Democratic Front government of Pinarayi Vijayan. V. D. Satheesan was sworn in as Chief Minister with twenty ministers on 18 May 2026, at the Central Stadium in Thiruvananthapuram. Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar administered the oath.

Assam. The BJP-led alliance retained power. Himanta Biswa Sarma was sworn in for a second consecutive term on 12 May 2026

in Guwahati. Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya administered the oath.

Puducherry. The All India N.R. Congress-led NDA retained the union territory. N. Rangasamy was sworn in as Chief Minister for a record fifth time on 13 May 2026. Lieutenant Governor K. Kailashnathan administered the oath.

The static link. A Chief Minister is appointed by the Governor under Article 164 of the Constitution; in Puducherry, a union territory with a legislature created under Article 239A, the Chief Minister is appointed by the President under the Government of Union Territories Act, 1963 and takes the oath before the Lieutenant Governor. Elections to state legislatures are conducted by the Election Commission of India under Article 324.

Revision box — elections

- *Results of all five elections: 4 May 2026.*
- *Tamil Nadu: C. Joseph Vijay (TVK), sworn in 10 May 2026. TVK won 108 seats; Congress supported.*
- *West Bengal: Suvendu Adhikari, first BJP Chief Minister, sworn in 9 May 2026.*
- *Kerala: V. D. Satheesan (Congress, UDF), sworn in 18 May 2026.*
- *Assam: Himanta Biswa Sarma, second term, sworn in 12 May 2026.*
- *Puducherry: N. Rangasamy (AINRC), fifth term, sworn in 13 May 2026.*

The story continues.

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