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# Modi Becomes India's Longest Continuously-Elected Prime Minister

10 June 2026

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CURATED &amp; WRITTEN BY

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# Modi Becomes India's Longest Continuously-Elected Prime Minister

10 June 2026 · 3 min read · ·

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## WHY IN NEWS

On **June 10, 2026**, **Narendra Modi** completed **4,399 consecutive days** in office, surpassing the elected tenure of **Jawaharlal Nehru** by a single day to become India's **longest continuously-elected Prime Minister**. The milestone is an occasion to revise the constitutional office of the Prime Minister, the distinction between continuous and total tenure, and the place of the office in India's parliamentary system.

## THE RECORD, PRECISELY STATED

It is important to be precise about what record this is, as the distinctions are exam-relevant.

MEASURE	DETAIL
Modi's continuous elected tenure	4,399 days (record set June 10, 2026)
First oath	May 26, 2014; re-elected 2019 and 2024
Nehru's elected tenure (benchmark)	4,398 days (May 13, 1952 to May 27, 1964)
Longest <i>overall</i> PM tenure	Jawaharlal Nehru (about 16 years and 9 months, including the pre-1952 period)
Indira Gandhi	Served over 14 years, but not continuously

The record is for the longest **continuous, elected** run. Nehru's **total** tenure (counting the period before the first general election) remains the longest overall, and Indira Gandhi served long but in non-continuous spells. The careful phrasing, "longest continuously-elected Prime Minister," is what distinguishes this milestone.

## THE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

The Prime Minister is the head of government and the central figure of India's parliamentary executive.

PROVISION	WHAT IT SAYS
<b>Article 74</b>	There shall be a Council of Ministers, headed by the Prime Minister, to aid and advise the President, who acts on that advice
<b>Article 75</b>	The Prime Minister is appointed by the President; other ministers are appointed by the President on the PM's advice; the Council is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha
<b>Article 78</b>	Duties of the PM to communicate the Council's decisions to the President and furnish information the President seeks

In practice, the President appoints as Prime Minister the leader who commands the **confidence of the majority in the Lok Sabha**. The PM heads the Council of Ministers, allocates portfolios, chairs the Cabinet, and is the principal channel between the Council and the President.

## WHY THE OFFICE MATTERS

The Prime Minister's position reflects the core of parliamentary democracy:

- **Collective responsibility:** the Council of Ministers is collectively answerable to the Lok Sabha, so the government must retain the House's confidence.
- **Real executive power:** while the President is the constitutional head, real executive authority rests with the Council of Ministers headed by the PM.
- **Continuity and stability:** long, stable tenures can aid policy continuity, while the system's checks, elections, the legislature, the judiciary and a free press, preserve accountability.

## UPSC RELEVANCE

### Prelims

- Modi completed **4,399 consecutive days** as PM on June 10, 2026; first oath **May 26, 2014**
- Surpassed **Nehru's elected tenure** of 4,398 days (1952 to 1964) by one day
- Record is for the **longest continuously-elected** PM; Nehru's **overall** tenure remains the longest
- PM-related Articles: **74** (Council of Ministers aids and advises President), **75** (appointment, collective responsibility), **78** (PM's duties)
- The PM is appointed by the President and must command the confidence of the **Lok Sabha**

## Mains Angles

- 1 **GS2 Union Executive:** Discuss the constitutional position and powers of the Prime Minister in India's parliamentary system.
- 2 **GS2 Accountability:** Examine how the system balances executive stability with mechanisms of accountability (collective responsibility, elections, the judiciary).

## FACTS CORNER

FACT	DETAIL
Milestone	Longest continuously-elected PM
Modi's continuous tenure	4,399 days (June 10, 2026)
First oath	May 26, 2014; re-elected 2019, 2024
Nehru's elected tenure	4,398 days (1952 to 1964)
Longest overall tenure	Jawaharlal Nehru
PM appointed by	The President (Article 75)
PM aids and advises	The President (Article 74)
Collective responsibility	To the Lok Sabha

Sources: *Business Today*, *The Tribune*, *PIB*

Source: Modi Becomes India's Longest Continuously-Elected Prime Minister — Ujyari.com | Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs

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