

# Barbados elected first ever President

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**In news-** Barbados has elected its first ever president and replaced the UK Queen as head of the state.

## Key updates-

- **Dame Sandra Mason, is set to be sworn in on 30 November, which will mark the country's 55th anniversary of independence from Britain.**
- **The first woman to serve on the Barbados Court of Appeals, Dame Sandra has been governor-general since 2018.**
- **Barbados will not be the first former British colony in the Caribbean to become a republic.**
- Guyana took that step in 1970, less than four years after gaining independence from Britain.
- Trinidad and Tobago followed suit in 1976 and Dominica in 1978.

Countries where the Queen is head of state



## About Barbados:

- Barbados **is an eastern Caribbean island and an independent British Commonwealth nation.**
- With a population of about 285,000, it is one of the more populous and prosperous Caribbean islands.
- Once heavily dependent on sugar exports, its economy has diversified into tourism and finance.



- The **capital and largest town is Bridgetown**, which is also the main seaport.
- The **island was a British possession** without interruption **from the 17th century to 1966**, when it attained independence.