

**Office of the Chief Electoral Officer
West Bengal**

No. 08/CEO/PN/2026

Dated: 22.03.2026

PRESS NOTE

In compliance with the directives of the Election Commission of India following the announcement of the General Election on 16.03.2026, the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) is being rigorously enforced across all 294 Assembly Constituencies in West Bengal.

MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT

Extensive drives for removal of unauthorized political advertisements are ongoing. As per latest reports, widespread public and private property defacements have been cleared across all districts and the District Election Officers have certified removal of defacement from all the public properties under their jurisdiction.

Following is the detail of the district wise defacement removal and total cases registered.

**District-wise Status of Enforcement of Model Code of Conduct
(As on 22.03.2026)**

Name of District	Public Property Defacement Removed	Private Property Defacement Removed	Total Cases
CoochBehar	29474	4017	33491
Alipurduar	8522	3449	11971
Jalpaiguri	4450	65	4520
Kalimpong	593	0	593
Darjeeling	7348	687	8035
Uttar Dinajpur	18249	799	19110
Dakshin Dinajpur	8431	1282	14421
Malda	2805	118	2923
Murshidabad	9079	0	12506
Nadia	6231	209	6440
North 24 Parganas	31789	105	31920
South 24 Parganas	18789	235	19348
Kolkata South	7531	0	7531
Kolkata North'	5821	0	5821
Howrah	7276	0	7460
Hooghly	19474	0	24603
Purba Medinipur	27479	322	27801
Paschim Medinipur	20274	2129	22466
Jhargram	5002	50	5052
State Total	9231	0	9231
Purba Bardhaman	16101	381	19400
Paschim Bardhaman	31452	3352	35798
Bankura	10101	344	11928
Birbhum	6327	2357	16617
State total	311829	19901	358986

Enforcement and Seizure

Intensive monitoring has led to significant seizures. Since the announcement of the election, cumulative seizures of cash, liquor, narcotics, precious metals, and other freebies have been executed to curb illegal inducements.

The detailed district-wise enforcement report regarding itemized summary of seizures is provided in following table.

Seizure of Cash, Liquor, Drugs/Narcotics, Precious Metals & Freebies (As on 22.03.2026)

Sl. No.	Item	Cumulative Seizure (Since 26.02.2026)
1	Cash	₹ 282.33 Lakhs
2	Liquor	1035141.33 Litres / ₹ 2620.12 Lakhs
3	Drugs/Narcotics	2630991.28 gm / ₹ 2795.88 Lakhs
4	Precious Metals	114301.90 gm / ₹ 1321.83 Lakhs
5	Freebies/Other Items	67010789.98 quantity / ₹ 11110.89 Lakhs
	TOTAL VALUE	₹ 18131.06 Lakhs

Major Seizure: As intimidated by the CRPF on duty, substantive quantity of 5.8 kg narcotics in bag and 2.7 kg kg other narcotics in the form of capsule have been seized at Patlakhawa area of Coochbehar district from 2 buses during NAKA checking. Details will be shared subsequently.

- Flying Squad Teams (FST): A total of 1879 FSTs have been deployed. These teams are actively responding to complaints received through the cVigil app and other sources.
- Static Surveillance Teams (SST): 2235 SSTs are operational at designated check-posts across the state. These teams have conducted rigorous checks of vehicles to prevent the illegal transport of cash and other inducements.

Law & Order

On March 21, 2026, the Kolkata Police, in coordination with Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF), successfully intervened in two separate incidents to maintain public peace and ensure the rule of law within the city and its outskirts.

1. Rapid Intervention Prevents Political Clash in Baranagar

In the first incident, tensions escalated at **Gopal Lal Thakur Road** under the jurisdiction of **Baranagar Police Station**. The friction arose following allegations of an attack on a BJP party office by TMC workers. The dispute further intensified over the "forcible capture" of an overhead bamboo gate erected for displaying banners.

Upon receiving the alert, **Flying Squad Team (FST)** along with **CAPF personnel** rushed to the spot. Their prompt arrival effectively:

- Separated the opposing groups before physical violence could erupt.
- Prevented any injuries or damage to property.
- Restored normalcy in the area.

Following the intervention, the FST team removed the bamboo structure as it had been unauthorizedly constructed on public ground.

2. Arrests Made in Criminal Intimidation Case

In a separate development, **Kalighat Police Station** acted on a formal complaint lodged by a resident of that area. The complainant alleged serious criminal intimidation by local individuals.

Acting swiftly on the complaint, police have arrested two suspects within hours.

A case has been registered at Kalighat PS under the following sections of the **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)**:

- **Section 329(4):** (Related to criminal trespass/extortionate threats)
- **Section 351(2):** (Criminal Intimidation)
- **Section 4:** (General provisions/punishments)

The investigation into this matter is currently ongoing.

"The combined efforts of the local police and CAPF underscore our commitment to maintaining a peaceful environment. We urge all citizens to adhere to public safety regulations and report any suspicious activities immediately."

3. CD Volunteers demobilized:

On the basis of complaints received regarding 2 Civil Defense (CD) volunteers in East Medinipur district, enquiries have been launched against them and 2 CD volunteers have been demobilized.

4. Arrest of criminals:

From Kandi, Murshidabad, 2 criminals have been arrested by police and specific case has been launched by OC Kandi regarding intimidation of voters by these 2 criminals.

Daily law and order report is placed below (As on 22/03/2026)

Sr. No.	Items	Reporting Day	Cumulative from 15/03/2026	Remarks	
1	No. of Unlicensed Arms/Explosive Seized				
	a) Arms / Weapons	Arms / Weapons	8	67	9 Weapons included
	b) Cartridges/ Explosives/ Bombs (Quantity/ Numbers)	(i) Cartridges	4	96	
		(ii) Explosives	0		
(iii) Bombs		1	337		
2	No. of illicit arms manufacturing centers raided and seizures made	a) Centers raided	0	0	
		b) Seizures made	0	0	
3	Licensed Arms	a) Total Licensed Arms	23264	52814	
		b) Deposited	1390	29775	
		c) Impounded	172	1102	
		d) Cancelled & deposited	15	143	
		e) Exempted	42	149	
		f) Pending [a-(b+c+d+e)]	21645	21645	
5	Execution of non-bailable warrants	a) Pending at the beginning of the day	21112	24933	
		b) New NBWs received during the day	282	3040	
		c) Total No. of NBWs(a+b)	21394	27973	
		d) No. of NBWs executed	70	853	

		e) No. of NBWs returned to court unexecuted.	473	6269	
		f) No. of NBWs pending at the end of the day [c-(d+e)]	20851	20851	
9	No. of Nakas Operational	a) Inter- State	101	101	
		b) Intra-State	626	626	
10	No. of operational	a) FST	1105	1105	
		b) SST	1073	1073	
		C) QRT	0	0	

General and Police Observers, DEOs, Ros as well Police officials from DGP down to the SHOs of the Police Stations have been directed to maintain strict vigil and to take stern action against all the miscreants irrespective of their party affiliations.

ECI has got ZERO tolerance attitude for any law-and-order issues and will ensure that any attempt for threatening and intimidation of voters which may lead to obstruction of free and fare polls would be dealt with in the strictest possible manner.

The Commission remains committed to ensuring strict compliance with the MCC and providing a free, fair, induce free and transparent electoral environment.

Sd/-
(Arindam Niyogi)
Additional Chief Electoral Officer
West Bengal