

**Office of the Chief Electoral Officer
West Bengal
13, Strand Road, Kolkata 700001**

No. 10/CEO/PN/2026

Dated: 24.03.2026

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.

Voters awareness programme

Voters awareness activity (SVEEP) is an integral part of election management system to generate mass awareness among the people about various issues related to voting process thereby encourage them to cast their vote. Today a programme was organised by the office of the DEO, Kolkata South at Women Christian's College, Kolkata.

Sri Randhir Kumar, IAS, DEO, Kolkata South, Sri Apurva Kumar Singh, Dy. Director, Media, ECI, Sri Arindam Niyogi, Addl CEO, (SVEEP), O/o CEO, WB were the dignitaries who were present in the programme.

Electoral Literacy Club Members, District NVD Awardees, District and State SVEEP team members, BLOs of Kolkata South, ELC Members of Women's Christian College also participated in the programme.

Inter State Border Meeting Ahead of Assembly Elections

The Election Commission of India has convened an Inter-State Border meeting with the Senior officials including Chief Secretaries, DGP, State Police Nodal Officers and other senior officials of Assam, West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odissa, Sikkim and other states was held today. The meeting aimed to strengthen coordination among bordering states to ensure effective enforcement, security arrangements, and smooth conduct of the electoral process.

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 / misuse of money power in elections.

The cumulative State wise enforcement report regarding itemized summary of seizures is provided in following table.

Seizure of Cash, Liquor, Drugs/Narcotics, Precious Metals & Freebies (As on 23.03.2026)

Sl. No.	Item	Cumulative Seizure (Since 26.02.2026)
1	Cash	₹ 347.88 Lakhs
2	Liquor	1179189.56 Liters / ₹ 2978.24 Lakhs
3	Drugs/Narcotics	2771673.68 gm / ₹ 2916.74 Lakhs
4	Precious Metals	114301.90 gm / ₹ 1321.83 Lakhs
5	Freebies/Other Items	71992175.13 quantity / ₹ 12326.37 Lakhs
	TOTAL VALUE	₹ 19891.07 Lakhs

CRPF on duty officials recovered Rs. 4,60,900/- cash at Dantia Naka Point, PS Balarampur, Dist Purulia this morning in coordination with the district Police.

Meeting was held with DG, BSF, Addl. DG, CRPF, State CAPF Commandant, SSPNO, DG, WB, CP, Kolkata Police, State Observer (Sri Subrata Gupta), State Police Observer (Sri N.K. Mishra) and CEO, WB regarding arrangement for ensuing Assembly Election. All out efforts will be made and no stone will be left unturned to instill public confidence for free, fair and peaceful election in public interest.

The Commission remains committed to strict compliance to the implementation of MCC in letter and spirit for ensuring a free & fair election.

Sd/-

(Arindam Niyogi)

Additional Chief Electoral Officer
West Bengal