

# Office of the Chief Electoral Officer West Bengal

13, Strand Road, Kolkata 700001

No. 19/CEO/PN/2026

Dated: 30.03.2026

## PRESS NOTE

In compliance with the directives of the Election Commission of India following the announcement of the General Election on 16.03.2026, to ensure free and fair election, the ECI is conducting various measures across all 294 Assembly Constituencies in West Bengal.

### Gazette Notification of Election

In pursuance of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (43 of 1951), notification (*Notification No: 16/Notification(P)/Home (Elec) Dated: 30.03.2026*) was issued for 152 (One Hundred Fifty-two) Assembly Constituencies of the State of West Bengal to elect members to the Legislative Assembly of the State.

- a) the 6th April, 2026 (Monday): as the last date for making nominations;
- b) the 7th April, 2026 (Tuesday): as the date for scrutiny of nominations;
- c) the 9th April, 2026 (Thursday): as the last date for withdrawal of candidature;
- d) the 23rd April, 2026 (Thursday): as the date on which a poll shall, if necessary, be held; and
- e) the 6th May, 2026 (Wednesday): as the date before which the election shall be completed; and

(B) fixed the hours, 07.00 AM TO 06.00 PM, as the hours during which the poll shall, if necessary, be held on the date specified above, in all the 152 (One Hundred Fifty-two) Constituencies.

### Enforcement and Seizure

#### **Seizure by Excise Department, West Bengal**

A major seizure of O P Spirit and other incriminating articles used for making fake liquor on large scale was done on 29.3.2026 morning at Dalkhola, Uttar Dinajpur.

473 bottles of 4 different brands of counterfeit liquor were seized

(1) Total suspected counterfeit liquor: 221.25 liters. Estimated value of liquor:  
Rs. 5,53,125/-

(2) Vehicle seized: 01 (One)-Mahindra Thar, Estimated value of vehicle: Rs. 8,00,000/- (Though the market value is much higher i. e. about Rs 13,00,000).  
Total seizure value: Rs. 13,53,125/-, investigation is under progress.

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.

### **Seizure of Cash, Liquor, Drugs/Narcotics, Precious Metals & Freebies**

**(As on 29.03.2026)**

Sl. No.	Item	Cumulative Seizure (Since 26.02.2026)
1	Cash	₹ 572.52 Lakhs
2	Liquor	1632578.42 Liters / ₹ 4185.25 Lakhs
3	Drugs / Narcotics	3763269.45 gm / ₹ 5468.45 Lakhs
4	Precious Metals	149156.63 gm / ₹ 2418.87 Lakhs
5	Freebies / Other Items	72564922.90 quantity / ₹ 13655.31 Lakhs
	<b>TOTAL VALUE</b>	<b>₹ 26300.40 Lakhs</b>

### **MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT**

Extensive drives for removal of unauthorized political advertisements are ongoing. As per the 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 28.03.2026)**

Sl. no	Name of District	Public Property Defacement Removed	Private Property Defacement Removed	Total Cases
1.	Cooch Behar	38273	7763	46036
2.	Alipurduar	8747	3466	12213
3.	Jalpaiguri	12519	1380	13899
4.	Kalimpong	788	29	817
5.	Darjeeling	13042	2707	15749
6.	Uttar Dinajpur	20244	1430	21674
7.	Dakshin Dinajpur	20194	3772	25086
8.	Malda	6534	482	7016
9.	Murshidabad	32286	2036	34322
10.	Nadia	15281	367	15648

11.	North 24 Parganas	60610	108	60730
12.	South 24 Parganas	44188	652	44830
13.	Kolkata South	60341	0	60378
14.	Kolkata North	50595	0	50632
15.	Howrah	23711	443	24155
16.	Hooghly	56954	39	64856
17.	Purba Medinipur	58948	1359	60307
18.	Paschim Medinipur	44313	3594	47906
19.	Jhargram	7879	50	7929
20.	Purulia	17847	1821	19927
21.	Purba Bardhaman	28073	917	31852
22.	Paschim Bardhaman	124953	26471	158361
23.	Bankura	14907	713	15620
24.	Birbhum	19018	10823	43256
<b>State total</b>		<b>780245</b>	<b>70422</b>	<b>883199</b>

### **Key Security Measures**

The administration has deployed a multi-layered security strategy to maintain law and order and to ensure a peaceful voting environment:

**Updated law and order report is placed below (up to 28/03/2026)**

SI. No.	Items		Cumulative from 15/03/2026
<b>1</b>	<b>No of unlicensed arms/ explosives seized</b>		
	<b>a) Arms / Weapons</b>	<b>Arms / Weapons</b>	<b>141</b>
	<b>b) Cartridges / Explosives / Bombs (In Numbers)</b>	<b>Cartridges</b>	<b>233</b>
		<b>Explosives</b>	<b>2.2 KGs &amp; 10360 PCs</b>
	<b>Bombs</b>	<b>666</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Licensed Arms</b>	<b>a) Total Licensed Arms</b>	<b>52869</b>
		<b>b) Deposited</b>	<b>40526</b>

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