

Office of the Chief Electoral Officer West Bengal

13, Strand Road, Kolkata 700001

No. 24/CEO/PN/2026

Dated: 03.04.2026

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.

Appeal cases under Section 24 of Representation of Peoples' Act, 1950 submitted at the Office of Chief Electoral Officer, West Bengal

Around 8,000 number of appeals under Section 24 of Representation Act, 1950 have been submitted to this office in the past few days. These cases have been sent to the concerned District Magistrates for necessary action as per the provisions of the Representation of People Act, 1950 subsequently.

ECI Notification (No. 39/WB/2026(SIR) Dated 20/03/2026) regarding appeal and form disposal by constituted appellate tribunals

In this connection DEOs have been requested to note some important points by Additional CEO West Bengal.

The salient features of the points are as follows: -

- i. The Electors who were under adjudication will be able to submit the appeals (for inclusion or exclusion) online in the website voter.eci.gov.in
- ii. The offline appeals can be submitted at the office of the District Magistrate or Sub- Divisional Magistrate.
- iii. Offline appeals may be filled in plain paper giving EPIC number of the appellant, and where applicable, EPIC number of the person whose inclusion has been challenged.

Enforcement and Seizure

Major Seizure by RPF and CRPF

RPF on duty officials seized pan masala at following location of West Bengal. Detail is as follows –

Sl	Location & date	District / Area	Items / Amount recovered
1.	Good-shade 9 at Howrah Railway Station 02/04/2026	RPF, Eastern Railway, Howrah	200 bags of 'Signature' Pan Masala without valid GST documents. Quantity 7040 Kgs. Value Rs, 1,18,40,000/-

CRPF on duty officials in coordination with the district Police seized cash at following location of West Bengal. Detail is as follows –

Sl	Location & date	Under PS & District	Items / Amount recovered
1.	Ashram More Naka point on 03/04/2026	PS Bishalakshmipur, Dist Sundarban Police District	Rs. 4,00,000/-

Major Seizure by Excise Department, West Bengal

On 2.4.2026 a major seizure of Non Duty Paid liquor consignment from Sikkim was seized at Darjeeling near Ghum-Bhanjyang area. Seizure Details are as follows.

- Total NDP Beer: 374.40 litres
- Valuation: ₹1,87,200.00
- Total NDP Foreign Liquor: 524.88 litres
- Valuation: ₹13,12,200.00
- Vehicle Valuation: ₹8,00,000.00
- Total valuation of seized articles (including vehicle): ₹22,99,400.00

Another seizure of NDP liquor from Sikkim found at a go-down on 02.04,2026 in Sonada area, Darjeeling.

- Total NDP Sikkim Beer: 304.2 litres
- Valuation: ₹1,52,100/-
- Total NDP Foreign Liquor: 235.8 litres
- Valuation: ₹5,89,500/-
- Total Valuation of Seized Articles: ₹7,41,600/-

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 03.04.2026)

Sl. No.	Item	Cumulative Seizure (Since 26.02.2026)
1	Cash	₹ 926.22 Lakhs
2	Liquor	2017899.71 Liters / ₹ 5157.50 Lakhs
3	Drugs / Narcotics	4186555.08 gm / ₹ 5965.94 Lakhs
4	Precious Metals	181433.91 gm / ₹ 3240.54 Lakhs
5	Freebies / Other Items	73144763.81 quantity / ₹ 14706.41 Lakhs
TOTAL VALUE		₹ 29996.61 Lakhs

Special Instruction of Static Surveillance Team (SST) & Flying Squad Team (FST)

In pursuance of the Guidelines of ECI regarding SST & FST teams the CEO West Bengal has issued some instruction to DGP West Bengal, CP Kolkata Police, All DEOs, All CPs and SPs of all districts in connection with WBLA-2026.

These instructions are as follows –

1. The Officials / Officers deputed in SSTs should properly maintain duty charts and duty registers and will keep them updated.

2. It shall be the responsibilities of concerned CP/SP to ensure that no unauthorized person / official is working in the SST/FST. Such violation will attract strict disciplinary action against all responsible.
3. Videography arrangements shall strictly be ensured at all SSTs/FSTs.
4. As per commissions instructions, checking by SSTs on all major roads or arterial roads shall be ensured. SST station may be moved, if need be to cover all major roads or arterial roads. Such plan jointly be finalized by the DEO and SP in consultation with general and expenditure observer.
5. The FSTs should be properly utilized in the area. There must be visible presence of FSTs in the area.

It has also been directed that the above instructions should be communicated to all concerned for strict compliance in letter and spirit and failure in discharge of duties will be viewed very seriously and will invite appropriate action as per applicable laws and rules.

It has also been directed to submit a compliance of the directions given above with details of action taken to the office of the CEO West Bengal by 04th April 2026.

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 01/04/2026)

SI. No.	Items	Cumulative from 15/03/2026
1	No of unlicensed arms/ explosives seized	
	a) Arms / Weapons	Arms / Weapons 185
	b) Cartridges / Explosives / Bombs (In Numbers)	Cartridges 310
		Explosives 2.2 KGs & 10364 PCs
	Bombs 748	
2	Licensed Arms	a) Total Licensed Arms 52869
		b) Deposited 41096

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 01.04.2026)

SI. no	Name of District	Public Property Defacement Removed	Private Property Defacement Removed	Total no of Cases recorded
1.	Cooch Behar	42838	10478	53316
2.	Alipurduar	9104	3533	12637
3.	Jalpaiguri	22441	3282	25723
4.	Kalimpong	871	30	901
5.	Darjeeling	18089	5748	23837
6.	Uttar Dinajpur	21483	2253	23736

7.	Dakshin Dinajpur	25189	8233	35161
8.	Malda	11998	482	12480
9.	Murshidabad	42280	3248	45528
10.	Nadia	18723	422	19145
11.	North 24 Parganas	75384	459	75869
12.	South 24 Parganas	53650	707	54405
13.	Kolkata South	22591	1	22592
14.	Kolkata North	99999	0	100036
15.	Howrah	30250	808	32346
16.	Hooghly	73351	102	74000
17.	Purba Medinipur	74095	2162	76257
18.	Paschim Medinipur	51612	3951	55614
19.	Jhargram	9081	55	9136
20.	Purulia	20338	1911	22458
21.	Purba Bardhaman	32340	1314	36108
22.	Paschim Bardhaman	194750	42236	259092
23.	Bankura	16059	824	16883
24.	Birbhum	30990	18369	66868
State total		997506	110608	1154128

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