

Office of the Chief Electoral Officer West Bengal

13, Strand Road, Kolkata 700001

No. 26/CEO/PN/2026

Dated: 05.04.2026

PRESS NOTE

In continuation of the schedule announced on March 16, 2026, for the General Election to the Legislative Assembly of West Bengal, the Election Commission of India (ECI) remains committed to ensuring a conduct of polls characterized by the highest standards of transparency, impartiality, and security across all 294 Assembly Constituencies. As the state progresses toward the scheduled polling phases on April 23 and April 29, 2026, the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), West Bengal, is rigorously monitoring the enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) and the deployment of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF). This daily brief provides a comprehensive overview of the latest operational developments.

Enforcement and Seizure

Major Seizure by Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Kolkata Zonal Unit

On duty officials seized following at Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International (NSCBI) Airport. Detail is as follows –

Sl	Location & date	Under AC	Items / Amount recovered
1.	NSCBI Airport, Dum Dum, North 24 Pargana District, on 02/04/2026	Dum Dum Assembly Constituency	Two persons were intercepted at NSCBI Airport, while they were travelling from Bangkok to Kolkata. During their search of their baggage, total ten (10) pieces of yellow-coloured metallic cut pieces believed to be gold of foreign origin, weighing 1.26 Kgs and 8 nos. of i-phone 17 Pro 256GB were recovered from one person.
2.			Another person had in his baggage, total ten (10) pieces of yellow-coloured metallic cut pieces believed to be gold of foreign origin, weighing 0.595 Kgs and 10 nos. of i-phone 17 Pro 256GB. Since, carriers could not produce any licit document, same was seized and the apprehended person was arrested under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962.

Major Seizure by CRPF

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

SI	Location & date	Under PS & District	Items / Amount recovered
1.	Machantola SST Naka point on 04/04/2026	PS Joypur, Dist Bankura	Rs. 3,35,000/-
2.	S C road Naka point on 04/04/2026	PS Netajinagar, Dist Kolkata	Rs. 37,97,000/-
3.	Kumarpurghat NAKA point on 05/04/2026	PS Beldanga, Dist Murshidabad	Rs. 4,73,600/-

Seizures in the country surpass Rs. 650 crores, out of which West Bengal seizure Figure surpasses Rs. 323 crores

After the activation of the Electronic Seizure Management System (ESMS) on 26th February 2026 ensuring violence-free, intimidation-free and inducement free elections flying squads have been deployed across the States/UT to ensure that the complaints are attended to within 100 minutes. Besides this, over Static Surveillance Teams (SSTs) have also been deployed for setting up surprise NAKAs at different locations.

Since 26th February 2026, seizures have surpassed Rs. 650 crores across the country. It is to be noted total amount of seizure in West Bengal is nearly 50% of the seizure amount in the country.

Total	Cash (Rs. Crore)	Liquor Qty (Litres)	Liquor Value (Rs. Crore)	Drugs Value (Rs. Crore)	Precious Metal Value (Rs. Crore)	Freebies / Other Value (Rs. Crore)	Total (Rs. Crore)
National Total	53.2	29,63,689	79.3	230	58	231.01	651.51
West Bengal Total	11	21,29,103	55	65	39	105	323

The Commission has also stressed that the enforcement authorities should ensure that ordinary citizens are not inconvenienced or harassed during the checking and inspection for the enforcement of these directives. District Grievance Committees have also been setup to address any grievances in this regard. 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 05.04.2026)

SI. No.	Item	Cumulative Seizure (Since 26.02.2026)
1	Cash	₹ 1062.0 Lakhs
2	Liquor	2192226.91 Liters / ₹ 5614.0 Lakhs
3	Drugs / Narcotics	4392314.22 gm / ₹ 6686.04 Lakhs
4	Precious Metals	200711.78 gm / ₹ 3855.26 Lakhs
5	Freebies / Other Items	73233198.88 quantity / ₹ 15180.85 Lakhs
TOTAL VALUE		₹ 32399.16 Lakhs

Action taken for violation of Election norms and misconduct

In view of the alleged involvement in activities related to political campaigning by Sector Assistant Sri Atanu Chakraborty, Sector 5, Amarabati Kalyan Samiti Sector, 111 Panihati AC, the Election Commission has taken serious note of the incident and he has been removed from his duty as Sector Assistant with immediate effect and also has been served show cause notice.

Sri Alok Kumar Das, Assistant Teacher, Deganga Circle has been appointed as Sector Assistant in Sector 5, Amarabati Kalyan Samiti.

Nomination 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*) has been issued for 152 (One Hundred Fifty-two) Assembly Constituencies of State of West Bengal to elect members to the Legislative Assembly of the State.

NOMINATION DETAIL - WEST BENGAL (Phase I) – Report dated 04/04/2026

No of AC	Total No of Nominations	Total No of Candidates	No. of candidates after scrutiny	No. of candidates after Withdrawal
152	1566	959	-	-

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
(As received upto 9:00 pm,04.04.2026)**

Sl. No.	Items	Cumulative from 15/03/2026
1	No of unlicensed arms/ explosives seized	
	a) Arms / Weapons	Arms / Weapons 233
	b) Cartridges / Explosives / Bombs (In Numbers)	Cartridges 372
		Explosives 4.7 KGs & 10364 PCs
	Bombs 867	
2	Licensed Arms	a) Total Licensed Arms 52869
		b) Deposited 41148

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 per report received upto 9:00 pm, 04.04.2026)**

Sl. no	Name of District	Public Property Defacement Removed	Private Property Defacement Removed	Total no of Cases recorded
1)	Cooch Behar	43623	10778	54401
2)	Alipurduar	9193	3553	12746
3)	Jalpaiguri	24128	4454	28582
4)	Kalimpong	908	30	938
5)	Darjeeling	20527	7432	27959
6)	Uttar Dinajpur	22255	2611	24866
7)	Dakshin Dinajpur	27478	10133	39700
8)	Malda	14552	482	15034
9)	Murshidabad	51290	4465	56369
10)	Nadia	21966	461	22427
11)	North 24 Parganas	83337	740	84091
12)	South 24 Parganas	56428	731	57209
13)	DEO Kolkata South	23588	1	23589
14)	DEO Kolkata North	103176	37	103213
15)	Howrah	31986	925	34205
16)	Hooghly	76628	119	77327
17)	Purba Medinipur	79085	2559	81644
18)	Paschim Medinipur	55993	4193	60321
19)	Jhargram	10143	63	10206
20)	Purulia	21093	1967	23351
21)	Purba Bardhaman	33957	1426	37916
22)	Paschim Bardhaman	241420	51284	314402
23)	Bankura	17353	913	18266
24)	Birbhum	36076	20496	75016
State total		1106183	129853	1283778

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