

Office of the Chief Electoral Officer West Bengal

13, Strand Road, Kolkata 700001

No. 27/CEO/PN/2026

Dated: 06.04.2026

PRESS NOTE

The Election Commission of India (ECI) remains committed to ensuring conduct of polls characterized by the highest standards of transparency, impartiality, and security across all 294 Assembly Constituencies in West Bengal. 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 CRPF & District Police

CRPF on duty officials in coordination with the Cooch Behar district Police seized illegal arms at following location. Detail is as follows –

Sl	Location & date	Under PS & District	Recovery / Arrest Details
1.	Changrabandha Bypass NAKA point on 06/04/2026	PS Joypur, Dist Bank PS: Dinhata, Dist: Cooch Behar	Recovered 06 (six) numbers of fire arms, 20 (twenty) rounds of ammunition and one vehicle (WB 06 J 6260) coming from Maynaguri was seized. Two persons, namely Minerul Islam (34yrs) and Rahaman (27yrs), both from Cooch Behar were arrested.
2.	2 different locations	PS Kotwali in Coochbehar	Cannabis (ganja) was seized with a valuation of Rs 59.39 lakhs

The cumulative enforcement report of the State regarding itemized summary of seizure is provided in following table.

Seizure of Cash, Liquor, Drugs/Narcotics, Precious Metals & Freebies (As on 06.04.2026)

Sl. No.	Item	Cumulative Seizure (Since 26.02.2026)
1	Cash	₹ 1101.4 Lakhs
2	Liquor	2256955.7 Liters / ₹ 5771.44 Lakhs
3	Drugs / Narcotics	4489278.02 gm / ₹ 6735.15 Lakhs
4	Precious Metals	200711.78 gm / ₹ 3855.26 Lakhs
5	Freebies / Other Items	73233198.88 quantity / ₹ 15280.94 Lakhs
TOTAL VALUE		₹ 32744.19 Lakhs

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	251
	b) Cartridges / Explosives / Bombs (In Numbers)	Cartridges	401
		Explosives	127.7 KGs & 10364 PCs
	Bombs	887	
2	Licensed Arms	a) Total Licensed Arms	52869
		b) Deposited	41160

Draw of Lots for broadcast time icw West Bengal Assembly Elections 2026

Draw of Lots for allotment of equitable broadcast time for Political Party Broadcasts in c/w Assembly Elections, 2026 in Prasarbharati (Akashvani, Kolkata) was held on 6th April 2026 at Akashvani Bhavan. Additional Chief Electoral Officer Sri Arindam Niyogi was present there on behalf of Chief Electoral Officer, West Bengal.

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	46471	12396	58867
2)	Alipurduar	9228	3560	12788
3)	Jalpaiguri	26486	4890	31379
4)	Kalimpong	921	30	951
5)	Darjeeling	21518	7911	29429
6)	Uttar Dinajpur	22611	2807	25418
7)	Dakshin Dinajpur	29743	13011	45018

8)	Malda	16152	482	16634
9)	Murshidabad	54105	5699	59812
10)	Nadia	23283	472	23755
11)	North 24 Parganas	87606	762	88382
12)	South 24 Parganas	58673	752	59479
13)	DEO Kolkata South	24021	1	24023
14)	DEO Kolkata North	104753	37	104790
15)	Howrah	33374	994	35666
16)	Hooghly	78617	149	79330
17)	Purba Medinipur	81299	2729	84028
18)	Paschim Medinipur	57694	4528	62225
19)	Jhargram	10638	63	10701
20)	Purulia	22143	1967	24332
21)	Purba Bardhaman	34796	1490	39085
22)	Paschim Bardhaman	241464	51313	314461
23)	Bankura	17986	936	18922
24)	Birbhum	38281	20561	78427
State total		1141863	137540	1327902

Pre-certification of print-ads by MCMC on Pre-poll and Poll Day

In order to ensure a fair campaign environment, no political party, candidate, organization or person shall publish any advertisement in the print media on the poll day and one day prior to the poll day, unless the contents are pre-certified by the Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC) at the State/District level.

Individuals or contesting candidates can apply for certification of advertisements with District MCMC. All registered political parties headquartered in a State/UT can apply for certification of such advertisements with the State Level MCMC.

Accordingly, precertification of ads in poll-bound states/UT are necessary as per the schedule given below:

Name of State/UT going for general elections	Poll Date	Dates of publication for which Precertification of print ads is mandatory
West Bengal	23.04.2026 (Ph-I)	22.04.2026 & 23.04.2026
	29.04.2026(Ph-II)	28.04.2026 & 29.04.2026

Applicants seeking pre-certification for political advertisements in print media must apply to the MCMC not later than two days prior to the proposed date of publication of the advertisement.

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