

# Office of the Chief Electoral Officer West Bengal

13, Strand Road, Kolkata 700001

No. 39/CEO/PN/2026

Dated: 14.04.2026

## PRESS NOTE

### ➤ High-Level ECI Delegation in West Bengal for Election Preparedness Review

A high-level delegation from the Election Commission of India (ECI), led by Sri Gyanesh Bharti, Senior Deputy Election Commissioner today reviewed poll preparedness with Observers, CP, DEO and SP of Purba Bardhaman, Bankura and Hooghly districts. The primary objective of this visit was to conduct a rigorous review of poll preparedness across the 3 districts.

Sri Pawan Kumar Sharma, Sr. Deputy Election Commissioner along with Sri Abhinav Agrawal, Deputy Secretary of the ECI visited Nadia and Murshidabad districts and had discussions with district administration regarding election preparedness.

Sri Bharati and Sri Sharma later met the CEO-West Bengal, SPNO, CAPF State Coordinator and other officers to review the poll preparedness.

Sri Apruba Kumar Singh, Deputy Director, ECI and Ranjeet Srivastava (Senior VE) also held review meetings regarding SVEEP events and Media activities at Alipurduar, Cooch Behar and Jalpaiguri districts.

### ➤ Election event update

**Major events in connection with WBLA 2026 on 14th April 2026 are as follows:**

*Dispatch of ETPB* - Phase II election (by 3pm today) The Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System (ETPBMS) developed by the Election Commission of India is being implemented in line with the existing Postal Ballot System where by postal ballots will be transmitted via Electronic means to the voters.

*2<sup>nd</sup> randomization of EVM & VVPAT:* Phase-II election.

### ➤ Enforcement and Seizure

The cumulative enforcement report of the State regarding itemized summary of seizure is provided in the table below –

Sl. No.	Item	Cumulative Seizure (Since 26.02.2026)
1	Cash	₹ 1870.83 Lakhs
2	Liquor	3004999.82 Liters / ₹ 7621.89 Lakhs
3	Drugs / Narcotics	5369861.93 gm / ₹ 9112.43 Lakhs
4	Precious Metals	435767.24 gm / ₹ 5111.06 Lakhs
5	Freebies and Other Items	78393706.33 / ₹ 17075.64 Lakhs
<b>TOTAL VALUE</b>		<b>₹ 40791.85 Lakhs</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 (As received up-to 1 p.m. 13.04.2026)**

Sl. No.	Items	Cumulative from 15/03/2026
1	<b>No of unlicensed arms/ explosives seized</b>	
	<b>a) Arms / Weapons</b>	Arms / Weapons (PCs) <b>317</b>
	<b>b) Cartridges / Explosives / Bombs</b>	Cartridges (PCs) <b>525</b>
		Explosives <b>128.8 KGs &amp; 10364 PCs</b>
		Bombs (PCs) <b>1080</b>
2	<b>Licensed Arms</b>	a) Total Licensed Arms (PCs) <b>52869</b>
		b) Deposited (PCs) <b>41573</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 per report received up-to 9:00 pm, 13.04.2026)**

Sl. no	Name of District	Public Property Defacement Removed	Private Property Defacement Removed	Total no of Cases recorded
1)	Cooch Behar	57948	17933	75881
2)	Alipurduar	9694	3581	13275
3)	Jalpaiguri	51171	9733	60904
4)	Kalimpong	1119	30	1149
5)	Darjeeling	44725	19020	63745
6)	Uttar Dinajpur	25297	4685	29982
7)	Dakshin Dinajpur	41047	26868	74047
8)	Malda	31371	595	31966
9)	Murshidabad	101466	10690	112164
10)	Nadia	34215	496	34717
11)	North 24 Parganas	118976	1855	121031
12)	South 24 Parganas	70220	883	71402
13)	DEO Kolkata South	27764	1	27766
14)	DEO Kolkata North	124838	37	124875
15)	Howrah	43602	1883	46794
16)	Hooghly	94341	245	95335
17)	Purba Medinipur	105185	6247	111432

18)	Paschim Medinipur	73221	5494	78885
19)	Jhargram	13226	63	13289
20)	Purulia	24958	2252	27641
21)	Purba Bardhaman	42078	1902	47124
22)	Paschim Bardhaman	255957	59671	315683
23)	Bankura	23575	1161	24736
24)	Birbhum	62672	30788	110875
<b>State total</b>		<b>1478666</b>	<b>206113</b>	<b>1714698</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