

Office of the Chief Electoral Officer West Bengal 21, N.S.Road, Kolkata-700001

No. CEO/PN-14/2025

Dated: 03.06.2025

Meeting of State Steering Committee on Accessible Election (SSCAE) held on 3rd June, 2025 at the Office of CEO West Bengal.

Social Welfare Department, Education Department, PwD institutions, NGOs, State Icons participated to discuss accessibility issues related to Electoral Rolls and Elections. Meeting was chaired by Chief Electoral Officer, West Bengal



1. Pre-SSR and SSR activity:

Like previous years' Summary Revision of Photo Electoral Rolls, 2026 will start in the second half of the year 2025. Before that, pre-SSR activity will start shortly. In the pre-SSR, BLOs will

visit house to house and will record data in respect of inclusion, deletion and marking of PwD and others in the electoral rolls.

2. PwD Enrolment and PwD Marking:

PwD enrolment and PwD marking camps are important activities during Continuous Updation period. Special camps at every PwD institutions would be conducted for 100% inclusion.

3. Absentee Votes for Persons with Disabilities (AVPD) and Absentee Votes for Senior Citizen (AVSC): Election Commission of India has started initiatives to extend facility of casting votes from home without visiting Polling Stations for PwD and Senior citizen of 85 or more years of age. **36322 PwDs and 92822 Senior Citizens cast their votes through home voting in Lok Sabha General Elections 2024.**

4. Assured Minimum Facilities:

All polling Stations are set up at the ground floor for convenience of PwD electors and senior citizens.

5. Pick-up and Drop-off facilities- Requests of pick up and drop facility are made available for PwD and Senior citizens for casting their votes at the Polling stations. Arrangement of wheel chairs, transport facilitates will be made by the Assistant Returning Officers at the Polling Stations.

6. Personal Outreach Awareness and Motivation Campaign:

House-to-House drives and Person-to-Person contact through BLOs are main reach out and awareness strategies. ***Separate Voter's Guide for PwDs*** have been developed for making aware PwDs for casting vote.

7. Use of Media for PwD and Accessibility awareness:

Print Media, Electronic Media and Social Media handles are being extensively used to make electors aware and to encourage electors to cast vote. Suggestions of participants have been taken.

8. Training to Polling Personnel and CAPFs on Accessibility matters: Polling Personnel, CAPFs and Police personnel will be imparted training on PwD and accessibility issues to make their attitude and behavior toward PwDs in consistent with the instructions and ethos of the Election Commission of India.

Sd/-

Additional CEO, West Bengal