

Election Commission of India

General Elections and bye-elections 2026: 2,926 candidates in the fray for the West Bengal elections

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The Election Commission of India (ECI) announced the schedule for the General Election to Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal and bye-elections in 6 states on March 15, 2026.

1. The last date of filing of nominations for the State of West Bengal (Phase-II), which goes to polls on April 29, 2026 was April 9, 2026, while the date of scrutiny of nominations for West Bengal (Phase-II), was April 10, 2026 and the **last date of withdrawal of nominations was April 13, 2026 by 3:00 PM.**
2. After the last date of withdrawal of nominations, details of the total number of candidates for West Bengal are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of ACs	Total No. of candidates after Withdrawals
1.	West Bengal (Phase-I)	152	1,478
2.	West Bengal (Phase-II)	142	1,448

4. The Returning Officers (ROs) **shall publish the list of contesting candidates** in the Official Gazette as per the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961.
5. ROs shall place all the election papers and proceedings relating to nominations, scrutiny and withdrawal of candidatures in each constituency together in his/her **custody in a sealed packet/envelope with the seal.**
6. Citizens can view the details of their candidates including their educational qualifications, criminal antecedents, assets and liabilities and download their affidavits from the “**Know Your Candidate**” tab on the ECINet App.
7. Moreover, in line with ECI’s initiative, the EVM Ballot papers will bear **the coloured photographs of the candidates** and their details including serial number, name and symbol in large font for the ease and convenience of the voters.

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