

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. ECI/PN/061/2026

09.04.2026

PRESS NOTE

General Elections to Legislative Assemblies and Bye-elections 2026 Assam and Puducherry record highest-ever poll participation


1. Polling for the General elections for the Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Kerala and Puducherry and the bye-elections in 4 ACs of 3 States (Karnataka, Nagaland and Tripura) **began today at 7:00 AM** and had been by and large peaceful barring a few incidents.
2. **Assam and Puducherry** surpassed their **highest-ever poll-participation today** by recording **85.38% and 89.83%** respectively. Previously, the highest poll-participation in Assam and Puducherry was 84.67% (2016 GELA) and 86.19% (2011 GELA) respectively.
3. **Details of poll participation (%)*** are as follows*:

| State/UT | Poll Percentage (%) | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------|------------|--------------|
| | Male | Female | 3rd Gender | Total |
| General Elections to Legislative Assembly | | | | |
| Assam | 84.80 | 85.96 | 36.84 | 85.38 |
| Kerala | 75.01 | 80.86 | 57.04 | 78.03 |
| Puducherry | 88.09 | 91.33 | 91.81 | 89.83 |
| Bye-elections to AC | | | | |
| Karnataka | | | | |
| 1. Bagalkot-24 | 68.69 | 68.68 | 0.07 | 68.70 |
| 2. Davanagere South-107 | 68.55 | 68.55 | 0.08 | 68.55 |
| Nagaland | | | | |
| 1. Koridang-28 | 79.34 | 85.14 | - | 82.21 |
| Tripura | | | | |
| 1. Dharmanagar-56 | 79.80 | 80.26 | - | 80.04 |

*As per data uploaded by the PrOs themselves in ECINet. Data from **3,469 PS** yet to be updated

+Data is provisional and it does not include Service Voters & Postal Ballots. Final figures will be shared through ECI Index Card.

4. Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Shri Gyanesh Kumar, along with Election Commissioners Dr. S.S. Sandhu and Dr. Vivek Joshi kept a close watch on the polling through live-webcasting which was ensured in **100% of the Polling Stations** for the **first time** in Assam, Kerala and Puducherry.
5. **A total of 296 Assembly Constituencies (ACs)** in the States of Assam and Kerala and the UT of Puducherry with a total electorate of **over 5.31 crores** went to polls today, along with the bye-elections in 4 ACs of 3 States (Karnataka, Nagaland and Tripura).
6. As part of the International Election Visitors' Programme (IEVP), **38 delegates** from **22 countries** witnessed the poll proceedings.
7. **Over 2.5 lakh Polling Staff** reached the respective polling stations last night itself. Mock polls were completed **before 7 AM** today in the presence of **over 1.8 lakh Polling Agents** appointed by **1,899 contesting candidates** and polling began peacefully at **all 63,084 polling stations** simultaneously.
8. Presiding Officers updated the Voter Turnout figures at the close of poll **before leaving the polling station** as per ECI's latest instructions resulting in minimal delay in updation of approximate voter turnout trends.
9. A number of new **voter-friendly initiatives** such as easily identifiable colour photos of candidates on EVM ballot papers, Mobile Deposit Facility (MDF), newly designed Voter Information Slips (VIS) for easy readability and limit of electors upto 1,200 per polling station were ensured in these elections.
10. Polling stations were also provided with wheelchairs and tagging of volunteers **to assist PwD voters**. Transport facility was also provided to assist PwD voters in reaching their polling stations.
11. **District-wise and AC wise** approximate voter turnout figures are available on the ECINet App.


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