

# ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

*Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001*

No. ECI/PN/45/2021

Dated: 6th April, 2021

## PRESS NOTE

**Polling in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and for Phase 3 Assembly Constituencies in Assam and West Bengal conducted peacefully**

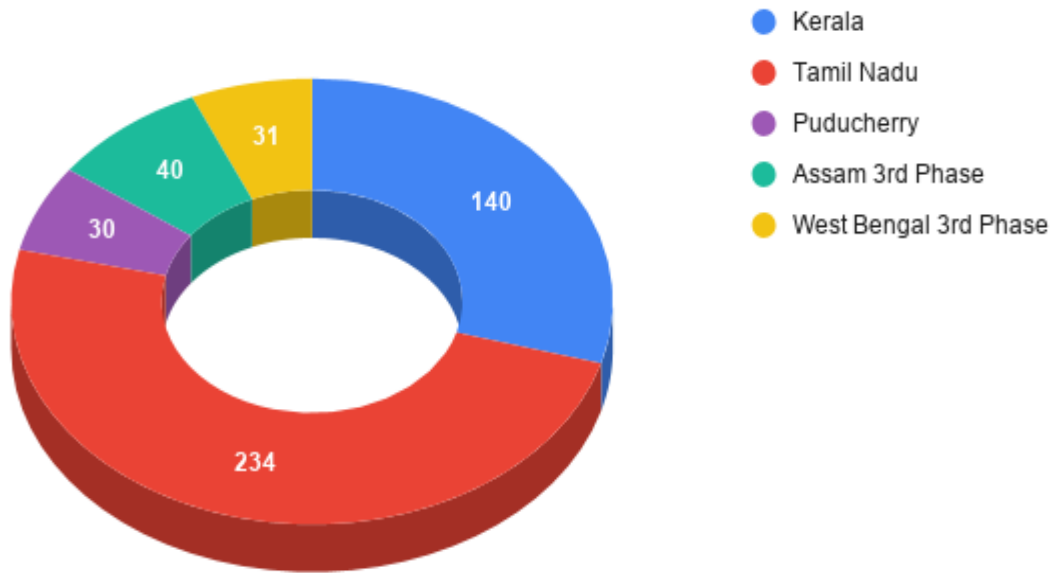
**Voting held in 1.5 lakh Polling Stations across 475 Assembly Constituencies**

Polling was conducted peacefully in **1,53,538 Polling Stations** spread across **475 Assembly Constituencies** today, in the states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and for third phase of Assam and West Bengal. The number of Polling Stations has increased in view of the fact that the number of voters per polling station has been reduced from 1500 to 1000 keeping social distancing norms in view.

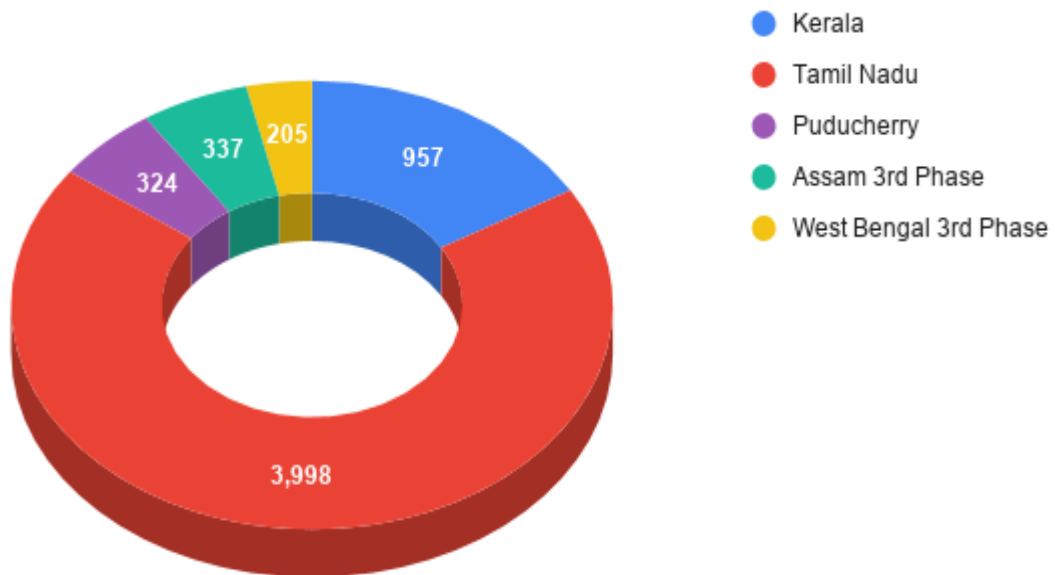
**Details of Electors, Polling stations & Observers** in the poll are as follows:

State	Kerala	Tamil Nadu	Puducherry	Assam 3 <sup>rd</sup> Phase	West Bengal 3 <sup>rd</sup> Phase
Assembly Constituencies	140	234	30	40	31
No of Polling Stations	40771	88,937	1558	11,401	10,871
Registered Electors	2,75,03,199	6,28,69,955	1004197	79,19,641	78,52,425
No of General observers deployed	70	150	11	33	22
No of Police observers deployed	20	41	5	9	7
No of Expenditure observers deployed	40	119	12	17	9
<b>% of voting till 5 PM</b>	<b>69.95%</b>	<b>64.92%</b>	<b>77.90%</b>	<b>78.94%</b>	<b>77.68%</b>

Total Number of Assembly Constituencies = 475

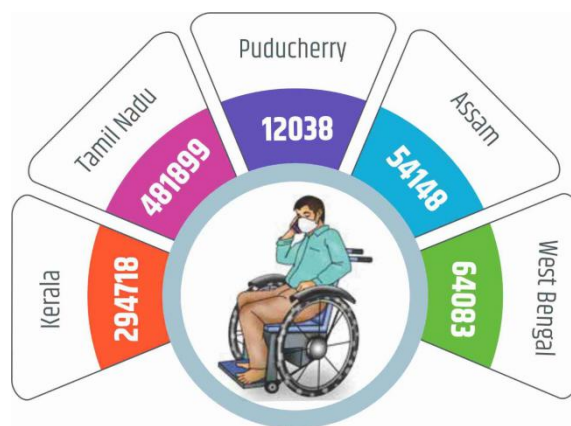


Total Number of Contesting Candidates = 5821

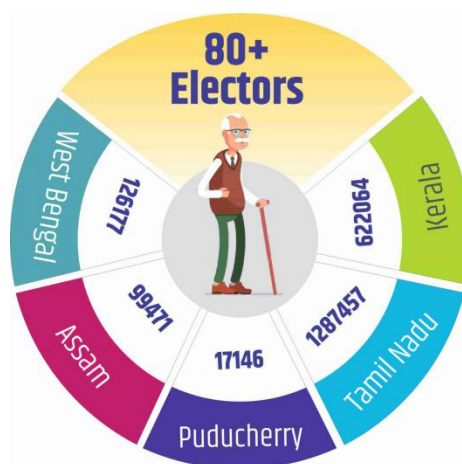


To ensure inclusive and accessible elections, ECI has extended the option of postal ballot facility to PwDs, Senior Citizens above the age of 80 years, COVID-19 suspect or affected persons and persons employed in essential services. The Observers at the ground level oversaw that proper arrangements for facilitation were made available for these voters.

### Total Number of PwD Electors = 906763



### Total Number of 80+ Electors = 2152210



Details of PwD Electors and 80+ Electors are as follows:

State	Kerala	Tamil Nadu	Puducherry	Assam 3 <sup>rd</sup> Phase	West Bengal 3 <sup>rd</sup> Phase	Total
<b>PwD Electors</b>	294718	4,81,899	12038	54,148	64,083	<b>9,06,763</b>
<b>80+ Electors</b>	622064	12,87,457	17146	99,471	1,26,177	<b>21,52,210</b>

As per standard procedure all these EVMs and VVPATs had already undergone First Level Checking, Randomisation, and Commissioning in the presence of Political Parties/Candidates agents. During FLC and during commissioning each of these EVMs and VVPATs had undergone mock polls. Today before the start of the poll each of the EVMs and VVPATs again underwent a mock poll in the presence of polling agents of the candidates with minimum 50 votes cast on each, as per standard procedure. At the end of the mock poll the result of EVM were matched with the result of VVPAT slips and shown to the polling agents. Non-functioning rate during the mock poll is lesser than comparable / experienced in last few polls.



**As a major push for conducting free and fair elections, live monitoring and webcasting of more than 50% of Polling Stations** including critical and vulnerable polling booths has been put in place as per ECI norms, to ensure safe and secure atmosphere in polling areas. Commission, CEOs, DEOs, Observers could watch live streaming and keep a close watch on these polling booths.

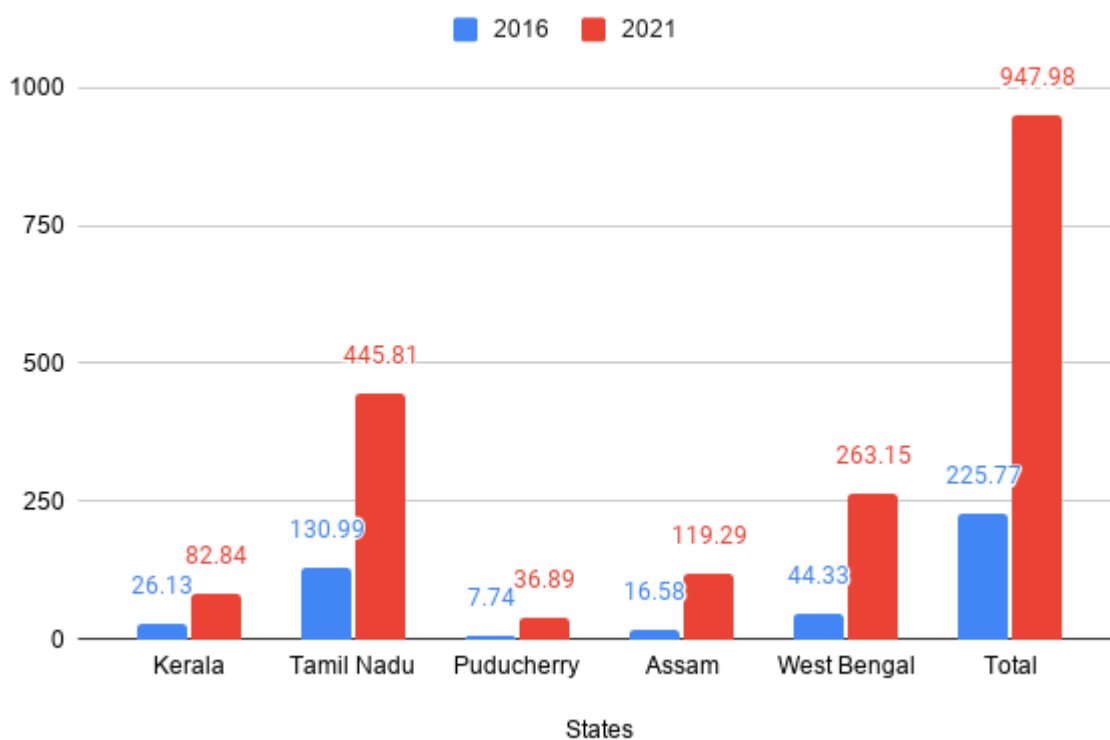
**79395** *Polling stations*  
*monitored live*  
**51.71%** *out of 153538*

**As per Commission's instruction police officials including CAPF personnel** will not go inside the polling booth unless required by Presiding Officer due to law and order problem. It is the standing instruction of the Commission that outsiders will not be allowed in the areas of poll going assembly constituencies during the silence period i.e. 48 hours before the end of polling hours. The Commission had reiterated this instruction in briefing of DEOs and police officials. These guidelines were strictly and rigorously followed.



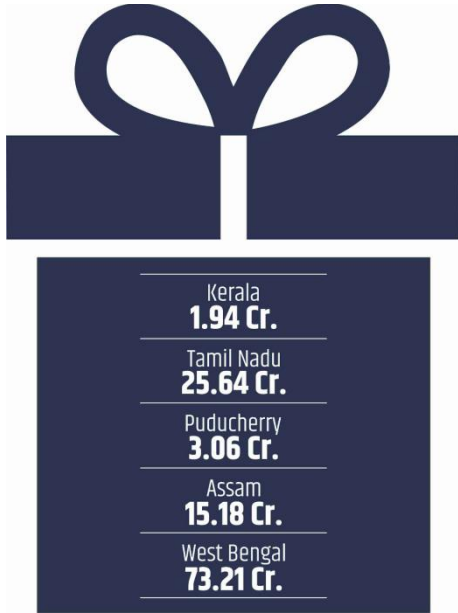
**During the ongoing elections till this phase,a record seizure of Rs. 947.98 Crore** has already been achieved from the five states as on April 6, 2021. The seizure figure, which includes seizure of cash, liquor, narcotics, freebies etc., is more than 4.198 times higher than the total combined seizure of **Rs. 225.77 Crore** in GE LA 2016. The Commission has been laying specific emphasis on inducement free elections and curbing the malaise of undue money power, liquor, freebies. For effective monitoring a total 4606 Flying Squads (FS) and 4670 Static Surveillance Teams (SST) were operationalised to check movement of cash, liquor, drugs & freebies in these states/UT closely supervised by DEOs, Expenditure observers in Districts and Special observers. A total 19 Air Intelligence Units (AIU) of IT Department are also set at different stations in Assam, West Bengal, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry.

## Total Seizure in LA 2016 vs LA 2021 (in Rs. Cr.)

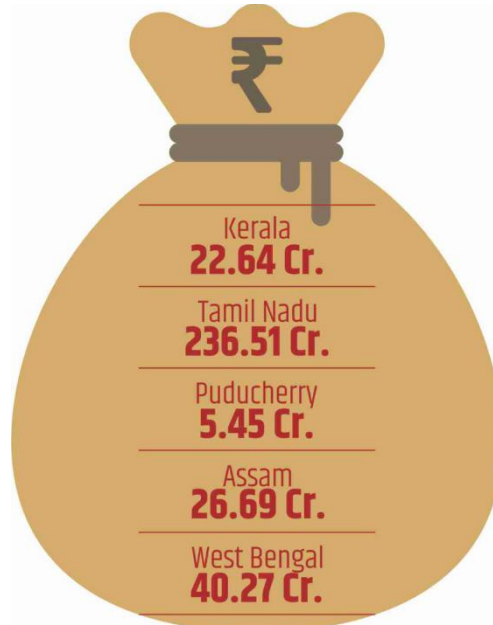


### State wise and item wise break up of seizure report as till 06.04.2021 Forenoon

States	Cash (in Rs. Cr.)	Precious Metal (in Rs. Cr.)	Drugs/Narcotics		Other items/ freebies Worth (in Rs. Cr.)	Liquor		Total (in Rs. Cr.)	Total Seizure in LA 2016 (in Rs. Cr.)	% change over LA 2016
			Quantity (in Kg)	Worth (in Rs. Cr.)		Quantity (in Ltrs.)	Worth (in Rs. Cr.)			
<b>Kerala</b>	22.64	49.21	812.01	4.05	1.94	67542.7	5.01	<b>82.84</b>	<b>26.13</b>	<b>+317.03%</b>
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>	236.51	176.22	-	2.22	25.64	289618.27	5.24	<b>445.81</b>	<b>130.99</b>	<b>+340.33%</b>
<b>Puducherry</b>	5.45	27.42	95	0.25	3.06	27644.82	0.7	<b>36.89</b>	<b>7.74</b>	<b>+476.61%</b>
<b>Assam</b>	26.69	3.69	6940.95	34.4	15.18	2044249.33	39.34	<b>119.29</b>	<b>16.58</b>	<b>+719.48%</b>
<b>West Bengal</b>	40.27	10.28	255.41	115.89	73.21	1935455.18	23.52	<b>263.15</b>	<b>44.33</b>	<b>+593.61%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>331.56</b>	<b>266.82</b>	<b>8103.37</b>	<b>156.81</b>	<b>119.03</b>	<b>4364510.3</b>	<b>73.81</b>	<b>947.98</b>	<b>225.77</b>	<b>+419.88%</b>



**Seizure of Freebies**



**Seizure of Cash**



**Seizure of Narcotics**



**Seizure of Precious Metals**



**Seizure of Liquor**



Election Commission of India's cVIGIL App is a citizen centric mobile application which empowers people to report cases of MCC violations in real time basis, with auto populated details of location and responded within 100 minutes after verification at field level. A total number of about 187146 **cases** of Model Code of Conduct violations were reported through the cVIGIL app out of which 186647 cases were disposed as of today (4:00 PM)



**On polling stations across five states, assured Minimum Facilities (AMF) like drinking water, waiting shed, toilet with water facility, adequate arrangements for lighting, ramp of appropriate gradient for wheelchair for PwD electors and a standard voting compartment etc.** were made available at all the Polling Stations. Arrangements like transport facility, volunteers assisting Persons with Disability and senior citizens were present at the Polling Stations.



**All the Polling Stations followed COVID-19 Safety protocols.** For the safety of the voters and the election officials it was ensured that the Polling Stations were sanitized one day prior to poll and facility of thermal scanning, hand sanitisers, face masks were also made available at the Polling Stations. Proper arrangements for social distancing were put in place. BLOs and volunteers monitored and regulated strict compliance of social distancing norms at the Polling Stations. At the last hour of poll, polling was conducted in full COVID-19 protective gear, with proper COVID-19 protocols and supervision of health authorities. The Commission has laid great emphasis on ensuring transparent and vigilant mechanism for COVID safe, intimidation free and inducement free elections amidst tight security arrangements. Polling across ACs was conducted under strict security arrangements.




Election Commission has laid out an elaborate security plan to ensure smooth and safe conduct of elections. Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) along with the local police force have been deployed to ensure peaceful, intimidation free and conducive atmosphere for the smooth conduct of elections in a free, fair, inclusive and accessible manner. Route marches in vulnerable pockets, regular point patrolling and other Confidence Building Measures were carried out to reassure voters, especially those belonging to the weaker sections of society.



Election Commission of India expresses gratitude to all stakeholders specially the voters for their enthusiastic and fearless participation in the election process today. Commission particularly thanks PwD electors, senior citizens, service voters for taking part in elections honoring COVID protocol norms. ECI also recognizes the services of the entire electoral machinery including polling staff on duty, security personnel, supervisory staff, Observers, Special Observers railway authorities, enforcement agencies as also the Health authorities for making comprehensive arrangements and dedicatedly working towards successful conduct of free, fair, transparent and safe elections despite pandemic. The Commission solicits active cooperation, close collaboration and constructive partnership from all stakeholders including media for delivering smooth and peaceful elections.

For election related updates, photographs and other details please visit our website [eci.gov.in](http://eci.gov.in) and Twitter handles [@SpokespersonECI](https://twitter.com/SpokespersonECI) & [@ECISVEEP](https://twitter.com/ECISVEEP).

For high resolution photographs kindly visit <https://pib.gov.in>



**(PAWAN DIWAN)**  
**UNDER SECRETARY**