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State Assembly Election Results 2026 — BJP Wins West Bengal, UDF Sweeps Kerala, TVK Leads Tamil Nadu

5 May 2026 ·

POLITY

GS2

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✓ Every fact web-verified against primary sources

WHY IN NEWS

Results of **five simultaneous state/UT assembly elections** were declared by the **Election Commission of India (ECI)** on **May 4, 2026**, delivering sweeping political changes across India's federal landscape. The outcomes: **BJP wins West Bengal for the first time** in history; **Congress-UDF returns to power in Kerala** ousting the Left; **TVK (Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam)** under actor-politician Vijay emerges as the **single largest party in a hung Tamil Nadu assembly**; BJP secures a historic hat-trick in Assam; and NDA retains Puducherry.

RESULTS AT A GLANCE

STATE/UT	TOTAL SEATS	MAJORITY MARK	WINNER	KEY SEATS
West Bengal	294	148	BJP	206
Kerala	140	71	UDF (Congress-led)	102
Tamil Nadu	234	118	Hung — TVK largest	107
Assam	126	64	BJP (NDA: 102)	82
Puducherry	30	16	NDA	18

WEST BENGAL — BJP'S HISTORIC FIRST WIN

Results

PARTY	SEATS
BJP	206
TMC	~80–87
Congress	2
Left Front (CPI-M)	1

- **Voter turnout: ~91.91–92.84%** (sources vary; ECI/DD News report 91.91%) — highest ever in West Bengal electoral history
- Polling phases: **April 23 and April 29, 2026**
- Results declared: May 4, 2026

Key Contests

- **Bhabanipur: Suvendu Adhikari (BJP)** defeated **Mamata Banerjee (TMC)** by ~15,000 votes — Mamata's second consecutive defeat to Adhikari (he also beat her at Nandigram in 2021).
- Mamata conceded defeat; TMC will be reduced to opposition.
- Suvendu Adhikari, who was Leader of Opposition in the outgoing assembly, is the expected Chief Minister.

Historical Significance

- BJP wins West Bengal **for the first time ever**, ending more than **50 years of uninterrupted Left + TMC dominance** (Left: 1977–2011; TMC: 2011–2026).
- For the **first time since Indian independence, neither Congress, Left, nor a Congress-supported government rules Bengal** — historically India's most influential state politically.

UPSC Angles

- **Anti-incumbency:** TMC in power 15 years (since 2011); incumbent advantage collapsed.
- **Political violence:** Bengal historically had high election-related violence — record-high ~91.91–92.84% turnout with relatively peaceful polling is significant for ECI management.
- **Centre-State relations:** Historically **adversarial** Bengal–Centre dynamics (TMC vs BJP) will fundamentally shift.

KERALA — NO LEFT GOVERNMENT IN INDIA FOR FIRST TIME SINCE 1977

Results

ALLIANCE	SEATS	KEY PARTY SEATS
UDF (Congress-led)	102	Congress: 63; IUML: 22
LDF (CPI-M led)	35	CPI(M): 26
NDA/BJP	2–3	—

Key Events

- **Pinarayi Vijayan resigned** as Kerala CM within hours of the result; the Governor accepted his resignation; he continues as caretaker.
- Pinarayi won his own **Dharmadam seat** for the third consecutive term despite the party's rout — a personal triumph within a collective defeat.
- For the **first time since 1977, no Left-led government exists anywhere in India** — a landmark political shift.
- Kerala's traditional "**pendulum**" **alternation** (LDF and UDF alternating every 5 years) had been broken in 2021 when LDF won two consecutive terms. UDF now reclaims power.

CM Candidates (Under Discussion)

VD Satheesan (Leader of Opposition), Ramesh Chennithala, KC Venugopal, Shashi Tharoor (who ruled himself out as CM candidate).

TAMIL NADU — TVK BREAKS 59-YEAR DRAVIDIAN DUOPOLY

Results

PARTY	SEATS
TVK (Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam)	107
DMK	~59–64
AIADMK	~47

Outcome: Hung Assembly — TVK is single largest party but falls short of the 118-seat majority mark.

Key Contests

- **Kolathur:** MK Stalin **lost** to TVK's VS Babu (Stalin: ~73,000 votes; VS Babu: ~83,000 votes; margin ~10,000) — Stalin's personal defeat is a defining moment.
- **Vijay won from two constituencies** — Perambur and Tiruchirappalli East.
- Edappadi Palaniswami (AIADMK chief) won from Edappadi constituency.

Historical Significance

- **TVK is a brand-new party** (founded 2024 by actor Vijay) — this is among the **fastest rises to power for any new political party** in India's democratic history.
- Breaks the **59-year Dravidian duopoly** (since 1967, Tamil Nadu was always governed by either DMK or AIADMK). TVK is neither.
- Government formation: TVK needs coalition partners or outside support. DMK or AIADMK support is needed to cross 118.

ASSAM — BJP'S HAT-TRICK

Results

PARTY/ALLIANCE	SEATS
BJP alone	82
NDA total	102
Congress	19
AIUDF (Badruddin Ajmal)	2
Raijor Dal (Akhil Gogoi)	2
TMC	1

- **Himanta Biswa Sarma** won from Jalukbari constituency; set for his **third consecutive term as CM**.
- BJP alone won a clear two-thirds majority — no alliance partners needed.
- **AIUDF near-wipeout:** From 16 seats in 2021 to just 2 seats in 2026 — Badruddin Ajmal's party effectively eliminated.

PUDUCHERRY — NDA RETAINS POWER

ALLIANCE	SEATS
NDA (AINRC + BJP + AIADMK)	18
Congress	~4–5
TVK	2–4
DMK	2

- **N. Rangasamy (AINRC)** won from Thattanchavady constituency by a 4,441-vote margin; set for another term as CM.
- TVK made a notable debut in Puducherry as well, winning 2–4 seats.

NATIONAL-LEVEL TAKEAWAYS

DIMENSION	WHAT HAPPENED
BJP gains	West Bengal (historic first); Assam hat-trick; consolidates NDA
Congress recovery	UDF wins Kerala; breaking LDF's second comeback bid
New political actors	TVK (Tamil Nadu) — brand-new party, fastest power ascent
Left Front collapse	No Left govt in India for first time since 1977; AIUDF wiped out in Assam
Anti-incumbency	Punished TMC (Bengal, 15 years) and LDF (Kerala); but BJP defied it in Assam
Hung assembly	Tamil Nadu — raises questions on floor test, Governor's role, coalition politics

UPSC RELEVANCE

PAPER	ANGLE
GS2 — Polity	Role of ECI, multi-party system, hung assembly and floor test, anti-defection law, coalition building
GS2 — Governance	Governor's discretion in inviting government, constitutional conventions post-hung verdict
GS2 — Federalism	Centre-State dynamics with new state governments; cooperative vs competitive federalism
GS1 — Society	Regional identity politics — Dravidian politics (Tamil Nadu), Bengali sub-nationalism

Mains Keywords: Anti-incumbency, hung assembly, coalition government, ECI, floor test, federal polity, Dravidian politics, TVK, Governor's discretion, defection, **cooperative federalism**, competitive federalism

Prelims Facts Corner

ITEM	FACT
West Bengal seats	294; majority 148; BJP won 206
WB voter turnout	~91.91–92.84% — highest ever in West Bengal
Mamata's loss	Lost Bhabanipur to Suwendu Adhikari
WB significance	First BJP win; ends 50+ yrs Left+TMC rule
Kerala result	UDF 102 seats; LDF 35; Pinarayi Vijayan resigned
Kerala historic	No Left govt in India for first time since 1977
Tamil Nadu	Hung assembly; TVK 107 (largest); DMK ~59–64; AIADMK ~47
Stalin lost	Kolathur — lost to TVK's VS Babu
TVK significance	Founded 2024 by actor Vijay; breaks 59-year DMK-AIADMK duopoly since 1967
Assam	BJP 82 alone; NDA 102 total; BJP hat-trick; Himanta Biswa Sarma 3rd term
AIUDF collapse	16 seats (2021) → 2 seats (2026); Badruddin Ajmal near-wipeout
Puducherry	NDA 18/30; N. Rangasamy (AINRC) wins Thattanchavady
Results declared	May 4, 2026 by ECI

Source: State Assembly Election Results 2026 — BJP Wins West Bengal, UDF Sweeps Kerala, TVK Leads Tamil Nadu — Ujiyari.com | Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs

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