



Map showing states won so far by Democrat candidates Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama.

The Democratic presidential race in figures

AFP, Washington

The latest figures in the Democratic presidential race between Senator Hillary Clinton and Senator Barack Obama, after primaries in North Carolina and Indiana.

Based on information by the independent website RealClearPolitics.

Number of delegates
Barack Obama: 1,842, including 1,585 pledged delegates and 257 superdelegates
Hillary Clinton: 1,692, including

1,421 pledged delegates and 271 superdelegates. At least 2,025 delegates are needed to win the Democratic nomination for president.

Number of primaries and caucuses won (by vote)

Barack Obama: 31
Hillary Clinton: 17
Number of states won (by vote)

Barack Obama: 27
Hillary Clinton: 16

Popular vote, total and percent (estimates)
- Counting only primaries sanc-

tioned by the Democratic National Committee (DNC)

Barack Obama: 16,261,716 votes
49.7 percent
Hillary Clinton: 15,439,337 votes 47.1 percent

- Counting sanctioned primaries plus Florida, whose January 29 primary was ruled invalid because the state party lacked DNC approval to change the date for the vote. Candidates did not campaign in Florida, which Hillary won.

Barack Obama: 16,837,930 votes
48.8 percent
Hillary Clinton: 16,310,323 votes 47.3 percent

New US-Iran talks on Iraq unlikely

AFP, Baghdad

A fourth round of talks between the United States and Iran over the situation in Iraq is unlikely to go ahead, Iraqi Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari said on Wednesday.

"I don't think we will succeed in holding the fourth round of talks... there is increased tension in the area," Zebari told reporters.

Zebari's remark came two days after Iranian foreign ministry spokesman Mohammad Ali Hosseini said there was no point in having talks with Washington as long as US forces continued attacking Shiite militias in Baghdad.

"Neither side has rejected (the holding of talks) but we need to get them at the right time, at the right place, in the right atmosphere," Zebari said.

Iran and the United States held three rounds of talks on Iraq last year despite mounting tensions over the Iranian nuclear programme. The talks have been stalled amid controversy over Iran's role in its conflict-torn neighbour.

Zebari said deadly fighting in Baghdad's Sadr City between US

forces and Shiite militiamen, mostly from anti-American cleric Moqtada al-Sadr's Mahdi Army, have contributed to the tensions between Washington and Tehran.

The situation in Sadr City has "contributed definitely to tension. Tension has always been there but it escalated."

"Since the drive began in Basra, Baghdad and other areas... tension increased," Zebari said, referring to a government crackdown on Shiite militias launched in late March.

The crackdown triggered stiff resistance from the gunmen, mostly from the Mahdi Army, in the southern port city of Basra and other Shiite regions of Iraq, but particularly in the Shiite stronghold of Sadr City.

Hundreds of people have been killed since then in Sadr City, the slum district of some two million Shiites, most of whom support Sadr. Tehran, which strongly opposes the US military presence in Iraq, has been repeatedly accused by Washington of arming and training Shiite militia groups in Iraq.

Iran, whose ties with Washington have been severed since 1980, strongly denies the allegations.

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

AFP, Washington

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh National Board of Revenue

Rajashaw Bhaban, Segunbagicha, Dhaka - 1000

Modernizing the National Board of Revenue: An Exciting and Challenging Opportunity

The Government of Bangladesh is in the process of modernizing the National Board of Revenue (NBR), the revenue administration of the country, with the ongoing Modernization and Automation Project (MAP). The project is being implemented with assistance from the World Bank and primarily aims at reforming and reorganizing the structure of NBR, development of human resource management system, extensive use of ICT in revenue administration, reforms in Customs, VAT, Income Tax, strengthening of the research and statistics wing, strengthening of training activities for revenue administration staff etc.

As a part of this Project, NBR is seeking to appoint experienced and dynamic professionals as consultants for the following positions on a contractual basis:

A. INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANT

Customs Administration Expert - One position for 5 person-months

INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANT	MAN / MONTH	NO. OF CONSULTANT	CODE
Customs Administration Expert	5	1	INT-CUS-ADM

Tasks and Qualifications of Customs Administration Expert

Tasks:

- Review the existing customs procedure and indicate their divergence with modern customs practices;
- Establish a benchmark level of performance in areas like days taken in clearance of goods, payment of duty drawbacks, level of automation, accounting of warehoused goods, attitude towards work of officials, and people's perception of customs;
- Design both short and medium term plan to align them to modern customs procedures;
- Reduce the clearance time for import and forwarding time for export of goods;
- Secure due government revenue and enforce import and export restrictions in a non-obtrusive manner;
- Encourage exports through quick disbursement of duty drawbacks;
- Suggest changes in existing legislation, rules, orders and forms;
- Establish various goals with respect to various benchmark performance;
- Implement selected other modernisation elements;
- Design and implement streamlined procedures for clearing exports and imports;
- Design improvement in Custom processes, organisation, law, staffing and technology;
- Develop monitoring system for bonded warehouse;
- Streamline the schemes operated by the DEDO to better serve the exporters;
- Design the taxpayer education programme in co-operation with WCO;
- Prepare manuals, train Customs officials and agents in modern customs procedure and establish close liaison with FBCCI/other trade bodies;
- Perform such other function as assigned by Project Director.

Qualifications:

- Graduation degree from any recognized university. Master's degree in Management, Public Administration, or MBA will be preferred;
- 8-10 years experience of working in a modern customs administration; of which at least five years work experience in a Customs-related organisation in policy formulation / strategic planning;
- Excellent general knowledge and proven track record of policy reform and strategic planning;
- Well developed knowledge of principal international Customs conventions (e.g. HS, Kyoto, WTO/GATT Valuation Code);
- Knowledge/experience of ASYCUDA automated system preferred;
- Comprehensive knowledge of Customs laws, procedures, systems and processes;
- Experience of implementing Customs Modernization program preferred;
- Experience in fields of public finance, tax analysis and Information Technology preferred;
- Excellent communication and presentation skills;
- Some experience of working with the private sector preferred;
- Experience as a trainer of custom officials preferred.

(Substantial International Experience is required for this Position)

B. LOCAL CONSULTANT

Trainer (Revenue Audit) - One position for 6 person-months

LOCAL CONSULTANT	MAN / MONTH	NO. OF CONSULTANT	CODE
Trainer (Revenue Audit)	6	1	LOC-TR-REV

Tasks and Qualifications of Trainer (Revenue)

- Work in close liaison with the International HRM Advisor and Audit Advisor;
- Assist in designing a work plan to improve the capability and capacity of the Customs & VAT and Income Tax Training Academy (CTA) so that they will be able to efficiently plan, manage and coordinate the future enhanced annual training program, develop necessary training programs and courses, deliver high quality training to NBR staff, evaluate the effectiveness of its training efforts, and support On-the-Job Training (OJT) by managers and supervisors in the field;
- Assist in executing key elements of the plan by transferring skills to the training staff in the techniques of forward planning, training needs analysis, course & program development including standards and achievement levels, methods of training delivery, and evaluation of training effectiveness, and linkages to performance management;
- Assist in developing a training modules, training manuals and training materials for different categories of participants;
- Assist in developing the most appropriate approach to management and supervisory training for NBR and identify content for appropriate training programs;
- Assist in identifying the qualifications for personnel to be trained in the Academy, for NBR to select individuals and assign them to the Instructor Training and Course Development Program;
- Conduct training programs for NBR officials and stakeholders;
- Perform such other functions as assigned by the Project Director.

Qualifications:

- Graduation degree from any recognized university. Master's degree in Management, Public Administration, or MBA will be preferred;
- 8-10 years work experience of all facets of revenue processes and procedures;
- Some experience as a trainer will be desirable;
- Excellent communication & presentation skill essential;
- A comprehensive knowledge of the features and attributes of UNCTAD-developed ASYCUDA++ is preferred;

Fresh applications are sought and each application must accompany a detailed Curriculum Vitae which should include, inter alia, employment history with duties and responsibilities, major professional achievements, current remuneration, academic details including information on any distinctions earned, major publications (if any), two references, contact address, telephone number, and email address.

Existing employees of National Board of Revenue or any of its field offices should not apply for the positions.

Competitive compensation package, commensurate with the relevant skill and experience, will be offered to the deserving candidate.

Please mention the name of the post you are applying for at the top of the envelope and apply to:

A. M. Masrur Ahmad
Member (Customs) & Project Director
Modernization and Automation Project
National Board of Revenue

Rajashaw Bhaban, Segun Bagicha
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh

Closing date is 20 May 2008 for local consultant position & 27 May 2007 for International consultant position

Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

A. M. Masrur Ahmad
Member (Customs) & Project Director
Modernization and Automation Project
National Board of Revenue

Email: ammasrur@hotmail.com, ehtesham2000@yahoo.com

Phone: +(880 02) 9352005, Fax: +(880 02) 8313795

BCIC International Open Tender Notice

Managing Director, Chittagong Urea Fertilizer Ltd (CUFL) Chittagong invites sealed tenders under one envelope system as under on C&F(C) Chittagong basis internationally:-

Sl No	Tender enquiry No and date	Commodity	Date of opening of bid	Price of bid documents (non-refundable)	Tender security (refundable)
01	CUFL/PUR(F)-308/OS-1207 date 28.04.2008	Different types of round bars	09.06.2008	Tk 500.00	Tk 1,00,000.00

Tender document may be purchased from (i) BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha CA, Dhaka-1000 (ii) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad CA, Chittagong and (iii) Accounts Department, CUFL, Rangadia, Chittagong. No tender document will be sold on the opening date on the tender. Tenders will be received in the office of the General Manager (Commercial), CUFL up to 11.00am of the due date and will be opened 11.15am in presence of the bidders or their representative if any. Due to unavoidable circumstances if the tender cannot be opened in the schedule date, tender will be received and opened on the next working day in due time. This procurement will be guided by the Public Procurement Regulation-2003.

Md Shahjahan
General Manager (Commercial)
For Managing Director

GD-2137

BANGLADESH PARJATAN CORPORATION
NATIONAL TOURISM ORGANIZATION

233, Biruttam Ziaur Rahman Sarak
Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215.

File No. Works-11/2007 Date: 5 May, 2008

Re-Invitation for Tender

Sealed Tenders are hereby invited by Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation from the enlisted Contractors/ Firms of Govt./Semi-Govt./ Autonomous bodies as per The Public Procurement Regulations-2003.

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Civil Aviation & Tourism
2.	Agency	Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation
3.	Procuring entity name	Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation
4.	Procuring entity code	N.A
5.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka
6.	Invitation for	Construction of Earthen Dam in between two hills & Water lifting work at Mirinza, Lama, Bandarban.
7.	Invitation Ref. No.	Works-11/2007
8.	Date	5 May, 2008
9.	Procurement method	Open tendering method.
10.	Budget source of funds	GOB
11.	Tender last Selling date	1 June, 2008 during office hour.
12.	Tender closing date and time	2 June, 2008 at 11:00 am
13.	Tender opening date and time	2 June, 2008 at 11:30 am
14.	Selling of tender.	Accounts division, BPC, Head office, Dhaka.
15.	Receiving of tender.	Tender box kept in the Chairman's Office of Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation.
16.	Opening of tender	Conference Hall, BPC, Head office, Dhaka.
17.	Eligibility of Tenderer	(i) 1st class enlisted Contractors/ Firms of Govt./Semi-Govt./ Autonomous bodies. (ii) The contractors must have successful completion certificate of constructing at least one earthen dam done in a single work order amounting Tk.60 (sixty) lacs within the last 5(five) years in any Govt./Semi-Govt/ Autonomous bodies. (iii) Average annual turn-over during last 5(five) years shall not be less than Tk. 80 (Eighty) lacs. (iv) Liquid assets/Credit facilities shall be Tk.45 (Forty five) lacs.
18.	Brief description of good/works	Construction of Earthen Dam in between two hills & Water lifting work at Mirinza, Lama, Bandarban.
19.	Tender documents price	Tk. 2,000/- (Two thousand) only.
20.	Tender security amount (in Tk.)	Tk. 3,00,000/- (Three lacs) only.
21.	Completion time	15 Months.
22.	Name of official inviting tender	Abul Kashem
23.	Designation of official inviting tender	General Manager (works)
24.	Address of official inviting tender	233, Biruttam Ziaur Rahman Sarak, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215.
25.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone 9119821.

Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation reserves the right to accept any or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Abul Kashem
General Manager (works)

GD-2195

সিলেট গ্যাস ফিল্ডস লিমিটেড
(পেট্রোবাংলার একটি কোম্পানী)

Sylhet Gas Fields Limited
(A Company of Petrobangla)

Ref No. SGFL/07-08/FP-01 (Re-Tender-1) Dated: 05-5-2008

গ্যাস লাগান, গ্যাসের পরিচর্যা করুন এবং পরিবেশ বাচন।

গ্যাস জাতীয় সম্পদ। এর অপচয় রোধ করে জাতীয় দায়িত্ব পালন করুন।

Amendment of Tender

Tender No. SGFL/07-08/FP-01 (Re-Tender-1) Dated 3-4-2008 for Appointment of Pre-shipment Inspection agent.

The following amendment is made for the above tender:
1. The date of submission and opening of bid will be 20-5-2008 instead of 19-5-2008.
All other terms & conditions and requirements will remain unchanged.
This will be an integral part of the tender document.

Atul Chandra Roy
Dy General Manager (Procurement)

GD-2177

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(SPECIAL STATUTORY JURISDICTION)

COMPANY MATTER NO. 80 OF 2008
IN THE MATTER OF:
Tripti Industries Limited
-PETITIONER
Versus
Olympic Industries Limited
and another
-RESPONDENTS

Notice is hereby given to all concerned that an application under section 228 read with section 229 of the Companies Act, 1994 was moved by the above named petitioner before the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh for admission of the application and necessary direction. The said application was heard by Mr. Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed of the said Hon'ble Court who vide order dated 05.05.2008 was pleased to admit the same. The date of hearing of the application has been fixed on 18.05.2008.

Any person interested may appear on the date fixed for hearing either personally or through his duly authorized Advocate. Copy of the application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of prescribed fees.

Sd/-
(Rabeya Jamali)
Advocate
For the Petitioner
HUQ AND COMPANY
47/1, Purana Paltan, Dhaka

AFP, Washington

The Democratic-led House of Representatives will this week debate a new war spending bill that includes a provision to pull US combat troops out of Iraq by December 2009, lawmakers said Tuesday.

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi said that the budget for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan would be debated from Thursday.

Such a bill would require the administration of President George W. Bush to begin a pullout within 30 days after the bill becomes law, and would require that the Iraqis finance their country's reconstruction.

"President Bush insists on war without end in Iraq, but Democrats in Congress stand with Americans

AFP, Washington

who want to bring our troops home responsibly, safely and soon, and with taxpayers who believe that the Iraqi government must begin to pay its fair share for the reconstruction of their country," Pelosi said in a statement.

If the bill is adopted by Congress, it is expected that Bush would veto the measure due to his longstanding opposition to fixed timetables for troops withdrawals.

Democratic presidential candidates Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton have promised to start a pullout as quickly as possible should either one of them succeed Bush in January 2009 following November elections.

Obama has estimated the process would take 16 months. Bush on Friday formally asked

lawmakers for 70 billion dollars to fund the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan into early next year, when his successor takes over.

The funds include 45.1 billion dollars for combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, 3.7 billion to expand and train Afghan security forces, and two billion to bolster Iraq's security forces.

The budgetary measure also includes a request for 770 million dollars in new aid to cope with food shortages and soaring prices that have left many hungry and fueled angry protests around the world.

The request came as Bush's previous 108 billion dollar request for the wars has languished in the US Congress, which is controlled by Democrats who oppose the US involvement in Iraq.

India test-fires missile

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

India yesterday successfully test-fired a nuclear-capable missile with a strike range of 3000km from the Wheeler Island in the Bay of Bengal in eastern India.

The AGNI-3 ground-to-ground missile was launched at 09:56 hrs today from the Wheeler Island, about 12 kms from Dhamra off the coast of Orissa state, propelling India into a select group of countries with Intermediate Ballistic Range Missile (IRBM) capabilities and added yet another dimension to national deterrence.

It was a textbook launch and followed the trajectory with single digit guidance accuracy. All the highly sophisticated electronic subsystems of the missile functioned in a copybook manner giving an outstanding integrated performance of the missile in terms of Range and accuracy, said an official statement.