



These recent file photos show US President Barack Obama (L) and billionaire US financier Warren Buffet (R), who are very distant cousins going back to an indentured servant from 17th century France, Ancestry.com said on Tuesday.

Obama and billionaire Buffet are distant cousins

AFP, Washington

President Barack Obama and billionaire financier Warren Buffet are very distant cousins going back to an indentured servant from 17th century France, Ancestry.com said Tuesday.

Experts from what is billed as the world's largest family history website traced the two men's lineage to Maren Duvall, who immigrated to Maryland from France in the 1650s.

Duvall is Obama's ninth great-grandfather and Buffet's sixth great-grandfather, according to Ancestry.com, which earlier this year found that Obama has German roots and in 2007 said he was distant cousin of actor Brad Pitt.

Chicago court rejects Tahawwur Rana's bail plea

ANI, Chicago

A Chicago Federal Court on Tuesday denied bail to alleged Pakistan-born Canadian Lashkar operative Tahawwur Hussain Rana.

Rana is one of the two LeT operatives caught by the FBI in October on charges of plotting a major terror attack against India that left 166 people dead in Mumbai.

The court said Rana, if released pending a trial, has the means and know-how to flee the country to avoid a possible 30-year prison term.

Pronouncing her decision, US Magistrate Judge Nan Nolan told Rana, "I am sure you would be disappointed. But you have to keep doing the best you are doing."

ME peace deal possible in 6 months, says Abbas

PLO extends mandates of Palestinian president

AP, AFP, Ramallah

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said in an interview published Wednesday that a peace deal with Israel could be reached within six months if Israel freezes settlement construction during that time.

Abbas said he proposed the six-month freeze to Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak in a recent telephone conversation.

Earlier the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) yesterday extended the mandates of both President Mahmud Abbas and the Hamas-dominated parliament until elections can be held.

"The Central Committee of the PLO took the decision that president Abbas and the Legislative Council will continue their duties until the next election in accordance with the Basic Law," PLO representative Qaid al-Ghul told AFP.

The decision by the powerful umbrella group was an attempt to prevent a constitutional vacuum after January 24, when the present mandates expire, as the Islamist Hamas movement has vowed to prevent a vote in their Gaza enclave.

Abbas had called elections for next month but the Islamist group that drove his forces from Gaza in June 2007 has said it will not allow a vote in its territory until

there is a national reconciliation agreement.

"I suggested to him (Barak) three weeks ago that Israel freeze all construction in the settlements for six months, including east Jerusalem," Abbas told the Israeli daily Haaretz. "During this time we can get back to the table and even complete talks on a final status agreement. I have yet to receive an answer."

Israel has rejected Palestinian and US demands that it halt settlement construction in the West Bank and east Jerusalem, war-won lands the Palestinians want for their state. A freeze is mandated by the US-backed "road map" peace plan.



Hundreds of activists of the Climate Justice Action gather at the Taarnby Railway Station near Copenhagen early Wednesday to start the Reclaim Power demonstration. The aim of the activists is to reach and enter the Bella Centre where COP15, the UN Climate Change Conference, takes place.

Climate change a 'ticking time bomb' for food

Says UN expert

AFP, Geneva

A UN expert on the right to food said Wednesday that climate change represented a "ticking timebomb" that would hit the poorest countries and those who struggled to feed themselves the hardest.

"Climate change is a ticking time bomb for global food security," said United Nations

Special Rapporteur on the right to food Olivier De Schutter as the UN climate summit in Copenhagen struggled to reach agreement.

"We know that the impacts of climate change will be felt disproportionately by some of the poorest countries and the most vulnerable within those countries," he added in a statement.

"And we know that small

scale farmers and indigenous peoples, as well as those who depend on land for their livelihoods, will suffer most."

However, De Schutter cautioned that some measures aimed at countering climate change could also be harmful, after finding that some projects for the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) had violated human rights.

Forest dept rejoinder

FROM PAGE 1

resources. These villagers are legally settled inside the forest and are allowed to collect fuel wood for domestic use. But this practice is negatively reflected in the news item.

People living in surrounding villages of the forest frequently try to steal forest resources. Forest Department along with the Co-management Committee is working together to protect the forest from thieves. Sometimes forest officials as well as members of the Co-management are brutally assaulted by the goons. Hossain claimed that participatory forestry management proved to be a huge success in resource restoration and improvement of the forest.

The published pictures of felled trees are from deep forest, where it is most troublesome to carry those. These fallen trees are left there to decompose and improve fertility of the soil.

Meantime, Range Officer of Habiganj in another rejoinder to a news headlined "rainforests ravaged" said the report is baseless. He blamed the local people for attempts to fell and smuggle trees of the forest. He said the range has insufficient staff who cannot guard the forest properly.

Our Reply During our visit to Kalenga forest on November 30 we

talked to wide range of people including ethnic, tribal, locals and Co-management Committee members all of whom unanimously said that the Kalenga rainforest is subjected to indiscriminate thefts and deforestation in an alarming level.

The grip of the "limited forest staff members" in Kalenga on the local community is so tight that almost anyone we talked to requested anonymity telling us stories of atrocities by "forest office gangs" who are plundering the rainforest.

As we are writing this rejoinder, we have news from Kalenga that thieves are plundering hundreds of trees in the Sonbari Plantation Forest area of the Kalenga forest. Our sources also confirm that the forest department is mysteriously trying to cover up the theft.

During our trek we found numerous traces of freshly cut stumps of trees. We also learnt from villagers how forest officials were trying to dig out those stumps and camouflage the area with bushes. In fact, the rainforest of Kalenga is now under threat. We urge the authorities to take immediate steps to protect and preserve it.

As for the range officer's rejoinder, it does not contradict The Daily Star report and rather acknowledges the illegal logging going on there.

Maoists plan to take over Nepal's capital

PTI, Kathmandu

A new political confrontation seemed to be looming over Nepal with the Maoists threatening to take over the capital Kathmandu as part of their drive to form parallel governments at regional level.

The Maoists, who have already announced formation of parallel governments in 10 districts, have threatened on Wednesday to take over the capital to turn it into New Autonomous Region.

Maoist chairman Prachanda will inaugurate the new autonomous region later on Wednesday as Nepalese Congress Party warned the ultra Leftists to desist from such tactics as it may lead to "biggest political and social confrontation".

Nepalese Congress' statement comes after various disgruntled ethnic bodies vowed to protest any such unilateral decision to delineate the autonomous states.

Hasina meets Manmohan on Jan 11

FROM PAGE 16

diplomatic sources say people of both the countries are pinning high hope on opening a new chapter in Indo-Bangla relationship. And they expect the breaking of fresh grounds in not-so-warm ties of past several years and creation of a right atmosphere for resolving long-standing issues between the two next-door neighbours.

The officials are fine-tuning issues to be tabled for discussion. "This time we will be going with adequate preparations and officials of ministries concerned are doing massive homework so that there is no lapses from our side," said a high official at the foreign ministry.

He said the ministries of foreign affairs, home, commerce, finance, power and energy are regularly holding meetings and discussing long-standing issues of water sharing, border demarcation, enclaves in adverse possessions, trade gap and preparation of Bangladesh's position paper.

Foreign ministry officials said Sheikh Hasina is expected to begin her India visit on January 10. Preparations are going on to finalise the arrangements.

Final date of the visit is likely to be formally announced after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's return from Copenhagen on December 21. Sources said India has put forward a fresh schedule for Hasina's visit to India from January 10.

They said although Dhaka is yet to confirm the date, officials are working keeping it in mind that Bangladesh might accept the India-proposed date. Earlier, Hasina was due to begin her visit to India on December 18 but it was deferred as both the PMs will be busy in the climate change summit in Copenhagen.

Seeking warmer relations and to resolve long-standing issues with the world's largest democracy, Hasina will be sending signals to seize the opportunity of engaging and improving the relationship. Bangladesh will attach highest importance to the issues of trade imbalance heavily tilted towards India and the issue of water sharing of common rivers.

Officials said the issue of security is likely to dominate the discussion and officials of both countries have so far finalised three deals related to security. Transit through Bangladesh will also come

up prominently at the summit meeting. India has already agreed to give transit facility to Bangladesh to go to Nepal and Bhutan using Indian territory.

Two governments will sign five bilateral agreements including an extradition treaty during Hasina's visit. Three of the agreements are related to combating terrorism and criminal activities and two are related to purchase of electricity and expansion of trade and commerce.

The mutual legal assistance on criminal matters, extradition treaty, a pact on transfer of sentenced people, and one on combating international terrorism, organised crime and illegal drug trafficking, are the three bilateral agreements being finalised.

Diplomatic sources here

said Hasina now may fly to India on January 10 after observing the historic Homecoming Day of Bangabandhu. Hasina will be accorded a ceremonial reception at Rashtrapati Bhavan in the Indian capital on January 11 morning.

She will be given a 21-gun salute and a guard of honour in the forecourt of the official residence of the Indian president. Horse mounted Indian Presidential Guards will be escorting her at that time.

She will lay a wreath at New Delhi's Rajghat mausoleum of India's freedom icon Mahatma Gandhi. Later, she will pay a courtesy call on Indian President Pratiba Patil at Rashtrapathi Bhavan. She will also call on Vice-president of India M Hamid Ansari and Chairperson of United Progressive Alliance (UPA)

and Congress President Sonia Gandhi. She would also meet Lok Shabha Leader of the Opposition LK Advani and several senior ministers like Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee, External Affairs Minister SM Krishna and Railway Minister Mamata Banerjee.

She will visit Ajmer Sharif in Rajasthan to offer fateha at the mazar of Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti (RH).

Hasina will visit Visva Bharati University at Santiniketan in West Bengal. West Bengal Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee is due to meet her in Kolkata. Hasina is expected to call on former West Bengal chief minister and veteran politician Jyoti Basu at his residence.

The prime minister is expected to return home on January 13 or 14.

| Invitation for Tenders | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh | | | | |
| 1. | Ministry/Division | Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives/Local Government Division. | | |
| 2. | Agency | Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (DWASA). | | |
| 3. | Procuring entity name | Project Director, EREWSSP. | | |
| 4. | Invitation for | Tenders are invited for the following works: 1. Construction of 5 (five) Nos 450mmx200mm dia New/Replacement Deep Tube Well within Dhaka WASA MODS Zone-3 & 4 Area. | | |
| 5. | Invitation Ref No. | TA-648/EREWSSP. | | |
| 6. | Date | 09/12/2009. | | |
| KEY INFORMATION | | | | |
| 7. | Procurement method | Open tendering method. | | |
| FUNDING INFORMATION | | | | |
| 8. | Budget and source of funds | The Government of Bangladesh (GOB), (Subject to availability of fund). | | |
| PARTICULAR INFORMATION | | | | |
| 9. | Project/programme code | | | |
| 10. | Project/programme name | Emergency Rehabilitation & Expansion of Water Supply System Project (EREWSSP). | | |
| 11. | Tender publication date | 11/12/2009. | | |
| 12. | Tender last selling date | 05/01/2010 during office hours. | | |
| 13. | Tender closing date & time | 06/01/2010 up to 1.00pm. | | |
| 14. | Tender opening date & time | 06/01/2010 at 3.00pm. | | |
| 15. | Name & address of the offices: | | | |
| | Selling tender document | 1. Janata Bank, Kawran Bazar Corporate Branch/Fakirapool Branch/Posta Branch/Mohammadpur Corporate Branch/Mirpur Section-1/Mohakhali Corporate Branch, Dhaka. 2. Agrani Bank, WASA Branch, Dhaka. 3. Uttara Bank, Kawran Bazar Branch, Dhaka. 4. Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC), Motijheel Branch, Dhanmondi Branch, Gulshan-1 Branch, Dhaka. 5. One Bank Ltd, Kawran Bazar Branch, HRC Bhaban, 46, Kawran Bazar C/A, Dhaka. | | |
| | Receiving tender document | Project Director, EREWSS Project, Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhaban (5 th Floor), 98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. | | |
| | Opening tender document | Same as above. | | |
| INFORMATION FOR TENDERER | | | | |
| 16. | Eligibility of tenderer | The required number of similar contracts completed (construction of minimum 400mmx150mm dia Gravel Packed DTW up to a depth of 200m by Reverse Circulation Method) shall be 3 (three) over a period of last 3 (three) years. | | |
| 17. | Brief description of works | Each of the work consist of: 1. Construction of 450mmx200mm dia Gravel Packed New/Replacement Deep Tube Well (DTW) up to a depth of 200m by Reverse Circulation Method with supply of foreign materials: i) Sand Trap (200mm dia Steel Pipe). ii) Stainless Steel Screens (200mm dia, 30 slot). iii) M.S. Blank Casing (200mm dia). iv) Steel Reducing Cone (450mmx200mm dia). v) Pump Housing Pipe (450mm dia). 2. One-year maintenance of DTW after installation. | | |
| 18. | Brief description of related services | Not applicable. | | |
| SI No | Name of tender | Price of tender document in Tk | Tender security amount in Tk | Time for completion |
| 1 | Construction of 5 (five) Nos 450mmx200mm dia New/Replacement Deep Tube Well within Dhaka WASA MODS Zone-3 & 4 Area | 2,000/- | 6,00,000/- | 45 (forty-five) days for each DTW |
| PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS | | | | |
| 19. | Name of official inviting tender | Md Delwar Hossain. | | |
| 20. | Designation of official inviting tender | Project Director, EREWSS Project. | | |
| 21. | Address of official inviting tender | Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhaban (5 th floor), 98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215. | | |
| 22. | Contact details of official inviting tender | Telephone No: 9117301, Fax No: | | |
| 23. | The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders. | | | |
| WASA-PI-674/09 GD-5639 | | Project Director EREWSS Project Dhaka WASA, Dhaka | | |

| Institute of Business Administration (IBA) | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| University of Dhaka | |
| Re-Appointment Notice | |
| Position: Skilled Technician | |
| Pay Scale: Tk. 6800-325x7-9075 EB-365-13,090 (NPS of 2005) plus other allowances as admissible under the University rules. | |
| Applications in prescribed form are invited from Bangladeshi nationals for appointment against a permanent vacant post of Skilled Technician at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), University of Dhaka. The candidates must have following qualifications and experiences: | |
| 1. Four years' Graduation in Computer Science/Computer Science & Engineering/Electronics & Communication Engineering/Information Technology/Applied Physics and Electronics/Applied Physics or, Masters with three years' Honours Graduation in Physci cs/Applied Mathematics/Mathematics from a recognized university. | |
| 2. Candidates must not have any third Division/Class at any level of his/her academic career. | |
| 3. At least 2 (two) years experience/training in computer hardware and network maintenance will be given preference. | |
| Eight copies of applications in prescribed form available from the Office of the Secretary of the Institute with attested copies of all certificates/testimonials and passport size photographs along with a Pay Order/Draft of Tk. 750 (seven hundred and fifty only) payable in favour of the Director, IBA should reach the Office of the Secretary of the Institute on or before 3 rd January, 2010 during office hours. Candidate already employed must apply through the appropriate authority of the employer. The candidates who have applied earlier need not to apply. | |
| GD-5679 | Director |

| বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র উন্নয়ন কর্পোরেশন | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা | | | |
| স্থানীয় দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি (গুডস) | | | |
| ০১। | মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ | তথ্য মন্ত্রণালয়। | |
| ০২। | এজেন্সি | বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র উন্নয়ন কর্পোরেশন, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা-১২০৮। | |
| ০৩। | সম্বাহকারী সত্তার নাম | ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক, বিএফডিসি, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা। | |
| ০৪। | সম্বাহকারী সত্তার জেলা | ঢাকা। | |
| ০৫। | কি জন্য আহবান | টেন্ডার ফর গুডস। | |
| ০৬। | আহবানের সূত্র | এফডিসি/পিডি-এলপি/২০০৯-২০১০/১৯/০৫/তারিখ: ১০/১২/২০০৯। | |
| ০৭। | তারিখ | উন্মুক্ত দরপত্রের পদ্ধতি (OTM)। | |
| ০৮। | সম্বাহ পদ্ধতি | রাজস্ব খাত। | |
| ০৯। | বাজেট এবং সোর্স অব ফান্ড | ৩৫ মিঃ মিঃ কালার পিকচার নেগেটিভ ফিল্ম। | |
| ১০। | দরপত্র প্রাপ্তকর্তার নাম | তারিখ: ১২/১২/২০০৯। | |
| ১১। | দরপত্র প্রকাশের তারিখ | তারিখ: ১০/০১/২০১০ বিকাল ৫.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত। | |
| ১২। | দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ | তারিখ: ১১/০১/২০১০ দুপুর ২.০০টা পর্যন্ত। | |
| ১৩। | দরপত্র গ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ ও সময় | তারিখ: ১১/০১/২০১০ দুপুর ২.০০টা। | |
| ১৪। | দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময় | হিসাব ক্যাশ শাখা, বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র উন্নয়ন কর্পোরেশন, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা। | |
| ১৫। | দরপত্র বিক্রয়কারী অফিসের নাম ও ঠিকানা | উপ-পরিচালক (সম্বাহ), বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র উন্নয়ন কর্পোরেশন, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা। | |
| (ক) | দরপত্র দলিল গ্রহণকারীর দস্তর | উপ-পরিচালক (সম্বাহ), বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র উন্নয়ন কর্পোরেশন, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা। | |
| (খ) | দরপত্র দলিল খোলার দস্তর | উপ-পরিচালক (সম্বাহ), বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র উন্নয়ন কর্পোরেশন, তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা। | |
| ১৬। | দরদাতাদের যোগ্যতা | (১) সরবরাহকারী মালামাল সরবরাহ কাজের ৩ (তিন) বছরের সার্বিক অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে। (২) এ জাতীয় মালামাল সরবরাহের কমপক্ষে ১ (এক) বছরের সুনির্দিষ্ট অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে হবে। (৩) হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, ব্যাংক সলভেন্সি সার্টিফিকেট, ভ্যাট রেজিস্ট্রেশন, টিন ইত্যাদি সর্বশ্রেষ্ঠ কাগজপত্র থাকতে হবে। | |
| ১৭। | মালামাল সম্বাহ অথবা কাজের সূচিবদ্ধ বর্ণনা | ৩৫ মিঃ মিঃ কালার পিকচার নেগেটিভ ফিল্ম। | |
| ১৮। | দরপত্র তফসিলের মূল্য | প্রতিসেট সিডিউলের মূল্য ৬৫,০০০/- (পাঁচ হাজার) টাকা (অফেরতযোগ্য)। | |
| ১৯। | লট নং | লট (সম্বাহতথ্য মালামাল) এর পরিচয় | তেজগাঁও সিডিউরিট টাকা সরবরাহের সময় সম্বাহ/মাল সিডিউল মোতাবেক |
| | ০১। | ৩৫ মিঃ মিঃ কালার পিকচার নেগেটিভ ফিল্ম | ৮ ৭,০০,০০০/- (সাত লক্ষ) মাত্র পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট আকারে (উত্তরা ব্যাংক লিঃ বাতিল) |
| ২০। | দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম | এস এম কায়সার হোসেন মল্লিক | |
| ২১। | দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী | উপ-পরিচালক (সম্বাহ)। | |
| ২২। | দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার ঠিকানা | বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র উন্নয়ন কর্পোরেশন। | |
| ২৩। | দরপত্র আহবানকারী কর্মকর্তার যোগাযোগের মাধ্যম | ফোন নং- ৮১২০৯৯৭। ফ্যাক্স নং- ৮৮০০২২-৯১৩৭২৮০। | |
| ২৪। | যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা কর্তৃপক্ষ সংরক্ষণ করে। | | |
| এস এম কায়সার হোসেন মল্লিক উপ-পরিচালক (সম্বাহ) বাংলাদেশ চলচ্চিত্র উন্নয়ন কর্পোরেশন তেজগাঁও, ঢাকা | | | |
| জিডি-৫৬৩৭ | | | |