

Chances almost even

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victory in the exceedingly close race.

The average of polls compiled by the RealClearPolitics (RCP), a political news and polling data aggregator, gives Obama a lead of 0.2% in the popular vote -- 47.5% to 47.3%. That would leave 5.4% undecided.

In terms of the Electoral College -- which will decide the race -- it lists 11 states as toss-ups, totalling 146 electoral votes.

Among presumably solid states, Obama leads Romney by only 201 electoral votes to 191, according to RCP -- it takes 270 to win the White House.

If current polls are correct -- and of course, many are disputed -- Obama would win the Electoral College by 290-248.

On the last weekend before the election, Obama and Romney were out to snatch the potentially crucial votes of late deciders.

Making a final appeal to voters in Colorado, Romney said Saturday, "Words are cheap and a record is real and it's earned with effort."

He, along with running mate Paul Ryan, had an early evening event planned in Morrisville, Pennsylvania, his first rally in the state this fall.

Romney's visit follows the decision by his campaign and its Republican allies to put millions of dollars in television advertising in Pennsylvania during the race's final weeks. Obama's team followed suit, making a late advertising buy of its own.

The Republican ticket cast the late push into the Keystone State as a sign that Romney had momentum and a chance to pull away states that Obama's campaign assumed it would win handily. The president's team called the move a sign Romney still doesn't have a clear pathway to reaching the required 270 Electoral College votes.

The president, mean-

Talks to pave ways

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time, caught a few hours of sleep back at the White House on Saturday night before hitting the campaign trail again Sunday. After Marine One lifts off from the South Lawn Sunday morning, Obama won't return to the executive mansion again until after Election Day.

He had a full schedule, with campaign stops Sunday in New Hampshire, Florida, Ohio and Colorado.

His rallies are aimed at boosting Democratic enthusiasm and motivating as many supporters as possible to cast their votes, either in the final hours of early voting or tomorrow, Election Day. Persuading undecided voters, now just a tiny sliver of the electorate in battleground states, has become a secondary priority.

Obama and former President Bill Clinton drew 24,000 people to an outdoor rally in Bristow, Virginia, on a cold Saturday night.

Clinton, his voice hoarse after a week of campaigning, said he had "given my voice in the service of my president." But that didn't stop him from launching into a 30-minute defence of Obama and his economic policies.

He also slammed Romney for his shifting positions.

Obama, who spoke second, embraced Clinton as he walked on stage.

The president said, "The power is not with us anymore," he said. "It's all up to you."

Obama's campaign said it had registered 1.8 million voters in key battleground states, nearly double the number of voters they registered in 2008. Campaign officials said volunteers had made 125 million personal phone calls or door knocks with voters.

Romney has also attracted large crowds in the final weekend of campaigning. His rally in Ohio on Friday drew more than 20,000 people.

planning of a terrorist attack on the Federal Reserve Bank of America last month.

"As far as I know, he remains in the detention in New York. Charges will be filed against him at some points there. He has a defence attorney and due process will play out," Mozena added.

On US-Bangladesh relations, he said: "When I look back over the past year, I am very pleased with the successes of our partnership.

Secretary Clinton was able to come and celebrate our partnership, and institutionalised our partnership."

The envoy said he was pleased now for having a new platform for holding annual partnership dialogue between the two countries. The first ever dialogue took place in Washington in September.

Mozena also spoke about honouring and expressing solidarity with the bank's 84 lakh members across the country," Taisina said.

On September 20, Khondaker Muzammel Huq, the government-appointed chairman, formed a five-member committee without consulting the bank's nine borrower-directors, to appoint a managing director for Grameen Bank.

Of the five members, two were from the 13-member Grameen board -- and Taisina was one of them. Other members are Prof Baqui Khaliq, executive director of Institute of Microfinance; Shirin Sheikh Mainuddin, former vice-president of American Express Bank; and M Shah Alam Sarwar, a Grameen board member and also managing director of Trust Bank Ltd.

Taisina withdrew her name from the selection committee in protest against Huq's actions.

Grameen Bank's managing director post has been vacant since May last year, when Mohammad Yunus stepped down from the bank he founded more than three decades ago.

On July 26 last year, the bank's board, including the nine borrower-directors elected by the bank's 84 lakh members, formed a selection committee to be headed by Prof Yunus.

"It is a matter of great

regret that the chairman has been unlawfully neglecting the selection committee [formed on July 26 of last year], which was backed by the majority of the members," Taisina said.

"The chairman has been creating obstacles in implementing the decisions of the selection committee, which is only helping the government in its plan to take away our authority to select the managing director," she said.

"This has undermined the rights of the poor members, who are owners of 97 percent of the bank's stakes."

In his statement, Mozena also said Bangladesh would become self-sufficient in food within a decade although the nation was once described as a bottomless basket.

"Truly, a great agricultural revolution is underway," Mozena said while he was delivering his speech on 'The transforming Bangladesh'.

He also mentioned some surmountable challenges of Bangladesh including inadequate ports, road and railway networks, power, energy, lack of quality education and skills training, and the challenges of corruption, rule of law, respect for labour rights, and the threat of political instability.

AmCham President Aftab ul Islam moderated the meeting.

SC to hear appeal

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four national leaders inside the Dhaka Central Jail on November 3, 1975.

The four leaders are Syed Nazrul Islam, Tajuddin Ahmad, AHM Quamruzzaman and Captain Mansur Ali.

The government recently submitted a concise statement to the SC praying for upholding the lower court verdict that had awarded death penalty to three former army personnel and life term imprisonment to 12 others.

Yesterday, a five-member bench of the Appellate Division of SC headed by Chief Justice Md Muzammel Hossain fixed the date for hearing the appeal after Attorney General Mahbubey Alam and Anisul Huq, principal

state counsel for the case, prayed for its early hearing.

The Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court of Dhaka in 2004 convicted and sentenced to death R Isalder (retired) Muslemuddin, Dafadar (dismissed) Marfat Ali Shah and Dafadar (dismissed) Abdul Hashem Mridha for killing the four national leaders.

The court also awarded life imprisonment to Lt Col (dismissed) Syed Farooq-ur Rahman, Lt Col (retired) Sultan Shahriar Rashid Khan, Maj (retired) Bazlul Huda, Lt Col (dismissed) Khondaker Abdur Rashid, Lt Col (relieved) Shariful Haq Dalim, Lt Col (retired) SHMB Noor Chowdhury, Maj (retired) A K M Mohiuddin Ahmed, Lt Col (retired) A M Rashed

Chowdhury, Maj (relieved) Ahmed Shariful Hossain, Capt (retired) Abdul Majed, Capt (relieved) Kismat Hasem and Capt (relieved) Nazmul Hossain for abetting the killers.

The HC in its verdict on August 28, 2008, upheld the capital punishment of Muslemuddin and acquitted Marfat and Hashem.

It also acquitted Farooq, Shahriar, Mohiuddin and Bazlul Huda, and did not say anything about the eight others who were given life term by the lower court.

On January 27, 2010, Farooq, Shahriar, Mohiuddin and Bazlul Huda were executed in the Bangabandhu assassination case. The other convicts in the case are on the run.

Director asks selection

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Aviation security

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involvement in smuggling through the airport," Nazrul Islam Mollah, deputy commissioner of Detective Branch (DB-North), told The Daily Star last night.

The Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (Caab) yesterday sacked Nizam, a day after his arrest, for his alleged involvement in the incident. A Caab press release said Nizam was appointed on daily-basis.

Meanwhile, a Dhaka court yesterday granted police five days to grill Nizam.

The Armed Police Battalion (APBn) on September 10 seized 117 gold bars, weighing 13.6kg and worth around Tk 6.87 crore, from a flash-water-tank of a toilet at the Boarding Bridge-1 of the airport.

During the haul, law enforcers also arrested Monowarul Huq, who

smuggled the gold into the country from Dubai.

According to Monowarul, Dev Kumar Das Debu of Old Dhaka was its owner while MA Aziz, a field officer of National Security Intelligence (NSI), Caab

security guard Abul Kalam and several other officials deployed at the airport were involved in the process to make a safe passage of the gold outside the airport.

Apart from Monowarul, three others -- Debu, Aziz and Kalam -- were arrested in this connection and all of them made confessional statements, said police.

"All the four in their confessional statements named Nizam and identified him as the key person in the September 10 incident as well as other smuggling incidents through the airport," said the DB Deputy Commissioner Nazrul.

Winter to creep

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northern region, temperatures may come down to 13-14 degrees Celsius."

Temperatures are likely to drop to around 10 degrees Celsius in December.

Metereologist Shameem Hasan Bhuiyan said drizzles will not have an adverse effect on the country's agriculture.

Meanwhile, cyclonic storm Nilam over the south-west Bay and the adjoining area crossed India's Tamil Nadu coast and moved in a north-westernly direction, reports UNB.

Now it lies as a low-pressure area over the north Andhra-Orissa coast in India and its associated trough extends to the southern part of Bangladesh.

At least 22 people have been killed in Andhra Pradesh as heavy rains continued to batter several regions hit by the cyclone, NDTV adds.

Coastal Andhra Pradesh

continued to bear the brunt of the cyclone's fury as villages and towns were inundated by swollen rivulets.

The government has set up 86 relief camps in which about 68,000 people were provided shelter.

Under its influence of the cyclone, there may be light to moderate rain in Rajshahi, Rangpur, Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions in 24 hours till 6:00pm today, the Met Office said.

In the rain yesterday, Junior School Certificate and Junior Dakhil Certificate examinees and officegoers had a tough time on their way to destinations.

"I did not take an umbrella or a raincoat while stepping out of home, thinking that the drizzle would stop shortly. Now the rain has left me wet," said Faisal Imtiaz, a private firm employee in the capital.



BIRDEM GENERAL HOSPITAL
(An Enterprise of the Diabetic Association of Bangladesh)
Ibrahim Memorial Diabetes Centre, 122, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000.

Notice

For post graduate training "Trainee Resident Doctor" will be selected in BIRDEM in the following department.

Sl#	Name of the Department	Required qualifications for this training
01	(i) Orthopaedics (ii) Paediatrics (iii) ENT (iv) Ophthalmology	MBBS or equivalent degree from any Medical College or Institute recognized by BMDC with One year of Internship training and registration from BMDC. Preference will be given to the candidates having FCPS Part-1/MD Part-1/MS Part-1 or equivalent.

This will be non practicing and whole time. For this honorarium will be paid according to rule.

Applications to be submitted in prescribed form, obtainable from Cash Counter # 15 & 22, BIRDEM, 122 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000, on all working days (from 9:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.). The price of each application form is Tk. 400/- Name of the trainee posts with speciality should be clearly written on the envelope. One copy of money receipt must be attached with the application form. The application along with required papers (as per instruction on the application form) should reach on or before **20.11.2012** either dropped in the box placed in front of room # 230 or sent by post. Only short listed candidates will be called for interview. Incomplete applications may be rejected.

Director General



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Employment Notice

Applications are invited from the citizen of Bangladesh for the following posts.

Sl#	Name of the Post	Qualifications
01	Junior Consultant (Gastrointestinal, Hepatobiliary & Pancreatic Disorders) Pay Scale : Tk. 18500-29700/- & all other admissible allowances.	1 MBBS or Equivalent and Registration with BMDC. 2 Any of the following Post-graduate degrees recognised by BMDC: PhD/DSc/D.Phil/FCPS/MD/MRCP/MSc or equivalent in relevant subject. 3 Candidates having teaching experience & Publication in relevant subject will get preference.
02	Jr. Consultant (Dentistry) Pay Scale : Tk. 18500-29700/- & all other admissible allowances.	1 BDS or Equivalent and Registration with BMDC. 2 Any of the following Post-graduate degrees recognised by BMDC: PhD/DSc/D.Phil/FCPS/MS/FRCS/MD in Dentistry or equivalent in relevant subject. 3 Candidates having teaching experience & Publication in relevant subject will get preference.
03	Registrar (Surgery) Pay Scale : Tk. 15000-26200/- & all other admissible allowances.	1 MBBS or Equivalent and Registration with BMDC. 2 Any of the following Post-graduate degrees recognized by BMDC: PhD/DSc/FCPS/MS/FRCS or equivalent in relevant subject.
04	Registrar (Anaesthesiology) Pay Scale : Tk. 15000-26200/- & all other admissible allowances.	1 MBBS or Equivalent and Registration with BMDC. 2 Any of the following Post-graduate degree or Diploma recognised by BMDC: PhD/DSc/FCPS/MD/FFA/DA or equivalent in the relevant subject.
05	Registrar (Ophthalmology) Pay Scale : Tk. 15000-26200/- & all other admissible allowances.	1 MBBS or Equivalent and Registration with BMDC. 2 Any of the following Post-graduate degree or Diploma recognised by BMDC: PhD/DSc/D.Phil/FCPS/MS/DO or equivalent in the relevant subject.
06	Medical Officer (Dentistry) Pay Scale: Tk. 12000-21600/- & all other admissible allowances.	BDS or equivalent degree from any Institute recognised by BMDC with 1 year of Internship Training and Registration from the BMDC.

Applications to be submitted in prescribed form, obtainable from Cash Counter # 15 & 22, BIRDEM, 122 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Dhaka-1000, on all working days (from