

Harris holds slight edge nationally over Trump: poll

AFP, Washington

Kamala Harris has taken a slim lead over Donald Trump in their bitterly contested US presidential race, according to a new poll released Tuesday which shows the Democrat gaining support among Republican voters.

With four weeks to go before election day on November 5, Vice President Harris and former president Trump are essentially deadlocked as they scramble to get out the vote and reach the sliver of Americans who remain undecided.

The national poll conducted by Siena College and The New York Times found Harris ahead by 49 percent to 46 percent, with registered voters crediting the Democratic nominee more than Trump with representing change and caring about people like themselves, but giving the edge to Trump on who is the stronger leader.

The rivals were tied at 47 percent in a mid-September Times/Siena poll shortly after the two clashed in their presidential debate.

The overall result is largely in line with an aggregate of national polling collated by RealClearPolitics.com, which has Harris ahead by two percentage points.

In the seven battleground states seen as likely to



Turkish nationals wait to register to board Turkish navy ships before leaving Lebanon, amid the ongoing hostilities between Hezbollah and Israeli forces, in Beirut yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

400,000 trapped in northern Gaza

Warns head of UNRWA as Israel carries out new strikes; 60 Palestinians killed in 24 hrs

REUTERS, Cairo

An Israeli military operation in northern Gaza is leaving at least 400,000 Palestinians trapped in the area, the head of the UN agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA) said yesterday.

"Recent evacuation orders from the Israeli Authorities are forcing people to flee again & again, especially from Jabalia Camp. Many are refusing because they know too well that no place anywhere in #Gaza is safe," Philippe Lazzarini, the head of UNRWA, posted on X.

Lazzarini said some UNRWA shelters and services were being forced to shut down for the first time since the

offensive began and that with almost no basic supplies available, hunger was spreading again in northern Gaza.

"This recent military operation also threatens the implementation of the second phase of the #polio vaccination campaign for children," he said.

At least 60 people were killed in Israeli military strikes in the past 24 hours, Palestinian medics said yesterday, as Israeli forces pressed on with a raid on the Jabalia refugee camp in the enclave's north.

The Israeli military says the raid, now in its fifth day, is intended to stop Hamas fighters staging further attacks from Jabalia and to prevent them regrouping.

Japan's new PM dissolves House for snap polls

AFP, Tokyo

New Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba yesterday dissolved parliament ahead of October 27 snap polls, banking on his honeymoon popularity and a fragmented opposition to lead his scandal-tainted party to victory.

Ishiba's Liberal Democratic Party has governed Japan almost uninterrupted for decades and is almost certain to be re-elected. "We want to face this election fairly and sincerely, so as for this government to obtain (public) trust," Ishiba said.

Take 'concrete action' to stop bloodshed

Asean leaders press Myanmar junta, its opponents

AFP, Vientiane

Southeast Asian leaders pressed Myanmar's junta and its opponents yesterday to take "concrete action" to stop the bloodshed in the country's civil war and sought to kick-start faltering diplomatic efforts to solve the crisis.

The 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) has tried to no avail to find a negotiated solution to the Myanmar crisis, which has killed thousands of people and forced millions to flee their homes since the military seized power in February 2021.

The crisis dominated the first day of the Asean summit in Vientiane. Asean leaders held their first face-to-face talks with a senior junta representative in more than three years on the first day.

The junta has suffered serious battlefield defeats over the past year during a renewed offensive by ethnic minority armed groups and pro-democracy "People's Defence Forces" that rose up to oppose its coup.

Hurricane Milton upgrades to Category 5 storm

Heads to Florida's Gulf Coast

REUTERS, Tampa



Hurricane Milton tore towards Florida's Gulf Coast yesterday, leaving residents with one final day to evacuate or hunker down before the "catastrophic" Category 5 storm is predicted to hit, triggering a life-threatening storm surge.

With more than 1 million people in coastal areas under evacuation orders, those fleeing for higher ground clogged highways on Tuesday and gas stations ran out of fuel, in a region still recovering from the devastating impacts of Hurricane Helene less than two weeks ago.

The storm was on a collision course for the Tampa Bay metropolitan area, home to more than 3 million people, though forecasters said the path could vary before the storm makes landfall late Wednesday night.

The US National Hurricane Center described Milton as a "catastrophic" and "dangerous" major hurricane, packing maximum sustained winds of 160 mph (260 kph), putting it at the highest level on the five-step Saffir-Simpson scale.

US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

26 DAYS TO GO

determine the election outcome, the race is even tighter. Democrat Harris, the new poll also showed, has begun making inroads with the rival party, with nine percent of Republicans saying they planned to support her, up from five percent last month.

She touched on the issue Tuesday during an appearance on popular ABC television show "The View," where she talked about campaigning recently with Republican former congresswoman Liz Cheney.

There are more than 200 former officials from past Republican presidents George W Bush and George H W Bush, as well as officials tied to Republican heavyweights John McCain and Mitt Romney, who have endorsed her, Harris said.

"We really are building a coalition around some very fundamental issues, including that we love our country and that we have to put country before party," she said.

She also accused Trump of "full-time perpetuating lies and misinformation," and said voters have grown "exhausted" with the strategy.

Trump has presented an increasingly aggressive posture, slamming Harris Tuesday as "completely inept" in her previous night's interview on news program "60 Minutes."



Bangladesh Bank

(Common Services Department-2)

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Dhaka

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Invitation for Tender Through Web

Tender No. CSD-2(CEW): 07(01)/2024-140

Date: 09/10/2024

Tenders through Electronic Media (e-Tender) are invited from the bonafide Contractors/Construction firms for Renovation of Stationery archive to use as Police Barrack at Bangladesh Bank, Sylhet. Necessary information, terms & conditions are given below:

1	Procuring entity	: Common Services Department-2, Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka.
2	Source of fund	: Bangladesh Bank's own fund.
3	Method of procurement	: Open Tendering Method (National).
4	Qualification of tenderers	: This Invitation for Tender is open to all eligible Contractors/Construction Firms of Bangladesh who have: (a) General experience at least 10 (ten) years in the relevant field. (b) Satisfactorily performed at least 01(One) work of similar nature in any government/semi-government/autonomous organization of Bangladesh during last 05 (five) years worth not less than BDT 20.00 lac (twenty lac) in a single contract. (c) Minimum Average Annual Construction Turnover during last 05 (five) years preceding the date of Invitation of the Tender shall not be less than BDT 80.00 lac (Taka eighty lac only). (d) Minimum liquid assets or credit facilities shall be BDT 20.00 lac (Taka twenty lac only). In case of credit facilities, Bank will ensure that the abovementioned credit limits will be given if the said work is awarded to the contractor. (e) The Tenderer shall have to submit valid electrical ABC contracting/supervisory license. (f) Shall meet all other criteria, terms & conditions as specified in the Tender Document.
5	Amount of tender security	: BDT 80,000.00 (Taka eighty thousand only).
6	Address of the Web of e-Tender	: www.bb.org.bd (e-Tender)
7	Name & address of the office receiving other documentary evidence	: Director (Engg-Civil), Common Services Department-2 (6th Floor of 30-storied Building), Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka.
8	Last date and time for document tender submission	: 29/10/2024 upto 2:30pm.
9	Date, time and place for tender opening	: 29/10/2024 at 3:00pm, Common Services Department-2 (6th floor of 30-storied Building), Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka. Tenderers or their authorized representatives will be allowed to attend the Tender opening.
10	Brief description of the work	: The work consist of dismantling of MS window shutter/grill, Taking out wooden chowkat/door, Dismantling of brick work, old plaster & plain concrete, Earth cutting, sand filling, Mass Concrete Work, RCC Work, Brick work, Plastering work, MS Grill work, SS Railing work, Glazed Aluminium window/ partition, Painting work, Tiles work, Sanitary & Plumbing Work, Electrical Work etc.
11	Time for completion of the work	: 03 (three) months from the date of issue of Contract Award.
12	Special Instructions	: i) All sorts of security & safety measures shall be carried out by the Contractor during execution of the work. ii) Bangladesh Bank reserves all rights to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reasons whatsoever. No claim will be entertained in this regard.

DCP: 48/2024-2526

Date: 09/10/2024

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Md. Tafazzal Hossain
Director (Engineering-Civil)
Phone: 88-02-9530099



Ukraine could be facing its toughest winter since the full-scale invasion began.

Says Nato chief **Mark Rutte** as Russia continues to carry out massive strikes

Soldier killed after abduction in India's J&K

AFP, Srinagar

A soldier was abducted by suspected militants and killed in Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), police said yesterday, hours after results were announced for the disputed region's first local elections in a decade.

Muslim-majority Kashmir has been divided between rivals India and Pakistan since their independence from British rule in 1947, and is home to a long-running insurgency.

Two soldiers were kidnapped on Tuesday evening in Anantnag district, a police officer told AFP.

"One of the soldiers managed to escape. He has two bullet wounds and is undergoing treatment," said the officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity as he was not authorised to speak to media.

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