DHAKA THURSDAY NOVEMBER 5, 2026



"I am absolutely willing to accept those results. We'll work with the Democrats, and we'll, you know, look forward to working with them."
DONALD TRUMP

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Jan hike pledge fails to quell RMG unrest

Violence continues, 100 factories shut, police vehicle torched; wage board holds first meeting



PHOTO: MEHEDI HASAN

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Following its first meeting yesterday, the new minimum wage board said garment workers would begin receiving wages under the revised pay structure in January, as protests demanding higher wages entered their fifth consecutive day.

Fresh clashes between workers and police were reported in Gazipur, Narayanganj, and Savar yesterday. Protesters torched a police vehicle in Savar and blocked key roads, forcing over 100 factories to suspend operations and declare holidays in Gazipur and Savar, said officials.

Meanwhile, District and Sessions Judge Syed Azad Subhani, chairman of the minimum wage board for readymade garment workers, said the new pay hike of the workers would come into effect in December this year.

"So, the workers will receive their increased wages in January," he told reporters after the board's first meeting in the capital's

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54 Democrats — US SENATE — Republicans 44

51 for control

DONALD TRUMPED

Blue tsunami sweeps Capitol Hill in stunning blow to Republicans

AGENCIES

Democrats seized control of both the Senate and House of Representatives, scoring sweeping victories in Republican strongholds for the first time in generations as tens of millions of voters delivered a scathing rebuke to President Donald Trump.

Voters in conservative bastions who had propelled the president to his second term in office just two years ago swung dramatically toward Democrats, fuelled by deep frustration over the unpopular war with Iran, anxiety over the high cost of living and anger at Trump's stewardship of the country.

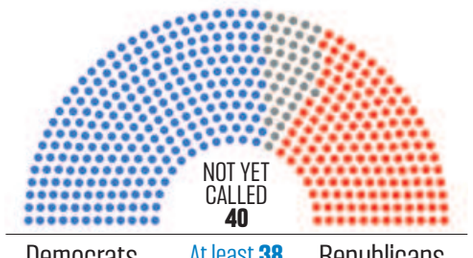
In Texas, the biggest Republican state, Democrats ended a decades-long losing streak in seismic fashion, winning a Senate seat and ousting three-term Governor Greg Abbott.

Kansas elected its first Democratic senator since the Great Depression nearly a century ago, and in South Carolina, a state that Trump carried by nearly 18 points in 2024, Democrats turned aside his hand-picked Senate candidate.

The results will usher in a new era of divided government in Washington, following two years in which the Republican-controlled Congress rarely

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

218 seats needed for a majority



Democrats	At least 38 flipped to Democrats	Republicans
244		151

AS OF 1:00AM
SOURCE: REALCLEARPOLITICS.COM

exercised its power to rein in Trump.

The Democrats now control 54 Senate seats and are leading in one race. They have also won 244 House seats. All 435 House seats were contested, while 35 of the Senate's 100 seats were up for election. Voters in 36 states also elected governors.

Once seated in January, Democrats are expected to use their power to investigate Trump's administration, family and allies and demand concessions on major legislation. The Democratic Senate can block Trump's nominees, including any US Supreme Court justices should a vacancy arise.

"There is now a generational remake of the Senate map that is going to change America," said Chuck Schumer, the party's Senate minority leader. "Americans voted for change, and now Democrats must deliver."

Trump told Fox News that the Iran war played a role in the stunning midterm election defeat for his Republican Party, while Iran's parliament speaker said yesterday that Americans had rejected war, adding that Tehran supports this message.

"Whether out of conscience or the cost of living, Americans said NO TO WAR, and we endorse this message," Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf said in a statement through US social media company X.

Trump, who is barred by the US Constitution from seeking a third term, has exercised an iron grip on his party for most of the last decade. But the new balance of power in Washington may accelerate his lame-duck status, as attention turns

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