



**MIF CONCLUDES WITH REPORTED SUCCESS**  
The Macao International Trade and Investment Fair was shortened one day due to Typhoon Haima

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**A WITNESS OF OUR TIMES**  
Award-winning photojournalist Eduardo Leal talks about his experiences and dangers of working on the frontline

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**TYPHOON HAIMA BATTERS HONG KONG**

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**WORLD BRIEFS**



**JAPAN** The first woman to climb Mount Everest didn't stop there. Japanese mountaineer Junko Tabei, who died last week at 77, devoted her adult life to scaling peaks, climbing the tallest mountains in more than 70 countries. Her philosophy was to live life to the fullest. "I want to climb even more mountains," she said in a 1991 interview with The Associated Press, 16 years after conquering Everest. "To think, 'It was great,' and then die."



**ZIMBABWE**'s tentative return to its own currency is getting a hostile reception from citizens, who fear a recurrence of the 500 billion percent inflation that plagued the southern African nation before it abandoned its dollar seven years ago. The country will soon introduce so-called bond notes, pegged to parity with the U.S. dollar.

More on backpage

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**FINANCIAL TIMES**  
Challenging the jihadi narrative

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# Jiangsu-Macau Cooperation Park announced



**China visit helps Duterte reap funding deals worth USD24 billion**

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## Seoul Airlines inaugurates Macau flight

Seoul Airlines, a low-cost carrier owned by Asiana Airlines, has operated its first flight to Macau. An inauguration ceremony was held at the Macau International Airport after the flight's arrival. Cho Jin Man, a representative from Seoul Airlines, pointed out that in order to enhance the economic and tourism relationship between China and Korea, a direct connection between Macau and Seoul is a necessary step. The budget airline has started to offer international flights to Japanese cities and Southeast Asian regions, in a bid to increase Asiana Airlines' revenues after its routes to cities in Japan and Southeast Asia proved unprofitable. Air Seoul is the second airline subsidiary of Asiana, which also operates Air Busan. Air Busan is focused on domestic flights, while Air Seoul is aiming at building a network of short-ranged international flights.

## HK ranks first in number of students studying in Taiwan

The number of Hong Kong students studying in Taiwan exceeded, for the first time, that of Malaysia and Macau, as the Overseas Chinese Education Design Committee revealed, according to a report by Sing Tao Daily. Currently, there are 7,333 Hong Kong students pursuing higher education degrees in Taiwan. According to the Ou Mun Lao Tao Tai Chun Hao Iao Vui (Macau Alumni of Taiwan Universities), on May 20, the committee announced that a total of 2,294 students applied to Taiwan universities, of which 1,563 students were accepted. For students from Hong Kong, this figure is close to 4,000, representing an evident drop compared to last year, when more than 6,000 Hong Kong students applied for universities in Taiwan. The committee said that the decrease is due to Hong Kong's falling birth rate.

## Oktoberfest's last days canceled due to typhoon

Annual celebration the Munich Beer Festival, held in the region at MGM Macau, was brought to an early closure this year. The festival was originally scheduled to run for 11 consecutive days, between October 13 and 23, but was cancelled from October 20 onwards due to the approach of Typhoon Haima. The early termination of the festivities was declared as a safety precaution.

**T**HE Jiangsu-Macau Cooperation Park will be built in Changzhou Prefecture, Jiangsu Province. The announcement was made Saturday following a new memorandum of understanding signed between the Jiangsu Provincial People's Government and the MSAR.

The agreement was signed in Macau by the Chief Executive Chui Sai On and the Governor of Jiangsu Province, Shi Taifeng.

According to a statement from the Government Information Bureau, the park will be positioned as a platform for advancing Jiangsu-Macau cooperation, promoting cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking countries and allowing young entrepreneurs from Macau to establish businesses on the mainland. Additionally, it is expected that the park will boost civil servant exchanges between Jiangsu and Macau, for example through shared training initiatives.

"The park is expected further to push forward Macau's adequate economic diversification and to offer new development opportunities for Macau's po-

# Jiangsu-Macau Cooperation Park to be built in Changzhou



The Governor of Jiangsu Province, Shi Taifeng (left) and Chui Sai On witness the signing ceremony of the Jiangsu-Macau Cooperation Park memorandum of understanding

pulation, particularly young people," the statement reads.

Macau and Jiangsu already have an active partnership in economics and trade. Since its

first edition in 2011, the Jiangsu - Macau - Portuguese-speaking Countries Business Forum has been taking place annually in the Macau International Tra-

de and Investment Fair (MIF). The Forum aims to further the relationship between Jiangsu, Macau and Portuguese-speaking countries.

## Sun Yat Sen 150th anniversary exhibition opens



The Sun Yat Sen Memorial House, Macau

**A**N exhibition of photographs to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Sun Yat Sen opened Saturday, featuring a total of 270 historic and valuable photographs as well as a number of artifacts associated with his life.

The exhibition will be held until November 13 at Macau Forum. It is organized by the Chief Executive's Office and the Government Information Bureau, and is being run with the support of the Museum of the Former Residence of Dr Sun Yat Sen, in Zhongshang Prefecture, Guangdong Province, and of a committee in Macau comprising members from different sectors of the community.

The exhibition is divided in two parts. The first explains Sun Yat Sen's life story, making reference to major historical events and social change at that time, using this as context as it explores his visions and goals for the revitalization of China.

The second part of the exhibition shows Sun Yat Sen's close relationship with Macau, a place where he worked as a doctor, providing the sort of medical help that was much needed at that time. According to the organizers, Sun Yat Sen saw Macau as a doorway to the rest of the world - a base for him to promote his revolutionary ideologies - as well as a place wherein he lived with his family.

## Gala dinner celebrates French-Chinese cultural relations

**T**HE Louvre Museum will be celebrating its history with the exhibition "Invention of the Louvre: Eight Centuries of French History through the Museum's Collections", to be held later this year in China. The exhibition will show masterpieces from all departments of the Louvre, which will be held at the National Museum of China, in Beijing in December 2016.

A gala dinner was held in support of this significant project

recently at Wynn Palace Cotai, Macau and was attended by over 500 government representatives and business leaders.

"The Louvre's decision in choosing the enclave [Macau] to hold the Invention of the Louvre Gala Dinner to launch the exhibition campaign accentuates Macau's role in the "One Belt One Road" route," said Pansy Ho, China's Ambassador of the Louvre Museum.

"It is a recognition and valida-

tion of Macau's capability as a platform to bridge the East and the West, its important position in promoting international cultural exchange. [...] I hope this event will further inspire exchanges between China and France, Beijing and Macau, and the exhibition will enrich the spiritual and cultural life experiences for China citizens," said Pansy Ho.

Comprised of paintings, sculptures, prints and decorative arts spanning Europe,

the United States, and Asia, "Invention of the Louvre" is intended to be an illustration of the museum's on-going reinvention in carving new museological paths to nurture and deepen the appreciation of art and culture around the world.

"We are thrilled to be putting forward the history of the Louvre to audiences in China," said Jean-Luc Martinez, President-Director of the Louvre Museum.

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**T**HE 21st Macao International Trade and Investment Fair (MIF) closed its doors on Saturday with a positive evaluation from the organizers.

Despite the disruption caused by Typhoon Haima that led to the suspension of all activities that had been scheduled for Friday, the organizers still proclaimed that the 2016 edition of MIF was a success, even after already being shortened by one day compared to previous years.

According to the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM), over 380 business negotiation sessions were held in the Business Matching Area, of which 110 were made through the Online Business Matching Service Platform, resulting in contracts being signed for over 50 projects, figures that pleased the organizers.

IPIM's Executive Director Irene Lau told TDM: "Contacts and business matching have grown about 50 percent. The reason behind this is that we have done things in a different system. The matching was done online before [businessmen arrived at the event]; they arrange their timetable. We informed them in advance that the second day might have the risk of not having the show, so everybody did [their networking] on the

# MIF concludes with reported success despite typhoon disruption



first day." Lau also informed us that it was impossible to extend the event into Sunday so that it could run for its originally scheduled three full days.

Lau explained further that there were complications "at the backstage, there are a lot of arrangements, as you know, logistics, transportation, hotel arrangement, guests' timetables. So it's not as simple as what everybody thought, that we

could just extend it one more day. No!"

According to Lau, the number of visitors on the first day increased 2 percent from last year's event, a surge that also occurred on the last day of the MIF, which turned out to be the only day that was open to the public. On this day a number of families joined the event and were particularly attracted to the gourmet treats section or-

ganized in the SME Exhibition area. "If not for the typhoon, MIF could have set a new visitor record," Lau claimed.

Joining the MIF for the seventh consecutive year, on this occasion Beijing was invited to be the Partner City.

To this end, a "Beijing Time-Honored Brands Pavilion" was set up showcasing the diverse possibilities of collaboration between Macau and the Chi-

nese capital city as well as with Portuguese-speaking countries.

The Pavilion was divided into several exhibition areas, including the Service and Trade Exhibition Area, Traditional Chinese Medicine Exhibition Area, Beijing International Horticultural Exposition 2019 Exhibition Area, Beijing Olympic Winter Games in 2022 Exhibition Area and Pinggu District Exhibition Area, all featuring investment and cooperation opportunities as well as interactive experiences, such as a pharmaceutical demonstrations, health consultations, ice sports demonstrations and new specialty tastings. Portugal was the partner country of the event, which featured a large display of opportunities for investment and cooperation with the country throughout many economic sectors. The tourism, technology and food sectors were particularly highlighted.

The 22nd edition of MIF will be held next year between October 19 and 21. **RM**

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**Q&A** EDUARDO LEAL  
PHOTOJOURNALIST

# An 'honor' and 'responsibility' to be 'witness to our times'

Daniel Beitler

**A**WARD-WINNING photojournalist Eduardo Leal recently delivered a public lecture at the University of Saint Joseph, where he captivated audiences with photographs of the recent Venezuelan Revolution, the legacy of the Colombian drug lord Pablo Escobar, and his encounters with bullfighters in Portugal.

Currently living in South America, and having spent much of his recent years travelling the continent, the Portuguese-born photojournalist has been subjected to intense confrontations – some violent in nature – including police aggression and detention, and the confiscation of his belongings.

Leal is “fascinated” in particular with Venezuela, he explained of himself, “even if she doesn't like me very much,” referencing the country's government, police and paramilitary groups.

Leal sat down with the Times to talk about his experiences and the dangers of working as a photojournalist on the frontline.



Eduardo Leal

**Macau Daily Times (MDT) - How do you feel about being described by your peer last month as a “witness to our times”?**

**Eduardo Leal (EL) -** We [photojournalists] try to show the world what we see and what we want them to [understand]. It's one of the things that I love

## Color can be distracting, says Leal



**E**DUARDO Leal explained to the audience of a public lecture in Macau that he prefers to shoot in black and white – though that is normally not an option if he intends to send the photographs to a publication as editors insist on color images.

Asked whether shooting in black and white is detrimental to “telling the real story” – as it

reflects the focus that the photographer wants to highlight and not necessarily the whole story – Leal said that it can, in fact, add clarity to the image.

“Some colors – particularly red – can be distracting and detract from what is supposed to be portrayed,” said Leal, “but in black and white you can narrow in [to] what is actually important.”

“It's not a movie; there are no heroes. If there are any, they are the ones lying dead on the battlefield.”

about this career. I like that I see history happening. It is a huge honor [to be described that way] but also a big responsibility; I feel that you cannot screw up or do things wrong.

**MDT - What most troubled you about the protests in Venezuela in 2014?**

**EL -** What really struck me was that the protesters, who were mostly students, were so organized... like an army. They had specialized [divisions]; medical students were at the back helping those who were injured... and engineering students building things for the protest. They were very well organized...

But the protests became a little bit predictable. We [the journalists] would go to get some lunch knowing that something would happen [in the afternoon]. By the early evening [government forces] would start to head toward the protestors...

and then things would become dangerous.

**MDT - You have been in pretty dangerous situations before – how serious do you let it become, and when do you know that you have gone too far?**

**EL -** You have to remember that it's not a movie; there are no heroes. If there are any, then they are the ones lying dead on the battlefield. You have to be aware of the risk and know the limit... I won't say that's [as soon as] when the firing starts – because that's when you have to move forward... that's when something is happening!

But you have to know not to go too far. And that's something that I had to learn.

I have a contact – my brother – who I agree to message or call every day just to confirm [my safety], and if I will be [unreachable] for a few days then I will let him know, as well as when I [intend] to make contact again. Somebody has to know where you are.

**MDT - Do you ever consider the ethical dilemmas of what to capture and what to not?**

**EL -** Yes, of course, I often have these problems. What I want is to show the world what I see, but I don't want to exploit anyone or the situation [in general]. It's a question of drawing a line, [demarkating] what is appropriate and inappropriate... That line is exploitation, I think. The other thing [to consider] is that the image needs to fit the story. I showed [during the public lecture] the photograph of [a former drug lord in Colombia] who is shown paying homage on his knees. This man told us that he had murdered at least hundreds of people... he openly admitted it to us... There is some sense of contrast then, between his actions and how he is shown [in the photographs], and I really love working with contrasts.

**MDT - Are you working on a project for Macau? If so, what is the story that you would want to tell?**

**EL -** I am working on something, but I don't have it worked out yet. I am hopefully coming back to the city next year – I have been [tentatively] invited – which will allow me to shoot more of Macau.

I actually first came here as a teenage backpacker and I thought, ‘Sin City;’ gambling and prostitution. After returning, I see that there is more to the city than that. Again, it's about contrasts. There are two worlds here: the gambling world and the traditional Chinese one, which doesn't have anything to do with gaming really. These two worlds are almost opposites – new versus old. That is something I would like to explore.





**BBAM @ St. Regis Breakfast**  
on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November  
Guest Speaker: **Jonathan Burt**  
Senior Tax Consultant, The Fry Group

**BREXIT AND FORTHCOMING TAX CHANGES**

Brexit was a seismic shock. The headlines are still full of it and probably will be for months if not years to come. At this very early stage, what can be said about the impact upon the UK tax system? What might Philip Hammond announce in his first Autumn Statement as Chancellor?

In addition, there are a number of important UK tax changes which are expected to come into force on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2017 in the area of property taxation and domicile; it is important to be aware of these changes as well.

In this short session Jonathan Burt, will share his thoughts on these important subjects.



**Venue: Amber Room I, 5/F, The St. Regis Macao, Cotai**  
**7.45 am: Registration**  
**8 am: Sit-down and breakfast**  
**8.15: Presentation and Q&A session**  
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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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We would also like to say a huge thank you to all of our advertisers, institutions and media that haveworked with us throughout the 21<sup>st</sup> MIF.

We wish everyone success in the future and look forward to seeing you all again next year for the 22<sup>nd</sup> MIF.

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## Regulator to meet with gaming operators after recent arrests in China

**T**HE Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau (DICJ), is preparing a meeting with all gaming operators in the region, according to media reports.

On the agenda is last week's arrest in Shanghai of 18 Crown Resorts staff members.

The Secretary for Economy and Finance Lionel Leong said that "no local operators are involved in the incident." However, this incident has allegedly prompted the meeting, where the topic will be the main point of discussion.

"The gaming watchdog has demanded a meeting with the six gaming concessionaires," Leong revealed while speaking to the press last Thursday, adding that "many times have we reminded them that any commercial activity or behavior has to be carried out strictly in line with local laws, in Macau or elsewhere."

Although no details have yet been revealed regarding the detention of the Crown employees, it is thought to be related to a propensity for recruiting rollers in the mainland, which is strictly prohibited.

According to the Melbourne-based company, one of the stakeholders of local gaming operator Melco Crown Entertainment, an accusation has not been formally made against the group of 18 employees in detention.

## Fair promotes better usage of energy by applying smart technology

Lynzy Valles

**C**OMPANHIA de Electricidade de Macau (CEM) held its 14th Energy Fun Fair at Tap Seac Square yesterday, bringing several local schools together to showcase their projects promoting smart energy.

With this year's theme of "smart energy, better use of resources," 15 local schools hosted games related to conserving energy at their respective booths.

The aim of CEM, an electrical company, is to promote better usage of energy by applying smart technology and using renewable energies to enhance awareness of the value of Earth's resources and of energy conservation.

In collaboration with the Civic Municipal Affairs Bureau and the Youth and Education Affairs Bureau, the event was organized on a competitive basis and saw school teams entering three distinct contests.

The "Best Booth Design Contest" challenged studen-



ts to design a game booth for the public's learning and interaction, while the "Recycled Art Price Contest" invited students to create an art piece by using solely recycling electrical components. The event was capped off with a talent contest.

Schools also formed cheer groups to support their participating teams.

Linda Wong, a Form 4 student at the Santa Rosa de Lima English Section, said the event was an effec-

tive way to encourage the audience to become more aware of the consumption of energy in their daily lives.

"We want more people to make use of smart energy and make good use of the materials on Earth, [such as shifting from] hydropower to thermal power but not using fuels. The aim is to let them know what they do wrong in their daily lives," she explained to the Times.

Wong believed that the event would boost the audience's awareness of these issues as all 15 of the booths were together promoting smart energy and environmental sustainability.

Children up to 16 years old played at the game booths and won various prizes, including a 'Power Boy' watch, recycling bags and 'Power Buddies' cable-holders.

The players also went into a lucky draw, which featured an iPad Mini 4 and a Hong Kong Disneyland package with one-day entry tickets and round-trip jetfoil tickets for two.

Meanwhile, a special exhibition was held at the venue this year to showcase the winning entries of the "Building Blocks Competition" run by CEM from July to September, targeted at primary and secondary school students.

The objective of the competition was to strengthen the interest and knowledge of local students about CEM's premises and operations. Winners were announced during the closing ceremony.

Another attraction was a booth showcasing the functions of some of CEM's operational staff, such as of electricians, meter readers and emergency teams.

Benjamin Yue, principal advisor to CEM's Executive Committee, remarked in his speech that CEM aimed to boost the interest and the knowledge of Macau citizens of electricity and its efficient and safe use. He added that the goal was that residents would play an active role in energy conservation and environmental protection.

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Joe Bel Bruno

USD85 BILLION DEAL

# AT&T buys Time Warner in transformative Hollywood deal for cord-cutting age

**T**HE rise of millennial cord-cutters has now made its most definitive mark on corporate America: The USD85 billion marriage of telecom giant AT&T and media juggernaut Time Warner. And reverberations of the deal unveiled Saturday will resonate the most in corner offices across Hollywood's biggest television and film lots.

The company established by inventor Alexander Graham Bell in 1879 that survived radical changes in the telephone industry has just come rushing into the modern media age. AT&T's acquisition will provide customers with a massive amount of content to beam to its wireless, broadband and satellite TV customers. Buying Time Warner - itself dating back to when Albert, Sam, Harry and Jack Warner incorporated their fledgling movie studio in 1923 - gives AT&T access to programming from HBO, Warner Bros., and networks CNN, TBS and TNT.

The combination puts all of Hollywood on notice about how to navigate a quickly shifting media landscape - deal or no deal? Only cable giant Comcast, which in 2011 acquired NBC and Universal Pictures, harnesses the same kind of firepower in delivering content directly to viewers. But it throws into question how everyone from Rupert Murdoch's 21st Century Fox to cable baron John Malone's control of Lionsgate/Starz might respond.

"Premium content always wins. It has been true on the big screen, the TV screen and now it's proving true on the mobile screen," said AT&T chief executive Randall Stephenson after the deal was announced. "We'll have the world's best premium content with the networks to deliver it to every screen."

The boards of AT&T and Time Warner were in talks for months before reaching a final agreement this weekend, according to people familiar with the negotiations. The acquisition is one of the most lucrative of the year, handing Time Warner shareholders \$107.50 a share in a cash-and-stock transaction that represents a more than 40 percent premium to where shares traded last week.

Putting the deal in perspective

## Buying Time Warner gives AT&T access to programming from HBO, Warner Bros., and networks CNN, TBS and TNT

ve for the entertainment industry, the acquisition could bring massive benefits to AT&T's 45.5 million DirecTV and U-verse viewers along with 142 million wireless subscribers. It would give AT&T rights to hits like Game of Thrones, Westworld and True Detective, along with Warner Bros. film legacies such as Batman and Harry Potter. AT&T can also tap into HBO's 130 million cable and online streaming subscribers.

"Combining with AT&T dramatically accelerates our ability to deliver our great brands and premium content to consumers on a multiplatform basis and to capitalize on the tremendous opportunities created by the growing demand for video content," said Time Warner chief executive Jeff Bewkes.

Indeed, the deal marks a pivotal moment for Bewkes since he took stewardship of Time Warner in 2007. He pledged to shareholders two years ago that the company was worth remaining independent in the face of an \$80 billion near-hostile takeover attempt by Murdoch, holding steadfast to the belief a more lucrative deal could be had.

Analysts say Bewkes, long considered a managerial placeholder until he could find just the right suitor, has been cautious about

striking just any deal. On one side, Bewkes has been hampered by the disastrous combination with AOL more than 16 years ago that has continued to spook Wall Street. Yet, on the other side, he's watched idly as rival Disney picked off top Hollywood brands like Marvel, Lucasfilm and Pixar.

Shareholders have given Bewkes extraordinary leeway, especially considering earnings are up 15 percent this year despite a disappointing performance by its flagship Warner Bros. film studio. The company also has pacified Wall Street by returning \$29 billion to investors in the form of stock buybacks and dividends since he took office. So, analysts contend AT&T's comes at the right time.

"The AT&T, Time Warner deal will succeed," said Southbay Research's Andrew Zatlun, who runs the website Moneyball Economics. "The other mergers were ideas - a field of dreams vision where somehow, someday the companies would discover synergies."

He believes the combination already is "vertically integrated in all but name."

AT&T and Time Warner would have about a year before federal regulators approve or reject the idea. But, the biggest headwind might come from rapidly deteriorating conditions for both cable companies and the programmers that depend on them.

Traditional audiences are dropping off: Some 1.4 million U.S. customers cancelled paid television subscriptions in the past year, according to research house SNL Kagan. TBS and TNT, two of Time Warner's flagship networks, have five million fewer viewers today than it did five years ago, according to Nielsen data.

A bulk of the losses are viewers cutting their cable and satellite

bills by switching to streaming service like Netflix, Hulu, Amazon and others to view content. Profits are eroding at entertainment companies that rely on subscription-based television customers to power earnings, such as Disney's dependence on sports giant ESPN.

"With the AT&T bid for Time Warner, the story becomes all about the broader implications," said Sean Stannard-Stockton, chief investment officer of Ensemble Capital. "We think Time Warner's willingness to sell at this price suggests that the management team has lost confidence in their ability to navigate the changes being wrought by streaming technologies. Yet, the deal also supports the idea that the market is materially undervaluing content companies."

This is one of the reasons why dealmaking talk has been whipped into a frenzy lately. Netflix shares have surged 50 percent since its summer low amid speculation Disney, Facebook or others might strike a deal. Not hurting the surge was the streamer announcing strong quarterly subscription growth earlier this month. Viacom shares have rebounded amid moves by Shari Redstone to re-combine it with CBS, of which her family's trust is the biggest shareholder of each. Even Twitter's stock has had a roller-coaster ride in recent weeks with Disney, Viacom and

others bandied about as a possible acquirer.

No major deals have been announced, and analysts believe the AT&T-Time Warner linkup might accelerate any existing match-making talks. Names like Fox (where insiders tell The Hollywood Reporter the studio isn't interested in entering a bidding war for Time Warner) could be drawn in from the sidelines.

Ted Sarandos, Netflix's high-profile chief content officer, thinks media industry pundits should slow down. He believes it might be premature to suggest the government will give huge transformative deals the green light.

AT&T's acquisition of Time Warner would be historic because it would roll together a massive number of the world's blue-chip media brands, transforming the nation's second-largest wireless carrier into an entertainment colossus. It also comes a year after Comcast walked away from its \$45 billion acquisition of rival Time Warner Cable amid concerns the government wouldn't approve the deal.

"It's a tough hypothetical," Sarandos said Saturday while giving a keynote address at USC's annual institute on entertainment law and business. "I'm sure it's going to have a lot of DOJ scrutiny. How it impacts anybody will depend on how it emerges, if it emerges." **Bloomberg**

### TRUMP VOWS TO REJECT DEAL IF ELECTED

**APPROVAL OF** an AT&T-Time Warner combination even caught the attention of Donald Trump on the campaign trail. The real estate mogul, often caught at odds with Time Warner-owned CNN during the campaign, vowed to reject the deal if he takes the White House.

He said during the Gettysburg, Pennsylvania stop: "As an example of the power structure I'm fighting, AT&T is buying Time Warner and thus CNN, a deal we will not approve in my administration because it's too much concentration of power in the hands of too few."



GUINEA-BISSAU

# Chinese company to build biomass power station

**T**he government of Guinea-Bissau last week signed an agreement with Chinese businessman Xuguang Li, president of Shenyang Lan Sa Trading Co Ltd, for the construction of a biomass power plant to supply the cities of Bissau and Mansoa in the centre of the country.

Under the agreement, the Chinese side is committed to producing an unspecified amount of rice, of which 67% will be for consumption and the remaining 33 percent to feed the power station.

According to Li Xuguang, the signing of this memorandum is the culmination of five years of studies conducted by his company on the feasibility of the project.

The Minister of Agriculture, Rui Nene Djata said the deal comes in response to a call by the President of the Republic José Mario Vaz to intensify rice production to ensure food self-sufficiency in Guinea-Bissau.

The Shenyang Lan Sa Trading Co Ltd, headquartered in the province and Liaoning in northern China, in 2012 signed with the government of Guinea-Bissau a series of agreements to build social housing, an industrial complex in the capital, rehabilitation of a cotton factory in Bafata and construction of water collection and distribution facilities in Bissau. **MDT/Macauhub**



Guangzhou Fair



Guangzhou Fair

# Angolan business mission takes part in Guangzhou Fair

**A** delegation of the Angola-China Chamber of Commerce, led by President Arnaldo de Sousa Calado, is participating in the Guangzhou Fair, Guangdong province in southern China, which runs until 4 November, announced the chamber.

The mission includes about 300 entrepreneurs and 50 Angolan companies seeking partnerships and business opportunities in

sectors such as the food industry and agriculture, among others.

“The fair, one of the world’s largest, is an opportunity to establish reliable partnerships taking into account new investments in Angola. We need to join the rich and the countries that have better technologies, particularly in agriculture, to develop our country,” said Sousa Calado.

Founded in February of

this year, the Angola-China Chamber of Commerce brings together 480 Angolan members and 180 Chinese companies, with the aim of boosting trade between the two countries.

The Guangzhou Fair, which is held twice a year (spring and autumn), is the oldest and largest trade fair in China. Held since 1957 in Canton (Guangzhou), every year the event attrac-

**■ The mission includes about 300 entrepreneurs and 50 Angolan companies**

ts tens of thousands of visitors from around the world. **MDT/Macauhub**

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Andreo Calonzo and Cecilia Yap

**PHILIPPINE** President Rodrigo Duterte will bring home USD24 billion worth of funding and investment pledges from his four-day visit to China as both nations agreed to resume talks and explore areas of cooperation in the South China Sea.

China will provide \$9 billion in soft loans, including a \$3 billion credit line with the Bank of China, while economic deals including investments would yield \$15 billion, Trade Secretary Ramon Lopez told reporters in Beijing on Friday. Preliminary agreements in railways, ports, energy and mining worth \$11.2 billion were signed between Philippine and Chinese firms.

"China is not only a friend. China is only a relative, but China is a big brother," Communications Secretary Martin Andanar said in Beijing, adding that while U.S. had been like a father for the Philippines, it was time to move out of the house and "decide for ourselves."

The investment deals conclude a contentious week for Duterte who told a business audience in Beijing on Thursday following a meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping that he wanted to cut the cord with the U.S. and pivot to China and Russia, deepening a split with his country's biggest military ally. Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez and Economic Planning Secretary Ernesto Pernia said the Philippine cabinet would move strongly and swiftly toward regional

# China visit helps Duterte reap funding deals worth USD24 billion



Xi Jinping (2nd left) holds a welcome ceremony for visiting Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte before their talks in Beijing

economic integration even as they said that the nation would maintain its relations with the West.

China's Baiyin Nonferrous Group Co. has agreed to consider investing up to \$700 million in a stainless steel plant in the

Philippines in a preliminary agreement signed with Global Ferronickel Holdings Ltd, the Philippine company said.

China Railway Engineering Corp. signed a memorandum of understanding for a \$2.5 billion project with MVP Global

Infrastructure Group. China Harbour Engineering Co. Ltd. signed a \$780 million coastline and port project in Davao City, hometown of Duterte.

The Philippines will maximize the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank as a funding source

for infrastructure projects, Lopez said. It won't stop trade, but would lessen "too much dependence" on the U.S., Lopez said, adding the Southeast Asian nation "realistically" can't stop

**China is not only a friend. China is only a relative, but China is a big brother.**

MARTIN ANDANAR  
COMMUNICATIONS SECRETARY

transactions with its military ally.

China and the Philippines agreed to continue discussions on confidence-building measures to increase mutual trust and will meet regularly on issues of concern in the disputed sea under a bilateral consultation mechanism, according to a joint statement e-mailed by the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs. "Both sides also agree to explore other areas of cooperation," the statement said. **Bloomberg**

## Scolari leads Guangzhou to 6th straight title

John Duerden

**DESPITE** the hundreds of millions of dollars spent by a growing number of Chinese Super League clubs in 2016, Guangzhou Evergrande continues to dominate, winning a sixth straight title yesterday.

Luiz Felipe Scolari made it two championships since arriving in June 2015 as the club was held 1-1 by Yanbian Funde but moved seven points clear of Jiangsu Suning in second with two games remaining.

Guangzhou has dominated most of the season, helped by Brazilian international Paulinho, who scored against Yanbian, and Ricardo Goulart, the league's leading scorer, as well as a number of top Chinese players.

"Guangzhou are a worthy champion for sure,"



Luiz Felipe Scolari

Mads Davidsen, assistant coach at fourth-placed Shanghai SIPG, told The Associated Press. "This is the sixth title in a row, so no doubt they are still the strongest team in China."

Despite the dominance, the signs are promising for the Chinese Super

League. The overall average attendance is set to finish close to the 25,000 mark this season, up from just over 22,000 in 2015. Once again, it is the highest in Asia,

"The fever here for football is something I have not seen before," Choi

Yong-soo, the South Korean coach of Jiangsu, was quoted as saying by FIFA. "The stadium and the fans, it's all huge."

Chinese clubs such as Guangzhou, Jiangsu, Shanghai SIPG and Hebei CFFC spent over \$400 million in the winter transfer window on stars such as Alex Teixeira, Ramires, Jackson Martinez and Ezequiel Lavezzi. In the summer, Shanghai spent more than \$60 million on Brazilian striker Hulk.

Choi believes that all the investment will make a difference.

"The infrastructure is well-established and the management system of the club is well-organized," he said. "They essentially have laid out the groundwork for further growth. It is an indisputable fact that Chinese football is developing at an

unprecedented pace."

The season also saw a number of prominent foreign coaches depart and arrive. Former AC Milan and Juventus boss Alberto Zaccheroni and ex-Brazil head coach Mano Menezes were fired in the first half of the season by Beijing Guoan and Shandong Luneng, respectively. Menezes was replaced by former Bayern Munich boss Felix Magath, while ex-Real Madrid and Manchester City boss Manuel Pellegrini took over Hebei CFFC in August.

Scolari, who has lost just three league games in his time in China, is one of three coaches in the running to be named Chinese Super League coach of the year, along with Spaniard Gregorio Manzano of Shanghai Shehnhua and Henan Jianye's Jia Xiuquan.

"I want to say thank you to the players for their efforts and the fans for supporting us so well," said Scolari. "This win was not easy. The league is getting tougher all the time and so it is very satisfactory to win the title once again."

Davidsen agrees that standards are rising. "We now have six or seven quite equal teams as Jiangsu, Shenhua and Hebei has stepped up this season," said the Dane, adding that big-spending Tianjin, promoted from the second tier with coach Fabio Cannavaro, will continue to invest in the top tier ahead of 2017. "Tianjin will probably finish in the top half as they have massive finances."

Scolari is expected to leave Guangzhou at the end of the season though the Brazilian refused to comment on his future yesterday. **AP**





Firefighters remove a fallen tree on a street in Hong Kong

# HK cleans up after Typhoon Haima shuts trading, schools

Dominic Lau, Eduard Gismatullin and Suzy Waite

**H**ONG Kong was picking up fallen trees and fixing disrupted flight schedules Friday after Typhoon Haima shut financial markets, schools and shops across the city.

The storm weakened and veered east of Hong Kong, sparing the Asian financial center damage on the scale it inflicted on the Philippines

earlier in the week. Thirteen people sought treatment for injuries in Hong Kong, while more than 200 others visited emergency shelters as rains and high winds lashed the city, the local government said. Hong Kong Exchanges & Clearing Ltd. had earlier called off trading, and buses and ferries were suspended. The Hong Kong Airport Authority reported 738 cancellations and delays, including many Cathay Pacific Airways Ltd. flights.

The Hong Kong Observatory issued a No. 3 strong wind signal at 5:20 p.m., as winds subsided and Haima was downgraded to a tropical storm over China's southern Guangdong province. The cyclone killed at least eight people in the Philippines, forcing the evacuation of more than 90,000, the strongest typhoon to hit the country this year.

As of 7 p.m., the storm was estimated to be about 200 kilometers northeast

of Hong Kong and was forecast to move north at about 25 km/h, the Observatory said. The weather service expected to lift the remaining storm warning signals overnight. Ferry and bus services had resumed and subway operator MTR Corp. said trains were operating as normal.

While the city received 197 calls about fallen trees, no flooding or landslides were reported as of 5 p.m. One tree partially blocked a highway in the shopping area Causeway Bay, and another fell onto a passenger car in the northeastern district of Sai Kung, according to Hong Kong Cable Television. Scaffolding was seen hanging from the side of a building in the Tsuen Wan district.

It was the second time this year that weather had affected Hong Kong's financial markets, with Typhoon Nida also halting trading on Aug. 2. Brokerages have contingency plans to ensure they can trade other Asia-Pacific markets from Hong Kong, working from home or staying in hotels near their offices.

"We are all in the office and business as usual trading all regional markets," Rafi Mohideen, the Hong Kong-based head of Asian trading at Instinet Pacific Services Ltd, a unit of Nomura Holdings Inc., said earlier Friday. "We are a regionalized trading desk, but if it gets worse we have other regional offices that can help." **Bloomberg**

## Haima passes peacefully through Macau

**TYPHOON** Haima's passage through the region led the Weather Bureau (SMG) to effect signal 8 of the Severe Tropical Cyclone Warning System last Friday at 8:30am. All bridge links between the peninsula and Taipa island were closed from 10am, with the closure also brought into operation on the under passage of Sai Van Bridge from 9:30am the same day.

The signal remained in effect until 3:30pm when it was lowered to level 3.

During the seven hour duration of the level 8 Typhoon, the Civil Protection Operational Centre (COPC) registered a total of 14 incidents that resulted in only minor damages. During this time, no injuries were reported.

The majority of the cases (10) were reportedly occurrences like the fall of one metallic scaffolding unit, and four cases of outdoor light screens and or awnings that were forced loose by the cyclone. There were also two cases of damage to windows and shop fronts and three ca-



ses of fallen trees.

The four incidents recorded in housing were all relating to fallen objects with no major damage reported. **MDT**

## Lippi hired to take over national football team



Marcello Lippi, right, shakes hands with president of the Chinese Football Association, Cai Zhenhua

Nomaan Merchant, Beijing

**W**ORLD Cup-winning manager Marcello Lippi was hired Saturday to take over the national football team in the latest sign of China's commitment to becoming a serious force in world soccer.

The Chinese Football Association announced Lippi's hiring after reports circulated this week suggesting a deal was close.

The 68-year-old Lippi led Italy to the 2006 World Cup title, won five Italian league titles as manager of Juventus, and won three Chinese league titles while managing Guangzhou Evergrande before announcing his retirement in 2014.

The Chinese association posted photos of a smiling Lippi signing a contract, but did not immediately confirm reports that his deal was worth 50 million euros (\$54 million), which would make him one of the highest-paid coaches in the world.

It won't be easy for the Italian. Lippi, who will be formally introduced on Friday, inherits a national team that's made one World Cup in its entire history — and did not score a single goal in that tournament.

Currently, China is ranked No. 84 by FIFA and in danger of missing the 2018 World Cup. Its previous coach, Gao Hongbo, resigned after a 2-0 loss on Oct. 11 to Uzbekistan. That followed a 1-0 loss at home to war-torn Syria, after which fans were seen protesting in the streets.

But China has established a national goal of creating a football superpower capable of winning the World Cup by 2050. The drive is led by President Xi Jinping, a noted soccer fan who is said to have watched with frustration a 1983 exhibition in which the English side Watford trounced China.

Chinese Super League teams have given big contracts to international players like Alex Teixeira and Jackson Martinez, and prominent coaches like former Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari and former England boss Sven-Goran Eriksson.

A 50-point plan to promote football in the country includes setting up school programs, recruiting foreign coaches and creating 70,000 new fields and 50 million school-age players by 2020.

China has made improving its soccer performance a test of its prestige on the world stage. It's employed a top-down approach reminiscent of efforts that produced champions in several Olympic sports, though some question whether a World Cup competitor can be developed that way. **AP**



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1,300sq. ft. HKD18,000  
Premier Apartment Building. Central Location. Bright & Airy. Master bedroom with en suite. Guest bedroom. Newly furnished / Colour Palate Grey Blues, White & Yellow. Modern Fitted Kitchen, galley style.



#### Super Flower City Unit A

(Ref: 16060591)  
2,200sq. ft. HKD 18,000  
Spacious apartment, in a desirable building located in the centre of Taipa. Close to children's park, supermarkets, cafes, banks, bus stop and Old Taipa Village. The apartment is unfurnished with three double bedrooms and two large bathrooms, one ensuite. Master bedroom is approximately 350 sq ft with stunning views across Old Taipa Village and the Taipa Stadium. Large windows with window ledges larger enough to be lovely window seats in each room.

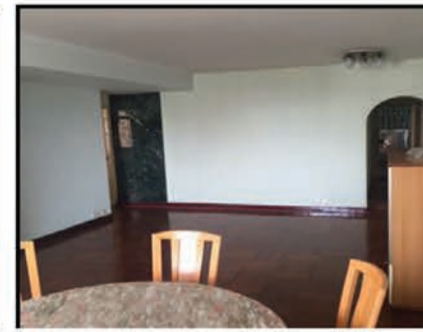


#### Manhattan F Unit, High Floor

(Ref: 16090612)  
1,720sq. ft. HKD 22,000

Wonderfully bright and modern property in the desirable complex of Manhattan. Three good size bedrooms all with plenty of wardrobe space.

Master bedroom has en suite bathroom. Open plan living dining area over looks North East over the South China Sea to HK. Furnished throughout.



#### HOI FU GARDEN - MACAU

(Ref: 16020567)  
1,651sq. ft. HKD 12,000

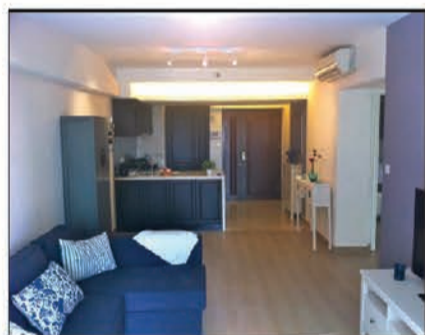
Semi-furnished apartment on a high floor with unobstructed view from living area and all 3 bedrooms. Other than the main balcony, there are also two smaller balconies, one in the en-suite bedroom and one in another bedroom. Convenient location within minutes walk to bus stop, restaurants, shops, banks, etc. Plenty of storage with built in closet in all 3 bedrooms, good size living and dining area. Viewing by appointment.



#### Cattleya Court, Ocean Gardens Taipa

(Ref: 16090609)  
1,030sq. ft. HKD 12,000

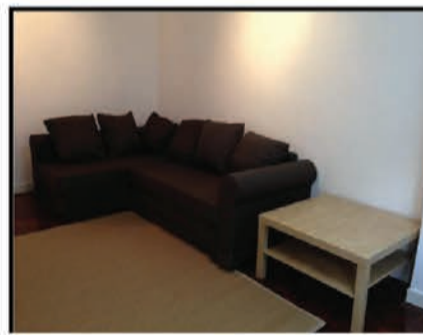
A lovely bright and well appointed apartment. Open plan dining, living area and modern renovated kitchen. Two good size bedroom with two bathrooms, one with ensuite. Beautifully furnished throughout.



#### The Buckingham, Mid Floor, Unit D

(Ref: 16020558)  
1,350sq. ft. HKD 14,500

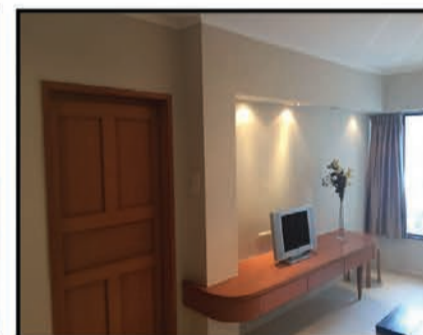
Newly furnished apartment in Taipa's latest complex. Fully furnished inc. linens & kitchen ware. Open kitchen inc. built in Siemens appliances. Spacious living area with 3 metre L shape sofa bed. Good size balcony for two. Two bedrooms & one Bathroom.



#### Jou Fai Kuok, St Pauls Ruin's Macau

(Ref: 16090610)  
627sq. ft. HKD 10,800

One bedroom apartment in Heritage Area of Macau. A five minute from the Ruins of St Pauls. Renovated 3 years ago. Good size master bedroom with built in wardrobes. Modern shower room with built in under counter cabinet. Well equipped kitchen. S shaped living / dining area with small nook for desk.



#### Chun Leung

(Ref: 16090615)  
700sq. ft. HKD 8,800

Great one bedroom apartment with huge walk in closet area an elevated bedroom area. Good size living dining area with open views. Modern kitchen.

Renovated stylish shower room. Fabulous location in Central Taipa close to shops, restaurants, banks and bus stop.

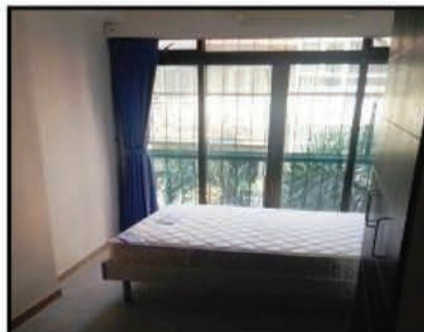
### For Sale



#### Roof Top Apartment, Macau

(Ref: 15055441)  
799sq. ft. HKD4.634M  
Rate: HKD 5,800sq ft

Renovated 5 years ago this apartment has a modern open plan kitchen. The main floor consists of a good size double bedroom and a separate bathroom. A wooden staircase leads to the upper floor which has an open area, good for bedroom, office, studio or entertainment area. This apartment has a wonderful private terrace with views over looking Government Offices. This is a rare chance to buy a view. Viewing by appointment only.



#### EDF. VAI LONG YUEN

(Ref: 16045472)  
1,215sq. ft. HKD 4.98M  
Rate: HKD 4,098sq ft

One unit per floor on a low walk-up is this 3 bedroom 2 baths that is within minutes walk to San Ma Lo and near the Portuguese Consulate on the other end of the street.

One en-suite and another room sits a balcony. Viewing by appointment.



#### Bauhinia Court, Hellene Gardens Appealing Apartment in Coloane

(Ref: 16045473)  
1,633sq. ft. HKD 7.8M  
Rate: HKD 4,776sq ft

Three good size bedrooms. Master bedroom with ensuite. Open style kitchen, made larger by incorporating the original maids quarters and back balcony. With only 7 floors in this block this apartment can be considered a low rise building. Renovated 10 years ago the property could benefit from a face lift although with some TCL it could also be a great rental property. This apartment comes with one parking space.



#### Rua Central, Macau

(Ref: 16095496)  
800sq. ft. HKD 4.3M  
Rate: HKD 5,375sq ft

A unique terraced apartment in central Macau. Fully furnished duplex apartment with one bedroom and a lovely roof terrace overlooking the old streets of Macau. The apartment is beautifully furnished. Convenient location and walking distance to Senado Square. Available beginning of October.

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**T**WO apparent explosions hit the Japanese city of Utsunomiya back-to-back yesterday, killing one person and injuring three others in what police are viewing as a possible suicide.

Japanese media reports suggest that the victim, believed to be a 72-year-old former military officer, may have set his house on fire, blown up his car in a public parking lot and then blown himself up in a nearby park.

A note found in the clothing of the badly burned victim included the name of the former officer, Japanese broadcaster NHK and other media reported. The name was not disclosed. One of the cars destroyed in a fiery blaze in the parking lot belonged to the retired military man, and his house burned to the ground earlier yesterday, the reports said.

The back-to-back loud bangs in the park and parking lot shocked bys-

# 2 explosions hit Japanese city, killing 1; suicide suspected



Firefighters investigate the scene where two cars caught on fire at a parking lot in Utsunomiya

tanders, many heading to a festival at the park on a sunny autumn day. The

apparent blasts occurred around 11:30 a.m. within about 200 meters of each

other. The festival was canceled after the incidents.

Two men were seriously injured in the park explosion, and a 14-year-old

boy had minor leg injuries. No one was hurt at the small parking lot.

Kyodo News agency said the burned body was found after police received a call saying a person was on fire following what sounded like an explosion.

Bystanders also reported hearing loud blasts from the parking lot. Flames and black smoke shot into the air and repeated bangs could be heard on video posted on the Asahi newspaper's website. Nearby cars also were damaged.

Utsunomiya, the capital of Tochigi prefecture, is a city of some 500,000 people about 100 kilometers north of Tokyo. It is near the popular tourist destination of Nikko. **AP**

## Malaysia pledges to narrow budget deficit as global risks loom

Chong Pooi Koon

**M**ALAYSIAN Prime Minister Najib Razak pledged to keep the budget deficit under control in the face of global risks and low oil prices, while relying on key infrastructure projects and cash handouts to help underpin growth in the economy.

The government estimates gross domestic product will expand 4 percent to 5 percent in 2017, from 4 percent to 4.5 percent this year, the Ministry of Finance said in its 2016/17 economic report released Friday as Najib began his annual budget speech. The fiscal shortfall is forecast to narrow to 3 percent of GDP next year, from 3.1 percent in 2016. The premier reiterated a commitment to achieve a near balanced budget by the end of the decade.

"With prospects for global growth and trade remaining uncertain, 2017 will continue to be a challenging year for us," Najib said in the report, citing risks from a protracted period of low oil prices and volatile financial markets. Economic expansion will be underpinned by strong domestic demand, especially private sector expenditure, the report said.

After weathering more than a year of political turmoil and



Kuala Lumpur

financial scandals, Najib must tackle a slowing economy while keeping voters happy ahead of a possible early general election that may come as soon as March. The premier is under pressure to find ways to sustain growth while gradually closing the budget gap after a collapse in crude prices slashed revenue in the oil-producing nation.

His administration is counting on ongoing projects to draw private investment, including the 1,796-kilometer highway linking the Borneo states of Sabah and Sarawak, Petroliaam Nasional Bhd.'s RAPID refining development in Johor and subway construction in the capital. Cash transfers to

low-income earners and lower contributions by workers to the national pension fund will support consumer spending, the Finance Ministry said.

The government will focus its own spending on upgrading roads, rural infrastructure, public transport in cities and to provide for education and heal-

thcare, the ministry said.

"Private sector activity will be supported by pro-growth fiscal and accommodative monetary policies in an environment of stable inflation," according to the report. "Public sector expenditure will be driven by higher capital investment by public corporations." **Bloomberg**

### INFLATION OUTLOOK

**CONSUMER PRICES** are forecast to rise between 2 percent and 3 percent in 2017, compared with 2 percent to 2.5 percent this year, the ministry said. Inflation was unchanged at 1.5 percent in September, and the central bank cut interest rates once this year to 3 percent in July. "Monetary policy will continue to focus on price stability and sustainable growth given the risks in the global economy," it said.

## Duterte: Filipinos may be able to return to disputed shoal

**P**HILIPPINE President Rodrigo Duterte says Filipino fishermen may be able to return to the China-held Scarborough Shoal in a few days after he discussed the territorial rift with Chinese leaders during his trip to Beijing this past week.

Duterte said yesterday that he insisted the shoal off his country's northwestern coast belonged to the Philippines, but that the Chinese also asserted their claim of ownership.

Duterte didn't give details of his discussions with Chinese leaders about the conflict, including whether China imposed any conditions on the possible return of Filipino fishermen to Scarborough, where they have been driven away by Chinese coast guard ships for years.

China seized the shoal in 2012, prompting Duterte's predecessor to bring the dispute to international arbitration. A tribunal invalidated China's territorial claims in July. **AP**



**T**HE entire territory of Syria must be "liberated," Russian President Vladimir Putin's spokesman said in remarks televised Saturday, dismissing demands for Syrian President Bashar Assad's departure as "thoughtless."

The Russian statement came as intense clashes were reported in northern Syria between Turkish troops and Turkey-backed opposition fighters with Kurdish-led forces. The Syrian army command condemned the fresh offensive by Turkish troops inside Syria, describing it as "an occupation that will be dealt with by all available means."

The Turkish military intervened in the Syrian war in August this year under orders from Ankara to clear the border area of Islamic State fighters and U.S.-backed Syrian Kurdish forces linked to Turkey's own outlawed Kurdish insurgency. The Turkish government considers both to be terrorist groups.

In the northern city of Aleppo, government forces shelled eastern rebel-held neighborhoods Saturday night marking an apparent end to a lull announced by Russia.

Russia's Dmitry Peskov said Assad needs to stay in power to prevent the country from falling into the hands of jihadists.

"There are just two options: Assad sitting in Damascus or the Nusra sitting in Damascus," Peskov said in a reference to the Nusra Front, al-Qaida's branch in Syria that renamed itself Fatah al-Sham Front earlier this year. "And Assad must sit in Damascus to ensure a political settlement."

Peskov's statement comes as the break in the fighting Russia has declared in the besie-

## SYRIA

# Kremlin: demands for Assad's departure 'thoughtless'



A Syrian man holding a girl as he stands on the rubble of houses that were destroyed by Syrian government forces air strikes in Aleppo, Syria

ged city of Aleppo entered its third day before seemingly collapsing Saturday night. He said Russia's decision to extend the break, which was initially declared for just one day Thursday, wasn't a concession to Western pressure.

The U.N. greeted the lull intended to allow the evacuation of wounded civilians and fighters from the rebel-held eastern neighborhoods of Aleppo that had been devastated by airstrikes. But the rebels rejected the offer to evacuate and no evacuations were seen along the corridors created by the Syrian government.

A U.N. official told The Associated Press that Syrian oppo-

sition fighters were blocking the evacuations because the Syrian government and Russia were not holding up their end of the deal and were impeding deliveries of medical and humanitarian supplies into Aleppo.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the truce collapsed while the Aleppo Media Center, an activist collective, reported artillery shelling on different neighborhoods and an attempt by government forces to advance south of the city. They had no word on casualties.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said the West was turning a

blind eye to the al-Qaida militants blocking humanitarian aid deliveries to Aleppo and

**The territory of Syria must be liberated and everything must be done to prevent the country's breakup.**

DMITRY PESKOV

trying to shift the blame onto Moscow.

"It's mean and cynical to ... watch the Nusra block the delivery of food and medicines to civilians while blaming Russia for the humanitarian catastrophe in Aleppo," she said.

Russia launched an air campaign in support of Assad a year ago, helping his forces win back some key ground. The relentless bombing of Aleppo, the country's largest city and its commercial hub before the war, has caused international outrage.

Peskov said the goal of the Russian campaign is to fight "terrorists," saying that the fall of the Syrian government would cause new flows of refugees and more terror attacks in Europe.

"Some countries are trying to play with the devil and use terrorists to get rid of Assad, and some just say thoughtlessly that Assad must leave," Peskov said. "If Damascus falls and terrorists take hold there, there will be no political settlement then."

He said there is little hope that the Syrian conflict could end soon, adding that it will require a "long and hard work by the international community."

"The territory of Syria must be liberated," Peskov said. "It must be liberated and everything must be done to prevent the country's breakup, which could have catastrophic consequences for the entire region." AP

## EGYPT

# Tea drinkers forfeit sugar as currency shortage spreads

Salma El Wardany

**L**AILA El-Sayed spent her afternoon searching grocery stores in Cairo's bustling Dokki district on the banks of the Nile River for one thing: sugar.

She managed to find two bags in a state-owned shop for 10 Egyptian pounds (USD1.13), twice what she paid in August. In other parts of Cairo, shoppers stand in long lines as supermarkets limit customers to one or two bags of sugar.

"I drink tea an average of five times a day with two spoonfuls of sugar. My husband drinks it with

three spoons," she said. "Now we have to cut even the tea we drink?"

After six years of unending, terrorist attacks and a collapse in the tourism industry, Egypt's economy has been crippled by spiraling inflation and a shortage of foreign currency, making it tougher to import basic commodities. At the same time, sugar prices globally are on the rise because of supply problems in Brazil, the world's biggest producer.

The shortage is being especially felt in Egypt, where tea with heaps of sugar is one of the most popular beverages in street cafes. At one shop in Dokki, a

cost of a cup of tea has risen 14 percent to 4 pounds, said Ahmed Ali, who works at the cafe.

Egypt consumes about 3 million metric tons of sugar annually, but produces just over 2 million tons, according to data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It expects the country to import 830,000 tons in 2016-17.

"Importers are forced to buy dollars from the black market, so traders have one of two options - either factor in the dollar in the final price or give up the commodity altogether," said Mohamed Hamza, a senior researcher at the USDA office in Cairo.

"This is applicable to all imports, not just sugar, but because sugar is such a sensitive commodity, people can now feel it," he said.

A United Nations index of global retail sugar prices has risen 47 percent this year, on track for the biggest annual increase since 2009. In the Bloomberg Commodity Index, sugar futures have risen more than any other raw material this year.

To alleviate the crisis, Egypt's state-owned trading arm announced plans to buy sugar and the government has promised to create stockpiles that would last six months. The General Authority for

Supply Commodities bought 134,000 tons of sugar in an Oct. 15 tender and the country has contracts to import 450,000 tons.

The sugar scarcity is a symptom of Egypt's broader economic turmoil. Since a popular uprising in 2011 against former President Hosni Mubarak, the country burned through billions of foreign currency reserves as political unrest drove away tourists and foreign investors.

The Egyptian pound recently slumped to a record low 15.58 per dollar in the black market -- compared to the official rate of 8.88.

As a result, it's difficult for importers to source

dollars needed to pay for shipments.

Nile Sugar Co., which operates a sugar refinery about 50 kilometers (31 miles) from the Port of Alexandria, didn't import any sugar this year because of the dollar shortage, according to Tamer Ismail, the head of the commercial department. The company usually imports between 100,000 and 200,000 tons a year of raw sugar, he said.

"We have the facilities, we have the refinery but because of the dollar unavailability and the rise in global prices, we couldn't import," Ismail said. **Bloomberg**





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## what's ON

## EXHIBITION OF HANDMADE LEATHER ACCESSORIES AND CARVING CRAFTS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

TIME: 12pm-10pm, opened on public holidays

UNTIL: October 30, 2016

ADMISSION: free

VENUE: Team Building of IFT, Colina de Mong-Ha Macao

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8598 3182

## THRILLER LIVE

TIME: 8pm (Mondays, Tuesdays Wednesdays and Fridays)

2pm &amp; 8pm (Saturdays)

1pm &amp; 6pm (Sundays)

UNTIL: November 13, 2016

VENUE: The Parisian Theatre

ADMISSION: MOP180, MOP280, MOP480

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 8818

## FORMER HOME OF REVOLUTIONARY LEADER YE TING

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: 76, Rua Almirante Costa Cabral

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

## MACAU GRAND PRIX MUSEUM &amp; WINE MUSEUM

TIME: 10am-8pm daily (Except Tuesdays)

VENUE: Rua Luis Gonzaga Gomes, 431, basement (Tourism Activities Centre-CAT)

Admission: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8798 4108 / 2833 3000

## MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily, (Except Thursdays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: Macau Science Centre, Avenida Dr. Sun Yat-Sen

ADMISSION: Exhibition Centre MOP25; Planetarium MOP60-80

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

## Offbeat

## SOMALI PIRATE SAYS 26 ASIAN SAILORS FREED AFTER 4 YEARS

A Somali pirate said Saturday that 26 Asian sailors held hostage for more than four years have been released after a ransom was paid, and international mediators said it "represents the end of captivity for the last remaining seafarers taken hostage during the height of Somali piracy."

The crew from Vietnam, Taiwan, Cambodia, Indonesia, China and the Philippines had been among the few hostages still in the hands of Somali pirates.

The pirate, Bile Hussein, said the sailors were the crew of the FV Naham 3, a Taiwan-owned fishing vessel seized in March 2012. The ship later sank.

Hussein said \$1.5 million in ransom was paid for the sailors' release. That claim could not be independently verified.

The 26 sailors "are currently in the safe hands of the Galmudug authorities and will be repatriated using a U.N. humanitarian flight shortly and then on to their home countries," John Steed, the coordinator of the Hostage Support Partners for the U.S.-based organization Oceans Beyond Piracy, said in a statement.

The statement included a photo, stamped Aug. 14, showing the thin, grim crewmen standing or squatting together as proof they remained alive.

Steed said only one other group of hostages had been held longer than this one, which spent 1,672 days in captivity.

"They are reported to be in reasonable condition, considering their ordeal. They are all malnourished. Four are currently receiving medical treatment by a doctor in Galkayo. They have spent over four and a half years in deplorable conditions away from their families," Steed said.

He said another member of the crew died in the hijacking and two died of illnesses in captivity.

Piracy off Somalia's coast was once a serious threat to the global shipping industry, but attacks have dropped dramatically in recent years after ships began carrying armed guards and European Union naval forces increased patrols. **AP**

## TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:45	RTPi Live
17:40	Precious Pearl (Repeated)
18:30	Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sport
22:10	Precious Pearl
23:00	TDM News
23:30	UEFA Champions League 2016/2017 Magazine Programme
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live

## cinema

## CINETEATRO

20 Oct - 26 Oct



## JACK REACHER: NEVER GO BACK

ROOM 1

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Edward Zwick

Starring: Tom Cruise, Cobie Smulders, Damika Yarosh

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 118min



## HEARTFALL ARISES

ROOM 2

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Ken Wu

Starring: Nicholas Tse, Sean Lau

Language: Chinese (English and Cantonese)

Duration: 108min

## THE AGE OF SHADOWS

ROOM 2

2.15, 4.45, 7.15 pm

Director: Kim Jee-Woon

Starring: Song Kang-Ho, Gong Yoo, Han Ji-Min

Language: Korean (English and Cantonese)

Duration: 140min

## SADAKO VS KAYAKO

ROOM 3

9.45 pm

Director: Koji Shiraishi

Starring: Mizuki Yamamoto, Tina Tamashiro, Masanobu Ando

Language: Japanese (English and Cantonese)

Duration: 98min

## MACAU TOWER

06 Oct - 26 Oct

## SNOWDEN

2.30, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Director: Oliver Stone

Starring: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Shailene Woodley, Melissa Leo

Language: English (Cantonese)

Duration: 134min

## this day in history

## 1945 UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION IS BORN



The United Nations Organization has been formally inaugurated during a short ceremony at the US State Department in Washington.

A total of 29 countries ratified the United Nations Charter that was signed by 50 nations on 26 June in San Francisco. US Secretary of State James Byrnes signed the protocol and proclaimed the charter was "now a part of the law of nations".

He said it was a historic day for peace-loving nations of the world. But he warned peace was not based on documents but depended on the will of people to maintain it. He added the USA would do its best to promote international co-operation.

The world security organization aims to "save succeeding generations from the scourge of war" and maintain international peace and security.

The UN Charter upholds human rights and proposes that nations should work together to overcome social, economic, humanitarian and cultural challenges.

The name "United Nations" was coined by US President Franklin D Roosevelt, and was first used in the Declaration by United Nations of 1 January 1942 when representatives of 26 nations pledged to continue fighting together against the Axis Powers.

Further proposals for an international security organisation were discussed in August 1944 at Dumbarton Oaks, in the District of Columbia, USA. The final charter was then signed in June in San Francisco and ratified today.

The UN's predecessor, the League of Nations, was established after the 1914-18 World War. It aimed to prevent another global conflict, but it failed to prevent the devastating world war that has just ended.

Much of the league's structure and many of its aims have been adopted by its successor.

The organization will consist of six organs:

- General Assembly of all members;
- Security Council with five permanent members - China, France, Russia, the UK and the US - and six temporary members;
- Economic and Social Council;
- Trusteeship Council to supervise administration of colonies, former mandates of the League of Nations and territories taken from defeated nations;
- International Court of Justice to be based at The Hague in the Netherlands;
- Secretariat

A Military Staff Committee will be charged with security and may take control of weapons such as the atomic bomb.

The permanent headquarters of the UNO will be in the US although it has been revealed that France, the UK and the Netherlands voted against this decision.

A preparatory commission will gather in London next month to prepare for the UNO's first General Assembly meeting in the British capital early next year expected to bring 2,000 people to the city.

Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin will lead the British delegation. Colonel GR Codrington, who is leading the event's organizers at the Foreign Office, told the Times newspaper there would be "no ostentatious entertaining" and that visitors would be given emergency ration cards.

Bomb damage has restricted the amount of hotel rooms available and members of the public have responded to an appeal to take guests into their homes during the conference.

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

United Nations Day is celebrated on 24 October each year. The United Nations Organization became known simply as the United Nations.

Most members have permanent missions at the UN's main headquarters in New York. This was built in 1952 on land beside the East River donated by US millionaire John D Rockefeller.

Fourteen independent agencies make up the "UN System" alongside many of the organization's own programs and agencies.

These include the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Health Organization.

Frictions between the Western nations and the Soviet Bloc during the Cold War dominated much of the organization's first four decades and hampered the functioning of the Security Council.

Since the 1990s the UN has taken on an increasingly interventionist approach.

Despite some successes in the peacekeeping arena, operations in Bosnia, Rwanda and Somalia were flawed, failing to prevent massacres and even genocide.

A 2000 report criticized the UN's insistence on neutrality in situations where one side resorted to violence, warning that this could render missions ineffective.

The share-out of power in the UN, particularly in the Security Council, is hotly debated. Critics say the over-riding influence of the council's five permanent members is unfair.

After years of financial crisis, the UN has come under pressure to cut spending and to slim down its bureaucracy. Member nations owe the organization billions of dollars.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Try to look for good deeds to do today...

Taurus April 20-May 20 It's not a great day for flying solo - try to get a friend or colleague to back you up...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You've got one too many things to keep track of today, so make sure that you're not just stuffing it all away into your mental filing cabinet...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 It's a great day to look into puzzles and mysteries - your mental state is perfect for detective work...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Try not to get too upset when people start to freak out around you - there's no way to ease their distress...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You might not get too much done today, but that's fine - in fact, you may prefer to spend your time working on issues that are irrelevant to work or school...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You need to stay calm and confident today - even if things start to go south in a hurry...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 This is the perfect time to take the competition by surprise. It's not cheating - you've just been holding back some of your more unusual talents...

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 This is a great day to broaden your horizons. That could mean expanding your job search, looking for new romantic possibilities or even moving to a new city...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Your ear for music is more sensitive today, so make the most of it. Pick up that dusty instrument you haven't played in ages...

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 It's time for a change of heart - and that should come easily to you! Most likely, you already know what needs to evolve within you...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Take good care of yourself today - you deserve it! Make it a spa day, splurge on something extravagant or just cheat on your diet a little...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

8 3 1 9 4 8 7 1 3 8 1 4 2 3 5 9 2 6 9 5 1 4 8 2 4 1 7 5 6

Easy+

9 2 7 6 9 5 4 6 3 2 3 6 7 5 1 3 2 7 5 1 3 4 7 3 4

Medium

8 3 9 7 5 4 8 8 2 1 3 4 7 1 6 3 2 4 7 8 7 5 2 3 5 6 4 5 6 4

Hard

8 1 3 7 9 5 7 3 2 8 1 4 3 8 9 2 5

WEATHER

MIN MAX CONDITION

CHINA

Table with 4 columns: City, Min, Max, Condition. Includes Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

WORLD

Table with 4 columns: City, Min, Max, Condition. Includes Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, etc.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Surgery drug; 11- Puppeteer Tony; 15- The act of securing; 16- End in \_\_\_ (draw); 17- Bacteria causing food poisoning; 18- Stow, as cargo; 19- How was \_\_\_ know?; 20- Big bang cause; 21- Off and on; 23- Cong. meeting; 25- Assist; 27- Ridiculous; 28- Of Thee \_\_\_; 30- Invariable; 33- \_\_\_ is human; 35- Drop \_\_\_ (moon); 36- Swell; 38- G sharp's equivalent; 41- Longings; 43- Anklebone; 45- Counselors; 49- Less common or less cooked; 51- Specific geographical places; 52- Ave. crossers; 54- Ancient Andean; 55- Cotton fabric; 58- Cath. or Prot.; 60- Second-century date; 61- Volcanic flow; 62- Having a foul odor; 65- Lulu; 66- Break down into harmless products; 67- Watchful; 68- Concerned;

DOWN: 1- Birthplace of St. Francis; 2- Most orderly; 3- Hatching of a larva; 4- Total; 5- Jog; 6- Reddish brown; 7- Ipecac, e.g.; 8- Choice: Abbr.; 9- To Live and Die \_\_\_; 10- Rat; 11- Saltworks; 12- Cossack chief; 13- Smiling; 14- Gaggle members; 22- Nominal; 24- Dagger; 26- Morse "E"; 29- Slightly gray; 31- Heston's org.; 32- Like a pillow; 34- Hwys.; 37- Half and half; 39- Jai \_\_\_; 40- Renegade; 42- Gown renters: Abbr.; 44- Isolate; 45- Richards of "Jurassic Park"; 46- Capital of Colorado; 47- Unpredictable action; 48- Went boldly; 50- Elevated; 51- Beaming; 53- Exodus commemoration; 56- Prefix with dextrous; 57- Principal; 59- Theater box; 63- Parking place; 64- Monopoly quartet: Abbr.;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

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Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
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Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
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Q50# VIEW THE WORLD WITH FRESH EYES



**M**ANCHESTER City failed to win for a fifth successive game in all competitions yesterday, only avoiding a loss to Southampton when Kelechi Iheanacho produced a second-half equalizer.

Although Pep Guardiola is enduring a five-game winless run for the first time since his debut campaign in charge of Barcelona in 2008-09, City is top of the Premier League on goal difference.

A mistake by City defender John Stones presented Nathan Redmond with the opener in the 27th minute at home. Substitute Iheanacho equalized 10 minutes into the second half with City's first shot on target but the hosts could not find the winner.

City could feel hard done by after dominating possession, particularly in the second half, and having a Stones goal ruled out for offside. Yet after opening the season with 10 successive wins, the intensity does seem to have dropped temporarily.

After Wednesday's loss at Barcelona in the Champions League, City's players needed to make a statement in response but they could not rouse themselves enough after a subdued first-half performance.

Sergio Aguero was restored

FOOTBALL | EPL

# Man City winless run reaches 5 games with Southampton draw



Manchester City's Sergio Aguero, right, and Southampton's Steven Davis battle for the ball

to the front line after his surprise omission at Barcelona, while fit-again captain Vin-

cent Kompany made his first league start since April. City struggled to get going,

with promising runs from Aguero, Raheem Sterling and Leroy Sane all coming to nothing. City's lack of cutting edge suited Southampton, who struggled to gain any meaningful possession.

When Southampton took the lead it came after a glaring error by Stones, who did not look up as he passed the ball back into the area in the 27th minute. Kompany was not in tune with his fellow defender and Redmond pounced, taking the ball wide of goalkeeper Claudio Bravo and scoring.

The look on Stones' face made clear the horror of his error, which will bring into further focus Guardiola's determination to play out from the back at seemingly all costs.

Stones picked himself up and thought he had made quick amends as he raced in at the far post to tuck home a De Bruyne free-kick. He celebrated what he assumed was the equaliser with gusto but a

flag had been raised for what appeared to be offside against Aguero.

The frustration continued for City as Ilkay Gundogan drove wide but the introduction of Iheanacho at halftime brought a change in shape, intensity and atmosphere.

Sterling was enlivened and curled a dangerous ball through the box before City claimed their equalizer. Fernandinho picked out Sane with an accurate crossfield ball and his low cross was neatly tucked in by Iheanacho.

From then on it mainly became a case of Southampton digging in and looking to protect what they had, although Bravo was called upon to make one save from a Charlie Austin drive. Goalkeeper Fraser Forster kept Southampton level by palming away Gundogan's effort before saving David Silva's long-range strike to secure the point for the south-coast side, which is eighth in the standings. **AP**

## Crutchlow wins Australian Moto GP as Marquez crashes

**B**RTAIN'S Cal Crutchlow held off an extraordinary ride from Valentino Rossi to win the Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix on Sunday as newly-crowned world champion Marc Marquez crashed out with 18 laps to go.

Marquez, who clinched his third world title last weekend in Japan, led the race from pole position and was well clear of Crutchlow when he crashed due to a braking error at turn four of the Philip Island circuit.

That handed the lead to Crutchlow who showed steady nerves to hold out the hard-charging Rossi who climbed through the field from 15th place on the grid after his worst qualifying performance in five years.

Maverick Vinales was third after starting in 13th place.

The win gave the 30-year-old Honda rider Crutchlow his second Moto GP victory after his win in the Czech Republic earlier this

year, making him the first Briton since Barry Sheen to win two races in the premier class in the same season.

He completed the race in 40 minutes, 48.5 seconds, holding out Rossi by 4.2 seconds.

The rainy conditions which made practice and qualifying tricky on Friday and Saturday gave way to fine but cold weather on Sunday. The cool track surface made tire choice critical and Crutchlow, starting from second place on the grid, followed Marquez in choosing a hard compound for the front tire.

It was a risky strategy given that partly cloudy conditions made it difficult to keep heat in the tire. When Marquez went down it was thought that tire choice might have played a part and Crutchlow admitted to a moment of concern.

"I was terrified," Crutchlow said. "I went really weak into that corner for the whole race."

"I knew it was critical towards the end of the

race. I crashed there two years ago when I had 10 seconds behind me also. I was quite scared to be honest and I didn't want to make the same mistake but I knew I had to keep pushing or we'd lose the heat in the front tire."

Marquez dismissed tire choice as a factor in his fall which left him unhurt.

"First of all I want to say sorry to my team because I did the mistake," Marquez said. "I braked too late and instead of trying to go a little bit wide I tried to keep the line and I fell."

"I was taking a lot of risks there at the beginning but in the end we have to be happy because we won the title but of course we would like to win more races."

Rossi's extraordinary ride to claim second allowed him to extend his lead over Jorge Lorenzo in second place on overall championship standings with two rounds remaining. Riders head to Malaysia for the penultimate round of the season next weekend **AP**

## Qatar announces 1st 'work-related' World Cup stadium death

Rob Harris

A worker on a Qatar World Cup stadium site has died in the first work-related fatality to be announced by organizers of the 2022 soccer tournament that has been dogged by concerns about labor conditions.

Qatar has previously reported three deaths at stadium construction sites but said they were not "work-related."

The tiny, gas-rich country is relying on its large workforce of Asian laborers to build stadiums and related infrastructure to cope with staging soccer's biggest tournament in the Middle East for the first time.

The Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy, which is tasked with building World Cup sites, did not name the worker who died on Saturday morning at Al Wakrah Stadium or provide his nationality.

"It is with deep regret we announce a work-related fatality on one of our projects," the committee said on its website.

FIFA is awaiting a report from Qatari organizers.

"A full investigation is underway to determine the factors which contributed to the death of one of our workers," the Supreme Committee said. "The relevant authorities were immediately informed and the fa-



A Qatari woman walks in front of the city skyline in Doha, Qatar

mily of the deceased have been notified. We offer them all the necessary support they may need at such a difficult time."

Al Wakrah Stadium, which is 15 kilometers south of the capital Doha, is intended to resemble the sails on a traditional Qatari dhow boat and was designed by Zaha Hadid before the architect's death in March. The 40,000-capacity venue is due to be completed by 2018 and host games up to the quarterfinals at the 2022 World Cup.

The emirate is expected to spend tens of billions of dollars before the November-December 2022 tournament kicks off, preparing eight new and renovated stadiums and related projects such as transport links and accommodation. **AP**



opinion

**Insight**  
 Paulo Barbosa



**GIVING WAY TO DEMAGOGIC DEMANDS**

1. The Shanghai government recently introduced a scheme to attract foreign talent that will allow “high-level foreign professionals” to apply for a Shanghai Residence Card. As the Times reported, the scheme will allow some Hong Kong and Macau residents to apply for permanent residence and citizenship in Shanghai, provided that they surrender their Hong Kong and Macau ID cards to the authorities in the two special administrative regions.

In Macau we see the exact opposite being implemented over and over. Instead of implementing policies to attract the best job candidates, rational analysis gives way to demagogic pressures in protecting the jobs of Macau residents above all else. Competency is sidelined and the government seems to follow the emotive will of the populace. People are being fired because of the type of work visa they hold and their provenience. If an incompetent resident that got hired to fill the local quotas gets fired there is a risk of a demonstration in front of the Liaison Office. Companies complain of difficulties when hiring for managerial posts.

Don't get me wrong, I believe that priority should be given to locals when hiring (although not in a way that makes the process impractical) and it is understandable that authorities may want to limit the growth in the number of people that live in Macau, given its size. The region is small and not fit to cope with the millions living here, like neighboring Zhuhai (around 1.5 million habitants) and Hong Kong (over 7 million).

But looking at the measures implemented to attract foreign talent in Shanghai and in other Chinese cities, we see that Macau is perhaps failing to fulfill its role as an international city. That is its historical role, as recognized by Beijing. Premier Li Keqiang during his recent visit to Macau: “There is a multiculturalism in Macau, that can be seen in the mix between Chinese and Portuguese cultures. These multicultural characteristics are the thing that makes Macau singular. Macau is a very important place to China in terms of its openness to the exterior,” he said.

If the above-mentioned demagogic trend is not corrected, Macau may suffer another “brain drain” like has happened several times during its recent history (when waves of Macanese migrated to Shanghai, Hong Kong or America). It is not only the young locals that graduate and don't feel there is a place for them in this casino-driven economy. It is also the foreigners that work here in managerial positions who may be replaced just because they don't hold the right card or background.

2. An old and absurd issue: apparently more importance is given to pandas than to the safety of our children in public spaces. The recent report by the Commission of Audit slams the management of leisure facilities by the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau. Some children's playgrounds were actually falling apart and nothing was being done to address the issue.

However, there is no lack of resources for the pandas offered by the central government. It was announced that the twin panda cubs Jian Jian and Kang Kang lack space at the Giant Panda Pavilion in Seac Pai Van, so IACM announced that the pavilion would be expanded. Millions will be spent in superfluous works for all the pandas being exhibited.

With due respect to the sweet creatures, this is another example of choosing the wrong priorities.

**THE BUZZ THAIS HONOR LATE KING WITH SPECIAL VERSION OF ROYAL ANTHEM**

A massive crowd gathered in central Bangkok on Saturday to sing a special version of Thailand's royal anthem in honor of King Bhumibol Adulyadej, who died this month.

A large field in front of the ornate Grand Palace complex was packed with black-clad mourners, as were all the approach roads. Police eventually closed the roads to traffic.

The king's body is lying in one of the palaces in the complex while royal funeral ceremonies are going on. No date has been set for cremation, which will

likely take place after a year.

Led by the Siam Philharmonic Orchestra and a 100-strong choir, the crowd sang an emotional version of “San Sern Pra Baramee,” or “Salute to the Monarch.”

Another version was recorded Saturday night with the crowd holding candles.



Station	Air quality
Roadside	30-50 Good
High Density Residential Area	35-55 Good
Ambient	35-55 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

**WORLD BRIEFS**



**VENEZUELA** is bracing for turbulence after the socialist government blocked a presidential recall referendum in a move opposition leaders are calling a coup. The opposition is urging supporters to take to the streets, beginning with a march on a major highway Saturday led by the wives of jailed activists, while a leading government figure is calling for the arrest of high-profile government critics.

**PORTUGAL's** credit rating was retained at investment grade by DBRS Ltd., securing eligibility of the country's debt for the European Central Bank's bond purchase program. The Toronto-based company kept Portugal's rating at BBB (low), its lowest investment grade, and maintained the stable trend. For Portugal's bonds to qualify for purchase under the ECB's quantitative-easing plan, the nation must be rated investment grade by at least one major ratings company.

**SWEDEN** A member of the Swedish Academy that awarded the 2016 Nobel Prize in literature to Bob Dylan says the American singer-songwriter's silence since receiving the honor is “impolite and arrogant.” Per Wastberg said Dylan's lack of reaction to the honor the academy bestowed on him last week was predictable, but disrespectful nonetheless.



**CAMEROON** Authorities rushed more than 600 injured people to hospitals in the country's two main cities Saturday in an effort to save lives a day after an overcrowded train derailed, killing more than 70 people.

**Adult-Film actress claims Trump made sexual advances toward her**

Arlene Washington, Patrick Shanley

**A**DULT-FILM actress Jessica Drake has come forward to accuse presidential hopeful Donald Trump of sexual assault. Drake (according to IMDb, her real name is Angela Patrice Heaslet) is the latest woman to come forward with allegations against Trump.

Drake, who introduced herself as a feminist, contracted adult performer and sex educator, spoke with her attorney, Gloria Allred, during a press conference on Saturday afternoon in Los Angeles. Allred said she is now representing three victims who have come forward with sexual-misconduct allegations against the GOP nominee. According to a press release from Allred, Drake is the 11th accuser to come forward with allegations of inappropriate sexual conduct against Trump.

Drake stated that she met Trump 10 years ago, when she was working a booth for Wicked Pictures at a celebrity golf tournament in Lake Tahoe. She said she accepted Trump's invitation to walk along the golf course with him, gave him her phone number and later joined him in his “penthouse suite” with



AP PHOTO

two other women.

“He grabbed each of us tightly in a hug and kissed each one of us without asking permission,” said Drake. “He was wearing pajamas. A bodyguard was also present. He asked me about my job as an adult-film star, about details on shooting porn, and he also asked us about our personal relationships and whether we were married or single. We answered his questions; it felt like an interview. About 30 or 45 minutes later, we left his room.”

Drake said that, after declining an invitation from someone on Trump's behalf to come back to his room, she was then called by Trump himself. “Donald then asked me ‘What do you want? How much?’ I told him I couldn't because I had to go back to L.A. for work. I said that as an excuse because I didn't want him to continue asking me, and I didn't want to be with him,” said Drake.

After that, she said, she was offered USD10,000, which she declined, and was offered the use of Trump's private jet if she “accepted his invitation.”

Drake added that she chose to speak out “in light of the recently released tapes” and to lend her “support to the other women who are coming forward.” She added that she is not looking for “monetary compensation.”

Drake said Trump was guilty of “uncontrollable misogyny” and of being “a sexual-assault apologist.” She went on to say, “I know I am but a grain of sand in a wide, wide beach.”

The Trump campaign responded to the claims on Saturday in a statement that called Drake's story “totally ridiculous,” going on to add that “Mr Trump does not know this person, does not remember this person and would have no interest in ever knowing her. This is just another attempt by the Clinton campaign to defame a candidate who just today is number one in three different polls.”

Drake's claims come after Apprentice contestant Summer Zervos claimed she was “kissed” and “groped” by Trump at the Beverly Hills Hotel in 2007. **Bloomberg**

**THE DECISIVE MOMENT**

AP Photo/Dieu Nalio Chery



A guard lies dead inside the Civil Prison after a jail break in the coastal town of Arcahaiea, Haiti. Over 100 inmates escaped on Saturday after they overpowered guards who were escorting them to a bathing area.