



URBAN RENEWAL EXPECTED TO ENTER NEW PHASE

The government will lead the process of Macau's urban renewal, confirmed the Secretary for Transport and Public Works

P2 AL PLENARY



'WE KEEP ON PUSHING YOUNG ARTISTS'

Interview with artist James Chu, who has a new exhibition at the Macau Art Garden

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MILITANTS ATTACK PAKISTAN POLICE ACADEMY, KILLING 61

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MacauDaily 澳門每日時報® Times

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Goldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS



HONG KONG A jury watched chilling video of a British banker Rurik Jutting torturing an Indonesian woman and then talking for hours about how he repeatedly raped her and then killed her without feeling guilt or emotion. More on p11



JAPAN-PHILIPPINES

The outspoken President Rodrigo Duterte worries his Japanese hosts. Not just his policy toward the U.S. but also his informal style: Will he chew gum in front of the emperor? Duterte arrived in Tokyo for his first visit to Japan since becoming Philippine leader. More on p14



SOUTH KOREA

President Park offered a surprise public apology after acknowledging her close ties to a mysterious woman at the center of a corruption scandal. More on p14

JAPAN's bill for dismantling the Fukushima nuclear plant is ballooning far beyond the utility's estimate of USD19 billion.



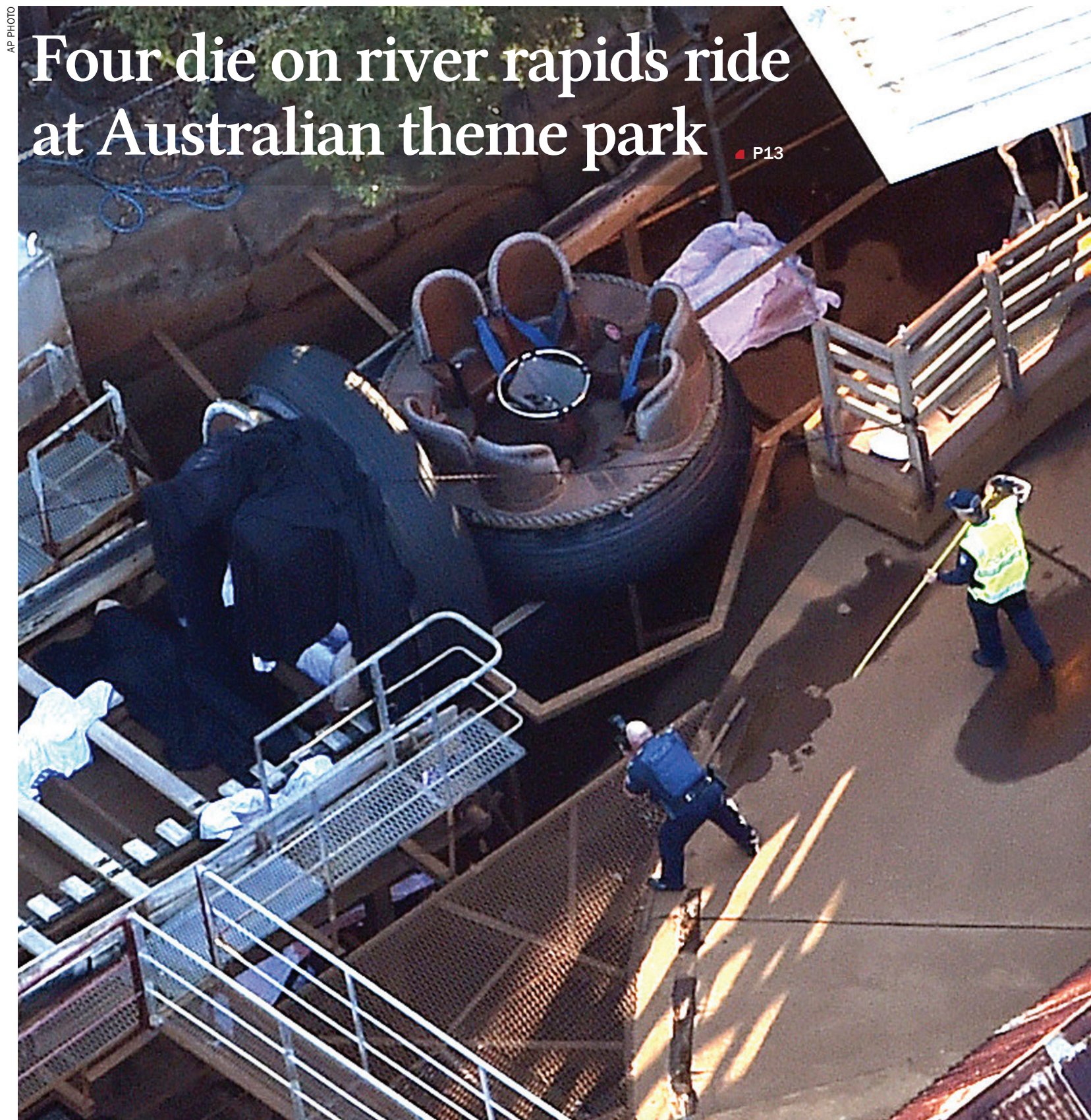
MALAYSIA

A fire at a public hospital killed six patients and injured another patient and 10 hospital staff. Some 500 people were evacuated from the hospital in southern Johor after the fire raged through two floors of a building that houses the intensive care unit. Temporary tents were being used as treatment areas.

More on backpage

AHEAD OF POLICY ADDRESS

CE meets with associations to fine-tune policies . P3



Four die on river rapids ride at Australian theme park

P13

Renato Marques

THE work of the Urban Renewal Council (CRU) was questioned yesterday at the Legislative Assembly (AL). The criticism arose during the second consecutive day this week dedicated to hearing government responses to lawmakers' spoken enquiries.

The Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, highlighted the developments achieved on the CRU meeting held Monday. He classified those developments as "significant advances."

"We approved internal regulations and the methodology of the work, as well as we decided on the creation of three specialized groups that will work on six topics," Rosário said. He continued, adding that one of the issues found during the first meetings of the council "took more time to solve than expected." When questioned on the nature of this issue he said it concerned the question of who should lead the process, the government or the private sector.

The problem was solved with the consensus among the members of the CRU that the government should lead the process. Exactly how and when the government will take charge of the process was not announced. The secretary failed to clarify the schedule, saying, "There isn't any timing yet. Initially I proposed that it should be the private [sector] leading but then the members decided that it should be the government. This changes everything because for the time being there isn't a specific public entity doing any of this work. We only have a secretariat at the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) to provide logistic support."

According to the explanation of the DSSOPT director, Li Canfeng, the six topics to be addressed by the three working groups will have to do with the working model currently being considered and how it may be implemented,

AL PLENARY

Urban renewal to enter new phase, Rosário expects



Li Canfeng (left) and Raimundo do Rosário

the concept of "temporary housing" and what land resources may be suitable for temporary

housing. Further topics will include the reinforcement of the plan to support building main-

Initially I proposed that it should be the private [sector] leading.

RAIMUNDO DO ROSÁRIO

tenance, the reuse of industrial buildings and how to promote and develop the idea and strategies of the urban renewal.

Lawmaker Wong requested a calendar to push each of the processes forward and also remarked that "all the work from these new groups should be more disclosed, maybe with the publication of the minutes of the meetings."

Secretary Rosário replied with the guarantee that the information would be publicized. "We are going to create a web page to disclose all the developments of the work that we are doing." However, he noted that the full extent of the work would not be published, only the "most important points will be in the website." Rosário claimed that "the members [of the council] decided that it isn't necessary [to put everything] and that there will be no public audience at these meetings. This is what the members decided."

The clarification on the matter came after a follow-up question from Pereira Coutinho. The lawmaker urged the secretary to allow the media to be present in the meetings in order to ease public concerns, a request also shared by Ng Kuok Cheong.

SMG admits flaws in typhoon impact forecast

REPLYING to two spoken enquiries regarding the latest decisions from the Weather Bureau (SMG) regarding the tropical cyclone signals raised, the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, admitted the forecasts might not have been totally accurate. He noted, "the decision of keeping the signal 3 hoisted [during typhoon Nida] was based on forecasts done according to available data, which revealed a probability of the storm weakening of the tropical storm as, in fact, happened," and added that, "the activity of the SMG although is based on scientific grounds is subject to physical phenomena that has unexpected behavior."

While his statement cleared SMG of direct responsibility, the secretary remarked that further analysis concluded that it was necessary to improve the bureau's communication and information disclosure processes.

The reply came after enquires of lawmakers Melinda Chan and Pereira Coutinho.

The SMG director, Fong Soi Kun, followed on from the acknowledgement of Rosário, saying, "We accept that there were problems with the information disclosed and we already corrected these problems."

Skeptical of such a fast solution Chan

continued, saying, "The director [of the Weather Bureau] says that he reviewed the standards but recently we had another typhoon and apparently we were once more in counter cycle with the neighboring regions. In addition, after the lowering of the signal to 3 the website of SMG still stated the signal 8 for a long time. Things like this can't happen."

The lawmaker also stated that it is necessary to establish an efficient communication channel with Zhuhai on this topic since there are many people working in Macau that live across the border and different decisions on each side of the border can create many transportation problems.

Impediment to building construction removed

AN enquiry from lawmaker Leong Veng Chai on the status of a building located at Calçada do Gaio on the surroundings of Guia hill led Raimundo do Rosário to explain that construction work on the building will begin in the

near future. He announced that an agreement for the recommencement of the work (that had been stopped for the past eight years) had been reached.

The secretary together with DSSOPT director Li Canfeng revealed that

the "knot" was "untied" through discussions with the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC). With the opinion of the IC taken into account it was decided that the current height of the building (81.5 meters) does not disqualify it from the protection gi-

ven to UNESCO heritage sites and that the construction work should resume as soon as possible.

Several lawmakers spoke out in discordance. Au Kam San said it was incomprehensible how a limitation that led to an order to stop the

construction could be surpassed by the opinion of a consultative body such as IC. Au continued his objection by questioning the legality of such a decision.

In response, Rosário stated: "There are two ways [to solve the pro-

blem]: go to court or to try to solve it in a diplomatic way. I took this position to solve the problem. I don't know if it's legal or not but I have to make decisions and I decided to go by this method. If I have to take responsibility, I will."

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Chief Executive to deliver policy address November 15

THE Chief Executive Chui Sai On will deliver the policy address for the 2017 Fiscal Year November 15 at the Legislative Assembly (AL).

The session will begin at 3 p.m. and will be followed by a press conference at the government headquarters at 5 p.m.

The following day, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., Chui will attend the plenary meeting of the AL to explain his policy program to lawmakers and to answer their questions.

The television channels and radio station of Macau's public broadcaster Teledifusão de Macau (TDM) will broadcast the policy address and press conference live.

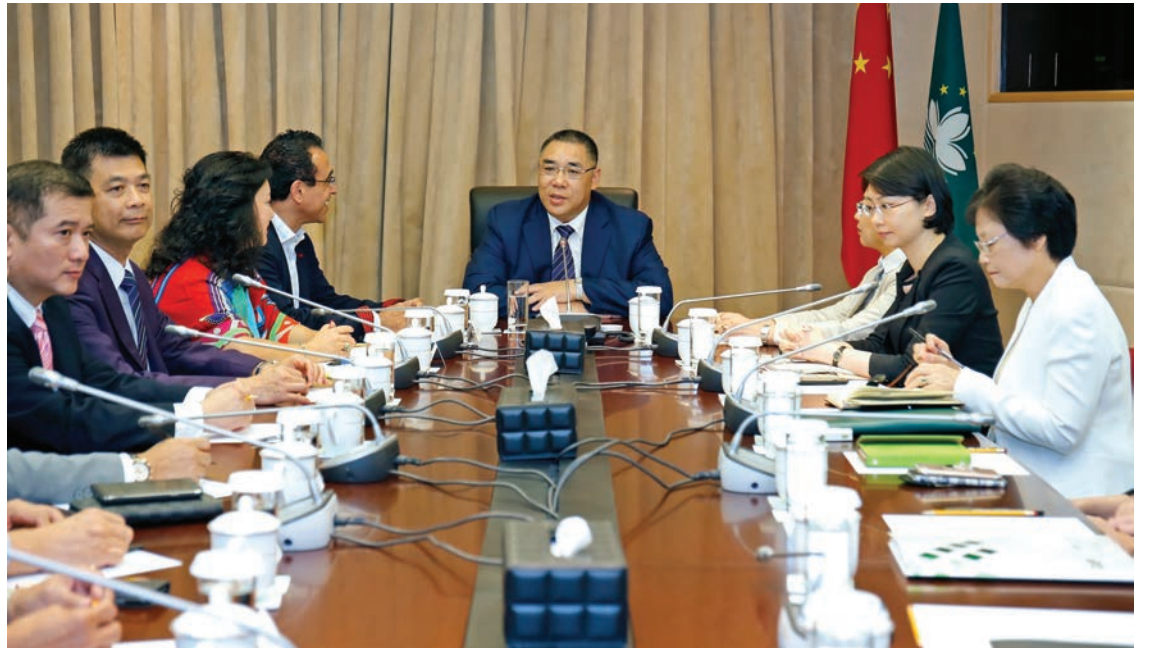
Chui's presentation will be followed by the sectorial debates, with each secretary debating with lawmakers across a two-day period. The first secretary to go to the AL will be Secretary for Administration and Justice, Sonia Chan, November 22 and 23. The policy address sectorial debates will close December 6 with the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário.

Chui meets with associations to fine-tune policies

IN preparation for the 2017 policy address, the Chief Executive (CE) Chui Sai On has met with representatives of associations and people from all walks of life in Macau in order to hear their views on key topics.

During meetings with the Federation of Trade Unions (FAOM) and the General Union of the Neighborhood Associations (UGAMM), Chui vowed not to decrease social welfare measures. According to the associations, Chui also said that he will continue the cash handout policy, although he didn't disclose if the value of the annual cheque would remain unchanged. An increase in available public housing and measures to ensure steady employment of residents are two other topics to be highlighted in next month's policy address presentation.

During yesterday's meeting between the CE and the Macau Civil Servants Association (AT-FPM), the association's president



Meeting between the CE and the Macau Civil Servants Association

Pereira Coutinho argued that the value of the cash handout for permanent residents should be raised to MOP12,000 due to the increasing cost of living.

Coutinho also raised several concerns of local civil servants, like demands for a 6 percent salary

increase, and improvements in the residence subsidy and retirement schemes. The lawmaker noted to Chui that 17 years after the establishment of the MSAR, the Trade Union Law was not implemented. "There are many cases related to labor issues in

the courts, which demonstrates that the Labor Affairs Bureau is not the appropriate service to mediate issues related to labor rights. Employers and employees should be on the same level," he said, in an interview conducted by TDM.

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IC to showcase new library project



Old Court Building

The Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) will organize an exhibition to showcase the construction plans for the new central library project. The exhibition will open October 31 at the Old Court Building, where the new library is expected to be built. The exhibition will then be moved to the current central library at Tap Seac Square, and from there to Taipa Library until its close December 31.

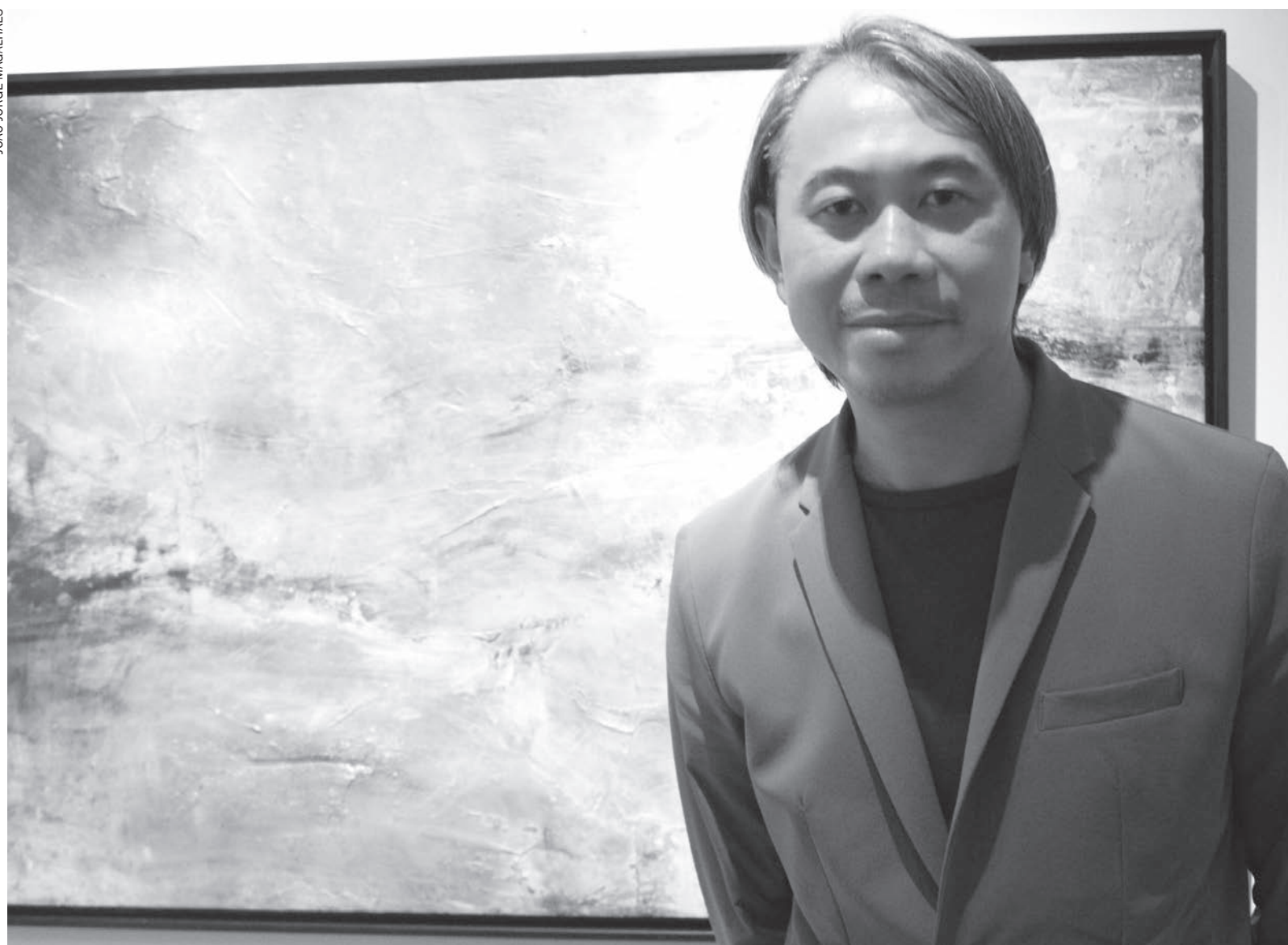
Mozambique Attorney General visits Macau

Mozambique Attorney General Beatriz Buchili is leading a delegation in an official visit to Macau. The group arrived in Macau last Sunday and will leave the region October 29, according to a notice published by the Public Prosecutions Office (MP). The delegation was invited to the region by the MP. On Monday morning, high officials of the MP met with Ms. Beatriz Buchili, in order to discuss each other's operations and in particular, changes to legislation regarding crime prevention. Between tomorrow and Friday, the Public Prosecutor-General of Macau, Ip Son Sang, will accompany the delegation in a visit to Guangdong's prosecution organization.

Zhuhai announces latest anti-corruption results

In the first nine months of this year, Zhuhai prosecuted 15 high officials involved in corruption cases and established 275 corruption-related cases, according to a report by Jornal Va Kio. Additionally, 192 civil servants were given the Chinese Communist Party's disciplinary punishment, while 11 people were forwarded to judiciary organizations. The city's prosecution authority received 147 reports regarding infractions made on-duty and investigated 62 people for committing crimes while on-duty, of whom 14 were arrested. The city also arrested one fleeing criminal who was listed on the Chinese-national wanted list on charges of corruption.

JOÃO JORGE MAGALHÃES



Q&A JAMES CHU
ARTIST, MACAU ART GARDEN COORDINATOR

'We keep on pushing young artists, giving them more chances to exhibit'

Lynzy Valles

The Art For All Society (AFA) opened its "Perpetual Splendor – Works by James Chu" exhibition on Monday, attracting several art enthusiasts to the event.

Chu is the coordinator of Macau Art Garden and holds several positions in various art and design associations in the region.

He has held six solo exhibitions in Macau and Beijing and has participated in over one hundred group exhibitions globally. The art expert has also won more than 40 design and art awards in Macau and overseas.

Chu's current solo exhibition features six paintings and will be open to the public for a month.

Macau Daily Times (MDT) - What was the inspiration behind these six artworks?

James Chu (JC) - Just in general, I usually paint abstract. Abstract is the main style that I use for painting. For me, I think it's important from time to time to preserve good spirit in my work. Also it's important to try to express the feeling throughout the last three years [that I have experienced].

MDT - Is the art industry in Macau growing?

JC - Slowly. Many more people participate, especially through visiting us at Art For All Society and Art Garden. We've built this platform for eight to nine years. We keep on pushing young artists, giving them more chances to exhibit, to publish in catalogues, to bring them overseas and give them experience. We help them to grow and introduce them to the art market, to the potential buyer. From time to time, we see a consistent pattern of what pushes people to buy and it's a kind of process. The artists themselves keep on working but at the same time the whole society has to grow together with the artist. If you grow together with them from time to time, that's the time when they appreciate the art more and feel comfortable to buy something from Macau artists.

If they buy it, there are more opportunities available for the artist to dedicate more time to their artistic career; because it's very difficult. If you don't sell, if you don't really make a living out of producing artwork, then what do you do? Art teacher or freelancer? Still you have to

find a way, you have to find how to balance and keep your spirits up. Through your artwork, you have to show everybody that you are doing something. That's exactly what I'm trying to do.

MDT - What are some challenges faced by local artists?

JC - There's too much competition in Hong Kong, Taiwan and China. With this price range, you can find a lot of artworks in a lot of Hong Kong, Taiwanese and Chinese galleries. So many people are getting involved in this business and a

lot of artworks have been created. So it's not easy, especially when you are just called "Macau resident artist." The space, rent is very expensive, the living standard is higher than China, Taiwan. It's quite difficult.

MDT - Macau's art market still has a long way to go as you have mentioned. Do you think the region can one day be like Hong Kong, where art is valued?

JC - Never. Because of the size of Macau and its population, we can never be compared with them, rather we need to find our own way.

MDT - In addition to promoting art awareness, what are the other aims of the Art Garden?

JC - To give artists a steady work space is also one of the priorities. We have 36 studios upstairs. We have a contract for six years so they don't have to find new studios every two years. More constant space for creative work is very important.

MDT - What difference does the Art Garden make for the artists?

JC - I shouldn't say, the others should tell.

If you don't sell, if you don't really make a living out of producing artwork, then what do you do?

JAMES CHU

Studio City Proudly Celebrates its First Anniversary

Supporting Macau's evolution into World Center of Tourism and Leisure



Mr. Lawrence Ho, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Melco Crown Entertainment, said, "One year ago, the Hollywood-inspired cinematically themed Studio City opened its doors to the world and started a brand new page in the entertainment history of Macau. Established itself as Asia's Entertainment Capital, Studio City has brought some of the most dazzling and innovative entertainment offerings to the city, proudly celebrates its first anniversary with a year filled with meaningful milestones. Moving forward, we intend to continue to introduce innovative world-class offerings to Macau. We believe these offerings will contribute to the diversification of the economy of Macau and reinforce the city's reputation as the World Center of Tourism and Leisure."



Ms. Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes, Director of the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO), said, "The opening of Studio City in October 2015 has brought to Macau many 'world's first' entertainment offerings, such as the Golden Reel, Batman Dark Flight, House of Magic and Warner Bros. Fun Zone. These offerings appeal to a wide base of consumers and contribute to the diversification of the Macau tourism industry. The Macau SAR Government's close collaboration with the gaming industry has enabled a sustainable development of the city's tourism. We have seen a steady increase in the number of visitors and average stay time. The number of overnight visitors has exceeded the number of same-day visitors for three consecutive months, from June to August this year. Studio City has garnered acclaimed international recognitions in just one year of operations. In celebrating Studio City's first anniversary, I would like to congratulate Melco Crown Entertainment on the resort's remarkable success to put Macau on the global map of entertainment, and to further reinforce Macau's reputation as the World Center of Tourism and Leisure."

Studio City, the Hollywood-inspired, cinematically-themed entertainment and leisure destination resort, is designed with a wide array of collaborations with world famous brands, which include luxurious hotels, innovative entertainment offerings, premium retails, and top notch food and beverage outlets to deliver movie-star treatment to all of its visitors. Since its doors opened in October 2015, Studio City is set to redefine Macau as an international tourism destination, bringing to the city many "World's-Firsts" and the very best in global entertainment to create a resort experience that cannot be found anywhere else. Studio City displays an unprecedented support to Macau's development into a World Center of Tourism and Leisure, further anchors Macau's spot on the world map of entertainment.



World of Firsts

Since its grand opening last year, the star-studded Studio City has set new standards for Macau entertainment in more ways than one.

- World's highest figure-eight Ferris wheel. The 130 meter-high Golden Reel is suspended between Studio City's two Art Deco hotel towers, and offers panoramic city views from its 17 cabins.
- World's first multi-venue, interactive magic experience. Hailed as 'Asia's Epicenter of Magic', the House of Magic was created and curated by world-famous illusionist Franz Harary.
- World's first Batman 4D flight simulator. Batman Dark Flight replicates the explosive battles and high-speed chases of Gotham City in a multi-sen-

sory ride through a state-of-the-art theatre.

- World-class live entertainment venue. The stage of the 5,000-seat Studio City Event Center has attracted musical icons from around the world, including American superstars Mariah Carey and Madonna, Cantopop kings Aaron Kwok and Leon Lai, and Korean boy band BTS.
- World's biggest nightclub brand. The biggest and most exclusive name in Mediterranean nightlife has come to town. Studio City is home to Pacha Macau, Greater China's first Ibiza-style mega-club.
- Macau's first Warner Bros.-themed family adventure. The Warner Bros.

Fun Zone is a 40,000-square feet playground packed with characters from DC Comics, Hanna-Barbera Productions and Looney Tunes.

- Studio City has received rave reviews from across the region's gaming and travel sectors. Its accolades include 'Casino Resort of the Year' at the 9th International Gaming Awards, 'Best New Venue Opening' at CEI Asia Magazine's 2016 Readers' Choice Awards and 'Asia's Leading New Resort 2016' by World Travel Awards
- The resort was also named the 'Most Anticipated Hotel in Macau 2015' by Chinese travel website Ctrip.com, and was listed among Lonely Planet's best new travel experiences for 2016.

The unsung hero behind Studio City's Batman

Mr. Cole, Leong Iat Meng works as a Technician at "Batman Dark Flight" at Studio City. His job duty is to check, operate and maintain the entertainment attractions to ensure the smoothest operation and the most enjoyable world-class entertainment experience for all visitors. Joining the company without in depth knowledge and prior training in mechanical operations, Cole's positive attitude and determined spirit have steered him to quickly master the required skills and seamlessly fulfill his work duties despite of his physical disability. His outstanding performance, attention to details, and passion for his work impressed his department head. Truly well deserved, Cole is recognized as one of the Outstanding Disabled Employees in the award co-organized by the Social Welfare Bureau and Labour Affairs Bureau of Macau SAR. "I would like to express my grat-



itude to Studio City, who provided me an opportunity to be part of 'Batman Dark Flight', I am really proud to be contributing to the world's most unique entertainment experience to all visitors around the globe. I am also honored to be nominated by our company as an Outstanding Disabled Employee, allowing me to contribute even more to the local community." said Cole.

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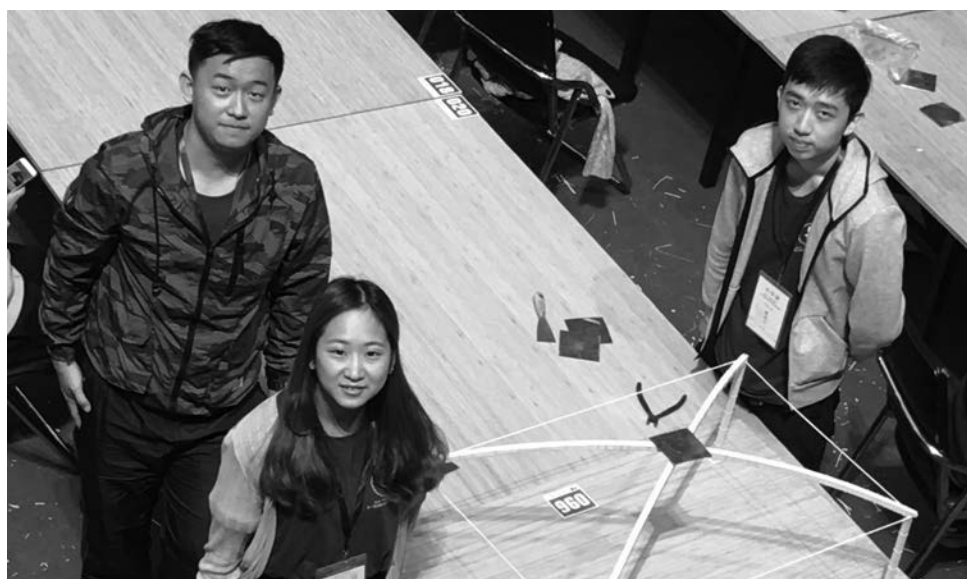


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EDUCATION

UM students win second prize at National Structure Design Contest

THREE students from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering in the Faculty of Science and Technology at the University of Macau (UM) recently won second prize at the 'Tenth National Structure Design Contest for

College Students' held in Tianjin.

The three students are Fan Yawang, Chan Sio Man, and Sio Wai Lam. They competed against more than 125 teams from 124 universities in China, including Tsinghua University, Tongji University,

Harbin Institute of Technology, Zhejiang University and Tianjin University.

The theme of this year's competition was 'Long-span Roof Structure'. Each team was required to design and fabricate a long-span bamboo roof

structure with a plan area of 900 x 600 mm and a height of 425 mm. The model submitted by the UM team is a combination of arches and columns, weighing 93 grams and demonstrating a load-bearing capacity of 41 kilograms.

Co-organized by the Professional Advisory Committee for Civil Engineering Programs at Higher Education Institutions and the Educational Affairs Committee of China Civil Engineering Society, the annual competition is one of the nine highest-ranked inter-university competitions in science and engineering in China. It is also the most important competition in the field of civil engineering.

According to a press release issued by UM, the event aims to provide a platform for civil engineering students to exchange ideas, build friendships, improve their civil engineering skills, be creative and learn how to work with others. Additionally, UM hopes their participation will in turn strengthen their ties with civil engineering departments at various universities.

Library conference closes today



THE 11th Conference on Cooperative Development and Sharing of Chinese Resources was officially opened yesterday at the Grand Ballroom of MGM.

The opening ceremony was officiated by the president of the Cultural Affairs Bureau, Ung Vai Meng and the deputy director of the National Library of China, Sun Yigang.

The two-day conference will come to a close today. Themed "Post-digital Era – the Cooperation, Utilization and Promotion of Chinese Resources," the conference is being attended by local and overseas representatives from the library sector. They are primarily discussing resource use and sharing, inter-institution cooperation, promotional techniques and technology application, in order to deepen mutual understandings and further the development and resource sharing capabilities of the organization.

On this event, local library representatives are expected to meet foreign specialists to promote an alignment with international standards. They will share their professional experiences in preparation for the development of libraries in the future.

Remarking on the event, Sun Yigang said, "I believe that with our joint efforts, this conference will achieve novel results in terms of the experience in cooperative development and the sharing of [library] resources." JZ

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Julie Zhu

New street performance scheme unveiled

THE Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) announced a new system which will allow street performers of all nationalities to display their artistic talents in Macau. Yesterday, five representatives of the bureau, including president Ung Vai Meng, introduced the scheme to the media.

The scheme will be officially launched November 1 and applications will open November 7, after which it is planned to run for a trial period of three months until January 31 of next year.

In the proposed system, street performers from anywhere in the world can apply online through the IC website or visit the department's office in person to fill out an application form.

Applicants aged 14 years old and above are eligible to apply. All applicants must have entered the territory legally. For those under the age of 17, a letter signed by their guardians allowing them to make the application must be attached to their submission. "[This requirement] is in accordance with labour relation laws," explained Leong Hio Ming, vice president of ICM. The application quota is unlimited.

"The scheme is only providing a platform for the artists to



IC representatives introduced the scheme to the media

showcase their talents. It does not involve commercial activity, personal promotion, association activities, product promotion, religious or political activities," said Leong. The vice president expects that the artists will not involve any of the aforementioned activities in their performances.

However, not every corner of the city will be available for the performers. During the trial period, three locations will be provided: Fortaleza do Monte,

Anim'Arte Nam Van and Casas-Museu da Taipa. Within these three locations, artists will be able to choose from two, six and one prepared spots, respectively. If the trial is a success, nine locations in total will be arranged.

Leong explained that the restriction on the number of locations is in accordance with the noise control regulations administered by the Environmental Protection Bureau, but that authorities are still considering

opening more spots.

Only dates falling on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, as well as public holidays, are available for applications. Those who apply first will have their applications reviewed first and the results will be released in the same order.

Each group can consist of five members at most. However, applicants are allowed to apply multiple times under different group names.

The IC will take three days to

The scheme is only providing a platform for the artists to showcase their talents.

LEONG HIO MING
IC DEPUTY HEAD

review the applications. Once approved, the IC will issue a permission card to the applicants. The card will be valid until January 31, 2017. After this date, the performers can renew their cards, which will then see their validity extended until December 2017.

The types of art eligible for application include performances, visual art displays and handicrafts. For those who plan to bring their handicrafts to the location, tagging prices on objects is forbidden, although they are allowed to sell them. Leong clarified that if visitors want to buy the art pieces, they can speak with the artists directly in order to discuss further details.

Each group is allowed to occupy a spot for two hours, and can only reoccupy the same spot after having already vacated it for four hours. According to Leong, this is to keep it fair for other artists.

The scheme has been discussed by 10 governmental departments for about half a year, explained Leong. Non-Macau resident artists were invited to offer their opinions regarding the scheme.

The first performance will be presented to the city November 11. Leong stated that the cultural department predicts that the scheme will be "relatively positive, and will be of great-scale."

AD



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VW judge approves USD14.7b diesel-cheating settlement

Kartikay Mehrotra,
Margaret Cronin Fisk

VOLKSWAGEN AG and drivers suing the company in the U.S. over its diesel-cheating scandal won final approval of their USD14.7 billion settlement to resolve what's likely to be the largest portion of VW's civil liability worldwide.

The accord requires VW to buy back cars with 2.0-liter diesel engines armed with so-called defeat devices used to beat emissions tests. Under the deal VW reached in June with consumers and regulators including the EPA and Federal Trade Commission, car owners will be offered \$5,100 to \$10,000 each in compensation along with the option of a buyback or a fix.

The automaker has earmarked \$19.5 billion to cover costs stemming from the scandal. With Tuesday's approval by U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer in San Francisco, VW has committed to almost \$16.6 billion in settlements, including \$1.2 billion for U.S. franchise dealers and \$603 million to U.S. states over violations of consumer protection laws.

Breyer set aside objections to the agreement, noting that few VW owners complained "and their substance does not call into doubt the settlement's fairness." Breyer called the settlement fair, reasonable and adequate and it accomplishes the primary goal of getting the polluting cars off the road.

"There is no just reason for delay," Breyer said in the order, which allows the buybacks to begin immediately.

Volkswagen's payout for settlements is among the largest in corporate history, exceeded by the \$246 billion agreement between the tobacco industry and U.S. sta-



tes in 1998 and the \$38 billion BP Plc has spent so far over the 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico to resolve government probes as well as claims for private property and economic losses.

"VW got itself in a lot of trouble on both sides of the Atlantic, basically lying to a host of governmental regulators, its ultimate customers and its many dealers in between," said Anthony Sabino, a law professor at St. John's University in New York and an expert on complex litigation. "They're not getting off cheap, but they're stopping the bleeding."

The president of VW's U.S. unit called the settlement "an important milestone in our journey to making things right." The carmaker is committed to carrying out the program as seamlessly as possible for customers, Hinrich J. Woebcken said in an e-mailed statement.

While VW has resolved much of its legal exposure in just over a year since the emissions cheating was revealed, the company still faces a potential trial with owners of 3.0-liter diesel cars in the U.S., shareholder claims, environmental lawsuits by multiple states and criminal investigations by the Justice Department and in Europe.

"Volkswagen remains focused on resolving other outstanding

issues in the United States and continues to work towards an agreed resolution for customers with affected 3.0L TDI V6 diesel engines," Woebcken said.

The carmaker agreed in the U.S. settlement to devote as much as \$10 billion to buy back affected models and compensate drivers. It will also pay \$2.7 billion to federal and California regulators to fund pollution-reduction projects, and contribute USD2 billion toward investment in clean technology.

The settlement with the U.S. government requires VW to get 85 percent of the cars recalled by June 30, 2019. If it fails to do that, it will have to pay \$85 million more into the environmental mitigation trust for each percentage point of the shortfall. It will also have to pay an additional \$13.5 million into the trust for each percentage point it falls below the 85 percent target in California.

VW owners can continue to drive their vehicles for now, even if they wouldn't pass state emissions testing. Individual states may require approved emissions fixes on these vehicles in the future. Owners who choose the buyback option will receive their cars' trade-in value as of last September, just before VW admitted to the emissions cheating, plus the compensation payments.

Bloomberg

UK wants to raze 783 London homes to expand Heathrow airport

BBRITAIN'S government gave the go-ahead yesterday to build a new runway at London's Heathrow airport despite concerns about air pollution, noise and the destruction of hundreds of homes in the capital's densely populated western neighborhoods.

The decision comes after years of discussion, study and outrage over the building of the first full runway in the southeast of the country since World War II. Theresa May's government, reeling from a vote to leave the European Union, was anxious to prove the country was "open for business."

Detractors described it as "catastrophic" for the environment, local community and the owners of 783 homes that are slated to be razed.

"The step that government is taking today is truly momentous," Transport Secretary Chris Grayling said. "After years of discussion and delay this government is taking decisive action to secure the U.K.'s place in the global aviation market."

The government rejected other options to expand airport capacity, including the extension of an existing runway at Heathrow or building a second runway at Gatwick Airport, south of London.

The decision is only the first step, though. The government's recommendation will be studied further and Parliament will vote in about a year. Even if approved, it will take years before construction begins, as residents have threatened to sue to block the project.

Entire communities will be leveled. Compensation and mitigation could cost 2.6 billion pounds (USD3.2 billion). But the government said the wider good was at stake.

"This is an important issue for the whole country," Grayling said.



A plane approaches landing over the rooftops of nearby houses at Heathrow Airport in London

"That is why the government's preferred scheme will be subject to full and fair public consultation."

London Mayor Sadiq Khan pledged to explore involvement in "any legal process," as he said Heathrow already exposes the city to more aircraft noise than Paris, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, Munich and Madrid combined. Air quality issues were among Greenpeace's concerns.

But it is the fury of residents that had stalled the project until now. Outraged homeowners argued they had been betrayed by politicians who pledged to block expansion before being put into office — only to change their minds later.

Anti-expansion groups gathered in the village of Harmondsworth, a quintessential English village which traces its history to the 6th century. The third runway is slated to traverse the village, leveling the ivy-covered brick walls of local landmarks like Harmondsworth Hall guest house as well as two thirds of its homes.

"Nowhere else in Europe do they build their runways directly in the heart of residential areas over their cities," said Neil Keveren, who has campaigned against Heathrow expansion for years. The runway grounds would be just across the road from his home, he said. **AP**

corporate bits

VISTAJET ANNOUNCES NEW AIRCRAFTS



VistaJet announced that it has purchased three new aircrafts worth USD115 million,

taking its overall operating fleet to 70 aircraft. The new additions mean that

VistaJet now has the largest owned, super-midsize and large-cabin, business jet fleet in the industry, said the aviation firm in a statement.

The company has doubled its fleet in two years, from 35 aircraft in 2014 to now 70.

The company continues to add new customers around the world at a record pace, and is ensuring that its operating fleet size supports its exponential business growth. With its fleet expansion, VistaJet is maintaining the company's strong track record of attracting, training and supporting pilots, engineers and cabin crew. The company had a record-breaking first half of the year, with global flight traffic up 23 percent and passenger numbers up 20 percent.

THE RITZ-CARLTON APPOINTS NEW GENERAL MANAGER



Christian Gurtner

The Ritz-Carlton, Macau is pleased to announce the promotion and appointment of Christian Gurtner as the general manager of its resort, effective immediately.

In this role, he will be primarily responsible for mana-

ging the hotel operations and maintaining the unparalleled service excellence that is synonymous with The Ritz-Carlton brand.

Gurtner joined The Ritz-Carlton Millenia, Singapore as executive assistant manager

of Food & Beverage in 2012 and was promoted to Hotel Manager in 2013. He brought with him global experience in management positions with hotel brands across Switzerland, the United States (US), Canada, Hong Kong, Singapore and China.

Gurtner's career in Asia began in Hong Kong in 2007 with Hyatt International Asia Pacific when he spent a year as director of Food & Beverage at the Grand Hyatt Shanghai.

Gurtner commenced his hospitality career in 1992 in Switzerland and later garnered extensive experience in Rooms and Food & Beverage divisions in various parts of the US, including the Four Seasons Hotel at Beverly Hills.

Portugal is 6th European country to receive most investment from China



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang holds talks with Portuguese Prime Minister Antonio Costa and his delegation in Beijing

PORTUGAL is on the list of European countries that received most investment from China in 2015, according to a study by the ESADE Business & Law School published in Spanish daily newspaper El Pais.

Portugal came in sixth place, with estimated investment from China of 6.6 billion euros.

In first place was the United Kingdom, with investment of 20 billion euros, particularly in the real estate sector, followed by Italy (13.8 billion euros), France (9.7 billion euros), Ireland (7 billion euros) and Germany (6.8 billion euros).

In 2015 investment by China in Europe totalled 29 billion euros, which is double the amount invested in the United States in the same year.

In first place was the United Kingdom, with investment of 20 billion euros, particularly in the real estate sector

The study by the Catalan educational institute shows that Chinese investment in Europe rose by 55% compared to the previous year and tripled against 2013, reaching a total of USD31.38 billion (28.8 billion euros). MDT/Macauhub

Angola's budget for 2017 reaches USD44 billion



A Sonangol gas station attendant fills a vehicle with gasoline at a petrol pump in Luanda. Angola is the largest crude oil producer in Africa after Nigeria

THE Angolan State Budget (OGE) for 2017, analyzed on Friday by the Council of Ministers in Luanda, provides for overall revenues and expenses in the order of 7.3 trillion kwanzas (USD44.22 billion), compared to 6.9 trillion kwanzas in the 2016 budget, according to

Angolan news agency Angop. The Secretary of State for the Budget, Aia-Eza da Silva, estimated that the economy will grow 2.1 percent in 2017 and that the average annual inflation rate will be 15 percent.

Aia-Eza da Silva said the forecast fiscal deficit for 2017 is estimated at 5.9 percent, a value considered to represent a "sustainable level compared to the estimated debt figures."

The Secretary of State for the Budget said that "the focus has been on collecting greater non-oil revenue," but admitted, however, that this factor is related to the progress and results seen in the process of diversification of the economy underway in Angola. MDT/Macauhub

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A woman sits near a display showing the dangers of hackers breaking into mobile devices during the Global Mobile Internet Conference in Beijing

Chinese firm says it did all it could ahead of cyberattack

A Chinese electronics maker that has recalled millions of products sold in the U.S. said yesterday that it did all it could to prevent a massive cyberattack that briefly blocked access to websites including Twitter and Netflix.

Hangzhou Xiongmai Technology has said that millions of web-connected cameras and digital recorders became compromised because customers failed to change their default passwords.

Liu Yuexin, Xiongmai's marketing director, told The Associated Press that Xiongmai and other companies across the home surveillance equipment industry were made aware of the vulnerability in April 2015. Liu said Xiongmai moved quickly to plug the gaps and should not be singled out for criticism.

"We don't know why there is a spear squarely pointed at our chest," Liu said.

The hack has heightened long-standing fears among security experts that the rising number of interconnected home gadgets, appliances and even automobiles represent a cybersecurity nightmare. The convenience of being able to control home electronics via the web also leaves them more vulnerable to malicious intruders, experts say.

Unidentified hackers seized control of gadgets including Xiongmai's on Friday and directed them to launch an attack that temporarily disrupted access to a host of sites, ranging from Twitter and Netflix to Amazon and Spotify, according to U.S. web security researchers.

The "distributed denial-of-service" attack targeted servers run by Dyn Inc., an internet company located in

Manchester, New Hampshire. These types of attacks work by overwhelming targeted computers with junk data so that legitimate traffic can't get through.

"The issue with the consumer-connected device is that there is nearly no firewall between devices and the public internet," said Tracy Tsai, an analyst at Gartner, adding that many consumers leave the default setting on devices for ease of use without knowing the dangers.

Researchers at the New York-based cybersecurity firm Flashpoint said most of the junk traffic heaped on Dyn came from internet-connected cameras and video-recording devices that had components made by Xiongmai. Those components had little security protection, so devices they went into became easy to exploit.

In an acknowledgement of its products' role in the hack, Xiongmai said in a statement Monday that it would recall products sold in the U.S. before April 2015 to demonstrate "social responsibility." It said products sold after that date had been patched and no longer constitute a danger.

The company, which also makes dashboard cameras and computer chips, said it would recall more than 4 million web-connected cameras and has offered customers a software security fix. The recall will apply only to devices sold under Xiongmai's name. As an original equipment manufacturer, close to 95 percent of the company's products are sold by other firms that repackage its devices under their own brand names, said Liu, the marketing director. **AP**

SOLAR POWER

Plunging equipment prices fu

Joe McDonald, Beijing

USE of solar power is soaring, but Europe's biggest solar panel manufacturer, SolarWorld, took the surprise step last month of cutting 500 jobs from its workforce of 3,000.

The reason? Global sales are on track for a record year but prices are plunging due to a glut of supply. That is encouraging the spread of clean energy but squeezing manufacturers, leading to politically sensitive job losses.

ProSun, a group that represents European suppliers, blames China, which it says is flooding export markets and depressing prices by propping up money-losing manufacturers. Industry experts say the problem is global and reflects missteps by manufacturers and shifting energy policies in Europe and the United States.

Solar panels are among many industries, from steel and cement to wind turbines, where Chinese production capacity soared during the past decade's economic boom until it vastly exceeded demand.

ProSun is pressing European Union trade officials for action, making this the latest industry, along with steel and aluminum, to be hit by political tensions over a surge of low-cost Chinese exports.

On average, global prices of solar cells have fallen 20 percent since July, according to Ederne Zoco, who follows the industry for IHS Markit.

Suppliers must sell at a loss or cut output, said Milan Nitschke, a SolarWorld executive who is president of ProSun.

"It's a problem for every manufacturer outside China," said Nitschke. "Chinese manufacturers also are in trouble but they can be confident that if they struggle, a Chinese banker will save them."

Prices of solar modules in the U.S. were down 13 percent from a year earlier in late June, at 59 cents per watt of generating capacity, the Solar Energy Industries Association says.

The biggest U.S. manufacturer, First Solar Inc., reported its profit for the three months ending in June fell 85 percent from a year earlier.

The No. 2 U.S. producer, SunPower Corp., announced Aug. 9 it would close a factory in the Philippines and eliminate 1,200 jobs following a quarterly loss of USD70 million.

U.S. regulators imposed import tariffs of up to 250 percent in 2012 on Chinese solar cells and hiked duties on other solar products last year to offset what they deemed improper subsidies

It's a problem for every manufacturer outside China. Chinese manufacturers also are in trouble but ... if they struggle, a Chinese banker will save them.

MILAN NITSCHKE
SOLARWORLD

and unfairly low export prices.

In a written response to questions, the U.S. Commerce Department said it has received no new complaints from American manufacturers since issuing those orders.

SolarWorld announced Sept. 21 it would eliminate 500 temporary jobs at two sites in Germany.

Chinese and European prices are "in a neck-and-neck race to the bottom," said PV Magazine, which follows the industry. It said remaining European producers "have just a few years left at best."

A group representing Chinese exporters denies they are selling solar panels abroad at prices below production cost.

Chinese manufacturers have cut costs by improving their technology, said Zhang Sen, general secretary of the solar division of the China Chamber of Commerce for Import & Export of Machinery & Electronic Products.

"Chinese companies are not maliciously lowering export prices," Zhang said in an email.

Beijing has encouraged solar manufacturers with low-cost loans and other aid. Production expanded until by 2012 the market was awash in low-cost solar panels. That set off price-cutting wars and a wave of bankruptcies.

Communist leaders have promised to shrink bloated industries but want to protect technology creators. Hundreds of small Chinese solar manufacturers have shut down while bigger companies are shielded from bankruptcy.

After it defaulted on a 1.7 billion yuan (\$267 million) bond payment this year, solar panel maker Yingli Group, a sponsor of the 2014 football World Cup in Brazil, received 2 billion yuan (\$310 million) from the China Development Bank. Regulators were lining up another 7.5 billion yuan (\$1.2 billion), according to Chinese news reports.

China passed Germany last year as the biggest user of solar power and has raised its official 2020 target for solar generating capacity by 50 percent to 150 gigawatts — more than triple the amount installed to date.

Environmentalists and other governments have lauded such



el trade complaints

policies.

New capacity added in China in the first half of 2016 soared by 300 percent over a year earlier to 20 gigawatts, according to the China Photovoltaic Industry Association, which represents manufacturers.

Manufacturers ramped up production, but demand in China collapsed after a lower subsidy rate took effect July 1.

"The companies are desperately looking for customers," said Nitschke. "The Chinese don't want to dump, but since the government stopped supporting demand in China itself, they need to."

China is the biggest manufacturer but suppliers everywhere contributed to the surplus by expanding despite warnings they would overshoot demand, according to IHS Markit's Zoco.

"This is a common factor across all manufacturers," he said.

New solar generating capacity installed worldwide rose 25 percent last year over 2014 to 56 gigawatts, according to the U.N. Environment Program. Forecasters expect this year's new installations to reach 60 to 75 gigawatts.

"With these low prices, in a number of countries demand is picking up, especially in emerging markets," said Frank Haugewitz, an industry consultant in Beijing.

Projects are under development in the Middle East, Latin America and Africa, where solar used to be too expensive, he said.

A bid in September by a part-

nership between a Chinese manufacturer, Jinko Solar Ltd., and Japan's Marubeni Corp. to build a proposed 350-megawatt solar power project in Abu Dhabi set a new low in prices. Jinko and Marubeni said they can deliver power for 2.42 U.S. cents per kilowatt hour.

Beijing is encouraging Chinese manufacturers to shift production to India, Southeast Asia, Brazil and elsewhere to reduce the supply glut at home and avoid U.S. and European curbs on solar panels from China.

That is undercutting Indian leaders' hopes of nurturing their own solar technology industry.

The Chinese share of India's solar technology market jumped from 50 percent to 75 percent over the past year, according to Bridge to India, a consulting firm. It said Chinese brands now account for eight India's top 10 suppliers.

Beijing resolved European Union dumping complaints by agreeing to set a minimum price of 56 euro cents per watt on Chinese-made solar panels exported to the 28-nation trade bloc.

ProSun accuses suppliers of violating that pact by charging as little as 40 euro cents per watt and secretly paying rebates or mislabeling Chinese-made panels as coming from other countries.

European manufacturers want the EU to extend the agreement, but groups that promote renewable energy want it scrapped. They say it hampers the spread of solar by inflating costs. **AP**



AP PHOTO



File photo taken through a tinted glass, Rurik Jutting, a British banker, sitting in a prison bus arrives at a court in Hong Kong

HONG KONG

Banker's trial jury sees chilling video of torture

Kelvin Chan, Hong Kong

A Hong Kong jury watched chilling video yesterday of a British banker torturing an Indonesian woman and then talking for hours about how he repeatedly raped her and then killed her without feeling guilt or emotion.

The video was shown on the second day of Rurik Jutting's trial for the murders of Sumarti Ningsih, 23, and Seneng Mujasih, 26, whose bodies were found in his upscale apartment near the city's red-light district in 2014. The case shocked people in the Asian financial hub, which has a reputation for being safe but also significant inequality. It also highlighted the decadent lifestyles of some members of the former British colony's expatriate elite.

Jurors were played about 20 minutes of video in which Jutting apparently tortures Sumarti. The media and public could not view it but heard the audio.

At one point he can be heard saying: "If you scream I will punish you. Understand?" That is followed by the sound of smacking and slapping, and later the sound of a woman whimpering. Jutting then tells her not to cry.

Later, both jurors and the public gallery were shown hours of iPhone video in which Jutting, wearing no clo-

thes, delivers an extended rambling monologue to the camera.

"My name is Rurik Jutting. About five minutes ago I just killed, murdered, this woman here," he says into the camera, moving it to show her body in his bathroom shower.

He says on camera he held the woman captive and raped her repeatedly and he discusses how he felt no guilt or emotion after killing Sumarti.

■ 'My name is Rurik Jutting. About five minutes ago I just killed, murdered, this woman here,' he says into the camera

"I've always had dark fantasies" involving rape, torture, murder, he says.

Jutting, who worked for Bank of America-Merrill Lynch in structured equity finance and trading, said he had earned more than \$1 million over the previous two years but had spent most of it on drugs and prostitutes. He watched the court proceedings from the glass-screened dock,

showing no expression.

Sumarti had been in Hong Kong earlier as a foreign maid but had returned on a tourist visa. Seneng was officially on a foreign domestic worker visa but was working in a bar when she met Jutting.

Both women went to his apartment after Jutting offered them money for sex. Prosecutors said he killed both women by slitting their throats.

Jutting, 31, has pleaded not guilty to murder, with prosecutors rejecting his attempt to plead guilty to the lesser charge of manslaughter. If convicted, he faces life in prison.

At one point in the video, he holds up to the camera a small plastic bag apparently containing cocaine and a rolled up Hong Kong \$10 bill. He is seen snorting the drug several times in the videos, which were filmed over six days.

The last clip shown was apparently filmed after he killed Seneng.

"I imagine this may be my last video, this just happened," he says in one, and then pointing the camera down to the floor, although it is too dark to see anything.

"I have killed two. The first one I tortured. There will be no redemption for me, but they are dancing with angels," he said.

The trial is scheduled to continue today and run for three weeks. **AP**

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INDONESIA

Australian gets 15 years prison for abusing girls in Bali



Australian Robert Andrew Fiddes Ellis

AN Indonesian court yesterday sentenced an Australian retiree to 15 years in prison for sexually abusing girls on the tourist island of Bali.

Robert Andrew Fiddes Ellis was arrested in January and accused of abusing 11 girls as young as 8. Some of the victims said Ellis gave them small amounts of money and gifts such as a bicycle in exchange for letting him bathe them. Ellis admitted to bathing the girls.

The Denpasar District Court found him guilty of violating Indonesia's Child Protection Law, and the panel of judges, led by Wayan Sukanila, also fined Ellis 2 billion rupiah (USD153,000) or a further six months in prison if the fine wasn't paid. "The defendant has been proven guilty of persuading children to perform obscene acts repeatedly," Sukanila said. "There are no excuses for the defendant's deeds." The panel also said that Ellis had damaged the image of Bali's tourism industry.

AUSTRALIA

Four killed on river rapids ride at theme park

Kristen Gelineau, Sydney

FOUR people were killed yesterday after a river rapids ride malfunctioned at a popular theme park on Australia's east coast, officials said.

Two men and two women died while on the ride at Dreamworld, a park on Queensland state's Gold Coast, Queensland police officer Tod Reid told reporters.

The Thunder River Rapids ride whisks people in circular rafts along a fast-moving, man-made river. A malfunction caused two people to be ejected from their raft, while two others were caught inside the ride, said Gavin Fuller, an officer with the Queensland Ambulance Service. He did not know whether the two victims who were caught in the ride were trapped under water, or caught up in the machinery.

Park staffers administered first aid to the victims, but



Image made from video, rescue personnel stand by the Thunder River Rapids ride at Dreamworld on the Gold Coast

their injuries proved fatal, Fuller told reporters.

The victims were in their 30s and early 40s, he said.

Reid said he was not aware of any previous problems with the ride. Police were interviewing witnesses and reviewing closed-circuit television footage of the incident while crews worked to remove the bodies from the scene yesterday night, he said.

"It is a complex retrieval

involving heavy equipment and that will take several hours," Reid said.

Dreamworld CEO Craig Davidson said the park was working with police to try and determine what went wrong.

"We are deeply shocked and saddened by this, and our hearts and our thoughts go out to the families involved and to their loved ones," Davidson told reporters.

The park was closed following the accident and was expected to remain closed today.

A witness, Lia Capes, told the Australian Broadcasting Corp. that she was just about to go on the ride when she saw people running out, crying.

"I was speaking to one of the guys and he said it was the raft or the boat thing in front of him, the whole thing flipped and everyone was screaming," Capes said.

Thunder River is considered one of Dreamworld's tamer, family-friendly rides, and is open to children as young as 2. The park, which has been open since 1981, also features several roller coasters and the free-fall ride "The Giant Drop," where passengers plunge from a height of nearly 120 meters. In April, the park's Rocky Hollow Log Ride was temporarily shut down after a man fell from the ride.

Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull said there would be a thorough investigation into the cause of the accident.

"Theme parks are a place for family fun and happiness, not tragedy," he told reporters. **AP**

AD

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SOUTH KOREA

President Park acknowledges ties to woman in scandal

Hyung-Jin Kim, Seoul

SOUTH Korea's president offered a surprise public apology yesterday after acknowledging her close ties to a mysterious woman at the center of a corruption scandal.

President Park Geun-hye's apology came a day after a South Korean TV network, JTBC, reported that the woman, who has no government job, was informally involved in editing some of Park's key speeches. Other media have speculated that the woman, Choi Soon-sil, might have meddled in other state affairs.

Park's approval ratings have plummeted to a record low amid weeks of media reports that Choi might have used her connections to Park to push companies to make tens of millions of dollars in contributions to establish two nonprofit foundations.

In a nationally televised speech, Park said that Choi helped her on speeches and public relations issues during her 2012 presidential campaign and after her 2013 inauguration. Park said she eventually stopped getting such help from Choi, but didn't say when that help stopped.

"To me, it was something that



A man watches a TV screen showing the news program about South Korean President Park Geun-hye's apology

I did out of a pure intent to do things more thoroughly, but regardless of any reason, I am sorry that I caused concern to the people of our nation, caught them by surprise and hurt their feelings," Park said, bowing deeply.

Park didn't mention Choi's corruption allegations, but there was a frenzied social media reaction in South Korea over

the president's acknowledgment.

The JTBC network said in its report this week that it obtained a personal computer abandoned by Choi that contained 44 files carrying drafts of some of Park's speeches, remarks at Cabinet meetings and other public comments. Some speech drafts included highlighted parts, suggesting that Choi made some

changes to original texts, the report said.

It's not clear who sent such drafts to Choi. But if the JTBC report is accurate, those involved in the transfer of texts would face legal punishment for breaking laws that govern behavior of civil servants. If the materials sent to Choi include those with sensitive issues, charges of leaking state secrets

or obstructing official duty could also be imposed, according to legal experts.

Choi is a daughter of a Christian pastor who had worked as Park's mentor before his 1994 death, according to South Korean media reports. The pastor, Choi Tae-min, was originally a Buddhist monk, had six marriages and allegedly used his relationship with Park to take bribes from government officials and businessmen, the reports said.

The junior Choi is also the ex-wife of a man who served as Park's chief adviser when she was in the National Assembly before she became president in February 2013. A Japanese newspaper reported that Park was with the husband during a deadly ferry sinking in 2014 that killed more than 300 people, mostly teenagers. South Korean prosecutors charged the journalist from the Sankei Shimbun newspaper who wrote the story with defaming Park, but a Seoul court later declared him not guilty.

Park is the daughter of late dictator Park Chung-hee, who was assassinated by his own intelligence chief during a late-night drinking party in 1979. Today marks the 37th anniversary of Park Chung-hee's death.

Park Geun-hye's single five-year term ends in early 2018. On Monday, she proposed revising the country's constitution to change the current presidential system, drawing immediate criticism from liberal rivals who described the overture as a tactic to divert attention from Choi's scandal. **AP**

WILL HE CHEW GUM?

Japan wary of Philippine leader's visit

Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

THE outspoken Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte worries his Japanese hosts. Not just his policy toward the U.S. but also his informal style: Will he chew gum in front of the emperor?

Duterte arrived in Tokyo yesterday for a three-day visit, his first since becoming Philippine leader at the end of June.

For diplomats and political leaders, the main issue is his U.S. policy and how Japan can help mend those ties.

Tokyo is a major U.S. ally, and has watched with concern as Duterte criticized the U.S. and said he would scale back his country's military engagement with America. He has also worried Ja-



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte arrives at Haneda international airport

pan and the United States by reaching out to China.

Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida told reporters he planned to ask Duterte what his real intentions are when the two have dinner yesterday. He said Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will do the same today.

"I think it would be important that we ... directly hear opinions from President Duterte himself," Kishida said.

The worries about Duterte were reinforced when he lashed out again at the U.S. in a departure speech at the Manila airport.

He called Americans "foolish," saying their land is stricken with "pure bigotry and discrimination," a day after senior American diplomat Daniel Russel criticized Duterte's controversial remarks and unclear intentions.

"These Americans are really foolish," Duterte said, adding Americans travel to the Philippines "like somebody, without visas, these sillies."

He also made a veiled threat to revoke a 2014 defense pact allowing large numbers of U.S. troops, warships and planes to enter the Philippines for combat drills.

Referring to the pact, Duterte said, "Forget it," adding that in the future, "I do not want to see any military man of any other

nation except the Philippine soldier."

In Japan, a country where formality and politeness are highly valued, some are worried about Duterte's rough side, particularly when he meets Emperor Akihito on Friday.

Japanese TV shows have repeatedly shown Duterte apparently chewing gum at meetings and other public occasions.

In footage of a meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping, Duterte walked in with his hands in his pockets and chewed gum during the handshake and a signing ceremony.

"When he makes a courtesy visit to the emperor, his behavior could have a major impact," senior lawmaker Itsunori Onodera said Sunday on Fuji TV. "I trust he unders-

tands the consequences and would not do such a thing (as chewing gum). I do hope the Philippine side will remind him of that particular point."

Duterte often doesn't button the top button of his shirt, wears jeans and has been seen without socks.

In Japan, where the emperor was considered a living god until the end of World War II, people are expected to be extra polite to him and his family.

"It's unbelievable. I have never seen anything like that!" former diplomat Kunihiko Miyake said on Fuji TV. "How could he dare to behave in ways that could cause his host to lose face?"

Japan is expected to offer Manila two large Coast Guard patrol boats — on top of an earlier pledge of 10 smaller ones — and TC-90 military training aircraft to help boost the Philippine's maritime security in the South China Sea. **AP**

Abdul Sattar, Quetta

MILITANTS wearing suicide vests stormed a Pakistani police academy in the southwestern city of Quetta overnight, killing 61 people, mostly police cadets and recruits, and waging a ferocious gun battle with troops that lasted into early hours yesterday.

The four-hour siege — one of the deadliest attacks on Pakistan's security forces in recent years — also wounded 123, mainly police trainees but also some paramilitary troops, according to Wasay Khan, a spokesman for the elite Frontier Corps. Some of the wounded were reported to be in critical condition.

The assault caught many of the recruits asleep in their dorms and forced cadets and trainers to jump off rooftops and run for their lives to escape the attackers.

Pakistani troops responding to the assault said it was over after all three suicide bombers involved in the attack were killed — one was gunned down while two others blew themselves up.

Later yesterday, conflicting claims of responsibility emerged. The Islamic State group, which is waging war in Syria and Iraq where it has declared a self-styled caliphate, posted a claim on the group's media arm, the Arabic-language Aamaq news agency. It said three IS fighters killed 60 police recruits in Quetta but the claim was not confirmed by Pakistani officials and IS did not offer any previously unknown details about the assault.

Earlier, a little-known breakaway faction of the Pakistani Taliban, known as the Hakimullah group, also issued a statement claiming responsibility for the attack. Pakistani officials, doubting the group's capabilities in staging such a coordinated and spectacular assault, also could not confirm that claim.

While most of the casualties were cadets and others from the academy, some of the army personnel who responded to the assault were also among those killed, said Shahzada Farhat, police spokesman in Quetta, the capital of Baluchistan province.

The attack began at 11:30 p.m. on Monday, said Baluchistan Home Minister Sarfraz Bugti, with three militants shooting and killing a police guard at the watch tower before storming into the academy, located on the city's outskirts.

Baluchistan officials had earlier received "intelligence reports that some terrorists have entered the province" but had no indications about possible targets.

"We had tightened security,

PAKISTAN

Militants attack police academy, killing 61



Dust smoke rises after a bomb defuse by bomb disposal squad on the outskirts of Peshawar, Pakistan

■ **The four-hour siege — one of the deadliest attacks on Pakistan's security forces in recent years — also wounded 123**

which is why they could not do it in the city and chose a target on the outskirts," said Baluchistan's chief minister, Sanaullah Zehri.

There were initially also conflicting police and military statements about the number of attackers involved. About 700 cadets, trainees, instructors and other staff were inside the academy when it was attacked, Bugti said.

Once inside the academy grounds, Pakistani media said the gunmen headed straight to the dorms housing the cadets and trainees and opened fire, shooting indiscriminately. Some of the cadets jumped off rooftops and through windows to try to escape.

"They were rushing toward our building, firing," one cadet told Pakistani Geo TV news channel. "We rushed for safety toward the roof and jumped down in the back of the building."

Another recruit, his face covered in blood, told the station the gunmen shot at whoever they saw. "I ran away, just praying God might save me," he said.

After the attack, Pakistani forces tightened security around the academy and Quetta hospitals were the wounded were taken. Footage aired on local television stations showed ambulances rushing out of the main entrance of the academy as fire engines struggled to put out fires set off by the explosions from the attackers' suicide vests.

Most of those being treated at the city hospitals had gunshot wounds, although were injured jumping off the rooftop of the hostel housing the cadets to escape the gunmen.

"This war isn't over," said Pakistani Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan. "The enemy is weakened, but not eliminated."

Maj. Gen. Sher Afgan, head of the Pakistani paramilitary force which is primarily responsible for the province, claimed the attackers had received instructions from commanders in neighboring Afghanistan. He said they were most likely from the banned Lashker-e-Jhangvi Al-Almi militant group affiliated with al-Qaida and the Taliban. The Sunni militant group has mainly targeted minority Shiite Muslims whom its members consider to be infidels.

The paramilitary chief spoke before the Islamic State and the Hakimullah group's claims surfaced.

Afghanistan condemned the attack and dismissed Pakistan's allegations that the assault was planned from bases inside Afghanistan. "Afghanistan is the biggest victim of terrorism and denounces all terrorist attacks," said Mohammad Haroon Chakhan-suri, spokesman for Afghan

President Ashraf Ghani.

In a separate statement, Ghani also condemned the attack, saying that "terrorism is a threat throughout the region, which is reflected in the brutal act today in Quetta."

Pakistan maintains that militants fleeing army operations in the tribal regions regularly escape across the border, finding safe havens inside Afghanistan. For his part, Ghani has been deeply critical of Pakistan, saying it has provided safe havens to the Taliban and in particular the violent Haqqani network.

For over a decade, Baluchistan has been the scene of a low-intensity insurgency by na-

tionalist and separatist groups demanding a bigger share in the regional resources. Islamic militants and Sunni sectarian also have a presence in the province.

Pakistan has carried out several military operations against militants in country's lawless tribal regions along Afghanistan border, including a major push that started mid 2014 in North Waziristan, a militant base. The Islamic militants have killed tens of thousands of people in their bid to overthrow Pakistan's government and install their own harsh brand of Islamic law.

Later yesterday, a roadside bomb killed a police official escorting a polio team that was travelling in northwestern Pakistan as part of a vaccination campaign, according to Furqan Bilal, a police superintendent in Peshawar. Militant attacks on polio teams are common in Pakistan as Taliban and other extremists denounce such vaccination campaigns as a Western conspiracy. **AP**

MAJOR MILITANT ATTACKS IN PAKISTAN OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS

MILITANT ATTACKS in Pakistan have killed hundreds of people over the past three years, including many schoolchildren. Conflicting claims of responsibility have emerged, including by a Taliban splinter group and an Islamic State affiliate.

Here are some of the deadliest attacks in Pakistan in the last three years:

OCT 25: Gunmen storm a police academy in the southwestern city of Quetta, killing 61 people, mostly cadets and trainees;

SEPT 16: Suicide attack kills 36 worshippers in a Sunni mosque in the northwestern tribal region of Mohmand;

AUG 08: Suicide bombing kills more than 70 people at a gathering of lawyers on the grounds of a government-run hospital in Quetta;

MARCH 27: Bombing on Easter Sunday kills 65 people in the eastern city of Lahore, in a park crowded with Christians, including many children;

MARCH 16: Bomb rips through a bus carrying Pakistani government employees in the volatile northwestern city of Peshawar, killing 15 people;

MARCH 7: Suicide bomber attacks the entrance to a court in northwestern Pakistan, killing 11 people;

JAN 20: Islamic militants storm a school in Charsadda in northwestern Pakistan in an hours-long attack, killing at least 20 people;

2015:
SEPT. 18: Taliban storm a military air base used as a residential area on the outskirts of Peshawar, killing 29 people, including 16 praying inside a mosque;

AUG. 16: Suicide bombing at the home of Punjab province's home minister, Shuja Khanzada, kills 18 people, including the minister and a senior police officer;

MAY 29: Gunmen hijack a bus and kill 22 people near Pishin district in southwestern Baluchistan province;

MAY 13: Gunmen storm a bus carrying Shiite Muslims in the southern city of Karachi, killing 45 people;

APRIL, 11: Gunmen in restive southwestern Pakistan kill 20 workers at a dam construction site;

MARCH 17: Two suicide bombers attack two churches in the eastern Pakistani city of Lahore as worshippers pray inside, killing 15 people;

FEB. 14: Taliban militants storm a Shiite mosque in Peshawar, killing 20 people;

JAN. 30: Suicide bombing at a Shiite mosque in southern city of Shikarpur kills 59 people;

2014:
DEC.16: Militants attack an army-run school in Peshawar, killing over 150 people, mostly schoolchildren;

NOV. 2: Taliban suicide bombing kills 60 in an attack on a paramilitary checkpoint close to the Wagah border crossing with India;

JUNE 9: Ten gunmen disguised as police guards attack a terminal in Karachi, Pakistan's busiest airport, killing 13 people during a five-hour siege.

JUNE 8: Suicide bombing in the country's southwest kills at least 23 Shiite pilgrims returning from Iran.

what's ON



SAN FRANCISCO AND MACAU ART OF ILLUSTRATION EXHIBITION

TIME: 10am-7pm (Mondays-Friday)
3pm-7pm (Saturdays)

UNTIL: October 30, 2016

VENUE: Avenida da Praia Grande, n° 749, r/c, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2892 3288

MACAU ARTS WINDOW 2016: DWELLING ON OBJECTS – FRAGMENTS DRAWN BY YUEN-YI LO

TIME: 10am-7pm (no admission after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: December 4, 2016

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5 (free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

'HAVE FUN' CHU KIN FAT ARTWORK EXHIBITION

TIME: 10:30am-6:30pm (Closed on Mondays and public holidays)

UNTIL: November 13, 2016

ADMISSION: Free

VENUE: 10 Fantasia, Calçada da Igreja de S.Lazaro

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 4582

ABSTRACT PAINTINGS FROM THE MAM COLLECTION

TIME: 10am-7pm (no admittance after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: December 31, 2016

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5 (Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

"MEMORIES OF MOMENTS - MACAO AND LUSOPHONE AFRICAN AND ASIAN REGIONS IN PHOTOGRAPH POSTCARDS" EXHIBITION

TIME: 10am-6pm (no admission after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: December 4, 2016

VENUE: Archives of Macao, No. 91-93, Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

ART COURSES STUDENT'S EXHIBITION OF THE MACAU MUSEUM OF ART

TIME: 10am-7pm (no admission after 6:30 pm, closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: November 27, 2106

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5 (free admission on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

Offbeat

RV CONTAINING POT-LACED CANDY CATCHES FIRE ON BRIDGE

Police say a pot advocacy company's RV carrying marijuana-laced candy burst into flames on a bridge that connects New Jersey and Delaware, causing lane closures and tying up traffic for hours.

Weed World Candies tells WCAU-TV more than USD50,000 in merchandise was destroyed Sunday evening when one of its vehicles heading to Philadelphia from Washington, D.C., caught fire on the Delaware Memorial Bridge. Passing motorists captured the blaze on video.

The company uses tour vehicles to sell marijuana-laced lollipops and promote the legalization and decriminalization of pot.

No injuries were reported.

The Delaware River and Bay Authority tells NJ.com all northbound lanes were closed for about a half-hour. Two lanes were still closed three hours later.

Authorities say it's believed a mechanical problem sparked the fire.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	RTPi Live
17:15	Once Upon A Time S1 (Repeated)
18:00	Precious Pearl (Repeated)
18:50	TDM Interview (Repeated)
19:20	Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
21:30	Criminal Minds S10
22:10	Precious Pearl
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:50	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



1979 SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENT KILLED

The President of South Korea, Park Chung Hee, has been "accidentally" shot dead by the chief of his intelligence service, Kim Jae Kyu.

Five other people, including the president's bodyguard, were also killed.

The incident took place at the Korean Central Intelligence Agency's headquarters during a dinner being held by Kim in honour of the president.

A government statement revealed that an argument broke out between Kim Jae Kyu and Park's chief bodyguard, Cha Chi Chul, during which a shot was fired by Kim which hit the president as he tried to intervene.

The President was taken from the scene to a nearby army hospital where he later died.

There had been a long-standing dispute between the president and Kim Jae Kyu over whether to adopt a tough or moderate policy towards political opponents.

An emergency meeting of the Cabinet has named Prime Minister Choi Kyu-Hua as acting president. Martial law has also been proclaimed throughout the country.

General Chung, the army chief of staff, has been appointed commander of martial law. His first act was to order a nightly curfew and to ban all demonstrations throughout the country.

The US Government reacted immediately saying that it would deal strongly with any attempt by North Korea to exploit the situation.

The US Defense Department ordered American troops based in South Korea to be on "alert status" as a warning.

Park Chung Hee became President in 1961. He was known for his firm rule which he said was justified by the constant threat of invasion from North Korea.

He had already survived one assassination attempt. In August 1974 a series of shots were fired at him as he gave a speech. All shots missed him but one killed his wife.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

When the president's body was moved from Government House to the national cemetery more than two million Koreans lined the streets.

In a re-enactment of the incident, required by Korean law, Kim Jae Kyu showed how he first shot the president's bodyguard and then the president himself whom he shot twice.

The incident was seen as an attempted coup with intelligence agents admitting to shooting four of the president's other bodyguards after being told of the plan by Kim Jae Kyu.

Kim Jae Kyu and four KCIA agents were tried and sentenced to death for the murder of President Park Chung Hee and his bodyguards.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 This is not the best time to suppress your initial reactions...

Taurus April 20-May 20 This is the best time for your love life to get some attention...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 You may have a hard time keeping your tasks straight today...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Today marks a new beginning of some kind. You may start a new romance...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Your right brain is much more active today - so expect hunches and your intuition to pop up all day long...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You've got to spend more time with your people today - friends, family members or close coworkers...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You have to adapt today - otherwise, you're sure to suffer a setback. It may be minor, but it is likely to be demoralizing...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Try something different today - maybe a new dish for lunch that seems crazy and exotic...

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Your relationships are key to your mood and success today - so reach out to anyone who's estranged or who has been causing stress...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You need to get out of your routines today - skip work or school, get home late or do whatever else you need to do to reconcile your free spirit with your rigid schedule...

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 It's time to move on - though not necessarily from any major life entanglement. If it's time to end that toxic relationship, go for it, but otherwise, just let go of your heaviest baggage...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You are dreaming big dreams today - so it's the perfect time for a life change! If you know what you want, go for it. If not, consult your intuition and go with your gut...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

Easy Sudoku grid with numbers 7, 1, 6, 4, 5, 1, 2, 9, 8, 4, 7, 5, 9, 6, 2.

Easy+

Easy+ Sudoku grid with numbers 4, 2, 9, 8, 5, 3, 8, 4, 5, 6, 1, 9, 4, 7, 5, 3, 7, 9, 8, 4, 2, 6, 8, 1, 5, 1, 3, 8.

Medium

Medium Sudoku grid with numbers 5, 8, 9, 1, 7, 3, 4, 1, 2, 2, 8, 4, 3, 7, 9, 2, 5, 6, 3, 3, 4, 9, 1, 5, 6, 4.

Hard

Hard Sudoku grid with numbers 6, 3, 2, 7, 4, 1, 9, 8, 4, 3, 7, 1, 3, 2, 9, 1, 6.

WEATHER

Weather table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION.

CHINA

Table of weather conditions for various Chinese cities: Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, Urumqi, Xi'an, Lhasa, Chengdu, Chongqing, Kunming, Nanjing, Shanghai, Wuhan, Hangzhou, Taipei, Guangzhou, Hong Kong.

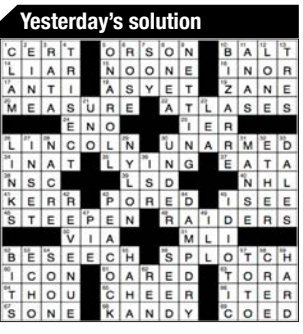
WORLD

Table of weather conditions for various world cities: Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Ladies of Spain; Abbr.; 5- Basil-based sauce; 10- Hit with an open hand; 14- I could ___ horse!; 15- Movie award; 16- "The Farmer in the Dell" syllables; 17- Misdeed; 19- Exploitative one; 20- Dispatches; 21- Between sunrise and sunset; 23- Dig in!; 25- Article of faith; 26- Hebrew month; 29- Paper quantity; 31- Pale purple; 35- Sun. delivery; 36- Wedding cake feature; 37- Pacific weather phenomenon; 38- Ostensible; 40- Schedule of activities; 41- Obscure; 42- Scene; 43- Goal; 44- Gettysburg general; 45- Just ___!; 46- Greek peak; 47- Emerson's middle name; 49- Hanoi holiday; 51- Prophetess of Israel; 54- Remains; 58- Tabloid twosome; 59- Full of remorse; 63- Lyras' brightest star; 64- Sing like Bing; 65- Do followers; 66- Org.; 67- Piles; 68- Attack a fly;

DOWN: 1- Uses a Singer; 2- Few and far between; 3- Like ___ of bricks; 4- Tool with a belt; 5- Pea holder; 6- "___ Beso" (1962 hit); 7- Chem., for one; 8- Bicycle built for two; 9- Church instrument; 10- Closing; 11- Actress Virna; 12- Excuse me; 13- Skin opening; 18- Juliette Low's org.; 22- Egg yolk; 24- Triple; 25- It paves the way; 26- Indian state; 27- Caterpillar rival; 28- Betel palm; 30- Hosp. readout; 32- Turkish money; 33- "Delta of Venus" author Nin; 34- Punctuation mark; 36- Musical ineptitude; 37- Set up; 39- Insane female; 40- Chart shape; 42- Brandy letters; 45- Cling; 46- Furry swimmers; 48- Coniferous tree; 50- Slalom curve; 51- Prima donna; 52- French summers; 53- Panhandles; 55- Not many; 56- Arizona city on the Colorado River; 57- Narrow opening; 60- Extinct bird; 61- Alley-___; 62- ER staffers;



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
Electricity - Report 28 339 922
PSP 28 573 333
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EDF. VAI LONG YUEN Macau 1,215 sq ft / HKD 4.98M HKD 4,098sq ft Near Portuguese Consulate Ref: 16045472
CHUN LEUNG Taipa 1 Bedroom Apartment Fabulous Location HKD 8,800 / 700 sq ft Ref: 16090615

Bauhinia Court, Hellene Gardens Appealing Apartment in Coloane 1,633 sq ft / HKD 7.8M HKD 4776sq ft Open Views Ref: 16045473
Super Flower City Unit A Taipa 3 Bedroom Apartment Spacious Apartment HKD 18,000 / 2,200 sq ft Ref: 16060591





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THE ALL-NEW Crossover-SUV X-TRAIL

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FORMULA One could be on its way out of Malaysia after the country's sports minister said "we should stop hosting" the grand prix and the chief of the Sepang International Circuit inferred the dominance of Mercedes had stripped the sport of its excitement.

There is a contract to hold an F1 race at Sepang through 2018 but the prospects of continuing beyond that are diminishing. An early exit could possibly be negotiated as F1's new ownership seeks to expand its presence in the United States without extending the season schedule.

Amid falling ticket sales and television viewership, SIC chief executive Razlan Razali told local media that "maybe it will do Malaysia good to take a break" from hosting F1.

"The product (F1) is no longer exciting. It's being dominated by one team," Razali was quoted as saying.

This criticism is despite Malaysia's state oil company, Petronas, being both the major sponsor of the Mercedes team and the naming-rights sponsor of the local grand prix.

The Malaysian sports minister Khairy Jamaluddin agreed with the SIC's suggestion of taking a "break" from F1.

"I think we should stop hosting the F1. At least for a while. Cost too high, returns limited," he tweeted.

MOTORSPORT

Sepang circuit, government urge end to F1 in Malaysia



Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain leaves pit lane after a tire change during a pit stop while competing the Malaysian Formula One Grand Prix at the Sepang International Circuit in Sepang

"When we first hosted the F1 it was a big deal. First in Asia outside Japan. Now so many venues. No first mover advantage. Not a novelty."

Jamaluddin said the ticket sales were declined, TV viewership is down, foreign visitor numbers have decreased because of competition from races in Singapore, China and the Middle East and "returns are not as big."

The opinion of the sports minister is significant given the Malaysian race, like many others on the F1 calendar, is partially bankrolled by the government.

His tweets were met with agreement on his feed, while some questioned why Malaysia's F1 crowds continue to diminish while those at the neighboring Singapore Grand Prix are much higher.

"(Singapore is a) Night race in the city. Novelty. Nowhere else in the world. Even then ticket sales are down. It's a hot race during the afternoon vs Singapore night race in the heart of city w/ no restrictions on concert acts," Jamaluddin said. "Cost of lighting up SIC prohibitive. We looked into it."

The Sepang circuit will host Moto GP this weekend, and ti-

I think we should stop hosting the F1. At least for a while. Cost too high, returns limited.

KHAIRY JAMALUDDIN
SPORTS MINISTER (TWEET)

ckets sales for that event have consistently been much higher than for F1.

Jamaluddin said Sepang should continue to host Moto GP and add other race series that do not have the huge hosting fees which Formula One commands.

The Malaysian GP has been a permanent fixture on the F1 calendar since 1999 and was included in the provisional 2017 calendar issued last month. **AP**

FOOTBALL

Messi off to great start, already outshining Madrid trio



Barcelona's Lionel Messi celebrates

By himself, Lionel Messi has already scored more than Real Madrid's top three forwards combined.

The Barcelona star is off to one of the best starts of his career with 14 goals in 11 matches, two more than what Cristiano Ronaldo, Gareth Bale and Karim Benzema have netted so far with Madrid.

And Messi has done it despite being sidelined for three weeks because of an injury.

"Messi has been superb," Barcelona coach Luis Enrique said simply. The Argentina forward

hadn't started a season with so many goals since 2011-12, when he scored 14 times in 10 matches.

So far, Messi has already scored eight more goals than he did last season at the same point. He has two hat tricks and is the leading scorer in both the Spanish league and the Champions League. In his last six games, he has scored 11 goals, with six coming in the three games he played since recovering from a right groin strain.

Messi's rivals at Madrid have not come close to him this season.

Ronaldo has nine goals, but that includes five with Portugal in World Cup qualifying. He is currently in a slump in the Spanish league with only two in six matches.

"Of course Cristiano wants to score more," Madrid defender Marcelo said. "But he is a player who helps a lot, and not only with goals, also with his work on the field."

Benzema scored his fourth goal of the season in a Spanish league game last weekend, while Bale has netted seven times in 14 appearances.

Seven of Messi's goals this season were scored in the Spanish league, with one in the Spanish Super Cup and six from a couple of hat tricks in the Champions League.

The current form could leave the 29-year-old forward in position to again win the Ballon d'Or award for the world's best player. He has already won the award five times, including last season. **AP**

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opinion

Macau Matters

Richard Whitfield



BUYING BY APP

I am currently teaching a course in research methods but the traditional content, which emphasizes philosophical approaches to research and statistical analysis of research data, is very dry, boring and not very relevant for the future working careers of undergraduates studying hotel management. So, with the approval of the course coordinator I have refocused the course on how research can be practically used to evaluate customer service and improve business operating efficiencies in hotels and other service organizations.

Moreover, I believe that hands on experience is a very good way to learn so I am getting the students to do actual research projects. The first of these was to interview people and review available information to develop service blueprints for a range of different businesses around Macau. Service blueprints are a well known graphical method for summarizing the business processes and interactions between customers and service providers so they can be analyzed and improved.

The students did very good work and most organizations they approached were happy to talk to them and provide lots of information about how their businesses worked. They recognized the social responsibility aspects of cooperating with the students and they were proud to explain how their businesses worked. It also gave them a way meet prospective future employees and to get fresh ideas on how to improve their customer service.

Interestingly, shop managers in a large fast food chain in Macau resisted cooperating by telling the students they they needed to contact the head office. This is a very unfortunate attitude that is too often seen in middle management in bureaucratic organizations - no initiative and no pride in their work.

Even more interestingly, the student team looking at this business proposed an excellent idea for fast food chains to improve their customer service - developing a smartphone App that customers can use to order and pay for food in their outlets. They noticed the long queues and excessive cash handling and that most customers were young and had smartphones. They then realized that a smartphone App could use GPS location to identify the outlet the customer is in and allow food to be ordered for immediate delivery within the outlet. The App could display the order and collection number so that the food could be received at the normal collection counter. Moreover, the App could be linked to AliPay or any other online payment system to directly pay for the food. Thus, customers arriving at a fast food outlet could simply order and pay online and collect their food from the collection counter in the normal way - no queuing and no cash!

This change could minimize the problematic ordering queues and cash handling within fast food outlets to significantly improve the customer experience. Given the scale of their operations, large fast food chains could even develop their own payment gateway to have another revenue stream.

It may be that getting such an App implemented and adopted by fast food chains in Macau would be a very difficult project, but it certainly will not happen unless people start asking for it.

This kind of fact based analysis coupled with initiative and creativity is what we need to be developing in our young people and fresh university graduates. I also believe that we need them to be out in the community looking at real problems and issues and not in ivory towers considering abstract theories. And we certainly do not want them to take their lead from timid middle managers who have no pride in their work, take no initiative and whose only concern is keeping their head down and avoiding possible criticism. Better customer service in Macau needs better existing management, as well as creative young people.

THE BUZZ ISRAEL COURT SAYS LAWMAKER HAZAN DID DRUGS AS CASINO MANAGER

An Israeli court has ruled that a lawmaker from the ruling Likud party had used hard drugs when he ran a casino in Bulgaria, before entering politics.

Yesterday's ruling marks another blow to the already dubious reputation of Oren Hazan, who was elected last year and within months faced accusations of physically assaulting a public official, sexually harassing women and soliciting prostitutes.

Hazan sued Amit Segal, reporter for Israel's Channel 2 TV, for defamation over an investigative piece that included testimony on Hazan having allegedly consumed crystal meth while managing the Bulgarian casino.

In the ruling, the court found the reporter had acted in good faith and reported his story honestly. Nevertheless, it awarded Hazan USD10,000 in damages for another, unsubstantiated Channel 2 report that Hazan had also sold drugs.



Rihanna

Rihanna seeks information about missing backup dancer

RIHANNA posted an emotional plea online for information leading to the whereabouts of a missing dancer from New Jersey who also performed with Beyonce' and Missy Elliot.

Shirlene Quigley, 32, was seen by her landlord leaving her North Bergen residence on Sunday, police said. Another person reported seeing Quigley near the Port Authority Bus Terminal in Manhattan early Sunday. Her father reported her missing.

Her car and cellphone have been found by New

York City police.

"This beautiful soul, and former dancer of mine is MISSING!!! My heart aches thinking of how heavy this is on all who love her!," the singer posted on Instagram, along with a video of Quigley.

Elliott wrote that Quigley was wearing "a pink jacket and 3-4 inch heels" when she went missing and urged people on Instagram to call police with any information on her location.

Quigley's father told WNBC-TV she left a message with a friend that states, "Get ready, it's about to ha-

ppen and I'm going to need you to sub for me."

In the video, Quigley speaks about treating each other as family.

"Imagine if we treated each other like we all really came from the same family," Quigley says. "I know people probably think I'm crazy because I'm always telling everyone 'I love you! I love you!' Because the minute that I meet somebody I do love them because I know in my heart and in my spirit that that's my brother and my sister, that's my neighbor." AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT



AP Photo/Wong Maye-E

Power play. Angelique Kerber of Germany makes a backhand return against Simona Halep of Romania during their singles match at the WTA tennis tournament in Singapore, yesterday.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	20-40 Good
High Density Residential Area	30-50 Good
Ambient	30-50 Good

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS



VIETNAM Three sailors held by Somali pirates for more than four years returned home, with one father expressing happiness at seeing a son he hadn't heard from in three years.



GREECE's labor minister, George Katrougalos, says negotiators from the International Monetary Fund have adopted "extreme neoliberal" positions at the start of a new round of bailout talks in Athens, pressing to aggressively scale back union powers and employment rights.

ALBANIA's Constitutional Court has suspended a law that requires the vetting of the personal and professional backgrounds of judges and prosecutors, key to judicial reforms needed to convince the European Union to launch membership negotiations. The court suspended the law to seek the opinion of the Council of Europe's Venice Commission.



FRANCE The staff of news network I-Tele are still on strike to protest management's refusal to suspend high-profile broadcast personality Jean-Marc Morandini after he was given preliminary charges of corrupting minors. Morandini, who denies wrongdoing, has been accused of sexual abusing young men during casting calls.

BRAZIL Authorities said yesterday they are investigating whether the victim of a gang rape was previously attacked by members of the same drug-dealing group. The attack highlights the pervasive violence against women and girls in Latin America's largest nation just months after a 16-year-old girl was gang-raped. The latest victim is a woman, 34, who police say was raped last week by men at a bar in a suburb of Rio de Janeiro.