



HO'S FORMER RIGHT HAND MAN TESTIFIES
The trial of former Prosecutor-General Ho Chio Meng entered its latest session at the Court of Final Appeal

P2



DRUG LAW TO 'INCREASE DETERRENT EFFECT'
The Social Welfare Bureau is arguing that the recent changes to the drug law are not intended to penalize addicts

P6



HISTORY REVISED AS CHINA NATIONALISM ON THE RISE

P11 FEATURE

MON. 16
Jan 2017

T. 12°/ 15° C
H. 80 / 98%

facebook.com/mdtimes
+ 11,000

N.º 2723 **MOP 7.50**
HKD 9.50

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報®

Times

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Goldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

China • Macau • HK

Share Data Plan

Monthly Rental \$198/3GB

Note: CTM reserves the right to make the final decision in case of any dispute.

"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS



ISRAEL-PALESTINE
Sending a forceful message to Israel and the incoming Trump administration, more than 70 world diplomats gathered in Paris yesterday to say they want peace in the Mideast through establishing a Palestinian state. While the Palestinians welcomed yesterday's conference, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called it "rigged" and cooked up to force Israel to accept conditions against its national interests. **More on p15**

CHINA A highway pile-up in southern China on Saturday night resulted in the deaths of six people, while another 19 were injured, reported mainland media. The crash, which involved a total of 19 vehicles, began when a cement truck collided with the rear of a car on the Qinglian highway in Guangdong Province.

More on backpage

With articles republished from



FINANCIAL TIMES

Trump
America First or America Alone?

F1

Avian flu concerns dispelled by Health Bureau

P3

LYNZY VALLES



Vibrant colors fill Sinulog Festival in Friendship Square

P5 MDT REPORT

Ho Chio Meng's former right-hand man testifies on trips to Europe

Julie Zhu

THE trial of former Prosecutor-General Ho Chio Meng went through another session on Friday at the Court of Final Appeal. The former Chief of the Office of the Prosecutor-General, Lai Kin Ian, was present as a witness to provide his testimony regarding one of the accusations levelled against Ho.

Ho stands accused of regularly taking individuals who were not employees of the Public Prosecution Office (MP) on trips to Europe, some of which included his wife and nephew with all expenses covered by the MP, under the guise of official visits.

Prosecutors presented a note drafted by Lai, stating that Ho would visit Northern Europe. They questioned Lai whether this trip was reported to the Chief Executive (CE) before it happened.

Lai claimed that he did overhear Ho calling the CE, but did not know exactly what Ho told the CE. He claimed that he had only a vague impression of the conversation rather than exact details.

The prosecutors asked Lai whether a written report had been delivered to the CE to provide details of the trip.

Lai said that in accordance with the regulations regarding the relationship between Ho and the CE, sometimes written reports would be provided but sometimes there would be only verbal reports.

After Ho and the others had reviewed the initial budget for the trip, the final bill that travel agencies delivered to the MP exceeded the original budget.

Other evidence provided by the MP showed that the people who



Ho Chio Meng's lawyer, Leong Weng Pun

eventually travelled to Europe were not part of Lai's original plan. Lai was questioned about whether he knew who actually went to Northern Europe.

However Lai claimed that he did not remember exactly who went on the trip, which took place in August.

Regarding Ho's premature departure for Europe before the beginning of the official visit, and his return to Macau after the conclusion of the official trip, Lai said that Portuguese prosecutors had occasionally visited Portugal during August and September. Moreover, given the approved vacation period, they had the option of going to Portugal prior to official visits and returning to Macau after their conclusion.

Lai emphasized that the government had looked after Portuguese prosecutors "quite a lot."

Lai added that he has a few memories of Portuguese prosecutors accompanying Ho on trips to Europe.

According to him, the MP had paid for the accommodation, food, and transportation of the Portuguese prosecutors, but the prosecutors' relatives had paid for their own flight tickets.

Ho's lawyer, Leong Weng Pun, questioned Lai on whether there had been more trips where government officials visited places aside from those included in their official itineraries.

Lai admitted that this had happened on occasion and that even the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam, had made such visits.

Lai recalled an official trip to Beijing with Tam, then the chief of CE's Office, which was followed by a trip to Fujian that was fully paid for by the government.

Presiding judge Sam Hou Fai reminded Lai that all civil servants' official outbound visits must be supported by the CE, a regulation of which Lai claimed to be unaware.

As the morning session of the

trial neared its conclusion, Ho clarified that the trip of which he stands accused had not been an official government trip. He went on to say that the city has travel regulations for certain main government officials.

"There was a report, Lai is a good chief," said Ho. "If it is not a governmental event, there is no need for a written report."

The prosecutors asked why the MP chose the Hotline Center to open the "teachers' resting room." Lai said that he had not visited the place since its renovation works were completed and added that Ho had told him not to visit the place unless strictly necessary.

The prosecution then displayed a picture of the entire 16th floor of the building that the MP had rented. One directory indicated that one room on that floor belonged to the MP, while the rest of the rooms had no directories.

At this point in the trial, Ho Chio Meng raised his hand and asked why a directory was needed if a

room was not an independent department.

The court took a two-hour recess before it resumed at 3 p.m. According to Sam Hou Fai, Lai was only supposed to be a witness for half a day, but was in court for two days.

When the trial resumed in the afternoon, the prosecution called a Judiciary Police (PJ) officer, who had worked in the police force for more than ten years as a handwriting examiner.

Ho is accused of taking his wife and nephew to Europe with all expenses covered by the MP under the guise of official visits

The prosecutors presented one manuscript seized from Ho's former residence, which is believed to have been written by Ho.

In the manuscript were some sentences that the prosecution believes are related to Ho's shelf companies.

The police officer answered several questions regarding the process he identified as a manuscript.

Ho, at the end of the afternoon trial, said the writing could not be proven as his.

The trial continues at 9.30 a.m. today.

THE average Tourist Index Price (TPI) for 2016 continued its downward trend from 2015, according to data released Friday by the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

The bureau said the decline last year reached 5.44 percent, down from the 0.86 percent decrease in 2015, which left the index at 130.86.

TPI reflects the price

change of goods and services purchased by visitors, which tend to fall mostly in the market segments of food, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, clothing, accommodation, restaurant services, and entertainment and cultural activities.

According to DSEC, the diminishment in 2016 was driven by "significant declines" in the price indexes of accommoda-

ECONOMY

Tourist prices continue decline

tion (-21.2 percent) and transport and communications (-9.82 percent). At the same time, the price indexes of restaurant services (+2.27 percent) and food, alcoholic beverages and tobacco (+1.91

percent) both registered increases.

TPI for the fourth quarter of 2016 decreased by almost 4.5 percent year-on-year to 134.96 due to lower charges for hotel accommodation and tra-

vel, said DSEC in a statement.

Meanwhile, fourth quarter TPI increased by about 6.4 percent compared to the third quarter of 2016, led by the price index for accom-

modation which soared by almost one-quarter. DSEC attributes the surge to higher room rates during the National Day holidays, the Christmas period and the Macau Grand Prix.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

+ 4 Million page views
PER MONTH

Thank You!

+11,000 like us on facebook.com/mdtimes

MacauDaily 澳門日報

DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
MANAGING EDITOR_Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS_Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela

DESIGN EDITOR_João Jorge Magalhães magalhaes@macaudailytimes.com | NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS
Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Daniel Beittler, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Julie Zhu, Juliet Risdon, Lynzy Valles, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Sandra Norte (designer), Viviana Seguí | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS
JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES_Associated Press, Bloomberg, Financial Times, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

SEND NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION AND PRESS RELEASES TO: NEWSROOM@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM WEBSITE: WWW.MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM.MO

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

SECRETARY Denise Lo denise@macaudailytimes.com

ADDRESS Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

LOCAL health authorities revealed yesterday that the elderly woman who initially tested positive for avian influenza virus A (H7N9) late last week is no longer, or was never, infected. The revision to the 72-year-old's diagnosis was confirmed after the virus was not detected in her blood and urine samples during further examinations on Saturday.

"This already shows a recession of the virus," noted the Health Bureau (SSM) in a statement yesterday, implying that last week's initial diagnosis had been correct.

On Thursday, the SSM held a special press conference at the Conde de S. Januario Hospital, where SSM director Lei Chin Ion informed the public of the case.

The woman was hospitalized after entering the territory on Tuesday. On Thursday, samples of her mucus tested positive for H7N9.

The elderly lady was initially diagnosed with pneumonia but has a history of high blood pressure, diabetes and other chronic diseases, said the SSM.

The patient initially said that she had not had any recent contact with live birds, but later admitted that she raised chickens in Zhongshan and often went to markets that sold poultry. The authorities said the misinformation had resulted in the delayed diagnosis.

The woman was immediately confined to an isolation ward.

Avian flu concerns dispelled by Health Bureau



SSM director Lei Chin (center) pictured during a press conference giving details of a confirmed imported case of avian influenza A

Health authorities are monitoring 81 other people with whom she had been in contact, 45 of whom had recently been in close contact with her. The remaining 36 had occasional contact with her. These people will be monitored for the next 10 days in line with

health procedures in Guangdong Province, given medication, and must wear masks to prevent further or potential contamination.

During the press conference, Lei stressed that this was the first imported case of the H7N9 strain, though there

was a locally-contracted case last month, the patient of which has made a full recovery.

According to the statement, the government initiated its "emergency response procedures" late last week to control the spread of the disease. Following the re-diagnosis, it

remains unclear whether these procedures have now been lifted.

Local authorities have also urged members of the public to "remain vigilant and to take notice of advice."

Health authorities are monitoring 81 other people

The head of the Center for Disease Prevention and Control, Lam Chong, said Macau should be prepared for the possibility of encountering more cases of avian influenza in the near future. Usually, February and March are peak seasons.

The case has been reported to the Guangdong and Hong Kong authorities, which will continue to cooperate with health officials in the MSAR. All parties will remain in close contact with the World Health Organization in order to prepare contingency plans should suspected cases be detected elsewhere in the city. **DB**

TOURISM

Beijing Imperial Palace returns hotel license



The Beijing Imperial Palace Hotel

Renato Marques

THE Beijing Imperial Palace Hotel (formerly known as New Century Hotel) may be permanently closed following the property owners' admission of their inability to solve certain issues raised by the government, which

led to the hotel's temporary closure in July 2016.

"Considering the imminent expiration of the temporary closure period on 22 January 2017, and the unfeasibility of completing renovation works before then, even if a renovation work permit approval is granted,

Macau Hotel Developers Limited is forced to return its current hotel license to MGTO [Macao Government Tourism Office]," stated the property owners last Friday.

In the same statement, the Macau Hotel Developers Limited's new management (under the leadership of Ng

Man Sun) justified the decision based on "the severe problematic irregularities caused by, and inherited from, the former management of Macau Hotel Developers Limited, namely Chen Mei Huan and Xu Jiao-ji."

These were cited in the work permit applications the new management had requested from the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) to proceed with the removal of all illegal structures, as well as other refurbishment works. The permits were not approved by the DSSOPT, which "raised concerns over ownership of the Hotel's land property."

Although the company acknowledged the impossibility of meeting any deadline, it stated

that it does expect to undergo the required works and plans to "re-develop, renovate, and re-apply for the hotel license" as soon as its current problems are solved.

The statement followed a letter sent to MGTO on the previous day (January 12) requesting the cancellation of the license. The bureau acknowledged the request in a statement issued on January 13.

In July 23, 2016, MGTO closed the 599-room hotel due to "serious administrative irregularities which constitute threats to public safety." The hotel then had 29 full time workers, as well as 30 housekeeping staff, working on either a part-time or full-time basis.

The hotel holds within its premises the casi-

no Greek Mythology, which operated until the end of 2015 under the gaming license of Sociedade de Jogos de Macau S.A. (SJM). It has been closed since end-2015 due to alleged "renovation works." In a recent development, following several staged protests from former workers and staff members, the hotel was accused of fraud related to the overbooking of hotel rooms in September 2016. The incident involved more than HKD250 million in advance payments.

According to a group of representatives from travel agencies and tourism-related industries in Macau, Hong Kong and the mainland, the hotel had committed fraud by selling more rooms than it could physically provide and subsequently refusing to provide rooms for previous bookings. The case was forwarded to the Public Prosecutions Office for investigation.

ARTS

Riverdance performers discuss show's success



Leading performers Lauren Smyth and William Bryant

THE Irish phenomenon Riverdance is set to perform at The Venetian Macao for two weeks as part of its 20th Anniversary World Tour, beginning on January 24.

Riverdance is a show that blends dance and music drawing on Irish traditions and has been seen live by over 21 million people worldwide.

Last week, Riverdance's two lead performers William Bryant and Lauren Smyth provided a sneak peek of the show during the Media Show Preview.

While still loosely based around the story of the formation of the Irish na-

tion and the Irish people's emigration across the world, new elements have been added to this tour, which sees new costumers, lighting, projections and the addition of a new song, "Anna Livia."

"Anna Livia" will feature the female members of the dance troupe in an acapella hard shoe number.

"Anna Livia is a chance to show how powerful the girls are," said Irish tapper Smyth – citing that men tappers also perform an acapella tap dance during the show.

Moreover, the world tour incorporates elements such as flamenco dancing and

a Russian acrobat ensemble in addition to a routine "Trading Taps", which pits Irish and tap dancers against each other in front of a New York background.

"Our band used to be static but now we have a new four-piece women band and they are able to walk around the stage with us and interact a bit more," Smyth added.

When asked which section of the show the audience should look forward to, Smyth replied, "definitely the opening, Reel Around The Sun. It's very powerful, very strong, and just the atmosphere the music creates is amazing. It's something that, even though I've been in the show for seven years, still gives me goose bumps."

The Irish tapper revealed that he is confident that the show's new number "Anna Livia" and the trio tap dance number by American and Irish dancers would entertain the local audience.

During the past 20 years, Riverdance has staged over 18,000 performances in 117 countries and regions.

Its soundtrack has been recognized by the Grammy Awards as Best Musical Show Album – a certified platinum, which has sold some 11 million albums. **L**

Consumer Council compares local internet service providers

Two local internet service providers have provided nine and five different monthly plans, respectively, as revealed in a survey by the Consumer Council.

The survey covered fiber broadband services offered by both internet service providers, and showed that consumers do not usually change internet service providers within a short period of time.

The monthly plans feature different upload and download speeds. All plans include unlimited usage of time, and plans with equivalent upload and download speeds differ in price by about 3 to 9 percent.

The council stated

that users should also compare the terms and conditions and the quality of both internet service providers; especially key items, such as checking fees.

According to the survey results, one of the internet service providers waived its first-time checking fee (non-office hours) but subsequently charged consumers MOP100 (office hours) or MOP200 (non-office hours).

The other internet service provider offers free checking, and does not require an initial deposit. However, a fee will be charged if consumers cancel their contract before the service commences.

AD

New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.



Residence Cleaning
Glass Cleaning
Carpet Cleaning
Pest Control



Call : 2883 3008

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry



優悅牙科護理中心
ICQ Oral Health Center

ICQ dental team is a group of dental specialists with internationally recognized qualifications. We provide all range of dental services:

- Oral examination and radiology investigation
- Restorative and Cosmetic Dentistry
- Children Dentistry
- Orthodontic Treatment
- Oral and Dental implant Surgery
- Endodontic Treatment
- Periodontal Treatment
- Emergency Treatment

We are committed to deliver high quality dental services with personalized care. We ensure the highest level of infection control.

Website: www.icqoral.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/icqoral

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT: OFFICE HOUR: 10:00AM-19:00PM
CLOSE ON SUN, TUE AND PUBLIC HOLIDAY

RM1907, 19/F, AIA Tower, Nos. 251A-301, AVENIDA COMMERCIAL DE MACAU, MACAU SAR
TEL: (853)28373266 FAX: (853)28356483 EMAIL: INFO@ICQORAL.COM WWW.ICQORAL.COM

KTRANZ

TRANSLATIONS LIMITED

ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE
TRANSLATIONS

Languages

ENGLISH, CHINESE,
PORTUGUESE, JAPANESE,
KOREAN, SPANISH,
FRENCH, ARABIC,
RUSSIAN

Services

TRANSLATIONS,
PROOFREADING, COPYWRITING,
DATA INPUT, NEWS MONITORING

We translate +10,000 words a day

Contact: Ms Amy Yang

Email: amy@ktranz.com.mo

Tel: +853 2871 6081/2 Fax: +853 2871 6084

Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR

Vibrant colors fill Sinulog Festival in Friendship Square

Lynzy Valles

WITH vibrant colors and cheerful yells, the Sinulog Festival 2017 attracted a significant crowd yesterday at Friendship Square.

The 17th edition of the festival – this year's theme was "One Beat, One Dance, One Vision for Peace" – kicked off with a mass at St Lawrence Church.

Organized by the Santo Niño de Cebu in Macau Association, the annual religious procession passed by Sai Van Lake bearing the image of St. Niño to honor the infant Jesus, and featured dance performances at the Friendship Square.

According to organizing committee member Father Agustin Datu, the religious celebration was established in the region along with the growing presence and number of Filipino migrant workers.

"We decided to bring the celebration [to] Macau so Filipinos here can celebrate Santo Niño



while they are here," he told the Times.

"So the purpose is to bring together Filipinos working here; not just for celebration but to remind them of their duty to preach and proclaim the Good News."

Violetta Duran, president of Santo Niño de Cebu in Macau Association, said the yearly festival has been attracting an increasing number of Filipinos.

While some regard it as the biggest Filipino event in Macau, Duran stressed that the celebration unites Filipino Catholics as they practice their culture in Macau.

"So many Filipinos watch this because it's considered a

big event for the Filipinos. We unite ourselves [in] this event [because] it's a part of our religious practice," she told the Times.

The organizing committee also commended the local government for its continuing support of the festival.

"This is already part of our religious practice and we're proud that the government accepts and supports us," Duran added.

The festival customarily takes place on the third Sunday in January, with over a hundred Filipinos joining the festival's dance competition.

While dancing, participants shout petitions and thanksgivings to the Santo Niño such as "Viva Pit Señor! Señor Santo Niño!"

This year six adult and two children's groups participated in the competition. Winners received up to MOP8,000 in cash.

One performer, "Bestie", said this year's festival performers devoted a significant amount of time to practicing and creating their costumes.

The revelers the Times spoke with affirmed that this year's participants had offered up more creative costumes and performances. The celebration, which originated in Cebu, begins nine days before the grand parade. The parade itself can last up to 12 hours, and involves a traditional Sinulog dance in which participants take two steps forward and one step back, swaying to the rhythm of the drums.

The yearly fiesta began after the image of the Santo Niño was brought to Cebu and the Catholic faith was established in the region.



Sports for All Day held at Areia Preta

The monthly edition of the Sports Bureau's "Sports for All Day" was held on Saturday at Areia Preta's Urban Park gathering.

The ID said a large number of citizens and families had participated. The event was conducted in collaboration with Sports for All Maintenance and Recreation Classes, which performed demonstrations of several sports. The organizers expressed the hope that such events would promote closer family bonds and regular participation in sports activities to improve health and living quality.

IC holds meeting on fire prevention in temples

The Cultural Affairs Bureau met 32 curators of local temples to discuss measures to prevent fires. In the meeting, which was also attended by the Fire Services, the bureau discussed new measures to be implemented after Chinese New Year, including the prohibition of incense burning inside the temples at night as well as mandatory interruptions to the electrical supply in the evenings.

AD

CASA DE PORTUGAL
EM MACAU 澳門葡人之家協會

Escola de Artes e Ofícios
School of Arts and Crafts

Bordados

iniciação

Embroidery

beginners

monitora/monitor:
Ana Cristina Silva

horário/schedule:
Segundas
Mondays
18h30 - 20h30

início/starts:
16/01/2017

fim/finishes:
16/01/2017

total:
20 horas/hours
10 sessões/sessions

propina/fee:
sócios/members
MOP 600 *

não sócios/non members
MOP 800 *

língua/language:
Português/Portuguese **

local/venue:
na sede da CPM/CPM main office: Rua Pedro Nolasco da Silva, n° 28, R.A.E. de Macau

número máximo de participantes/maximum number of participants:
8 (Será respeitada a ordem de inscrição sendo esta efetiva mediante o pagamento de propina).
8 (The registration order will be respected and registration is considered when payment is done).

patrocínio/sponsor: **Fundação Macau**

* Contactar a sede da CPM para informações sobre modalidades de pagamento.
Please contact CPM's headquarters for payment information.

** Aulas com tradução em Cantonense sempre que o número de alunos o justifique.
Sessions with Cantonese translation when the number of students justifies it.

morada/address: Rua Pedro Nolasco da Silva, n° 28, R.A.E. de Macau www.casadeportugal.org
tel: (853) 28 726 828 fax: (853) 28 726 818 portugal@macau.ctm.net

仁德 CENTRO MÉDICO PEDDER
◆ 仁德醫療中心 ◆

We bring high quality of medical service to Macau

General Surgery : Dr. Fok Manson, Dr. Lai Cheuck Seen Edward, Dr. Lau Wing Kee Peter, Dr. Nie Fu Zhong, Dr. U Chong San, Dr. Lei Chin Chong, Dr. Kwong Man

Breast Surgery : Dr. Leong Iat Lun

Urology : Dr. Lo Kwong Yin Richard, Dr. Zhao Yun Qiao

Paediatric Surgery : Dr. Yeung Chung Kwong

Paediatrics : Dr. Leung Ping Maurice, Dr. Zhang Zhiqin

Obstetrics & Gynaecology : Dr. Fong Kuan Io

Plastic & Aesthetic Surgery : Dr. Lam U Lin

Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine : Dr. Lam Kun Kuan

Cardiology : Dr. Wong Kwok Yiu Chris, Dr. Jin Chun, Dr. Leong Man Kin

Gastroentero-Hepatology : Dr. Zhan De Juan

General Medicine : Dr. Ng Kam Hong

Anesthesiology : Dr. Ning Siu Kei Eric, Dr. Chan Wai Han

Dietitian : Chan Lai U Joey

Avenida da Praia Grande No 599, Edifício Comercial Rodrigues 14 e 15 Andar, em Macau
T. 2832 2298 / 2832 2229 Website: www.peddermacau.com
Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 10:00 - 19:00 Sat 10:00 - 14:00 Sun & PH closed

ANALYSIS

Labor-related NGOs in China facing hard times



Anita Chan

Renato Marques

NON-GOVERNMENTAL Organizations (NGO's) in the mainland are currently facing difficulties and will face more in the near future, says Australian National University scholar Anita Chan, who has been studying the relations and development of NGOs in China, particularly in Guangdong province.

Chan was speaking at the workshop "Labor under So-

cial Transformation and Globalization," which took place last week at the UM's Faculty of Social Sciences. The workshop was organized by the European Union Academic Program in Macau (EUAP-M) of the University of Macau (UM).

According to Chan, these organizations, which have been operating for many years in China, will face many challenges, mostly due to a new law effective last week

that bans foreign funding to such entities.

As stated during the presentation of the paper, "The Relationship Between Labor NGOs and Chinese Workers: From an Asymmetrical Relationship to Partnership, and beyond," China labor affairs have been historically connected to two major stakeholders: Hong Kong-based Labor NGOs and China-based NGOs, both of whom source support for their activities

from outside the mainland.

Money seems always to be the big issue, Chan said: "It can be the binder that brings people together but also the motive to make them apart (through corruption)."

In her research, Chan claimed to have found several cases where worker support was poor or non-existent. Instead, several NGOs made minor interventions before or after strikes and other workers' activities, in order to take credit for the activities when "the workers by themselves and almost spontaneously organized such activities making use of communication technologies such as WeChat."

While China now seems to be cracking down on such organizations, Chan says that the outcome does not seem to be overly negative. This is because "people seem to be less in need of such organizations to stage protests over their rights and are doing those by themselves, like what happened during a 2014 strike when 14,000 people got together to demand better work conditions."

When questioned on the lack of a Trade Union Law, which failed to pass in the Legislative Assembly (AL) eight times, Chan commented: "As far as I know, there is a Federation of Trade Unions (FAOM) that I assume is the official trade union controlled by China [...] if the law [bill] allows freedom of association [...] then a lot of workers will begin to organize their own trade unions and that is the main issue in China [too] as China only has one Trade Union - the official one - and even that was created many years ago back in 1949. Whether the law draft has passed or not, the important [thing] is what is on that draft regarding freedom of association."

Chan expressed no doubts on whether such a law is required. "Are the workers going out on the streets protesting against those [working conditions] individually? If yes, that obviously means that the existing Trade Unions are not doing their job," she said.

"I think it's China that doesn't want to have the law... I don't know enough about Macau politics to really say this, but it's very likely."

Regarding the reduction to only eight days of the period in which non-resident workers can remain in the territory after the cancellation of their work permits (blue cards), Chan remarked: "It's a measure to bond the workers [even more] and to restrain their moves [freedom]."

She added that she does not think that such measures will help at all, as non-resident workers are already constrained in many ways, including the high fees charged by labor recruitment agencies.

During the workshop, visiting assistant professor Jong Nowak from Hong Kong City University, as well as the UM's Professor Timothy Kerswell, addressed other issues such as recent events related to strikes and labor shifting activities in India and Brazil.

In his closing summary, Australian National University Professor Jonathon Unger noted the need for balance where labor disputes and demands are concerned, particularly cases in China and Brazil.

"Companies could easily have replaced this workforce [unqualified workers] with machines in the production lines at least since the early 1990s," Unger said.

"They won't do it as long as the wages are kept [at] a low level."

THE Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) is arguing that the recent changes to the drug law are intended to increase the deterrent effect, not to penalize addicts. The new changes are meant to encourage addicts to choose treatments that promote drug abstinence, during which their sentences will be suspended.

The bureau's answer was in response to the Times' questions on the expected consequences of the new measures, especially for younger drug users.

The IAS replied in a written statement that the Social Reintegration Service and the Service for Prevention and Treatment of Drug Dependence, which are both

The increase of the penalties through the revision of the drug law is not intended to penalize addicts.

SOCIAL WELFARE BUREAU

under its supervision, are prepared to suspend any sentence upon presentation of proof that an individual is

participating in a drug abstinence program.

"The revision of the abovementioned law [Law No 17/2009] aims, on the one hand, to increase its deterrent effect in preventing drug use among young people and, on the other hand, to strengthen the motivation and determination of young drug addicts to enroll in a treatment program," the IAS stated.

The IAS added that it is seeking the cooperation of the police, schools, associations and families to identify potential problems within the community as early as possible.

Questioned on the choice to adopt a system that steers away from the international

IAS: New drug law to 'increase deterrent effect'

trend of decriminalization, the IAS replied: "The increase of the penalties through the revision of the drug law is not intended to penalize addicts but rather to encourage them to opt for the [possibility of the] suspension of sentence execution through drug abstinence [programs]."

The IAS reaffirmed that together with two local institutions, it can provide treatment and counseling services for drug addicts "in favor of social reintegration." RM



IAS headquarters

Wynn pioneering support platforms for SMEs

The Macau government and private sector have identified small and medium enterprises (SMEs) as the lynchpin of the territory's drive to diversify its economy for long-term, sustainable growth and as playing a major role in social stability.

Wynn has not only established enduring business relationships with local firms and a strong network of suppliers in the territory since before its opening in 2006, but has implemented systems that serve the interests of small entrepreneurs as well as Wynn's requirements for international-standard goods and services.

In response to the government's initiatives in supporting SMEs, Wynn joins hands with the Macao Chamber of Commerce to launch the 'Local SME Procurement Partnership Program' via a number of business matching sessions designed to create business opportunities for local SMEs. Meanwhile, Wynn also commissioned the Macau Productivity and Technology Transfer Centre to organize the 'Procurement Platform Mobile App Design Competition' as well as a series of workshops tailored for local SMEs.

PROCUREMENT PLATFORM MOBILE APP



Intended to enhance the development of the local IT sector, the Procurement Platform Mobile App Design Competition sought to increase convenience for local enterprises and reinforce and focus how local entrepreneurs think when interacting and working with large and discerning corporations such as Wynn.

The awards ceremony, held in July, saluted local micro-enterprise Blurple Interactive Media Ltd., or 'Blurple', for creating its procurement platform mobile app 'ChoicePro', which comprises a platform to centralize the release of procurement information announced by various large enterprises. The app, which bridges the gap between local SMEs and large companies, is now available as a free download for both iOS and Android devices.

Blurple - founded by program designers Steven Lei, Becky Lee and Vincent Lei in early 2012, primarily focuses on the design and development of websites and mobile apps.

Steven acknowledged that standing out from their competitors was no easy task, adding that winning the acknowledgment of a large corporation has not only enhanced the social influence of Blurple but boosted both its brand reputation and development



opportunities.

"Even though SMEs have few resources, they never lack the confidence or determination to improve," he said. "The advantage of SMEs lies in their flexibility, which enables them to cope with commercial needs."

He said all large corporations started as SMEs and thus co-operation with large enterprises represents unparalleled opportunities for them to learn and imitate professional management whilst enhancing productivity and quality.

Blurple anticipates further business development and partnership opportunities with large enterprises. Innovation will continue to drive the firm's websites and mobile apps development, he said, adding that though entrepreneurialism may pose challenges for SMEs like Blurple, opportunities are also abundant.

PRIORITIZING LOCAL PROCUREMENT



Since the launch of Local SME Procurement Partnership Program in April 2016, Wynn has successfully held three business matching sessions devoted to small and micro enterprises; they attracted the participation of more than 500 SMEs.

Wynn is collaborating with local SMEs in 36 procurement categories, including Food & Beverage, Hotel Operations, Facilities and Others, including but not limited to Services and Contracts.

The meetings targeted three major types of enterprises, including Small and Micro

Enterprises, 'Made in Macau' Enterprises and Macau Young Entrepreneurs. To increase the effectiveness of the meeting, representatives of the Procurement Department and other relevant departments at Wynn met with all participating SMEs so that they can further understand the procurement procedures and requirements of Wynn. Representatives of local banks also attended the meeting to provide suitable business information for local SMEs as needed.

Wynn believes the opening of Wynn Palace has brought more business opportunities to Macau, and is convinced that the growth of local enterprises will play a key role in the city's aspirations to evolve into a World Centre of Tourism and Leisure. As such, Wynn will continue to prioritize procurement from local suppliers. In 2017, Wynn will intensify cooperation with local SMEs, through ramping up partnership meetings, for example.

BOOSTING CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT



Wynn has been actively participating in the local SME procurement partnership initiatives advocated by the government from its launch, going on to organize a series of SME partnership meetings.

Drawing on the resources of the Macau Productivity and Technology Transfer Centre to organize several workshops, Wynn assembled veteran consultants and industry insiders to conduct 'classes' in which they share their experience with

SMEs to help them optimize their service quality.

Recognizing it is important that SMEs develop in a sustainable manner, Wynn organized a number of workshops under the umbrella of 'Creating Startup Success - The Crafting of a Viable Business Model', 'Disruptive Innovation & Entrepreneurship' and 'E-Commerce Techniques for SMEs'.

With these events, Wynn helps SMEs to understand different operational models, the importance of efficient operational procedures, potential risks and challenges, as well as the key to success.



Workshop participants say they learn a lot, and that the insights gleaned at the events help compensate for attendees' lack of experience.

The government continues to provide essential assistance to SMEs and young entrepreneurs. For its part, Wynn will continue to collaborate with the Macau Productivity and Technology Transfer Centre to organize workshops for SMEs.

Not only does this help small firms, it contributes to Macau's development as a World Centre of Tourism and Leisure, which in part comprises an array of strong, independent companies feeding into Macau's core industries.

Boeing loosens Airbus's India grip with USD22 billion SpiceJet win

Anurag Kotoky, Kyunghee Park

BOEING Co. won a USD22 billion deal from budget carrier SpiceJet Ltd., notching the plane maker's largest-ever order from an Indian airline and strengthening its hold in a market dominated by Europe's Airbus Group SE.

The order includes 100 of Boeing's 737 Max single-aisle jets and renegotiated terms for 55 previously ordered aircraft, SpiceJet said in a statement Friday. The airline also has options to purchase another 50 Boeing aircraft, including the 777 and 787 Dreamliner wide-bodies.

The commitment, which was included in Boeing's 2016 order tally, comes as the Chicago-based plane maker races to catch Airbus in narrow-body sales, the largest source of profit for the companies. The deal for the Max, which competes with Airbus's A320neo workhorse, also helps Boeing widen its footprint in the fast-growing South Asian market. Most of SpiceJet's low-cost rivals fly the European company's aircraft.



"India is an important market both Airbus and Boeing can't ignore," said Shukor Yusof, founder of aviation consulting firm Endau Analytics. The SpiceJet order gives Boeing "a lifeline. There's a lot more to grow in India than other parts of Asia."

Rapidly expanding Indian carriers will need 1,850 new planes valued at \$265 billion in 20

years, according to a Boeing forecast. Single-aisle planes will make up the bulk of the new deliveries.

The Asia-Pacific region, which is eclipsing North America as the world's largest aircraft market, will need 15,130 new aircraft valued at \$2.3 trillion in the next 20 years, as economic growth boosts middle-class travel, accor-

ding to Boeing. That represents 38 percent of the global requirement.

Friday's deal adds to the 348 jetliner sales garnered by the U.S. planemaker in India. SpiceJet, which is based in Gurgaon near New Delhi, and AirIndia Express are the only budget carriers to use Boeing aircraft in the country.

SpiceJet shares climbed 2.5 percent to 65.50 rupees in Mumbai. Boeing rose less than 1 percent to \$159.02 at 9:55 a.m. in New York.

The airline placed firm orders for 100 737 Max 8 aircraft, with a cumulative list price of \$11 billion, before the discounts that are customary for large customers. Bloomberg News reported on Jan. 6 that the carrier was close to signing a deal for at least 92 planes valued at \$10.1 billion and that the total could rise based on negotiations for discounts and service contracts.

"We spent a considerable amount of time negotiating and finalizing the commercial terms, including maintenance of the aircraft," Chairman Ajay Singh

said in an interview. "It was important for us to get all the commercial terms right."

Deliveries will begin in July 2018 and continue through 2024. The carrier and Boeing also discussed a proposed stretch of the largest Max, Singh told reporters. The so-called 10X, Boeing's response to Airbus's fast-selling A321neo, would be available in 2020 and seat as many as 230 travelers.

The order signals a resurgence for SpiceJet after it almost collapsed more than two years ago. The expansion also sets up sharpened competition against IndiGo, operated by InterGlobe Aviation Ltd., which has about 400 Airbus aircraft awaiting delivery. IndiGo dominates the world's fastest-growing major aviation market, with a 42 percent share. SpiceJet has 13 percent. A representative for Airbus declined to comment.

The world's two biggest plane makers are vying to serve a crucial market with an emerging middle-class that is flying for the first time and where passenger traffic is growing at twice the pace of nearest rival China.

While the growth is prompting India airlines to order planes, they also have to contend with airport infrastructure that hasn't kept pace. Limited landing and parking slots extend the time circling above airports such as Mumbai during peak hours, wasting fuel. **Bloomberg**

Prudence Ho

DALIAN Wanda Group Co.'s revenue fell for the first time in at least 11 years after a slump in its property business outweighed growth from entertainment operations at billionaire Wang Jianlin's conglomerate.

Sales, which includes property-contracted sales, declined 14 percent in 2016 from a year earlier, according to a Wanda statement on Saturday, more than a January 2016 forecast of a 12 percent drop. Revenue at Dalian Wanda Commercial Properties Co., the group's real-estate unit, declined 25 percent to 143 billion yuan (\$20.7 billion).

Wanda's operating inco-

me rose 3.4 percent to 255 billion yuan, while profit grew more than 10 percent, it said, without giving specifics. China's second-richest man has been acquiring Hollywood assets - he bought film producer Legendary Entertainment last year - to help Wanda diversify away from its real-estate roots.

Wang, speaking to employees at Wanda's annual meeting in Hefei, the capital city of Anhui province in eastern China, said Ffan.com, a unit that includes Internet financing and credit-rating businesses, will raise 10 billion yuan via a private placement this year. He ultimately plans to list the unit by 2020 and tar-

Wanda posts first sales decline in at least 11 Years

get profit of more than 10 billion yuan.

Wang delisted Dalian Wanda Commercial Properties last year in Hong Kong under a plan to eventually seek a listing in mainland China, where valuations tend to be higher. The company has been in takeover talks with several candidates to execute a backdoor listing, people familiar with the matter said in November.

Wang has taken an "asset-light" strategy for his real-estate business in recent years, reducing reliance on property sales

and increasing his focus on leasing and management. The transition has resulted in sales volatility, but could improve the group's cash flow and earnings stability.

Wanda Cultural Industry Group Co., which includes most of Wanda's theme parks, film production and exhibition businesses, saw sales climb 25 percent to 64.1 billion yuan last year. The increase also reflected income from newly acquired businesses including Legendary Entertainment.

Entertainment will be continue the growth driver for Wanda. Wang, who



plans to build a global movie-distribution network, aims to achieve 10 billion yuan profit in its film busi-

ness and 20 percent market share in the global movie industry by the end of the decade. **Bloomberg**

corporate bits

CTM EXTENDS DATA ROAMING DESTINATIONS



Following the launch of the "Data Roaming Passport (10 days)" service, CTM has announced 25 new destinations for the scheme.

This extends coverage to 59 countries and regions including Chile, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, India, Kazakhstan, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Thailand, among others.

The telecommunications company said in a press release that

it is keen to collaborate with international roaming telecom service providers to deliver multiple data roaming service options for users to extend service coverage.

CTM also introduced six "Data Roaming Passport (one day)" destinations such as USA, East Timor, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary and Malta, which means that there are now up to 30 available destinations for this service.

As the Chinese New Year is approaching, CTM is introducing

a special offer to fulfill residents' needs for telecommunications services on their travels.

From now until February 28, CTM mobile postpaid customers can subscribe to a selected Asian country/region's 1G "Data Roaming Passport (one or 10 days)" package at special rate of MOP38 or MOP380 respectively.

Since the first launch of 4G+ services last year, CTM has expanded roaming coverage, enabling customers to use 4G services

overseas.

As of now, CTM has reached collaboration agreements with more than 100 major telecom service providers worldwide to extend 4G roaming services across China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Australia, Portugal, the UK, the US and Canada, among others.

CTM said it will pursue more of these collaborations so that customers can experience unlimited 4G services.

MOZAMBIQUE

Economic growth is expected to increase from 2018

MOZAMBIQUE will return to a period of increased economic growth between 2018 and 2021, during which the economy is expected to grow at an average rate of 5.1 percent, according to the latest forecasts from the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).

However, the publication points out that, even reaching an average rate of 5.1 percent, the economy continues to grow at lower values than the average of 7.3 percent that was recorded in the period between 2005 and 2015.

A rigid budget execution is expected to limit growth of the construction and services sectors, "which historically have based their growth on public contracts," with the EIU expecting that from 2018 there will be some private investment in these sectors.

The gradual expansion of cash crops should be the basis



Citizens travel in a crowded bus in Maputo

of growth in agricultural production, although it will remain limited due to drops in productivity among small farmers.

The EIU notes that, over time, the exploration of natural gas by Italian group ENI and US group Anadarko Petroleum, is expected to be the great driver of the country's development, with the construction of facilities for the liquefaction of gas to be extracted in two blocks in the Rovuma basin.

However, the EIU said, "it is

not expected that exploration of gas reserves can begin in the period (2016/2021) due to the complexity of the projects in which those two groups are operators and the fact that there is a contraction in international lending."

Prices, which the EIU projects will reach an annual growth rate of 23.8 percent this year, should start to decline in 2018, with a rate of 14.3 percent, after which they are expected to return to a single digit of between

8.8 percent in 2019 and 5 percent in 2021.

The budget deficit this year is expected to fall this year to 6.7 percent, after an estimate of -9.7 percent in 2016, before contracting to between -5.4 percent in 2018 and -3 percent in 2021.

Gross fixed capital formation, or investment, is expected to contract 14.8 percent this year, after falling by an expected 11.6 percent in 2016, after which growth will resume with a marginal value of 0.2 percent in 2018, 5.2 percent in 2019, 11.6 percent in 2020 and 10.2 percent in 2021.

The EIU also mentioned monetary policy, saying that the Bank of Mozambique will seek to stabilize the national currency and prices but said that, taking into account the dollar's rise in the international markets, it appears that the metical will continue to devalue in 2017. **MDT/Macauhub**

Angola starts exporting mangoes to Portugal

A ship moored at the port of Namibe, southern Angola, within the next few days will travel to Portugal carrying a shipment of 35.7 tonnes of mangoes produced at a farm in the municipality of Baía Farta, in Benguela province, said farmer Victorino Marques.

The farmer told Angolan news agency Angop that exports of the fruit to the Portuguese market is the result of a partnership with a Portuguese company linked to international trade in horticultural products.

The farm covers an area of 92 hectares and has a production of between 1,500 and 1,600 tons, said Marques, adding the project had started in 2010 and currently has 18 varieties of mango.

"In 2010 we planted 18,000 mango seedlings, in the second year we had the first harvest on a small scale and, from the third year, the target was the domestic market," the farmer explained that the shipment heading for Portugal is a surplus of production.

In May 2016 Angola began exporting bananas to Portugal, a process that began with shipping fruit produced on the Bacelinho Agro-Industrial unit, located in Lobito. **MDT/Macauhub**

AD

HAPPY HOUR

EVERYDAY 11PM-2AM

DRINKS BUY 1 GET 1 FREE

飲品買1送1

D2 CLUB
www.d2club-macau.com

Macau Fisherman's Wharf, Edif. New Orleans 111
澳門友誼大馬路 澳門漁人碼頭新奧爾良館 111
Tel: (853) 2872 3777

PLAYMATE'S CLUB

WILD WARS

Deluxe Nightclub Packages \$1480

Business hours: 8:00PM-04:00AM

No admission under age 18

Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

China's sole aircraft carrier has returned home following a far-ranging three-week training mission during which its combat capabilities were closely scrutinized and speculation soared over what future role the flat-top will play amid China's growing military ambitions.

The Defense Ministry said the 60,000-ton Liaoning sailed in to the eastern port of Qingdao on Friday along with its battle group that includes destroyers, frigates, a supply ship and anti-submarine craft.

The ministry quoted the group's commander, Rear Adm. Chen Yueqi, as saying the drill simulated real combat as closely as possible and "achieved all targets set for it." China commissioned the carrier in 2012 and declared it combat ready in November, shortly after which it launched its first live-fire exercises.

The cruise that began on Christmas Day took it through the Miyako Strait, south of Okinawa, Japan, and then the Bashi Channel separating Taiwan from the Philippines as it entered the disputed South China Sea that China claims virtually in its entirety.

It headed home through the Taiwan Strait in what was seen by many as a threatening message to the island's independence-leaning President Tsai Ing-wen. Taiwan's Defense Ministry said it was closely monitoring the passage but that there was no cause for alarm.

China and Taiwan split amid civil war in 1949 and Beijing has vowed never to renounce its threat to use force to recover what it considers lost territory.

Aircraft carrier ability tested on latest mission



China's aircraft carrier Liaoning berths in Chinese port

Japanese and Taiwanese surveillance aircraft and ships closely monitored the Liaoning along its journey, seen by some as a sign of how China plans to use it to demonstrate its willingness to back up its territorial claims with military muscle.

The Liaoning originated in 1990 as the unfinished Varyag for the now-defunct Soviet fleet. Purchased as a shell by China in 1998, it was towed from the Black Sea to the northeastern Chinese port of Dalian where it underwent an extensive overhaul of its hull, radar, electronics and other systems.

Designated first as an experimental and training platform, the Liaoning represents a new degree

of sophistication in the Chinese armed forces that includes ballistic missile submarines and prototype stealth fighters. It's also considered a blueprint for future Chinese carriers built using entirely domestic technology, at least one of which has been under construction since 2015.

Yet, analysts point out major limitations in both the carrier's design and the Chinese navy's ability to utilize its full capabilities.

Considerably smaller than the 100,000-ton U.S. Nimitz-class carriers, it can carry just 24 fixed-wing aircraft compared to 55 for the American flat-tops, according to a recent report by the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

dies.

While the Liaoning's J-15 multi-role fighters — a Chinese version of the Russian Su-33 — are highly capable, they lack the low-observable stealth technology of fifth-generation fighters such as the U.S. F-35C.

CSIS also says the ship's Soviet steam turbine power plant was badly designed and poorly maintained, probably limiting it to a typical speed of around 20 knots. That is far slower than the Nimitz-class' 30 knots, meaning it would take longer to arrive at target and be less able to flee from threats.

Its aircraft are also launched from a "ski jump" style deck rather than the powerful steam catapults.

ts that U.S. carriers use, requiring China's jets to use more fuel for takeoff and limiting them to smaller payloads.

The Liaoning's pilots and crew are also far less experienced than their American counterparts, although they benefit from lessons learned by the U.S. and others in the decades since carriers entered operation, CSIS said. Other analysts point out that the Liaoning doesn't appear yet able to launch and recover aircraft at night, a crucial ingredient for combat effectiveness.

The Liaoning represents a new degree of sophistication in the Chinese armed forces

The CSIS study concludes that those shortcomings make the Liaoning unsuited for "sustained, high-intensity combat operations," at least for now. That will likely restrict it to humanitarian aid and disaster relief operations, training and diplomatic missions and cruises in the South China Sea asserting Beijing's territorial claims.

Despite that, the Liaoning "represents an important step in advancing China's ability to project naval power," the study said.

"Regardless of the Liaoning's future abilities, the ship commands a degree of political utility as a tool of naval diplomacy through various operations, regional and global." AP

David Tweed

CHINA'S state media rebuffed a suggestion by President-elect Donald Trump's nominee for secretary of state that Beijing must be denied access to reclaimed reefs in the disputed waters of the South China Sea.

"Unless Washington plans to wage a large-scale war in the South China Sea, any other approaches to prevent China access to the islands will be foolish," the Communist Party-run Global Times newspaper wrote in an editorial. The English-language China Daily took a similar line: "It is certainly no small matter for a man intended to be the U.S. diplomat in chief to display such undisguised animosity toward China."

In his confirmation hearing before the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee last week, Rex Tillerson compared China's actions in the South China Sea to those of Russia in Crimea, saying a failure to



Rex Tillerson, former CEO of Exxon Mobil Corp. and U.S. secretary of state nominee

Paper calls Tillerson's South Sea threat 'foolish'

respond had allowed it to "keep pushing the envelope" in the waters. "We're going to have to send China a clear signal that first the island-building stops and second your access to those islands is also

not going to be allowed," Tillerson said.

Should the former Exxon Mobil Corp. chief executive's remarks reflect future U.S. policy, it would represent a fundamental shift toward a more con-

frontational response to Beijing's claims to more than 80 percent of the South China Sea. In recent years, China has reclaimed thousands of acres of land and shoed away boats from other claimant

states like the Philippines and Vietnam.

China's official response was relatively mild, with Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman Lu Kang saying that "like the U.S., China has the right within its own territory to carry out normal activities." The People's Daily newspaper last month argued for "strategic composure," and urged policy makers to remain calm in response to criticisms from the Trump camp before he takes office.

The U.S. has followed a long-held policy of not taking a position on the claims of any countries in the South China Sea while defending the freedom of navigation for vessels from all nations.

Tillerson didn't say how the U.S. would stop China from building on the features, prevent it from accessing them or how it would treat other countries trying to access their land features in the waters. That raised speculation that he had spoken

out of turn and that his comments didn't reflect a fully evolved policy position of the incoming Trump administration.

Trump's nominee for defense secretary, retired General James Mattis, bolstered that interpretation at his own Senate hearing last week, in which he said that the State, Treasury and Defense departments should coordinate their South China Sea policies. "We're going to have to integrate this, so that we're not dealing with an incomplete or incoherent strategy," Mattis told the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Even China's state media gave Tillerson the benefit of the doubt. "It remains to be seen to what extent his views against China will translate into U.S. foreign policies," China Daily wrote. "His remarks at the Wednesday hearing, sensational as they were, turned out to be of little reference value except for judging his personal orientations." Bloomberg

Critics attacked, history revised as China nationalism rises

Gerry Shih, Beijing

WRITER Lu Yong had merely wanted to show support for a professor who had taken flak online for criticizing Mao Zedong, the founder of the communist state who died more than four decades ago.

Yet minutes after raising a sign to defend Deng Xiangchao's right to free speech, Lu found himself surrounded by a group of Mao supporters who grappled at his face. Other companions were punched and kicked.

Video taken hours later showed the Mao loyalists parading through the campus of eastern China's Jinan University with large banners while chanting "Down with Deng Xiangchao, down with traitors." Within days, Deng was forced to retire and stripped of his Communist Party titles. State media justified his dismissal.

Across China, a retrograde strain of populist nationalism is gaining strength as the ruling Communist Party intensifies its control over history and ideology. Those who question the party's interpretations find their careers and reputations threatened, while their persecutors receive tacit and sometimes outright support from the authorities.

"They are shutting down speech that's not aligned with the party," said Feng Chongyi, a China scholar at Sydney's University of Technology. "Populism and the manipulation of working class anger, combined with nationalism and xenophobia are the classic signs of Chinese totalitarianism."

The Chinese president and party leader, Xi Jinping, is largely seen as setting the tone for the newly conformist attitude.

The son of a Mao confederate

AP PHOTO



Supporters of Mao Zedong ideology gather to dance and sing in praise of the late Chinese leader on Zhouwangcheng plaza in Luoyang

steeped in party lore, Xi set the tone shortly after taking power in 2012, with a major speech in which he said that the latter 30 years of Communist Party rule — a period of economic and political reform — should not be considered a repudiation of the first 30 years under Mao.

More recently, authorities have warned against liberal Western values in the classroom, rounded up lawyers and civil society activists — along with corrupt officials — and promoted a cult of personality around Xi likened to that surrounding Mao.

Earlier this week, the Education Ministry ordered that textbooks move the start of China's war against Japanese invaders six

years back to 1931, calling it a "14-year" war, apparently to broaden the scope of the struggle from which the party derives its legitimacy. Last year, a Beijing court found a writer guilty of libel after he challenged the veracity of a famous tale of Communist Party soldiers sacrificing themselves against the Japanese. Liberal editors of a respected history journal were ousted last year.

Deng initially attracted critics' ire in December when he mused online that millions of Chinese lives would have been saved had Mao died decades earlier — a view not unusual among intellectual circles. Mao's policies have been blamed for tens of millions of deaths through famine and political upheaval.

Observers compare Deng's removal and similar incidents to the frenzied persecutions of the 1966-1976 Cultural Revolution, when street mobs and radical "Red Guards" unleashed by Mao harassed, humiliated, imprisoned and sometimes killed ideological opponents.

Mao supporters, largely retired workers and military veterans, increasingly gather to praise the former leader in public. Online, Maoist communities lambast public intellectuals or party members who criticize Mao — even in jest — with the apparent assent of the authorities.

Song Yongyi, a Cultural Revolution historian based in California, said he was concerned about a

"revived use of mass movements to suppress discourse and spread fear."

"These are the same tactics of using Red Guards to defend the government," Song said.

Maoist blogger Lu Qi said pro-Mao actions have skyrocketed due to growing inequality and working-class frustration with capitalism. He praised Deng's ouster as democracy in action.

"Deng Xiangchao's speech clearly violated political correctness," Lu said. "I believe everyone should bear responsibility for their own illegal speech."

Another well-known Maoist blogger Zhang Hongliang praised the Jinan police for allowing the campus protest.

"This is probably the first time in 20 or 30 years that anti-riot police or armed police were not deployed against leftist protests and demonstrations," Zhang wrote. "This is a sign that we've reached a turning point."

Utopia, an online gathering place for Maoists and hard liners, this week celebrated the recent ousting of public figures for "anti-Mao, anti-Xi, anti-party" speech, among them Bi Fujian, a prominent TV host suspended by China Central Television after a video surfaced of him mocking Mao at a private event.

Following Deng's removal, online Maoists quickly moved on in search of other targets. Spotting social media posts from a television producer in support of Deng, they complained and he was swiftly suspended from his job.

In Jinan, which suffered some of the worst convulsions of the Cultural Revolution, the Maoist community is making its presence felt. Supporters gather in public parks to spread Mao's teachings and denounce corruption — sometimes attacking critics like Lu, the writer who sought to defend the professor.

"Even if Deng said something wrong, he should be held accountable according to the law, not be attacked this way, like during the Cultural Revolution," Lu said. "As a writer, I cannot watch the basic freedom of speech disappear." AP

ZHOU Youguang, a linguist considered the father of modern China's Pinyin Romanization system, died Saturday at the age of 111.

Born in 1906 during China's last imperial dynasty, the Qing, Zhou died at his home in Beijing, one day after celebrating his birthday, according to state broadcaster Chinese Central Television and other official media outlets.

After receiving a Western-style education at Shanghai's St. John's University, Zhou moved to the United States and for a time worked as a banker on Wall Street.

Father of Chinese Romanization, dies at 111

Zhou continued writing even after age 100, although many of his books were banned

Returning to China along with other idealistic youths after the communist victory in 1949, he was placed in charge of a committee working on a new system to allow Chinese characters to be converted into Roman script.

Adopted by the People's Republic in 1958, Pinyin has virtually become the global standard due to its simplicity and consistency, although some Chinese communities, especially in Taiwan

and Hong Kong, continue to use alternatives. In the era of computers and smartphones, Pinyin has become more ubiquitous than ever, with traditionalists lamenting that it is supplanting the original Chinese characters from which it derives.

Zhou went on to work on an official Chinese translation of the Encyclopedia Britannica and write on topics including the evolution of Chinese historical languages and scripts.

In his later years, he became a scathing critic of the ruling Communist Party and an advocate for political reform, making him persona non grata at official events. He continued writing even after age 100, although many of his books were banned and the government censored discussion about his work online.

Zhou told America's National Public Radio in a 2011 interview that he hoped to live long enough to see Chi-

na's government acknowledge that the bloody crackdown on the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy protests was a mistake and the victims bore no guilt. That has yet to happen, and the entire topic remains taboo.

"Ordinary people no longer believe in the Communist Party anymore," Zhou said in the interview. "The vast majority of Chinese intellectuals advocate democracy." AP

INDIA

21 people drown after boat capsizes

At least 21 people drowned and a dozen others were missing after their overcrowded boat capsized in a river in eastern India, police said yesterday. Nearly 50 people were returning by boat after attending a Hindu religious festival in a village across the river near Patna, the state capital of Bihar, when it capsized on Saturday, said police officer Chandan Kushwaha. He said 13 people have been rescued and hospitalized.

THAILAND

Pilot killed as fighter jet crashes at air show



A Thai air force pilot died when his fighter jet crashed at an air show Saturday during the country's Children's Day. Amateur video footage shows the JAS 39 Gripen jet maneuvering over the Hat Yai air base in southern Thailand when it suddenly lost altitude and crashed in a ball of fire away from spectators. The Ministry of Defense was investigating the cause of the crash. Deputy government spokesman Werachon Sukondhapatipakerachon said Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha expressed condolences to the pilot's family. Children's Day is usually observed with public outings at military bases.

PHILIPPINES

Duterte orders troops to blast militants and their hostages

Jim Gomez, Manila

PHILIPPINE President Rodrigo Duterte said he has ordered his troops to bomb extremists who flee with their captives in a bid to stop a wave of kidnappings at sea, calling the loss of civilian lives in such an attack "collateral damage."

Duterte has previously stated that he had told his Indonesian and Malaysian counterparts their forces can blast away as they pursue militants who abduct sailors in waters where the three countries converge and bring their kidnap victims to the southern Philippines. He said in a speech late Saturday that he had given the same orders to Filipino forces.

He said he instructed the navy and the coast guard that "if there are kidnappers and they're trying to escape, bomb them all."

"They say 'hostages.' Sorry, collateral damage," he said in a speech to business people in Davao, his southern hometown.

He said such an approach would enable the government to get even with the ransom-seeking militants. "You can't gain mileage for your wrongdoing, I will really have you blasted," he said.

His advice to potential victims? "So, really,



South Korean hostage Park Chul-hong (center)

don't allow yourselves to be kidnapped." Duterte's remarks reflect the alarm and desperation of the Philippines, along with Malaysia and Indonesia, in halting a series of ransom kidnappings primarily by Abu Sayyaf militants and their allies along a busy waterway for regional trade.

On Saturday, ransom-seeking Abu Sayyaf gunmen freed a South Korean captain and his Filipino crewman who were abducted three months ago from their cargo ship.

The gunmen handed skipper Park Chul-hong and Glenn Alindajao over to Moro National Liberation Front rebels, who turned them over to Philippine officials in southern Jolo town in predominantly Muslim Sulu province.

The Moro rebels, who signed a 1996 peace deal with the government, have helped ne-

gotiate the release of several hostages of the smaller but more violent Abu Sayyaf, which is blacklisted by the U.S. as a terrorist organization for kidnappings, beheadings and bombings.

Duterte's adviser dealing with insurgents, Jesus Dureza, said he was not aware of any ransom being paid in exchange for the freedom of the sailors. At least 27 hostages, many of them foreign crewmen, remain in the hands of different Abu Sayyaf factions, he said.

There have been persistent speculations, however, that most of the freed hostages have been ransomed off.

Without a known foreign source of funds, the Abu Sayyaf has survived mostly on ransom kidnappings, extortion and other acts of banditry.

A confidential Philippine government threat assessment report seen by The Associated Press last year said the militants pocketed at least 353 million pesos (USD7.3 million) from ransom kidnappings in the first six months of 2016.

The militants have mostly targeted slow-moving tugboats in the busy sea bordering the southern Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia. AP

AD



villa frangipani
CLIFFTOP | LUXURY | LIVING

20,000 square feet of privacy

At Villa Frangipani impeccable service means knowing when you want to enjoy a private moment.

Whether that is in the Private Spa, your suite, the garden bale, or any other area, our Villa Staff anticipate your needs at all times.

Please visit www.privatevillasofbali.com to get an idea of what we offer.

...wish you could stay forever...

PRIVATE VILLAS OF BALI

VILLA TIRTA KENCANA • VILLA FRANGIPANI

info@privatevillasofbali.com
www.privatevillasofbali.com
skype ID: privatevillasofbali
+62361 8468513



C&C LAWYERS
C&C 律師事務所



合伙人 PARTNERS:

官樂怡 Rui José da Cunha • 山度士 Álvaro Rodrigues • 馬天龍 Nuno Sardinha da Mata • 趙魯 Zhao Lu •

聯營律師 ASSOCIATES:

馬傑安 João N. Marques
高文軒 Adelino Correia*
羅善齡 Zelina Rodrigues
馬德龍 Nuno L. Martins
白秀蘭 Susana Batalha
杜慧盈 Rita Andorinho
馬潔冰 Maria J. Marques
陶義德 António I. Azeredo

白穎怡 Iclia Berenguel
洗玲鳳 Mariana A. Esteves
薛明恩 Maria A. Giestas
飛嘉華 Carlos S. Ferreira
黃保毅 Wong Pou Ngai, Karen
杜力信 Nelson de Azevedo
宋哲言 João Gonçalves Assunção
羅桃 Luo Tao, Elina
巴慧雅 Vera Bastos
曹樂萌 Cao Lemeng, Rui

莫永誠 Rui Velez de Moura

實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS:

楊越華 leong Ut Wa
羅成軒 José J. Rodrigues
歐文傑 Miguel Evaristo
王洋玲 Ema Wong
陳祖恩 Joana Chan
顏曉蓉 Teresa, Xiaorong Yan

* 私人公證員 Notary Public • 中國委託公證人 China Appointed Attesting Officer



WWW.CCADVOG.COM
TEL: (853) 2837 2642 / 2837 2623



ENVIRONMENT

Gadget mountain rising in Asia threatens health, environment

Stephen Wright

THE waste from discarded electronic gadgets and electrical appliances has reached severe levels in East Asia, posing a growing threat to health and the environment unless safe disposal becomes the norm.

China was the biggest culprit with its electronic waste more than doubling, according to a new study by the United Nations University. But nearly every country in the region had massive increases between 2010 and 2015, including those least equipped to deal with the growing mountain of discarded smartphones, computers, TVs, air conditioners and other goods.

On average, electronic waste in the 12 countries in the study had increased by near-



Used electronics fill a repair shop in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

ly two thirds in the five years, totaling 12.3 million tons in 2015 alone.

Rising incomes in Asia, burgeoning populations of young adults, rapid obsolescence of products due to technological innovation and changes in fashion, on top of illegal global trade in waste, are among factors driving the increases.

"Consumers in Asia now replace their gadgets more frequently. In addition,

many products are designed for low cost production, but not necessarily repair, refurbishment or easy recycling," said the study. It urges governments to enact specific laws for management of electronic waste or rigorously enforce existing legislation.

Only South Korea, Taiwan and Japan have long established recycling systems based on laws introduced in the 1990s. Open dumping of lead- and mercury-laden

components, open burning of plastics to release encased copper and unsafe backyard operations to extract precious metals are the norm in most countries including Indonesia, Thailand and Cambodia, which also lack laws governing the treatment of electronic and electrical waste.

The study said open burning and unsafe recycling is associated with a slew of health problems for workers

and communities near recycling operations. They include infertility, childhood development problems, impaired lung function, liver and kidney damage, inheritable genetic damage and mental health problems.

Backyard recyclers are after gold, silver, palladium and copper, mainly from printed circuit boards, but the crude acid bath extraction process releases toxic fumes and is also inefficient, recovering only a portion of the valuable material.

Asia as a whole is the biggest market for electronics and appliances, accounting for nearly half of global sales by volume, and produces the most waste.

Guiyu, a heavily-polluted rural town in China that specializes in dismantling consumer electronics, some of it exported from rich coun-

tries, has become synonymous with the costs of a throwaway high-tech world.

China has cleaned up Guiyu and other centers like it but the Basel Action Network, which brought Guiyu to international attention, said most of the dangerous practices continue in Guiyu albeit concentrated within a new industrial park on its outskirts.

Ruediger Kuehr, one of the study's authors, said the amount of waste being generated is higher than governments estimate, partly because of their narrower definitions, and should be a wake-up call to policymakers and consumers.

"We are all benefiting from the luxury of these electrical and electronic products to a certain extent, it makes our lives easier, sometimes more complicated," he said. "However if we want to continue like this we must be reusing the resources contained in electronic and electrical equipment."

A smartphone, for example, uses more than half the elements in the periodic table, some of which are very rare, and in the longer-run will be exhausted without recycling, said Kuehr. **AP**

Indonesia, Japan affirm deeper ties during Abe's Asian tour

JAPAN and Indonesia yesterday affirmed a deepening of economic and political ties during a visit by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who is using a four-nation tour of Asia to underscore his government's role in countering China's assertiveness in the South China Sea.

After meeting with Abe, Indonesian President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo said the increase in Japanese investment in Indonesia, Southeast Asia's largest economy, has been "very significant," more than doubling to USD4.5 billion in January-September of last year.

He said the countries agreed that their defense and foreign ministers will meet in Indonesia this year under a new forum they established in 2015 to increase maritime cooperation.

Jokowi said there were agreements on development of a deep-sea port and the Masela gas field in Indonesia, and for preliminary discussions of a Jakarta-Surabaya rail line. He did not give specifics.

Abe's trip is largely aimed at taking a leadership role in promoting regional cooperation to counter Beijing at a time of increased tension between China and the U.S. and uncertainty about the policies of the incoming



Shinzo Abe (right) inspects an honor guard with his Indonesian President Joko Widodo (second left)

Donald Trump administration.

With the tour, Tokyo wants to send a message that its respect for a rules-based international system, in contrast to China's more aggressive behavior in the South China Sea, where it has vast territorial claims, makes it the best partner for Southeast Asian countries.

The trip has included two of America's main allies in the region, Australia and the Philippines, where Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's hostility to the U.S. has raised doubts about its commitment to the U.S. alliance that Japan is a crucial part of.

Australia and Japan agreed to greater military cooperation, and in the Philippines, Abe pledged \$8.7 billion in business opportu-

nities and investment.

Jokowi said that in his meeting with Abe, he asked for Japan to open access for Indonesian agricultural goods, improve access for Indonesian nurses to work in Japan, commence a review of the Indonesia-Japan economic partnership agreement this year, and grant national carrier Garuda rights for a Jakarta-Tokyo-Los Angeles route.

After Indonesia, Abe will visit Vietnam, which the U.S. has cultivated stronger ties with as a part of President Barack Obama's pivot to Asia policy.

Trump, however, has said he will scrap U.S. involvement in the Trans Pacific Partnership trade agreement, which was a signature part of Obama's policy. **AP**

MYANMAR

Muslims hope UN envoy's visit will bring change

MUSLIM villagers in western Myanmar's troubled Rakhine state said yesterday that they hope positive change will result from a U.N. envoy's visit to the region, where soldiers are accused of widespread abuses against minority Muslims, including murder, rape and the burning of thousands of homes.

U.N. Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Yanghee Lee concluded a three-day visit yesterday to probe the situation in northern Rakhine, where an army crackdown has driven an estimated 65,000 Muslim ethnic Rohingya to flee across the border to Bangladesh in the past three months.

"We really hope that her visit brings a positive change for Rohingya and we hope to gain our human rights," a displaced Rohingya man living temporarily in Kye Kan Pyin village said on condition of anonymity due to security reasons.

The crackdown began in October after nine policemen were killed in attacks by a shadowy group along the border. The government and the army have rejected the accusations of abuses and killings, saying recently that they have simply been conducting a "clearance operation" in

the region.

Rohingya villagers and activists say hundreds of civilians have been killed, but the number cannot be verified because authorities have limited access to areas where the deaths occurred. Recent satellite images showed thousands of houses were burned.

"We have received hundreds of villagers whose houses were burned and they are living in our village and they have nowhere to go," said Kye Kan Pyin resident Mohammad Hussein.

Despite living in Myanmar for generations, an estimated 1 million Rohingya are barred from citizenship in the Buddhist-majority nation of 50 million, and instead live as some of the world's most persecuted people. More than 100,000 Rohingya still live in squalid internal displacement camps.

Lee is on a 12-day visit to Myanmar to assess the human rights situation, less than a year after the formation of the democratically elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi. She is focusing her attention on the Rohingya, who mostly live in Rakhine state. She said she would present a report to the U.N. Human Rights Council in March. **AP**

PROPERTY WANTED FOR SALE OR RENT

Email us your property details and asking price or call us at: +853 2835 2699



www.JMLProperty.com

For Rent

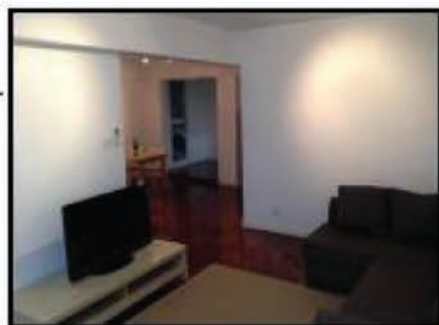


Manhattan - B unit

(Ref: 16120630)
1,680sq. ft. HKD22,000

Bright and spacious 3 bedroom furnished apartment, excellent location in the 5-star residence.

The Manhattan. Great facilities within the complex including state of the art gym, outdoor pools, bbq area, private kitchen, indoor kids zone and outdoor playground. Great views over old Taipa looking towards The Galaxy and Venetian.



Jou Fai Kuok, St Pauls Ruin's Macau

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

One bedroom apartment in Heritage Area of Macau. A five minute from the Ruins of St Pauls. Renovated 3 years ago. Good size master bedroom with built in wardrobes.

Well equipped kitchen. S shaped living / dining area with small nook for desk.



Calçada da Surpresa, 12, Ching Fai Court, Macau

(Ref: 16120629)
2,000sq. ft. HKD 23,000

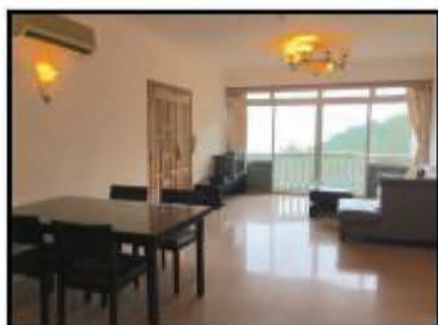
LOFT in the centre of Macau. A unique opportunity to live in this sleek, modern property. The large open space area on the ground floor houses the open plan living and dining areas with fabulous designer kitchen located at back of the property. On the mezzanine floor two large double bedrooms with a lots of built in storage



One Central, Unit B, T2 Macau

(Ref: 16090616)
2,288sq. ft. HKD 29,800

Luxury lakefront 3 bedroom apartment on a high floor. 80sq. ft. balcony with uninterrupted views of Nam Van Lake, Macau Tower and city skyline. Quality finishes. Exclusive Clubhouse with 5 levels of indoor/outdoor leisure and recreational space. Best address in Macau. Directly linked to the shopping center. Walking distance to MGM, Wynn, Mandarin Oriental etc.



Hellene Gardens, Lot 4, D Unit

(Ref: 16100623)
1,663sq. ft. HKD 12,800

Furnished 3 bedroom apartment that is bright and spacious. Large living room/dining room with a small balcony facing towards the sea and mountain. Hellene Gardens is a wonderful place to live with beach and beautiful trail walks, children's park, football courts, swimming pools, BBQ areas and Fernados Restaurant. One car park space is included.



Taipa Village ShopHouse, Taipa

(Ref: 16100620)
1,400sq. ft. HKD 50,000

Located in the pedestrian shopping area of Taipa village, this is a unique opportunity to rent a great space. Recently upgraded by the owner the property had two toilets, one on each level.

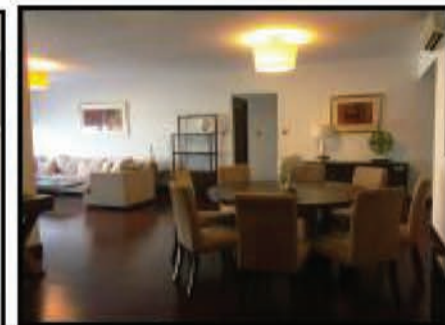
With little investment this property could be turned into a commercial enterprise or a home.



Office Space, Centro Commercial, Macau

(Ref: 16100626)
836sq. ft. HKD 12,200

Office Space available in central Macau, great location. This high floor office is light and bright with great views looking over the park towards Sanado Square. Unit F is currently one large open planned space with a small office and storage room. The office will be painted with a new ceiling and carpets throughout. Management fees of \$1,505 per month are paid by the tenant direct.



D Unit, Manhattan Taipa

(Ref: 16100627)
2,305sq. ft. HKD 29,800

4 bedrooms apartment in an excellent location, in the 5-star residence: The Manhattan. High quality finishes and furnishings. Club House facilities include gymnasium, outdoor swimming pool & sun deck, golf simulator, children door & outdoor play areas, bbq facilities, lounge/party room with private kitchen. Perfectly located, close to super markets, restaurants, cafes, shops and walking distance of the Cotai Strip. Car Park not included.

For Sale



Iau Lei Garden, Taipa

(Ref: 16105501)
1,015sq. ft. HKD6.8M

Recently renovated 3 bedroom / 2 bathroom family apartment. Open views across Taipa. Convenient location. Bright and well appointed property.

Excellent value for money in well maintained building. Tenanted / ends Aug 2018



Taipa Warehouse, Pac On

(Ref: 16095501)
1,652sq. ft. HKD 6.99M
Rate: HKD4,231sq ft

Rare opportunity to purchase warehouse space in Taipa. Second floor storage space accessed by 3 cargo lifts. Air conditioned. Bright open space.

Building access 247. Cargo drop off available 6am-9pm. Management monthly Fee MOP700.00. Viewing can be arranged by appointment.



Bauhinia Court, Hellene Gardens Appealing Apartment

(Ref: 16045473)
1,633sq. ft. HKD 7.88M
Rate: HKD 4,776sq ft

Three good size bedrooms. Master bedroom with ensuite. Open style kitchen, made larger by incorporating the original maids quarters and back balcony. Living and dining area has a great layout and built in balcony. Views from the living room across the Coloane mountains and from the kitchen over the swimming pool towards the South China Sea. With only 7 floors in this block this apartment can be considered a low rise building. Renovated 10 years ago the property could benefit from a face lift although with some TCL it could also be a great rental property.



Nam Long, Taipa

(Ref: 16095500)
515sq. ft. HKD 3.8M
Rate: HKD 7,378sq ft

Taipa / Village apartment. Renovated and modernized apartment in Central Location, originally 2 bedrooms now changed to 1 large bedroom. Open kitchen, simple and modern interior, apartment sold as investment together with furniture and tenancy.

Easy access to shops, taxi's and Cotai strip. Extremely popular area where property is in high demand.

Office: (853) 2835 2699

Email: Info@JMLProperty.com

Contact Property Consultants Today.

Juliet
(English Speaker)
T: (853) 6680 9804
Juliet@JMLProperty.com

Lorraine
(English Speaker)
T: (853) 6610 2371
Lorraine@JMLProperty.com

Ignoring Trump's skepticism, Davos elite bets on climate change

Javier Blas
and Jessica Shankleman

DONALD Trump has often ridiculed global warming and promised to withdraw the U.S. from the global accord signed in Paris in 2015. Yet despite the change of political weather in Washington, the captains of business and finance gathered in Davos this week will spend a lot of time talking about climate change - and how to make money from it.

The World Economic Forum is devoting 15 sessions of its 2017 annual meeting to climate change, and nine more to clean energy - the most ever on the issues.

It reflects how much is at stake. For global business leaders, it's not just a question of burnishing their green credentials, but about billions of dollars - maybe even trillions - in potential profits and losses. Insurers are starting to price-in more frequent flooding and droughts; energy giants are shaping their business for a world that's moving away from oil and coal; car makers are putting real money into electric vehicles; banks want to lend money for renewable electricity projects.

"The good thing is that the Paris agreement raised the bar for everyone," said Ben van Beurden, the head of Royal Dutch Shell Plc, Europe's largest oil group. "Everybody feels the obligation to act."

Achieving the ambitions set out in Paris may require USD13.5 trillion of spending through to 2030, according International Energy Agency data that shows the scale of the opportunity for bu-



ness. Only last year, clean energy investment stood at \$287.5 billion, data compiled by Bloomberg New Energy Finance indicate.

Climate change is a core part of the growth agenda.

DOMINIC WAUGHROY
WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM

"The scale and scope of the investment flows on renewables shows it's mainstream," said David Turk, head of climate change at the IEA in Paris and a former senior U.S. climate diplomat.

With money-making opportunities rising, traditional climate change advocates - Al Gore and Greenpeace executive director

Jennifer Morgan - will mingle in panel discussions with executives such as HSBC Holdings Plc Chairman Stuart Gulliver and Patrick Yu, president of Cofco Corp., the largest food company in China. They will discuss the nexus between the fight against global warming and business - both how to stop climate change and how to profit from it.

"Climate change is material and central for many companies and their boards," said Dominic Waughroy, head of public-private partnership at the World Economic Forum. "Climate change is a core part of the growth agenda."

Beyond the official program, a record 60 chief executive officers are expected to gather in a closed-door session to discuss the challenges of climate change, according to a person familiar with the event, who asked not to be named because the meeting isn't public.

In the Alpine resort's congress center, the World Economic Forum has built an exhibition highlighting climate change, "from rampant emissions to rising sea levels."

Michael Oppenheimer, a professor at Princeton University who will help to explain the exhibit, said despite the arrival of Trump, the fight against global warming will continue.

"No matter what the U.S. president says, the progress on climate change can have many routes," he said. "The U.S. can harm progress, but will not stop progress."

In November's follow-up meeting to Paris, nearly 200 nations, including China and Saudi Arabia, vowed to step up their efforts to fight global warming, facing down concerns the new Trump administration will seek to derail policies aimed at curbing pollution.

"Leadership on climate change is proving to be remarkably resi-

lient," said Christiana Figueres, the UN's former top climate change diplomat, who will be in Davos speaking on a panel alongside Patrick Pouyanne, boss of French oil giant Total SA, Oleg Deripaska, owner of world's top aluminum producer United Co. Rusal, and Ignacio Sanchez Galan, head of renewables heavyweight Iberdrola SA.

China, which for years sought to derail global efforts to tackle climate change, has flipped its role and is now lecturing the U.S. and Europe on the importance of the issue. Xi Jinping will be the first sitting Chinese president to attend Davos, after making green finance a key topic for China's presidency of the Group of 20 nations last year.

In 2012, Trump claimed climate change was a Chinese hoax designed to damage the U.S. economy. Even though the president-elect has appeared to soften his stance a little, telling the New York Times last year he was open minded about the issue, his policy positions stand in stark contrast to China.

Trump's election platform pledged to reverse environmental regulations, increase coal production and pull the U.S. out of the landmark Paris Agreement signed in 2015 to limit fossil-fuel emissions.

Yet, more than 600 U.S. companies from DuPont Co. to Monsanto Co. have urged Trump to stay in the Paris accord.

"It's totally clear that companies see the writing on the wall," said Morgan of Greenpeace. "If President-elect Trump doesn't want to go, there then he is going to be very out of step." **Bloomberg**



FEARING a new eruption of violence in the Middle East, more than 70 world diplomats gathered in Paris yesterday to push for renewed peace talks that would lead to a Palestinian state.

The conference is meant to be a forceful message to U.S. President-elect Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that much of the world wants peace and sees

a two-state solution as the best way to achieve it in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Netanyahu has snubbed yesterday's conference as "rigged" against Israel, and Trump's incoming administration isn't taking part.

"A two-state solution is the only possible one," French Foreign Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault said in opening the conference, calling it "more indispensable than ever" to solve the

World diplomats in Paris to urge renewed Mideast peace talks

protracted conflict.

"Both parties are very far apart and their relationship is one of distrust - a particularly dangerous situation," Ayrault added. "Our collective responsibility is to bring Israelis and Palestinians back to the negotiating table. We know it is difficult, but is there an alternative? No, there isn't."

French diplomats fear Trump will unleash new tensions in the region by condoning settlements on land claimed by the Pales-

tinians and potentially moving the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to contested Jerusalem.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry is in Paris defending American interests at the conference, in his last major diplomatic foray before he leaves office. It marks the end of eight years of failed U.S. efforts at Israeli-Palestinian diplomacy.

Netanyahu declined an invitation to a special meeting after the conference, and Palestinian President Mah-

moud Abbas was initially expected, but his visit to Paris was postponed.

According to a draft statement obtained by The Associated Press on Friday, the conference will urge Israel and the Palestinians "to officially restate their commitment to the two-state solution."

It also will affirm that the international community "will not recognize" changes to Israel's pre-1967 lines without agreement by both sides.

Pro-Israel demonstrators planned a protest yesterday in Paris.

The final declaration also may warn Trump against moving the embassy, a move that could be seen as recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital after decades of insisting that the city's status must be determined by direct negotiations.

Israeli and Palestinian leaders have not negotiated even indirectly since a failed U.S.-led peace effort in 2014. **AP**

what's ON

MACAU STORYBOARD - A REMINISCENT COLLECTION BY DIXON LEI
TIME: 11am-7pm (Closed on public holidays)
UNTIL: January 30, 2017
VENUE: Macau Tower Convention & Entertainment Centre
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2893 3339

THE STAMP FESTIVAL
TIME: 9am-5:30pm (no admission after 5:00 pm), closed on public holidays
UNTIL: April 7, 2017
VENUE: Communication Museum of Macao / Estrada D. Maria II, No. 7
ADMISSION: MOP10
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2871 8063 / 2871 8570

'LUI CHUN KWONG THE DISTANT LINE' EXHIBITION
TIME: 10am-9pm
UNTIL: February 26, 2017
VENUE: Tap Seac Gallery / Av. Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida, No. 95, Macao
ADMISSION: Free
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

Offbeat

WHAT ARE THE ODDS? MOM, DAD, SON ALL SHARE A BIRTHDAY



Luke and Hillary Gardner never have a problem remembering each other's birthday. After all, the husband and wife were born the same day. And so was their son, 27 years later this past December.

The odds of that happening are about one in 133,000, statisticians say. And that's a lot less likely than getting hit by lightning sometime in your lifetime, which some put at roughly one in 12,000.

They weren't aiming at a joint birthday when their son Cade Lee Gardner was conceived, said Luke Gardner, an assistant pastor at a Baptist church in northeast Mississippi and a student at a nearby campus of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

"I really didn't even put it together until we got pregnant," he said in a telephone interview last week. "Then we realized, 'Oh, wow!'"

Using a smartphone app, he said, his wife calculated a due date of Dec. 15, three days before their joint birthday. Her obstetrician called it for Dec. 19.

So the couple from Baldwin, Mississippi, got in some exercise to try to hurry the baby up a bit. The night of Dec. 17, Gardner said, "we went walking" around the parking lot at First Baptist Church of Baldwin, where Gardner is outreach pastor.

Whether or not the exercise sped things up, Cade was born at 10:01 a.m. on Dec. 18 — exactly 27 years after his parents' birthdate.

"Hillary is exactly six hours older than me," Luke Gardner said. She was born at 8:10 a.m. and her husband at 2:10 p.m. on Dec. 18, 1989.

They learned about their shared birthday before they started dating, while just part of a group of friends who hung out together.

"I saw it on a Facebook page first and asked about it," Gardner said. "I couldn't really believe it when I saw it. I had to confirm it with her."

The chance of meeting someone born the same day as you is one in 365, explained Tumulesh Solanky, chair of the math department at the University of New Orleans. He said the chance of two people being born on the same day and having a baby on their birthday is about 1/365 times 1/365.

"That comes out to .000000751 — seven zeros and then 751," or about 7.5 in a million, he said, which comes to about one in 133,000. Statisticians note that this ignores such factors as leap years and the fact that births are not evenly spaced throughout the year. **AP**

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	RTPi Live
17:00	Happy Endings Sr.2
17:40	Precious Pearl (Repeated)
18:30	Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sport
22:10	Precious Pearl
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Documentary Serie
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live

cinema

CINETEATRO

12 JAN -18 JAN

ARRIVAL

ROOM 1

2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm

Director: Denis Villeneuve

Starring: Amy Adams, Jeremy Renner, Forest Whitaker

Language: English

Duration: 116min

CHERRY RETURNS

ROOM 2

2:30, 9:30pm

Director: Chris Chow

Starring: Song Jia, Lam Ka Tung, Cherry Ngan, Hu Ge

Language: Cantonese (Chinese, English)

A STREET CAT NAMED BOB

ROOM 2

4:30, 7:30pm

Director: Roger Spottiswoode

Starring: Luke Treadaway, Joanne Froggatt, Ruta Gedmintas

Language: English

Duration: 103min



SING

ROOM 3

7:30pm

Director: Garth Jennings

Starring: Matthew McConaughey, Reese Witherspoon, Seth MacFarlane

Language: Cantonese (English)

Duration: 108min

10000 MILES

ROOM 3

2:30, 4:30, 9:30pm

Director: Simon Hung

Starring: Yuan Huang, Megan Lai, Darren Wang

Language: Mandarin (Cantonese, English)

Duration: 103min

MACAU TOWER

12 JAN - 18 JAN



ARRIVAL

2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm

Director: Denis Villeneuve

Starring: Amy Adams, Jeremy Renner, Forest Whitaker

Language: English

Duration: 116min

this day in history



1979 SHAH OF IRAN FLEES INTO EXILE

The Shah of Iran has fled the country following months of increasingly violent protests against his regime.

Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlevi and his wife, Empress Farah, left Tehran and flew to Aswan in Egypt.

The couple's three youngest children were flown to the United States yesterday. Official reports say the Shah has left for a "vacation" and medical treatment. In fact, he was asked to leave by the man he appointed prime minister earlier this month.

Over the past few months, there have been an increasing number of violent clashes between security forces and anti-Shah demonstrators. Opposition to the Shah has become united behind the Muslim traditionalist movement led by Iran's main spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ruholla Khomeini, from exile in France.

There have been calls for the Ayatollah's return - and news of the Shah's departure was greeted with mass celebrations across Iran.

British and United States' ex-patriates living in Iran - regarded as symbols of westernization - have been the frequent target of attacks. Thousands have left the country.

Martial law was declared in many cities on 8 September. But later that month, industrial action by thousands of Iranian workers culminated in a mass strike by employees in the oil industry.

The strike sparked riots and rallies across the country in support of the Ayatollah.

Western governments, like the US, UK and West Germany, have continued to express support for the Shah.

The Shah appointed a new military government in early November. But it failed to stem the rising tide of support for the Ayatollah.

Earlier this month he appointed a new prime minister, Dr Shapur Bahktiar. When, on 13 January, the Ayatollah declared a revolutionary Islamic council to replace what he called the "illegal government" of Iran, Dr Bahktiar persuaded the Shah it was time to leave.

Courtesy of BBC

IN CONTEXT

The Shah never returned to Iran. He died in exile in Egypt in 1980.

Ayatollah Khomeini returned to Iran on 1 February after 14 years' exile. He threw out Dr Bahktiar's government on 11 February and, after a referendum, declared an Islamic Republic on 1 April.

Khomeini guided his country's revolutionary social, legal, and political development until his death in 1989. He presided over the country during the Iran/Iraq war, only reluctantly agreeing a ceasefire. He also issued a fatwa against author Salman Rushdie. Two decades later, liberals ushered in a period of transformation with their election victory in 2000 over the conservative elite.

But reformist president Mohammad Khatami was at odds with hardliners, including the supreme leader, Ayatollah Khamenei, and failed to make good on his promises.

He was replaced by the ultra-conservative Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in June 2005.

President Bush declared Iran part of an "axis of evil" in 2002.

Washington accused Tehran of attempting to develop nuclear weapons, although Iran says its nuclear ambitions are peaceful.

Tehran resumed its uranium conversion process in 2005, provoking a diplomatic showdown with the international community.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 It's true - you just can't go home again. Sure, moving home or back to where you came from is always a legitimate option to choose, but you can't confuse a geographic return with an emotional return.

Taurus April 20-May 20 Make plans for the future. Time is definitely on your side today, so use it wisely. Your romantic relationship is getting stronger, and today the two of you will finally have all the time you need to have that conversation.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Your finances are your own business, and no one else's, no matter what their relationship to you. So if you're feeling tight with money (or loose with money), then you have every right to act accordingly.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 After a busy spell and lots of new beginnings, your life is entering a period of many terminations. The good news is that nothing is going to be over that doesn't need to be over.

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Take the more difficult route today - sure, it could tax your energy to the maximum limit, but in the end it will reward you with a great pride that will feed your ego in a profound and powerful way.

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You can help other people without being too critical today, but you will have to be honest about what you think. Right now, there is no point in sharing your thought unless you share all of them: the good and the bad.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 The best approach for ticking off all the items on your ever-growing to-do list today is a personal one. As much as possible, you should do your business on a one-on-one basis.

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 Try to align yourself with an intellectual person today - while their smarts might intimidate you a little bit, their insight will inspire you to new levels of greatness. They can help you prevail in any challenging situation.

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Several dramas will be whirling around you today, but you can handle them... and who knows? You might even enjoy them, since they involve some of your favorite people.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 A big change is coming that will affect your home life and shift things around in a slightly confusing way. But don't worry - in the end, these changes will improve things dramatically.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Getting a little bit more exercise into your life is a lot easier than you think, so investigate one or two ways to do just that today. Just parking at the far end of the parking lot will have impact.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 An upcoming family obligation might seem like it will be a tedious experience, but you should keep an open mind. Once you get into it, you'll find more than a few new entertaining angles.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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

Hard

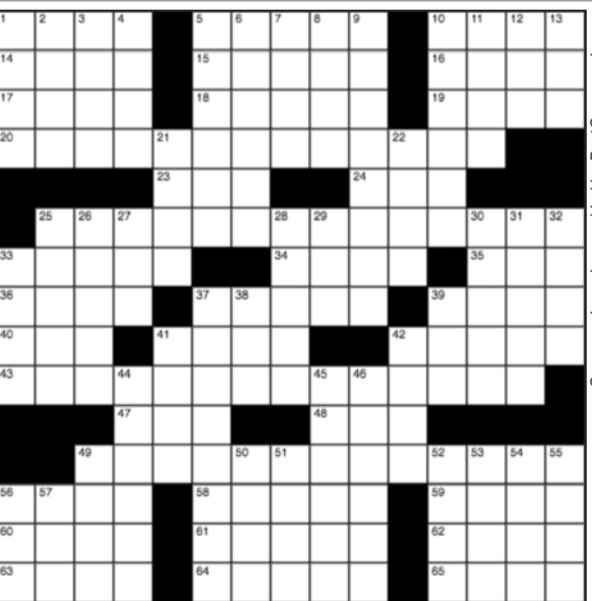
7 1 grid with numbers 6, 2, 8, 3, 1, 2, 6, 7, 4, 6, 8, 4, 5, 1, 7, 3

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Collections of anecdotes; 5- Roman god with two faces; 10- Dick and Jane's dog; 14- Emit coherent light; 15- ___ we all?; 16- Hauls; 17- Blue dye source; 18- Botch; 19- Dominion; 20- Ankle boot for hiking; 23- Peer Gynt's mother; 24- 100 square meters; 25- Worldliness; 33- Flavor; 34- Chicago mayor Emanuel; 35- U-turn from SSW; 36- Sounds of reproof; 37- Turbulent; 39- Western Indians; 40- "Lord, is ___?"; Matthew; 41- Intend; 42- Gillette razors; 43- Foosball and billiards place?; 47- Assist; 48- Large body of water; 49- Heliozoan; 56- Govt. agent; 58- Ulan ___; 59- Nick and Nora's pooch; 60- It may be compact; 61- Rental agreement; 62- Communists; 63- Scarf; 64- Aromatic compound; 65- Kind of prof.;

DOWN: 1- What there oughta be; 2- Granny; 3- "Clueless" catchphrase; 4- Ego; 5- Son of Mary, Queen of Scots; 6- Gets up; 7- Resting place; 8- Word processing command; 9- Paunchy; 10- Thoroughfare; 11- Rain cats and dogs; 12- Nocturnal bird; 13- Half a fly; 21- Cowardly Lion portrayer; 22- Baby carriage; 25- Pan-fry; 26- Eye-related; 27- Not neg.; 28- Singer Lopez; 29- Proverb ending?; 30- Emcee's job; 31- Late bedtime; 32- Capone's nemesis; 33- Agitate; 37- Legible; 38- Muesli bit; 39- ___Aztec languages; 41- Chow ___; 42- Shrinking Asian sea; 44- Vulgarity; 45- Seep through, biologically; 46- Closer; 49- Back talk; 50- Scottish refusals; 51- Let's just leave ___ that; 52- Irene of "Fame"; 53- Manipulates; 54- Former Fords; 55- Bridge position; 56- NFL 6-pointers; 57- Actress Farrow;

Friday's solution crossword grid with filled-in letters: OTTER, RICO, NERD, NORSE, EBAN, ALII, ATEST, TERE, SCAN, TIONE, ENGR, SING, REDNECK, NEEDTO, COO, AROAR, ACRES, GLENN, EUR, DAIS, ALGAE, MESA, ATM, ANEED, OILED, ASNER, NOS, EMBRYO, GOODBYE, BARLEY, CORN, ORAN, BRIE, TONA, GUILD, ELAN, NCOS, ABATE, DONE, GORP, STRAD



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

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 Macau Daily Times 28 716 081
Customs 28 559 944
S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
IACM 28 387 333
Tourism 28 333 000
Airport 59 888 88



FOR SALE www.JMLProperty.com
FOR RENT More info, please contact us Info@JMLproperty.Com (853) 2835 2699 Office

Nova Taipa Tower 29 Car Park, Taipa 0 sq ft / HKD 1.3M HKD 0sq ft No M260. Close to Lift Ref: 16105502
Calçada da Surpresa, 12, Ching Fai Court, Macau 2 Bedroom Apartment Unique in Design HKD 23,000 / 2,000 sq ft Ref: 16120629

Taipa Warehouse, Pac On Taipa 1,652 sq ft / HKD 6.99M HKD 4,231 sq ft Storage Space & Cargo Lifts Ref: 16095501
Office - Central Business District, Macau Central Location Two Separate Entrances HKD 22,000 / 1,222 sq ft Ref: 16090618

Iau Lei Garden Taipa 1,015 sq ft / HKD 6.8M HKD 6,699sq ft Views Across Taipa Ref: 16105501
Manhattan - B unit Taipa 3 Bedroom Apartment Spacious and Furnished HKD 22,000 / 1,680 sq ft Ref: 16120630

Manhattan E Unit Taipa 1,626 sq ft / HKD 11.382M HKD 7,000sq ft Luxury Residence Ref: 16105505
Hellene Gardens, Lot 4, D Unit, Coloane 3 Bedroom Apartment Car Park Included HKD 12,800 / 1,663 sq ft Ref: 16100623





Innovation that excites

FOLLOWING THE MAP ISN'T YOUR STYLE

THE ALL-NEW Crossover-SUV X-TRAIL



Hands-free power backdoor



2-3-2 (7 seaters) arrangement



PERFORMANCE FOR EVERY ADVENTURE

X-TRAIL combines high efficiency with bold performance. Designed for effortless driving, the twin VTCdirect injection engine and XTRONIC CVT work seamlessly together for a thrilling ride. The advanced engine with both delivering responsive power and outstanding fuel economy. With X-TRAIL, you're all set for any adventure.

XIN KANG CHENG MOTORS LTD.

Advenida 1 de Maio, The Bayview Bloco 4, R/C, C-D, Macau Tel: 2871 9838



FRENCH driver Stephane Peterhansel said luck played no part in his record-extending seventh Dakar Rally triumph on Saturday.

Peterhansel duly completed the 12th and last stage - a mere 64-kilometer sprint - on the road to Buenos Aires without incident to successfully defend his title by more than five minutes from countryman and Peugeot teammate Sebastien Loeb.

Another countryman, Cyril Despres, was third to give Peugeot a sweep of the podium.

The next best drivers, former champions Nani Roma of Spain and Giniel de Villiers of South Africa, were more than an hour behind.

Loeb won the last stage, and third straight, by 19 seconds from Peterhansel, but lost his chance of a maiden Dakar title when he punctured on Friday. At the time, Loeb, the former nine-time world rally champion, was attacking Peterhansel and had more than halved the time deficit on the leader.

"It was a high-stakes duel, we went fast," Peterhansel said. "I'd like to thank Peugeot for providing us with awesome cars and, especially, for not issuing team orders, which is a great show of fair play because it puts us all on an even footing."

"We were fighting against a super-fast champion who knows how to race from the lead and isn't easily impressed. Yesterday, it was decided by a flat tire, and that was probably the turning point in this Dakar. My strategy was to push Sebastien to his limits. This made him more likely to make

Peterhansel completes 7th Dakar Rally victory; 13th overall



Peterhansel (right) co-driver Jean Paul Cottret (left) with team director Bruno Famin, (center) cheer after winning the car category at the Argentina Dakar Rally

mistakes, which he eventually did, so it's not a matter of luck."

Nobody has a better understanding of the world's toughest rally than the 51-year-old Peterhansel. After winning a record six Dakars on a motorbike, he won another six in a car in 2004, '05, '07, '12, '13 and '16 before this month. He has three more car

titles than anyone else, all of them with co-driver Jean Paul Cottret. He's abandoned the Dakar only three times in 29 years.

Loeb was content with second after placing ninth on debut last year, but he still had unfinished business in the Dakar.

"We have what it takes to win the race," Loeb said. "I don't think I'm

going to race in as many editions of the Dakar as Peterhansel, but my aim is to win it some day. We'll have to keep on trying."

Sam Sunderland became the first Englishman to win a Dakar when he topped the motorbike class, a half-hour ahead of KTM teammate Matthias Walkner of Austria. This was the first time both fi-

nished a Dakar; they abandoned both of their previous attempts.

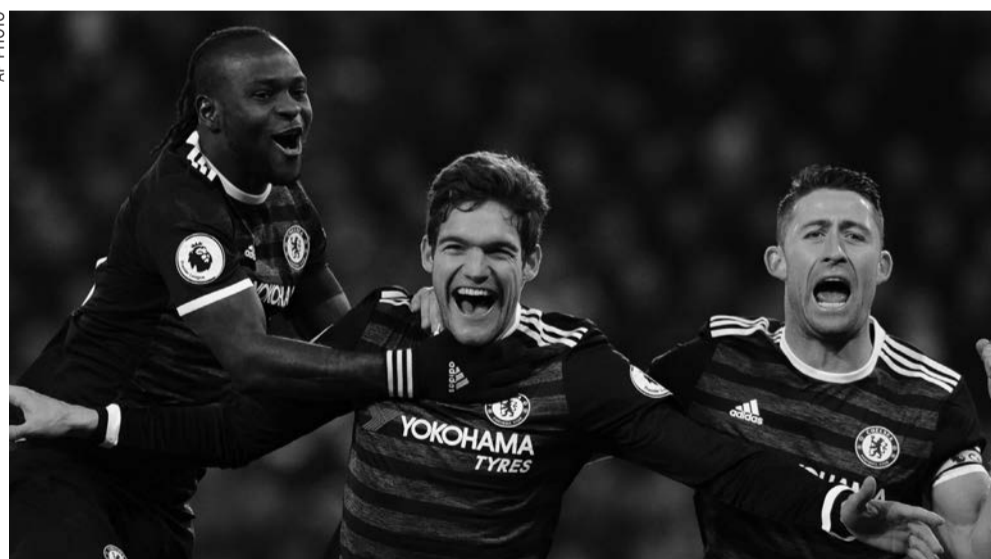
Another KTM rider, Gerard Farres Guell of Spain, was third for his highest finish at his ninth attempt.

Sunderland dominated for the past week, but was still relieved to reach the end.

Sam Sunderland became the first Englishman to win a Dakar when he topped the motorbike class

"When I crossed the line I felt all the emotion hit me," he said.

"The weight on my shoulders of the race over the last week, leading the rally, has been really heavy. To finish here is incredible. It's been difficult, especially in some of the moments with navigation mistakes or when things get stressful, to stay calm. It's been really the most difficult thing to do, but we're here, we did it, and I couldn't be any happier." **AP**



Marcos Alonso (center) celebrates scoring his second goal

EPL

Costa no loss for Chelsea as leader beats Leicester 3-0

CHELSEA easily coped without top-scorer Diego Costa, sweeping aside fading champion Leicester 3-0 to go seven points clear in the English Premier League

yesterday (Macau time). Marcos Alonso scored twice and Pedro Rodriguez headed in the third as Chelsea put its title bid back on track after a 13-match winning run

ended at Tottenham in the previous game.

"It was a very professional, solid performance by us on the back of the Spurs game," Chelsea defender Gary Cahill

said. "We had to prove it. It's all about bouncing back."

Whether Costa returns to the Chelsea team is unclear, with the striker linked with a move to China but officially out of the game due to a back injury.

"He wasn't there today and we managed to put Pedro, Hazard and Willian up there so you try to defend against those three boys - it's very difficult," Cahill said. "We are blessed to have talent like that, and if someone is missing someone comes in and produces a performance like that."

Chelsea's early opener came from an unlikely source in the sixth minute. Cesar Azpilicueta's delicious cross-caused chaos in the Leicester defense before it fell to Hazard to tee up the unmarked Alonso to hammer in from six yards.

There was little reaction from Leicester

as Chelsea threatened a procession. Leicester completed just 15 passes inside the opening 15 minutes.

The rotation of Chelsea's front three Hazard, Willian and Pedro, caused Leicester issues. Willian was particularly impressive, and any threats were batted away by Cahill and David Luiz as the subdued host looked short of ideas.

Without Riyad Mahrez, on African Cup of Nations duty with Algeria, Leicester lacked its main supply line to Jamie Vardy and Musa. The only real alarm for Chelsea came when Courtois palmed away Vardy's low cross but the visitors always held a degree of control.

A second goal arrived six minutes into the second half. Willian was fouled by Christian Fuchs and his right-wing free kick was only half cleared to Alonso. The left-back's low 18-yard

drive hit Wes Morgan to squirm past goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel.

Chelsea went hunting for more as Cahill's overhead kick was blocked before Alonso was inches away from a shock hat trick when his ambitious first-time volley dropped wide.

But Pedro wrapped up the points in the 71st as Chelsea underlined its superiority and the gulf between the two sides. His flick found Willian and, when the midfielder's cross looped off Schmeichel, Pedro rose to nod into an empty net.

Chelsea's last visit to King Power Stadium in November 2015 ended in a 2-1 loss that led to Jose Mourinho's firing and helped Leicester win the title. Fast forward 13 months and Chelsea inflicted Leicester's 10th loss of the season to leave Claudio Ranieri's team only five points above the relegation zone. **AP**

opinion

Rear Window

Severo Portela



TELLING APART GOOD AND EVIL

These first days of 2017 have been eventful and sufficiently dramatic – I cannot offer a more interesting choice of words - to guess, to anticipate a tough Year of the Rooster. And as the popular saying goes, when the going gets tough, the tough gets going!

What we are about to try to do is articulate the meaning of a body of loosely connected affairs here and corresponding circumstances across the Pearl River Delta in the sister SAR of Hong Kong.

First and foremost we have the high profile trials of Hong Kong's ex-Chief Executive and MSAR's ex-Prosecutor General. Linking the Hong Kong and Macau court cases, besides the public and political weight of both defendants, we would point to the prosaic nature of the crimes of corruption, unlawful economic advantage, abuse of power... and forgive us, the prosaic contempt. Perhaps the evidence of the reality blurs the understanding, but it is hard to put together ex-CE Donald Tsang, a pre-handover civil servant - today he would be called a localist - promoted to the top job under very special circumstances, and a "hopelessly compromised" (SCMP) white collar raider.

The same sense of strangeness comes to mind when we try to picture powerful Prosecutor Ho who once dreamed of the top job, and a life of petty crime that includes massages not specified, coffee capsules and timber, yes, timber. The reports of the court sessions make for good reading... and judging from that narrative, reality beats fiction when the stuff is the parody of argument.

That is all about similarity. The containment of Tsang's trial and ordeal, rather, ordeal and trial, means that due process is not challenged – the Hong Kong prosecutor promised jurors a "simple story" - like of the sort with the oath-taking imbroglio. Political shadow will not taint current affairs... but now we know that an ex-CE is not an untouchable.

On the contrary, Macau's Ho Chio Meng's 1,500-counts-court case threatens to spill to allegedly unintended realms, and it has already, indeed. As we said, the crime count looks a bit common considering it involves someone who has supervised matters like the AML uber trial and all throughout the gaming industry. And of gaming, there was in the HCM trial reference made to a share in a VIP room.

To jump to conclusions, we would say that Hong Kong will keep fighting the political battles outside the courts, even though the only gain for democracy seems to be just to see CYL go home, thus preserving the courts and the common law.

In Macau, we see different signs. Political stuff is kept to a stand-still (cryogenic even) while judiciary and legal problems pile up, and threaten to dent the system or at least erode it in such a way to concern its "agents"... to use the terminology coming from the brand new association of Vong Hin Fai and Chui Sai Cheong, among other lawyers and otherwise. Macau should be aware of the dangers of such a postmodernist association that, if allowed, could erode the meaning of agency and intention, that being rationality itself.

Finally, on a much positive note we have to acknowledge the re-appointment of Echo Chan as coordinator of the Supporting Office to the Permanent Secretariat of the Forum for Economic and Trade Co-operation between China and Portuguese Speaking Countries. Precisely at the moment it will go full throttle with the blessing of Premier Li Keqiang.

THE BUZZ THE BIG TOP COMES DOWN: RINGLING BROS. CIRCUS IS CLOSING

After 146 years, the curtain is coming down on "The Greatest Show on Earth." The owner of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus will close forever in May.

The iconic American spectacle was felled by a variety of factors, company executives say. Declining attendance combined with high operating costs, along with changing public tastes and prolonged battles with animal rights groups all contributed to its demise.

The company broke the news to circus employees Saturday night after shows in Orlando and Miami. Ringling Bros. has two touring circuses this season and will perform 30 shows between now and May. Major stops include Atlanta, Washington, Philadelphia, Boston and Brooklyn. The final shows will be in Providence, Rhode Island, on May 7 and in Uniondale, New York, at the Nassau County Coliseum on May 21.



SOURCE: D5IMG

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

WORLD BRIEFS

THAILAND

Changes to constitution on king powers approved

AP PHOTO



THAILAND'S military-ruled legislature on Friday approved constitutional changes desired by the newly enthroned king that would reserve more powers for him.

One change made by the National Legislative Assembly allows King Maha Vajiralongkorn Bodindradebayavarangkun to decide whether or not to appoint a regent when he travels outside the country. Vajiralongkorn traveled frequently to Germany, where he maintains a residence, before becoming king in December.

The constitution previously stated that if no regent was appointed, the head of the Privy Council – the king's advisory body – would become regent. The amendment effectively keeps royal power in the hands of the king or a trusted confidante when he is

abroad.

A second amendment makes it easier to implement the king's desired changes in a new constitution that was approved in a referendum last August. The government says the changes solely concern royal powers. Vajiralongkorn's approval is needed for the new constitution to be implemented.

Friday's changes were made to an interim constitution enacted in 2014 after the military ousted an elected government in a coup d'etat. It is unclear why Vajiralongkorn is seeking changes in the new constitution, but it suggests that he has not yet settled his relationship with the military.

Vajiralongkorn took the throne on Dec. 2 following the death of his father King Bhumibol Adulyadej on Oct. 13. Privy Council head

Prem Tinisulanonda, a former army chief and prime minister who was a close adviser to Bhumibol, served as regent during the month before Vajiralongkorn succeeded his father.

Until Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha announced earlier this week that the king desired some changes, there was concern that the new constitution might have to be totally scrapped, because it was uncertain that the king would approve it by a Feb. 6 deadline. The deadline is extended under the new rules, which call for experts to write the new amendments, which will then be reviewed by the king.

The revision keeps royal power in the hands of the king or a trusted confidant

The changes raise anew the possibility that the government will not meet its avowed deadline to hold a general election by the end of this year. It has already let several previously declared deadlines slip. AP

AP PHOTO



INDONESIA-JAPAN Japan and Indonesia yesterday affirmed a deepening of economic and political ties during a visit by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. After meeting with Abe, Indonesian President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo said the increase in Japanese investment in Indonesia has been "very significant," doubling to USD4.5 billion in January-September of last year. More on p13

PHILIPPINES

President Rodrigo Duterte orders his troops to bomb extremists who flee with their captives in a bid to stop a wave of kidnappings at sea, calling the loss of civilian lives in such an attack "collateral damage." More on p12

KUWAIT

A Germany-bound Eurowings passenger flight from Oman landed in Kuwait yesterday over a bomb threat but no explosives were found on board, authorities said. The state-run KUNA news agency of Kuwait said 299 passengers on board were evacuated over the incident and that the plane's captain had requested an emergency landing in Kuwait City.

AP PHOTO



IRAQ An Iraqi military spokesman said government troops have fully liberated the sprawling complex of Mosul University, a major step in the massive operation to retake the Islamic State-held city of Mosul.

SERBIA is warning Kosovo it will defend "every inch of its territory," including its former province where Serbs allegedly are under threat from Kosovo Albanians. Serbian President Tomislav Nikolic issued the warning yesterday after a Serbian train, with signs "Kosovo is Serbian," was halted before it entered Kosovo due to reports of a planned attack by ethnic Albanians.

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Bloomberg



More than half of the Hong Kong billionaires ranked among the world's 500 richest people derive their fortunes from property, controlling USD119 billion in total net worth. Property moguls from the U.S., a country with more than 40 times the population and almost nine times the representation on the Bloomberg Billionaires Index are worth a combined \$78b The world's richest property mogul is Chinese developer Wang Jianlin, who's worth \$31b.