



MAIDS' CONTRACTS AUTOMATICALLY RENEWED

The gov't has decided to simplify the visa renewal procedures for domestic helpers who work for permanent residents

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POLICE 'DID NOT BUY SPYING SOFTWARE'

'If the law permitted, of course we would buy and use it,' said the Secretary for Security Wong Sio Chak

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HEAVY RAINS IN MYANMAR LEAVE 9 DEAD

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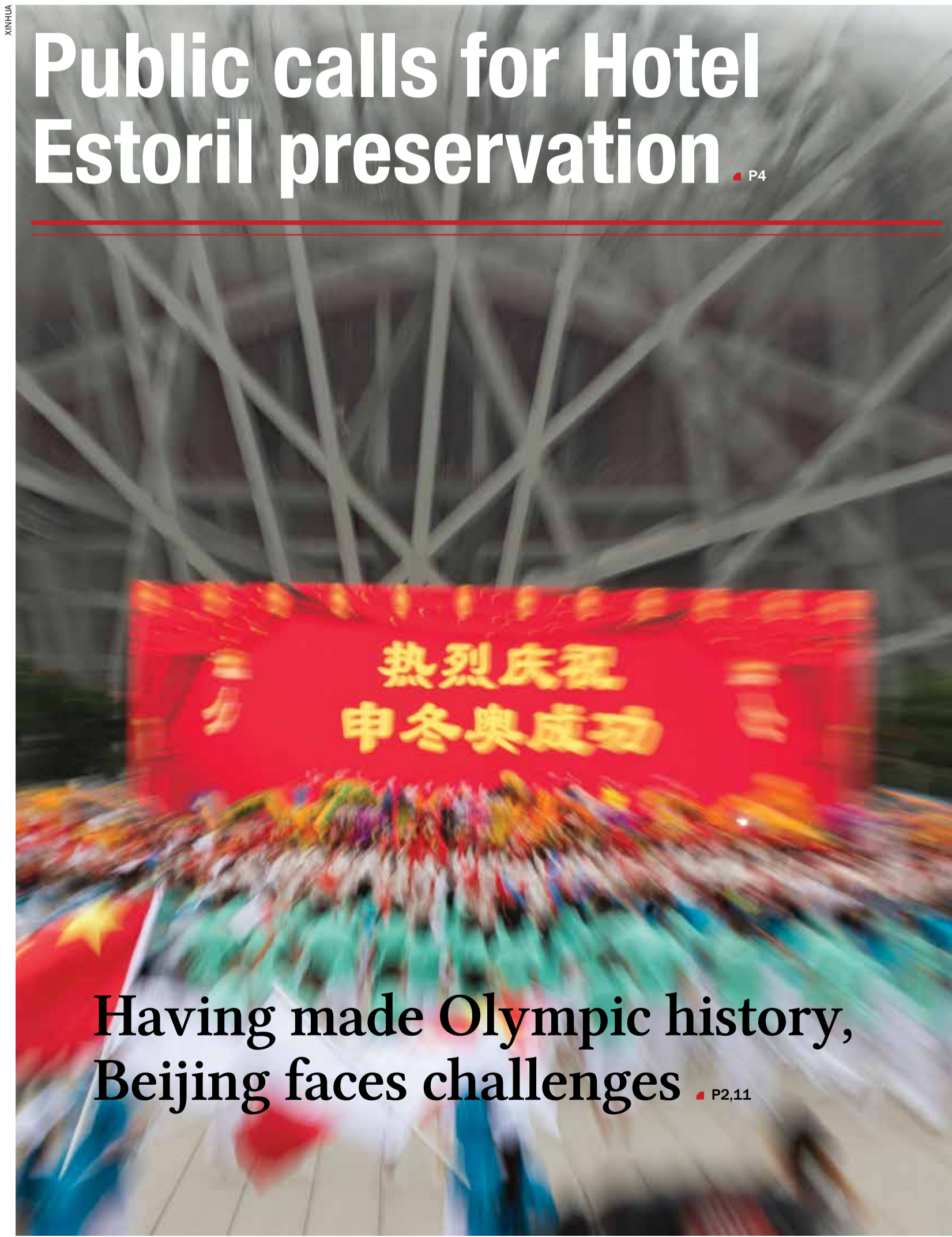


"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

AD

**Response level
for the Middle East
Respiratory Syndrome
(MERS)**

is lowered to
'Closely Monitor'
and
'Travel Advice'
is withdrawn



Public calls for Hotel Estoril preservation

P4

WORLD BRIEFS

CHINA A semi-trailer truck rear-ended two sedans on a road in northwest China's Qinghai Province yesterday, leaving seven people dead and five injured. The truck rear-ended a sedan and pushed it forward to hit another trailer in front. The sedan then hit a sign board on the side, leaving all five passengers dead. Then the trailer decoupled from the truck and hit another sedan and injured four passengers inside. Two passengers in the truck died at the scene.

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FINANCIAL
TIMES

Calais crisis
adds fuel
to charged
debate on
migration **F1**

Having made Olympic history, Beijing faces challenges

P2,11

Chui congratulates Beijing on hosting 2022 Winter Olympics

CHIEF Executive Chui Sai On has congratulated Beijing on winning the bid to host the 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics.

The Chinese capital is the first city to have been invited to host both the summer and winter Olympic Games.

According to a statement issued by the Government, Mr Chui composed a letter to the Beijing Olympic Games Bidding Committee, which congratulated them on beating the rival bid from Almaty, Kazakhstan.

"I am truly happy to learn that Beijing has been chosen to host the 2022 Winter Olympics. Macau's population remains by the Chinese people's side with great enthusiasm," said Mr Chui.

He added that Beijing's successful bid shows that the Chinese capital has the capacity and confidence necessary to host such a huge event. He believes this is yet another step toward reinfor-



The President of the International Olympic Committee, Thomas Bach, announces the winning bid as people celebrate in Beijing

cing China's image as a leader in the world of sports.

"Since openness and reform policies were implemented, our country's international status has improved continuously in regards to economy, infrastructures, education, social development, quality of life improvement, and also sports," he recalled.

Beijing hosted the Summer Olympics in 2008. AP reported that Beijing and Almaty were considered long shots when the 2022 bid race opened two years ago.

After several European contenders withdrew from the race – including Oslo and Stockholm – Beijing beat Almaty by 44 votes to 40 with one abstention. The International Olympic Committee said that Beijing won because it fitted its new agenda of "a stronger focus on sustainability, legacy and transparency."

Criticism from human rights groups over the committee's decision began to pour in soon after the announcement, AP reported.

"China wants the world to ignore its deteriorating human rights and be impressed by Chinese can-do pragmatism instead," said the International Tibet Network. **CP**

Philippines Labor Secretary visits region

THE Philippines Labor and Employment Secretary Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz will visit Macau from tomorrow until Thursday. Her visit is part of an official tour that also includes Taiwan and Hong Kong, the Philippines Consulate General to Macau said in a press release.

Accompanying her will be five other officials from the department of Labor and Employment. During her visit, Ms Dimapilis-Baldoz will meet with Macau's Secretary for Economy and Finance Lionel Leong.

She will also attend a forum with members of the Filipino community currently living in Macau, to discuss ideas and to provide informa-

tion on Philippine government programs and services for nationals living abroad, as well as for workers looking to return home upon the expiry of their employment contracts.

According to figures from the Statistics and Census Services (DSEC), about 22,000 Filipino nationals live in Macau.

Dimapilis-Baldoz's visit is part of an effort to strengthen economic, trade and labor relations with Macau. She is the second ministerial-level Filipino official to visit Macau since 2008, when the former Secretary of Foreign Affairs Alberto G. Romulo visited the MSAR to open the Philippine Consulate General.

ONE YEAR AFTER THE OPENING

Hengqin campus main facilities operational



UM's central library

THE University of Macau's new campus opened last August, when all departments, students and academic staff moved from Taipa to Hengqin. One year into its operations,

the Times toured the new campus, including its library, the Faculty of Business Administration, as well as the residential colleges, in addition to other sites.

Planning for the Faculty of Design is ongoing, staff told the Times, adding that the university is still discussing whether or not to create a faculty or an institute.

The Hengqin campus is 20 times larger than the Taipa one, with a student population of up to 10,000.

Although UM's main facilities are now fully operational, other parts of the university remain under development, namely its stadium. Other buildings will undergo maintenance work during the summer holiday period. **CP**

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PRIDE OF MACAU

City of Dreams 'The House of Dancing Water' celebrates its fifth anniversary with Macau

Supports promoting Macau as a 'World center of Tourism and Leisure' and continuing its legacy in the region

THE House of Dancing Water, the world's largest water-based spectacle at City of Dreams, is set to celebrate its 5th Anniversary this coming September.

The ambitious production tailor made for Macau has enhanced the city's tourism prospects, supporting the territory to develop into a 'World Center of Tourism and Leisure' by diversifying its entertainment facilities. 'The House of Dancing Water' has also been important in inspiring local artistic and cultural development. When envisioning the show, Lawrence Ho, Co-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Melco Crown Entertainment, saw it as part of the need for a "multi-day stay strategy" to help transform Macau into a multi-day stay destination, putting the city on the entertainment map.

On the occasion of its 5th anniversary, the Macau SAR Government and local communities have shared their views on the significance of 'The House of Dancing Water' for the city.

INSPIRING A NEW GENERATION

FOR Dr. Shuen Ka Hung, Director-General of CPTIM, the show is a "must-see". After visiting THODW backstage, he hopes "more and more Macanese can become participants", he explained. "We realized that the proportion of locals working in the costume shop has increased. We hope that through the training provided by the CPTIM, together with the collaborative efforts of THODW group, more people can participate in THODW," he said. "The show's costumes are mainly from Belgium. I hope that in the near future all these costumes will be made in Macau when it comes to renewal."



A SUCCESSFUL BENCHMARK FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

AFTER watching the show, Dr. Wendy W.Y. Chan, Secretary-Ge-



neral of the U. Macau's University Council, was most impressed. "MCE has set high standards with The House of Dancing Water and I am sure the entertainment industry of Macau will scale new heights as a result," she said. "I learned from the backstage tour today that there are many different jobs at THODW. For example, besides performers, there are tailors, technicians, marketing personnel, etc. I will spread the information among colleagues at the university that there isn't only one single career for students in the entertainment industry and I believe that the university can help train students for many of these jobs."

A REASON FOR MULTI-DAY STAY

MR. Gu Zhende, Managing director of China International Travel Service (Macau) Ltd., believes the show can "support Macau to become a multi-day stay attraction". "In the past,



most of the tourists stayed only half a day in Macau, but The House of Dancing Water is the reason why they now want to stay overnight."

A "DARE TO DREAM" LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

MS. U Man In, a Graduate from the Macau Polytechnic Institute and winner of the "Macau Youth Design Contest" was given the valuable opportunity to do an internship in Belgium, the headquarters of The House of Dancing Water. "Melco Crown Entertainment organizes this contest and provides a platform for local students to do internships abroad," she explained. "This is an extraordinary opportunity for Macau youth and talent," the student added. "Relatively speaking, there are a few live shows available in Macau except The House of Dancing Water. Therefore, it did extend my horizons."



IT started with one man's in-depth understanding of Asia's entertainment industry and his vision to bring the ultimate entertainment experiences to Macau, China and the whole of Asia. **Mr. Lawrence Ho, Co-chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Melco Crown Entertainment** saw the need for a 'multi-day stay strategy' that would help transform Macau into one of Asia's leading leisure and entertainment destinations.

After City of Dreams came the collaboration with one of the

foremost producers of major scale entertainment - 'Dragone,' to create a first-class production as part of the world's largest and most spectacular water-based show.

With its 5-year success, Mr. Lawrence Ho said, "In Melco Crown Entertainment's house of entertainment offerings, 'The House of Dancing Water' is the first and one of the entertainment centerpieces we built for Macau and dedicated to Macau. I am pleased that the show has had great success in the past 5 years and amazed both locals and Macau's visitors. In addition to tourism diversification, 'The House of Dancing Water' also contributes to Macau's creative industry by providing a truly international platform to nurture future talents."

ACCORDING to Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes, Director of the Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO), "Since 'The House of Dancing Water' was launched five years ago, this world-class production has become the first and up till now the only and largest-scale regular water-based show in Macau; it is also one of the major entertainment highlights for Macau's visitors. 'The House of Dancing Water' has enriched the non-gaming tourism elements of Macau, providing more choices of entertainment for residents and visitors and contributing to the diversification of the tourism industry. As 'The House of Dancing Water' is approaching its 5th anniversary at City of Dreams, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate City of Dreams for making the show a success, and I look forward to the inauguration of more spectacular and novel entertainment projects, working in line with the goal of building Macau into a "World Center of Tourism and Leisure."



FIVE YEARS OF JOY AND GLORIES

IN the past five years, 'The House of Dancing Water' had garnered numerous Asian and international awards including:

- "2011 - 2012 China Marketing Excellence Award and China Branding Excellence Award"
- "THEA Award for Outstanding Achievement" from the Themed Entertainment Association
- "Gold Prize" at the 2011 HKMA/TVB Awards for Marketing Excellence.

The Dancing Water Theater is, without a doubt a key destination hosting major events and film awards in the region including:

- The 1st Anniversary Yundi Li Charity Show
- The 11th Chinese Film Awards
- The 8th Asia Film Awards, also known as the Oscars of Asia.

Established as an iconic landmark in the city, 'The House of Dancing Water' has proven to be a must-stop destination for all important forums, both regionally and internationally. In 2012, the show welcomed over 700 delegates of the Global Tourism Economy Forum. This year, as part of the program of the BOAO Asia Development Forum (Macau), the production successfully hosted 200 business leaders, scholars and delegates from across Asia.

Over the course of its ongoing five year run, various career opportunities have been developed for local talents. With the aim to enable every Macau citizen to appreciate this world-class extravaganza, over 5,000 com-

munity members from 70 community groups have been invited by Melco Crown Entertainment to this must-see spectacular over the past five years.

Upon its 5th anniversary, 'The House of Dancing Water' is taking the opportunity to unlock the secrets of its theater and production to the general public, through holding a series of the 5th anniversary celebratory activities including 'The House of Dancing Water Underwater Discoveries' and 'The House of Dancing Water Discovery Tour' in celebration of the milestone. Audiences will venture backstage to reveal the show's secrets and dive into the theater's pool for an once-in-a-lifetime show appreciation, literally underwater.



Public calls for Hotel Estoril preservation

Brook Yang

PARTICIPANTS in a debate about the revitalization plan that intends to turn the abandoned Hotel Estoril into a youth recreational center said that the building, or at least its façade, should be preserved.

The government held its first Hotel Estoril briefing session for the general public yesterday at the Tap Seac Sports Pavilion. Nearly all speakers who contributed called on the authorities to preserve the decrepit building.

Contrary to the government's downplaying of the structure's historical and architectural value, participants voiced a necessity to retain through the hotel a layer of the city's gaming history as well as its modern architectural spectrum.

Citizen Mr Lei indicated that Macau's development has always relied on the gaming industry, and the Hotel Estoril was the first casino in Macau and China that introduced Western style gambling. "Now [if] you demolish this building, this story will be erased."

In response to the Cultural Institute (IC) official's statement that the Hotel Estoril is less significant than the Hotel Lisboa in historical value, the young man criticized the IC for "destroying culture rather than promoting and preserving it." "You need to wake up! Stop considering demolishing it; it's [a question of] how to maxi-



The Hotel Estoril seen from the Tap Seac Square

ze the limited space that you should think about," he refuted.

Local engineer Mr Chan added, "I'm born and raised in Macau. Every time when a foreign friend came to Macau, they would ask where the first

Adaptive reuse is the way to keep qualified both the building and the history

MARIA JOSÉ DE FREITAS

modern casino was, and I would always take them to Hotel Estoril instead of Hotel Lisboa, because that was where our history of a proud GDP initiated."

Public affairs commentator Wong Tong also stated: "The decision of whether to demolish the building should be based on whether Macau still has the same style of architecture, whereas the hotel is the only one of its kind that still exists now."

Mr Wong further suggested setting up a historical museum for the local gaming industry in the revamped building, which was echoed by other speakers. In response, the Chief of Office of the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Lai Ieng Kit,

as one of the government's representatives, recognized that "it is an idea worth being noted."

Architect Maria José de Freitas also argued that it's feasible to revamp the decrepit building, and successful examples have been given by the Houses-Museum in Taipa's old town. "Adaptive reuse is the way to keep qualified both the building and the history. (...) You kept changing the functions; but there's no need to put all functions together in this building. The criteria should be preserving the façade and studying what kinds of activity can be included," she suggested.

Amongst the speakers, a Ger-

man tourist said that he accidentally discovered the swimming pool and "the special architecture," one he felt necessary to attend the public session to advocate protection for. "This is a special face of Macau, it would be such, such a shame to lose it," declared the visitor.

The speakers also emphasized that the revitalization plan would become a failure if the planners tried to incorporate various functions in it rather than picking the most suitable ideas.

"It is impossible to accommodate all functions into the 2,352 square meters. For instance, instead of setting up a youth information center with computers, we could open an artistic bookstore," suggested local movie director Vincent Hoi.

"Apparently our government imagines there are only two kinds of cultural venues the youngsters need: one is for doing sports, the other is the fancy theater," suggested another speaker, Ms Ma.

"Such kind of large-scale facilities are also exclusive where people may keep a distance when passing by them. We need to ask what the revitalization of the Hotel Estoril is for and how revitalized it could be; (...) when we think of what kind of culture the young people need, we can't just imagine them as a group of kids that can afford [fine art] or just going there to do sports," she stressed.

Maids' contracts to be automatically renewed

IN response to growing demand for migrant domestic workers in local households, the government has decided to simplify the visa renewal procedures for domestic helpers who work for permanent residents.

Starting this month, permanent residents who have hired a domestic helper from abroad no longer need to go to the Human Resources Office to apply for an employment permit renewal for their employee. Instead, they can go directly to the Immigration Service to renew the employee's "blue card [work permit]" without having to regain approval with the former entity.

Nevertheless, current employers still need to apply for a final permit renewal with the Human Resources Office, 30 to 45 days prior to the expiration date of the employment permit

they currently hold. Future permits will be renewed automatically.

The new policy also applies to new applications for local households to import migrant domestic workers, whose employment permits will be automatically renewed in the following years, once the initial application is approved.

The Human Resources Office explained that the simplified measure will streamline the administration process and make it more convenient for residents.

"Along with the increasing number of dual-earner families in Macau, there is a bigger and bigger demand for hiring non-resident domestic workers to assist in looking after the elderly and the young, in taking care of the sick or disabled, as well as with housework," it stated. **BY**

TOURISM

Travel alert to South Korea lifted

THE Health Bureau (SSM) on Saturday has lowered the severity of its response to the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) from a high-level alert to that of "close monitoring," whilst the Tourism Crisis Management Office (GGCT) withdrew its recommendation for local citizens to avoid travelling to South Korea.

Judging that "the risk of residents and visitors contracting the deadly virus has reduced," the SSM revoked measures implemented under the high-level alert, which included body temperature checks at the cabin door for passengers arriving from Korea; the mandatory wearing of masks for those visiting medical institutions; the increased stringency of detection measures for suspected cases of fever and respiratory symptoms; and the deployment of test per-



A woman takes a selfie near the Gwanghwamun, the main gate of the 14th-century Gyeongbok Palace and also one of South Korea's well known landmarks, in Seoul

sonnel around the clock.

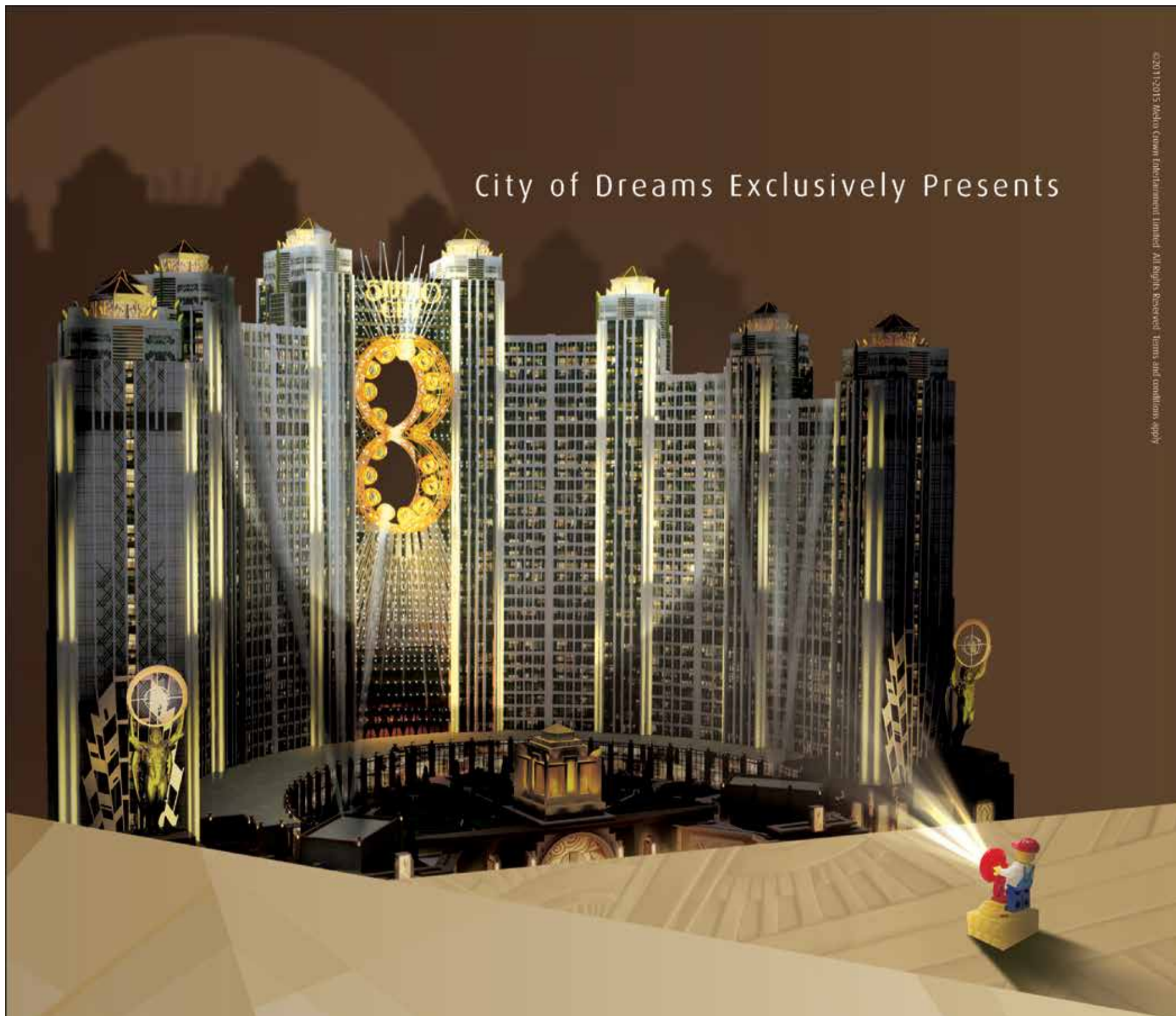
Health authorities in Macau and Hong Kong lifted the high-level alert simultaneously, as Korea – which suffered an intensive MERS breakout from May to July – recorded no new infections in the 28 days since the last confirmed patient was quarantined.

The SSM explained that the maximum incubation period for the MERS virus is 14 days, which means the recent breakout in Korea has "basically ended." Macau's

travel agencies have since re-launched tour packages to Korea and tours may start operating in mid-August.

However, the GGCT has still reminded visitors to Korea to adhere to recommendations of the health authorities and to continue to monitor personal hygiene. "The reason why we still retain the response level of 'close monitoring' is that Macau may still be affected by the continuous spread of MERS in the Middle East region," stated the SSM. **BY**

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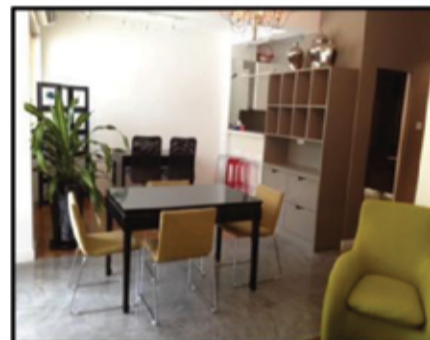
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Rate: HKD 5,929ft.

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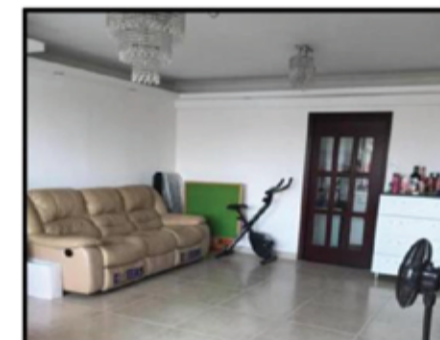


Old Taipa Village Taipa

(Ref: 15035434)
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Rate: HKD 6,500ft.

Located near Our Lady of Carmel Church. 2nd Floor of Walk Up building. 2 Double bedrooms. 1 Shower room. 1.5 bathrooms.

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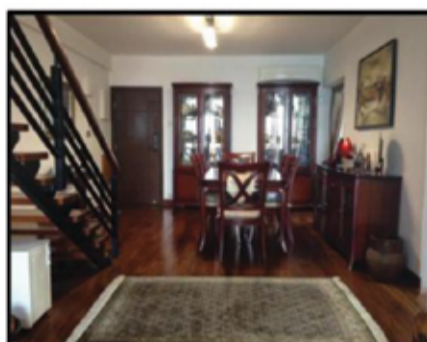


Vila Bela Macau

(Ref: 15055442)
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Rate: HKD 8,088sq ft

Situated in Macau on the quiet secluded street of Praia Grande. Stunning views across the tree lined road to the Sai Wan bridge. An exclusive property; 5 floors serviced by one lift, two apartments per floor. Renovated in 2000, with one design change making one bedroom larger by closing one bathroom and extending the bedroom. The apartment now has four double bedrooms, two bathrooms, built in cabinets in the master & another double bedroom.

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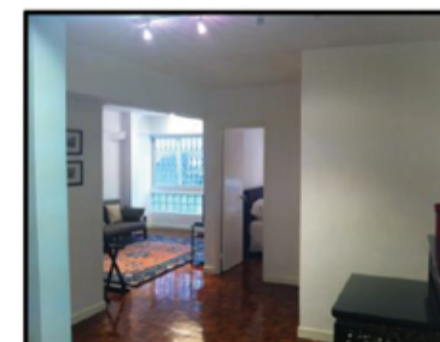


Hoi Fu Penthouse, Macau

(Ref: 15045435)
2,890sq. ft. HKD 28M
Rate: HKD 9,688ft.

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627sq. ft. HKD 4.9M
Rate: HKD7,815sq ft

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

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THE Secretary for Security, Wong Sio Chak, has stated that Macau police forces have not acquired surveillance software from Italian IT company Hacking Team.

Emails disclosed last month by WikiLeaks showed that the Commission Against Corruption and Macau's Judiciary Police had expressed an interest in acquiring the cyber-surveillance software.

"I can say right here and now that we have not purchased any of the new technology tools for computer or smartphone surveillance," the secretary said. Nevertheless, Mr Wong reiterated that police are required to be up-to-date when dealing with investigative technologies. "Why do people say we have cooperation with these new technology companies? We have to tell them [technology firms] we might buy it in order to attend the exhibitions and to get to know the new technology. (...) What if people need help in a phone hacking case? We still need to know how to investigate and find the suspect. So it is

Police 'did not buy spying software,' says Wong Sio Chak



Wong Sio Chak

necessary for the police force to know such technology."

He therefore stressed that police agents and senior officials are obliged to comply with the law when carrying out investiga-

tions, and that it was "impossible for the police to acquire any unlawful products." The secretary acknowledged that Hacking Team "is 100 percent illegal" and added that many jurisdic-

tions around the world allow police to buy such products.

"If the law allowed us to use it, of course we would buy it and use it," he added.

Emails exchanged between Hacking Team employees in Singapore and Macau's security forces show no clear evidence

that the CCAC or the PJ succeeded in acquiring the software. However, an email sent by a PJ member requests assistance in installing the system. Hacking Team fell victim to a cyber-attack last month. Hackers breached the company's servers, downloading over 400 gigabytes of its data. WikiLeaks released over a million of Hacking Team's emails.

Hong Kong's Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) was also found to have sought the company's services. Hacking Team is well known for selling software to governments that enable them to carry out surveillance operations of citizens' computers and mobile phones.

If the law permitted, of course we would buy and use it

WONG SIO CHAK

CCAC denies selective enforcement on election bribery case

THE Commissioner Against Corruption (CCAC), Andre Cheong, told media last Friday that "there was no selective law enforcement" in the Commission's investigation into an alleged bribery case in the last Legislative Assembly (AL) election, which involved lawmaker Chan Meng Kam's campaign team.

Cheong stated "the CCAC has always upheld equal treatment, [be it] the electoral-bribery case or any other cases." He



refused to comment on the specific case as an appeal has already been lodged. However, he stressed that the commission would investigate all allegations that show signs of crime, and would not lodge an appeal through the Public Prosecutions Office without

sufficient evidence and the possibility of a conviction.

The Macau Institution of People's Alliance led by Cham Meng Kam secured three seats in the 2013 AL election, emerging as the biggest winner. Responding to the recent court verdict that ruled two elderly campaign staffers guilty of buying votes, the association condemned the authorities for selective law enforcement with political intent.

As for the group's accusation that the law

enforcer violated the law by using undercover inspectors to collect evidence for the allegation, Andre Cheong responded by explaining that, "undercover operations are not a very clear concept in Macau law; what's considered an illegal act is someone instigating others to commit a crime. Moreover, the judicial authorities would not accept the evidence if it were unacceptable and illegal. The evidence must have gone through investigation before going to court."

Upcoming English Premier League off the air

LOCAL broadcaster TDM will not broadcast the upcoming season of the English Premier League as the rights are too expensive. This has come at a time in which the network should be especially prudent with its spending, explained TDM chairman Manuel Pires.

Pires revealed on Saturday that TDM has been, over the last six months, trying to negotiate a deal. "But unfortunately we could not come to an agreement with the company that owns the rights for Greater China, which includes Macau. Therefore, for next season, we will not be able to broadcast live any games of



the English Premiership," he revealed.

However, the chairman said they would try to locate other alternatives, namely the Spanish League. "Hopefully, in a short time, we could have some good news. We have already confirmed the Champions League and the Europa League for the next three seasons."

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New bus routes launched

The Macau Government Tourist Office (MGTO) has launched three bus routes to allow tourists to explore the city. paying MOP100 per ticket, passengers can take the shuttle buses for an entire day's travel. Run by a local travel agency, four to seven daily round trips are carried out on each route. Visitors can register for the tour at the Macau Ferry Terminal, the Fisherman's Wharf, and the Border Gate. They can disembark at different stops to peruse local districts of interest. In addition, there will be a guide on board providing commentary in English, Mandarin and Cantonese about the sights along the bus tour.

Elderly social welfare system to be improved

Brook Yang

THE government will set in motion a decade-long action plan for establishing a Support System for the Aged in the second quarter of next year, the Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) president, Iong Kong Io, has announced.

The bureau presented a draft framework of the Support System during a press conference last week, where it launched a 45-day public consultation in order to gather public opinion regarding the policy direction to address Macau's "aged society," which is approaching in the next ten years.

The framework indicated that Macau has entered an "ageing society" phase, with 8.4 percent of the population last year recorded to be 65 or older, above the threshold of 7 percent. When the percentage increases to 14 percent, the city will be seen as "aged." And it is estimated to become "a super-aged society" by



REVATO MARQUES

the year of 2036, with the numbers of people aged 65 or older exceeding 20 percent.

"Macau's population expects a more rapid ageing, as it's sandwiched by the decline of the fertility rate and the extension of average life expectancy," explained professor Alfred Chan, director of the Asia-Pacific Institute of Ageing Studies at Lingnan University, and also an advisor to the MSAR's policy study.

Between 2007 and 2014, the expenses in distributing pensions grew ten times to MOP2.26 billion, and elderly subsidies grew by six times to MOP445 million. The IAS estimates that

the combined expenditure will rise to MOP7.17 billion in 2036, not to mention the compounding medical and other service expenses.

"It will be more and more challenging for society to support the aged if it's solely relying on the pension system, because the legible beneficiaries of elderly welfare will continue to climb; and the expenses in medical care, community services and subsidies for elderly people will continue to grow," stressed the professor.

"Meanwhile, Macau's economic development and capital accumulation might be affected due to more elderly people's retirement from the workforce," he indicated. He added that the city will also face challenges in human and land resources brought on by future facility constructions and supply of services, while the youngsters will shoulder more of the burden as they are required to support their parents and possibly even

their grandparents.

To counter this "inevitable trend," the government set up a research group, ranging across 13 governmental departments, and plans to break down the issue into four categories, namely: the enhancement of medical services; protection of elderly people's interests and rights; guarantee of elderly people's social participation; and security of their living conditions.

The policy framework formulated by the group will therefore serve as instruction for the government's future elderly services policy-making. According to Iong Kong Io, the public consultation result is expected to come out in the first quarter of next year, whereby each joint department will begin preparing in the following quarter for the launch of specific policies and measures.

The official further noted that tasks proposed in the framework that would cast a profound impact include: the cultivating of local healthcare manpower; development of specialist clinics for elderly treatment; establishment of a care system after treatment; increasing quotas for elderly homes and care services; the formation of guidelines for elderly courses; and the formulation of guidelines for accessibility and universal design.

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	Mandarin for Foreigners - Basic II	SCHEDULE 30/09/2015-25/11/2015 (30 Hours)	LANGUAGE Mandarin (w/ English)	tuition MOP 1,800	MON WED	19:00-21:00
	Portuguese Language and Culture - Basic I	SCHEDULE 08/12/2015-11/04/2015 (44 Hours)	LANGUAGE Portuguese (w/ English)	tuition MOP 2,000	MON WED	19:00-21:00
RELIGIOUS STUDIES	The Gospel According to John	SCHEDULE 15/09/2015-03/11/2015 (16 Hours)	LANGUAGE English	tuition MOP 940	TUE	18:30-20:30
	Latin - Basic I	SCHEDULE 06/10/2015-24/11/2015 (30 Hours)	LANGUAGE English	tuition MOP 1,800	MON WED	19:00-21:00
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ADVERTORIAL

Head of failed Japan-based bitcoin exchange Mt. Gox arrested



Japan police arrest Mark Karpeles, the Mt. Gox CEO on Saturday

Yuri Kageyama,
Business Writer, Tokyo

The head of the failed Japan-based bitcoin exchange Mt. Gox was arrested in Tokyo on Saturday on suspicion of inflating his cash account by USD1 million, authorities said.

Mark Karpeles, 30, is suspected of accessing the exchange's computer system in February 2013 and inflating his account, Japanese police said. If found guilty, the France-born Karpeles could face up to five years in prison, or a fine of up to 500,000 yen (\$4,000).

Karpeles' lawyer said his client denies wrongdoing, the Kyodo News agency reported.

Mt. Gox went offline early last year. Karpeles said then that tens of thousands of bitcoins worth several hundred million dollars were unaccounted for, and suggested they were stolen by hacking.

The relationship between the lost bitcoins and the inflated account was not immediately clear.

Japanese TV showed a T-shirt-clad Karpeles, with a baseball cap pulled low over his face, being led into a police car from his home in Tokyo.

Japanese authorities have acknowledged they were baffled by the Mt. Gox case because they had never dealt with possible crime dealing with bitcoin. Experts also said it might be difficult to take action because of the absence of laws over virtual currencies.

The bitcoin community worldwide has been outraged by Mt. Gox's apparent incompetence.

The Mt. Gox debacle served to highlight the perils of bitcoin transactions. Bitcoins are not regulated by central banks or other financial authorities. Bitcoin proponents have long said Mt. Gox is just an exception.

Legislation is in the works in California, for instance, to regulate businesses that hold bitcoin and other virtual currency in a way similar to banks. New York has also issued rules overseeing bitcoin. AP

MGM MACAU



Helping to Create
a Better Tomorrow Today

Inspiring culture and creativity through our MGM MACAU Art Program

What does MGM MACAU Art Program offer?

MGM MACAU'S Art Program brings diversification to the community, making art accessible to all people. It fosters and encourages infinite creativity, boundless imagination and unlimited possibilities through art and culture.



A passion for art and culture has forever been engrained in our company's DNA. Since 2013, the MGM Art Space has been hosting international and local exhibitions with world-class art collections, which helps develop Macau into a world leisure and tourism hub.

The MGM Art Space has been a huge success, drawing many thousands patrons with exhibits such as *"Botticelli's Venus: The life and Times of Goddess"*, featuring works of art from the Italian Renaissance master, Sandro Botticelli;

the *"Red Sandalwood Art Exhibition"*, showcasing the beauty and culture of Old Beijing through intricate red sandalwood craftsmanship, and last year, we also hosted the exhibition of the *"MGM • Biennial of the Lions - Beyond the Roar"*, honoring the 50th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between China and France. The exhibition featured 50 different lion sculptures uniquely decorated by emerging French and Chinese artists. The L2 Showcase at MGM MACAU is another perfect platform to house the art pieces of exceptionally talented artists. Our current *"Saudade" Art Exhibition*, featuring 40 art pieces from 12 local Portuguese artists to help identify how the Chinese inspiration and Portuguese Saudade blends together.

Visitors to MGM MACAU are immersed in art from the moment they step through our doors, with the inspiration of Macau's unique blend of Chinese and Portuguese culture pervading throughout. The Grande Praça, with architectural designs inspired by old-world Europe and Macau's Portuguese roots, transports visitors to Lisbon's iconic central station. The atrium's interchangeable central feature, which once featured an impressive Butterfly Pavilion, and now showcases the *"MGM Water Aurora"*, features a breath-taking 8.3 meter-tall cylindrical aquarium, and has become a popular tourist attraction for tourists and local community. We are delighted to exhibit the *"Valkyrie Octopus"*, the spectacular art work from one of the most celebrated artists from Portugal Joana Vasconcelos. The art piece, commissioned especially for MGM, now sits majestically above our aquarium in the Grande Praça.

Our commitment to the arts goes beyond hosting exhibitions, to supporting film-making. In 2014, MGM MACAU has sponsored *"Skiptrace"*, Jackie Chan's action comedy with Hollywood director Renny Harlin. This year we have sponsored Xue Xiaolu's romantic comedy *"Finding Mr. Right 2"*, and Miguel Gonçalves's documentary *"The Meaning of Life"*.

Inspiring the next generation of artists

A central tenet of our Art Program is to also help inspire the next generation of artists. In March we organized two unique *Meet The Artist* workshops where over 80 local artists and art students joined us for a unique opportunity to meet Joana Vasconcelos in person and learn about the ideas and techniques that made her a world-renowned artist. In June, more than 100 local filmmakers, film enthusiasts and students, attended an event with the highly acclaimed film director Xue Xiaolu where she shared tips on how to be a successful screen writer and how to succeed in the movie business.



On an on-going basis, MGM MACAU has been avid to organize art tours for the local schools, associations and community in an effort to promote art appreciation to all ages.

Since the opening of MGM Art Space in 2013, we have attracted over 128,000 visitors to our art exhibitions, including tourists, members from the local associations, elderly residents and students from elementary, secondary schools and universities. With these art programs, MGM aims to become a world class cultural platform to continuously offer diversification and entertaining experiences. Through art and culture, MGM MACAU is creating a better tomorrow today.



Gaw Capital turns faded properties into gems for fat returns

Frederik Balfour

WHEN InterContinental Hotels Group announced the sale of its Hong Kong flagship for USD938 million to a group led by Gaw Capital Partners on July 10, even insiders were caught off guard.

In a town dominated by a handful of multi-billionaire property developers like Li Ka-shing and Lee Shau-kee, the sale of the coveted harbor-front hotel to a little-known local private equity fund was unexpected.

"They aren't really a household name in Hong Kong and this is such a high profile deal," said Antonio Wu, deputy managing director for Asia Capital Markets at Colliers International. "We were really surprised."

Though Gaw Capital hasn't attracted much attention at home, the group founded and owned by a Hong Kong family has been busy in the rest of the world for more than two decades, with projects ranging from the venerable colonial hotel, The Strand, in Yangon, to a retail arcade in Berlin's Alexanderplatz to Seattle's tallest skyscraper.

As of March this year, Gaw Capital had raised \$4.26 billion from private equity partners, including four China-focused funds and two based in the U.S. Gaw Capital's institutional investors include Korean pension funds, Chinese insurance companies and Middle East sovereign wealth funds.

"They have developed a strong loyalty from their investors by consistently achieving returns in excess of 20 percent," said Marcus Neill, director of business development for Asia



capital markets at CBRE Ltd. in Hong Kong. "They can articulate a proposition to foreign investors, and know how to operate locally, and are exceptionally good at timing the market."

But what really sets Gaw Capital apart from other funds is its hands-on approach to operations, renovation, design and branding of the properties they choose to overhaul.

Take the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel in Los Angeles. In 1995, Goodwin Gaw, then 26 and two years out of Stanford

graduate school, picked up the derelict building for \$10 million with money raised from family and friends. He spent another \$20 million restoring the famous landmark to its former glory. Site of the first Academy Awards ceremony in 1929, it's now one of LA's trendiest spots for A-listers like Johnny Depp and Leonardo DiCaprio.

Other L.A. heritage gems followed, including the Bradbury Building, whose exquisite ironmongery was featured in the film "Blade Runner."

Soon Goodwin was expanding

Gaw picked up hotels in Thailand, and office buildings in HK and Macau, co-investing with institutions including Morgan Stanley

beyond California: a ski resort in Colorado, a golf course in Hawaii, warehouses converted to hip condos in Manhattan.

When the Asian financial crisis struck in the late 1990s, Goodwin returned to work in Hong Kong, with his younger brother, Kenneth, at Pioneer Global Group, the listed company founded by their father. They sorted through the detritus for cheap assets around the region, picking up hotels in Thailand, and office buildings in Hong Kong and Macau, co-investing with institutions including Morgan Stanley.

In 2005, the brothers founded Gateway Capital, now known as Gaw Capital Partners. Their sister Christina joined Gaw in 2008 after 16 years at Goldman Sachs and UBS. She now oversees fund raising. Humbert Pang, a fourth partner since 2006, rounds out the team running China operations.

Their first property fund, Gateway China Real Estate Fund I, raised \$200 million in 2005,

earning investors two and half times their money from projects including the restoration of a 1930s Art Deco department store in Shanghai and a shopping complex developed with Swire Properties in Beijing.

Another project, the Hotel G, is vintage Gaw, transforming what its Taipei-based architect Mark Lintott described by telephone as a "really crappy office block" into an edgy boutique hotel - in less than nine months in time for the Beijing Olympics.

More recent projects include arranging China's Ping An Insurance company's 260 million pound (\$405 million) purchase of the Lloyd's of London building in 2013, to partnering with the Korean Teachers' Credit Union in the 191 million pound purchase of the Exchange Tower in London's Docklands from BlackRock last year.

Still, the stakes involved in the purchase of the Intercontinental are high. Its new owners include Pioneer Global and a Korean institutional investor.

Though the hotel boasts the Michelin two-starred Yan Toh Heen Cantonese restaurant and a breathtaking view of Hong Kong's Victoria Harbor, the rooms haven't been upgraded in decades. What's more, the New World Group led by billionaire Cheng Yung-tung is erecting a massive new hotel property next door.

The Gaw family acknowledges the challenges. "Hong Kong was and still is rigged in favor of big property developers," said Kenneth, 44. "If you want to buy land and develop, the check size is too big." **AP**

corporate bits

DREAMWORKS LAUNCHES SUMMER PHOTO COMPETITION



Sands Resorts Cotai Strip Macao is offering both budding photographers and professionals the chance to win part of a MOP 50,000

pool of prizes as part of the DreamWorks Spectacular Summer Photo Competition. Photographers of all skill levels are invited to capture

the sights of the DreamWorks Spectacular Summer Activities between Aug. 1 and Aug. 16. Just take a photo of any of the DreamWorks Experience activities this summer to be in the running for prizes. Photographers must be at least 18 years old.

Both local and overseas guests can submit their photographs of the DreamWorks Experience, whether it's the characters, decorations, activities, or performances such as the DreamWorks Summer Feast, the Kung Fu Panda Academy, the DreamWorks Experience All Star Parade or the DreamWorks Experience Kids' Corner. Entries should be emailed to DreamworksExperience@sands.com.mo on or before Aug. 16.

MGM HOLDS THIRD FUN CULINARY DAY FOR THE UNDERPRIVILEGED

This year marks the third consecutive year that MGM is rolling out its Care Campaign. On Thursday afternoon, MGM Macau welcomed over 60 participants from 25 low-income and single-parent families to join its Fun Culinary Day initiative. Chef Chow Chung, MGM's Chinese Cuisine Consultant Chef, led the culinary team and 30 Golden Lion Team volunteers to guide a cooking session.

Participants made savory refreshments and desserts such as Sushi Roll, Crab meat and shrimp salad, Chilled mango sago cream and other summer sweets. Each kid was given a chef's hat, an apron and a gift bag to mark their participation of



the event. After the cooking session, MGM Macau also arranged a series of fun ac-

tivities for the participants including a singing performance and lucky draw.

AP PHOTO



Participants dance under threatening skies at a gathering to watch the announcement of the 2022 Winter Olympics host city outside the Beijing Olympic Stadium, also known as the Bird's Nest, in Beijing, Friday

Having made Olympic history, Beijing faces challenges

Christopher Bodeen, Beijing

HAVING made history as the first city to win hosting rights for both the Summer and Winter Olympics, Beijing now faces a slew of challenges, from ensuring adequate snow in a bone-dry region to ramping up support for winter sports in a nation where few people ski or skate.

Human rights criticisms and demands to loosen restrictions on the Internet and reporters will also test the bounds of tolerance for the authoritarian communist state.

Celebrations of Friday's win were muted in Beijing — a stark contrast to the dancing-in-the-streets euphoria the city witnessed in 2001, when it won the 2008 Summer Games. The Winter Olympics are a much smaller and less popular event, but China has a special challenge in that few of its citizens know or care about winter sports, despite a recent increase of interest in skiing, skating and ice hockey among the rising middle class.

Elsewhere, fireworks were lit in the mountain town of Chongli, future host of Nordic skiing and other events, which anticipates an economic boom from the games.

"We're going to see big changes here. Our guests yesterday were really happy about winning the bid and many are interested in investing and buying houses in Chongli," said a desk manager at a local hotel, the No. 66 Holiday Inn, who gave only her surname, Liu.

Beijing says holding the games will unlock a potential winter sports market of 300 million people in the country's

north, although only a fraction would have the means to travel to increasingly pricey Chongli to ski. As a start, the government last month announced a USD30 million program to promote winter sports such as luge, bobsledding and Nordic combined.

In Chongli, venue construction will require the relocation of around 1,800 residents of outlying villages, with the government offering a selection of compensation measures.

China has a special challenge in that few of its citizens know or care about winter sports

However, the overriding concern of the IOC and sports federations has been the area's ability to produce enough artificial snow to augment the meager natural snowfall. That's all the more acute because of water stresses in the region that already diverts significant resources from agriculture to slake the thirst of Beijing's 21 million residents.

In a 2014 report, the United Nations said water resources per person in northern China amount to only 200 cubic meters per year, "only one fifth of what is conceived as a safe standard." The IOC itself, in its evaluation report, said it felt Beijing had underestimated both the amount of water needed and its ability to recover runoff from the slopes.

Despite that, Beijing's bid was based on assurances it can generate enough snow without causing disruptions to the lives of ordinary citizens. Whatever the case, strong government backing should eliminate any obstacles.

Back in Beijing, organizers say holding the games will add momentum to plans to clean up the capital's notorious air pollution by removing highly polluting vehicles from the streets, closing aged factories and reducing the amount of coal burnt by 75 percent.

That's a potent challenge, given the city's continuing expansion, although the government has become increasingly responsive to the threats pollution poses to health, development and quality of life.

With many venues left over from the 2008 games and a cadre of experienced managers in place, staging the actual games shouldn't require much additional effort.

Yet, despite all of Beijing's organizational strengths and commercial acumen, it has yet to devise a formula for handling the sensitive questions of human rights and the media that the IOC says are integral to a successful games.

Critics say China is in the throes of the biggest crackdown on civil society advocates in years, with more than 250 lawyers representing clients in civil rights cases rounded up and detained.

Longstanding blocks on foreign websites, including Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, remain in place, although bid organizers offered vague pledges that they would be lifted during the games.

While the IOC says it won assu-

rances over non-discrimination, Internet access, media freedom, labor rights and the right to demonstrate during the games, President Thomas Bach conceded its powers were limited.

The IOC "is not a world government," he said.

Shortly after Friday's announcement, groups supporting activists for minority, human and civil rights expressed dismay over the IOC's decision, saying it merely rewarded Beijing's bad behavior.

"This decision will further harm China's most vulnerable groups and also undermine what remains of the IOC's credibility," the group Human Rights in China said in a statement.

Bob Dietz, Asia program coordinator for the Committee to Protect Journalists, was equally dubious about the assurances on offer.

"China's record on press freedom and human rights is not one that deserves to be rewarded. The success of the 2022 Winter Olympics will depend not just on venues and ratings but also on respect for human dignity as enshrined in the Olympic Charter."

China's approach post-2008 doesn't offer much cause for optimism. After lifting a demand that permission be obtained to report outside Beijing in 2007, the government ratcheted up surveillance of foreign media in 2011 amid fears the Arab Spring pro-democracy sentiments would spread to China.

Reporters traveling independently to Chongli ahead of Friday's announcement were trailed by unknown individuals in cars with blacked-out windows, a common practice among local governments suspicious of outside scrutiny. **AP**

Ai Weiwei gets UK business visa after Home Secretary steps in

Chinese artist Ai Weiwei was granted a six-month visa to the U.K. on Friday after Home Secretary Theresa May overruled officials in her department who had limited his stay in Britain to three weeks. Ai's access to the U.K. was originally restricted after he was accused of trying to cover up a criminal conviction in China, according to a letter from the Home Office posted on the artist's Instagram account. Ai said he had never been charged or convicted and the U.K. authorities had refused to listen to his protests. May "has reviewed the case and has now instructed Home Office officials to issue a full six-month visa," her department said in an e-mailed statement. "We have written to Mr. Ai apologizing for the inconvenience caused." The artist plans to visit Britain for the opening of a solo exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts in London, which is scheduled to start on Sept. 19. He was recently given freedom to travel by the Chinese government after spending four years without a passport.

Authorities to close Beijing's airports during military parade

Chinese authorities have announced they will close Beijing's two airports during a military parade next month to mark the anniversary of victory over Japan in World War II. Flights will be banned or diverted for three hours from 9:30 a.m. on Sept. 3, to enable the victory parade to pass off smoothly and ensure flights safety, the Civil Aviation Administration of China said in a statement Saturday. They affect Beijing Capital International Airport, the world's second-busiest by passenger traffic, and Nanyuan airport, a former military airfield. The lavish military parade is to feature aerial displays and China's latest weaponry. The display of armed might has put off some invited countries from attending given ongoing tensions between China and Japan over wartime history and competing claims to islands in the East China Sea. China's fast growing air travel market is the world's second biggest, but the heavy air traffic and tight control of airspace by the military have given it the world's worst record for flight delays.

Official factory gauge slips as growth slowdown bites

An official Chinese factory gauge slipped to a five-month low, signaling that months of easier monetary policy have yet to kick in and putting pressure on the country's leadership to take further action.

The official Purchasing Managers' Index was 50 in July, compared with the median estimate of 50.1 in a Bloomberg survey and down from June's 50.2. The non-manufacturing PMI, a measure of services and construction, was at 53.9, from 53.8 the previous month. Numbers above 50 indicate expansion.

"The internal and external demand for the manufacturing sector is still on the weak side," Zhao Qinghe, senior statistician at the national statistics bureau, said in a statement released with the PMIs on Saturday. Zhao cited the impact from hot weather, storms and commodity prices as major reasons for the drop.

The data echoes a private PMI that weakened in July, an indication interest-rate cuts and



An employee cleans residue from a container at an aluminum smelting facility in Zouping

efforts to shore up local government finances have yet to spark a recovery despite recent signs of stabilization. China's leaders pledged in recent days to make "pre-emptive" policy adjustments in the second half.

"This shows that the pickup we saw in the second quarter is not stable; we have seen no sign of recovery in the manufactu-

ring sector," said Zhu Haibin, chief China economist at JPMorgan Chase & Co. in Hong Kong. "We may see manufacturing bottom in the third quarter as the government continues and steps up measures to stabilize growth."

The politburo, a top decision-making body of the Communist Party, said China will pay

close attention to downward economic pressure and control systemic risks, the Xinhua News Agency reported Thursday following a meeting of the body chaired by President Xi Jinping.

The government will "ensure the continuity and stability of macro policy" and maintain a proactive fiscal policy and public spending, according to the report. Liquidity should be at an "appropriate" level to serve the real economy, it said.

"Policy makers are significantly more focused on the downward pressure on the economy," Xu Gao and Yang Yewei, analysts at Everbright Securities Co. in Beijing, wrote in a report before the official PMI release. "Monetary and fiscal policy will both remain eased to achieve the government's target of stabilizing and improving the real economy."

The official manufacturing PMI is based on a survey of 3,000 companies. Gauges for different sectors show that the

PMI for big companies was 50.6, for medium-sized firms 50, and small ones 46.9, the statistics bureau said. The small companies' index remains in contraction, and "that indicates smaller enterprises face more difficulties when running their businesses," Zhao said in the statement.

The divergence between bigger and smaller companies suggests monetary easing, especially interest-rate cuts, help large companies, said Zhu at JPMorgan. Local government projects tend to give an additional boost to big manufacturers while small companies suffer more from tepid exports, he said.

Premier Li Keqiang has a 2015 growth target of about 7 percent for the world's second-largest economy. Much like last year, a sluggish start spurred more stimulus as the government orchestrated a debt swap for provinces and the central bank accelerated monetary easing, cutting the benchmark one-year lending rate to a record low of 4.85 percent in June.

China's stocks fell Friday, capping the benchmark index's biggest monthly drop since August 2009, as the government struggles to rekindle investor interest amid a USD3.5 trillion equities rout. **Bloomberg**

AD

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the following officiating guests, organizations, chambers of commerce and participants in acknowledgement of their contribution in making the Guangdong & Macao Branded Products Fair 2015 a huge success:

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FLIGHT MH370

New debris found in Reunion not a plane part

Thomas Adamson, Paris

A senior Malaysian official says that an object found in Reunion has been confirmed as "a domestic ladder" and is not a plane part, amid media reports that a new piece of plane debris was found on the island.

Malaysian Director General of Civil Aviation Azharuddin Abdul Rahman told The Associated Press that a piece of debris found on a beach near the town of Saint-Denis yesterday morning had nothing to do with the investigation involving the missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370.

Rahman said "I'm the one leading the investigation in France for the analysis of the (wing flap) piece brought back. I read all over media it (the new debris) was part of a door. But I checked with the Civil Aviation Authority, and people on the ground in Reunion, and it was



French police officers carry a piece of debris from a plane in Saint-Andre, Reunion Island

just a domestic ladder."

A wing flap suspected to be from the missing Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 was found Wednesday on Reunion. It arrived Saturday at a French military testing facility, where it will be analyzed by experts.

Air safety investigators, in-

cluding one from Boeing, have identified the component as a flaperon from the trailing edge of a Boeing 777 wing, a U.S. official has said. Flight 370 is the only missing 777 and many are convinced the flap comes from the ill-fated jet.

Malaysia's transport ministry

confirmed yesterday that the flaperon has been identified as being from a 777, saying it had been verified by French authorities together with Boeing, the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board and a Malaysian team.

Experts will try to establish whether the part comes from

Flight 370, which disappeared on March 8, 2014, while en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing with 239 people on board.

The experts are expected to start their inquiry on Wednesday. Today, an investigating judge will meet with Malaysian authorities and representatives of the French aviation investigative agency, known as the BEA.

Malaysian Transport Minister Liow Tiong Lai said in a statement yesterday that representatives from Malaysia, the U.S., China, France and Boeing would take part in the verification of the flaperon.

About two-thirds of those aboard Flight 370 were Chinese.

Liow said Malaysia's Department of Civil Aviation was reaching out to authorities in territories near Reunion to allow experts "to conduct more substantive analysis should there be more debris coming on to land, providing us more clues to the missing aircraft."

"I urge all parties to allow this crucial investigation process to take its course. I reiterate this is for the sake of the next of kin of the loved ones of MH370 who would be anxiously awaiting news and have suffered much over this time," Liow said. "We will make an announcement once the verification process has been completed." AP

AD



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MYANMAR

Heavy rains cause more flooding; 9 dead

HEVY rains in Myanmar have caused more flooding and left nine people dead, devastating several townships and forcing more than 18,000 people into temporary shelters, officials said Saturday.

Much of the country has been hit by flooding and landslides over the last few weeks. The government's Relief and Resettlement Department estimates that 110,000 people have been severely affected by the floods, particularly in the Sagaing region and Kachin and Shan states, accounting for 21 deaths in July.

On Saturday, local officials reported nine more deaths, most of them from a boat that capsized in Kachin. They said seven townships had been devastated by flooding.

President Thein Sein visited Kalay township in



Vehicles make their way through a flooded road in Bago, 80 km northeast of Yangon

Sagaing, one of the four regions that were declared disaster zones on Friday.

Thein Sein had been co-

ming under criticism, especially on social media, for not doing more to deal with the emergency.

On Thursday, he urged Cabinet ministers to go out into the field to supervise flood relief operations,

saying that since July 16, some areas of the country had become inundated by heavy rains that destroyed

farmland, roads, rail lines, bridges and houses. Roads from central to northern Myanmar have been especially affected.

An Information Ministry announcement late Friday said Thein Sein had issued an emergency declaration covering the Magway and Sagaing regions and Chin and Rakhine states, some of the hardest-hit areas. The announcement did not specify what practical measures would be taken.

There is particular concern about Rakhine, where a tropical storm was moving from neighboring Bangladesh. The situation in Rakhine is considered especially dangerous, because more than 100,000 internally displaced people who fled their homes due to civil conflict in recent years live in poorly built and badly situated camps. **AP**

AUSTRALIA

House speaker quits over travel expense scrutiny

THE speaker of Australia's House of Representatives resigned yesterday following weeks of accusations that she used taxpayer money to pay for extravagant and unnecessary travel. Bronwyn Bishop has faced fierce criticism since it emerged last month that she spent more than 5,000 Australian dollars (USD3,650) to charter a helicopter for an 80-kilometer trip to a golf course to attend a fundraiser for the ruling Liberal Party, rather than drive the 90-minute route.

Bishop subsequently apologized for what she called the "ridiculous" expense and repaid the money. But scrutiny over her other travel expenses continued, including claims that she charged taxpayers for travel costs associated with trips to attend weddings; she later said she would repay those expenses as well.

Yesterday, Sydney's Daily Telegraph reported that she used more than AU\$260,000 of taxpayers' money over the past five years to be driven

around in chauffeured cars, limousines and private-plated vehicles.

The Finance Department is investigating whether she violated any rules.

Prime Minister Tony Abbott, who announced Bishop's resignation, said there would be a review of lawmaker entitlements in the wake of the scandal.

"It won't just be tinkering with the system," he told reporters. "Plainly, the system that we have is deficient. The public deserves to be absolutely confident taxpayers' money is not being abused."

Bishop said her resignation was effective immediately. She will continue to serve as a lawmaker for the ruling conservative party, representing her local district.

"I have not taken this decision lightly," Bishop said in a statement. "It is because of my love and respect for the institution of parliament and the Australian people that I have resigned as Speaker."

Bishop had served as speaker since 2013. **AP**

INDIA-BANGLADESH

Delhi and Dhaka swap border enclaves, settle old dispute

Ashok Sharma, New Delhi

TENS of thousands of stateless people who were stranded for decades along the poorly defined border between India and Bangladesh can finally choose their citizenship, as the two countries swapped more than 150 pockets of land at the stroke of midnight Friday to settle the demarcation line dividing them.

Television images showed people bursting firecrackers and raising an Indian flag in the Masaldanga enclave, which became part of India. On the other side of the new border, thousands of people who have been living in the enclaves in Bangladesh cheered, danced and chanted "Bangladesh, Bangladesh."

They lit 68 candles and released 68 balloons, then marched through the village of Dashiarchhara, highlighting that it took 68 years to settle the border dispute. The village in Kurigram district is 240 kilometers north of Dhaka, Bangladesh's capital.

India's External Affairs Ministry described July 31 as a historic day for both India and



Bangladesh as "it marks the resolution of a complex issue that has lingered since inde-

pendence" from British colonialists in 1947.

"We are very happy, our children will no more need to hide their identity to go to schools," said Bashir Mia, 46. Many people posed as Bangladeshis to get their children admitted to schools in Bangladesh.

"We are free now, we are Bangladeshis," he said.

Nearly 37,000 people lived in 111 Indian enclaves inside Bangladesh, while 14,000 lived in 51 Bangladeshi enclaves in India. They now get citizenship of their choice as a result of the agreement between the two countries. **AP**

21 FEARED DEAD IN MUDSLIDE IN INDIA'S REMOTE NORTHEAST

TWENTY-ONE people were feared dead Saturday in a mudslide triggered by torrential monsoon rains in India's remote mountainous northeast region, police said. The mudslide occurred in Joumol, a village in Manipur state close to India's border with Myanmar, said police officer Herojit Singh. Police reinforcements were finding it difficult to reach the area which has been cut

off by road because of heavy rains over the past three days, Singh said. He said that the rescuers would use helicopters to land in the area yesterday after daybreak. T.S. Warngam, a vice president of the United Naga Council, a civil society organization, said that 20 villagers were feared to have been swept away by the landslide and that one villager was rescued by other residents of the area.

ISRAEL

PM vows 'zero tolerance' for Jewish extremists after baby burned to death

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu says his government will have "zero tolerance" for Jewish extremists.

At his weekly Cabinet meeting yesterday, Netanyahu said Israel was united against "the criminals among our people" following a pair of attacks that shocked the country. On Friday, suspected Jewish extremists set fire to a Palestinian home in the West Bank and burned a toddler to death. On Thursday, an ultra-Orthodox Jew stabbed revelers at a Gay Pride parade in Jerusalem.

Thousands of Israelis took to the streets over the weekend to protest the attacks and warn against a radicalized and violent fringe growing from within the country's religious



Israeli policemen inspect a house after it was torched in a suspected attack by Jewish settlers killing an 18-month-old Palestinian child, his four-year-old brother and parents were wounded, at Duma village near the West Bank city of Nablus

community.

The extremist attacks, which most recently struck a famous

church in northern Israel, have rarely caused fatal injuries, which made Friday's incident,

in which 18-month-old Ali Dawabsheh was killed and his parents and 4-year-old brother

critically wounded, all the more worrying.

Witnesses and the Israeli military said that under cover of darkness, the attackers broke the windows of the family's home in Duma, a small village near the West Bank city of Nablus. They lobbed a fire bomb into the sleeping family's bedroom which exploded into a fireball that quickly consumed the home.

The suspects, who fled the scene, scribbled graffiti on the walls reading "Long live the Messiah," "revenge" and "price tag," as well as a Jewish star of David. The military said they were searching for the assailants.

Riham Dawabsheh, the boy's mother, ran out of the house as she was engulfed by flames and a neighbor, Mohammed Ibrahim Dawabsheh, said he covered her in a sheet to try to extinguish the flames. She, as well as her husband Saed and son Ahmad, were taken to an Israeli hospital for treatment, where they remained in critical condition with severe burn wounds.

Israeli officials, including Netanyahu, visited the family at the hospital. Netanyahu yesterday said Israel is determined to fight "hate, fanaticism and terrorism from whatever side." **AP**

TURKEY

2 soldiers dead, 24 wounded in PKK suicide attack



A relative cries over the Turkish flag-draped coffin of Turkish soldier Kagan Kandemir, during his funeral in the town of Civril, Turkey, Friday

Suzan Fraser, Ankara

KURDISH rebels yesterday detonated an explosives-laden agricultural vehicle at a military police station in eastern Turkey, killing two soldiers and wounding 24 others, authorities said, amid a sharp escalation of violence between the government forces and the autonomy-seeking insurgents.

Militants of the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, used two tons of explosives to attack the

station on a highway near the town of Dogubayazit in Agri province, close to Turkey's border with Iran, causing extensive damage to the building, the regional governor's office said in a statement. The wounded soldiers were hospitalized but there was no word on their conditions.

In a separate attack, one soldier was killed and four others were injured when their military vehicle hit a land mine believed to have been laid by the rebels in the southeastern

Mardin province, the local governor's office said yesterday.

Violence has flared in Turkey in the past 10 days, shattering a fragile peace process launched in 2012 with the Kurds. The government has conducted almost daily airstrikes at PKK bases in northern Iraq while the rebels have attacked Turkey's security forces. The airstrikes began as the U.S. and Turkey announced the outlines of a deal to help push the Islamic State group back from a strip of territory it controls along the Syrian-Turkish border, replacing it with more-moderate rebels backed by Washington and Ankara.

At least 24 people have been killed in the renewed violence in Turkey, most of them soldiers.

Turkey's allies have supported Turkey's fight against the PKK, which they consider a terror organization. But they have also urged Turkey to exercise restraint and to return to the peace process. Turkey's campaign against the PKK is complicating the U.S. war on IS militants, which has relied heavily on Syrian Kurdish fighters affiliated with Turkey's Kurdish rebels. **AP**

EGYPT

Court postpones Al-Jazeera verdict again

Brian Rohan, Cairo

AN Egyptian court yesterday again postponed announcing a verdict in the retrial of three Al-Jazeera English journalists, extending the long-running trial criticized worldwide by press freedom advocates and human rights activists.

The case against Canadian national Mohammed Fahmy, Australian journalist Peter Greste and Egyptian producer Baher Mohammed embroiled their journalism into the wider conflict between Egypt and Qatar following the 2013 military ouster of Islamist President Mohammed Morsi.

Judge Hassan Farid, who oversaw the case against the three, did not attend yesterday's hearing. Another judge, Essam Aboul Ella, announced the case had been postponed.

"It's more suffering for us, more waiting," Mohammed said after the postponement. "The ordeal continues and I have no idea what's going on."

Fahmy added: "It's crippling our lives."

Al-Jazeera English's acting managing director, Giles Trendle, also denounced the delay in an interview with the network.

"We've found that the court ... has been almost Kafka-esque in some of the ludicrous, groundless charges, in some of the strange decisions — even in the delays that you're seeing," Trendle said.



Canadian Al-Jazeera English journalist Mohammed Fahmy, left, and his Egyptian colleague Baher Mohammed listen in a courtroom in Tora prison in Cairo

The case began in December 2013, when Egyptian security forces raided the upscale hotel suite used by Al-Jazeera at the time to report from Egypt. Authorities arrested Fahmy, Greste and Mohammed, later charging them with allegedly being part of Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood, which authorities have declared a terrorist organization, and airing falsified footage intended to damage national security.

Since Morsi's ouster, Egypt has cracked down heavily on his supporters, and the journalists were accused of being mouthpieces for the Brotherhood. Al-Jazeera and the journalists have denied the allegations, saying they were simply reporting the news. However, Doha has been a strong supporter of the Brotherhood and other Islamist groups in the greater Mideast.

"The three of us may not physically be in prison, but until we are completely exonerated of all the charges, neither are we truly free," Greste said in a statement yesterday. **AP**

what's ON



MACAU SCIENCE CENTRE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (Except Thursdays)

ADDRESS: Avenida Dr. Sun Yat-Sen

ADMISSION: Exhibition Centre: MOP25

Planetarium (Dome/Sky Shows): MOP50

Planetarium (3D Dome/3D Sky Shows): MOP65

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2888 0822

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ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

MACAU ANNUAL VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION 2015-CHINESE PAINTING AND CALLIGRAPHY CATEGORY

TIME: 10am-8pm

UNTIL: August 2, 2015

VENUE: Old Court Building

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8399 6699

MACAU GRAND PRIX MUSEUM & WINE MUSEUM

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

VENUE: Rua Luis Gonzaga Gomes, 431, basement

(Tourism Activities Centre-CAT)

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8798 4108 / 2833 3000

INSTALLATION 'VALKYRIE OCTOPUS' BY JOANA VASCONCELOS

TIME: 24 hours

UNTIL: October 31, 2015

VENUE: MGM MACAU, Av. Dr. Sun Yat Sen, NAPE

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8802 8888

Offbeat

AUSTRALIAN SEATED BESIDE OVERWEIGHT PASSENGER SUES ETIHAD

Ethihad Airways said Friday that it will continue to fight a lawsuit by a passenger who says he was left with back pain because he was seated beside an overweight man on a 14-hour flight from the United Arab Emirates to Sydney.

James Bassos, of Brisbane, is suing the Abu Dhabi-based airline in the Queensland state District Court over a permanent back injury he says he suffered while trying to avoid his fellow passenger on the 2011 flight. The 38-year-old interior designer is claiming USD227,000 Australian dollars (\$166,000) for medical expenses and lost earnings.

Ethihad predicted in a statement on Friday that a court-ordered medical assessment would bring the case to a swift end.

"Ethihad Airways will continue to oppose the action and now that Mr. Bassos will finally face a medical assessment in December 2015... we believe that the matter will proceed to an early conclusion," the airline said.

The airline this week failed to have the lawsuit thrown out of court. In refusing the application, Judge Fleur Kingham said Wednesday she was not convinced that Bassos had no chance of winning. She ordered Bassos's medical examination in Brisbane.

Bassos says he was forced to twist and contort his body to avoid touching the "grossly overweight" passenger, who was spilling into Bassos's side of the dividing arm rest.

Bassos says that after five hours, he felt pain and discomfort in his back and asked to be moved, but was told the flight was full.

Half an hour later as the pain became worse, Bassos asked against to be moved and was allowed to sit in a crew seat at the back of the plane, his claim said.

But Bassos said he twice had to return to his allocated seat, including for the final 90 minutes before landing, for safety reasons.

Ethihad said in a statement that it was common for a passenger to be seated next to an overweight passenger on a fully booked flight.

Bassos's claim, filed in 2012, states he suffers back pain, and that his sleep and concentration had been effected and he had been forced to take time off work.

Bassos could not be immediately contacted on Friday. **AP**

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
18:50	The Illusionist (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Sports
22:10	The Illusionist
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:05	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:40	RTPi Live

cinema

CINETEATRO

30 Jul - 5 Aug



MISSION IMPOSSIBLE ROGUE NATION

ROOM 1

2.15, 4.45, 7.15, 9.45 pm

Director: Christopher McQuarrie

Starring: Tom Cruise, Jeremy Renner, Simon Pegg,

Rebecca Ferguson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 131min

ANT-MAN

ROOM 2

(2D) 2.30, 7.15 pm

Director: Peyton Reed

Starring: Paul Rudd, Michael Douglas

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 117min

(1-2 AUG) TO THE FORE

ROOM 2

4.45 pm

Director: Dante Lam

Starring: Eddie Peng, Siwon Choi

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 117min

INSIDIOUS: CHAPTER 3

ROOM 2

4.45, 9.30 pm

Director: Leigh Whannell

Starring: Dermot Mulroney, Stefanie Scott,

Angus Sampson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 97min

INSIDE OUT

ROOM 3

(2D) 2.15, 5.45, 7.30 pm

Director: Pete Docter

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

Duration: 94min

MINIONS

ROOM 3

4.00, 9.30 pm

Director: Pierre Coffin, Kyle Balda

Language: Cantonese (Chinese/English)

Duration: 91min

MACAU TOWER

30 Jul - 5 Aug

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE ROGUE NATION

2.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30 pm

Director: Christopher McQuarrie

Starring: Tom Cruise, Jeremy Renner, Simon Pegg,

Rebecca Ferguson

Language: English (Chinese)

this day in history



1957 RAHMAN TO LEAD INDEPENDENT MALAYA

Tunku Abdul Rahman has been elected for a five-year term as head of state of Malaya.

He was chosen by his fellow Malay rulers in the capital, Kuala Lumpur, yesterday and will lead his country to independence at the end of this month. The Tunku, or Prince, is of royal birth - the brother of the Sultan of Kedah - but is considered a man of the people.

He was educated at two British schools and graduated from Cambridge in 1925. Soon after World War II he went back to Britain to study law.

On his return to Malaya in 1949 he found a country eager for independence but also struggling with communist extremism.

Keen to encourage tolerance between ethnic Malays, Chinese and Indians in the region, he founded the Alliance Party in 1952 which brought together the three races. The party won the 1955 general election with an overwhelming majority.

The Tunku became Chief Minister and ended the state of emergency - introduced after a wave of attacks carried out by mainly Chinese communists on mine-owners, planters and officials - and granted an amnesty to communist terrorists.

Last year, he led the negotiations with the British for an agreement that prepares the way for the creation of an independent Malaya within the Commonwealth.

Transfer of power from British rule will take place on 31 August. Tomorrow, copies of the new treaty between the Queen and the nine Malay rulers will be signed at the residence of the High Commissioner Sir Donald MacGillivray.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Following Malaya's independence, Abdul Rahman introduced reforms that spread power among the sultans and rajas who had ruled over fiefdoms on the Malay peninsula for hundreds of years.

But non-Malays were disappointed that political power remained largely in Malay hands. In 1963 Malaya joined with Sabah, Sarawak and Singapore under a new name, the Federation of Malaysia. Rivalry between the Tunku and Lee Kuan Yew, Prime Minister of Singapore, saw Singapore leave the federation in 1965.

Since Singapore was almost totally inhabited by the Chinese, its departure tipped the balance back in favor of Malays and increased tension between the two communities.

In 1969 there were riots in Kuala Lumpur and 2,000 mainly Chinese protestors were killed. A state of emergency was declared and a year later Abdul Rahman retired from office.

In the late 1980s he re-emerged into public life to criticize the authoritarian leadership of Mahatir bin Muhammad.

YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 That little pain in your foot or digestive issue may start to flare up today...

Taurus April 20-May 20 Your family and other social attachments are strengthening your life today, so make the most of them...

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Someone is poking their nose into your business, and it's kind of hard for you to tell them gently...

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 Your command of details and communication means today is perfect for making big plans...

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 You've got to handle your plans with a mind toward adapting to new circumstances...

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Things start to make sense today - and you are almost certain to discover something new...

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 You aren't exactly a social island today, but you don't feel the usual pull of other people...

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 It's the small stuff that counts the most today, so make sure that you're really paying attention...

Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 This is a great day to focus on your own needs - those that you can handle yourself...

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You feel more grounded today - and yes, that is possible! See if you can get in touch with whoever has been driving you crazy lately...

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 This is a good time to look more deeply into your current mystery - you may find that there's more going on than meets the eye...

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 You don't have to know exactly what you're dealing with in order to score a big win today - so relax your fears and doubts...

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

9x9 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle.

Easy+

9x9 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle.

Medium

9x9 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle.

Hard

9x9 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle.

WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

CHINA

Table listing weather conditions for various Chinese cities like Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, etc.

WORLD

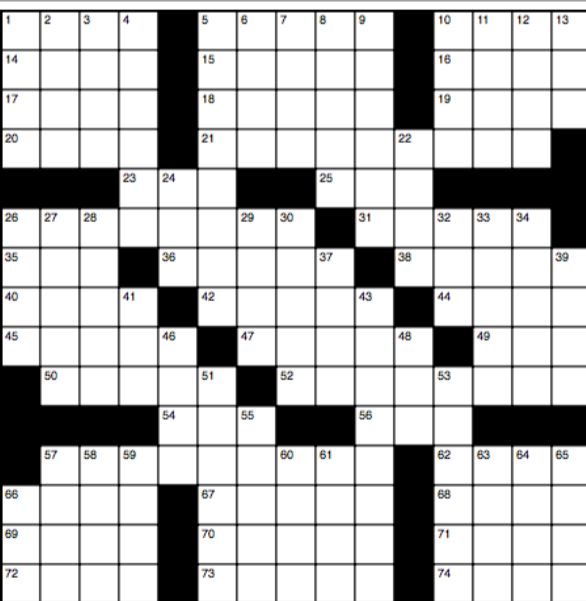
Table listing weather conditions for world cities like Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Flat sound; 5- Begin's co-Nobelists; 10- New Orleans music; 14- Caucus state; 15- From Cardiff; 16- Golfer Aoki; 17- Metal fastener; 18- One of Chekhov's 'Three Sisters'...

DOWN: 1- Cosecant's reciprocal; 2- In order (to); 3- Loretta of 'M*A*S*H'; 4- Italian sausage; 5- Grifter; 6- Dynamic start; 7- 554, in stone; 8- Moore's TV boss; 9- Muse of comedy; 10- Leave at the altar; 11- I'd hate to break up...

Friday's solution



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
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WADA to investigate new doping allegations in athletics

THE World Anti-Doping Agency is alarmed by "wild allegations" made by two European media outlets of widespread suspicious drug tests in track and field, and is asking an independent body to investigate.

WADA President Craig Reddie said yesterday he was surprised by the scale of the allegations, including that one-third of medals in endurance races at the Olympics and world championships over a 10-year period were won by athletes who recorded suspicious doping tests.

German broadcaster ARD and The Sunday Times newspaper in Britain said they obtained access to the results of 12,000 blood tests from 5,000 athletes. The files came from the database of the International Association of Athletics Federations and were leaked by a whistleblower, according to the reports.

The IAAF and WADA were already investigating accusations made in two previous ARD documentaries of alleged systematic doping and cover-ups in Russia.

Reddie said the material from the new ARD program and The Sunday Times would be turned over immediately to WADA's independent commission for investigation.



AP PHOTO
President of the World Anti-Doping Agency Craig Reddie leaves after attending the 128th International Olympic Committee (IOC) session in Kuala Lumpur

"These are wild allegations, wide allegations, and we'll have to check them out and we'll have done that by the commission as quickly as possible," Reddie said in Kuala Lumpur, where he was attending International Olympic Committee meetings.

Reddie stressed the allegations were unproven and athletes are assumed innocent until found guilty. "It is wrong just to make any kind of assumption on allegations in the media," he said.

The ARD program, called "Doping Top Secret: The Shadowy World of Athletics," was broad-

cast three weeks before the world championships in Beijing, which run from Aug. 22-30.

In a separate statement issued by WADA, Reddie said the new allegations "will, once again, shake the foundation of clean athletes worldwide."

ARD and The Sunday Times asked Australian anti-doping specialists Robin Parisotto and Michael Ashenden to review the blood testing results from the period from 2001 to 2012. They reported that 800 athletes, competing in disciplines ranging from the 800 meters to the ma-

More than 80 of Russia's medals were won by athletes with suspicious tests

rathon, registered blood values that are considered suspicious under WADA standards.

The report found that 146 medals — including 55 golds — in those disciplines at the Olympics and world championships were won by athletes who have recorded suspicious tests. None of the athletes have been stripped of those medals, according to the report.

"Never have I seen such an alarmingly abnormal set of blood values," Parisotto said. "So many athletes appear to have doped with impunity."

No athletes were identified, and the evidence is not proof of doping.

The reports also alleged that more than 80 of Russia's medals were won by athletes with suspicious tests, while Kenya had 18 medals won by suspicious athletes. ARD said it has evidence of human growth hormone being used by Russian runners.

The IAAF said it was aware of "serious allegations made against the integrity and competence of its anti-doping program."

"They are largely based on analysis of an IAAF data base of private and confidential medical data which has been obtained without consent," the federations said in a statement, adding that it reserves the right to take action to "protect the rights of the IAAF and its athletes."

IAAF vice president Sergei Bubka said the federation would look into the allegations and cooperate with WADA.

The IOC was also aware of the accusations. "It's up to the WADA commission to gather evidence," IOC spokesman Mark Adams said. "We have full confidence in them." AP

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opinion

Insight
Paulo Barbosa



NON-INTERVENTIONISM IS A POOR EXCUSE

1. The lack of control for rental increases – both for shops and for residential buildings – remains a problem. Although there has been a slowdown in the rental market, the situation will likely worsen in 2016, with the opening of several huge casino-resorts that demand the import of thousands of workers. Supply won't meet demand and inflation will persist – but until when?

Lawyers Pedro Cortês and Marta Mourão recently published an article on the website of the International Law Office analyzing the local market. They wrote: "The lack of restrictions in place to prevent landlords from increasing rent has led to situations where rent has been increased by 50% or more, leaving tenants with no alternative other than to refuse such rent and search for a new place to live. Without prejudice to contractual freedom and the right of parties to freely establish contractual conditions, there should arguably be a rule to cap rent increases (e.g. according to the rate of inflation) in order to allow tenants to keep living in the same place without having to move each year."

Another local lawyer, Sérgio de Almeida Correia, published last week a column in the newspaper Hoje Macau stating that, "real estate brokerage in Macau, as it's currently practiced, is only a way to inflate the market and contribute to the speculative and uncontrolled prices [of rent]. That is what justifies the mushrooming of new real estate agencies and franchising outlets." Still, according to him, this results in pressure on tenants and the extinction of traditional businesses.

Meanwhile, the government turns a blind eye and refuses to introduce legislation to control rents, on the pretext that it would be interfering with the free market.

The non-interventionist justification is poor, especially in a region where authorities tend to intervene in issues that affect companies and individuals. Assistant professor of finance at Stony Brook University and freelance writer Noah Smith explained recently on Bloomberg how, in some cases, what he calls "crony-capitalist policy" is similar to government non-intervention: "For example, when coal-burning power plants blow pollution into the air, the government should tax them in order to make up for the social harm they cause. If the government doesn't tax them because of the strength of the local lobby, that's true crony capitalism, even though it looks like the government is doing nothing."

If the MSAR government doesn't want to be accused of favoring crony capitalism, then it should understand that the current rental situation is creating social harm, with small businesses closing and people living in unfavourable conditions, with subdivided flats getting smaller and rents going up.

2. I follow with interest the developments in neighboring Hengqin island, because I think that its connection to Macau is crucial for the future. The latest announcement made by the Hengqin New Area's director-general Niu Jing must come as a disappointment to Macau. After clear indications that all of locally registered vehicles could be driven in Hengqin, he now hinted that those who have invested in the new area will have priority access when using their Macau vehicles to enter and drive around the island.

If confirmed – the rules should be announced this month – this is a completely different arrangement, since only local residents who invest in the mainland will be able to drive in Hengqin. The prospects for those who invest in businesses or housing are different. The size of clientele for shops in Hengqin will not be the same if most local cars can't be driven there. And if a resident buys a house in Hengqin, will the friend he invited for dinner be able to drive there?

Of course there are traffic concerns that must be considered, but if I were a local investor in Hengqin, I would feel defrauded by Niu Jing's announcement. It simply doesn't match previous statements and ultimately changes the rules of the game. And it makes people wonder if, in spite of the cooperation pacts, there are forces on the Zhuhai side that wish to contain Macau's expansion to Hengqin.

THE BUZZ 2ND AMERICAN INVOLVED IN ILLEGAL LION HUNT

A second American killed a lion in an illegal hunt with a bow and arrow in Zimbabwe several months ago, amid an international outcry over a U.S. hunter accused of illegally killing a well-known lion named Cecil in early July, authorities said yesterday. The second American was involved in an illegal hunt of a lion in April around Zimbabwe's Hwange National Park. A

Zimbabwean landowner named Headman Sibanda was arrested in the case and is assisting police with their investigation, the authority said. Zimbabwean authorities earlier said they are seeking the extradition of Minnesota dentist Walter James Palmer, alleging he did not have authorization to kill the lion named Cecil a month ago.



Student protesters against changes to their curriculum occupy the area inside the gates of the Ministry of Education in Taipei

Student protesters sit-in at Taiwan Education Ministry

DOZENS of students launched a sit-in Friday at Taiwan's Education Ministry demanding that officials take responsibility for a student leader who killed himself in an apparent protest over curriculum changes that critics say overemphasize China's ties to the island.

The students jumped a security gate overnight and set up tents and stools near the building's main entrance on Friday, holding placards demanding the resignation of the education minister while dozens of police blocked the entrance.

High school students around Taiwan have been staging several small demonstrations against the

school curriculum changes for weeks. They say it emphasizes China's historic rule over the island, and that it also favors Taiwan's ruling Nationalist Party, playing down its decades-long dictatorial rule.

"This curriculum is biased," student protester Peng Cheng said. "The problem is that Taiwan actually is an island with multiple cultural influences. If you look back on Taiwan's history, we have influences

from the Spanish, the Dutch, the Japanese, the Chinese, as well as the aboriginal peoples, and even the Americans."

"So we cannot accept the textbook guideline that is so Chinese-cultural-centric," he said.

A group of students broke into the education minister's office last week in protest, and 33 were arrested. Twenty-four of them were facing charges, including student leader Lin Kuanhua, 20, who police say took his life on Thursday by burning fuel in his room.

Lin "expressed his wish for the ministry to withdraw its new guidelines before his death," Taiwan's Central News Agency reported. AP

This curriculum is biased

STUDENT PROTESTER

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Xinhua/Mao Siqian



As the temperature rises, many people went to the Dameisha Beach Seashore Park in Shenzhen yesterday for swim and sunbathe.

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	15-35 Good	😊
High Density Residential Area	20-40 Good	😊
Ambient	20-40 Good	😊

SOURCE: DSMG

WORLD BRIEFS



JAPAN On Saturday, the Imperial Household Agency released the digital version of the original 4 1/2-minute speech delivered by Emperor Hirohito at the end of World War II ahead of the 70th anniversary of the speech and the war's end. In it, Hirohito's "jewel voice" – muffled and nearly inaudible due to poor sound quality – appears clearer, slightly higher and more intense.

MALAYSIA Secretary of State John Kerry will push Malaysia to redouble its efforts against human trafficking during an upcoming visit for regional security talks. Kerry's visit, starting Wednesday, comes a week after the department faced a storm of protest for lifting Malaysia off its trafficking blacklist. U.S. lawmakers and human rights activists say the decision was intended to smooth the way for a trade agreement among 12 Pacific rim nations, including Malaysia.

RUSSIA A Russian military helicopter crashed yesterday during an aerobatic display, killing one of its crewmembers and injuring another, the Defense Ministry said.

BURUNDI A Burundi general who was a key security ally of President Pierre Nkurunziza was killed yesterday in a drive-by shooting in the capital, Bujumbura, a presidential spokesman said.

HAWAII Trade ministers from a dozen Pacific Rim nations failed to reach a deal on a new trade agreement that would cover nearly 40 percent of the global economy, U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman said Friday. The Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations are aimed at erasing most tariffs and other barriers to trade and investment among participants.

USA Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton and her husband, former President Bill Clinton, earned more than \$139 million between 2007 and 2014, according to eight years of federal income tax returns released by her campaign.