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SECOND COURT HAS HANDED DOWN JAIL SENTENCES TO FORMER CUSTOMS OFFICER, PRISON WARDEN

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GAMING REVENUE DOWN 9 PERCENT IN NOVEMBER: FORECAST

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PAULO CHAN SAYS AT MGS 2019 MACAU REGULATOR PASSED WITH FLYING COLORS AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

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China Huawei is paying its employees bonuses totaling more than \$285 million as thanks for helping the Chinese tech giant cope with U.S. sanctions that threaten its smartphone and other businesses. Huawei scrambled to remove U.S. components from its products following curbs announced in May on access to American technology after Washington accused the company of being a security risk.

Cambodia Exiled Cambodian opposition leader Sam Rainsy said yesterday the European Union's assessment of whether to suspend trade privileges for his country will add momentum to efforts to restore democracy despite a government crackdown. The EU finalized a preliminary report yesterday that Sam Rainsy said would be the basis for suspending trade privileges for Cambodia.



Australia Ferocious wildfires were burning at emergency-level intensity across Australia's most populous state and into Sydney's suburbs yesterday as authorities warned most people in their paths that there was no longer time to flee. New South Wales state is under a weeklong state of emergency, a declaration that gives the Rural Fire Service sweeping powers to control resources and direct other government agencies in its efforts to battle fires.

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CHUI WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD



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HK POLICE, PROTESTERS FACE OFF IN RENEWED CLASHES

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All about Grand Prix 66: News, views and interviews. Today we present an interview with Guia veteran rider Horst Saiger who will compete here for the 13th time

Chui Sai On paints a bright picture of 10

RENATO MARQUES

THE last decade of the Macau Special Administrative Region (SAR) saw very stable development and an improvement in the livelihood of the population, the Chief Executive (CE) Chui Sai On said yesterday at the Legislative Assembly (AL) he headed for the last time. He presented an evaluation of the work of the governments he led for the past 10 years as well as the evaluation of the policies for 2019 and a budget proposal for the upcoming year.

In his speech and before an audience of lawmakers, the CE noted as major points of his governance the improvement in the quality of life of the community, the social harmony and the promotion of infrastructure construction.

Underlining the financial strength also achieved over the past decade, Chui painted a very bright picture of the achievements reached under his leadership, highlighting the almost complete implementation of the measures proposed in the five-year plan (of his second mandate) which he considered to be "very satisfactory," achieving an implementation rate of as much as "90% up to the third quarter of 2019."

Under the theme of "Ten years of governance from stability to continuity," the evaluation report presented by the CE is comprised of five chapters, including the improvement of policies and measu-



res to improve the livelihood of the community, an orderly boost of urban construction, promotion of stable economic development, continued reinforcement of regional cooperation and the strengthening

of public administration capabilities.

Highlighting the first of the five topics, Chui noted that the revision of the Social Housing Legal Regime (currently under analysis by the AL) as well

as the new School Curriculum Framework and Basic Academic Skills Requirements, (already implemented) have contributed significantly.

To the aforementioned two, the CE added the measures to

promote the "love of the country and Macau," comprised of several elements to the curriculum as well as the national education.

The CE said, "education is the base [not just for his 10-years but] for a 100 years."

GOV'T TO RAISE CIVIL SERVANTS, KEEP 'PARTAKING SCHEME' FOR 2020

ALTHOUGH the Chief Executive (CE) mandate will come to a close before the end of this year, it is within the authority of the government to propose the budget for the upcoming year.

In the fulfillment of this duty, Chui Sai On revealed that after discussing the topic with the upcoming CE, Ho Iat Seng, it is proposed for 2020 to update the salary index of all the civil servants from the current 88 patacas per point to 91 patacas, an increase of 3 patacas, the same increment as

last year (MOP85 to 88).

As for other measures, Chui also announced that the Wealth Partaking Scheme will also continue into Ho's government, distributing cash handouts at the same amount as this year (10,000 patacas for permanent residents and 6,000 patacas for non-permanent residents).

Also continuing are the measures previously announced regarding the taxation of professionals with the retention of the reduction of 30% on professional tax and

a refund of 60% of tax paid and deducted from salaries until the ceiling of 14,000 patacas.

On the acquisition of the first house, the first 3 million patacas will continue to be exempt from stamp duty.

According to the CE, all these measures, including the subsidies for use of public transportation and injection of funds into the Social Welfare Individual Accounts, amounts to 3.42 billion patacas of government investment.

FINANCE AND LAND RESERVES ARE KEYSTONES

Finance and Land Reserves are keystones for the development of the SAR, the CE said yesterday during the press conference that followed his speech at the AL.

In an evaluation of the past 10 years of governance, Chui said, "The Finance Reserves as well as the Land Reserves are the foundations of the general development of Macau." With a healthy and strong financial reserve and without land reserves, is impossible for any

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years of governance



government to plan and to face challenges such as the development of infrastructure or the building of social housing, among others, he added.

The CE had previously mentioned an increase in the government financial reserve that registered a growth from 100.2 billion patacas in 2012 to a total of 508.8 billion patacas by 2018, an increase of over five-fold.

As for the land reserves, the CE recalled that during his mandate a total of 77 plots of land were recalled to government possession, from which a total of 23 cases of repossession have already been completed and the land returned to the government, representing a total of 230,000 square meters of recovered area.

Chui took the opportunity to praise the work of the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário who he said helped to accelerate the reclamation of land of expired concessions as well as progress public works and construction, such as the Light

Rapid Transit (LRT), among others.

Questioned by the media on the LRT, Chui said without putting forth an exact date, "the Taipa line of the LRT will open to the public next month, still during my mandate. What I can say at this moment is that it will open before December 19."

TYPHOONS PINPOINTED AS 'MOST DIFFICULT MOMENTS'

Questioned also by the media about what where Chui's

most difficult moments as CE over the past decade, he replied, "I can say that the hardest moments or the most marked ones were definitely the catastrophes [typhoons] that we had over the last couple of years [Hato and Mangkhut]."

Nevertheless the natural catastrophes which Chui's government had to face and respond to, "turned us into a more united and tolerant [community]. It validated the stability and

the prosperity, which took us a great effort to achieve," he said, adding, "the natural catastrophes also allowed us to gain more awareness for the lack in Macau, as a coastal city, of natural barriers that support resistance against extreme weather effects."

On the other hand, the CE noted that the measures taken by his government that he feels most proud of are the ones relating to education and the policies that allow the youth of Macau to have access to tertiary education and to continuous education.

"Equity of access to education is the base for an equitarian society," the CE said, noting that his government's policies on education had contributed to a firm foundation that will allow future generations to perform better.

BILLS WITHDRAWN WERE 'OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN'

Questioned by the media on the two bills proposed by Chui Sai On's government that raised many questions and public protests leading to the withdrawal of such bills from discussion at the Legislative Assembly, the CE said, "I have no regrets regarding those two bills [the one proposing retirement packages to higher government officials and the CE, and the one that proposed a donation of RMB100 million to the Jinan University] that generated issues and misunderstandings from the people," he said, adding that the fact that people reacted negatively to such proposals worked as a learning opportunity for all government officials that from then on realized that it is always necessary to listen to the people and clearly explain the government's intentions.

To those, Chui also added other occasions in which the population did not react well to government proposals, such as the increase of several fees and road traffic penalties and illegal parking fines and when it was proposed that a crematorium be installed in Taipa's

cemetery.

"These problems were [mostly] solved through public consultations. Asking the people is never a bad thing and to hear people is always an opportunity to learn."

On the topic, Chui made a very positive evaluation of his government noting, "we gathered support from the population and we received generally good feedback from the measures proposed and enforced," Chui said, noting that it is not up to him to grade himself in the role of a CE but it is up to the citizens of Macau to classify his work in the service of Macau.

"Only Macau people and history will tell if I was a good [servant] or not," the CE said.

DIFFERENCES IN LEGAL SYSTEMS BIGGEST CHALLENGE OF GBA

Questioned on the challenges posed to the Macau government regarding the role of Macau as well as regional integration of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area (GBA), Chui said, "The bigger issue [that the different parties need to solve] is related to the existing differences between the legal systems [of Macau, Hong Kong, and the Mainland]. Besides that, we need to be more proactive and have more initiative to be able to grab with the opportunities that arise."

The CE noted that the GBA will be a very competitive area that will allow an unprecedented exchange of people, ideas and businesses, and although the roles of Macau have been clearly defined by the GBA plan announced by the central government which includes "42 projects that we need to do. We need to create opportunities for our youngsters to adjust to the GBA. We know that there are cultural differences between the sides but we need to offer them the best possible foundation for them to be able to strive and be competitive," pointing once more to the education and training sector.



Hard copies and booklets of the Review of the Government's Work in the Fiscal Year 2019 and the Ten Years of Policy Implementation for Achieving Long-term Stability – A Summary of Policy Implementation by the Third- and Fourth-term Macao

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- Island District Medical Complex to launch foundation stone of main building during the Fourth Quarter this year.
- Government promotion of mobile payment resulted in a great take-up.
- More and better taxis with a significant reduction in the number of infractions committed by taxi drivers.
- Gaming: Extension of the expiring concessions to put all contenders on an equal footing.
- Incentives for non-gaming and economic diversification.
- Over 90% of the SMEs received some support from the government.
- Optimization of the process for the hiring of non-resident workers to assure SME competitiveness.
- Fulfilled promise on not allowing the hiring of non-residents for croupier posts.
- Developing services with Portuguese-speaking countries to enter into operation next year.

NOV GGR DOWN 9% TO MOP22.5-23B: NOMURA

Nomura has estimated the local gaming industry's gross gaming revenue (GGR) per day through the first ten days of the month was roughly MOP750 million, down 12% against last month's average (MOP853M/day), which seasonally benefited from the October Golden week holiday (1-7 October). By segment, the research house estimated that average daily mass revenues were 11-13% higher, VIP hold percentage was 2.9% (in line with the "normalized" hold range of 2.7-3.0%), and VIP volumes are tracking 30-32% lower as against the same period last year. Assuming November GGR declines sequentially (month-on-month) in line with its trailing seven-year median of a reduction of 13-15% against October, Nomura estimated GGR for the month should settle around MOP22.5-23 billion. The midpoint of the estimated range implies a 9% decline in November, "or 580 basis points of sequential deceleration, given a tough one-year growth comparison," the analysts say.

MGM SEEKS INVESTORS FOR MGM GRAND, MANDALAY BAY VENTURE

MGM Resorts International and MGM Growth Properties LLC are seeking an investor for a joint venture that would own at least two prominent Las Vegas properties, according to people with knowledge of the matter. The duo have solicited interest in the MGM Grand Hotel & Casino and the Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino from investors that have historically bet on gaming properties, said the people, who requested anonymity because the talks are private. A representative for MGM Resorts declined to comment and representatives for MGM Growth Properties didn't immediately respond to requests for comment. MGM Resorts created the real estate investment trust, MGM Growth in 2016 and sold a minority interest to the public. The REIT owns most of MGM Resorts' casinos and leases them back to the company to operate.

Two security officers sentenced to jail for bribery

THE Court of Second Instance (TSI) has handed down a jail sentence to a former officer from the customs authority and an officer from the prison authority for bribery.

The two officers were involved in a bribery case which was registered in 2015.

In that year, a gambler carrying large quantities of cash when entering Macau through the Lotus Frontier was spotted by the Macao Customs Authority. The gambler was with another person who actively engaged in activities inside Macau's casinos.

When the gambler was detained, the companion contacted a prison warden who then contacted the customs inspector involved in the case in order to release the detainee. The customs inspector eventually released the gambler.

In 2017, a court ruled



that the customs officer was not guilty, whereas the warden was sentenced to four months in jail.

The Prosecution Authority appealed to TSI. On July

15, TSI ruled for the prosecution in the case, finding the customs officer guilty, having sentenced him to two years in jail, and increased the sentence for the pri-

son warden to one year.

Both the customs authority and the correctional bureau are following the disciplinary procedures related to this case.

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Major Benchmarks of Macao's Economic and Social Development (2009-2018)

ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

Growth rate per annum in 2018 as compared to 2009

↑63.3% GDP
 ↑33.1% Per capita GDP
 ↑88.2% Overall median monthly income
 ↑25.1% Total population
 ↑407.6% Fiscal reserve¹
 ↑11.6% Foreign exchange reserves

Indicators	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
GDP (million patacas)	260,152	325,877	396,503	433,128	481,639	475,854	373,096	369,895	405,790	424,895
Per capita GDP (patacas)	483,401	606,938	722,264	760,297	809,818	765,224	581,599	572,726	625,254	643,537
Overall Unemployment rate (%)	3.5	2.8	2.6	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.0	1.8
Overall median monthly income (patacas)	8,500	9,000	10,000	11,300	12,000	13,300	15,000	15,000	15,000	16,000
Inflation rate (%)	1.17	2.81	5.81	6.11	5.50	6.05	4.56	2.37	1.23	3.01
Total population ('0000)	53.33	54.06	55.74	58.20	60.75	63.62	64.68	64.49	65.31	66.74
Fiscal reserve ('00 million patacas)	—	—	—	1,002.4	1,689	2,463.4	3,450.5	4,386.6	4,900.4	5,088
Foreign exchange reserves ('00 million patacas)	1,465.8	1,901.9	2,723.7	1,325.4 ²	1,289.5	1,313.9	1,508.1	1,556.7	1,623.1	1,636

Note 1: Growth rate per annum in 2018 as compared to 2012.

Note 2: In accordance with the Legal System for Fiscal Reserve that came into force on 1 January 2012, fiscal reserve and foreign exchange reserves must be separately managed, and allocated into a newly established independent account. The related assets were officially transferred in February 2012.

EDUCATION

Growth rate per annum in 2018 as compared to 2009

↑166% Government expenditure on education
 ↑15.8% Senior secondary school gross enrolment rate
 ↑17.8% Ratio of employed tertiary graduates to total employed population

Indicators	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Government expenditure on education (million patacas)	4,372	5,776	7,955	11,360	8,023.7	8,580	9,515	10,101	10,509	11,630
Senior secondary school gross enrolment rate (%)	76.7	78.5	81.7	87.4	88.4	92.5	94.7	93.9	93.9	92.5
Ratio of employed tertiary graduates to total employed population (%)	20.3	20.9	23.2	26.2	29.5	31.2	34.1	34.3	36.5	38.1

HEALTHCARE

Growth rate per annum in 2018 as compared to 2009

↑159.7% Government expenditure on healthcare
 ↑1.5 Average life expectancy³
 ↑0.2 Physicians per 1000 population³
 ↑0.9 Nurses per 1000 population³
 ↑0.6 Hospital beds per 1000 population³

Indicators	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Government expenditure on healthcare (million patacas)	2,844	3,119	3,935	4,228	4,447.8	5,299	6,572	6,989	7,362	7,385
Average life expectancy (years)	82.2	82.3	82.4	82.6	82.6	82.9	83.2	83.3	83.4	83.7
Physicians per 1000 population	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.6
Nurses per 1000 population	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.7
Hospital beds per 1000 population	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.1

Note 3: Accumulated growth figures from 2009 to 2018.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Growth rate per annum in 2018 as compared to 2009

↑212.2% Government expenditure on social security

Indicators	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Government expenditure on social security (million patacas)	5,781	9,449	9,946	10,790	8,292.7	14,443	15,681	17,078	18,299	18,050

HOUSING

Growth rate per annum in 2018 as compared to 2009

↑135% Public housing

↑52% Home-Ownership Scheme housing

Indicators	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Public housing (units)	5,954	7,214	7,571	7,917	12,589	12,589	13,326	14,020	14,020	14,020
Home-Ownership Scheme housing (units)	24,558	24,558	25,438	28,141	32,984	32,984	32,984	33,754	34,042	37,212

Review of the Government's Work in the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China during the Fiscal Year 2019

(TRANSLATED VERSION)

During the past year, Macao was facing increased uncertainty due to internal and external circumstances. Despite the complex challenges and economic downturn, the Macao SAR continued upholding the principles of "One country, two systems", "Macao people governing Macao" and a high degree of autonomy. We faced the challenges head on, and adhered to the overall approach of making progress while ensuring stability, to realise our policy goals of maintaining a stable employment situation and overall environment. We successfully completed the fifth Chief Executive election, and are striving to ensure smooth organisation and arrangements for the new-term Government. We believe that the Macao SAR will move forward towards a new era and new milestones with full confidence.

Improving Social Welfare

All Macao residents

Individual accounts of the Central Provident Fund

Start-up fund of 10,000 patacas (for eligible residents)
Additional fund injection of 7,000 patacas (for eligible residents)

Wealth Partaking Scheme

10,000 patacas (permanent residents)
6,000 patacas (non-permanent residents)

Healthcare voucher

600 patacas per person (permanent residents)

Birth allowance

5,260 patacas (both parents may apply at the same time)

Electricity bill subsidy for residential units

200 patacas per month (each residential unit)

Tap water tariff subsidy

Ongoing

Bus fare concessions for members of the public

Ongoing (for the elderly, students, people with disabilities, etc.)

Real estate tax

Deduction of first 3,500 patacas of tax (Macao residents)

Waiver of real estate stamp duty

First three million patacas of a residential unit's value (Macao permanent residents purchasing residential property for the first time)

Incentive for the increase of supply in the real estate rental market

Reduction of the property tax rate for leased properties to eight percent

People with disabilities

Disability gratuity

9,000 patacas per year (ordinary)
18,000 patacas per year (special)

Subsidy for eligible employees with disabilities

Up to 5,000 patacas per month

Employers hiring people with disabilities

A tax deduction of up to 5,000 patacas on profit tax or personal income tax per employee with disabilities

Employment incentives

The personal income tax allowance for eligible employees with disabilities increases to 198,000 patacas

Students

Non-tertiary education: Textbook allowance

3,400 patacas per school year (each secondary school student)
2,900 patacas per school year (each primary school student)
2,300 patacas per school year (each kindergarten pupil)

Students from families with financial difficulties

Tuition fee subsidies:
9,000 patacas per school year (each senior secondary school student)
6,000 patacas per school year (each junior secondary school student)
4,000 patacas per school year (each kindergarten pupil or primary school student)

Meal allowance: 3,800 patacas per school year

Stationery allowance:

3,250 patacas per school year (each secondary school student)
2,500 patacas per school year (each kindergarten pupil or primary school student)

Tertiary education: Stationery allowance

3,300 patacas (Macao residents)

Tuition fee subsidies for Macao students studying in Guangdong

6,000 patacas per school year (each senior and junior secondary school student)
8,000 patacas (each kindergarten pupil)

Disadvantaged families

Minimum subsistence index

4,230 patacas per one-person household

Financial assistance

Disburse an additional month of financial assistance to eligible families

Special subsidy for three categories of disadvantaged families

Ongoing

Special living allowance under the Social Inclusion Scheme

Ongoing

Short-term Food Assistance Programme

Ongoing

Public housing tenants

Rent waiver

Temporary housing subsidies for eligible families on the waiting list for public housing

Ongoing

Subsidy for low-income, full-time employees

Already up to 3,000 patacas per month

Positive Life Programme and the Community Employment Assistance Scheme

Ongoing

The elderly

Old age allowance

9,000 patacas per year

Pension

3,630 patacas per month

Incentive for employment

Increase the basic allowance for personal income tax to 198,000 patacas for elderly employees over 65 years of age

Overview of elderly benefits

Old age allowance: 9,000 patacas
Pension: 3,630 patacas x 13 months
Wealth Partaking Scheme: 10,000 patacas
Additional fund injection to individual accounts of the Central Provident Fund: 7,000 patacas

Total benefits received per year:
73,190 patacas
(Benefits received per month:
approx 6,099 patacas)
Healthcare voucher: 600 patacas

Employed citizens / middle-income class

Personal income tax

Continue with the 30 percent reduction in personal income tax, with the basic allowance set at 144,000 patacas

Extra tax rebate

60 percent rebate of tax payable for 2019, subject to an increased ceiling of 14,000 patacas (the tax rebates will be disbursed in 2021)

Business owners and related persons

- Profit tax allowance remains at 600,000 patacas
- Waivers of all business taxes, hawker licence fees, wet market stall rents, inspection and quarantine fees for live food, stamp duty on life or non-life insurance, bank service charges and auction stamp duty
- Waivers of signboard taxes for businesses (excluding tobacco advertisements) and exemption from tourism tax for restaurants
- Waivers of stamp duty on entrance passes and tickets for cultural and arts performances, exhibitions and entertainment programmes
- Extra tax deduction on R&D projects
- Waivers of profit tax on investment income from local bonds issued by mainland China governments and state-owned enterprises, and exempt the stamp duty for issuing and acquiring the relevant bonds
- Waivers of profit tax for local enterprises on revenue gained from Portuguese-speaking countries

Review of the Government's Work in the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China during the Fiscal Year 2019

(TRANSLATED VERSION)

Perfecting Livelihood-related Policies and Measures

Urban planning

- We completed the land reclamation of New Urban Area Zone A and Zone E1.
- We established Macau Urban Renewal Limited, and commenced a public consultation on legal systems related to urban renewal.
- We carried out a registration process, in accordance with the law, for people who are eligible to apply for replacement housing.
- We strived to recover idle lands to increase the land reserve.



Housing

- We completed amendments to the Legal System for Public Housing and established a mechanism for public housing applications on a regular basis.
- Applications for Home-Ownership Scheme housing will soon commence.
- Design of the first four Home-Ownership Scheme housing projects and one public housing project in Zone A has commenced.
- We resumed construction of the Mong Ha Public Housing project.
- We completed the feasibility study on the Wai Long Public Housing project.



Education and youth

- We secured the 15-year compulsory education system and continued increasing education funding.
- We enhanced popular science education and fostered innovative concepts among students.
- We completed the third phase of the Continuing Education Programme.
- We optimised the subsidy scheme of the Tertiary Education Foundation, through leveraging the functions of the Tertiary Education Council.
- We organised "Unity and Companionship" visits for young people, to deepen their experiences of loyalty to the country.
- We launched youth programmes related to knowledge of national affairs, and voluntary poverty alleviation services for young volunteers.



Healthcare and sports

- We established the Macao Academy of Medical Specialists.
- The Ka Ho Rehabilitation Hospital commenced operation.
- There was good progress with construction of the health centres at Rua da Praia do Manduço and Seac Pai Van.
- We launched a pilot denture service scheme for the elderly.
- The Athletes Training Centre will soon commence operation.



Good Progress with Urban Development

Safe city

- We established the Safeguarding State Security Committee, and again held an exhibition on national security education.
- The Cyber Security Law and the Civil Protection Law have passed the first reading at the Legislative Assembly.
- We announced and implemented the Ten-year Plan for Disaster Prevention and Mitigation of the Macao SAR (2019-2028).
- We set up 17 emergency shelters and four emergency assembly points.
- We commenced the public display of the first phase environmental assessment of the feasibility study for the overall planning of constructing sluices at the Inner Harbour.
- We strived to construct the third circuit of the Macao-Zhuhai electric power transmission channel.
- The fourth raw water pipeline from Zhuhai to Macao commenced operation.

Technology and smart city

- We established a special task force for innovation, science and technology and smart city development.
- The launch programme of Macao's first scientific satellite commenced.
- We supported the development of four state key laboratories.
- We strived to promote mobile payment.



Transport

- We increased the number of taxis, which will reach 1,800 during this year.
- We formulated the Law of the Light Rail Transport System, and established the Macao Light Rapid Transit Corporation Limited.
- The Taipa Line of the Light Rail Transport System will soon commence operation.
- We completed construction of the skywalk connecting Rotunda do Estádio and the LTR Stadium Station in Taipa.

Environmental protection

- We enhanced conservation of mangroves, and expanded the coastal green belt.
- We facilitated the use of environmentally friendly electric vehicles.
- Restrictions on the Supply of Plastic Bags law will soon come into effect.
- We planned the construction of a centralised food waste processing facility.
- We began transferring used and abandoned vehicles to Guangdong province for a recycling and re-use process, as a pilot operation.



Culture

- We launched the cultural event - "Art Macao".
- We completed construction of the Seac Pai Van Library and the Xian Xinghai Memorial Centre.
- We promoted the integration of culture and creativity into the community.



Strengthening Public Administration Capacity

Legal system building

- We amended laws on respecting and protecting the national flag, the national emblem and the national anthem.
- We prioritised legislation for people's well-being and livelihoods.



Public Services

- We established the Municipal Affairs Bureau.
- We established the Islands District Integrated Government Services Centre.
- We introduced the "one-window" counter services.
- We established an activity centre for civil servants.



Review of the Government's Work in the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China during the Fiscal Year 2019

(TRANSLATED VERSION)

Promoting stable economic development

Gaming and tourism

- We approved the extension of the casino concession or sub-concession contracts of two gaming concessionaires for two years, so that all casino concession contracts will expire by 2022.
- We continued encouraging gaming operators to develop more non-gaming elements.
- We developed new ferry routes and launched the "Macau Cruise" service.
- We enhanced development of the "Creative City of Gastronomy".

Diversifying industries

- We attracted more quality conventions and exhibitions to be held in Macao.
- The Traditional Chinese Medicine Science and Technology Industrial Park of Cooperation Between Guangdong and Macao (GMTCM Park) has established an incubation base with research and development, headquartering and trading functions; 159 companies have registered as members and 76 companies have signed contracts for moving into the park.
- We recently launched the "Community Cultural and Creative Production Subsidy Scheme".
- We expedited development of a Renminbi clearing centre for economic and trade cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking countries.
- We facilitated construction of a platform for cooperation in financial services between China and Portuguese-speaking countries.

Small- and medium-sized enterprises

- We optimised the existing licensing system.
- We continued the "Scheme to Assist the Re-branding of Time-honoured Local Shops".
- We launched a property insurance product for SMEs to cover catastrophes, a financial assistance scheme for property insurance for SMEs to cover catastrophes, and an export credit insurance scheme.
- We conducted a new round of business invitation exercises for the Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Industrial Park in Hengqin.

Securing employment

- We upheld the promise to prohibit non-local workers from undertaking gaming dealer posts.
- We expedited revision of the Labour Relations Law, proposed paternity leave for male employees, increased maternity leave payment, and introduced a method to solve the issue of overlapping weekly leave and mandatory holidays.
- The bill on the Minimum Wage of Employees passed its first reading by the Legislative Assembly.
- We strengthened vocational training, to enhance Macao people's competitiveness.

Continued deepening regional cooperation

- We further aligned with the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and included the construction of the Greater Bay Area in Macao's Five-Year Development Plan.
- The governments of Guangdong province, the Hong Kong SAR, and the Macao SAR jointly organised the Symposium on Outline Development Plan for the Greater Bay Area and the Symposium on the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area in Macao, Hong Kong and Japan.
- Macao exercised jurisdiction of the Macao border crossing area and related extended areas of the Hengqin border checkpoint.
- We participated in the second "Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation" and the second China International Import Expo in Shanghai.
- We held the 2019 Summit on Chinese Central SOEs Supporting Macao as a Cooperation Platform between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries.
- The China-PSCs Commercial and Trade Service Platform Complex will soon commence operation.

GENERAL INTEGRATED BUDGET OF PUBLIC EXPENDITURE FOR 2020

REVENUE ITEMS	Proposed budget for 2020	REVENUE ITEMS	Proposed budget for 2020
RECURRING REVENUE	116,812,231,700.00	Contribution to Social Security System	79,542,600.00
Direct tax	9,236,952,800.00	Other recurring revenue	56,796,100.00
Indirect tax	4,976,004,700.00	CAPITAL REVENUE	5,885,053,800.00
Fees, fine and other monetary penalties	1,589,175,200.00	Sale of facilities and equipment	173,777,600.00
Asset revenue	706,623,900.00	Financial assets	757,420,300.00
Franchise and concession revenue	98,626,365,500.00	Sale of stocks and other equities	202,000.00
Financial revenue	409,541,500.00	Other capital revenue	4,953,653,900.00
Sale of items and labour	878,906,300.00		
Transfer	252,325,100.00	General integrated budget of revenue	122,697,285,500.00

EXPENSES ITEMS	Proposed budget for 2020	EXPENSES ITEMS	Proposed budget for 2020
Macao SAR Government	21,957,900.00	Macao Economic and Trade Office to the World Trade Organization	12,847,900.00
Office of the Chief Executive	349,105,400.00	Macao Economic and Cultural Office in Taiwan	18,141,500.00
Executive Council	29,907,600.00	Tertiary Education Services Office	118,632,300.00
Office of the Secretary for Administration and Justice	49,004,700.00	Investments and Development Expenses of the Administration	11,971,053,500.00
Office of the Secretary for Economy and Finance	52,027,300.00	Pension and retirement compensation	7,570,400.00
Office of the Secretary for Security	41,510,800.00	General expenses	21,758,866,500.00
Office of the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture	73,789,500.00	Designated appropriations, shared allocations and transfer budget	4,871,130,200.00
Office of the Secretary for Transport and Public Works	29,700,500.00	Health Bureau	9,069,752,200.00
Judiciary Police	1,173,144,900.00	Social Welfare Bureau	3,939,355,600.00
Finance Services Bureau	623,794,500.00	Government Printing Bureau	102,062,700.00
Macao Economic Services Bureau	255,046,400.00	Housing Bureau	527,484,000.00
Identification Bureau	312,343,900.00	Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute	759,117,100.00
Statistics and Census Service	210,044,700.00	Civil Aviation Authority	98,059,700.00
Cartography and Cadastre Bureau	94,644,400.00	Macao Polytechnic Institute	929,890,400.00
Gaming Inspection and Coordination Bureau	307,224,700.00	University of Macau	2,851,491,800.00
Macao Government Tourism Office	374,360,100.00	Colleg of Legal Affairs	221,674,000.00
Labour Affairs Bureau	496,077,100.00	Consumer Council	53,071,700.00
Lands, Public Works and Transport Bureau	517,210,500.00	Macao Institute for Tourism Studies	459,240,000.00
Public Administration and Civil Service Bureau	494,330,400.00	Public Security Police Force Welfare Association	60,733,600.00
Government Information Bureau	170,537,400.00	Fire Services Welfare Association	9,214,700.00
Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau	177,853,900.00	Commission of Audit	179,889,000.00
Judicial Council	217,400.00	Office of the Public Prosecutor General	485,780,700.00
Legal Affairs Bureau	308,030,400.00	Office of the President of the Court of Final Appeal	711,991,100.00
Unitary Police Service	55,139,500.00	Commission Against Corruption	384,427,200.00
Transport Bureau	3,052,576,400.00	Legislative Assembly	203,706,300.00
Environmental Protection Bureau	1,016,480,700.00	Customs Welfare Association	3,976,100.00
Talents Development Committee	16,383,700.00	Marine and Water Bureau Welfare Association	2,342,800.00
Medical Incident Assessment Committee	8,951,900.00	Judiciary Police Welfare Association	7,341,100.00
Medical Dispute Arbitration Centre	3,245,200.00	Municipal Affairs Bureau	3,350,674,700.00
Policy Research and Regional Development Bureau	81,950,000.00	Industrial and Commercial Development Fund	2,235,056,700.00
Infrastructure Development Office	71,672,300.00	Housing Loan Fund	2,095,800.00
The Supporting Office to the Permanent Secretariat to the Forum for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries	231,714,700.00	Student Welfare Fund	386,754,900.00
Office for Development of the Energy Sector	40,815,700.00	Sports Fund	947,929,600.00
Financial Intelligence Office	39,922,100.00	Culture Fund	444,374,100.00
Office for Personal Data Protection	54,921,500.00	Tourism Fund	884,702,500.00
Protocol, Public Relations and External Affairs Office	74,569,400.00	Macao Public Administration Welfare Fund	50,927,500.00
Cultural Affairs Bureau	1,123,206,500.00	Correctional Fund	7,050,200.00
Sports Bureau	246,883,700.00	Science and Technology Development Fund	448,387,000.00
Macao Economic and Trade Office in Lisbon	12,617,300.00	Education Development Fund	803,663,900.00
Public Security Forces Affairs Bureau	5,985,857,200.00	Fisheries Development and Support Fund	11,722,000.00
Education and Youth Affairs Bureau	7,582,453,100.00	Property Maintenance Fund	49,140,300.00
Marine and Water Bureau	1,050,079,500.00	Giant Panda Foundation	3,696,300.00
Macao Economic and Trade Office to the European Union in Brussels	4,867,900.00	Environmental Protection and Energy Conservation Fund	13,930,900.00
Correctional Service Bureau	702,960,600.00	Cultural Industry Fund	244,799,100.00
Office of the Macao SAR in Beijing	27,226,000.00	Labour Creditor's Rights Protection Fund	26,263,800.00
Macao Customs Service	1,074,318,600.00	Tertiary Education Foundation	238,575,300.00
		General integrated budget of public expenditure	100,689,286,600.00

General integrated budget balance

Central budget balance	20,788,333,300.00	General integrated budget balance	22,007,998,900.00
Autonomous institution executive budget balance	1,219,665,600.00	General integrated budget of public expenditure and budget balance	122,697,285,500.00

SUMMARISED BUDGET AND INVESTMENT BUDGET OF SPECIAL ORGANISATIONS FOR 2020

REVENUE ITEMS	Proposed budget for 2020	REVENUE ITEMS	Proposed budget for 2020
RECURRING REVENUE	20,708,789,200.00	Sale of items and labour services	557,773,800.00
Fees, fine and other monetary penalties	664,320,200.00	Transfer	6,875,601,200.00
Asset revenue	90,297,000.00	Contributions to Social Security System	1,888,869,200.00
Franchise and concession revenue	3,131,424,000.00	Other recurring revenue	13,179,000.00
Financial revenue	7,487,324,800.00	Summarised budget revenue of special organisations	20,708,789,200.00

EXPENSES ITEMS	Proposed budget for 2020	EXPENSES ITEMS	Proposed budget for 2020
Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau	628,149,300.00	Macao Foundation	3,016,734,300.00
Postal Savings Office	70,861,500.00	Deposit Protection Fund	3,387,100.00
Macao Pension Fund	2,887,045,900.00	Summarised budget expenditure of special organisations	15,259,866,400.00
Monetary Authority of Macao	3,104,719,800.00	Net operational profit/loss of special organisations	5,448,922,800.00
Social Security Fund	5,540,033,200.00	Summarised budget expenditure and net operational profit/loss of special organisations	20,708,789,200.00
Automobile and Maritime Security Fund	8,934,900.00		

Investment budget of special organisations

Macao Post and Telecommunications Bureau	112,738,000.00	Automobile and Maritime Security Fund	-
Postal Savings Office	-	Macao Foundation	668,927,900.00
Macao Pension Fund	930,000.00	Deposit Protection Fund	-
Monetary Authority of Macao	142,524,600.00	Summarised investment budget expenditure of special organisations	950,180,500.00
Social Security Fund	25,060,000.00		

Major Policies on Various Areas

(TRANSLATED VERSION)

Administration and Justice

The administration and justice system upholds the administrative principles of "Putting people first" and "Scientific decision-making", follows the development positioning of "One Centre, One Platform, and One Base", focuses on public administration and legal system reform, puts enhancement of people's livelihoods at the core, diligently implements the MSAR's Five-year Development Plan, and lays a solid foundation for realising our policy objectives of expediting economic development and improving people's livelihoods.

Public Administration

- 33 departments and entities have been restructured in phases, during which seven departments and entities were abolished. In compliance with Annex One of the Basic Law of Macao, the Municipal Affairs Bureau was established on 1 January 2019;
- 15 consultative bodies have been restructured, three have been abolished and two have been established. The numbers of members of all consultative bodies and the maximum terms of office in consulting organisations have been standardised;
- The Master Plan for MSAR e-Government 2015-2019 has been completed. 160 public services have achieved different levels of digitisation;
- We have promulgated the by-law on e-services, and launched the "One-stop Public Services Account" and its mobile phone app;
- We continued to push ahead with civil service reform; comprehensively reviewed the accountability system for government officials; aimed at public convenience, high efficiency, integrity and standardisation; and enhanced cognisance of larger interests, integrity and law-abidance – to improve the overall quality of the civil service;
- The pilot cloud computing centre has been completed. A cloud platform, a big data platform, and a data sharing and open platform have been developed. By the end of 2019, the basic facilities of the official production cloud computer centre will be completed;
- With the Central People's Government's support, a total of 144 countries and regions have agreed to grant visa-free access or visas on arrival to holders of Macao SAR Passports. The Macao SAR Passport is ranked among the top 40 passports in the world; and
- Election laws have been amended, and the sixth Legislative Assembly Election and the fifth Chief Executive election were successfully completed.



New App "IAM Connect"

Legal affairs

- We actively promoted coordination of legislation, formulated and implemented guidelines for the internal workflows of a centralised and coordinated legislative mechanism, and rules on the forms of legislative techniques to be observed when formulating laws;
- From 2015 to 2019, 84 bills were submitted to the Legislative Assembly for deliberation, and 163 by-laws were formulated;
- We implemented legislation supporting the Basic Law of Macao, and formulated or amended laws, such as the Law of Use and Protection of the National Flag, National Emblem and National Anthem, Maritime Area Management Framework Law and Judicial Organisation Framework Law; reviewed and optimised various laws to improve people's livelihoods; conducted timely reviews and amendments of various major codes; and achieved interim success in rectifying and adapting laws;
- We have formulated a five-year law promotion programme; uphold the work principles of "Government motivation and public participation", and continue to work on promotion of the constitution law, Basic Law of Macao and other laws, based on characteristics of different age groups and sectors;
- We formulated plans in accordance with the needs of the operations of the two judicial organs, and began training judicial officers and judicial clerks;
- We exchanged views on judicial mutual assistance agreements with other countries and regions, especially with Portuguese-speaking countries and countries along the "Belt and Road"; and
- We continued promoting regional cooperation on legal affairs, and explored opportunities for establishing a legal information exchange system and mutual legal promotion mechanism in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area in accordance with the development strategies of the "Belt and Road" initiative.

Municipal Affairs

- We continued expanding the community services network, optimised construction of municipal facilities, established the Islands District Integrated Government Services Centre, and implemented "one-window" municipal services;
- We strengthened supervision of municipal services and established the "Connect" instant feedback platform;
- We refined food safety standards, and gathered an average of 8,000 food samples every year, with a pass rate of over 99 percent;
- We continued improving roadside environments, restructured urban drainage systems, implemented urban greening, and strengthened nature conservation, to build a healthy city that is ideal for living and travel; and
- We promoted community spirit, courtesy, and harmonious development of the community.

Economy and Finance

Adhering to our founding mission, we are boosting the economy, improving people's livelihoods, and fostering adequate economic diversification and sustainable development of Macao.

Over the past five years, policy implementation on the economy and finance has focused on leveraging Macao's positioning as "One Centre, One Platform" to serve the country's needs, and seizing the great opportunities arising from the "Belt and Road" initiative and the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. Through strengthening its capabilities and the "two-pronged approach" strategy for regional cooperation, Macao aims to build a modern industrial system with international competitiveness by leveraging its advantages and enhancing economic resilience, to foster quality economic development.

Initial yields of adequate economic diversification boosted by steady economic growth:

- Further diversification of industrial structure;
- Revenues from major non-gaming industries increased by almost 30 percent;
- The total added value of nascent industries saw 20 percent growth;
- Non-gaming business growth has been recorded in gaming enterprises and facilities;
- Optimisation of the employment structure enhanced people's incomes; and
- Unemployment rate remained at a low level.

Integrating into the overall national development plan and expediting the establishment of "One Centre, One Platform":

- Actively participated in construction of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area;
- Achieved considerable progress in the development of the Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Industrial Park in Hengqin;
- The Mainland and Macao Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) has been fully upgraded;
- Continued establishing the trade and economic cooperation services platform between China and Portuguese-speaking countries and its "Three Centres", to leverage Macao's bridging role;
- Successfully held the fifth Ministerial Conference of the Forum for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries, and expedited construction of the China-PSCs Commercial and Trade Service Platform Complex; and
- Actively supported "Belt and Road" development with our fiscal reserves.

Focused on fostering nascent industries and optimising the industrial structure:

- Improved policies and measures to promote quality enhancement of the convention and exhibition industry, with conventions as the priority;
- Fully expedited the establishment of the Traditional Chinese Medicine Science and Technology Industrial Park of Cooperation Between Guangdong and Macao (GMTCM Park); and facilitated Traditional Chinese Medicine standardisation, industrialisation and internationalisation; and
- Promoted development of specialised financial services and built a platform for cooperation in financial services between China and Portuguese-speaking countries.

Strengthening regulation and enhancing legal systems to promote orderly development of the gaming industry:

- Completed the gaming industry interim review and proceeded with the follow-up work and related issues;
- Strictly controlled the scope of the gaming industry and continued optimising legal systems and promoting lawful gaming operations; and
- Promoted development of both gaming and non-gaming segments, to facilitate stable growth of the gaming industry.

Multiple measures to promote innovation and quality enhancement of SMEs:

- Further optimised various measures to support SMEs;
- Encouraged SMEs to adopt electronic payment, to expand their client base and enhance operating cost effectiveness;
- Re-branded local time-honoured shops and pursued innovation;
- Introduced "Services on the Doorstep" to provide more convenient services to SMEs; and
- Introduced tax incentives to encourage enterprises to participate in innovative research and development.

Strengthening communication and exchanges to provide employment, entrepreneurship and innovation opportunities for young people:

- Continued optimising and effectively implementing the Young Entrepreneurs Aid Scheme;
- Established the Young Entrepreneur Incubation Centre, to provide more comprehensive support services;
- Optimised the China-Portuguese-speaking Countries Young Entrepreneur and Innovation Exchange Programme, and leveraged the functions of the China-Portuguese-speaking Countries Young Entrepreneur and Innovation Exchange Centre;
- Continued deepening regional cooperation between young entrepreneurs, to provide more diverse entrepreneurship support to young people; and
- Continued optimising employment counselling services and vocational training, to help boost the competitiveness of young people.

Enriching the industrial talent pool, improving people's vocational skills, and promoting vertical and horizontal mobility

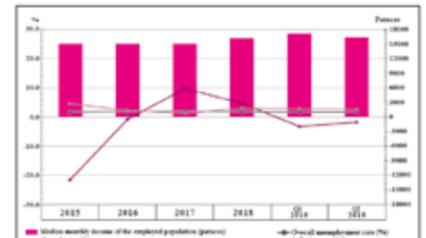
Strengthening occupational health and safety promotion, education and supervision

Optimising public finance and taxation management, to ensure stability of the financial system

Perfecting the statistical benchmark system to keep pace with the times

Improving service quality for the convenience of the public and the business sector

Expediting system establishment and enhancing anti-corruption awareness



Growth rate, inflation rate, unemployment rate and median monthly income (2015-2019 Q2)

Public Security

During the fourth-term government of the Macao SAR, public security was enforced under the guidance of the new policing concept. The Government was determined to reform and improve, in order to build a more solid and comprehensive safety network, to ensure the sustainable, stable development of society.

Safeguarding state security

- Assisted in developing and participated in the State Security Committee, deployed law enforcement in accordance with the law, and effectively responded to national security challenges; and
- Received overwhelming responses in holding national security exhibitions, launched the Network Security Law, and achieved breakthroughs in promotion, education and legislation.

Developing new policing practices

- Brought forth new approaches for cooperation between the police and the public, and strengthened support from the community, resulting in a substantial decrease in the numbers of crimes that affect people's livelihoods; and
- Launched the TV programme - "Police and Citizens in a common mission", to break through traditional interactions, establishing a closer relationship between the police and the public.

Ensuring social stability

- Maintained zero to low rates of serious crimes, achieved overall stability in public order, and remarkable results in financial intelligence work; and
- Raided illegal foreign exchange gangs, cracked down on loan profiteering, and continued keeping gambling crimes under control.

Reforming civil protection

- Implemented various reforms, effectively tackled the impacts of Typhoon Mangkhut, and continued improving the civil protection laws and legal system; and
- Established an emergency command system, and applied it in practice, to improve emergency management efficiency.

Strengthening the police force through technology

- "Eye in the Sky" cameras commenced operation in phases, and successfully assisted in solving crimes, while a test on improving their functionality is imminent; and
- Forensic technology continued improving, to assist in effective investigations and commence smart policing.

Ensuring border security

- Effectively combatted illegal immigration, and established a quick reaction force, to effectively maintain order and safety at sea; and
- Implemented a new border-crossing model, expedited construction of border checkpoints, and enhanced border-crossing safety and efficiency.

Preventing and controlling security risks

- Carried out large scale drills on a regular basis and maintained vigilance to enhance risk management ability; and
- Gradually optimised dangerous goods management, collected information about movements of goods, while new supervisory regulations are currently being drafted.

Building a modern police force

- Maintained consistent alertness regarding disciplinary management, upheld law and discipline, while ensuring police personnel system keeps pace with the times.
- Cared for the physical and mental development of members of the police force, cultivated a study and learning atmosphere to foster a modern police culture.

Perfecting legal protection

- Fire Services Bureau also supervised fuel safety and the police established a new financial intelligence function. Laws were amended to enable relevant departments to assume their new functions; and
- In response to changes in crime trends, various laws have been amended to enhance crime prevention in a timely manner.

Improving prison administration

- As the prisons also take on correctional and rehabilitation functions, the legal system was revised to ensure independent operations of both functions; and
- Strengthened prison security, improved prison administration; the soft management approach has proven effective.

Deepening youth development work

- Supported the government's youth policy, optimised cultivation programmes, and continued improving effectiveness of youth cultivation; and
- Established a regular communication mechanism, to understand the thoughts and needs of young people and engage in sincere dialogues with them.



The Unitary Police Service, Customs Bureau, Public Security Police Force and Judiciary Police jointly organise a crime prevention drill "Thunderbolt 19"

(TRANSLATED VERSION)

Major Policies on Various Areas

Social Affairs and Culture

The Government has been actively realising its policy goals regarding social affairs and culture, according to Macao's Five-year Development Plan. Results are evident in the social security, medical and healthcare, education, tourism, culture and sports sectors.

Achieving great progress in medical and healthcare

- Focused on enhancing people's physical and mental health. In 2018, the average life expectancy of Macao's people reached 83.7 years, which was among the highest in the world;
- Extended the opening hours of specialist outpatient clinics and health centres. In 2018, the numbers of patients served by Conde S. Januario Hospital and Health Centres were between five and 25 percent higher than in 2015;
- Fully implemented smoking control, optimised mechanisms for prevention and control of infectious diseases and responding to emergencies, and expanded the coverage of cancer screenings to include more types and groups of people;
- Set up geriatric wards, dementia treatment and support centre, Children's Comprehensive Assessment Centre, and Rehabilitation Services and Treatment Centre, thus significantly shortening the waiting times for early assessment and treatment; and
- In 2019, the Macao Academy of Medical Specialists was established, to keep the local medical system in line with international practices.



Inauguration of the "Art Macao" festival

Expediting education and talent cultivation work

- Introduced a new law on the Tertiary Education System and related regulations, established the Tertiary Education Fund, and implemented the quality assessment system for tertiary institutions; also, four state laboratories were established with results evident regarding research in science and technology;
- There were new achievements regarding patriotic education. In 2018, all schools complied with the rules on displaying or hoisting the national flag; nearly 80 percent of schools selected local history teaching materials; and about 30.9 percent of secondary school graduates from the 2018/2019 academic year pursued further studies in mainland China;
- The Continuing Education Programme was launched. As of 2019, an accumulated one million participants had enrolled in three phases of the programme; and
- The "Blue Sky Project" (relocation of schools originally run on podium floors of buildings) has solved the fundamental problems of schools established on podiums. The average area per student in school was increased from 11.55 square metres in 2013 to 12.4 square metres in 2018.

Caring for the underprivileged and perfecting livelihood security

- Launched Professional Accreditation and Licensing for Social Workers, to promote professional development of social services;
- Continued enhancing retirement benefits for Macao residents. In 2016, an additional 37 billion patacas was injected into the Social Security Fund; and in 2018, a two-tier social security system was established;
- The amount of pensions for elderly and disabilities has been increased three times between 2015 and 2019, while the special living allowances for three categories of disadvantaged families were raised by between 20 percent and 50 percent; and
- Improved the environment of child-care centres and homes for elderly. In 2019, the quota of child-care centres was approximately 30 percent higher than in 2015, while the quota for homes for the elderly was increased by about 42 percent.

Synergy of culture, tourism and sports

- Actively developed Macao as a world tourism and leisure centre. In 2017, Macao was recognised as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy;
- Hosted the Macao Light Festival, the International Film Festival and the International Travel (Industry) Expo, to continue boosting Macao's international recognition;
- Promoted "Art Macao", a large-scale art and cultural event, and organised Arts and Cultural Festival Between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries, to build a new cultural image for Macao;
- The collection of Chapas Sinicas was inscribed on the Memory of the World Register of the UNESCO and the Memory of the World Regional Register for Asia-Pacific; and
- Macao athletes achieved great success in the Jakarta Palembang 2018 Asian Games. The area of sports venues per capita reached 1.34 square metres in 2018, and there were great improvements in the overall physical fitness of Macao residents.

Transport and Public Works

It is the positioning strategy of the Macao Special Administrative Region Government to develop Macao into a world tourism and leisure centre. All administrative policies related to transport and public works are implemented according to this strategy, to improve Macao's urban environment and people's livelihoods.

Urban Planning

- Commenced compilation of Macao's urban development master plan;
- Implemented construction of the fourth Macao-Taipa cross-harbour bridge, and commenced the study of the fifth Macao-Taipa cross harbour route;
- Facilitated urban renewal work; and
- Executed land management duties in accordance with the Land Law.



Several large-scale infrastructure projects have been completed during the tenure of the fourth administration of the MSAR Government

Public Works

- Expedited reclamation work at the New Urban Area;
- Completed construction of the Macao border crossing area of Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, and commenced operation in tandem with the main structure of the bridge;
- Expedited construction of the LRT system, and completed and commenced operation of the LRT Taipa line;
- Expedited construction of public housing units, and commenced the design of the Home-Ownership Scheme housing site in New Urban Zone Area A;
- Expedited construction of the new Guangdong-Macao border crossing, and
- Commenced preliminary design of sluices at the Inner Harbour.

Transport

- In 2016, took advance measures to control the annual vehicle growth rate at a level of 3.5 percent;
- Continued optimising bus services;
- The Legal System Governing Taxi Services and three associated by-laws came into effect;
- Continued constructing the walking route network to encourage green commuting;
- Completed the Master Development Plan of Macau International Airport, and implemented it step by step; and
- Commenced operation of Taipa Ferry Terminal.

Housing

- Announced the Legal System for Public Housing, to establish the mechanism for applying for public housing on a regular basis, and an exit mechanism for well-off public housing tenants;
- Submitted the bill of the Home-Ownership Scheme Housing Law to the Legislative Assembly;
- Completed the study on Macao's public housing demand; and
- Expedited the title deed process for Home-Ownership Scheme housing.

Environmental Protection

- The Restrictions on the Supply of Plastic Bags law came into effect;
- Transferred used and abandoned motorcycles and light vehicles to mainland China for recycling treatment, as a pilot operation;
- Implemented screening of inert construction and demolition materials for use in reclamation work for New Urban Area Zone D;
- Launched recycling programmes for food waste, and electronics and electrical waste; and
- Improved air quality through legal and regulatory enforcement to control emissions of various air pollutants.

Commission Against Corruption

In 2019, the Commission Against Corruption continued implementing the strategy emphasising both anti-corruption and corruption prevention, stringently monitored the operations of public departments, and launched comprehensive integrity education and promotion activities.

Anti-corruption

- With determination, the CCAC continued combating all kinds of corruption in accordance with the law, and defended justice in a rigorous but low profile manner;
- We strengthened law enforcement, and improved essential equipment, to achieve anticipated policy goals and results regarding anti-corruption;
- The investigation of alleged corruption by leading officials of the Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) was completed, helping to close loopholes in the immigration system and refining the policy for importing talented people;
- We combated crimes that damage the public interest, such as fraudulently benefiting from public assets and abuse of administrative power, and closely monitored potential risks of corruption or fraudulent activities, in order to advocate governance with integrity and healthy development of the private sector; and
- We monitored the fifth Chief Executive Election in accordance with the law, to ensure a corruption-free, fair and just election.

Complaints to the Ombudsman

- We executed our function of handling complaints and reports to the ombudsman in accordance with the law, and initiated investigations in a rigorous manner. When irregularities were found in any administrative procedure, immediate action was taken to investigate the cause of the issue, and recommend improvements;
- We closely monitored areas of special concern to society, such as land grants and civil servant recruitment, and urged the Government to pay more attention to related issues;
- We conducted in-depth analyses and reviews of criminal laws and civil servant disciplines, in response to society's demands regarding reinforcing corruption-free governance; and
- We joined forces with other functional departments in drafting a self-assessment checklist for implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption by the Macao SAR; we will follow up with related work in the coming year.

Publicity, Education and Community Relations

- We continued implementing integrity education amongst civil servants, employees in business firms, members of the public, teenagers, primary and secondary school students, and kindergarten pupils; and
- We provided convenient channels for receiving complaints, reports and enquiries from the public through CCAC branch offices, and formed anti-corruption volunteer teams to participate in community activities and boost support for corruption-free governance.

Commission of Audit

In 2019, the Commission of Audit worked steadfastly in accordance with policy objectives, fulfilling its audit supervision duties according to the law. The audit reports on various projects and related follow-up work enabled public departments to improve their work, optimise their services and conserve resources.

Audit

The Commissioner of Audit's Report 2018 was completed on time, in accordance with the law. With the promulgation and enforcement of the Budget Framework Law, the Commission of Audit also updated the Order of Commissioner of Audit in accordance with the new system, to effectively collect audited accounts and financial information.

Computer-assisted Audit

A memorandum of cooperation was signed with the Computer Technology Centre of the National Audit Office, regarding upgrading and modifying the "Auditor Office (Macao version)". This was in response to the computer-aided tool developed as part of the new public accounting system, which has been created for use by various government departments.

Performance Audit and Special Audit

Through performance audits and special audits, the Commission of Audit conducted in-depth investigations of the performances of public departments implementing MSAR Government policies. The evidence revealed outstanding issues, and by proposing feasible audit opinions and recommendations to tackle negative aspects of working processes, the Commission of Audit urged relevant departments to make improvements and eliminate the drawbacks.

Staff Training

The Commission of Audit provided auditors with advanced technology, updated their knowledge through training, and developed training courses that helped them keep up to date with auditing technology on a regular basis.

Professional Communications

We maintained close contact and strengthened professional exchanges with the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI), the Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI), China National Audit Office (CNAO), Supreme Audit Institutions of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (OISC/CPLP), and the Audit Office of Guangdong Province (AOGP).

Audit Culture

We continued introducing the importance of auditing and supervision to newly recruited civil servants, tertiary students, major community organisations, and non-government think tanks, in addition to raising awareness of the need for proper use of public resources.

Public Opinion

A mechanism was established for assisting members of the public with filing complaints and expressing views to government departments. The complaints and views on issues involving improper behaviour by government personnel or waste of resources were promptly handled and followed up.

Macau gambling supervisor effort commended internationally

ANTHONY LAM

PAULO Martins Chan, head of the Gaming Coordination and Inspection Bureau, said yesterday at the MGS Entertainment Show that the bureau's work in monitoring and supervising the gambling industry has received accreditation by world-class entities.

The gambling industry regulator made the comment at an entertainment expo yesterday. According to the regulator, in October 2019, Macau became the first territory in history to pass all criteria in an evaluation by the Asia/Pacific Group on money laundering.

In another evaluation conducted by a non-governmental organization, the International Masters of Gaming Law, Chan was accredited with the title of Asian Supervisor of the Year.

Chan stressed that in all these years, his bureau has regularly amended policies to adapt to the changing conditions of the city.

For example, early this year, the mainland administration issued a plan that stipulates the leading role of the Greater Bay Area, which includes the Macau SAR, in the nation's economic development.

Chan pointed out that the Greater Bay Area will further foster exchange and communications with the cities in the area, particularly regarding the flow of people and goods. It will also bring new opportunities to Macau's development as the World Centre of Tourism and Leisure, "The realization of the Greater Bay Area will bring more tourists to Macau," said the regulator. He said that his bureau



will keep following several principles of governance: "The bureau will maintain an optimal scale and appropriately regulate and supervise the industry, while facilitating sustainable development [of the industry]."

The aim of the bureau is to encourage orderly development of the gambling industry. Its aim is to make Macau an attractive city for tourists of all types.

Furthermore, Chan's bureau has also stepped up its work in promoting responsible gambling, "so that tourists and residents will have an appropriate understanding and attitude towards gambling, so that they will have a leisure-filled experience in Macau," explained Chan.

Such a policy requires casinos to play promotional videos distributed by the bureau on responsible gambling in their smoking enclosures. This policy has been in place starting January 1.

Chan thought the govern-

ment's work in combating gambling addictions had seen positive results, and he cited scientific research to support this view.

According to a study released in October by the University of Macau, the rate of problematic gambling among local residents has fallen from 2.5% in 2016 to 0.8% in 2019. This is the lowest, according to Chan, in all previous years.

"It also illustrated the effectiveness of the inputs in promoting responsible gambling by both the government and the casino operators," reiterated Chan.

"Nonetheless, the bureau has not slowed down its work in responsible gambling," added Chan. "In contrast, it has seen early accomplishments in its installation of Responsible Gambling Kiosks at all casinos in Macau. The bureau will continue to promote responsible gambling in all places."

And by all places, Chan actually includes those outside of

Macau. "From 2017, the bureau has been supporting local non-governmental organizations covering responsible gambling to hold seminars on the initiative in higher education institutions in five mainland cities," advised the regulator.

In addition, the bureau has sent a delegation to Hong Kong to introduce Macau's policies and regulations on responsible gambling to two counter-gambling addiction organizations. They were also familiarized with the "isolation" program for Hong Kong tourists, which is offered by the bureau.

"It is important to provide a safe environment to tourists," said Chan. That is why his bureau has coordinated drills with other bureaus. "For two consecutive years, the bureau has coordinated drills in casinos to perfect the overall handling of emergency situations, including public announcements, coordination and dispatch," said

Chan.

The bureau has also required casinos to install metal detectors and conduct searches through bags at the entrances to casinos. Luggage has also been banned from the casino floor.

As for the prevention of illegal gambling activities, the bureau has held promotional activities and increased the frequency of spot checks to prevent any entities from operating illegal activities under the name of Macau concessionaires.

In terms of a legal framework, the law regulating casino intermediary practices has also been updated to protect the interests of tourists, residents and the industry.

Updates have also been implemented on regulations, monitoring technological specifications of gambling machines, casino surveillance and money laundering.

"Organic integration of tourism and gambling industries is crucial to building Macau as a world tourism destination," explained Chan. "The bureau has conducted rigorous reviews of applications for new gambling tables to safeguard the healthy development of the industry, which includes the continuous introduction of non-gambling elements in Macau."

Chan hopes revenue generated by non-gambling activities can go up from 6.6% in 2014 to more than 9% in 2020, which is a goal of his bureau.

Corporate Social Responsibility is also a part of Chan's job. "Concessionaires have constantly been encouraged to make room for local small to medium-size enterprises to run businesses in their resorts," Chan explained.

At the beginning of his address, Chan pointed out that this year saw the 17th anniversary of the opening of the gambling industry in Macau. In 2002, the then-government, led by Edmund Ho, decided to open the market. The act attracted bidders from around

CTM 5G service to start with city center

TELECOM service provider CTM disclosed that it would start 5G mobile coverage from the central business district on the Macau Peninsula once the service becomes available.

Years after provision of 4G mobile services, the telecom company has started its tests on 5G mobile technology in Macau. The company is ready to commence the work on infrastructure construction, including setting up transmission bases.

Lou Kit Chon, general manager for network development and planning of the telecom company, told

the press yesterday at the MGS Entertainment Show that the speed of 5G network is 10 times faster than that of a 4G one.

The telecom company also disclosed that it is waiting for government approval to start building infrastructure for the 5G mobile network. It expects to start commercial 5G services in the middle of 2020 at the earliest.

At the early stage of operations, CTM's 5G network will cover the peninsula's center, such as Senado Square and Praia Grande. Full coverage is expected at

the end of 2020.

In order to facilitate faster network speed, more transmission bases need to be built. CTM hence is in negotiations with the government to lower the levy on frequency use. If agreed, tariffs of 5G services are expected to be less than those of 4G.

At the show, the telecom company set up a booth that offers interactive experiences. The core of the booth is 5G mobile technology.

The company tried to show members of the audience the difference be-

tween 4G and 5G technology with the quadrilateral booth.

A small hockey game stood at one side of the booth. Players were instructed to sweep the ball toward the goal, in front of which an automated goalkeeper would detect the ball and try to block it from entering the goal.

A trial by a journalist showed that with 5G technology, the goalkeeper acted much more quickly and was able to save a goal. However, with 4G technology it lagged a second or so and let the ball in. **AL**



PJ ISSUES ALERT OVER ALLEGED BANKING SCAM

The Judiciary Police (PJ) has issued a warning notice calling on residents to be alert to fake mobile phone text messages. The PJ released a statement yesterday saying that it has recently received reports from the public about messages allegedly sent by banks. The content of the messages claims that a person can earn a 0.5% per month interest and a credit card limit of up to 398,000 yuan. Some members of the public checked with the bank, only to find out that the bank had not sent the text messages. The PJ said that the bureau has contacted the relevant banks, whereupon it was informed that there is no such offer.

TEENAGERS DETAINED WHILE SELLING DRUGS IN MACAU

The Judiciary Police (PJ) has detained another two Hong Kong teenagers who were selling drugs in Macau. Yesterday, the PJ reported that the bureau detained one teenage boy and one teenage girl from Hong Kong who were selling drugs in Macau. The two are a couple. According to the PJ, both were hired by a drug trafficking group through a mobile phone app. The two Hong Kong residents were detained outside a local hotel. In their possession, the police found a total of 24.5 grams of cocaine, more than 20,000 Hong Kong dollars in cash, which they suspect to be profits from the sale of drugs, and tools for dividing the drugs. All items were seized by the police. The two admitted having been paid HKD3,000 a day to sell drugs in Macau. They sold drugs on 20 occasions, mainly to people in night clubs. The couple also tested positive for drugs.

MACAU'S CULTURAL INDUSTRY GRADUALLY TAKING SHAPE, SAYS TAM

Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Alexis Tam has said that Macau's cultural industry is gradually taking shape. During the second plenary meeting of the city's cultural industry committee, which took place earlier this week, Tam added that Macau's cultural and creative brand has gradually been established and is spreading to markets at home and abroad. Tam, whom Macau society suspects will not feature in the next government, said that in the future, the government will increase its efforts to assist cultural industries in promoting their products into foreign markets, creating a docking platform and expanding the scale of the cultural industry in Macau, as well as taking measures to promote the city's diversified economy.



UM PROFESSOR HIGHLIGHTS GUANGDONG'S LEADING ROLE AND SARS' SUPPORTING ROLE IN GBA

JULIE ZHU

A law professor from the University of Macau has highlighted the importance of Guangdong, and downgraded Macau and Hong Kong's position in the Greater Bay Area development strategy.

Yesterday, at the symposium on Macau-related Foreign Legal Affairs in celebration of the 20th Anniversary of Macau's handover, UM professor Zhao Guoqiang stated that Guangdong is "higher" than Hong Kong and Macau in terms of the Greater Bay Area. He argued that Guangdong has bigger GDP revenue and land area, both of which "far surpass" the combined total of both Macau and Hong Kong. In his opinion, to develop the Greater Bay Area, Guangdong is the core pillar supporting the whole strategy, and "whether the Greater Bay Area can be successful depends on Guangdong but not on Hong Kong and Macau."

Previously, many scholars raised questions regarding the differences between the legal systems of the SARs and mainland China, with commentators generally believing that it will be difficult for the three places to remove barriers created by differences in law.

Commenting on the matter, Zhao opined that there is still a priority in terms of law estab-

lishment and that he attributes more importance to Guangdong, having once again pointed out that the establishment of Guangdong's law is the major component.

While the majority of public opinions state that the three places should cooperate on the establishment of the law for the good of the Greater Bay Area, Zhao on the other hand thinks that the three places should independently establish laws based on their own needs within the scope of the Greater Bay Area development.

"The idea of establishing laws together should be ruled out. Jointly drafting a development plan is a wistful," Zhao said.

In addition to his above-mentioned opinion, Zhao also proposed that the Guangdong Greater Bay Area development should not look to Hong Kong, but should look instead to other bay areas, having indicated that there are more international examples than just Hong Kong.

Despite previous opinions declaring that the Central Government does not want to replace Hong Kong with Shenzhen, Zhao believes that Shenzhen can still develop into an international financial center.

Qin Qianhong, a professor in law from mainland's Wuhan University, disagrees with Zhao's legal opinion. "According to your logic, Zhuhai should also make

itself one platform and one center because Macau is doing the same. Such a design may be unsuited to the original idea [of the GBA] and it will not constitute a systematic advantage within the Greater Bay Area. The cities will be competing with each other," said Qin commenting on Zhao's option.

Qin also believes that Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau must reach a consensus in terms of the rule of law. "If we don't highlight the consensus among the three regions, why are we making this Greater Bay Area? We could simply keep the current status," suggested Qin.

Qin explained that in mainland China, the Communist Party is a political advantage, for the benefit of mainland China's opening up. He thinks that such an advantage may not exist when Guangdong negotiates with its Hong Kong and Macau compatriots.

Despite his disagreements with Zhao, Qin agrees that the leading role of the Greater Bay Area should be played by the Guangdong province.

CHUI FOR TRUE FORM OF ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS

The Chief Executive Chui Sai On has stressed the full and faithful implementation of the policy of "one country, two systems," and the core value of loving the motherland and loving Macau.

The symposium on Macau-related Foreign Legal Affairs in Celebration of the 20th Anniversary of Macau's return to the Motherland was held yesterday.

The symposium was co-organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Macau SAR Government. Chui Sai On, Chief Executive of the Macau, and Shen Beili, Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China in the Macao SAR, attended the symposium and delivered the opening remarks.

Chui acknowledged in his opening remarks the great success of the Macao SAR in implementing "one country, two systems" since its return to the Motherland. He thanked the Central Government for its support of Macau in expanding international exchange and cooperation and promoting Macau-related foreign legal affairs.

He also emphasized the important role of Macau in China's reform and opening up process and diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in the new era, and the increasing importance of Macau-related foreign affairs and international legal cooperation in this regard.

Shen Beili spoke highly of the achievements of the Macau-based foreign legal affairs over the past 20 years for effectively safeguarding national sovereignty, security and interests and the long-term prosperity and stability of Macau.

HONG KONG

Police, protesters face off in renewed clashes

KEN MORITSUGU,
HONG KONG

POLICE and protesters battled outside university campuses and several thousand demonstrators blocked roads as they took over a central business district at lunchtime yesterday in another day of protest in Hong Kong.

The clashes followed an especially violent day in Hong Kong's five months of anti-government demonstrations, in which police shot one protester and a man was set on fire.

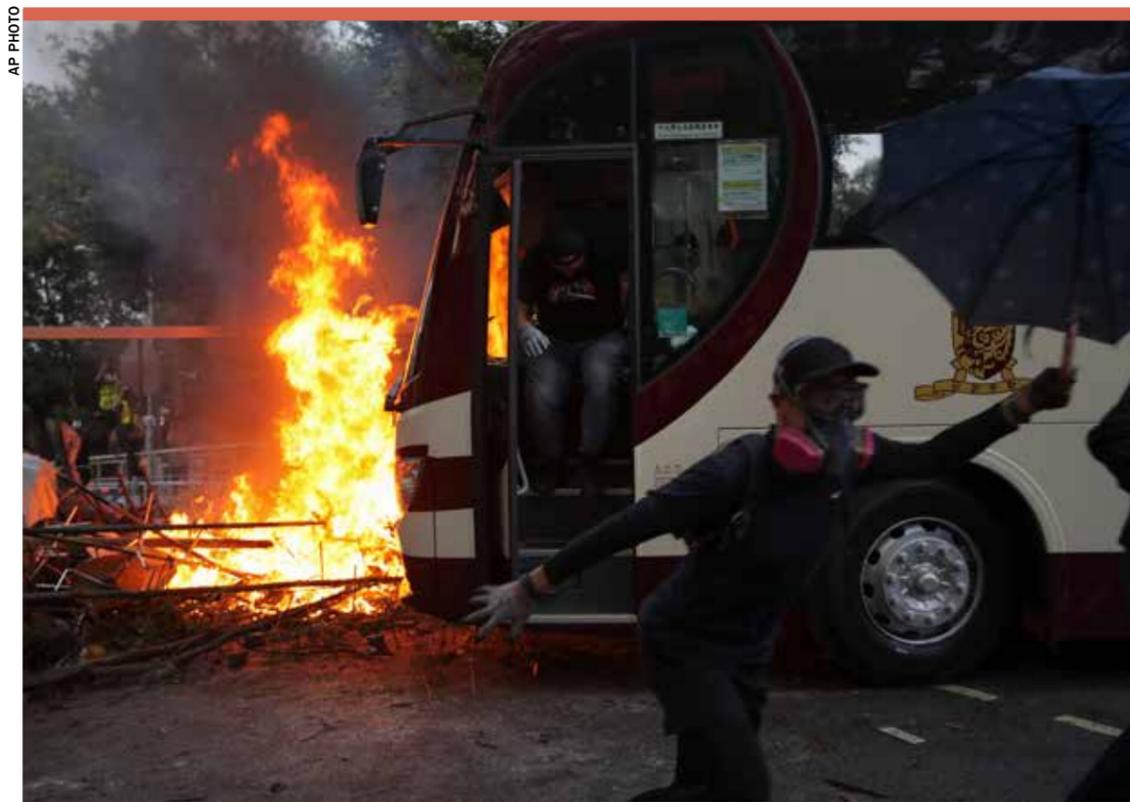
Protesters littered streets with bricks and disrupted train service during the morning rush hour yesterday. Commuter train passengers were escorted along the tracks, and subways were shut because of disruptions.

Police used tear gas in faceoffs with protesters in and around universities, where classes were canceled.

Following a standoff outside Chinese University, scores of officers charged onto the campus after firing tear gas, arresting student protesters who tried to block their way with makeshift barricades, including a burning car.

A few thousand protesters took over several blocks of the central business district at lunchtime. The demonstrators chanted "Five demands, not one less" holding up one hand with five outstretched fingers. Their demands include democratic changes and investigation of police treatment of protesters.

Traffic was blocked on two major roads by the crowds, with half a dozen of Hong Kong's famous trams lined up unable to move. The words "Join Us" were spray



AP PHOTO

painted on the front window of a halted double-decker bus abandoned by the driver and passengers and one of its windows was broken.

Office workers filled the sidewalks and overhead walkways to watch the action, with some joining the protesters in chanting.

One 24-year-old man, who would not give his name, said he was there to support the protesters and accused the police of using excessive force, a common complaint among the city's 7.4 million people.

Police fired tear gas to disperse protesters and onlookers who were hurling abuse at the officers. At least one person was injured when he was struck on the head

by a tear gas canister. But protesters returned by evening and were again blocking roads with bricks and commandeered buses.

Recent weeks have been marked by escalating vandalism against shops linked to mainland China and train stations, and assaults by both protesters and pro-Beijing supporters.

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam, speaking to news media after a weekly meeting with advisers, called the blocking of the morning commute "a very selfish act."

"People from different sectors in society are holding fast to their positions and refusing to concede to violence or other radical actions," she said. "I hereby express my gratitude to those who are still

going to work and school today."

On Monday, a police officer drew his gun during a struggle with protesters, shooting one in the abdomen. In another neighborhood, a 57-year-old man was set on fire after an apparent argument.

Both remained hospitalized, the shot protester in serious condition and the man who was burned in critical condition, the Hospital Authority said.

Video of another incident showed a policeman on a motorcycle riding through a group of protesters in an apparent attempt to disperse them.

Police say those events are being investigated but defend the officers' actions as necessary for their own safety.

Police spokesman Kong Wing-cheung said the burning had been registered as a case of attempted murder and called on the public to provide information about the assailant.

"Hong Kong's rule of law has been pushed to the brink of total collapse," Kong said, calling those who defend or maintain ties with violent protesters "accomplices."

In Beijing, foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang lambasted the U.S. and Britain over statements of concern over the spike in violence.

"The United States and Britain pretend to be fair on this incident, but it only reveals how they confuse right and wrong and how hypocritical they are. And their verbal justice once again exposes their double standards and ulterior motives," Geng said at a daily briefing.

China accuses the U.S. and other foreign powers of fomenting and encouraging the protests.

Lam pledged Monday to stop the violent protests in comments suggesting harsher legal and police measures could be coming.

"I do not want to go into details, but I just want to make it very clear that we will spare no effort in finding ways and means that could end the violence in Hong Kong as soon as possible," she said.

In Washington, the U.S. government said it is watching the situation with "grave concern."

"We condemn violence on all sides, extend our sympathies to victims of violence regardless of their political inclinations, and call for all parties — police and protesters — to exercise restraint," State Department spokeswoman Morgan Ortugas said in a statement. AP

FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

Tsai support group to hold concert supporting Hong Kong

A concert supporting Hongkongers' fight for freedom will be held in Taipei's Liberty Square by a new political coalition backing the re-election bid of President Tsai Ing-wen, Central News Agency (CNA) reported.

The purpose of the concert is to get Taiwanese to stand with the millions of Hongkongers who have taken to the streets since June to fight for freedom and democracy, according to the organizer's statement.

It also dovetails with Tsai's campaign strategy to portray herself as the defender of democracy in Taiwan and oppose China's "one country, two systems" formula, which it uses, at least in theory, to govern Hong Kong and Macau.

Hong Kong student activist Joshua Wong shared his support for the concert via video yesterday, saying that although freedom in Taiwan is normal, Hong Kong citizens currently face suppression by the

police, with tear gas being deployed weekly.

He stressed that fighting for freedom has never been easy, and called for more artists to join the concert in support of Hong Kong.

The free event will feature bands Fire Ex., Sorry Youth and The Chairman, as well as artists Dwagie, Chen Ming-chang, Chu Yueh-hsin, Hsiao Fu-te and Liu Shao-his.

According to CNA, that the political coalition organizing the concert,

comprised of roughly 30 organizations and political parties, is also holding an exhibition titled "Freedom Is not Free" from Nov. 16 to Dec. 1 in Bopiliao Historical Block in Taipei.

The exhibition will showcase the fight for democracy in Taiwan and Hong Kong by featuring media and items collected by organizations Hong Kong Outlanders and Imagine Hong Kong from the ongoing protests, the coalition said, cited by the Taiwanese agency. MDT/AGENCIES



AP PHOTO

HONG KONG

PORTRAITS OF MASKED PROTESTERS

FOR many protesters in Hong Kong, identity is entwined with surveillance.

Their signature masks, umbrellas and top-to-bottom black outfits shield them not only from physical threats like the riot police's tear gas and rubber bullets, but also from the invisible dangers of government identification and tracking. Each individual melts into a sea of plastic canopies, their faces obscured, anonymous and united in a shared distrust of the authorities.

In smashing, spray-painting and shining lasers on surveillance cameras across the semi-autonomous Chinese territory, the demonstrators say they are fighting back against an omniscient state security apparatus that already envelops mainland China.

For more than five months, they have led a mass protest movement that prompted Hong Kong's government to withdraw a controversial extradition bill. Following that victory, they have persisted in advocating for their four remaining demands, including calls for democratic reforms and an independent probe into police tactics.

Police have arrested more than 3,000 protesters since June, on charges such as illegal assembly and rioting. An attempt last month to impose a city-wide ban on face masks only further inflamed the demonstrators, who now cover up in defiance.

Curious about the young protesters behind these masks, Associated Press photographer Felipe Dana set out to take portraits of them. Because many were afraid to bare their faces to the camera, Dana chose to project on them photos snapped during previous demonstrations, inserting an extra layer between them and his lens.

Armed with a portable projector, Dana photographed his subjects on the sidelines of street protests, sometimes with tear gas still thickening the air and clashes mere meters away.

They expressed worry that the ruling Communist Party's watchful eye might be exported abroad via technologies like Huawei smartphones or Tik Tok videos.

"At the beginning, not everyone wore masks," said Josephine, a 24-year-old who sported a turquoise surgical face mask.

"But after the police started abusing their rights and arresting more people, we decided to protect ourselves (with the masks)," she said. "We are afraid of the (mask) law, but we are still coming out because we need to find hope, to find the future of Hong Kong."

Like the other portrait subjects, Josephine asked not to be identified by her full name because she fears government retribution. AP

AP PHOTO



AD



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

The Greater Bay project is coming and it will bring both opportunities and challenges to our little-big town. Macau Daily Times wants to hear your voice. We invite our readers to write in with Letters to the Editor on the topic of the Greater Bay Area.

Please email your letters to gba@macaudailytimes.com



ROBERT BURGESS

ANALYSIS

Buying stocks at record highs works until it doesn't

THOSE who bought stocks as they soared to new records last week amid rising optimism for a trade deal are probably suffering buyer's remorse after President Donald Trump said the U.S. hasn't agreed to a rollback of tariffs on China. Are those regrets warranted?

As the Dow Jones Industrial Average, S&P 500 Index and Nasdaq Composite Index all set new marks last week, there were no shortage of studies released that crunched data going back to the 1920s to prove that purchasing stocks when indexes hit record highs generates better risk-adjusted returns than simple buy-and-hold strategies. As Meb Faber — the chief investment officer at Cambria Investment Management, who conducted one of the studies — pointed out, while buying at the highs isn't really "a system anyone would want to implement," the data is "an acknowledgement that all-time highs are nothing to be afraid of."

The thing is, despite the recent surge in markets, it appears that plenty of investors are afraid. Rather than going all-in on stocks for fear of missing out, investors are showing almost unprecedented restraint. Money continues to pour into money-market funds, with assets standing at \$3.51 trillion as of last Wednesday, up from \$3.05 trillion at the start of the year, according to the Investment Company Institute. At the same time, they have pulled \$267 billion from equity funds year to date.

Put another way, almost half a trillion dollars have been put into cash even as the MSCI USA Index of equities jumped 23.5% this year through Friday. The last time so much money went into cash was in 2008 as the financial crisis was heating up, and it's a marked difference from 2013, the last time stocks were having

a good as year as this one. Back then, money funds only attracted \$28 billion.

Money funds aren't the only sign of significant investor caution. Notably, State Street Global Markets' monthly index — which is derived from actual trades and covers 15% of the world's tradeable assets — shows that investors this year have been less confident in the outlook for equities than even during the financial crisis.

It's good to see investors showing so much discipline, especially with valuations on the

high side. The S&P 500 is trading at 17 times the following year's projected earnings. That ratio has been higher only once since the economy began to recover from the financial crisis, and that was during late 2017, just before the S&P 500 took a nasty fall, declining 10% over the course of a few weeks in late January and early February 2018.

Perhaps the caution is a sign that investors know a trade dent only brings a new set of issues to the forefront. The first is whether equities can keep rising

if an agreement only reinforces the notion that the Federal Reserve is done cutting interest rates and may even start talking about boosting them sooner rather than later. In the absence of earnings growth, a strong case can be made that the only reason stocks have managed to rally is because of the Fed's dovish pivot earlier this year and three subsequent rate cuts. Based on fed funds futures, traders aren't convinced the central bank will ease monetary policy further any time in the next two years.

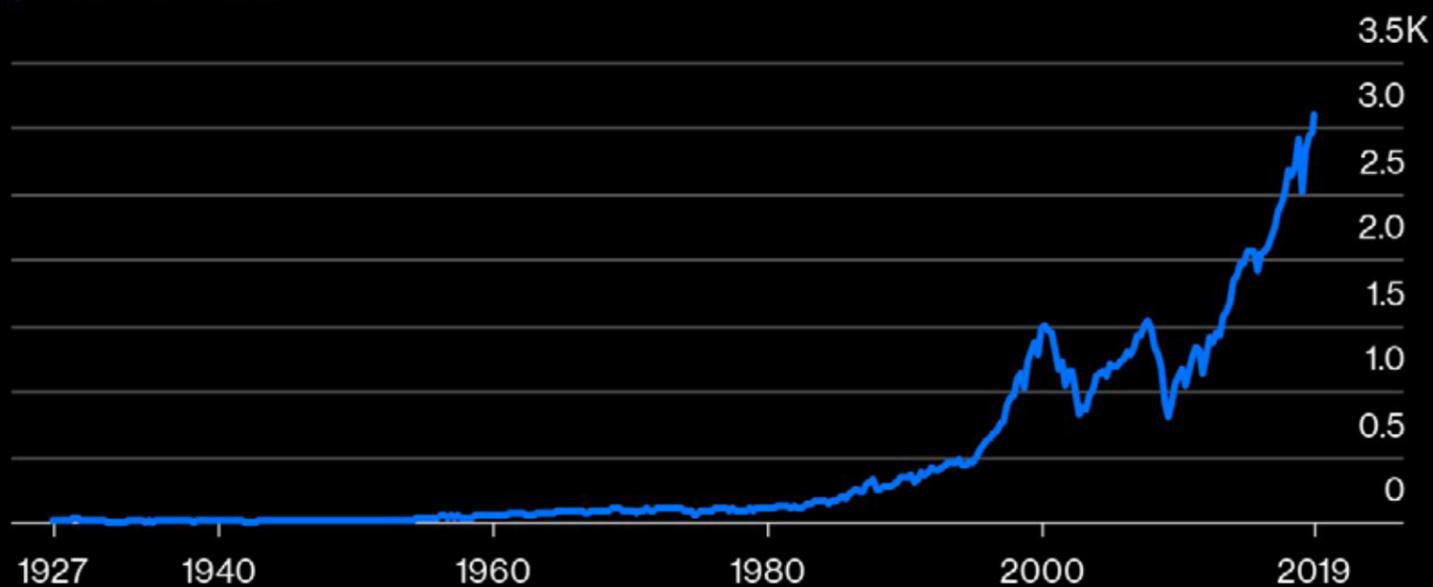
The second is whether the economy can pick up enough to allow companies to meet lofty earnings estimates for next year. Although analysts have slashed their fourth-quarter earnings forecasts for members of the S&P 500 to an average decline of 0.3% from an increase of 7% in June, estimates for 2020 have barely budged, remaining stubbornly high at 9.7%.

So while history shows there's no reason to avoid buying stocks at all-time highs, there are always exceptions. This could be one of them. **BLOOMBERG**

Taking Flight

The S&P 500 has led major U.S. stock indexes to record highs

■ S&P 500 Index



Source: Bloomberg

BloombergOpinion

CORPORATE BITS

StarWorld launches new gastronomic campaign



StarWorld Hotel has recently launched the "Spice Up Your Life" campaign at four of its Chinese restaurants, enhancing its guests' dining experience with "A Sichuan Journey with Master Chefs."

An exclusive menu jointly presented by guest chef Lan Qijin, master of Sichuan cuisine, and executive Chinese chef of StarWorld Hotel, Chan Chek Keong, will be available at the two-Michelin-starred restaurant Feng Wei Ju until December 1.

Upholding traditional Sichuan culinary art

and techniques, the two master chefs will craft an 11-course menu infused with diverse tastes from Sichuan cuisine. The 11 selected delicacies on the menu present the essence of Sichuan cuisine through different flavors and the use of fresh ingredients and spices, according to a statement.

Chef Chan Chek Keong has overtaken Feng Wei Ju to become the only Hunan and Sichuan restaurant with two Michelin stars for three consecutive years in Hong Kong and Macau.

Melco's properties receive smart hotel accolades



Melco Resorts & Entertainment's Morpheus, Nuwa, and Studio City Hotel have been awarded at the Macao Smart Hotel Award for their use of innovative technology in hospitality by the Macao

Post and Telecommunications Bureau (CTT).

According to a statement issued by the gaming operator, Nuwa and Studio City were honored with the Smart Hotel Award, being

recognized for excellence through their communications network and services, customers' experience of smart technologies, and applications of creative technologies, among other areas.

City of Dreams' ultra-luxury hotel Morpheus was honored with the Elite Smart Hotel Award and recognized for its integrative use of technology throughout its operations.

As a recipient of the Elite Smart Hotel Award, Melco was invited to share its experience of technology implementation at Morpheus to help enhance the customer experience with award ceremony attendees.



TENCENT FALLS \$90 BILLION BEHIND ALIBABA AFTER NBA CHINA ROW

LULU YILUN CHEN

JUST a year ago, Tencent Holdings Ltd. locked up one of the most coveted media franchises in the country when it paid \$1.5 billion for five years of exclusive streaming rights to National Basketball Association games. A single tweet changed all that.

Now, the Chinese social media giant may have to suspend airing those matchups - which drew half a billion viewers last year - after Houston Rockets General Manager Daryl Morey triggered a media blackout in China by tweeting support for Hong Kong's pro-democracy protests. That sums up a disappointing 2019 for a company that looked like it was back on track after a horrendous 2018.

At stake now for Tencent are billions of dollars in ad and sub-

scription revenue, along with its strategy of becoming a go-to online destination for entertainment beyond gaming. Tencent was supposed to hit the comeback trail this year after a nine-month freeze on game approvals gutted its most profitable business in 2018. But a sharp Chinese economic slowdown, competition from up-and-comer ByteDance Inc. for internet traffic and advertising, and now tricky political considerations is snarling that recovery. That's a key reason its stock has vastly under-performed arch rival Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. this year, creating a gap of more than \$90 billion in their market valuation.

"One of China's biggest companies, who does everything right politically, stands to lose billions due to the political issues outside of its control," Mark Tanner, founder and managing

even more careful with this one."

Political issues aside, Tencent's 2019 has not gone as well as investors anticipated. The company is projected to report barely any growth in net income

"One of China's biggest companies, who does everything right politically, stands to lose billions due to the political issues outside of its control."

MARK TANNER

FOUNDER OF SHANGHAI-BASED CONSULTANCY CHINA SKINNY

director of Shanghai-based consultancy China Skinny. "We've seen how the company has toed the line with the gaming rules recently and I expect they will be

when it announces September-quarter results Wednesday, because revenue growth is barely keeping up with the pace of spending on ever-costlier content and servers for its cloud and media services. But things are improving in its core gaming business, which still yields the majority of Tencent's revenue. Widely ridiculed at the outset because of built-in party propaganda slogans - the military advised on the project - and

family friendly gore-free rubric, 2019's Peacekeeper Elite evolved into a breakout hit approaching the scale of longstanding cash cow Honour of Kings. Tencent's shares climbed 2.2% Tuesday after Sensor Tower data showed the company's gaming revenue gained 13% during the week of Oct. 28, led by Peacekeeper Elite.

Yet uncertainty shrouds the division as well. Earlier this month, state media reported that the nation's publications regulator will cap online game playing time at 1.5 hours per day for children, a big demographic for Tencent's mobile games.

The WeChat operator has lost \$86 billion of market value since its April peak, and in October tested a key support level -- which would have precipitated a sharp and longer-term downtrend. At the time, trading floors were abuzz with talk about generally souring sentiment from investors in China, as well as concern that Tencent's decision to resume live-streaming NBA games may backfire.

Longer term, the worry is that Tencent may be losing its golden touch.

ByteDance came out of nowhere in 2017 to humiliate the social media titan, betting presciently on the short-video craze that birthed its Douyin and TikTok apps and forcing Tencent to mimic its much smaller rival. ByteDance is now flooding the market with ad inventory, depressing prices for incumbents such as Tencent and Baidu Inc.

That's important because Tencent looks at advertising as a potential growth catalyst, given its lower ad load relative to its rivals - and ByteDance has shown that the Chinese company can't predict every trend or potential rival.

The NBA brouhaha "places further pressure on Tencent's advertising revenue. More broadly, Tencent's advertising business faces structural declines in video advertising revenue and increased competition from ByteDance," said Michael Norris, research and strategy manager at Shanghai-based consultancy Agency-China. **BLOOMBERG**

World Bank cuts back project in restive Xinjiang

THE World Bank is cutting back a \$50 million project in China's restive Xinjiang region following a review prompted by allegations of abuses.

A statement from the bank dated Monday said it would close a component of the project to support vocational colleges involving partner schools that were the subject of the abuse claims.

It said although visits to the partner schools "did not substantiate the allegations," they were too widely dispersed to be properly monitored for adherence to bank standards.

"In addition, the project will be placed under enhanced supervision to ensure that all applicable Bank standards are adhered to," the bank said.

The statement a review was ordered after serious allegations about the partner schools were received in August, but did not describe them in detail.

"The World Bank's work is driven by core principles of inclusion, with special consideration for the protection of minorities and other vulnerable peoples," it said. "When allegations are made,

the World Bank takes them seriously and reviews them thoroughly."

While the partner schools account for just 1% of the project's financing, the move is politically significant because China has been criticized for confining more than 1 million members of Muslim minority ethnic groups in Xinjiang.

China says they are being

offered training to reduce poverty and extremism. Critics say they are political reeducation camps where inmates are held indefinitely without due process, subject to abuse and forced to renounce their traditional religion and culture while pledging loyalty to Communist Party leader Xi Jinping.

There was no immediate comment from China on the

bank's decision.

The World Bank project aims to upgrade the curriculum, teacher skills and post-graduation employment opportunities offered by five long-established public vocational colleges in Xinjiang, the bank said.

World Bank lending to China has been criticized since the country is now the world's second-largest economy and is itself a major lender to poor nations, usually at market interest rates. **AP**

TikTok revamps lobbying as Washington targets Chinese ownership

BEN BRODY & MEGAN WILSON

TIKTOK, the popular music-video app, is building up its fledgling lobbying operations to counter stepped-up pressure in Washington over its Chinese ownership and wage an escalating battle with Facebook Inc. for viewers.

The company, which registered its first lobbyist in June, is seeking to add a U.S. policy chief, plans to further expand its internal policy staff and is reshuffling outside lobbyists, according to people familiar with its plans.

The policy chief position is a new one and will help shape the company's advocacy priorities and oversee its growing lobbying operations, said two people familiar with the moves.

TikTok, which is owned by Beijing-based ByteDance Inc., also has hired Monument Advocacy, a public affairs and lobbying firm known for its expertise in technology policy, according to another person familiar with the matter. The person said TikTok is winding down its relationship with lo-



bbysts at the law firm Covington & Burling LLP, which has close ties to Facebook.

The relationship between Covington and Facebook was one reason for TikTok's decision to break with the firm, the person said. Facebook Chief Privacy Officer Erin Egan formerly co-chaired Covington's data privacy and security practice. Facebook also hired Covington to help work on its anti-conservative bias report released in August. Covington's Jon Kyl, a former Republican senator from Arizona, headed up that review.

The lobbying push is part of TikTok's effort to calm U.S. regulators and policy makers and try to persuade them that it's really a U.S. company, said one of the people. Concerns are growing that TikTok could pose a national security threat because of its Chinese ownership and the risk that the government in Beijing could get access to the app's growing troves of user data.

Facebook has underscored Washington's concerns about TikTok as it combats its own scrutiny from lawmakers and antitrust enforcers.

Chief Executive Officer Mark Zuckerberg insinuated during an October speech at Georgetown University that protesters in Hong Kong use Facebook's WhatsApp messaging platform "due to strong encryption and privacy protections," whereas "mentions of these protests are censored, even in the U.S." on TikTok.

Monument Advocacy counts Amazon.com Inc. and Microsoft Corp. as clients, but doesn't work directly with Facebook, unlike other firms TikTok spoke with, the person said. Monument does represent an industry coalition on government

surveillance that includes Facebook.

TikTok, Monument and Facebook declined to comment. Covington didn't respond to requests for comment. The lobbying changes haven't yet been disclosed in public filings.

The company was also the focus of a hearing earlier this month during which one Republican senator blasted it as a threat to global data security.

"All it takes is one knock on the door of their parent company, based in China, from a Communist Party official, for that data to be transferred to the Chinese government's hands whenever they need it," said Josh Hawley of Missouri, a frequent tech critic.

TikTok has rejects the notion it's controlled by the Chinese government or that U.S. user data is at risk.

"We are not influenced by any foreign government, including the Chinese government," the company wrote in a blog post last month. "TikTok does not operate in China, nor do we have any intention of doing so in the future."

BLOOMBERG

AD



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AVIATION

US BARS ANY NEW FLIGHTS TO OR FROM MALAYSIA

MALAYSIA'S aviation-safety downgrade makes Asia the region with the most markets where airlines are restricted from U.S. airspace.

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration cut Malaysia to a Category 2 nation on Monday, banning the country's carriers from setting up new flights to anywhere between New York and San Francisco. It cited deficiencies by the nation's civil-aviation authority in areas ranging from technical expertise to record keeping.

Malaysia is the third Asian country now branded with such a stigma — the others being Bangladesh and Thailand — underscoring the challenges regulators face in keeping up with fast-growing demand for flying. Costa Rica, Curacao and Ghana are the only other markets worldwide designated as Category 2.

"The moment they hear Malaysia is Category 2 questionable safety, you have a lot of people start to wonder 'oh, I don't want to fly with Malaysian carriers,'" said Mohshin Aziz, an analyst at Maybank Investment Bank Bhd.

The FAA assessment is based on International Civil Aviation Organization safety standards and focuses on the Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia, not individual airlines. It's been used to ban flights from India, Vietnam and Indonesia — though those markets have been upgraded to Category 1 in recent years.

Malaysia now cannot open

BLOOMBERG



new routes to the U.S. or code-share with American carriers. It also means Malaysian aircraft will be more closely monitored at U.S. airports, though only AirAsia X flies there — to Honolulu via Osaka. The airline didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

AirAsia X rose 6% in Kuala Lumpur yesterday, its biggest gain in three weeks.

The FAA's designation could have far-reaching implications for a country that suffered through the 2014 disappearance of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 and the downing of another flight over Ukraine. Mohshin said it could

turn public perception of Malaysian carriers negative, hurt the maintenance business, undermine the ability of local pilots and engineers from getting hired overseas, and drive up insurance premiums and leasing rates.

That point was echoed by Gerry Soejatman, a Jakarta-based aviation analyst, who also said the FAA's decision could impact business travel as companies may restrict staff from flying Category 2 carriers.

In response to the downgrade, the Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia said it "takes the FAA's assessment constructively and has moved to make serious changes

in its structure and operations." At an event in Jakarta on yesterday, Malaysia's deputy finance minister Amiruddin Hamzah said that the downgrade would be looked into, but it was unlikely to impact tourism, including increasing numbers coming to Malaysia for medical treatment.

Maybank's Mohshin warned that the impact of a downgrade could be harder on Malaysia than neighboring Thailand, where the balance of traffic is about 50-50 between local and foreign carriers, so the latter can take on some extra load. Malaysia is more polarized, with domestic airlines commanding as much as 80% of

the market, he said.

"Whatever bad happens to the local Malaysian carriers, the foreign carriers couldn't possibly offset," he said.

It could be a while before Malaysia regains its Category 1 rating, if other examples in Asia are to go by, according to Sobie Aviation analyst Brendan Sobie.

"Restoring Category 1 takes time and a lot of work," he wrote. "In some instances countries have achieved it in one year — for example India. But the most recent examples in Southeast Asia [Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand] have been several years."

BLOOMBERG

Air quality sinks to 'severe' in haze-shrouded New Delhi

Athick gray haze blanketed India's capital yesterday, with authorities attempting to reduce the pollution by sprinkling water to settle dust and banning some construction.

The air quality index exceeded 400, considered "severe" and about eight times the recommended maximum, according to the state-run Central Pollution Control Board.

Buildings and monuments in New Delhi were largely obscured by the haze and residents complained of health effects.

"We can't breathe properly. My eyes are burning," said Urmila Devi, who lives in Ghaziabad, one of the capital's most polluted areas.

Favorable winds had briefly halved the level of pollutants, but winds

AP PHOTO



blowing from the northwest carried air-borne particles from burning crops in Punjab and Haryana states to New Delhi, leading again to high levels of pollution, according to the government's air quality monitoring system, SAFAR.

Air pollution in northern India peaks in the winter due to smoke from agricultural fires. Farmers say they are unfairly criticized and have no choice but to burn stubble to prepare their

fields for the next crop.

The smoke from fields mixes with vehicle emissions and construction dust, making New Delhi the world's most-polluted capital.

Rising pollution levels

have also irked foreign visitors, with some saying they plan to cut short their trips because of health concerns.

"We are in the capital of India. The government should put more effort into tackling this problem," said Rijil Odamvalappil of Abu Dhabi, who was visiting New Delhi with his wife.

Some residents say the pollution is so bad that it should be the most important issue for the government.

Pollution controls have been imposed, such as sprinkling water from high-rises and banning some construction to settle or avoid dust, but the capital's poor air quality has continued amid calls for the government to do more to address the root causes.

Restrictions on private vehicles meant to reduce

emissions were relaxed on Monday and yesterday for the 550th anniversary of the birth of Guru Nanak, the founder of the Sikh religion.

Doctors in the city of 20 million people say many of their patients are complaining of ailments related to the filthy air they breathe.

New Delhi's chief minister, Arvind Kejriwal, has made fervent appeals on Twitter and in newspaper advertisements for residents to help tackle the pollution problem.

India's top court last week asked the city government, its neighboring states and the federal government to work together to improve air quality.

World Health Organization data released last year showed India had 10 of the world's 20 most polluted cities. **AP**

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Evo Morales flees crisis-torn Bolivia after deadly clashes

LUIS ANDRES HENAO
& CARLOS VALDEZ,

BOLIVIA faced its worst unrest in decades amid a political vacuum yesterday, while Evo Morales, who transformed the Andean nation as its first indigenous president, fled the country following weeks of violent protests.

Morales flew out on a Mexican government plane late Monday hours after being granted asylum as his supporters and foes fought on the streets of the capital while an opposition leader tearfully laid out a possible path toward new elections in the wake of the president's resignation.

Morales stepped down Sunday following weeks of widespread protests fed by allegations of electoral fraud in the Oct. 20 presidential election that he claimed to have won. Resignations by every other constitutionally designated successor left unclear who would take his place and how.

His flight from the country was a dramatic fall for the llama

shepherd from the Bolivian highlands and former coca growers' union leader who as president helped lift millions out poverty, increased social rights and presided over nearly 14 years of stability and high economic growth in South America's poorest country. In the end, though, his downfall was marked by his insistence on holding onto power.

"It pains me to leave the country for political reasons, but I'll always be concerned," Morales said on Twitter. "I'll return soon, with more strength and energy."

Mexican Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard published a photo of Morales holding the flag of Mexico, saying that the plane had left Bolivia and that Morales was safe.

In an earlier tweet, Morales posted a photo of his first night after he resigned showing him lying on a floor with an improvised blanket as a bed. He said had been forced into these conditions after what he has called a coup by the opposition.

Angry supporters of the socialist leader set barricades ablaze to

close some roads leading to the country's main airport Monday, while his foes blocked most of the streets leading to the capital's main square in front of Congress and the presidential palace. Police urged residents of La Paz to stay in their homes and authorities said the army would join in policing efforts to avoid an escalation of violence.

The Senate's second vice president, opposition politician Jeanine Añez, said in an emotional address that she would take temporary control of the Senate, though it was unclear if she would be able to get approval from Congress, which is controlled by Morales supporters. She would become next in line for the presidency if chosen to head the Senate.

"Please excuse me if my voice breaks," Añez said between tears after arriving in Congress under heavy guard. "It's so hard to see Bolivians clashing, no matter which side they're on. They are being mistreated, and I'm asking you to cease the violence."

Añez said she would convene

a legislative session yesterday to consider accepting the formal resignation of Morales. It was unclear, however, if lawmakers could meet that soon because of insecurity in the capital.

As tensions grew, local media reported that Morales supporters were marching on La Paz from the nearby city of El Alto, a Morales stronghold, to try to break the street blockades thrown up by his opponents and reach the capital's main square.

Gen. Williams Kaliman, the chief of the armed forces, announced the joint police-military operation in a television address. He said the hope was to "avoid bloodshed and mourning of the Bolivian family," and he urged Bolivians to help restore peace.

Anti-Morales demonstrators in downtown La Paz set tires and other barricades on fire as other people went onto their rooftops to yell, "Evo, murderer!" Rock-throwing demonstrators also clashed in Cochabamba and other cities.

His presidency, the longest



among serving leaders in the region and the longest ever in Bolivia, ended abruptly Sunday, hours after Morales had accepted calls for a new election by an Organization of American States team. The team reported a "heap of observed irregularities" in the Oct. 20 election whose official results showed Morales getting just enough votes to avoid a runoff that analysts said he could lose against a united opposition. AP

AD

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what's ON



QUIETNESS AND CLARITY: WORKS OF CHEN ZHIFU FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE NANJING MUSEUM

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

UNTIL: November 17, 2019

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

Exhibition of Tuberose

TIME: 10:30am-6:30pm (closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: November 30, 2019

VENUE: 10 Fantasia, Kei Luen Bld, R. de São Miguel

17

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 4582

2ND MACAU OCEAN CULTURE FESTIVAL - CREATIVE DESIGN COMPETITION EXHIBITION

TIME: Open 24 hours

UNTIL: December 19, 2019

VENUE: Sai Van Lake

ADMISSION: Free

FACEBOOK: porthistorymacau

THE WORLD AS WILL AND IDEA - COLLECTIVE EXHIBITION OF EMERGING ARTISTS FROM MAINLAND CHINA

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

UNTIL: February 23, 2020

VENUE: Macau Contemporary Art Centre - Navy Yard No.1, located at Rua de S. Tiago Da Barra

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

Offbeat

MICHIGAN MAN USES BATTLE AX TO FIGHT OFF INTRUDER

AP PHOTO



A Michigan man whose hobbies include ritualized combat with replica weapons from the Middle Ages says he wielded a battle ax he calls "my baby" to fend off an intruder.

Thirty-six-year-old Ben Ball tells WOOD-TV he was playing video games at his apartment in Oshtemo Township, about 130 miles west of Detroit, late last Wednesday when someone who once dated his ex-roommate kicked in his door. He believed the attacker might be armed.

Ball tells the station he grabbed the ax, took two steps forward and struck the intruder in the torso. After the two grappled, the attacker fled. Police deployed a K-9 unit to track a trail of blood leading to 33-year-old Alex Lavell Rawls (pictured).

Kalamazoo County officials say Rawls spent the night at hospital before going to jail. WOOD-TV reports Rawls faces a home-invasion charges.

TV canal macau



TDM News (Repetição)
Telejornal RTPi (Diferido)
Agua de Mar
Zig Zag
Photo Madeira
Quem Quer Ser Milionário
Mar de Letras Sr.2
Império (Repetição)
TDM Entrevista (Repetição)
Ouro Verde Sr.1
Telejornal
Semana Internacional
Tesouro Pirata nas Caraíbas Sr.1
Império
TDM News
O Último Reino Sr.2
Telejornal (Repetição)
RTPi Directo

cinema



CINETEATRO

13 Nov



TERMINATOR: DARK FATE

ROOM 1

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

Director: Tim Miller

Starring: Linda Hamilton, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Mackenzie Davis

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 128min



THE ADDAMS FAMILY

ROOM 2

2:30, 9:30pm

Director: Greg Tiernan, Conrad Vernon

Starring: Oscar Isaac, Charlize Theron, Chloë Grace Moretz

Language: English (Chinese)

ROOM 2

4:30, 7:30pm

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

Duration: 87min



FORTUNA'S EYE

ROOM 3

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

Director: Takahiro Miki

Starring: Ryunosuke Kamiki, Kasumi Arimura, Yukiya Kitamura

Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

JOKER

ROOM 3

7:15pm

Director: Todd Phillips

Starring: Joaquin Phoenix, Robert De Niro, Zazie Beetz

Language: English

Duration: 122min

this day in history



1979 TIMES RETURNS AFTER YEAR-LONG DISPUTE

The Times newspaper has been published for the first time in nearly a year.

The paper's disappearance from news stands followed a dispute between management and unions over manning levels and the introduction of new technology.

After talks broke down, the Times' Canadian owners, the Thomson Organisation, suspended publication last November pending an agreement.

Production of the four other publications in the Times group, including its sister paper the Sunday Times, was also suspended.

It was the first break in the production of the Times, known affectionately to its readers as "the Thunderer", since it was founded in 1788.

The dispute is estimated to have cost the Thomson Organisation more than £30m.

A settlement reached late last month paved the way for today's publication.

The Sunday Times is also expected to appear again this weekend.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has welcomed the Times reappearance "with enthusiasm".

Mrs Thatcher said: "The absence of the Times has been tragic and over-long."

About 500,000 copies of the paper were produced for the Times' first edition on Tuesday - an extra 200,000 on its pre-suspension print run.

The personal columns carried a long string of welcome-back messages from advertisers while readers announced births and deaths spanning the period of the Times' absence.

Three special obituary supplements are also planned as well as a news review covering the months the Times was out of print.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The 1978 dispute was the forerunner of an inexorable move towards automation and the abandonment of old-fashioned printing methods.

Matters came to a head in 1986 when Australian media tycoon, Rupert Murdoch - who had bought the Times and the Sunday Times in 1981 - moved his publications and staff from Fleet Street to Wapping in east London.

New technology introduced at Wapping resulted in 4,000 print workers losing their jobs.

In spite of months of vociferous picketing of the Wapping plant by print unions Rupert Murdoch was able to produce and distribute his papers at a vastly reduced cost.

Mr Murdoch's success encouraged other newspapers to adopt new technology and leave Fleet Street for cheaper premises in east London.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

ARIES
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
Even if it feels like an effort, it is an effort worth making. Sometimes you have to put your personal goals aside and put other people first. That way, you'll show them that they are important.

TAURUS
Apr. 20-May. 20
Today it will be easy for you to gain a deep understanding of the problems that have been plaguing you, if you have the courage to ask a few sensitive questions. Try to cut to the chase.

GEMINI
May. 21-Jun. 21
If it's not clear what someone wants from you right now, why should you waste your time guessing? Ask them! Going to the source of the confusion is almost always the best way to find clarity.

CANCER
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
Be patient with the folks who just can't understand what you are saying. They have much too much on their mind and lack the focus you have. The good news is that you will make great strides today.

LEO
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
Other people are relying on you to exhibit your characteristic good sense and practicality - so if you suddenly start acting on whims, you will be setting them on edge.

VIRGO
Aug. 23-Sep. 22
Buck up, because this is the beginning of a new phase for you, in which your outlook is much more positive. Things suddenly feel more possible than ever.

LIBRA
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
Any limits you are pushing up against right now are completely self-imposed, so quit feeling frustrated and start feeling empowered! Step out of these restrictions and do whatever you want to do today.

SCORPIO
Oct. 23-Nov. 21
Let forgiveness and charity take over today - the peaceful resolution of a situation may require you to take the high road (yet again). You may not realize it, but you are a role model to many other people.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
There may be a lot of noise and excitement around you today, but you will be all too happy to stay outside of the activity. Your energy will flourish in quieter surroundings, with few (if any) people around you.

CAPRICORN
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
It may be extremely tempting to let other people take the reins today and just follow along - after all, it is easier to just go where you are told to go and do what you are told to do.

AQUARIUS
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
You won't do well today if you are stuck into a situation full of limitations and regulations. Restriction never looks good on you, so why even bother trying it on? Get out...

PISCES
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
Your generosity is coming out in full force, and you will feel like you have time for everyone's requests. In fact, you will probably help out a whole slew of folks before you even get to your lunch break!

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	7	17	cloudy
Harbin	-3	6	drizzle
Tianjin	8	15	overcast
Urumqi	0	6	clear
Xi'an	4	18	clear
Lhasa	2	17	cloudy
Chengdu	14	19	cloudy
Chongqing	15	18	overcast
Kunming	12	18	shower
Nanjing	10	22	cloudy
Shanghai	12	21	cloudy
Wuhan	12	24	cloudy
Hangzhou	9	23	cloudy
Taipei	16	22	cloudy
Guangzhou	15	28	clear
Hong Kong	21	26	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	3	6	drizzle
Frankfurt	-1	9	clear
Paris	4	10	drizzle
London	3	7	drizzle
New York	0	4	clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Kick Out of You; 6- Bara of the silents; 11- "Hollywood Squares" win; 14- Extraterrestrial; 15- Grasps; 16- Navigator's need; 17- Swampy; 18- Firmly adhering to a purpose; 20- Honey insect; 21- Poi, essentially; 23- More reasonable; 24- Prevail; 26- Musical wind instrument; 28- Title for a woman; 30- "West Side Story" song; 31- Got up; 32- "WarGames" org.; 33- Early hrs.; 36- "She turned me into a... I got better..."; 37- Extend, in a way; 38- Saskatchewan tribe; 39- Indian restaurant bread; 40- Like some seals; 41- Starbucks order; 42- Diplomatic agent; 43- One or the other; 44- Fortresses; 47- Spanish Mister; 48- Tabriz resident; 49- Buddies; 50- "Lord, is ___?"; Matthew; 53- Denial; 56- Consumed; 58- Serpentine shape; 59- Make into law; 60- Perrier rival; 61- Actor Fernando; 62- Bird homes; 63- Student tables;

DOWN: 1- Metrical foot; 2- Sticky stuff; 3- Heavy quilt; 4- Abbreviation of the name Edward; 5- Whenever; 6- Sharp-pointed plant outgrowth; 7- Tramp; 8- Links luminary Ernie; 9- Banned insecticide, for short; 10- To reiterate...; 11- Man from Muscat; 12- Like granola; 13- Bizet work; 19- Japan's first capital; 22- Word that can succeed old, ice and bronze; 25- ___ of Eden; 26- Paddled; 27- Stick in one's; 28- Jazz flutist Herbie; 29- Territory; 30- Medium of exchange; 32- Peter and a Wolfe; 33- Joint inflammation; 34- Parcel (out); 35- Clairvoyant; 37- All-night bash; 38- The Elder or The Younger; 40- Animate; 41- Paint oil; 42- Gas burner or Sicilian volcano; 43- Moray; 44- Apple juice; 45- Get up; 46- Impertinent; 47- Old sailors; 49- Deal; 51- Shipbuilding wood; 52- Hostels; 54- Inseparable; 55- Used to be; 57- St. crosser;



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MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER



FOX LEGAL ANALYST NAPOLITANO EMERGES AS TRUMP CRITIC

MORE than two decades into his career as a commentator at Fox News Channel, Andrew Napolitano reached a milestone of sorts when he was called a "fool" on his own network.

Not to his face, of course. But Tucker Carlson guest Joseph diGenova's dismissal of Napolitano for saying that soliciting campaign aid from a foreign government is against the law illustrates the awkward place that

the former New Jersey Superior Court judge finds himself in at Fox during the Trump era.

Napolitano, who joined Fox News in 1998, has emerged as one of Donald Trump's bluntest critics on a network where the president expects to hear encouragement.

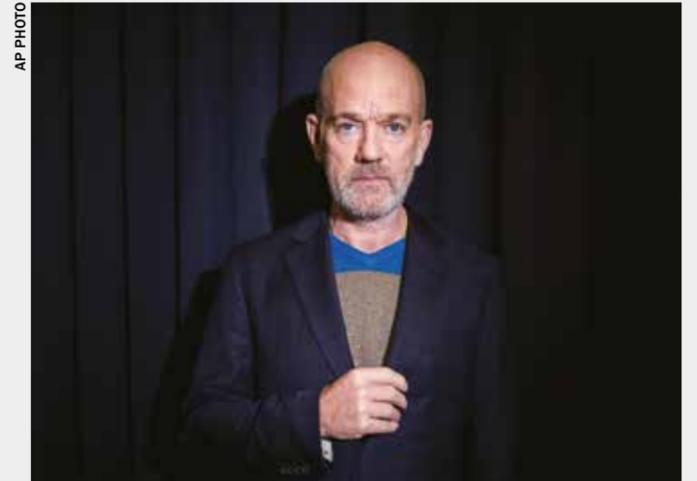
Napolitano has defended an impeachment inquiry that many Trump supporters call unfair, noting it follows rules written by Republicans.

PROVOCATIVE ATLANTIC ASKS HOW CIVIL WAR CAN BE AVOIDED

THE lack of women on country radio is as tired as a bad country song cliché, but the Country Music Association Awards is trying to set the stage for them to reign, both as the hosts, as performers and perhaps the night's biggest winners.

All eyes are on the top prize, entertainer of

the year, which hasn't been won by a woman since Taylor Swift in 2011. Carrie Underwood is vying for entertainer of the year, while Maren Morris is the leading nominee. Performers include Dolly Parton, Reba McEntire, Eric Church, Luke Combs, Keith Urban, Garth Brooks and Blake Shelton.



SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW FOR MICHAEL STIPE

AFTER Michael Stipe opens a gate to the abandoned Manhattan storefront that serves as his studio, you find a man easily traversing his past, present and future creative lives.

He's promoting a 25th anniversary package of the R.E.M. album "Monster" while excited by the response to the first single he's released since the band's 2011 retirement. Surrounding him are

examples of the photography and visual art that has occupied much of his time since then.

He made the single, "Your Capricious Soul," available first on his website last month with proceeds going to the environmental group Extinction Rebellion. He held it back from streaming services for a month, a quiet protest against monopolistic behavior, but it's there now.



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MATTIAS KAREN, LONDON

TENNIS

Defending champ Zverev beats error-prone Nadal at ATP Finals

AFTER being thoroughly outplayed by defending champion Alexander Zverev at the ATP Finals, Rafael Nadal refused to make any excuses.

The top-ranked Spaniard wouldn't blame the abdominal problem that forced him to pull out of the Paris Masters semifinals just nine days earlier, or a hand injury that kept him sidelined before that. And he bristled at the notion that his recent marriage could be a factor in a sub-par performance.

Something was clearly off for Nadal, though, who lost 6-2, 6-4 to a player he had a perfect 5-0 record against before this week's match at the O2 Arena.

Nadal dropped his serve three straight times, didn't force a single break point, and his normally powerful forehand was responsible for more than four times as many unforced errors (13) as winners (3).

Still, Nadal insisted there was nothing wrong with him physically.

"I did not feel pain in the abdominal at all," he said. "So the physical issue was not an excuse at all. The only excuse is I was not good enough tonight."

Nadal hasn't finished a tournament since winning the U.S. Open in August, also pulling out of Shanghai because of a hand in-

AP PHOTO



Alexander Zverev of Germany

jury. That lack of playing time certainly isn't helpful coming into an event featuring only the top eight players in the world, rather than lower-ranked early opponents.

He still has to face Stefanos Tsitsipas and Daniil Medvedev in round-robin play, and probably has to beat both in order to reach

the semifinals.

"Knowing that I would not be at my 100% in terms of feelings, in terms of movement, in terms of confidence or hitting the ball, I needed my best competitive spirit this afternoon, and I was not there in that way," Nadal said. "I need to play much better in two days."

The Spaniard then got a bit testy when a journalist asked whether his October marriage to longtime girlfriend Maria Francisca Perello has changed his outlook on the game at all.

"Honestly, are you asking me this? Is that a serious question or a joke?" Nadal bristled. "It is a

big surprise for me (that) you ask me this after I have been with the same girl for 15 years and having a very stable and normal life. Doesn't matter if you put a ring on your finger or not."

For Zverev, this latest win means he has beaten each of tennis' Big Three in his last three matches at the O2.

The German defeated six-time champion Roger Federer in last year's semifinals and then five-time winner Novak Djokovic in the final.

"It's definitely a place and a court that I love, and that brings maybe the best out of me," the seventh-seeded German said.

Nadal has a history of being far from his best at the ATP Finals, which comes at the end of a gruelling season that often takes its toll on the Spaniard because of his ultra-physical playing style. He has qualified for the event for 15 years in a row but has pulled out of it on six occasions because of injuries. He has never won the title, reaching the final twice. AP

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OPINION

World Views

Therese Raphael, Bloomberg

BORIS JOHNSON STILL HAS A NIGEL FARAGE PROBLEM

A little over a week ago, Nigel Farage described the Brexit deal that U.K. Prime Minister Boris Johnson brought back from Brussels as a travesty and a betrayal of the 2016 referendum. He threatened to stand Brexit Party candidates in 600 constituencies against the Conservative Party in the forthcoming general election if Johnson didn't repudiate his own agreement.

On Monday, Farage reversed course and the Conservatives cheered, as the threat of splitting the pro-Brexit vote appeared to diminish. Yet the reality of the Tory gain is less than clear cut.

In 317 Conservative-held constituencies, Farage said his party will stand down so as not to hurt the party's chances or produce a hung parliament that might threaten Brexit altogether. The decision came after Farage was attacked by Conservatives and the Brexit-supporting media for his purist stance. Nick Timothy, who advised the former prime minister Theresa May, wrote that Farage "has tragically turned into the Frodo Baggins of Brexit," likening him to the Tolkien hero who survives his perilous journey to destroy the One Ring only to succumb to its lure at the last minute and seek to possess it himself.

Sufficiently chastened, Farage took an escape route offered by Johnson on Sunday, when the prime minister declared that a Conservative government wouldn't extend the Brexit transition period beyond 2020 — meaning a free trade agreement would have to be done by then. That promise is either insincere or folly. But it was enough to get Farage to abandon his previous threat.

The Brexit Party leader already looked a little silly with his decision not to stand as a candidate. Monday's announcement may allow Farage to focus his firepower on fewer seats, but he's essentially conceded the Conservative argument that backing the Brexit Party puts Brexit itself at risk.

His decision will come as a relief to Conservative lawmakers who worried that a split in the Brexit vote in their constituencies would allow either Labour or the Liberal Democrats to take advantage. Matthew Goodwin, a politics professor at the University of Kent, notes that 35 of the 50 smallest Conservative majorities are in Leave-voting seats, so Farage has removed a major threat to those members of Parliament.

Even so, there's a danger in overdoing the Tory celebrations. The Brexit Party will still be contesting seats in Leave-voting, Labour-held parts of the country, particularly in the Midlands and the North. The whole Tory electoral strategy — its big-spending pledges, its stance on immigration and its pledge of a quick Brexit with Johnson's deal — is based on capturing those seats.

"This announcement may help the Tories hold on slightly better against the Lib Dems, particularly in Leave-voting rural southwest England, and perhaps even against the Scottish National Party in the North East of Scotland," notes pollster and analyst Matt Singh. "But Johnson still needs seats won last time by Labour, so Farage standing candidates in those seats is still highly likely to hurt the Conservatives."

And even if this has become more of a two-party race and the Conservatives capture a majority, Farage can still claim a substantial victory. He may find it cold comfort personally, but his long-standing Brexit campaign, dating back to his days as the head of the U.K. Independence Party, has had an out-sized influence on the Tories. It has produced an internal revolution in which moderate Conservatives and remainers have been purged in favor of a new coalition of working class Brexit voters and traditional social conservatives. He's as much the father of the new-look Tories as Johnson.

If we're talking Lord of the Rings, the Brexit Party leader may be looked upon more as a sort of reconstructed Gollum, the slippery trickster of singular purpose who fell under the ring's spell and couldn't let it go. Gollum was destroyed ultimately at Mount Doom by his greed, but not before he helped Frodo and Sam accomplish their mission.

UEFA has announced a new food sector sponsor for the European Championship, replacing McDonald's which owned the slot since 1992.

UEFA says food delivery platform Takeaway.com has signed for the Euro 2020 tournament. The value was not disclosed.

Until cutting short its longstanding IOC sponsorship in 2017, McDonald's was a presence at the major global sports events as a partner of the Olympic Games plus FIFA's World

Cup and UEFA's Euro. McDonald's FIFA deal extends to the 2022 World Cup.

Netherlands-based Takeaway.com was launched 19 years ago and operates in 10 European countries, including three of the 12 Euro 2020 host cities spread across the continent.

UEFA says Takeaway.com will take over the tournament player escort program which lets children accompany teams on the field before games.

MEET THE WITNESSES: DIPLOMATS START OFF IMPEACHMENT HEARINGS

DIPLOMATS and career government officials, they're little known outside professional circles, but they're about to become household names testifying in the House impeachment inquiry.

The witnesses will tell House investigators — and Americans tuning into the live public hearings — what they know about President Donald Trump's actions toward Ukraine, including the July phone call with President Volodymyr Zelenskiy that ignited the impeachment inquiry.

First up will be William Taylor, the charge d'affaires in Ukraine, and George Kent, the deputy Assistant Secretary in the European and Eurasian Bureau, both testifying today. On Friday, lawmakers will hear from former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch.

Meet the witnesses:



WILLIAM 'BILL' TAYLOR

A longtime diplomat with a 50-year career of government service, Taylor returned to Ukraine this year after Secretary of State Mike Pompeo asked him to lead the U.S. Embassy.

The graduate of West Point and infantry officer with the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam had a storied career working around the globe, including on Iraq reconstruction and as the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine from 2006-09.

Trump recalled Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch after what others would testify was a smear campaign against her. When Taylor returned to Kyiv, he said he was stunned at what he found.

"I discovered a weird combination of encouraging, confusing and ultimately alarming circumstances," Taylor testified on Oct. 22.

The diplomat went on to describe the "irregular" channel of U.S. policymaking, outside the official one. He soon learned it was being run by Trump's personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani, and others from the administration. "A confusing and unusual arrangement," he testified.

Taylor has served under every presidential administration, Republican and Democrat, since 1985, and also worked for then-Sen. Bill Bradley, D-N.J.

More recently he was an executive vice president at the nonpartisan U.S. Institute of Peace.



GEORGE KENT

The bow-tie wearing career foreign service officer speaks Ukrainian, Russian and Thai and has worked in Poland, Uzbekistan and Bangkok. He joined the State Department in 1992.

Kent testified on Oct. 15 there were three words Trump wanted to hear from the Ukraine president: "Investigations, Biden and Clinton."

He also told the investigators about the "campaign of lies" against Yovanovitch that he said was waged by the president's personal attorney, Rudy Giuliani.

Kent is a graduate of Harvard and the Johns Hopkins' School of Advanced International Studies, as well as National Defense University's Eisenhower School. He is a fan of the Red Sox.



MARIE 'MASHA' YOVANOVITCH

She had twice served as an ambassador — to the Kyrgyz Republic and to Armenia — before being confirmed as the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine in a Senate voice vote in July 2016.

Seen as a tough ambassador, at a time when the U.S. was trying to root out corruption in the young democracy, she was recalled from Ukraine by Trump last spring.

Known as Masha, Yovanovitch testified on Oct. 11 that she was told that people were "looking to hurt" her. One senior Ukraine official said she needed to "watch my back."

She is a career diplomat having served in several top positions as a principal deputy assistant secretary for the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, a senior adviser and the dean of the language school at the Foreign Service Institute.

She is now working as a senior State Department fellow at Georgetown University. AP

Kazakhstan Ex-president said yesterday he offered to host the leaders of Russia and Ukraine for talks on settling the conflict in eastern Ukraine, but the Kremlin was noncommittal about such an encounter. The fighting between Russia-backed separatist rebels and Ukrainian troops in Ukraine's industrial east has killed more than 13,000 people since 2014.



Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani yesterday announced that his government has released three prominent Taliban figures in an effort to get the insurgents to free an American and an Australian professor they abducted in 2016 and have held captive for over three years. At a press event broadcast live on state television, Ghani told the nation the release was a very hard decision he felt he had to make in the interest of the Afghan people.



EU The European Union's top court ruled yesterday that EU countries must identify products made in Israeli settlements on their labels, in a decision welcomed by rights groups but likely to spark anger in Israel. The European Court of Justice said that "foodstuffs originating in the territories occupied by the State of Israel must bear the indication of their territory of origin."

UK Boris Johnson will chair a meeting of the British government's "Cobra" emergency committee after opposition parties accused him of downplaying the severity of flooding in northern England -- a key battleground in the election campaign. The prime minister will also seek to capitalize on the Brexit Party's decision to stand aside in Conservative-held seats.