



**PRO-DEMOCRAT GROUP CALLS FOR THE SUSPENSION OF THE 90-METER TALL RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PROJECT NEAR GUIA HILL**

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**SWEDEN DROPS PROBE ON THE 1986 MURDER OF OLOF PALME**

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**APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR GREATER BAY AREA INTERNSHIP PROGRAM, OFFERING 50 VACANCIES TO LOCAL YOUTH**

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**China** says its three latest cases of coronavirus infection were brought from outside the country. No new deaths were reported yesterday and just 55 people remain in treatment for COVID-19, while another 157 were being monitored in isolation for showing signs of having the virus or having tested positive for it without showing symptoms.



**China** Flooding in south and central China has caused more than a dozen deaths and forced hundreds of thousands of people from their homes. About 228,000 people have had to seek emergency shelter due to flooding since June 2, the Ministry of Emergency Management said. Initial damage was estimated at more than \$500 million, including the destruction of more than 1,000 homes.

**Hong Kong** A prominent Hong Kong businessman has been freed after serving his three-year prison sentence for what prosecutors say were bribes paid to the presidents of two African countries. Dr. Chi Ping Patrick Ho, 70, was given leniency at sentencing last year by U.S. District Judge Loretta A. Preska. Ho left the MCC in Manhattan this week and was deported to Hong Kong. The Bureau of Prisons confirmed his release.



**South Korea's** government said that it will press charges against two activist groups that have been floating anti-Pyongyang leaflets and bottles filled with rice to North Korea. Any action against the groups is likely to trigger a debate over freedom of expression in South Korea, and whether President Moon Jae-in's liberal government is sacrificing democratic principles to keep alive his ambitions for inter-Korean engagement.

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BLOOMBERG



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# ANM: HIGH-RISE BUILDING PROJECT 'UNREASONABLE'

JULIE ZHU

**T**HE New Macau Association (ANM) has once again urged the local government to suspend the high-rise building project that would obscure the view of the Guia Light House.

Yesterday, lawmaker Sulu Sou, together with another member of ANM, met with local media in the vicinity of land plot no.465 - no.513 of Av. do Dr. Rodrigo Rodrigues.

The government has planned to build a 90-meter tall high-rise building on the land plot.

Currently, the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DS-SOPT) is collecting opinions from members of the public regarding a housing project designed for this piece of land. The collection of opinions will end on June 15.

While talking to the media, Sou expressed that he is worried about the high-rise building obscuring the view of the Guia Light House.



In 2008, the SAR government issued a policy (regulation No.83/2008) to restrict building heights within a 2.8-kilometer radius around Guia Light House. According to the regulation, 11 sections surrounding the

Guia Light House are allowed to have new buildings, with a height no more than 90 meters. Different sections have different height restrictions, with levels ranging from five meters to 90 meters.

This specific land plot belongs to the fourth section of the 11 areas, where the height restriction for the specific land plot is 90 meters. Despite being currently under planning, and having a proposed height in accordance with the regulation, the pro-democrat association does not approve of the project in view of practical situations.

Speaking on behalf of the association, Sou condemned the government's regulations as insufficient to protect the view of Guia Light House.

Sou believes that it is unpredictable how the actual natural view will be affected once the residential project is completed.

"Legal but unreasonable," Sou remarked of the height restriction.

This year marks the 15th anniversary of Macau being listed as a World Heritage site. Not only has the government not prescribed a plan to protect these properties, "the SAR government is

[also] breaking the international promise" of protecting the integrity of a world heritage view by any means necessary, Sou accused the local government.

The land plot is located next to the Liaison Office. Once completed, the building will become the second private residential project next to the public facility.

The lawmaker also urges the public to submit opinions to DS-SOPT before June 15, to express opposition towards the plan.

He also urged the Cultural Affairs Bureau to clarify whether the department had evaluated the impact and whether the assessment should be delivered to UNESCO.

Previously, the government allowed the developer of Calçada do Gaio high-rise building to increase the building height to 80 meters. However, the regulations in this area only approves buildings of a maximum of 52.5 meters tall.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### COMBATING THE COMMON ENEMY OF MANKIND THROUGH SOLIDARITY AND COOPERATION

On June 7, China's State Council Information Office issued a white paper titled "Fighting COVID-19: China in Action". Consisting of four parts, namely, "China's fight against the epidemic: a test of fire", "well-coordinated prevention, control and treatment", "assembling a powerful force to beat the virus" and "building a global community of health for all", the white paper provides a panoramic view of Chinese people's fight against COVID-19 and the observance of people-centered governance philosophy by the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Chinese government.

Since the outbreak of the epidemic, Chinese President Xi Jinping has been attaching high importance to COVID-19 prevention and control, and taking personal command in an all-out people's war on the virus. Bearing in mind the supremacy of the people's interests, the Chinese government has taken a series of decisive measures and rallied people's strength to bolster confidence to win the battle.

Under the leadership of the

CPC Central Committee, China has put in place a tight prevention and control system involving all sectors of society. China has released information in an open and transparent manner as required by law, and fully brought to bear the strength of the underpinning effect of science and technology. China has rapidly mobilized the manpower and resources of the whole nation, formed a strong synergy and done everything possible to protect the lives and health of its people.

Through painstaking efforts and tremendous sacrifice, China has succeeded in turning the situation around. In little more than a single month, the rising spread of the virus was contained; in around two months, the daily increase in domestic coronavirus cases had fallen to single digits; and in approximately three months, a decisive victory was secured in the battle to defend Hubei Province and its capital city of Wuhan. With these achievements, China has saved lives and protected health of its people, and made a significant contribution to sa-

feeguarding regional and global public health.

The 37,000-word white paper, well-structured and informative, speaks loud China's answer to the major test of COVID-19 control and prevention.

In the face of the most severe public health emergency since the World War II, China proposes that all countries should make the choice that is right for the interests of all humanity and the well-being of our future generations. China believes that all countries should uphold the vision of a global community of shared future, support each other and join hands to build a global community of health for all.

China calls on the international community to come together, abandon prejudice and arrogance, resist scapegoating and other such self-serving artifices, and stand against stigmatization and politicization of the virus. In doing so, we will see that the spirit of solidarity, cooperation, responsibility and dedication leads people around the world towards victory in our fight against the pandemic.

emergency, and make every effort to safeguard people's lives and health.

Second, more efforts are called for building a global community of shared future. Having claimed so many precious lives, COVID-19 serves as a stark reminder that countries must rise above differences in geography, race, history, culture and social system. We must work together for a community with a shared future and jointly preserve Planet Earth, the only home we have. One important goal in this regard is to speed up efforts to build a global community of health for all.

Third, multilateralism must be upheld more firmly. COVID-19 drives home once again that no country, no matter how strong it is, can insulate itself from global challenges. When disasters wreak havoc, watching from an apparently safe distance and sitting idle will eventually backfire. Pointing fingers at others will only end up damaging one's own reputation. Self-conceit and blame-shifting, instead of helping any country solve its problems, will only hurt other countries' legitimate rights and interests. Multilateralism can gain synergy, and solidarity can see us through the current difficulties.

Fourth, epidemic control and social and economic development must be managed in a coordinated manner. The global spread of the pandemic has delivered a blow to world economy, making a severe global economic recession unavoidable. It is imperative that the international community work together to stabilize and rehabilitate the economy. Decoupling, erecting walls and deglobalization, which go against the general trend of global development, may divide the world, but will not do any good to those who advocate them. The international community should proceed with globalization and safeguard the multilateral trade system based on the WTO.

Coronavirus is still raging all over the world. What we do today determines how we will fare in the future. It is firmly believed that as long as all countries unite and cooperate to mount a collective response, the international community will succeed in overcoming the pandemic, and emerge from this dark moment of human history into a brighter future.

**Shen Beili**  
Commissioner of the  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of China in the Macao SAR

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ANTHONY LAM

COVID-19

# Gov't to launch special ferry to and from HK airport

A special ferry service between Macau's Taipa Ferry Terminal and Hong Kong International Airport's SkyPier will be operated by both TurboJET and Cotai Water Jet between June 17 and July 16, the Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Center has announced.

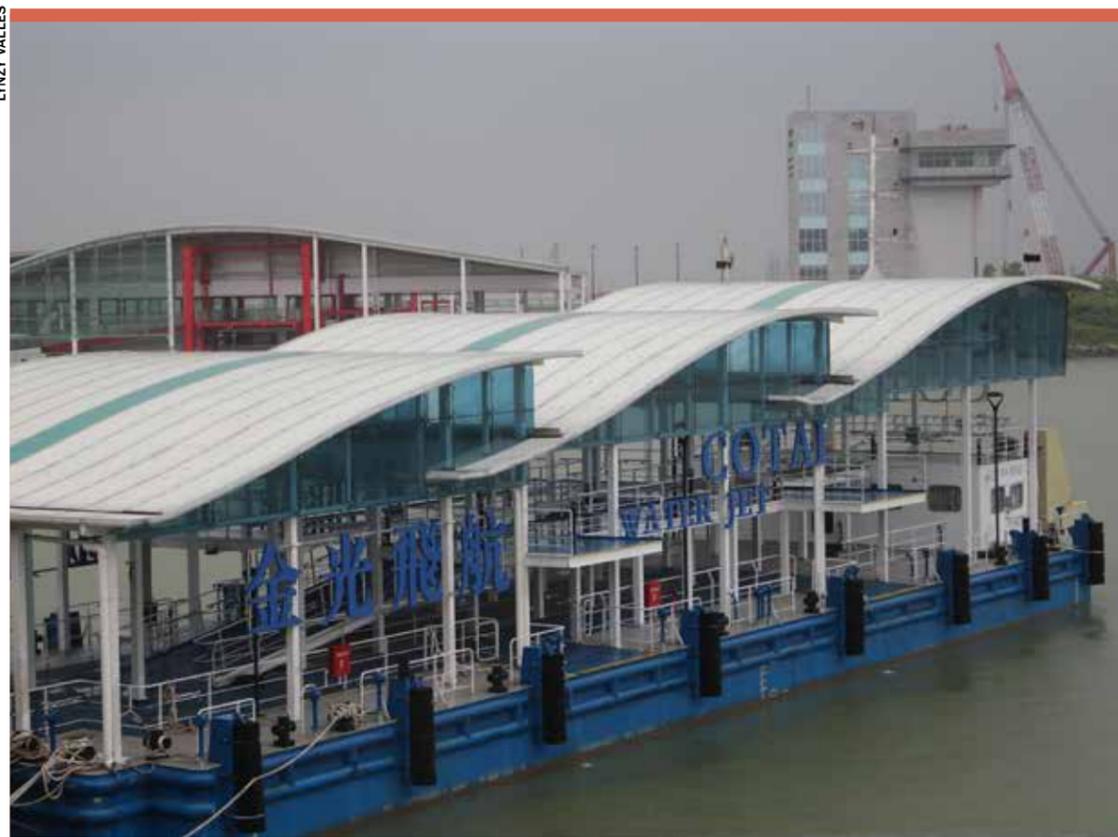
At previous press conferences, the Center has announced that it was in negotiation with authorities in Hong Kong to establish transfer services to retrieve Macau residents returning home through Hong Kong. The Center has disclosed that more than 400 people had notified Macau authorities to express their intention to come home.

On the other hand, there is a significant number of foreign residents, including non-resident workers and tourists, who have been stranded in Macau due to the tightened immigration measures around the world.

Although the government has reiterated that they are free to leave Macau, they have had no means of reaching other places. In some cases, they cannot make an air-to-air transit as many airports have suspended services.

As a result, according to the government, the special ferry service is arranged to cater to all nationals who need to fly out of Macau through Hong Kong, in addition to Macau residents stranded outside of Macau. With that said, only Macau residents will be able to board the ferry from Hong Kong to Macau.

Tickets for the ferry service are priced at MOP/HKD270 each, depending on which harbor the ferry departs from. There are two sailing services inbound to Macau and two outbound each day. The departures will be at 2 p.m. and 11 p.m. to Macau and at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. to Hong Kong International Airport.



In order to use the homebound ferry, concerned Macau residents – both students and non-students – must register on the Higher Education Bureau's website 48 hours prior to their flight's scheduled arrival time in Hong Kong.

For those residents travelling back, their scheduled flight arrival time in Hong Kong must fall between 4 a.m. and 10 p.m. during the service period.

Upon boarding their booked flights, Macau residents must show evidence of their residency (either their Macau ID card or their Macau SAR Passport), the confirmation email from the Ma-

cau government and their valid travel documents.

Generally speaking, for outbound passengers, their flights must be scheduled to depart Hong Kong between 12 p.m. and 3 a.m. during the service period, or by 11:59pm on July 16. Details regarding eligibility is available at ticket counters located at the Macau Ferry Terminal and The Venetian Macao.

## ZHUHAI QUARANTINE WAIVER

Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, Elsie Au Ieong U, disclosed yesterday that quarantine measures for Macau residents will be relaxed slightly. Macau residen-

ts without a Zhuhai residence card will be exempted from the 14-day quarantine if they meet certain criteria and undergo a registration process.

The application platform, which is accessible from today, will cater to two groups of the Macau public: people crossing the border for business or for emergency reasons. Residents meeting these criterias can file an application on the Health Bureau's (SSM) website.

The Macao Trade and Investment Promotion Institute will conduct a review of the applications in the group of business applicants.

Applicants will be asked to provide details of their businesses or employers in Macau or in Zhuhai for verification.

Meanwhile, if residents need to visit Zhuhai for emergency reasons, such as attending a funeral, they may apply for the waiver but evidence may be required for review purposes.

Ao Ieong said each application review might take five days. Approved applicants will still need to get a negative nucleic acid test result to cross the border. With all in place, the approved applicant may travel between Guangdong and Macau for an unlimited time within seven days.

Ao Ieong added that for the time being, reasons such as having dinner or grocery shopping in Zhuhai are unlikely to be accepted.

## FRIENDLY MEASURES FOR NURSERY INFANTS

The government has announced that subsidized nursery operations will not resume this school year. The Social Welfare Bureau announced yesterday that friendly measures would commence to accommodate infants who have no daytime caretaker at home, whose caretaker needs to take care of more than one infant or whose caretaker needs to take care of one infant and an ill, disabled or senior family member. The application period starts today.

The SSM also announced that the 15th round of the centralized mask supply scheme would commence today. All details in this round will remain identical to those in the 14th round.

# SAR flag carrier records MOP150 million profit in 2019

AIR Macau, the city's flag carrier has made a profit of 150 million patacas that has been fully carried forward to this year, as publicized yesterday in its financial report for the year 2019.

In 2019, the airline operated on 28 routes and generated MOP439 million in revenue, a 6% rise from 2018.

Pursuant to the law, the company was not required to allocate last year's profit to its legal reserve as its overall legal reserve had already exceeded 25% of its registered capital of MOP442

million. Additionally, the face value of the MOP200 million worth of redeemable preference shares, previously issued by the company to the Macau government, has been recorded as special reserve, which can be voided when the capital shrinks. The shares were redeemed between 2013 and 2016.

Air Macau acquired seven aircrafts last year, of which three were purchased and four leased. Its fleet has 23 aircrafts with an average age of 6.5 years as of end-2019. Thirty-seven

pilots have so far graduated from the company's cadet program and started serving in Air Macau.

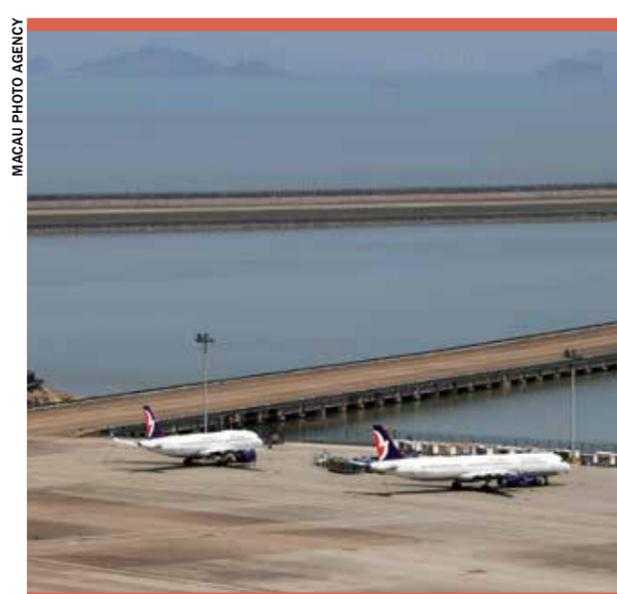
Earlier this year, the government announced that Air Macau's concession would be extended for three years from November 2020. This indicates that any airlines interested in operating a Macau route will have to obtain Air Macau's consent in addition to the government's approval.

Another public transport company, Companhia de Serviços de Rádio Táxi Macau, S.A., which operates a radio taxi service,

has announced that it has recorded a revenue loss of about MOP8.5 million over last year.

Last year, the public transport operator recorded a revenue of MOP 90.9 million from its daily operations and other income. In the same year, however, the costs, including the purchase of vehicles and equipment, office utilities, gas, salary, and maintenance, were just half a million below MOP100 million.

The company has pledged in its financial report that it will try its best to recover from the loss. **AL**



### CONSULATE SEES INCREASE IN RESIDENCY APPLICATION

The Consulate General of Portugal in Macau and Hong Kong has received some 1,100 applications in the first five months of the year, mainly from Hong Kong residents, who are seeking to get residency in Portugal. According to the Consul General, Paulo Cunha-Alves, the increase in applications began last June, when the pro-democracy demonstrations kicked off in the neighboring region. Portuguese news agency Lusa noted that the increase in Portuguese visa applications, namely 'gold' visas, and the updating of citizen cards and passports that had been expired for a long time, have notably increased last month.

### ROAD AT PAC ON TO CLOSE FOR BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

The Avenida do Cais de Pac On will be under special transport arrangements for more than three years, the Transport Bureau (DSAT) announced yesterday. From June 13 to December 4, 2023, the avenue will ban parking and vehicles passing by. Only the side close to the sea will be closed. The opposite lane will remain functional. During this period, the government will construct the fourth Macau-Taipa bridge. In order to facilitate the public, DSAT will transform a nearby area into a parking lot for heavy-duty vehicles. This parking lot will be available for the public on most days, except during the period between midnight and 8 a.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays.

### E-LICENSE FOR TAXI DRIVERS AVAILABLE FOR APPLICATION

Starting today, the city's taxi drivers can apply to the Transport Bureau (DSAT) for an e-taxi-driver-license. According to a statement released by the DSAT, in order to facilitate the operation of indoor taxi smart systems, which will be launched on December 3, 2020, local taxi drivers are required to have an e-license. The local government will pay a company 150 patacas per car per month to install and maintain GPS, voice and video recording devices inside taxis. Taxi drivers are required to pay 300 patacas per month to maintain these devices as well.

RENATO MARQUES



### CRIME

## 'Ghost riders' finally caught

RENATO MARQUES

**T**HE Judiciary Police (PJ) have finally identified and detained two suspects for a strange case involving the disappearance and reappearance of a motorcycle, a PJ spokesperson revealed yesterday during the regular joint press conference of the police forces held at the PJ headquarters.

The case was initially reported to the Public Security Police Force (PSP) in May when a motorcycle owner discovered that his motorcycle, parked at Rua da Tribuna in the Northern district, had disappeared, suspecting it to be stolen.

After making his report to the PSP, the owner of the motorcycle found the vehicle parked where he had left it before its disappearance, and he dropped the case.

On June 7, the same owner once again realized that the motorcycle had disappeared and called a friend, who is a PJ officer, to

help him search for it.

Later that same night the two people spotted two teenagers riding the motorcycle in the area and decided to observe them.

A few minutes later they parked the motorcycle in the street parking and the rider was spotted removing a key from the ignition and placing it in his pocket.

The victim and the friend then decided to step forward and approach them with the PJ officer identifying himself as a police officer.

The two suspects, both 17-year-old and school colleagues, were taken in for questioning. The rider confessed that in May he had seen the motorcycle parked on the street with the key in the ignition so he took the key and kept it. He then invited his colleague to ride along with him on the motorcycle around the city, after which he parked the motorcycle in the same place, in the hope that the owner would not have noticed that it had been

missing for some time.

The second suspect confirmed the story and also admitted to being aware that they were taking a motorcycle from someone without his permission.

The PJ also found that the suspect, who admitted to riding the motorcycle on at least two occasions, does not possess a driving license.

They were presented to the Public Prosecutions Office on June 9 to be charged with vehicle theft and use of the stolen vehicle.

### RESIDENT SCAMMED OVER HIRING SEX SERVICES ONLINE

A 41-year-old Macau resident has reportedly been scammed while attempting to procure the services of an alleged prostitute he had met through a mobile phone application, the PJ reported.

After chatting with the alleged woman, the man was asked to pay the amount of 500 patacas using a points card (My Card) that he ac-

quired from a convenience store.

After sending a photo of the card code via the same app, the man began receiving calls from two men who threatened him to pay significantly more money than the sum he had agreed to.

After several calls, in which threats to his life and his family members were made, the man gave in and acquired a total of 17,000 patacas of the same cards, sending the corresponding codes to the woman as instructed by the men blackmailing him.

However, as the calls did not subsequently stop, and he had begun to fear for his safety, he decided to finally go to the police and file a complaint about the scam.

He reported having lost a total of 17,500 patacas.

As reported by the PJ on several occasions, this type of scam has been very popular in the past few years and has accounted for the loss of huge sums of money from both locals and tourists.

## GBA internship program offers 50 vacancies

**T**HE internship program for Macau local youth in the Greater Bay Area is now open for applications, offering a total of 50 positions, the Talents Development Committee announced yesterday.

The application period for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau Greater Bay Area (GBA) Macau Youth Internship Program 2020

kicked off yesterday and will continue until July 3.

The program targets the city's youths who will undertake internships in companies across mainland China's Greater Bay Area cities during the upcoming summer holidays.

Through the program, participants are expected to enhance their understanding about the

mainland's economy and social development, and to explore the potential for their own future entrepreneurship in these places.

The program will officially commence on July 18 and end on August 15.

This year, Shenzhen and Dongguan are the two cities engaged in the program.

The available inter-

ship positions are associated with artificial intelligence, next generation information and telecommunication, software development, new energy, and advanced materials.

The students will not need to pay for the internship. The Chinese Youth Advancement Association will manage food, accommodation, trans-

port, insurance and other activities for the interns.

The eligible parties include Macau local residents aged between 18 and 29 years old, so long as they have been staying in Macau since March this year.

The internship program is co-organized with Guangdong's Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office. **JZ**

# AUTHORITIES AXE GROUP'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACTIVITIES

RENATO MARQUES

A series of ongoing activities organized by the group Macau for Waste Reduction, which is dedicated to waste collection for recycling, have been disrupted by the police authorities.

In a letter, the Public Security Police Force (PSP) informed the group that all the activities planned which would make use of public spaces, namely a waste collection point at Ocean Gardens in Taipa and another in the surroundings of the UNESCO Center of Macau in NAPE, could not be held as the events constitute an assemblies, which cannot be organized as they may "cause great harm to public health and public security."

The events were initially scheduled to happen this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and occur as a continuation of a series of activities that the group, which advocates for environmental protection, has been organizing for almost two years.

The activities call for citizens to bring their recycling items and drop them at the stations according to the materials they are composed of, to facilitate their recycling and prevent them ending in waste landfills or being incinerated.

The head of the organizing group, Capricorn Leong, confirmed to the Times that this was the first time that an event from the group has been prevented by the police authorities.

"Normally we just hand in the 'notification' [to host the event] then they give us back a 'receipt' stating that the notification was 'well received' and the activity can go on. This is the first time they have declined," she noted, saying that this happened "after I already had the 'well received' document in my possession."

Despite this complication, the



group does not plan to change their strategy of hosting this type of event in public squares and areas such as parks or gardens.

"For this time the Portuguese school will be the replacement spot that we found after receiving the rejection. We will try to continue to run the afternoon session and to collect as many recyclables as possible," Leong said, adding that she will continue to "submit the notification document [to the police] for July" and for the upcoming events, which are normally hosted once a month.

On the topic, lawmaker Sulu Sou responded immediately via social media platforms, reaffirming that, according to Macau laws, the only situation where the authorities can act to stop an assembly is "in case the assembly has a purpose that opposes to the law."

Sou once again criticized the methods used by the police, that

follows the banning of the June 4 vigil at Senado Square, noting that authorities cannot continue to use the Law on the Prevention, Control, and Treatment of Infectious Diseases to ban all privately held activities, and especially those that aim to benefit the population and Macau by supporting environmental protection and recycling activities.

In humorous reference to the public activity held on June 5 by the Macao Youth Federation which gathered dozens of people in a parade in support for the approval of the National Security Law in Hong Kong, Sou said that maybe the group [Macau for Waste Reduction] should have a banner expressing support for recycling, together with an "anti-waste" slogan. He added that they should also rent an open-top tour bus to carry out their activities, hinting that this would not be targeted by the police. The humorous re-

marks related to the recent events in which the authorities have been accused of having double standards in their evaluation and law enforcement.

## A FORETOLD PROBLEM

The previous notifications to the police authorities to host many events in public spaces, including demonstrations, were transferred from the former Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) to the PSP, when the IACM was replaced with the current Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM).

The transference of competences and the attribution of such power to the police was, at the time of its discussion at the Legislative Assembly in early April 2018, a very hot topic with democrats who heavily criticized the bill precisely for transferring powers that were under the municipal competence to the police.

At the time lawmaker Ng Kuok

Cheong noted that the most relevant aspect of any public assembly or demonstration is with the use of public space and "that is the reason that has always been under the [supervision of the] municipal authorities."

Ng also noted the lack of public consultation by the government on the matter, saying that he did not understand how the change of power from the IACM to the PSP could simplify the process.

"Why are we passing this [responsibility] to the police? What is the reason that justifies the need for this [change of] attribution?" Ng asked, noting the absence on the government side of any representatives from the police or the security secretariat.

Au Kam San shared the concerns of Ng saying, "This law [the previous one] is 25 years old. What were the difficulties and problems faced in its application? I can't see any problems that justify [the need] to change this law. There is no strong reason to change it and with the urgency [in which it is presented to the AL], this needs to be explained."

José Pereira Coutinho was another lawmaker who opposed the change, remarking that such a transfer of powers "is not a simple one and needs to be explained."

"We want to know why, as well as what the procedure will be like," he remarked.

Besides the three lawmakers that voted against the bill, several others, including Agnes Lam, Song Pek Kei, and Kou Hoi In, have expressed concerns and disagreement with the changes to the new law.

Song agreed with Lam when she recalled how, in other regions, the task of approving or refusing the use of public spaces is always done by the municipal departments who then, when necessary, report to the police.

# SJM appoints McFadden as COO for Gaming, Hospitality

GAMING operator SJM Holdings Ltd. has appointed Frank McFadden as its Chief Operating Officer (COO) for Gaming & Hospitality, as stated in a memo signed by the group's chairman of the Board of Directors, Daisy Ho.

The newly appointed COO will be mainly res-

ponsible for the casinos in Grand Lisboa, Hotel Lisboa, Ponte 16, and Jai Alai.

He will also oversee SJM's hospitality services, gaming analytics, and property planning and enhancement.

McFadden has served as SJM's President for Business Development and has been with the gaming

operator since 2006. In SJM's first annual board meeting after the death of its founder Stanley Ho, it was announced that Louis Ng Chi Sing, who had held the COO position since 2002, has been appointed as an adviser in the gaming concessionaire, effective from yesterday. LV



Frank McFadden (right), in 2007

PANDEMIC

# Covid-19 just the latest epidemic in areas struck by disease

KATHY GANNON,  
SULEIMAN KHEL

**W**HEN Tariq Nawaz's daughter was born a year ago, he borrowed money to pay for his wife's cesarean delivery. Seven months later, they learned their baby had polio and sold the little bit of jewelry his wife had received for her wedding to pay mounting medical bills.

Then the new coronavirus pandemic struck Pakistan, prompting a countrywide lockdown that closed even their village of Suleiman Khel, at the edge of a tribal region plagued by militants. Still in debt, Nawaz lost his job, his monthly paycheck of \$95 and the means to provide treatment for the baby's polio.

"It's all I can think of. I feel like my head is going crazy," he said.

For millions of people like Nawaz who live in poor and troubled regions of the world, the novel coronavirus is only the latest epidemic. They already face a plethora of fatal and crippling infectious diseases: polio, Ebola, cholera, dengue, tuberculosis and malaria, to name a few.

The onslaught of infectious diseases is made worse by the many other threats in lives already overwhelmed by adversity. Crushing poverty leads to malnutrition and lack of medical care, making people more susceptible to illness. In many places, they must also navigate the violence of militants, gangs and government soldiers, which can make campaigns to fight disease more difficult.

Just when the Democratic Republic of Congo appeared to be nearing the end of its deadly Ebola epidemic this year, the first COVID-19 cases appeared, devastating residents. Militants also terrorize the region.

"People here have been victims of attacks by Ugandan ... rebels, Ebola and now COVID-19," said 46-year-old Philémon Tsongo, a physician who survived Ebola at the epicenter of the outbreak in Beni. "They are traumatized."

In war-torn Yemen, the cholera epidemic peaked with more than a million infections in 2017. Health officials have seen a dramatic drop in cholera, but there is growing concern that the fight against the recently arrived coronavirus will undercut the anti-cholera campaign.

Officials from the U.N. children's agency, UNICEF, say stocks of hygiene kits and chlorine tablets for water purification in

AP PHOTO



Tariq Nawaz holds his 10-month-old baby daughter Tuba who suffers from polio, as a sister kisses her

Yemen will last only until the end of June. The agency needs at least \$18 million through the end of the year to buy more supplies for water, sanitation and hygiene services, but it appears the money will go to fight COVID-19.

"We think that the risk remains high and that cholera and acute watery diarrhea cases could easily make a strong, strong comeback," said Bismarck Swangin, a UNICEF spokesman in Yemen.

Across the world in Central America, Honduras has seen a steep climb in COVID-19 cases in the midst of a dengue fever outbreak. San Pedro Sula, the business capital where gang violence makes Honduras one of the deadliest countries in the world, is also now the epicenter of a COVID-19 outbreak. The city and surrounding area have about two-thirds of Honduras' approximately 3,000 confirmed cases.

"We have a full-blown dengue epidemic, meaning we have two illnesses circulating in the country," said Dr. Carlos Umaña, president of the Social Security Doctors' Association for northwest Honduras, who is based in San Pedro Sula.

The simultaneous epidemics

are overwhelming a public health system that had few resources to begin with. For a population of about 10 million people, Honduras only has 350 intensive care beds and about 6,000 hospital beds overall — compared to some 23,000 in New York City.

"The collapse of the health systems are imminent if these two illnesses continue rising," Umaña said.

## Millions of people already face a plethora of fatal and crippling infectious diseases: polio, Ebola, cholera, dengue, tuberculosis and malaria, to name a few

In Pakistan, where Nawaz lives, coronavirus cases are going up sharply. The country's toll of above 113,000 coronavirus cases surpasses that of neighboring China, and 2,255 people in Pakistan have already died.

Meanwhile, Pakistan continues to suffer some of the world's worst outbreaks of infectious diseases. It has 4.3 million cases of malaria annually, and is one of the top 10

countries for new cases of tuberculosis each year. It is also one of only three countries, including Afghanistan and Nigeria, where polio is still endemic.

The fight against disease is made harder by militants who oppose vaccination. The militants in Pakistan have multiple and sometimes overlapping motives, focusing on the government, religious minorities, connections with anti-U.S. organizations in neighboring Afghanistan and attacks on Pakistan's historic rival, India.

Militants have spread rumors that the polio vaccine is a Western conspiracy to make the next generation of Muslims infertile. Dozens of vaccinators, with heavily armed security at their side, have been targeted and killed in recent years. Just last month, a half-hour drive from

Nawaz's home, masked gunmen shot and killed 40-year-old Abdul Wahab, a well-known vaccinator in the tribal regions.

Nawaz's daughter, Tuba, was vaccinated against polio at four months, but before she could receive her second of three doses, she contracted the disease.

Dr. Rana Mohammad Safdar, the country's leading immunologist and front-line warrior in

Pakistan's COVID-19 battle, said that last year's testing revealed the polio virus was everywhere in the country. Now, the arrival of the coronavirus means 40 million children won't get their polio vaccination this month, Safdar said, leaving them without protection.

Late last year, Safdar had begun to hope polio could be beaten in Pakistan. He had a battle plan and everyone on board, even reluctant religious leaders. But when the coronavirus struck, Safdar ordered his army of more than 250,000 vaccinators to shelter in their homes for their own safety and to prevent a COVID-19-infected vaccinator from spreading the virus to an entire village. He worried that just one COVID-19 infection would be grist for the militant clerics' rumor mills.

The virus already has devoured most of Pakistan's budget to fight the other diseases. There's no money left to disinfect the countless fertile grounds for mosquitoes that carry crippling diseases such as dengue or malaria.

"COVID has been a devastating blow to our efforts ... We are now in a position where we can't do much," said Safdar, who went into self-imposed quarantine after a staff member tested positive for COVID-19.

So far this year, 40 children have tested positive for polio, in-

cluding Nawaz's daughter Tuba. Safdar fears new infections this year could surpass 150, a startling figure for a disease the WHO had hoped would have been eradicated by now.

The coronavirus and the lockdown to fight it are also making worse endemic poverty. Nearly 30% of Pakistanis live below the poverty line, earning less than \$2 a day.

Nawaz's debts have been piling up. He already had sold his share of the family plot to his elder brother for money to cover his wedding and construction of his family's one-room house.

He and three of his brothers also carry the burden of another brother who spends most of his days and nights in a drug-induced stupor. That brother, Gul, couldn't get work and found an escape in opium, and now the extended family must care for his five children. Another brother also is broke, after losing his job as a security guard to the virus lockdown, and is trying unsuccessfully to migrate to Malaysia for work.

Sitting in the brutal heat on a steel-framed bed made of knotted rope, Nawaz held his daughter close. He thinks she feels protected in his arms.

She is his joy and his greatest worry. Tuba doesn't talk yet. That afternoon, her round brown eyes were outlined with a thick coal and her tattered shirt was caked with dirt. Tuba can't stand, and when Nawaz touched her right leg she pulled away. Polio has left her leg and foot lifeless, but also painful.

Tuba's 3-year-old sister Ilana snuggled up against her father, shoving and poking at her many barefoot cousins who crowded the dirt courtyard. Social distancing has no place in their crowded world, nor in the dusty streets where women in burqas sell second-hand goods and small shops remain open despite the lockdown.

When Tuba became sick, Nawaz took her to the village clinic, but they couldn't help and sent her home. After two visits to government hospitals, he took her to a private clinic where finally she was diagnosed with polio.

"We didn't know what to do. They gave her medicine, but there was no therapy, just medicines," he said.

Since being laid off there's no money to buy Tuba medicine or even the milk she needs to keep her other limbs strong. Instead, Nawaz says, he gives her tea with a little milk.

In late February she fell ill, but the virus had shut the government hospitals and Nawaz had to take her to a private hospital again that cost 8,800 (\$50) a night. Tuba was there for four nights.

"We had no choice, she needed treatment," he said. "There was everything for her there. ... She was doing so well."

They were told to return after three months but he knew they wouldn't. There is no money to treat the polio.

Now they can all just pray that the family is not struck with the coronavirus. A COVID-19 patient is more likely to die in Khyber Pukhtunkhwa province, where Nawaz lives, than anywhere else in Pakistan, with a death rate of 4.6%, compared to 2.3% nationwide.

"It's a scary place to be," he said. AP

## SWEDEN

# PROSECUTOR HALTS PROBE INTO 1986 MURDER OF PM OLOF PALME

DAVID KEYTON  
& JAN M. OLSEN, STOCKHOLM

SWEDEN yesterday dropped its investigation into the unsolved murder of former Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, who was shot dead 34 years ago in downtown Stockholm, saying that decision was made because the main suspect died in 2000.

Palme was gunned down on Feb. 28, 1986, after he and his wife Lisbet Palme left a movie theater in the Swedish capital. The murder shocked the nation and shook the Scandinavian country's image as being so safe and peaceful that politicians could wander around in public without protection.

More than 100 people have been suspected in the crime and the unsolved case has generated scores of conspiracy theories, with possible villains ranging from foreign governments or rogue Swedish police with right-wing sympathies to an act by a lone shooter.

The investigation was being closed because the main suspect, Stig Engstrom, died in 2000, the case's chief prosecutor, Krister Petersson, told a news conference in Stockholm yesterday.

"Stig Engstrom is deceased, and therefore I am not able to start proceedings or even interview him, that is why I decided to discontinue the investigation," Petersson told reporters. "Since he has died, I cannot indict him."

Hans Melander, head of the investigation, told the news conference that 134 people had confessed the murder — 29 directly to the police — and some 10,000 people had been questioned during the 34-year probe.

"I am completely convinced that there are other people who believe in other solutions, but as Krister (Petersson) says, this is what we came up with and believe in," Melander said.

Marten Palme, the son of Olof and Lisbet Palme, told Swedish radio that "I also think Engstrom is the perpetrator."

"The fact that a country's prime minister was murdered is a national trauma. I now have a hope that the wound can heal," Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven, a Social Democrat like Palme, told a later news conference. "A thorough work has been carried out by the prosecutors and they have gone to the bottom of it. ... "The best thing would have, of course, been through a conviction."

Deputy prime minister Isabella Lovin of the small Green



Olof Palme's murder has been an open wound for decades in Sweden

Party said the unsolved killing "is still a wound" in Sweden.

Palme, who cut a flamboyant, even boyish figure, had sought to live as ordinary a life as possible and would often go out without bodyguards. The night of the murder he had no protection.

The prime minister had an aristocratic background but was known for his left-leaning views and was eyed with suspicion in conservative circles and by the United States. Among Swedes and in the Nordic region, Palme was a divisive figure, much loved but also despised.

At the time of the slaying, the 52-year-old Engstrom was reportedly one of the first people at the murder scene and was briefly considered a possible suspect. He had a military background, was member of a shooting club, often worked late and had drinking problems, Petersson said. Also known as the Skandiamannen because he worked in the nearby Skandia insurance company, Engstrom had a strong dislike of Palme and his policies.

Yet Engstrom's actions on the night of the murder are unclear. Several witnesses gave descriptions of the fleeing killer that matched Engstrom, while others said he wasn't even at the scene. Engstrom himself claimed to have been present from the be-

ginning, said he spoke to Lisbet Palme and police and attempted to resuscitate the victim.

Soon after the murder, Engstrom appeared in Swedish media and developed an increasingly detailed story of his involvement in the events that night, even criticizing the police investigation.

## Hans Melander, head of the investigation, told the news conference that 134 people had confessed the murder

He claimed witnesses who had described the killer had in fact been describing him as he was running to catch up with police officers in pursuit of the assassin.

The police then labelled Engstrom as an unreliable and inconsistent witness and classified him as a person of no interest.

Lisbet Palme was injured in the attack and later identified the shooter as Christer Pettersson, an alcoholic and drug addict who was convicted of Palme's murder. The sentence was later overturned after police failed to produce any technical evidence against him, leaving the murder an unsolved mystery. Pettersson died in 2004.

Immediately after Palme was killed, thousands of Swedes flocked

to the scene of his death with red roses, a symbol of his Social Democratic Party, building a meter-high wall of flowers.

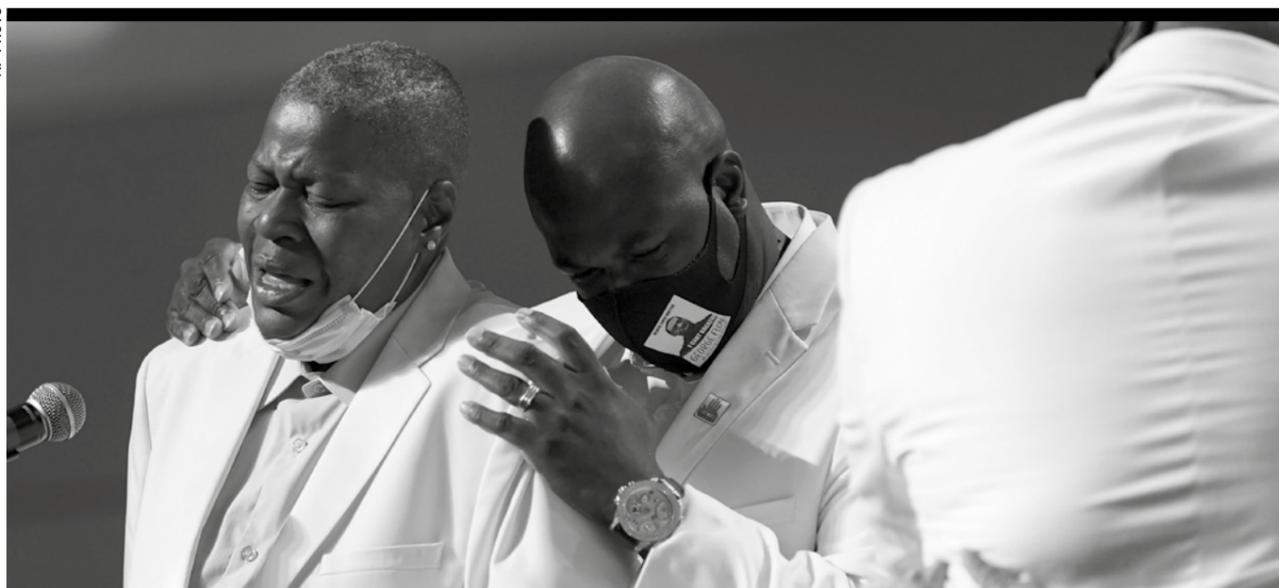
In Sweden, the Palme murder has been an open wound for decades.

Another later painful reminder of Sweden's lost innocence came in 2003, when Foreign Minister Anna Lindh was stabbed to death in a Stockholm department store, also not protected by bodyguards. In 2004, Mijailo Mijailovic, who confessed to the fatal stabbing, was convicted of murder and sentenced to be confined in psychiatric care.

The unsolved Palme slaying also evoked another Swedish mystery: the disappearance of Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, who vanished in 1945 after helping at least 20,000 Hungarian Jews escape the Holocaust by giving them Swedish passports. In 2016, the diplomat, who is believed to have died in Soviet captivity, was pronounced dead by Swedish authorities, 71 years after he disappeared under unclear circumstances.

Melander, the chief investigator, labeled it "one of the world's largest investigations" and compared it to probes into the 1963 murder of John F. Kennedy and the 1988 Lockerbie bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Scotland. A total of 270 people were killed. AP

AP PHOTO



LaTonya Floyd speaks during the funeral service for her brother George Floyd at The Fountain of Praise church, in Houston

USA

# 'He is going to change the world': Funeral held for Floyd

JUAN A. LOZANO,  
NOMAAN MERCHANT &  
ADAM GELLER, HOUSTON

**G**EORGE Floyd was fondly remembered yesterday [Macau time] as "Big Floyd" — a father and brother, athlete and neighborhood mentor, and now a catalyst for change — at a funeral for the black man whose death has sparked a global reckoning over police brutality and racial prejudice.

More than 500 mourners wearing masks against the coronavirus packed a Houston church a little more than two weeks after Floyd was pinned to the pavement by a white Minneapolis police officer who put a knee on his neck for what prosecutors said was 8 minutes and 46 seconds.

Cellphone video of the encounter, including Floyd's pleas of "I can't breathe," ignited protests and scattered violence across the U.S. and around the world, turning the 46-year-old Floyd — a man who in life was little known beyond the public housing project where he was raised in Houston's Third Ward — into a worldwide symbol of injustice.

"Third Ward, Cuney Homes, that's where he was born at," Floyd's brother, Rodney, told mourners at the Fountain of Praise church. "But everybody is going to remember him around the world. He is going to change the world."

The funeral capped six days of mourning for Floyd

in three cities: Raeford, North Carolina, near where he was born; Houston, where he grew up; and Minneapolis, where he died. The memorials have drawn the families of other black victims whose names have become familiar in the debate over race and justice — among them, Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Ahmaud Arbery and Trayvon Martin.

After the service, Floyd's golden casket was taken by hearse to the cemetery in the Houston suburb of Pearland to be entombed next to his mother, for whom he cried out as he lay dying. A mile from the graveyard, the casket was transferred to a glass-sided carriage drawn by a pair of white horses. A brass band played as his casket was taken inside the mausoleum.

Hundreds of people, some chanting, "Say his name, George Floyd," gathered along the procession route and outside the cemetery entrance in the mid-90s heat.

"I don't want to see any black man, any man, but most definitely not a black man sitting on the ground in the hands of bad police," said Marcus Brooks, 47, who set up a tent with other graduates of Jack Yates High School, Floyd's alma mater.

In the past two weeks, amid the furor over Floyd's death, sweeping and previously unthinkable things have taken place: Confederate statues have been toppled, and many cities are debating overhauling, dismantling or cutting funding for police

departments. Authorities in some places have barred police from using chokeholds or are otherwise rethinking policies on the use of force.

Dozens of Floyd's family members, most dressed in white, took part in the four-hour service. Grammy-winning singer Ne-Yo was among those who sang.

The mourners included actors Jamie Foxx and Channing Tatum, J.J. Watt of the NFL's Houston Texans, rapper Trae tha Truth, Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, Houston Police Chief Art Acevedo and Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, who brought the crowd to its feet when he announced he will sign an executive order banning chokeholds in the city.

"I know you have a lot of questions that no child should have to ask, questions that too many black children have had to ask for generations: Why? Why is Daddy gone?" former Vice President Joe Biden, the Democratic presidential candidate, said, addressing Floyd's 6-year-old daughter in a video eulogy played at the service. "Now is the time for racial justice. That's the answer we must give to our children when they ask why."

Biden made no mention of his opponent in November. But other speakers took swipes at President Donald Trump, who has ignored demands to address racial bias and has called on authorities to crack down hard on lawlessness.

"The president talks about bringing in the mili-

tary, but he did not say one word about 8 minutes and 46 seconds of police murder of George Floyd," said the Rev. Al Sharpton, the civil rights activist. "He challenged China on human rights. But what about the human right of George Floyd?"

Most of the pews were full, with relatively little space between people.

"So much for social distancing today," the Rev. Remus Wright told mourners, gently but firmly instructing those attending to wear face masks.

Texas has no limit on how many people can gather in places of worship during the pandemic, though Republican Gov. Greg Abbott has encouraged churches to follow federal health guidelines.

Although the church service was private, at least 50 people gathered outside to pay their respects.

"There's a real big change going on, and everybody, especially black, right now should be a part of that," said Kersey Biagase, who traveled more than three hours from Port Barre, Louisiana, with his girlfriend, Brandy Pickney. They wore T-shirts printed with Floyd's name and "I Can't Breathe."

Floyd served nearly five years in prison for robbery with a deadly weapon before becoming a mentor and a church outreach volunteer in Houston. He moved to Minnesota several years ago through a program that tried to change men's lives by helping them find work in new settings. AP

## this day in history



### 1976 MERCENARIES TRIAL BEGINS IN ANGOLA

The trial of 13 mercenaries - 10 of them British - has begun in Angola with the public still in the dark over the exact charges.

The Angolan authorities have described them as "the lowest of human characteristics in volunteering to kill, destroy and commit criminal acts in exchange for adequate payment".

The 10 Britons, 2 Americans and one Argentine were mercenaries in the Angolan civil war but have not been seen prior to their court appearance.

One of the men, ex-paratrooper Costas Georgiou, is also wanted by New Scotland Yard for questioning in connection with the murders of 14 of his own men during the war.

The start of the trial comes a day after tens of thousands of Angolans took part in a march to protest against mercenaries.

Billed as a "spontaneous show of popular feeling against the mercenary phenomenon" it was not officially linked to the trial but the timing and the fact the route went past the courthouse suggest it was.

The good natured event was organised for the benefit of the foreign press who have been accused by Angolans of starting a campaign to discredit the trial.

A British member of the commission of inquiry into the mercenaries criticised the event saying it put extra pressure on the court.

The trial at the Luanda Palace is being translated into Russian, English, Spanish, French and Portuguese to avoid any confusion in the reporting of the case, which has captured worldwide media attention.

The trial could last for up to a week and, according to the Angolan "Revolutionary Penal Legislation" mercenary charges could result in anything from an "oral warning to death by firing squad".

Courtesy BBC News

## IN CONTEXT

At the end of the trial three Britons and an American were sentenced to death by firing squad for their part in the murders of fellow mercenaries. They were killed on 10 July.

The others on trial received prison sentences ranging from 16 to 30 years.

Civil war broke out after Angola gained independence from Portugal in 1975.

Rival groups Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) fought for the right to rule Angola when it separated from Portugal.

In April 2002 the Angolan army and Unita signed a formal ceasefire in Luanda to end the 27-year conflict.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

**YOUR STARS**

**ARIES**  
**Mar. 21-Apr. 19**  
 Let other people travel the well-worn highways of life, never doing anything that scares them. For you, today, it's all about making your own way and facing unfamiliar challenges. You can do it!

**TAURUS**  
**Apr. 20-May. 20**  
 It will only help you waste your money. You need to focus on any challenges you encounter the right way. They will take hard work, but hard work is the only way to get things done once and for all.

**GEMINI**  
**May. 21-Jun. 21**  
 Observe the environment around you closely today, especially if there are people around. It will be fun as well as educational, and even maybe a little inspiring.

**CANCER**  
**Jun. 22-Jul. 22**  
 Divulge only as much as you want. They will probably be able to guess the rest. If you share too much too soon, the conversation could dissolve into a mutual whine-fest, and no one wants that.

**LEO**  
**Jul. 23-Aug. 22**  
 The people around you today don't seem like they're saying what they truly mean. Could they be holding their tongue because they're afraid of hurting your feelings or ticking you off?

**VIRGO**  
**Aug. 23-Sep. 22**  
 There's a good feeling attached to the energy today, allowing you to take full advantage of all the possibilities life throws your way. Let things develop at their own pace instead of trying to rush things.

**LIBRA**  
**Sep. 23-Oct. 22**  
 Try to be more expressive about how you feel by writing a poem, making them a little gift, or creating a card that is more genuine than anything from a store.

**SCORPIO**  
**Oct. 23-Nov. 21**  
 Today, that nagging feeling you've been having about something or someone should start to fade away. All of your worries were unfounded, which will become evident by the end of today.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
**Nov. 22-Dec. 21**  
 Today, all of your choices and ideas could have everyone buzzing with admiration, and maybe even just a bit of jealousy. But you can't let other people's envy get you down.

**CAPRICORN**  
**Dec. 22-Jan. 19**  
 It wouldn't hurt you to have a little more discipline in your life, so why are you so annoyed by the prospect of following the rules? Knowing what is right and what is wrong doesn't have to feel stifling.

**AQUARIUS**  
**Jan. 20-Feb. 18**  
 The advice you give to friends today might not be warmly received, but it will sink in nevertheless. Don't think that just because they don't thank you for what you said that they didn't listen to it.

**PISCES**  
**Feb. 19-Mar. 20**  
 The energy is lively today, giving your spirits a lift and bringing out your inner artist. You'll feel your zeal return, which can propel you forward if you've felt stuck in a rut for an extended period of time.

**The Born Loser by Chip Sansom**



**SUDOKU**

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

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

**WEATHER**

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
<b>CHINA</b>			
Beijing	21	30	thundershower
Harbin	14	27	cloudy
Tianjin	22	30	clear
Urumqi	18	27	cloudy
Xi'an	19	27	drizzle
Lhasa	13	26	cloudy
Chengdu	22	30	overcast
Chongqing	24	30	drizzle
Kunming	18	28	cloudy
Nanjing	25	32	cloudy
Shanghai	25	31	overcast
Wuhan	24	32	drizzle
Hangzhou	25	32	drizzle
Taipei	25	29	drizzle
Guangzhou	25	33	thundershower
Hong Kong	28	32	cloudy
<b>WORLD</b>			
Moscow	17	30	clear
Frankfurt	13	20	drizzle
Paris	13	21	drizzle
London	12	16	drizzle
New York	24	31	drizzle

**CROSSWORDS**

**ACROSS:** 1- Basics; 5- Unit of magnetic induction; 10- Offers a price; 14- Lacking slack; 15- Devoured; 16- Sea east of the Caspian; 17- Code word for A; 18- Yoga posture; 19- Wife of a rajah; 20- Dissimilar; 22- Girder; 23- Rx watchdog; 24- U of U athlete; 25- Go along with; 29- Set apart; 33- Feel grief; 34- Lacoste of tennis; 36- Not so much; 37- Mantric syllables; 38- Broadcaster; 39- Posed; 40- Network of nerves; 42- Change direction; 43- Idolize; 45- Spencer; 47- Walk aimlessly; 49- the season...; 50- Unit of resistance; 51- Ring-tailed primate; 54- Crassitude; 60- Length times width; 61- Hotelier Helmsley; 62- Fort \_\_\_\_, captured by U.S. forces in 1814; 63- Are you \_\_\_\_, out?; 64- Cinder; 65- Cpls.' superiors; 66- Like grass in the morning; 67- Short literary composition; 68- Flat sound;

**DOWN:** 1- Somewhat; 2- Java neighbor; 3- Wristband; 4- Employee; 5- Try to shred; 6- The life of Riley; 7- Ollie's partner; 8- Pre-Easter season; 9- "SNL" alum Gasteyer; 10- Weightlifting apparatus; 11- Dies \_\_; 12- Comic Carvey; 13- Meager; 21- Land west of Nod; 22- Skater Midori; 24- Addict; 25- Lifeless; 26- Private Pyle; 27- Old cars, often; 28- Bay window; 29- Like helium; 30- Man of morals; 31- Former Russian rulers; 32- Lauder of cosmetics; 35- Before; 38- Budget rival; 41- Tidal river; 43- Contented sighs; 44- Gloom; 46- Televisive; 48- Series of prayers; 51- Put down; 52- Sea eagle; 53- Feline line; 54- Precious stones; 55- Holds up; 56- Fit for service; 57- Energy units; 58- Takes a load off; 59- Cong. meeting; 61- Levi's rival;

**Yesterday's solution**

P	I	E	D	A	B	B	E	D	A	T	E
E	C	R	U	S	L	A	N	T	E	T	O
N	E	A	R	P	O	N	D	S	V	I	N
A	H	E	A	D	U	T	O	P	I	A	
A	I	L	M	E	N	T	A	N	A	N	A
S	N	E	E	R	S	A	M	A	R	E	T
S	H	A	N	E	A	D	A	M	S	E	R
I	A	N	O	M	A	N	I	E	N	G	
S	L	E	D	P	A	R	A	V	E	R	S
T	E	R	R	A	P	T	I	N	P	I	G
T	R	A	N	O	N	W	A	G	O		
C	L	O	W	N	S	M	A	J	A	S	
L	O	N	I	E	N	O	L	A	I	S	E
A	R	A	N	S	A	L	E	M	S	I	R
M	I	N	G	H	E	R	A	T	S	A	R

**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

- Emergency calls 999
- Fire department 28 572 222
- PJ (Open line) 993
- PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
- PSP 28 573 333
- Customs 28 559 944
- S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
- Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
- Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
- IAM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
- Airport 59 888 88
- Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
- Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
- Telephone - Report 1000
- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
- Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



<p><b>FOR SALE</b></p>  <p><b>Large 3/4 Bedroom Apartment, Coloane</b>                  HK\$12,980,000 2,530 ft² 3 1/2 2 1/2</p>	<p><b>FOR RENT</b></p>  <p><b>Manhattan Apartment, Taipa</b>                  \$19,800/mth 1,626 ft² 3 1/2 2 1/2</p>	<p><b>FOR SALE</b></p> <p>[Macau] Apartment Historical Centre 2 1/2 1 1/2                  840 ft² \$4,580,000 (ref: 20016003)</p> <p>[Coloane] Hellene Gardens 1 3 1/2 2 1/2                  1,663 ft² \$8,200,000 (ref: 19025577)</p> <p>[Taipa] Taipa Village (2 units) 4 1/2 2 1/2                  1,404 ft² \$8,380,000 (ref: 19096006)</p> <p>[Macau] Seaview Garden 3 1/2 2 1/2                  1,420 ft² \$10,900,000 (ref: 20016004)</p>	<p><b>FOR RENT</b></p> <p>[Macau] Lakeview Mansion Car Park 1                  \$3,800/mth (ref: 20041001)</p> <p>[Coloane] Grand Coloane Resort 1 1/2 1 1/2                  710 ft² \$10,000/mth (ref: 20021002)</p> <p>[Macau] Vai Fung Triplex, Macau 2 1/2 2 1/2                  1,065 ft² \$14,000/mth (ref: 19121001)</p> <p>[Taipa] Great View Apartment 4 1/2 2 1/2                  2,060 ft² \$28,000/mth (ref: 20031001)</p>	<p><b>jml property</b>                  卓雅物業                  SINCE 1994</p> <p><b>(853) 2835 2699</b>                  hello@jmlproperty.com                  www.jmlproperty.com</p> <p>f jmlmacau @ jmlproperty</p>
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## The Art of Giving

Lurdes de Sousa \*



### MODERN PHILANTHROPY: LOCAL KNOWLEDGE AND LEGACY

**I**N his interpretative essay on the construction of the self, cultural anthropologist Clifford Geertz established a landmark notion in the understanding of local cultures, explaining the importance of shared cultural symbolism through his best seller "Local knowledge: further essays in interpretative anthropology", first published in 1985. The book and its author, whose fieldwork in Indonesia is legendary, first enlightened cultural anthropology's significance in explaining how the local overtakes the 'global' in the way societies organize and imagine themselves.

Geertz's much debated school of thought on local cultural identities is brought back to life when attempting to understand one's legacy, when the 'local' turns bigger than the 'global'.

When it was announced on May 26 that Stanley Ho had passed away, international media described him as the gaming "Moghul", the "King", the "Tycoon", "Godfather", or simply the "pioneer", but for locals he will famously be remembered as the man whose legacy transformed a small sleepy fishing enclave into what is today a world class international tourism hub.

What cultural anthropology studied decades ago, regarding the importance of the 'local' versus the 'global', it can be today translated into corporate cultural legacy. Corporate cultural values carried by a leader who actively commits to infusing cultural beliefs into their own behavior is an expression of the power of giving back. Culture is solidified when those at the top of a company consistently act as a model for all employees, inspiring unity that can carry the organization forward and make societies grow by lifting others up.

One of great urban myths of American business history, "what is good for General Motors is good for America," had its local version in Macau and, indeed, what was good for STDM was good for Macau.

Throughout human history, people have sought to overcome the human condition and achieve the only form of immortality reasonably available to us: a legacy that "lives on" after we are gone. Legacies can be established in countless ways, including art (Leonardo da Vinci), literature (William Shakespeare) or even sports. Corporate legacies is a new expression of this footprint.

What the local knowledge will remember about Ho's legacy is that he promised Macau the moon and delivered the moon and much more. He made modern Macau. Much more than his fortune or the many stories about his life, for locals, and foremost for STDM and later SJM employees, he will be remembered as a man who invested in local society with a true sense of love. He personified the power of giving back to society.

On the global stage, he will be remembered as the "Moghul", the "King", the "Tycoon" but for locals he will simply be remembered as the father of Macau. In this regard, his local legacy is much greater than the world's perception of his life.

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## VIRUS PUMMELS GLOBAL ECONOMY, JOBS - EVEN WITHOUT SECOND WAVE

**T**HE virus crisis has triggered the worst global recession in nearly a century - and the pain is not over yet even if there is no second wave of infections, an international economic report warned yesterday.

Hundreds of millions of people have lost their jobs, and the crisis is hitting the poor and young people the hardest, worsening inequalities, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development said in its latest analysis of global economic data.

"It is probably the most uncertain and dramatic outlook since the creation of the OECD," Secretary General Angel Gurría said. "We cannot make projections as we normally do."

In the best-case scenario, if there is no second wave of infections, the agency forecast a glo-

bal drop in economic output of 6% this year, and a rise of 2.8% next year.

If the coronavirus re-emerges later in the year, however, the global economy could shrink 7.6%, the OECD said.

"With or without a second outbreak, the consequences will be severe and long-lasting," the report says.

Global stock markets dropped after the release of the report, which is more downbeat than other forecasts from the likes of the World Bank.

Gurría argued that "presenting the problem as the choice between lives and livelihoods, meaning a choice between health and the economy, is a false dilemma. If the pandemic is not brought under control, there will be no robust economic recovery."

In case of a second wave of contagions, the OECD forecast that the average unemployment rate across the 37 developed countries that it represents would double this year to 10% and see "little recovery" in 2021. In the more optimistic scenario, the figure would be 9.2%. In poorer countries, the numbers are often higher, and informal workers are especially vulnerable.

The agency urged governments to tackle inequalities by investing in health care systems, global cooperation on medical supplies, vaccine and treatments and retraining people whose sectors are the hardest-hit.

The virus has infected 7.2 million people worldwide and killed at least 411,000, according to official figures tallied by Johns Hopkins University. The true toll is believed to be much higher. AP

## Billionaire sells Macy's after making millions on stock rise

**D**ANIEL Kretinsky's bet on Macy's Inc. turned out to be short but profitable, and the Czech billionaire might jump back into the stock again if the price is right.

His Vesa Equity Investment said yesterday [Macau time] it owned 0.7% of the U.S. department-store chain, down from the 5% stake unveiled less than a month ago. The investment, billed as a strategic move at the time, coincided with a 65% surge in the stock. Kretinsky made roughly \$36 million if he bought Macy's shares the day before disclosing his 5% stake and sold them yesterday.

"The reason for our exit certainly isn't lack of confidence in the company's future or in the management's abilities," said Vesa Equity spokesman Daniel Castvaj. "We will continue closely watching Macy's and the U.S. retail market in general and we are not ruling out returning among the shareholders of this company."

Macy's is beginning to reopen stores following weeks of lockdowns. The company just reported a 45% quarterly sales slump and a net loss of \$630 million. Despite the recent rebound, the stock remains down 48% for the year. It was removed from the benchmark S&P 500 Index

in March, and Fitch cut the company's credit rating to junk in April.

Kretinsky is known for making contrarian bets, and he's had a few in the retail sector. Just a week after he disclosed his Macy's stake, Vesa announced it owned 6% of Foot Locker Inc., another U.S. retailer hard hit by the coronavirus pandemic. The billionaire also amassed shares of French grocer Casino Guichard-Perrachon SA last year as it reeled from a long fight with short sellers. That move came after a \$6.5 billion takeover offer for German wholesaler Metro AG was rebuffed. **BLOOMBERG**

## BASEBALL

# More fans, fewer restrictions: Games go on Taiwan ballparks

**T**HE Taiwan baseball league is continuing as a trailblazer for sports resuming after the lockdown in the coronavirus pandemic.

An easing last weekend allows more fans at the ballparks, allows them to sit closer together and consume food and drinks while they're supporting their teams in the Taiwan-based CPBL.

Masks are optional, when seated.

The Taiwan league resumed play in April in empty stadiums while elite sports globally were still in lockdown, and last month started allowing up to 1,000 fans to attend games under strict social distancing measures.

On Sunday, after the government again loosened its COVID-19 restrictions, fans were only required to wear surgical face masks when they weren't in their seats, and the stadiums were allowed to be up to 50% full of fans.

The CPBL is continuing to observe limited social distancing by ordering a one-seat gap be maintained between fans.



The lifting of restrictions was welcomed at Tuesday's game between the defending CPBL champion Rakutan Monkeys and the visiting Uni-Lions in Tainan. Monkeys fan Martha Chen said she could now cheer as much as she wants without a

mask. The Uni-Lions held off a ninth inning rally to beat the defending CPBL champions 7-6.

"From now on, we don't have to wear a mask when we watch a baseball game at the stadium. This allows me to shout out loud as much as I want to cheer for my team," the 31-year-old Chen, an air transport worker, said. "And my kid would not bother me with taking the mask off. Kids find it hard to wear a mask."

Uni-Lions pitcher Logan Darnell said the easing of restrictions on fans made it feel "a lot more like a baseball game".

"Everybody is excited that there's less restrictions on the fans coming in. They make us feel a lot more normal than what is was beforehand," Darnell said. "You had a certain amount of people that can come in, and everybody was spread out. And even before that, when there was nobody in the stands, that was just a different ... different feel. But now that everybody is back and the restrictions are kind of less, it's going feel a lot more like a baseball game for sure."

Taiwan, which has had 433 COVID-19 cases among a population of 23 million, limited the spread by imposing flight restrictions and through contact tracing of anyone who comes near a confirmed patient.

Elite sports leagues are gradually resumed in some countries, mostly without fans in stadiums or with very small crowds under strict physical distancing restrictions. **AP**

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OPINION

World Views

Andrea Felsted, Bloomberg

ZARA'S LATEST FASHIONS WILL BE A POST-COVID HIT

Don't be fooled by red replacing black as this season's color at Zara-owner Inditex SA.

The Spanish fast-fashion behemoth reported its first loss since it went public in 2001 after shutting stores during Covid-19 lockdowns worldwide. But nimble retailers will still prosper as economies open back up again, and Inditex is among them. In fact, with a big investment plan to bolster online sales, the company could well emerge even stronger than before the pandemic.

The world's largest fashion retailer is also aggressively overhauling its store network to focus on more muscular flagships. It has already been closing smaller outlets, while opening fewer, larger stores for the past few years. This will accelerate over the next two years, with between 1,000 and 1,200 stores closed, many belonging to Inditex brands other than Zara, such as Pull&Bear, Oysho and Stradivarius. The aim is to transfer their profit contributions to bigger shops or online.

There are important costs related to that transformation. The first-quarter net loss of 409 million euros (\$465 million) included a 308 million-euro charge for closing stores. And Inditex hasn't been completely insulated by the retail dislocation. Net sales fell 44% in the three months from Feb. 1 to April 30 due to the coronavirus impact.

But Inditex's business model came into its own during the pandemic. Most garments are ordered within the fashion season, and the company, which gets about two-thirds of its revenue from Europe, has kept its supply chain tight. About 60% of products come from manufacturers in Spain, Morocco, Portugal and Turkey.

In early March, the company scaled back purchases when it saw how the pandemic was developing. In early May, it sped them up again to make sure it had enough playsuits and flimsy blouses on hand for June and July. The strategy worked. Inditex actually ended the first quarter with 10% less stock, an impressive feat when other retailers have been saddled with a mountain of unsold spring and summer garments.

At the same time, its online business thrived thanks to efforts including the introduction of radio-frequency-identification technology that tracks where every maxi dress and balloon-sleeve blouse is. This enables online orders to be fulfilled from wherever the stock is, be that in warehouses or stores. As my Bloomberg News colleagues have noted, when shops were closed, Inditex was able to redeploy stock to its digital business. Online sales rose 95% year-on-year in April.

To capitalize on this trend, Inditex will spend 1 billion euros between now and 2022 to bolster its internet sales, and a further 1.7 billion euros upgrading its stores and further integrating them with its digital platform.

Despite its strengths, Inditex has not been immune from the pre-Covid-19 pressure on the apparel retail sector, with women generally buying fewer clothes and cheaper rivals, such as Boohoo Group Plc and Associated British Foods Plc's Primark chain, nipping at its heels. That means the strategic blueprint for the next few years is not without risk.

Zara is not the cheapest clothes retailer, and in tougher economic times the chain could prove too pricey for some cash-strapped consumers. What's more, it could be a tricky time for Inditex to put its faith in big flagships if people emerging from lockdown shun larger stores, malls or city centers. And rivals are not giving up. Even fusty British retailer Marks & Spencer Group Plc said it aimed to speed up its supply chain, including using factories closer to its U.K. market.

But thanks to its strong balance sheet, Inditex should be able to stay ahead. The company had net cash of 5.8 billion euros at the end of the first quarter. While Covid-19 has upended retail, some things should stay the same, including Inditex's superstar status.

A Serbian soccer club denied yesterday that it released a Chinese player after political pressure from Beijing following statements his father made against that country's communist leadership.

Media in Taiwan said that Hao Runze, the son of former China striker Hao Haidong, has been released by Serbian club Radnicki Nis following his father's denouncement of the Chinese Communist Party last week during the anniversary of the 1989 Tiananmen Square crackdown.

In an online video, Hao Haidong read out an 18-point manifesto demanding an end to the current power structure, calling the ruling

party a "terrorist organization" that "tramples on democracy," violates the rule of law and makes contracts it doesn't intend to keep.

Serbia has forged a close political and economic alliance with China after Beijing invested billions of dollars in loans for building the Balkan country's infrastructure.

Radnicki said in a statement that the club parted ways with Hao after his contract, signed earlier this year, expired. He joined the Serbian team from Spanish club Recre Granada.

"Radnicki is dealing with soccer, not politics," the team said. "No one has called Radnicki, nor has pressured the club for him to leave."

ONE GOOD THING

UNEMPLOYED FILIPINA FEEDS OTHER JOBLESS MIGRANTS IN DUBAI

AYA BATRAWY, DUBAI

Febby Dela Peña saw her fellow Filipinos standing in line outside her building in Dubai, waiting for free food. And she was stricken — what if her family, too, had lost their income amid the COVID-19 outbreak? How would she have fed her three children?

Dela Peña is unemployed. "We're poor, to be honest," she said. "But it's not a reason for me not to help, you know?"

So the next day, she pulled out the money that was supposed to feed her family of five for a month. When their 11 housemates got wind of her plan — like most migrant workers in Dubai, the family lives in a shared apartment — those who could chipped in as well.

She was able to buy about 500 dirhams, or \$136, worth of groceries, including 30 frozen chickens and sacks of rice. And she began to cook.

That is how Dela Peña launched the project she calls Ayuda — help, in Filipino, a language heavily influenced by Spanish colonial rule. Each day, she offers 200 free meals to the hungry of Dubai, all of them foreigners, like her own family.

Migrants account for 90% of the workforce in the United Arab Emirates. The economic shutdown that came with COVID-19 has hit their communities hard.

Despite promises by the Philippine government to help overseas workers with a one-time cash assistance, and despite a nationwide "10 million meals" initiative by the government of the United Arab Emirates to feed the poor, many are struggling to secure their next meal.

"Life is so hard and



Febby Cachero Baguisa Dela Pena of Laguna, Philippines, hands out free food to those who need it in Dubai

they don't have anyone to depend on," said Dela Peña, 34.

Dela Peña's a confident cook who used to sell home-made meals to friends as a way to earn extra money. She said she also has a license in food safety.

But cooking 200 meals a day is a massive undertaking, especially with a 6-year-old, a toddler and a baby at home.

The finances are dicey; Dela Peña relies on her husband's modest income from a sales job. But when word of her efforts spread on social media, people began reaching out, dropping off cartons of eggs and bags of rice. An influential Emirati blogger gave her 10,000 dirhams (\$2,700).

She leans on her housemates, husband and her brother-in-law, who was let go from his job in a tea shop amid the pandemic, to help with buying the groceries, thawing the meats, chopping the food and cooking. Ultimately, though, she's in charge.

"It's a big thing if you can help like 10 people not to sleep hungry," she said, as she scooped up cooked rice, fried fish and boiled eggs into containers to distribute.

Her children's wagon is used to deliver the meals each day. It is 3 p.m., and sweltering. A sign on a cardboard box announces: "FREE!!! FOOD FOR EVERYONE."

Some people walk 45 minutes for one of Dela Peña's meals. While most hail from the Philippines, there are also Africans, South Asians and others.

Six Filipino women, who come every day, said they haven't worked or been paid since March when they lost their sales jobs. One of the women, Emma Moraga, said she heard about the meals on social media.

"It's good, because they can help a lot of people," Moraga said. "One meal a day, it's big help."

The crowd lines up. "Social distancing!" Dela Peña says, repeatedly. Mostly, though, people are standing apart and everyone is wearing masks, as is required by law.

She's nervous that authorities in Dubai could stop or fine her for violating laws on public gatherings or the distribution of food. But she intends to feed Dubai's hungry as long as she can.

"If I will stop this," Dela Peña said, "many people will stop eating." AP

**India** The number of coronavirus cases in India continued to rapidly increase yesterday, with officials reporting nearly 10,000 new cases over the past 24 hours. The spike has come as the government moves forward with reopening restaurants, shopping malls and religious places in most of its states after a more than two-month-old lockdown.



**Malaysia** reopened nearly all economic and social activities yesterday after nearly three months of lockdown successfully brought down virus infections. Malaysians can now travel for domestic holidays, get their hair cut and visit street markets, while schools and religious activities will gradually resume. The government says the "recovery" phase will last through August, with certain prohibitions still in place.

**Russia** Moscow's mayor says it will take the Russian capital about two months to lift all coronavirus restrictions. Sergei Sobyenin said the situation in Moscow is improving, but the outbreak hasn't been completely eradicated. He said restrictions on mass gatherings remain, including theaters, cinemas, concert halls and sporting events. A decision whether to lift them will be made the beginning of July.



**Austria** has announced it will open its borders to most European neighbors beginning June 16 with the exceptions of Spain, Portugal, Sweden and Britain. Foreign Minister Alexander Schallenberg also said yesterday that the border with Italy to the south would be open without conditions, but that a travel warning for Austrian citizens is in place for Lombardy.