

14
Y·E·A·R·S
A-CHANGIN'
Double Down!
ADVERTISE WITH US
+853 287 160 81

NEW SME Fiber Broadband Offer
Price Reduction Up to
70% OFF
No need to apply for current users &
ENJOY automatically
CTM

N.º 3944 **MONDAY** T. 10°/ 15° Air Quality Moderate
31 Jan 2022

“THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’”

MOP 8.00
HKD 10.00 2305 4271

ACCORDING TO THE NEWLY APPROVED MASTER PLAN, NEW COMMERCIAL ZONES WILL BE CREATED AND SPACES FOR ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES WILL BE REINFORCED

COVID-19: VACCINATION RECORD TO GO DIGITAL ON APRIL 1

2021'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF LOCALS STOOD AT 3.9%, UP BY 0.3% YEAR-ON-YEAR, AND THE MEDIAN MONTHLY INCOME OF RESIDENTS REMAINED AT MOP20,000

AP PHOTO



North Korea yesterday fired what appeared to be the most powerful missile it has tested since President Joe Biden took office, as it revives its old playbook in brinkmanship to wrest concessions from Washington and neighbors amid a prolonged stalemate in diplomacy. The Japanese and South Korean militaries said the missile was launched on a lofted trajectory, apparently to avoid the territorial spaces of neighbors, and reached a maximum altitude of 2,000 kilometers and traveled 800 kilometers before landing in the sea.

AP PHOTO



Thailand The governor of a province in eastern Thailand declared a state of emergency after an oil slick washed up on a sand beach, shutting down restaurants and shops in a setback for the pandemic-hit tourism industry. Some 20-50 tons of oil are estimated to have leaked last week in the Gulf of Thailand from an undersea hose used to load tankers at an offshore mooring point owned by the Star Petroleum Refining Co.

AP PHOTO



New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said she is self-isolating after coming into close contact with a person infected with the coronavirus. The exposure came on a flight from the town of Kerikeri to the largest city of Auckland. New Zealand's Governor-General Cindy Kiro was also on the Jan. 22 flight and has also gone into isolation. Both women had been in the Northland region to do some filming ahead of New Zealand's national day.

More on backpage



CLEANING THE HOUSE

Another junket boss and an associate were arrested by the police in the course of the investigations linked to Suncity's case

ANTHONY LAM

CNY

CELEBRATIONS, PREDICTIONS OF YEAR OF THE BLACK-WATER TIGER

AP PHOTO



P3,12-13

ANTHONY LAM



TAK CHUN BOSS ARRESTED OVER ILLEGAL GAMBLING OPERATIONS

ANTHONY LAM

TWO suspects from an illegal gambling syndicate connected to the investigations of the Suncity case have been arrested, the Judiciary Police (PJ) told a special press conference yesterday morning.

The suspects are Levo Chan Weng Lin, owner of junket operator Tak Chun Group, as well as Choi Wai Chan, president of Ying Hai Group. The two groups are commercial associates.

Levo Chan is the major shareholder and co-chairman of Macau Legend Development Ltd.

The police disclosed that in the follow-up investigations on a similar case last November, the authority discovered that the two suspects allegedly conducted illegal activities.

Last November's case referred to by the police was the arrest of Alvin Chau.

The duo was suspected of operating illegal online gambling and

side-betting activities. The PJ said that Chan was the main operator and Choi provided support.

On January 28, when deemed appropriate timing by the PJ, an arrest was made at a hotel in the NAPE District. News outlet Allin Media reported the location to be the Waldo Hotel, opposite Sands Macao.

During the investigation, the suspects failed to cooperate, according to the police, who said that they found a significant amount of evidence in their offices and resi-

dences. The evidence came in the form of computer data, print documents and cash.

After the press conference, the two suspects were transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office. They were charged with the crimes of operating a criminal syndicate, illegal operation of gambling activities and money laundering.

A series of announcements had previously been made by gambling concessionaires that operations with junket operators would be

terminated. Tak Chun Group then announced the cessation of operations of its VIP gambling rooms.

Meanwhile, Levo Chan's wife, Taiwanese entertainer Ady An, issued a statement through her management agent in Taiwan, declining to comment on personal matters, as reported by several news outlets.

Last night, Macau Legend issued a statement noting, "The board is aware of the arrest and detainment of Chan Weng Lin an executive director, the co-chairman of the board, the chief executive officer and a controlling shareholder of the company, by the Macau Judicial Police."

"The board is of the view that as the group is operated by a team of management personnel and the above incident relates to the personal affairs of Chan and not related to the group, the board does not expect the above incident to have a material adverse impact on the daily operations of the group," the statement read.

Previously, Steve Vickers, specialist in Political and Corporate Risk Consultancy and CEO of Steve Vickers and Associates (SVA) told the Times after the arrest of Suncity CEO that these forthcoming regulatory shifts signaled an end to some or all of the junket business, which has "led to an escalation of efforts by certain junket operators to raise gaming revenues directly on the mainland and to engage in unlawful gaming: both on the mainland and via proxy gaming operations in South East Asia."

COVID-19

Chinese health authority slams home-travel restrictions during CNY

THE National Health Commission (NHC) of China announced a series of guidelines last week which banned restrictions on home-travel during the Lunar New Year.

Lunar New Year is the annual period during which masses of the mainland's working class travel to their native homes to celebrate the most important festival in Chinese culture.

It has been rumored that restrictions were levied to block home travel, citing Covid-19 control as an excuse.

In response, a NHC spokesperson, during a press briefing, slammed restrictions levied on residents in or from low-risk areas. The spokesperson stressed that authorities should not expand restricted areas "as they please."

Coincidentally, following the NHC announcement, the local Novel Coronavirus Response and Coordination Centre issued a guideline, overhauling the "discouragement of festive gatherings" it had previously strongly advised earlier this year due to the recent

Covid-19 outbreak in neighboring regions.

Besides giving a greenlight to festive gatherings, the guideline highlights several points of note to the public. For example, when they have festive gatherings, they should wear masks and maintain social distancing. They should only take off their masks when they eat or drink.

Independent utensils should be used when sharing portions of food.

People with Covid-19 symptoms or those who have been in high-risk areas

should avoid participating in such gatherings. Nucleic acid test (NAT) results should be presented by attendees at gatherings with more than 400 people.

A returnee from Switzerland has been tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 without any symptoms. She is not counted as a case for the time being.

The 19-year-old was double vaccinated with mRNA vaccines in Macau in July and August last year, before travelling to Switzerland for studies. She has a travel history in Europe.

XINHUA



She boarded a flight in Zurich on January 28 and arrived in Macau on January 29. She has been admitted to the Public Health Clinical Centre in Coloane

for quarantine.

Currently, entrants from Zhuhai or Shenzhen into Macau will need to bear negative NAT results taken within 48 hours. **AL**

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

REACHING OUT!

+21,000

Like us on facebook.com/mdtimes



MacauDaily 澳門每日時報
Times

DIRECTOR & EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
ASSISTANT EDITOR Lynzy Valles
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Leanda Lee, Severo Portela, Sheyla Zandonai

NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS Alex Torrao, Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Anthony Lam, Emilie Tran, Irene Sam, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, Jing Wu, João Palla Martins, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Risdon, Linda Kennedy, Paulo Cordeiro de Sousa, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Viviana Segui
DESIGNERS Eva Bucho, Miguel Bandeira | **ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS** JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | **NEWS AGENCIES** Associated Press, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua
SECRETARY Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

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

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com

OFFICE MANAGER Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com

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

Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com

For subscription and general issues:

general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

AP PHOTO



Ushering in the Year of the Tiger with series of events

JING WU

TO usher in the Year of the Tiger, the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) will organize Chinese New Year (CNY) festivities including the Golden Dragon Parade, Parade for Celebration of the Year of the Tiger, fireworks and CNY related events to celebrate the Spring Festival.

THE GOLDEN DRAGON PARADE

The Golden Dragon Parade will be held on the first two days of the Lunar New Year. The God of Fortune, the three Gods of Happiness, Prosperity and Longevity, Entourage Boy and Girl, the Chinese Zodiac Mascot of the Tiger and other legendary figures will distribute golden ingots across the city.

"Dance performances will be arranged at designated locations to further enliven the city with festive vibes, conveying warm wishes to Macau residents and visitors during the Spring Festival," the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) stated.

The festivities will be kicked-off with the Golden Dragon Parade at the Ruins of St. Paul's on February 1.

At 10:30 a.m., the God of Fortune will distribute golden ingots to symbolize happiness and riches.

At 11:00 a.m., officials from the MGTO, the Municipal Affairs Bureau and the Cultural Affairs Bureau will officiate the eye-do-

ting ceremony of the golden dragon and dancing lions.

The 238-meter-long golden dragon, joined by 18 dancing lions, will move in an undulating manner past the following locations: the Ruins of St. Paul's, Senado Square, Calçada do Tronco Velho, St. Augustine's Square, Rua Central, Travessa do Paiva, Sede do Governo, Travessa do Padre Narciso, St. Lawrence's Church, Lilau Square, Rua da Barra, A-Ma Temple, Avenida Panorâmica do Lago Sai Van, roundabout at Nam Van Lake and Sai Van Lake Square. According to the MGTO, this is "to spread the festive wishes to all residents and visitors in Macau."

CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES

On the first two days of the Lunar New Year, dance performances will take place at Largo do Pagode da Barra, the Ruins of St. Paul's, Largo do Pagode do Bazar and Taipa Houses. Guizhou Congjiang Ethnic Art Troupe will be one of the performance groups.

Lion dance performances

will be held at the following locations at different time slots: Anim'Arte Nam Van, Largo do Pagode do Bazar, Rotunda de Carlos da Maia, Carmo Fair in Taipa, Senado Square, A-Ma Temple, Taipa Houses, Barrier Gate, Qingmao Frontier Post and Leisure Area in Rua do General Ivens Ferraz.

PARADE FOR CELEBRATION OF THE YEAR OF THE TIGER

The mega Lunar New Year celebration event — "2022 Parade for Celebration of the Year of the Tiger" including firework shows, float exhibitions and an online prize-giving — will be presented by the MGTO.

"The 2022 Parade for Celebration of the Year of the Tiger" will be held at the central and northern districts on February 3 and 12.

There will be 14 floats in the parade, seven from the government departments and seven from the local private sectors. There will also be 22 groups of performance artists from Macau and mainland China.

According to the MGTO, the parade's theme is "Turning the

fortune by the mighty tiger." The 2022 Parade for Celebration of the Year of the Tiger will revolve around the story of the "Tiger General's victory over a winged (epidemic) beast."

"A multimedia dance drama under the same theme will weave the 'dazzling floats' and 'wonderful' performances by various teams into a 'splendid extravaganza'," the MGTO described.

THREE FIREWORK SHOWS

A fireworks show will dazzle the skyline above the sea overlooked by the Macau Tower at 9:45 p.m. on the third night of the Lunar New Year.

In addition, two other fireworks shows will take place at 9 p.m. on February 7, known as "Renri" of the Lunar New Year as well as during the Lantern Festival on February 15 to spark greater festive joy for Chinese New Year.

The authorities said the fireworks are set off to "convey festive blessings and wishes for the Olympic Games Beijing 2022 to be held smoothly and to spark greater festive joy for Chinese New Year."

FLOATS EXHIBITION

The floats of the Parade will be on display at the seafront next to the Macao Science Center from February 4 to 11 and at the Tap Seac Square from February 13 to 20. Admission is free to the public.

CNY'S 'STAY, DINE AND SEE MACAO'

The MGTO announced that in tandem with the three fireworks shows on the third and seventh day of the Lunar New Year and during the Lantern Festival, the "Stay, Dine and See Macao" project will bring forth limited tours for Chinese New Year, enabling residents to enjoy fireworks from two different angles.

The two itineraries for the CNY limited tours include fireworks on a cruise where participants can have buffet dinner on the Macau Cruise.

"They can also enjoy the sight of festive-seasonal flowers at the Taipa Houses, one of Macao's eight scenic spots, and learn more about the Macanese culture at the Taipa Houses Museum," the MGTO indicated.

The other is at Penha Hill, where a buffet dinner at the restaurant midway up Penha Hill will be featured.

Participants for the tour will also visit the Spring Festival floral exhibition at the Taipa Houses and the Taipa Houses Museum.

The Chinese New Year limited tours will be available only during the third day and seventh day of the Lunar New Year and during the Lantern Festival, on February 3, 7 and 15.

The MGTO encourages interested residents are advised to sign up as soon as possible to create special memories with family and friends during the Spring Festival.

CNY MARKET AND FIRECRACKERS

The CNY Market located at Tap Seac Square will run from January 25 to 30 from 9 a.m. to 12 a.m. and January 31 to February 1 from 9 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Temporary stalls selling incense and pinwheels are located by the waterfront in Largo do Pagode da Barra from 6 p.m. today until midnight, and thereafter from early morning to 6:30 p.m. until February 7.

Firecrackers, fireworks and rockets will be sold and can be lit from February 1 to 5 from 10 a.m. to midnight at the Avenida Dr. Sun Yat-Sen (the reclaimed land for the new urban area near the Macau Tower), Estrada Almirante Marques Esparteiro, and Taipa (near the waterfront).

CELEBRATION PARADE FOR THE YEAR OF THE TIGER

THURSDAY, February 3 | 8:00 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.
Parade route: Sai Van Lake Square - Av. Dr. Sun Yat-Sen - Macao Science Center

SATURDAY, February 12 | 8:00 p.m. to 9:45 p.m.
Parade route: Rua Norte do Patane - Av.

do Conselheiro Borja - Estrada do Arco Estrada da Areia Preta - Av. de Vencesláu de Moraes - Rua Quatro do Bairro da Areia Preta - Av. da Longevidade - Rua do Mercado de Iao Hon - Iao Hon Market Garden

CNY CELEBRATION BUDGET AT MOP30 MILLION

THE government's budget for the upcoming festive events this Chinese New Year is MOP30 million. The Chinese New Year Parade will take up most of approximately MOP25.5 million, while the fireworks display will cost the government some MOP3.6 million.

Wishing you a
Healthy and Happy
Chinese New Year

Wynn 永利



Wynn: Incorporating Innovative Technology to build a Green Macau

WYNN enthusiastically strives to fulfil its corporate social responsibilities by continuing to invest in smart initiatives to protect the environment and promote the sustainable development of the hotel industry. These measures range from emission and waste reduction to water and energy saving, all of which demonstrate Wynn's commitment to the provision of five-star service and construction of a greener Macao by improving the industry's operational standards for sustainability.

FIRST RESORT IN MACAU TO INTRODUCE NORDAQ WATER FILTRATION SYSTEM

Wynn has worked closely with internationally acclaimed Swedish company Nordaq over the past two years to co-design and develop the "Nordaq 2000" to tackle the high demand for water bottles in large-scale integrated resorts. Wynn has become the first integrated resort in the world to install and operate an on-site Nordaq automated water bottling plant on a significant scale, which can fill 2,000 bottles of water per hour and is expected to save 8 million plastic bottles every year.

After initially adopting Nordaq's distilled and sparkling water in its food and beverage operations across the board at Wynn Macau and Wynn Palace in 2019, the company plans to expand this initiative to all hotel operations in the future, which will be used to refill water bottles in more than 2,700 guest rooms across its two properties.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO MANAGE FOOD WASTE

Since 2019, Wynn has been working with innovative technology company Winnow to become Macao's first integrated



Wynn uses 'Winnow Vision', an AI-based monitoring technology to help track, measure and reduce food waste.



Wynn was the first integrated resort in Macau to develop an automated water refilling system with Nordaq.



resort to introduce "Winnow Vision" – the most advanced food waste technology on the market. Wynn has now installed more than 10 Food Waste Reduction System at Wynn Macau and Wynn Palace, covering 70% of its catering operations.

The groundbreaking "Winnow Vision" system uses AI-

powered vision-based monitoring technology to track and measure what food is going to waste. Its data-driven analysis enables the catering team to understand what categories of foods are going to waste, allowing them to immediately adjust menus and the quantity of ingredients being purchased.

SPONSORING EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO IMPLEMENT NEW GREEN TECHNOLOGIES

Wynn is also promoting the Food Waste Reduction System powered by Winnow Vision in local educational institutions by sponsoring the installation of a one such device at the Macao Institute for Tourism Studies.

This helps to further promote the effective utilization of food resources and implementation of environmental initiatives.

Wynn also organizes ecological tours for local schools, universities, enterprises, and community groups to help to promote care for the environment and awareness of sustainable development. Participants visit the back-of-house areas in the resort where they can witness first-hand the innovative environmental facilities operated by Wynn, including the "Winnow Vision" food waste management system, the Nordaq water filtration system, and a vertical aquaponics system. Through this sharing, different sectors of society can also be encouraged to implement similar measures.

DONATING FOOD TO BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY

In order to promote environmental protection and recycling, Wynn introduced food donation initiatives two years ago by regularly sharing fruits with social service organizations. Beneficiaries include Escola de S. Jose Ka Ho, Richmond Fellowship of Macau, Escola Caritas de Macau, "Lok In" Elderly Service Centre of the Women's General Association of Macau, among others.

One particular beneficiary is the Fuhong Society of Macau, a close partner of Wynn, who repurposed Wynn's fruit and transformed it into infused fruit tea, apple chips, and soup packages which have become signature products at its restaurant. This cross-field cooperation not only reduces food waste, but also provides job opportunities for members of the Society who have recovered after undergoing rehabilitation for mental illness.

Food ingredients that cannot be converted or donated will be used as compost. Once installed, the food waste processors can convert up to one metric ton of food waste and coffee grounds into fertilizer each day, providing rich nourishment for plant life at the resorts.



Fuhong Society of Macau, a close partner of Wynn, repurposed Wynn's fruits and transformed them into infused fruit tea, apple chips, and soup packages.



Wynn organizes ecological tours for local students to promote care for the environment.

Gov't approves city's 20-year Urban Master Plan

JING WU

THE Executive Council, on Friday, approved the Master Plan 2020-2040, which integrates the commercial, industrial and tourism and entertainment districts as land use categories for economic activities.

According to the urban master plan, new commercial zones will be created and spaces for economic activities will be reinforced, namely at the Portas do Cerco, the Administration Area of the Macao Border Post of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, the former Cotai Border Post, the Inner Harbour and Venceslau de Morais Avenue, in order to promote regional cooperation and economic development at border crossings.

Commercial zones are essentially intended to accommodate trade and service activities, such as offices, financial activities, retail sales, restaurants, conventions and exhibitions, so as to "create conditions for the proper diversification" of the economy and the growth of emerging and cutting-edge industries, in conjunction with the creation of housing areas,



the Executive Council, Andre Cheong said at the press conference on Friday.

The area aims to create conditions to "encourage people to work in the areas where they live and to promote a balance between professional and residential functions." Cheong added.

NON-URBANIZATION ZONE

In the non-urbanization zone, the Master Plan has proposed to preserve the hills, waters and wetlands of the Macao SAR, in order to protect natural resources and those with scenic, archaeological, cultural or historical values, as well as Macau's biodiversity.

The government said that the Master Plan intends to create green or public open spaces in the East - 2 UOPG, Outer Harbour Area - 2 UOPG and North Taipa - 1 UOPG through the New Urban Landfill Plan, as well as to maintain the large green or public open spaces in the Coloane UOPG.

In relation to the land that is currently dispersed and destined for industry, it will be concentrated in the Ilha Verde Cross-border Industrial Park, the Pac On Industrial Park, the Concordia Industrial Park in Coloane and the Ká-Hó Industrial Park, with incentives for modernization and industrial development.

Furthermore, the land originally intended for industrial activities, located in residential areas, "will be released for non-industrial purposes, in order to gradually mitigate the 'social problems' caused by the proximity between industrial and residential areas, thus 'improving living conditions,'" Cheong explained.

The Master Plan intervention area is divided into 18 Planning and Management Operating Units, which are classified as urban and non-urban areas, the latter representing around 18% of the total area, the authority said.

Cheong also stated that the Master Plan is based on the development goals of the MSAR, with a view to promote Macau's integration into the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, support diversified industrial development and protect Macau's historical and cultural heritage.

The city's development strategy is based on the development of a "World Centre for Tourism and Leisure" and a "Beautiful Home", that serve as the reference framework for the preparation of detailed plans, Cheong stressed.

The administrative regulation shall come into effect on the day following its publication.

Hengqin incubation facility operator mulls investments on the island

ANTHONY LAM

THE operator of a business incubation facility on Hengqin Island enticed members of the audience to invest in the island at a commercial event, dubbing it a "now or never" opportunity.

David Cheang, head of AHA HK & Macau Youth Incubation Center, presented yesterday his impressions of the Guangdong-Macao Intensive Cooperation Zone in Hengqin to business personnel at a recent breakfast briefing hosted by the France Macau Chamber of Commerce.

Cheang hinted at the potential and prosperity of the island several times during his 45-minute presentation on the zone, where he operates a business facility.

He highlighted the identifying advantage of Heng-

qin, as disclosed by the government previously, as the access to websites and web services such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and WhatsApp, currently categorized in other parts of China as illegal. This could be very appealing to an audience of which nearly half were non-Chinese.

Another advantage of the island, according to the business facility operator, is its hybrid position. It is a piece of land under Chinese law but levying Macau tax levels.

"The plan for building the Zone has indicated that by 2024 the regulations and mechanisms will be [made similar] to those in Macau," Cheang pointed out. "The authorities in Hengqin will make more policies to synchronise the system with Macau's."

"I think Hengqin will be

a very good location to do trading business," he insisted.

Another question is whether these policies on Hengqin will affect Macau's economy. With such a preferential system, location, workforce and administration, certain members of the audience expressed anxiety that Hengqin will overtake Macau, instead of act in a collaborative and complementary position with Macau.

"From a macroeconomic perspective, Hengqin's GDP will be shared with Macau," Cheang said. "My opinion is whether entrepreneurs in Macau should consider entering Hengqin now, establishing early channels for trades."

Taxation is among the further reasons that the business operator has a good outlook over Hengqin

commercially.

"In the future, if we export local products to Hengqin, the practice will be free from taxation," he said. "In this case, I think we [should] relocate certain procedures, productions or operations to Hengqin in order to lower our costs."

He pointed out that produce transported from other parts of mainland China to Hengqin will technically be considered domestic movement, which will be very cost-efficient.

Moreover, as the mainland workforce in Hengqin will be considered a local workforce, in contrast to a non-resident workforce in Macau requiring more legal procedures, greater development can be expected in certain sectors.

"At the end of the day, these factors will help lower



entrepreneurs' costs," he concluded.

On the question of how foreign and mainland financial investors can coexist on Hengqin, Cheang believes there are policies to facilitate this.

"I think Hengqin has changed policies to allow foreign investors to invest in Hengqin, including financial institutions," he said, citing Macau's Luso International Bank as example.

"[The bank] restructured their shares to allow them to develop in [the] mainland," he explained. "For bond issuance, I think there will be free capital flow so as to facilitate the Macau Stock Exchange to be located on Hengqin."

"Once [synchronization with Macau] is achieved, I think Hengqin will become internationally recognized," Cheang added. "The recognition of this position will be gradual."

SANDS CHINA WISHES YOU

A HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR

FILLED WITH HOPE, JOY AND GOOD HEALTH



MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

Vaccination record to go digital on April 1

ANTHONY LAM

MACAU'S vaccination record will transition to a digital format from April 1 as an Executive Regulation takes effect on the same day, the Executive Council (ExCo) has recently announced.

A new version of the system governing vaccination has been discussed and concluded by the ExCo. As the new system comes into effect in April, the existing version – Executive Regulation No. 16/2008 – will be voided.

The core of the new version is to support the city's digital governance. It is stipulated that after the promulgation of the Executive Regulation, the vaccination record will be published either digitally or physically. The regulation will leave room for it to be published in both manners.

As such, when a person receives a vaccination, the record should be updated digitally. When a print version of the record is required, the entries will be based on the digital version. A specific platform will be established for this purpose.

Meanwhile, the regulation also stipulates that Macau residents will receive certain vaccines free-of-charge. The types of vaccines will be publicized as Executive Orders. Moreover, the director of the Health Bureau (SSM) is vested with the power to waive vaccination charges – completely or partially – on certain people based on certain considerations.

Medical staff must report severe adverse effects following immunization (AEFI) within 24 hours.

The regulation categorizes vaccines into three types: the regular type, the non-regular type and the disease-specific type. According to Lo, the Covid-19 vaccine will be a non-regular type.

At the press briefing announcing the conclusion of the Executive Regulation, SSM's director Alvis Lo introduced that regular vaccines are those that should be taken at early ages, such as Bacillus Calmette-Guérin and hepatitis vaccines. On the other hand, Covid-19 and Influenza vaccine shots are categorized as non-regular vaccines.

Given the inclusion of the Covid-19 vaccine in the regulation,



the official was asked if it implies promoting vaccinations. Lo responded that "the regulation is irrelevant to promoting vaccination," recapping the core of the regulation is to promote digital governance.

Furthermore, when asked

whether the regulation is a hint on mandatory vaccination, Lo said that promoting vaccination "at this stage" will be done through education, as well as improving access to vaccines and providing free-of-charge vaccines.

Further restrictions related

to Covid-19, such as job before dining-in, will be founded by the Contagious Disease Prevention and Control Law and the Charter of the SSM, ExCo spokesperson André Cheong, who is also secretary for administration and justice, told the press conference.

AD

2022農曆新年花車匯演

Parada de Celebração do Ano do Tigre Parade for Celebration of the Year of the Tiger

五穀豐登福壽長

百業興旺財源廣

福虎生威 轉乾坤

正月十二
02.12
20:00-21:30

路線 Percorso Route

沙梨頭北街
Rua Norte do Patane

青洲大馬路
Av. do Conselheiro Borja

拱形馬路
Estrada do Arco

黑沙環馬路
Estrada da Areia Preta

慕拉士大馬路
Av. de Venceslau de Moraes

黑沙環第四街
Rua Quatro do Bairro da Areia Preta

長壽大馬路
Av. da Longevidade

市場街
Rua do Mercado de Iao Hon

祐漢街市公園
Jardim do Mercado Municipal de Iao Hon

正月初三
02.03
20:00-22:00

路線 Percorso Route

西湖湖濱
Praça do Lago Sai Van

孫逸仙大馬路
Av. Dr. Sun Yat Sen

澳門科學館
Centro de Ciência de Macau

主辦單位 Organizador Organizer

協辦單位 Coorganizador Coorganizer

支持單位 Entidade de Apoio Supporting Entities

大會指定合作專用車 Marca de Apoio Oficial Official Co-branding Motor

贊助單位 Patrocinadores Sponsors

WISHING YOU A BOUNTIFUL AND
AUSPICIOUS YEAR OF THE TIGER
KUNG HEI FAT CHOI



星際酒店
StarWorld Hotel



WWW.GALAXYENTERTAINMENT.COM

CTM WAIVES DATA FEE FOR HEALTH CODE USAGE

CTM has announced that it will waive mobile data fees for its customers when using the Macao Health Code app. In a text message sent to its mobile network customers, the telecom firm said that starting from February 1, CTM postpaid and prepaid mobile customers can register to waive the local data usage when using the Macao Health Code app. The moves were in a bid to support Covid-19 pandemic prevention measures.

MINIMUM 12 DEGREE CELSIUS THIS CNY

The weather bureau issued a yellow cold weather alert as it expects cold weather in the city for the next couple of days. The winter monsoon will continue to affect Macau during the Lunar New Year holidays from tomorrow until February 3. The minimum temperature will remain at 12 degrees Celsius or below. Since the weather forecast will be cloudy and rainy, the perceived temperature will be much lower than the actual temperature.

Unemployment rate dips to 3.9%

JING WU

IN 2021, the unemployment rate of local residents stood at 3.9%, up by 0.3% year-on-year, and the median monthly income of the locals remained at MOP20,000, according to the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

The figure shows a record low since 2009.

The general unemployment rate was 2.9% in 2021, up by 0.4% year-on-year. The median monthly employment earnings of those employed was MOP15,800.

With regards to household employment indicators, the average number of employed persons per household was 1.6 in 2021, the same as in 2020; median monthly employment earnings per household increased by MOP500 year-on-year to MOP28,000.

The labor force living in Macau totaled 389,000 and the participation rate of the labor force was 69.0%. The total number of employed people in Macau was 377,100 and the number of employed residents totaled 282,500, up by 1,200 and 1,600 respectively from the previous period.

The number of unemployed locals increased by 900 from the



previous period to 11,900. Among those unemployed locals searching for new jobs, most were previously engaged in Gaming and Junket activities, and in the construction sector. Meanwhile, the proportion of new labor market entrants seeking their first job decreased by 2.3% to

10.8% of the total unemployed.

Recently, the Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL) stated that the lack of professional skills and willingness to learn new skills and techniques are the reasons why the employability rate of local construction workers is low in 2021.

According to the DSAL, in 78% of the cases in which the bureau tried unsuccessfully to help employ workers, they did not get an interview "mainly because they did not pass the techniques test or dropped out of the skill tests [before completing them]."

AD

HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR

BNU
Banco Nacional Ultramarino
大西洋銀行

HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR

市政署
INSTITUTO PARA OS ASSUNTOS MUNICIPAIS

Leap into The New Year



LEAP INTO THE NEW YEAR AT ONE CENTRAL MACAU

Kick off the Year of the Tiger with a world-class shopping spree at One Central! This year, an upcycled 'Red Pockets Tree' lights up the festive spirit at the Atrium with classy orchids and peach blossoms while reducing our impact on the environment.

1 - 10 / 2 / 2022

BESPOKE member can enjoy up to **4.4%** rebate when you spend MOP 30,000 or more in a single transaction. Usher prosperity into the Year of the Tiger while indulging yourself with exclusive privileges including shopping, dining, spas, hotel stays and more.

Single Receipt Amount (MOP)	Voucher Value (MOP)
30,000	1,000
60,000	2,000
100,000	3,500
300,000	10,500
1,000,000	38,000
2,000,000	88,000

* Only one time redemption of each voucher reward during the promotion period

MORE DETAILS



* Terms and conditions apply

壹號廣場
 ONE CENTRAL

www.onecentralmall.com.mo

The Year of the Black-Water Tiger

2022 is the year of the Black-Water Tiger. The 2022 Chinese New Year Day is on Tuesday, February 1, 2022.

It is the 4719th Chinese year. The first day of the Chinese astrological year is the first day of Tiger Month.

According to Hong Kong's Master Tsai, the first day of the Water Tiger is on February 4, 2022. If a baby was born before February 4, then the baby's Chinese Zodiac sign is Ox, not the Tiger. February 4, 2022, is also the opening Ceremony date of the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics.

2022 is the Yang-Water Tiger year. Yang-Water is connected to flowing water, river, or cloud. Tiger is in Wood's group.

On chinesefortunecalendar.com, Master Tsai says that the "Tiger mainly contains Yang-Wood, which is a tall tree. It also contains Yang-Fire and Yang-Earth. Yang-Fire is related to the sun and Yin-Earth is related to the mountain. Tiger is a tall tree on the mountain under the sun."

He adds that, the Tiger is a symbol of power, prestige, and loneliness. Tiger cannot get along with many animals. The Water of 2022 helps the tree of the Tiger grow taller and stronger. That means 2022 brings strong Wood energy to people. You will have good fortune if the Wood is your Lucky Element.

Note: Predictions by Astrosage.com, where you can find more in-depth information, for every and each sign.

RAT



Year of Birth
2020, 2008, 1996, 1984,
1972, 1960, 1948, 1936, 1924

The year of the water tiger will mark a year of transformation for the natives. A little turbulence can be expected in professional life. Business trips will earn your great profits this year. Refrain from overspending and keep your finances in check. As per the Chinese Horoscope 2022, this year will be favorable for married couples and lovers.

HEALTH



LOVE



WORK



MONEY



OX



Year of Birth
2021, 2009, 1997, 1985,
1973, 1961, 1949, 1937, 1925

This year will be favorable for the businessmen and lovers of this zodiac. Expenses will flow smoothly, and you will make good investments. You are advised to pay heed to your health, or it may cause severe issues in the long run. Take a break from your hectic work schedule to go to a calm and quiet place with your loved ones.

HEALTH



LOVE



WORK



MONEY



TIGER

Year of Birth
2022, 2010, 1998, 1986,
1974, 1962, 1950, 1938,

This is the year of the favorable year for the year is ready to achieve a life will be passionate as the tigers will prosper in alike. The working professional appreciation for their seniors. As per the Chinese the year will mark a significant monetary growth. You will enjoy health throughout the year to take a vacation with your mental stress.

HEALTH



WORK



HORSE



Year of Birth
2026, 2014, 2002, 1990,
1978, 1966, 1954, 1942, 1930

The year of the water tiger brings creative achievements and exciting love experiences in the life of the Horse natives. The people who have been facing difficulties on the family front will find relief from the suffering. All the hard work that you have been putting into your business will finally give you fruitful results. The Chinese Horoscope 2022 predicts a year of smooth-flowing income. You are advised to pay heed to your health and not miss regular health check-up appointments.

HEALTH



LOVE



WORK



MONEY



SHEEP



Year of Birth
2027, 2015, 2003, 1991,
1979, 1967, 1955, 1943, 1931

The Chinese Zodiac Horoscope 2022 predicts a year of changes for the people born under this zodiac. But the nature of the change depends upon the hard work and efforts that the natives have been putting through in the past. You are advised to stay positive, and everything will fall into place. This year is unfavorable for the dumped wealth. However, there might be an increment in wages which will improve your financial status. A health horoscope is favorable for the natives in the year of the water tiger.

HEALTH



LOVE



WORK



MONEY



MONKEY

Year of Birth
2028, 2016, 2004, 1992,
1980, 1968, 1956, 1944,

The Chinese Horoscope predicts a favorable year for the the Monkey zodiac. You can expect professional changes and achievements. The love life of the natives will be twofold. For some, it will be excitement, while for others, the relationship might end. You will prosper in the business and professional domain. Finances will be with nothing unusual in the year of the water tiger is favorable for the Monkey natives.


HEALTH



WORK



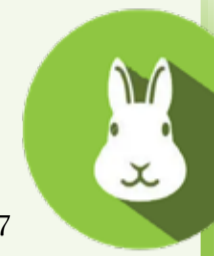
Tiger: prestige and loneliness



Year of Birth
2026

The year of the water tiger promises a year of positive changes. Your business will be stable, and finances will flow smoothly throughout the year. This year is favorable for new love and relationships. However, you are advised to make savings that might be needed in the future. Refrain from overspending. The health horoscope 2022 predicts twofold health. The ones taking care of themselves will enjoy good health throughout the year, while the ones ignoring the body signals might suffer.

LOVE	★★★★★
MONEY	★★★★★




RABBIT

Year of Birth
2023, 2011, 1999, 1987, 1975, 1963, 1951, 1939, 1927

The year of the water tiger promises a year of positive changes. Your business will be stable, and finances will flow smoothly throughout the year. This year is favorable for new love and relationships. However, you are advised to make savings that might be needed in the future. Refrain from overspending. The health horoscope 2022 predicts twofold health. The ones taking care of themselves will enjoy good health throughout the year, while the ones ignoring the body signals might suffer.

HEALTH	★★★★★
LOVE	★★★★★
WORK	★★★★★
MONEY	★★★★★




DRAGON

Year of Birth
2024, 2012, 2000, 1988, 1976, 1964, 1952, 1940, 1928

The personal relationships of the Dragon natives in the year of the water tiger will be uncertain. However, this will be a period of positive changes. Your love life will be joyous and full of excitement. The Chinese Zodiac Horoscope 2022 predicts a stagnant year for businessmen. The people seeking a change in the field of work will receive a lucrative offer. The stars advise you not to miss your regular health appointments and indulge in physical activities for vigorous health.

HEALTH	★★★★★
LOVE	★★★★★
WORK	★★★★★
MONEY	★★★★★




SNAKE

Year of Birth
2025, 2013, 2001, 1989, 1977, 1965, 1953, 1941, 1929

The year of the water tiger is a favorable year for financial growth, implementation of large-scale plans, and passionate relationships. However, the married snakes might have to deal with misunderstandings with their spouse. The career horoscope 2022 will bring positive changes to a few, while others may have to face hardships. The Snake businessmen can expect profitable business proposals that will enhance their business. Take good care of your health, and don't ignore the body signals.

HEALTH	★★★★★
LOVE	★★★★★
WORK	★★★★★
MONEY	★★★★★




MONKEY

Year of Birth
2029, 2017, 2005, 1993, 1981, 1969, 1957, 1945, 1933

The year of the water tiger promises a twofold professional life for the Roosters. For some, it will be delightful; for others, full of disappointments. Love life will flow smoothly with no drastic changes. Your nature of not taking risks will yield the same results as it has been for the past years. Businessmen, too, will face ups and downs. The Chinese Horoscope 2022 predicts an unfavorable year for finances in the first half of the year. However, things will get better in the second half. Health will be vigorous if you indulge in a healthy health regime.

LOVE	★★★★★
MONEY	★★★★★




ROOSTER

Year of Birth
2029, 2017, 2005, 1993, 1981, 1969, 1957, 1945, 1933

The year of the water tiger promises a twofold professional life for the Roosters. For some, it will be delightful; for others, full of disappointments. Love life will flow smoothly with no drastic changes. Your nature of not taking risks will yield the same results as it has been for the past years. Businessmen, too, will face ups and downs. The Chinese Horoscope 2022 predicts an unfavorable year for finances in the first half of the year. However, things will get better in the second half. Health will be vigorous if you indulge in a healthy health regime.

HEALTH	★★★★★
LOVE	★★★★★
WORK	★★★★★
MONEY	★★★★★

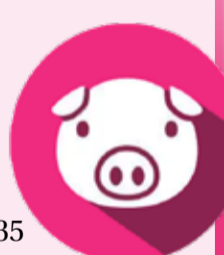


DOG

Year of Birth
2030, 2018, 2006, 1994, 1982, 1970, 1958, 1946, 1934

Chinese 2022 Horoscope promises a year full of love adventures and creative comprehension. The year is favorable for the lovers of the Dog zodiac. The business and professional life will be stable. There will be no drastic changes in the financial condition, and the finances will flow smoothly all year long. You are advised to refrain from taking excessive mental or physical stress or it may cause health issues this year.

HEALTH	★★★★★
LOVE	★★★★★
WORK	★★★★★
MONEY	★★★★★



PIC

Year of Birth
2031, 2019, 2007, 1995, 1983, 1971, 1959, 1947, 1935

The year of the water tiger brings positive changes for the natives of this zodiac. The Chinese 2022 horoscope predicts a favorable time for businessmen and working professionals. Your love life can flourish only if you decide to let go of your curiosity and let your heart do the talking. The finances will flow smoothly throughout the year. It is a great period for making financial investments. Pay heed to your health this year, and don't miss your regular health check-up appointments.

HEALTH	★★★★★
LOVE	★★★★★
WORK	★★★★★
MONEY	★★★★★

XINHUA INSIGHT

COINCIDING WITH SPRING FESTIVAL, BEIJING 2022 CELEBRATES TOGETHERNESS



A giant Chinese knot with emblem of the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games on Tian'anmen Square in Beijing

GAO PENG, SU BIN AND DONG YIXING, SPORTS WRITERS

MANY Chinese New Year customs have been widely observed for thousands of years. The family reunion dinner, pasting couplets and setting off fireworks are must-dos during Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival.

But for this upcoming Spring Festival, watching the Beijing Winter Olympics will also become an important activity in addition to the more traditional ones.

The 2022 Spring Festival - the year of the Tiger in the Chinese lunar calendar - falls on February 1, just three days before the Olympic Winter Games officially opens in Beijing.

Lou Xiaoyi, a cultural scholar and founder of Civilization Magazine, said that the Olympic Games and Spring Festival share cultural connotations in common, as they both celebrate togetherness and harmony.

Overseas guests at the 2022 Winter Olympics echoed the importance of unity.

"The Lunar New Year is a celebration of family reunions. The Olympic Games is about the international family coming together. So it just kind of shows that we have a lot more in common internationally than we think that we do," said Oliver Walters, a cameraman for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

"It's great for other cultures

to come here and experience it and see how much we do have in common and as opposed to what we don't think we have in common," he added.

TIME-HONORED VALUES

Equal to Christmas in Western countries in terms of significance, the Spring Festival is the most crucial time of the year for family reunions in China. The precise origins of the Spring Festival are lost in the mists of time, but according to folklore, it has been celebrated for around 4,000 years.

Chen Haiming, director of the Center for Global Governance and Law, Xiamen University of Technology, said that the Spring Festival embodies the principle of "oneness of heaven and humanity," representing the highest value of traditional Chinese culture and soul of the Chinese Lunar New Year.

"The concept of unity between humans and nature has profoundly influenced all aspects of Chinese social life, and even shaped the idea of 'green development,' which China lays particular emphasis on today," he added.

More importantly, the Spring Festival represents the value of family reunions and the pursuit of harmonious family relationships.

The yearlong yearning for a family reunion during the Spring Festival is manifested in the travel rush. During the Spring Festival season -- a 40-day period known as 'Chunyun' -- hundreds

of millions of Chinese people will be on the move, cramming into trains, buses, cars and planes to reach family and friends.

Decades ago, the Spring Festival had little impact outside of China. But as the country's economy grew, the holiday, which has enormous cultural significance in the Chinese-speaking world, has become more prominent.

Similarly, the Olympic Games, full of passion and extraordinary feats of athletic endeavor, were the sporting, social and cultural highlight of the ancient Greek calendar for almost 12 centuries.

One of the most important traditions from the ancient Olympics was the Olympic Truce, a peace accord that allowed warring Greek city-states to set conflict aside, celebrate togetherness, and experience peace inspired by sport.

The modern Olympic Games was revived in the 19th century by Frenchman Pierre de Coubertin, who had read about the ancient Greek Olympics and believed the Olympic Games could contribute to world peace and international friendship.

As de Coubertin envisaged, the Olympic Games have evolved into humanity's largest and most diverse gathering. Every two years, the world watches in awe as athletes from up to over 200 countries and regions unite in competition at the Olympic Games.

Though the Olympic Truce

does not stop wars, it has a vital contribution to enhance understanding, lower tension, and resolve conflict, all for the benefit of humanity.

"The modern Olympic Games serves as a kind of practice for building a community with a shared future for mankind," said Lou.

CELEBRATING TOGETHERNESS & HARMONY AT BEIJING 2022

In 2021, the Olympic motto was revised for the first time in over 120 years, with the word "together" being added. The new motto now reads "Faster, Higher, Stronger - Together."

"In today's fragile world with so much uncertainty, the Olympic Games are more than ever a powerful symbol of hope, peace and solidarity for all of humanity in all our diversity," International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach wrote in the foreword to the Olympic Manifesto scroll.

As the world continues to battle a relentless virus, and as anti-globalization and unilateralism pose severe challenges to the international community, the 2022 Winter Games could not have come at a better time - the world needs to unite together and celebrate humanity.

Given that this year's Winter Olympics coincides with the Chinese Lunar New Year, the Festival's traditional focus on harmony certainly takes on a more global significance.

"The world today is in dire need of inclusiveness, which the Chinese culture of harmony without uniformity celebrates," said Chen.

"Given the values and spirit embedded in the Spring Festival, it is a festival to be celebrated not only by people in China but also those around the world," he added.

A fitting tribute to this occasion is the third edition of the Olympic Manifesto scroll published by Civilization Magazine.

The 60-meter-long scroll mainly centers on the Spring Festival and Winter Olympics, showing the integration of diverse world cultures. It also encompasses the festival culture of 23 host countries and 43 host cities of previous Olympic Games.

"This signifies that the culture of the East and the West meet in Beijing and develop with mutual understanding," explained Lou.

ANTICIPATION AND EXCITEMENT

As the Spring Festival approaches, decorations such as red lanterns and Chinese knots haven been hung up at the Main Media Center, hotels and the Athletes Villages to create a festive atmosphere.

"I'm honored to be in China for the lunar celebration. I'm looking forward to celebrating the New Year here in China," Walters told Xinhua.

These sentiments were echoed by a number of media and supporting staff from overseas.

Big Air Shougang, which will undertake the big air events of snowboard and freestyle skiing, was the first competition venue that entered the closed-loop management mode.

Rafal Robert, a ski jumping platform technician from Poland, has stayed within the closed-loop for nearly a month, and thus can already experience the festivities on Xiao Nian, which literally means "Minor New Year" in Chinese and is considered to be the prologue of the Spring Festival.

"I'm very happy to receive a gourd-shaped souvenir from my Chinese colleagues. They told me that the gourd represents good fortune and wealth in Chinese culture. It's very interesting," said Robert.

Maja Hrvatin, who is working for TV Slovenia during the 2022 Winter Games, hopes some of the Spring Festival traditions can show a bright future for humanity.

"I know that you are not allowed to sweep the room on the New Year's day, because you sweep away the joy and good luck," she said.

"It's a nice symbol. I really hope that all the people will come together despite all the obstacles, like everything going on with the virus, so in that way it's nice symbolism." XINHUA



President Xi Jinping waves to the crowd while touring Pingyao, Shanxi Province last week

Xi extends Spring Festival greetings to all Chinese

CHINESE President Xi Jinping, on behalf of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and the State Council, extended Spring Festival greetings to all Chinese yesterday at a reception in Beijing.

Xi, also general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, delivered a speech at the gathering at the Great Hall of the People, greeting Chinese people of all ethnic groups, compatriots in Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan, and overseas Chinese.

This year's Spring Festival, or the Chinese Lunar New Year, falls on Feb. 1.

Xi said all the achievements made by the Party and the people

in the past 100 years are attributed to unity and hard work, which is the most remarkable spiritual symbol of the CPC and the Chinese people.

"As long as the 1.4 billion Chinese people always stay united and the 95 million CPC members always stay close to the people for a shared future, we will surely be able to continue creating impressive miracles on the new journey ahead," Xi noted.

Party and state leaders Li Keqiang, Li Zhanshu, Wang Yang, Wang Huning, Zhao Leji, Han Zheng and Wang Qishan were present at the reception. Li Keqiang presided over the event.

Xi said that the year 2021 witnessed remarkable progress for the Party and the country, listing major

events including the celebration of the CPC centenary, the adoption of the third historical resolution in the Party's 100 years of history, the victory in the fight against poverty, the attainment of the first centenary goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, and the start of a new journey to fully build a modern socialist China.

Last year, China maintained its leading position in the world in terms of both economic development and COVID-19 control, Xi said. He cited China's progress in its high-quality development, capabilities in strategic science and technology, reform and opening-up, and people's well-being.

Xi said comprehensive plans had been made for China to rea-

ch its carbon peaking and carbon neutrality goals.

Xi also noted that order in Hong Kong had been restored, and more efforts were made to combat separatist forces and facilitate reunification.

China's major-country diplomacy had also been advanced, Xi added.

The country's overall social stability had been well maintained, and the 14th Five-Year Plan period got off to a good start, Xi said.

"No matter what twists and turns or challenges we may face, we must carry forward the CPC's great founding spirit, and keep in mind that one thrives in adversity and perishes in laxity," Xi said.

"We ought to have a long-term perspective, be prepared for potential dangers even in times of calm, and maintain strong unity and work hard, so as to keep driving forward the great cause of national rejuvenation," he emphasized.

Xi said the CPC will convene its 20th national congress in the second half of 2022 to review the

last five years of work and draw the development blueprint for the period to come.

Stressing concrete actions for the congress, Xi urged efforts to advance reform and opening-up across the board, promote high-quality development, and ensure and improve the people's well-being.

The focus should be on maintaining a stable and healthy economy, a safe and peaceful society, and a political ecosystem featuring honesty and integrity, Xi added.

Noting that the new year is the Year of the Tiger, Xi said traditional Chinese culture sees the tiger as the king of animals and a symbol of strength, bravery and fearlessness, urging people to write a new chapter of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

With the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics just around the corner, the Chinese people are fully prepared to present a streamlined, safe and splendid gathering for the world, Xi said, offering his best wishes to athletes from home and abroad. XINHUA

PMI

China manufacturing activity grows at slower pace in January

MANUFACTURING activity in the world's second largest economy grew at a slower pace in January compared to the previous month, according to an official government measure, as the country's strict "zero-tolerance" COVID-19 measures put a dampener on economic activity.

The purchasing manager's index, tracked by China's National Bureau of Statistics, slipped to 50.1 from 50.3 in December, continuing a third month of weak growth. A separate PMI by the business magazine Caixin showed yesterday that manufacturing activity fell even further, contrac-

ting from 50.9 in December to 49.1 in January.

PMI is tracked on a 100-point scale in which numbers above 50 show activity expanding and below show a contraction.

New orders, which are measured in a sub-index, also fell, dropping to 49.3, according to the official

measure. New export orders activity also continued to contract, although at a slightly slower pace in January.

Chinese exports have been a consistent bright spot throughout the pandemic.

China saw multiple COVID-19 outbreaks in the past month and im-

plemented strict lockdowns starting in December and continuing into the new year that barred people from leaving their homes. The lockdowns have affected up to 20 million people.

Zhao Qinghe, senior statistician at NBS, said in a statement yesterday that China faces multi-

ple challenges, including a complicated economic environment and outbreaks of COVID-19 across the country.

Non-manufacturing PMI growth also declined, from 52.7 in December to 51.1 in January, with construction and service sectors both seeing weaker growth. MDT/AP

KILLING FIELDS

Death, danger, despair: A year in Myanmar

VICTORIA MILKO, JAKARTA

AN elderly woman forced to flee bombings. A former peace negotiator leaving his job to fight Myanmar security forces. A woman's husband shot during a peaceful protest, leaving her alone to care for their two children.

Since Myanmar's military dismissed the results of the country's democratic election and seized power on Feb. 1, 2021, peaceful nationwide protests and violent crackdowns by security forces have spiraled into a nationwide humanitarian crisis.

The Associated Press spoke to people in Myanmar about how their lives have changed in the year since the military took power. They spoke on condition their names are not disclosed for fear of reprisal.

THE WIDOW: "HE SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED"

Before his death, Khine's husband earned enough money making door gates that her family lived a comfortable life in Yangon, Myanmar's largest city. She was



A photographer wearing a protective vest with a 'press' sign at the back films an anti-military government protest being dispersed with tear gas by security forces

able to stay home to care for the couple's two young daughters while the husband worked.

On Feb. 1, Khine's husband got a phone call from a friend, telling

him about the military takeover.

"He looked really sad, angry and couldn't talk much," Khine told the AP by phone.

In the weeks that followed,

protests calling for the military to restore democracy and free imprisoned politicians rippled through the country. Khine and her husband joined the crowds.

In late March, as security forces began using lethal force to crack down on protests, Khine was babysitting when demonstrators came to her home to tell her that her

AD

KTRANZ
TRANSLATIONS LIMITED

ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE TRANSLATIONS

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

Services
TRANSLATIONS,
PROOFREADING, COPYWRITING,
DATA INPUT, NEWS MONITORING

We translate +10,000 words a day

Contact: Ms. Amy Yang
Email: amy@ktranz.com.mo
Tel: +853 2871 6081/2 Fax: +853 2871 6084

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

仁德 *CENTRO MEDICO PEDDER*
◆ 仁德醫療中心 ◆

We bring high quality of medical service to Macau

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

Breast Surgery : Dr. Leong Iat Lun

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

Paediatric Surgery : Dr. Yeung Chung Kwong

Paediatrics : Dr. Zhang Zhiqin

Obstetrics & Gynaecology : Dr. Fong Kuan Io

Plastic & Aesthetic Surgery : Dr. Lam U Lin

Orthopaedic Surgery & Sports Medicine : Dr. Lam Kun Kuan

ENT : Dr. Cheng Zheng Ang

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

General Medicine : Dr. Ng Kam Hong, Dr. Lam Weng Chio

Dietitian : Chan Lai U Joey

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

under the military



Ethnic Karen villagers, who fled recent attacks by the Myanmar military, carry on life in temporary shelters along the Moei River



A woman cries during a funeral for a man who died after being shot during a protest

husband had been shot. They took him to two clinics but both refused to treat him. He died when they reached a hospital.

"He suddenly disappeared," she said. "Before the coup, I had never imagined that our family life would fall apart like this."

Her husband is one of at least 1,490 people killed by the military since the takeover, according to the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners, a group that monitors verified arrests and deaths in Myanmar. Over 11,775 have been arrested, according to the group.

Since her husband's death, Khine has started working at a garment factory, earning \$3 a day. Unable to afford their old apartment after the loss of her husband's income, the family has moved into a small room. She worries about being able to provide for her children and their mental health.

"My eldest daughter is becoming traumatized," said Khine. "She often says, 'My friends have their fathers, but I don't.'"

THE DISPLACED: "FLEEING THE WAR IS EXHAUSTING"

Bomb blasts, gunfire and artillery shelling have followed 63-year-old Mee at every shelter she's been forced to flee to over the past year.

She first had to flee to a camp for the displaced after fighting broke out near her village in eastern Myanmar. A month later, the camp was no longer safe, and the medicine she needed for her heart disease and hypertension wasn't available. With nowhere else to go, Mee moved to a relative's house.

"While we were there, gunfire was heard," Mee told the AP by phone "We decided not to run

away, even if we died, because fleeing the war is exhausting."

Not long after, the area near her relative's house was bombed, and she had to move once more. For now, Mee shares a small barn with 15 other people, all of them displaced. She has enough medicine only for two months and is concerned about the future of her family and the country.

As of Jan. 17, the U.N. refugee agency estimates the number of the displaced since the army takeover at 405,700. Another 32,000 have fled to neighboring countries.

"I am worried and tired every day," Mee said. "For now, my hope is that I just want to see peace and calm. Then, I want to go back to my house."

THE SURGEON: "LIVES HAVE TO BE SACRIFICED"

Before the military seized power, the 28 year-old assistant surgeon was studying for his exams to become a specialist. He lived with his family and would take pride in treating patients at the hospital he worked at in a major city.

On the morning of the takeover, he went to work, seeing military vehicles on the roads and helicopters overhead. The phones and internet were cut. Stepping into the hospital, he learned the military had detained the country's leader, Aung San Suu Kyi.

The next day, he and other health care workers in state-run hospitals quit, sparking what would become known as the Civil Disobedience Movement.

"After the military coup, we no longer wanted to work under them. We believed all the health sectors will have no progress under the military," he told the AP by phone.

Myanmar has become one of the most dangerous places in the world for health care workers, according to Physicians for Human Rights. It said 30 health workers were killed and 286 arrested between the takeover and Jan. 10.

Seeing his colleagues getting arrested, the surgeon fled to an area controlled by an armed opposition group. He has worked in makeshift clinics made of tents in camps for four months, treating people with general illnesses and those wounded by military shelling and land mines.

Medicine is hard to find, with security forces arresting anyone transporting medication.

"We have to carry medicine secretly. That's why it takes about a month for medicine to arrive," he said. "Even if cars are carrying paracetamol or something like that, they're arrested."

The surgeon still dreams of being able to return home to take the exams for a specialist.

"But dreams and reality are different," he said. "The people are suffering from the oppression of the military council. Lives have to be sacrificed for the revolution."

THE JOURNALIST: "WE DARE NOT TAKE OUT OUR CAMERAS"

The videographer knew journalists had to show the world what was happening in Myanmar. Setting aside their anger and sadness about the military takeover, they went to the streets to document protests and brutal crackdowns with their phones day after day.

"We dare not take out our cameras" for fear of arrest, the videographer told the AP by phone. "Things are getting worse."

Facing increasing threats, many of the videographer's colleagues fled to the jungle to join armed resistance groups. Others have been arrested. By Dec. 1, more journalists were arrested in Myanmar than every country in the world except China, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. At least two journalists have been killed and others tortured while in detention, the group said.

Yet the videographer continues to work, realizing that any report could be the last one.

"I'm working like an underground journalist," the videographer said. "In case of an emergency, I have prepared a bag if I need to run."

Despite the threats, the journalist has no intention of leaving the country.

"The international community only knows about the military's atrocities through the media," the videographer said. "But I will continue to do this work until I can't do it. If the security forces chase and catch me — let them."

THE FIGHTER: "I DECIDED I WOULD TAKE UP ARMS"

After watching fellow peaceful protesters get shot in the head by military forces, the 47 year-old made a decision.

"I decided I would take up arms, and I started looking for options to actually do so," he said.

His protests had started peacefully. After the military takeover, he began organizing rallies in Yangon. But as the weeks passed, he knew his safety was in jeopardy.

"I stopped living in my apartment," he said. "I also had to ask my family to leave that apartment to a secret location so that (the

military) could not harm them."

But when the protests turned deadly, he realized he wanted to take a step further.

"I never thought I would find myself involved in a struggle," he told the AP by phone.

The man is just one of thousands of people in Myanmar who have joined loose-knit guerilla groups called People's Defense Forces. Some have forged alliances with armed ethnic groups that have been at war with Myanmar military for decades, while others have pledged allegiance to the opposition National Unity Government, a parallel administration that declared a "defensive war" against the military in September.

Before the takeover, the man enjoyed going to restaurants with his family, shopping trips to the mall and spending time with his children in their home when he wasn't working at a nongovernment organization involved in the decades-long peace process.

His days are now spent on missions he is hesitant to speak about for security reasons. He lives in an area of a jungle controlled by an armed ethnic group, carrying multiple weapons wherever he goes. He and his comrades forage for whatever they can to survive and sleep in hammocks strung between trees.

"The life I enjoyed is no longer available," he said.

The man said he is frustrated by the international community's lack of response, and that the people of Myanmar have had to take matters into their own hands.

"We have the right to use violence to defend ourselves while the international community stands by." **MDT/AP**

ANALYSIS

Russian roar on Ukraine rings hollow to Latin America allies

JOSHUA GOODMAN, MIAMI

IT was a classic Russian power play with echoes of Cold War gamesmanship.

Shortly after entering into service in 2019, Russia's most advanced warship made a goodwill tour of the Caribbean, armed with cruise missiles, air defense systems and other weapons.

But when the Admiral Gorshkov sailed into the port of Havana, it was closely tailed by a Russian rescue tugboat — a sign to many that Moscow doubted the vessel's reliability and the visit was nothing more than a feeble effort to project power.

Russia is once again rattling its saber amid rising tensions over Ukraine, hinting that the U.S. refusal to heed its demands could spur closer military cooperation with allies in Latin America. In recent days, several senior Russian officials have warned Moscow could deploy troops or military assets to Cuba and Venezuela if the U.S. and NATO insist on meddling on Russia's doorstep.

U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan quickly dismissed Russia's tit-for-tat threats. On the heels of its massive troop buildup on its border with Ukraine, Russia's ability to mobilize troops in the Western Hemisphere, thousands of miles away, is limited at best, experts contend.

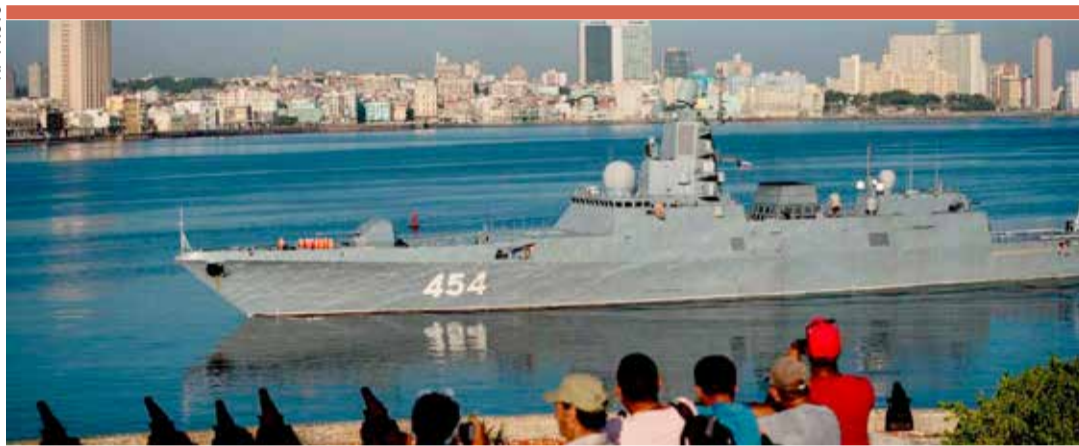
"This is pure misdirection and it's not fooling anyone," said Kevin Whitaker, a former U.S. ambassador to Colombia who also served as a diplomat in Venezuela, Nicaragua and as head of the Office of Cuban Affairs in Washington. "It's not real power projection. It's a showpiece and nothing more."

But even if talk of troop deployments is mostly bluster, Russia's strategic buildup in Latin America is real, posing national security threats in what generations of U.S. policy makers have referred to as "Washington's backyard."

In the past decade, as the U.S. influence in the region has waned, Moscow — and to a lesser extent other far-flung adversaries like China and Iran — have quietly cemented ties with authoritarian governments in Nicaragua, Cuba and Venezuela through a mix of weapons sales, financing deals and intense diplomatic engagement.

Moscow helped Venezuela

AP PHOTO



Russian Navy Admiral Gorshkov frigate arrives at the port of Havana, Cuba, June 2019

design a cryptocurrency, forgave a \$35 billion Cuba debt and runs a high-tech anti-narcotics compound in Nicaragua that many believe is a covert beachhead for spying across the region.

Time and again, Russia has shown a willingness to leverage its sizable military whenever it has felt threatened by the U.S.

In 2008, Moscow sent a pair of Tu-160 nuclear-capable bombers to Venezuela amid tensions with the U.S. over Russia's brief war with Georgia, a deployment followed that year by the arrival of the "Peter the Great" warship.

Russia sent more Tu-160s in 2018 as relations with the West plunged to post-Cold War lows over Ukraine, and the military even hinted it was considering setting up an air base on tiny La Orchilla Island, so small that landing military aircraft there would have been nearly impossible.

Even in countries friendlier to the U.S., like Mexico and Colombia, Russia has been accused of spying or engaging in disinformation campaigns to shape elections. A senior Colombian military official recently traveled to Washington to brief U.S. officials on Russian attempts to penetrate the communications of the country's top military command, a person familiar with the visit told The Associated Press, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss the sensitive issue.

On social media, the Spanish-language arm of the Russian state-controlled RT television network has more than 18 million followers on Facebook, 10 times as many as the Spanish-language affiliate of Voice of America, according to the Alliance for Securing Democracy, a think tank that tracks the rise of authoritarianism around the world. It also outperforms most other Spanish-language media on the platform, though

it's still dwarfed by CNN en Español.

It's all a far cry from the height of the Cold War, when Nikita Khrushchev in 1962 briefly placed nuclear missiles in Cuba, the Kremlin maintained a listening post less than 100 miles from Florida and the Sandinista government that was fighting a U.S.-backed right-wing insurgency in Nicaragua was building an air base to accommodate Soviet fighter jets.

Nicaragua's Punta Huete airfield is today semi-abandoned and President Vladimir Putin closed the spy station in Cuba two decades ago. With the collapse of its communist sponsor in the early 1990s, Cuba spiraled into a depression marked by widespread hunger known as the "Special Period."

But Russia's more limited support has bought it friends. Recently Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega named a consul in the Crimean peninsula Russia annexed from Ukraine in 2014. It's also allowed Putin to restore some of Russia's former glory in a region that has long resented Washington's far longer history of meddling.

As Putin now looks to repel NATO from what he calls Russia's "near abroad" in Ukraine, he's likely to take at least a symbolic poke at the U.S. in its own sphere of influence, said Evan Ellis, a researcher at the U.S. Army War College who specializes in Russian and Chinese influence in Latin America.

"I'm sure Putin will do something to project toughness on the cheap as he always does," Ellis said. "But he's not going to do anything that costs him a lot of money or get him into deeper trouble down the line like deploying nukes. He knows there are limits."

Russia's closest ally is Venezuela, which has spent billions over the past two dec-

ades of socialist rule building up its air defense with Russia's help — everything from Sukhoi fighter jets and attack helicopters to sophisticated radar and shoulder-mounted rocket launchers.

Such an arsenal gives Nicolás Maduro an ability to inflict serious damage in the event of any conflict with neighboring Colombia, the top U.S. ally in the region, said Gen. Manuel Cristópher Figuera, who was the Venezuelan president's spy chief until fleeing to the U.S. in 2019 after a failed putsch against his former boss.

"It's not an ideological relationship. It's a commercial one, but it provides Maduro with a certain amount of protection," said Figuera, who received training in Cuba and from Putin ally Belarus.

As the U.S. and its allies have taken steps to isolate the governments of Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela — what Donald Trump's former national security adviser John Bolton called the "troika of tyranny" — Putin has tried to fill the void.

In recent days, he's spoken to Maduro, Ortega and Cuba's Miguel Díaz Canel to explore ways to deepen strategic cooperation. He's also sent a planeload of medical supplies to Cuba to help it fight the coronavirus pandemic.

But the leaders, although expressing gratitude for Russia's continued aid, have so far remained silent on Ukraine — a sign they may be reluctant to be drawn into another geopolitical tussle.

"One of the fundamental legacies for Latin America from the Cold War is that they don't want to be treated as a pawn in someone else's game," said Whitaker, the former ambassador to Colombia. "What Russia is doing shows enormous disrespect for the sovereignty of governments that are supposedly their allies." **MDT/AP**

this day in history

1983: BRITISH DRIVERS ORDERED TO BELT UP



Drivers and front seat passengers must wear seatbelts under a new law which came into force at midnight.

The Department of Transport says 30,000 people a year are killed or seriously injured in road accidents. It hopes the compulsory wearing of front seatbelts will save 1,000 lives a year.

Evidence suggests six out of 10 drivers currently ignore advice to belt up in the front.

Police are being urged to take a softly softly approach to start with - but drivers could eventually be fined £50 for not wearing their seatbelts.

The row over making front seatbelts compulsory has been going on for 15 years and there have been 11 previous attempts to make it law.

Critics have accused the government of operating a nanny state and some drivers have complained their personal freedom is being infringed and they find seatbelts uncomfortable.

The government has been urging drivers to check the position of their seatbelts and make the necessary adjustments before today's law came into effect.

Junior Transport Minister Linda Chalker said: "Nobody likes being told to do something when they haven't seen for themselves the sense of it."

"You can remain in control of a vehicle when you don't get knocked out. If you are held in your seat by a belt you have more chance of stopping your vehicle careering into another vehicle containing other people."

She dismissed claims some people would suffer worse injuries through belting up, saying the evidence suggested only a tiny proportion of front seat passengers would suffer worse injuries if they were restrained by seat belts.

There will be some exceptions to the new law. Taxi drivers will be exempt because of the possible threat to their safety from dangerous passengers. Drivers of electric delivery vehicles such as milk floats will also be exempt.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Figures showed 90% of front-seat passengers began routinely wearing seat belts after it became compulsory. In 1991 it became compulsory for adults to belt up in the back seat. Figures showed an increase from 10% to 40% of backseat passengers wearing seatbelts. Research in 1998 showed 160 lives could be saved a year through belting up in the back - this included 40 drivers or front-seat passengers killed by an unbelted passenger in the back. A high-profile advertising campaign, launched in July 1998, showed a mother being killed in a car when she was hit from behind by her unbelted child. Figures for October 2000 showed the wearing of rear seatbelts had increased to 59% of adults and 91% of children.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

ARIES
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
 Family talks may get a little combative. Short trips will be educational. Be careful not to take on other people's problems. You may find yourself in a financial bind.

TAURUS
Apr. 20-May. 20
 Voice your opinions and contribute to the debate. Look into projects that you feel would contribute something to your appearance. One of your female friends may try to disrupt your day. Stand up for your rights.

GEMINI
May. 21-Jun. 21
 Discord may arise with someone you're close to. You can learn from those who have had similar experiences. Set aside any decisions regarding your personal life today.

CANCER
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
 Avoid disputes with family; their complaints can't change anything anyway. You could overreact to emotional situations regarding your relationship. Try to find another time to present work or ideas today.

LEO
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
 Keep a lookout for any individuals eager to confront you with unsavory situations. Don't overlook that fact that someone you care about may be hiding something.

VIRGO
Aug. 23-Sep. 22
 You may be overreacting to a situation at hand. They won't get away with it. Empty promises are evident. 've been hurt before and could be again if you don't play hard to get.

LIBRA
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
 Don't avoid your true feelings. Those who have been too demanding should be put in their place or out to pasture. Luck is with you, regardless of the financial venture.

SCORPIO
Oct. 23-Nov. 21
 You're on the right track and you can make money if you are willing to go out on a limb. Don't argue with family. An older loved one may be having problems.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
 You can make professional changes and direct your energy into making all the right moves. You can accomplish a great deal. Make sure to arrange in advance to spend quality time together.

CAPRICORN
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
 Try not to take everything so seriously. Go after your goals. Your depressed mood has been hard to shake. Insincere gestures of friendliness are likely to occur.

AQUARIUS
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
 You can find solutions if you are willing to communicate. Your compassion will be appreciated more than you can imagine. You will be overly generous with children today.

PISCES
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
 Joining organizations will provide you with stimulating romantic contacts. You may find it difficult to communicate. You've been hurt before and could be again if you don't play hard to get.

The Born Loser by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

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

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

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	-3	3	cloudy
Harbin	-20	-7	cloudy
Tianjin	0	4	rain
Urumqi	3	10	overcast
Xi'an	5	10	overcast
Lhasa	-3	4	snow
Chengdu	6	10	overcast
Chongqing	3	7	rain
Kunming	-2	2	rain
Nanjing	14	18	rain
Shanghai	1	8	overcast
Wuhan	-1	7	overcast
Hangzhou	-22	-10	fine
Taipei	-2	8	fine
Guangzhou	8	12	rain
Hong Kong	11	14	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	-2	-1	snow
Frankfurt	2	5	rain
Paris	3	8	overcast
London	5	8	overcast
New York	-6	-1	overcast

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS 1- Smart; 5- One telling tales; 9- AWOL pursuers; 12- Rail rider; 13- Cordillera of South America; 15- Hard fatty tissue; 16- Hurler Hershiser; 17- Unit of magnetic induction; 18- Ingrid's "Casablanca" role; 19- Cart driver; 21- Christmas item; 23- Spar; 24- Catch some rays; 25- Shortly; 28- With child; 33- Chopper topper; 34- Architect Mies van der ___; 35- Cosmetic additive; 36- High-pitched; 37- Brought into being; 38- Abner's adjective; 39- Babe in the woods; 41- This, in Tijuana; 42- Unfettered; 44- Leans; 46- Apex; 47- Bustle; 48- Vocalize melodically; 49- Employees; 53- To disgrace; 57- Busy as ___; 58- Main artery; 60- Flood survivor; 61- Steals; 62- Shallow water; 63- Let ___; 64- Give ___ break; 65- Fesses (up); 66- Matter for Holmes;

DOWN 1- Eats; 2- Israeli round dance; 3- ___ to differ; 4- Commercial capital of Sri Lanka; 5- Current; 6- Not moving; 7- Super Bowl highlights?; 8- Be dependent; 9- Think (over); 10- Baja bread; 11- All-male; 14- Pan-fried; 15- Yellowish brown pigment; 20- Depilatory brand; 22- Fall back; 25- Teheran native; 26- Atari founder Bushnell; 27- Top story; 28- Harbor towns; 29- She played Carla on "Cheers"; 30- Apportion; 31- Racket; 32- Pre-fax communication; 34- Ascend; 37- Ladies of Spain; 40- Scales; 42- Fast time; 43- Pertaining to compounds of carbon; 45- Ox tail?; 46- Essential parts; 48- The devil; 49- Friendly; 50- It's blown among the reeds; 51- First name in country; 52- London district; 54- Mite; 55- Collars; 56- Of ___ | Sing; 59- Rank;

Friday's solution

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

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



<p>SELL INVEST RENT</p> <p>CALL US (853) 2835 2699</p>	<p>jml property</p> <p>hello@jmlproperty.com www.jmlproperty.com</p> <p>jmlmacau jmlproperty</p>	<p>FOR SALE</p> <p>NEW</p> <p>Nova Taipa Gardens HKD 12,380,000</p> <p>Ref: n/a 1,350 ft² 3 2 1</p>	<p>FOR RENT</p> <p>NEW</p> <p>Office Central HKD 18,000/mth</p> <p>Ref: n/a 1,250 ft² 2 1</p>	<p>Rain Dance Property</p> <p>"We dance until it's SOLD!"</p> <p>Hellene Gardens HKD 7,680,000</p> <p>Ref: 2109 6001 1,663 ft² 3 2 1</p>
---	---	---	---	---



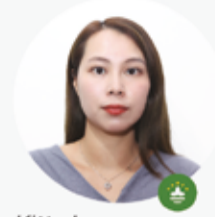
Eida Lemos
(853) 6226 8566
eida@jmlproperty.com



Windy Lam
(853) 6881 1007
windy@jmlproperty.com



Juliet Risdon
(853) 6680 9804
juliet@jmlproperty.com



Kitty Lou
(853) 6630 0730
kitty@jmlproperty.com



Sam Lee
(853) 6611 0975
sam@jmlproperty.com

Property of the Week



Nova Taipa Gardens
HKD 12,380,000 1,350 ft² 3 🛏️ 2 🚿 1 🚗

Stunning top floor apartment with panoramic views across to Hengqin. Three fabulous double bedrooms with ample space for wardrobes, drawers, bedside tables and more. Two bathrooms, one ensuite. Wonderful galley style large kitchen with small pantry store room, lots of cabinet space, modern appliances and space for breakfast table and chairs. One parking space is available on request not included in the asking price.



Ref: n/a

Find out more on www.jmlproperty.com

Property Hotlist



Tai Nin
HKD 3,590,000

720 ft²
1 🛏️
1 🚿



Ref: 2110 6001



FOR RENT

Office Central
HKD 18,000/mth

1,250 ft²
1 🚿



Ref: n/a



FOR RENT

Houston Court
HKD 9,500/mth

824 ft²
1 🛏️
1 🚿



Ref: 2009 1001

More Listings

For Sale

- [Macau] Macau, ZAPE 2 🛏️ 1 🚿 720 ft² **HKD 7,450,000** Ref: 2101 6002
- [Taipa] Family Home 4 🛏️ 3 🚿 2,073 ft² **HKD 9,988,000** Ref: 2111 6002
- [Taipa] Retail 833 ft² **HKD 12,980,000** Ref: 2111 6001
- [Taipa] Manhattan 4 🛏️ 2 🚿 2,305 ft² **HKD 17,980,000** Ref: 1807 5558
- [Taipa] Panorama 4 🛏️ 4 🚿 5,700 ft² **HKD 24,800,000** Ref: 2103 6003

For Rent

- [Taipa] Old Taipa Studio 1 🚿 376 ft² **HKD 7,200/mth** Ref: 2110 1002
- [Coloane] One Oasis 2 🛏️ 2 🚿 1,033 ft² **HKD 11,900/mth** Ref: 2107 6003
- [Taipa] Manhattan 3 🛏️ 2 🚿 1,626 ft² **HKD 17,500/mth** Ref: 2003 1001
- [Taipa] One Central 3 🛏️ 3 🚿 2,332 ft² **HKD 29,800/mth** Ref: 2010 1001
- [Taipa] BCM building office 4,100 ft² **HKD 85,000/mth** Ref: 2102 1001

Rain Dance Property "WE DANCE UNTIL IT'S SOLD!"



Hellene Gardens
HKD 7,680,000

1,663 ft²
3 🛏️
2 🚿
1 🚗



Ref: 2109 6001

JML Sponsorships



Cradle of Hope Association



Caritas Macau



Macau Bats Rugby Club



Macau Golf Masters

Let's Connect

(853) 2835 2699

hello@jmlproperty.com

www.jmlproperty.com

jmlmacau jmlproperty

有關樓宇廣告法定資訊資料請向職員查閱
For more information on advertising laws,
please speak to one of our representatives.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

GAMING

Some Vegas Strip casinos to get new facades, familiar names

SOME shuffling among owners could result in re-branding, demolition, reconstruction and the addition of familiar names at some of the Las Vegas Strip's most iconic properties.

Caesars Entertainment Inc., owner of the venerable Bally's Las Vegas, announced this week that it plans to rename its heart-of-the-Strip towers the Horseshoe Las Vegas, drawing on a name made famous at a downtown gambling hall that was the original home of the World Series of Poker.

A few blocks down Las Vegas Boulevard, the famed Tropicana Las Vegas could be demolished or renovated, according to the director of the company offering to buy out Rhode Island-based casino owner Bally's Corp. Bally's Corp. is buying the nearly 1,500-room resort — a Rat Pack-era attraction once known for its mob ties.

"We're open to it all," Soohyung

AP PHOTO



Kim, founding partner of investment firm Standard General, told the Las Vegas Review-Journal, including possibly leveling the tower and redeveloping the 35-

acre Strip property to give Bally's Corp. a glittery new Las Vegas Strip address.

"It's hard to be a national gaming company without a pre-

sence in Las Vegas," Kim told the newspaper.

At The Mirage Hotel & Casino, the landmark volcano that has spit fire since the hotel opened

in 1989 is destined to be snuffed out once Hard Rock International acquires operations of the Polynesian-themed property in a cash deal with MGM Resorts International worth nearly \$1.1 billion.

Hard Rock, owned by the Seminole Tribe of Florida, plans to build a massive guitar-shaped hotel.

At the new Horseshoe, Caesars Entertainment said work will begin this spring to renovate and rename the 2,800-room Bally's, which opened in late 1973 as the MGM Grand Hotel, and then move the World Series of Poker to the Strip for the first time.

The tournament began in 1970 at the Horseshoe Club, a downtown hotel founded by Texas gambler Benny Binion in 1951. It moved in 2005 to the Rio All-Suites Hotel & Casino, where the pandemic-delayed 52nd version of the marquee event was held last November.

This year it will be at the Horseshoe and adjacent Paris Las Vegas from May 31 to July 19, Caesars said Wednesday in a statement.

"As we move WSOP to the Las Vegas Strip for the first time, that it will happen at Horseshoe makes it incredibly special," said Ty Stewart, a Caesars senior vice president and tournament executive director. **MDT/AP**

AD

**Chinese New Year
Auspicious Feast**

Celebrate Chinese New Year
with an array of festive delicacies
at Sands® Resorts Macao.

BOOK NOW
+853 8118 8822



Scan to discover full festive menu



TENNIS | AUSTRALIAN OPEN

TOP-RANKED KREJCIKOVA, SINIAKOVA WIN WOMEN'S DOUBLES

TOP-RANKED Barbora Krejčíková and Katerina Siniakova took another major step in a partnership which began in junior ranks when they won the Australian Open women's doubles 6-7 (3), 6-4, 6-4 yesterday from unseeded Anna Danilina and Beatriz Haddad Maia.

The Czech pair claimed their first Australian Open title to go with one Wimbledon and two French Open titles to move a step closer to a career Grand Slam in doubles. They also are Olympic champions.

They were finalists in Melbourne last year but went down 6-2, 6-3 to Elise Mertens and Aryna Sabalenka. Krejčíková also had been in top form in the singles in Melbourne this year before unexpectedly falling to Madison Keys in the quarterfinals.

The top seeds were fully stretched by Danilina of Kazakhstan and Haddad Maia of Brazil who put together their partnership less than a month ago and were unbeaten in nine matches before yesterday. They won the Sydney Classic doubles title before ta-

AP PHOTO



ckling their first Grand Slam tournament together.

Danilina and Haddad Maia became the first pair to take a set from Krejčíková and Siniakova in Melbourne and kept the final alive for 2 hours and 42 minutes before finally succumbing.

Krejčíková and Siniakova's well-honed partnership was scratchy at times before experience pul-

led them through. Siniakova was more active in the first two sets while Krejčíková seemed unusually stuck on the baseline and less mobile than usual at the net.

Krejčíková stepped up in the final set and produced many of the key points, hitting strongly through the middle of the court while Siniakova crossed over at the net for clutch volleys.

Siniakova had served for the match at 5-2 in the third set but Danilina and Haddad Maia, not to be denied, broke her serve.

Haddad Maia held serve in front of cheering fans waving Brazil flags before Krejčíková clinched the win on serve.

"You guys have played two great tournaments and I hope you're going to continue together

and I hope we're going to have more fights like this because it's a real pleasure to share a court with you," Krejčíková said court-side. "You're really amazing."

"I want also want to thank my partner for playing with me for a very, very long time. I'm so happy we are still working so well together and our co-operation is only going up so I'm really happy with that and I'm looking forward to the next adventure."

Siniakova thanked Krejčíková for her support through recent difficult times.

"Thank you for pushing me hard and for helping me and just being on my side on the court," she said.

The top seeds fell behind in the first set when Siniakova's serve was broken in the third game. They leveled, breaking Danilina in the eighth game and Siniakova and Danilina both lost their serves again before the set went to a tiebreak.

Danilina and Haddad Maia won the first six points on the tiebreak and held on comfortably to take the set.

Haddad Maia dropped serve in the opening game of the second set and Krejčíková and Siniakova held that advantage to level the match. They also broke Haddad Maia for an early advantage in the deciding set before their unseeded rivals fought back to extend the match. **MDT/AP**

AD

恭喜發財
新年快樂

Wishing You a Happy and
Prosperous Year of the Tiger!
Happy Chinese New Year!



澳門彩票有限公司
macauslot.com

RUGBY

Six Nations is back with fans but without a clear favorite

STEVE DOUGLAS

ENGLAND is the highest ranked and most well-resourced rugby team in Europe.

Ireland is on an eight-test winning run including knocking over the All Blacks.

France also has a recent victory over New Zealand and is improving quicker than any test nation ahead of hosting next year's Rugby World Cup.

Wales won the 2021 championship out of nowhere and has pedigree with four titles in the last 10 years.

Good luck picking a winner in the upcoming Six Nations.

The northern hemisphere rugby tournament that rarely fails to deliver is rolling around again — this time with fans and less certainty than ever about where the trophy will be heading.

Of course, there are some cast-iron guarantees around the Six Nations: Fiercely sung national anthems, press conference jibes



from Eddie Jones, post-match chaos at railway stations outside Twickenham and the Millennium Stadium. Oh, and it's fairly likely Italy will be limping to the final weekend already sure of the wooden spoon.

But almost everything else seems up in the air, especially given what transpired over the autumn internationals, which ended

with European rugby sticking out its chest with pride.

For the first time since 2002, New Zealand, South Africa and Australia were all beaten on the same weekend — by France, England and Wales, respectively. Ireland also devoured Argentina on that statement weekend for the northern hemisphere that provided the perfect set-up for

the Six Nations.

The French are the favorites this year. They have the world player of the year in scrumhalf Antoine Dupont, a mighty pack, a sense of togetherness, a coach with a plan in Fabian Galthie, and momentum from a first home win over the All Blacks since 2000.

Galthie called the Nov. 20 victory a "moment of truth" and now is the time to break a drought that feels almost as long. Not since 2010 has France won the Six Nations, a travesty for a country with so much rugby talent.

Les Tricolores have had back-to-back second-place finishes, losing out last year after a final-round loss at home to Scotland when a 21-point win was needed to overhaul Wales.

As for the Welsh, retaining the title just got that much harder with stalwart lock Alun Wyn Jones likely to miss the whole tournament because of a shoulder injury sustained in the autumn tests. Jones is just one of a number of key injury absentees for coach Wayne

Pivac, who is also without George North, Ken Owens and what could have been the starting back row of Josh Navidi, Justin Tipuric and Taulupe Faletau.

The fact the Welsh are starting out at Ireland and also have to visit Twickenham makes their title defense even tougher.

England can never be discounted but this tournament might be filed in the drawer marked "transitional" with Eddie Jones still rebuilding a team for the 2023 World Cup. The absence of Owen Farrell for the whole Six Nations because of injury denies England leadership in the back division and an ice-cool goalkicker, while putting more focus on the rising star of English rugby, flyhalf Marcus Smith. Jonny May, the team's most likely try-scorer, will also likely miss the whole tournament.

Jones survived a fifth-place finish last year, despite it being arguably England's worst ever display in the championship after losing to all three Triple Crown rivals — Scotland, Wales and Ireland — for the first time since 1976 and having their most points conceded in a campaign.

Then again, beating Australia and South Africa in November highlighted the strength in depth available to England, which is something the Irish can also boast. **MDT/AP**

AD

CTM wishing you
Health and Wealth  in the Year of the Tiger



All Shop will be closed between 1st and 4th Feb,
and resume business from 5th Feb

#YOU DESERVE BETTER 

321 plan **\$198 / 15GB***

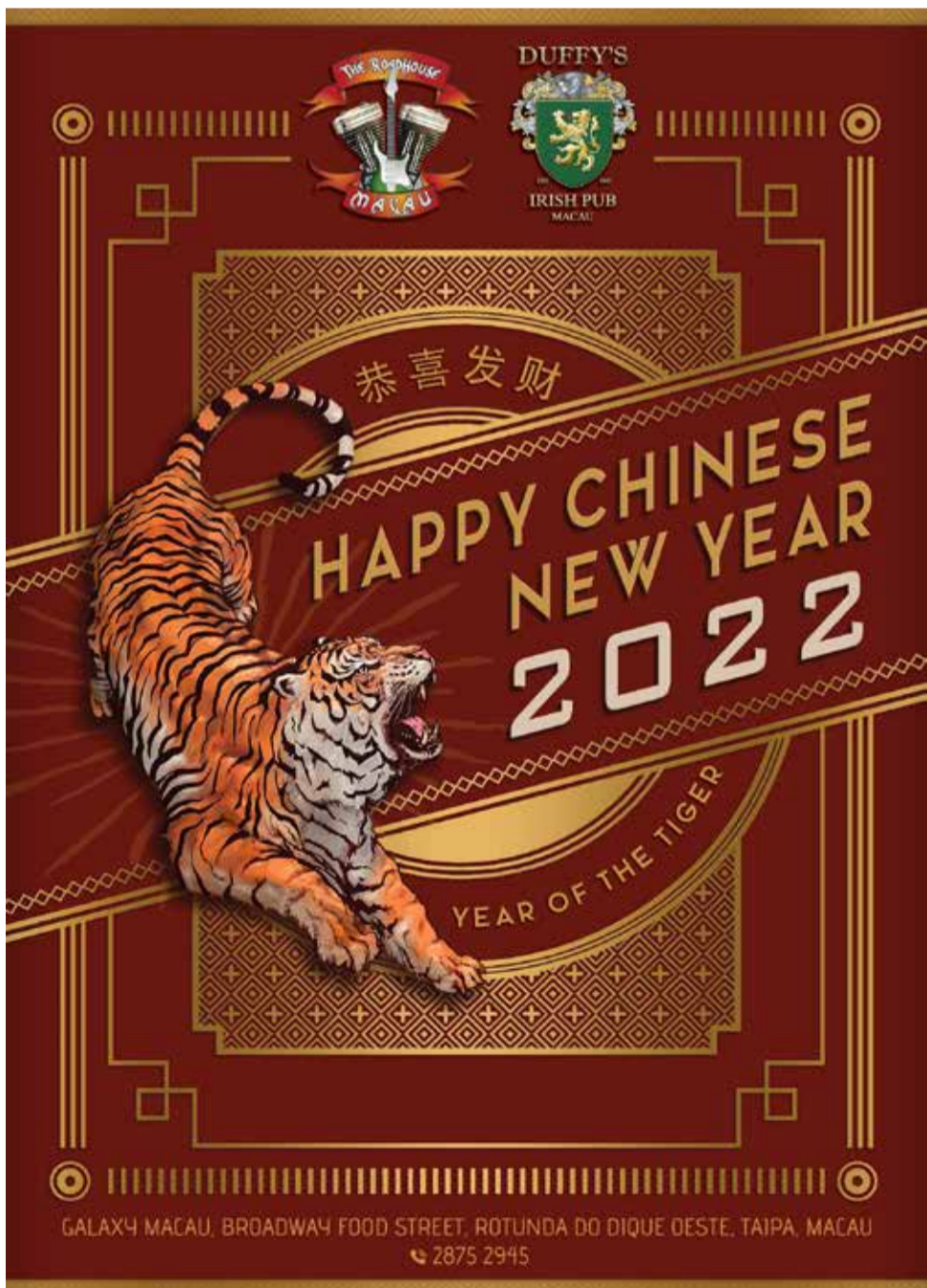
Get EXTRA 50% OFF on
Mainland China Mobile No. Monthly Fee

* Customers being CTM Buddy before 31/12/2020 are entitled to enjoy this offer.
Notes: All prices are in MOP. Customers of the above promotions are bound by the respective service agreement.

Details/Apply



www.ctm.net
No.1 Hotline: 1000



THE ROOFTOP BAR
MACAU

DUFFY'S
IRISH PUB
MACAU

恭喜发财

HAPPY CHINESE
NEW YEAR
2022

YEAR OF THE TIGER

GALAXY MACAU, BROADWAY FOOD STREET, ROTUNDA DO DIQUE OESTE, TAIPA, MACAU
☎ 2875 2945

OPINION

China Daily
 Editorial, China Daily

**SPACE SHOULD
 BE USED FOR
 INTERNATIONAL
 COOPERATION**

More than 200 space launch missions, mostly carried by the Long March rocket family, were completed over the past five years.

The Beidou navigation system has completed its three-step operation, after launching 30 satellites into space, to provide services for the international community.

The Chang'e 5 spacecraft returned samples from the moon to Earth in 2020, becoming the first to do so since the Soviet Union's "Luna 24" mission in 1976.

Tianhe, the core module for China's space station in low-Earth orbit, was launched in April 2021. Apart from living quarters for crew members, it has a control center and docking hub, which will allow it to link with science modules.

The Tianwen 1 probe, China's first Mars mission carrying the Zhurong rover, was launched in June 2021, with the rover landing on the Utopia Planitia region of the Red Planet, making China only the second country after the US to land a rover on the planet.

These are just a few examples of China's achievements in space exploration from 2016 to 2021, as described in the white paper, "China's Space Program: A 2021 Perspective", released on Friday.

As the white paper says, cooperation with Russia to build an international lunar research station will be one of China's key space missions in the next five years, and China welcomes international participation in the mission at all phases and all levels.

The white paper also calls on all countries to conduct in-depth exchanges and cooperation in outer space on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and peaceful utilization.

Yet, as more than one foreign media outlet has highlighted, the United States tends to view outer space more as an area of competition. For instance, the US has established a Space Force, the first of its kind in the world, which was "rapidly developed from a theoretical concept to an operational service fully engaged in many activities", as Thomas E. Ayres, general counsel of the US Department of the Air Force, wrote in an article published on West Point's official website.

In May 2020, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration even drafted the Artemis Accords, which, contrary to the 1979 Moon Agreement declaring the moon as "common heritage of mankind", invented the concept of "safety zones" around lunar operations, allowing governments, even companies, to protect their research sites from "harmful interference". So far, 12 other countries have signed it.

In contrast, China, as the white paper emphasizes, calls for cooperation with other countries in astronaut selection and training, joint flights and other areas of space research and exploration.

It's time the US woke up and smelled the coffee. The world is no longer interested in its divisive, hegemonic schemes; instead, it is crying out for cooperation in every field, from fighting climate change, containing the COVID-19 pandemic to exploring outer space.

**BEIJING SEALS OFF MORE
 RESIDENTIAL AREAS, REPORTS 12 CASES**

Beijing officials said yesterday they sealed off several residential communities in the city's northern district after two cases of COVID-19 were found.

Residents in the Anzhenli neighborhood in Chaoyang district were sealed off on Saturday, and will not be allowed to leave their compound.

Beijing is on high alert as it prepares to host the Olympic Games opening on Friday.

While the cases are low compared to other countries in the region, China has double down on its "zero-tolerance" policy, which includes

breaking the chain of transmission as soon as it is found.

The city is also setting up 19 points in the area to test residents every day until Friday, officials said at a briefing on the pandemic, according to state-backed Beijing News.

The Chinese capital reported a total of 12 cases of COVID-19 between 4 p.m. Saturday and 4 p.m. Sunday. All those cases came from people who were already under some kind of pandemic control measures.

The city conducted multiple rounds of testing for millions of residents this past week in Fengtai district, where some residential compounds were locked down.

TIED ELECTION

**PORTUGAL PICKS NEW
 GOVERNMENT WITH \$50B
 OF EU FUNDS ON TABLE**

BARRY HATTON, LISBON

PORTUGUESE voters went to the polls yesterday in an early election that looked set to produce another vulnerable minority government, just as the country is poised to start spending a huge windfall of European Union funds.

That outcome would leave Portugal back where it started two months ago, when lawmakers rejected the minority Socialist government's spending bill and the country's president dissolved parliament.

The center-left Socialists and their main rivals, the center-right Social Democratic Party, were in a tight race, opinion polls suggested.

Those two parties traditionally collect around 70% of the vote and have for decades alternated in power in Western Europe's poorest country.

The landslide victory needed to form a majority government, which can pass most legislation despite opposition in parliament, is rare. Portugal has had just three majority governments in the past half-century.

That means one of the two main parties likely will have to form parliamentary alliances by cutting deals with smaller parties.

The stakes are high: Portugal, a country of around 10.3 million people, is poised to begin deploying some 45 billion euros (\$50 billion) of aid as a member of the EU to help spur the economy after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Two-thirds of that sum is intended for public projects, such as major infrastructure, giving the next government a financial bonanza. The other third is to be awarded to private companies.

The ballot took place amid a surge in COVID-19 cases blamed on the omicron variant, with about



1.2 million people confined at home but allowed to go to polling stations to cast their vote.

President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, in an election-eve address to the nation, urged people to vote, saying it is "a way of saying that ... nothing, and nobody, can silence our voice."

He said the coming years would be marked by "leaving behind a painful pandemic (and) an urgent rebuilding of the economy."

Miguel Morgado, a 49-year-old company manager voting in Lisbon, the capital, said he wasn't worried by the high coronavirus infection rate and hoped the country would soon be back to normal.

"Above all it is our civic duty to vote, the country needs it," he said. "No matter what we believe in, we must vote."

Since it came to power in 2015, the Socialist Party had relied on the support of their smaller allies in parliament — the Left Bloc and the Portuguese Communist Party — to ensure the annual state budget had enough votes to pass.

But last November their differences, especially over public health spending and workers' rights, were insurmountable, leaving Socialist Prime Minister António Costa short of votes to pass his party's plan.

Costa could seek to resurrect the left-of-center alliance, despite some acrimonious exchanges during the election campaign.

The Social Democrats, meanwhile, may have to deal with a surge in support for the Chega! (Enough!) populist party, whose policies Social Democratic Party leader Rui Rio finds distasteful.

The Social Democrats have also in the past joined forces with the smaller Popular Party.

The Socialist Party promises to increase the minimum monthly wage, earned by more than 800,000 people, to 900 euros (\$1,020) by 2026. It is currently 705 euros (\$800). Low wages are a common grievance among voters.

The Socialists also want to "start a national conversation" about working four days a week instead of five.

The Social Democratic Party is promising income tax cuts and more help for private companies, cutting corporate tax from the current 21% to 17% by 2024.

The winner will also have more deep-rooted problems to address, including an economy that can't get traction.

According to Portuguese media, by 12-noon, the participation rate was slightly higher than in the previous legislative polls, in 2019. **MDT/AP**



Russia says it will relocate naval exercises off the coast of Ireland after Dublin raised concerns about them amid a tense dispute with the West over expansion of the NATO alliance and fears that Russia is preparing to invade Ukraine. The Feb. 3-8 exercises were to be held 240 kilometers off southwestern Ireland — in international waters but within Ireland's exclusive economic zone. Ireland is a member of the 27-nation European Union but not a member of NATO.

More on p18

Kuwait suspended flights to Iraq for a week starting yesterday citing security fears after a rocket attack targeted Baghdad international airport. Iraqi authorities, meanwhile, announced an attacker had been apprehended. Kuwait Airways, the country's main carrier, said in a statement Saturday that flights to Iraq were temporarily suspended based on instructions from the Kuwaiti Civil Aviation Authority due to "current conditions."



Italian President Sergio Mattarella was pulled away from his impending retirement and reelected Saturday to a second seven-year term as the country's head of state, ending days of political impasse by party leaders that risked eroding the nation's credibility. Earlier on Saturday, lawmakers entreated Mattarella, 80, who had said repeatedly he didn't want a second mandate, to change his mind after lawmakers in Parliament and regional delegates voted fruitlessly for days, trying to reach a consensus on other possible candidates.

HOLIDAY TIMES

Macau Daily Times will not be published during the holiday. The Times will be back on the stands on Monday February 7. However the MDT website will be updated with breaking news during the recess period. We wish our readers, advertisers and friends the best of times. **Kung Hei Fat Choi!**