

17
A-CHANGIN'
Advertise with us
+853 287 160 81

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報®
Times

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

ARTYZEN
GRAND LAPA MACAU
澳門雅辰酒店
DISCOVER
Good Life Starts Here

N.º 4539 **TUESDAY** T. 29° / 35° Air Quality Moderate
06 Aug 2024

“THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’”

MOP 8.00
HKD 10.00 2305 4271

SUSPECT ARRESTED IN ZHONGSHAN AFTER STEALING MOP10 MILLION WORTH OF PROPERTY FROM A LUXURY RESIDENCE IN MACAU

P4

LAWMAKER LAM DEMANDS IAM PROBE OVER TAIPA HOUSES CONCEALMENT

P4

CHINESE BUSINESSES HOPING TO EXPAND IN THE US AND BRING JOBS FACE UNCERTAINTY

P5



AP PHOTO



Japan The Nikkei index experienced a dramatic plunge of 12.4% yesterday, its steepest decline in decades. Triggered by a concerning U.S. employment report, the fall intensified global fears of a looming recession, overshadowing previous gains and stirring market volatility.

AP PHOTO



Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday declared Israel is in a “multi-front war” with Iran and its proxies, intensifying regional tensions. Following recent attacks, the U.S. and allies are heightening defensive measures to thwart potential retaliations and prevent a broader conflict amidst escalating hostilities in the Middle East.

AP PHOTO



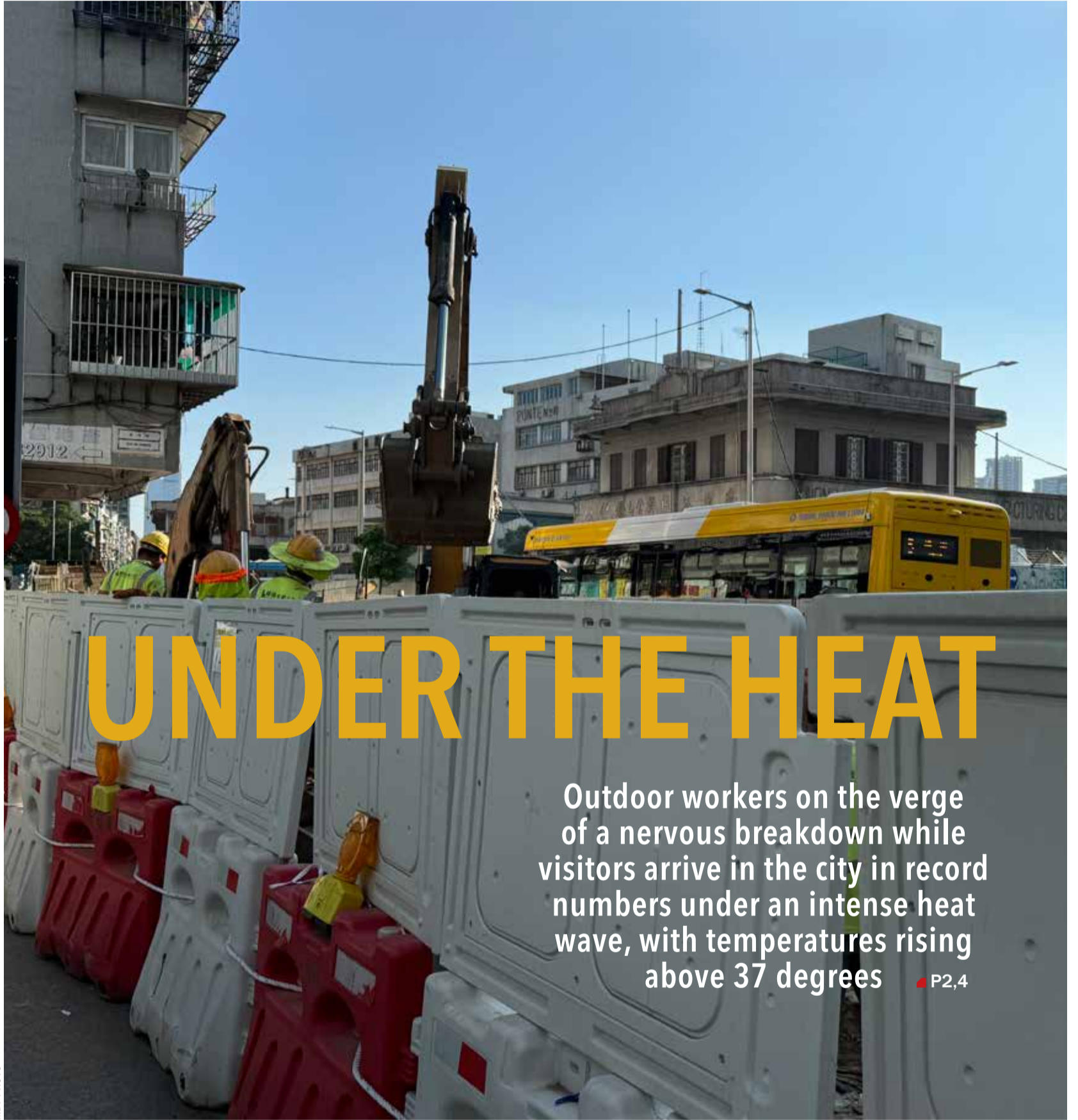
Iran In a rare diplomatic move, Jordan's Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi yesterday visited Tehran to discuss regional tensions exacerbated by recent conflicts involving Israel. The talks aim to curb potential escalations and foster stability amid concerns over a broader war. Safadi's visit marks a significant step in addressing the volatile dynamics in the Middle East.

AP PHOTO



Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy showcased newly arrived F-16 jets as a significant enhancement to Ukraine's defense capabilities against Russia. The display underscores efforts to strengthen air defenses and bolster morale among Ukrainian forces amidst ongoing conflicts. Zelenskyy emphasized the jets' role in protecting Ukrainian skies from escalating threats.

More on backpage



UNDER THE HEAT

Outdoor workers on the verge of a nervous breakdown while visitors arrive in the city in record numbers under an intense heat wave, with temperatures rising above 37 degrees P2,4

MDT PHOTO

WEATHER BUREAU ISSUES HEATSTROKE WARNINGS

P2

DEMOGRAPHICS
POSSIBLE RISE IN BIRTHS THIS YEAR; POPULATION GROWS



P3

TRAGIC DROWNING INCIDENT AT HOTEL POOL

A young boy was confirmed dead after a suspected drowning at a hotel pool in Coloane Sunday. The Judiciary Police (PJ) reported the boy, a minor and non-resident, was found submerged shortly after he entered the pool around 2:20 p.m. A hotel guest noticed the child at the bottom of the pool and attempted a rescue while staff called for emergency assistance. Despite efforts to revive him, he was pronounced dead upon arrival at Centro Hospitalar Conde de São Januário (CHCSJ). An initial examination revealed no signs of foul play, and the cause of death is pending forensic investigation. The case has been classified as a body discovery and is under further investigation by the PJ's special investigation unit.

OVER 190 PEOPLE WILL WORK AT CE ELECTION POLLING STATIONS

More than 140 people will be involved directly in the work of the seven polling stations during the election of the Chief Executive (CE) later this year, the Electoral Affairs Committee of the Chief Executive (CAECE) has announced. Around 50 other people will join these workers to perform various support tasks. Around 190 people in total will receive training from CAECE on the procedures and regulations for the election, including polling procedures as well as vote counting and contingency plans, the CAECE said yesterday during one of the training sessions.

CASINO EMPLOYEE ARRESTED IN HKD400,000 CHIP THEFT SCHEME

A casino employee has been arrested in connection with the theft of HKD400,000 in gaming chips from a casino. The female worker, who has been employed since 2007, allegedly stole chips from the roulette table during her shifts, pilfering HKD100,000 in at least three incidents since June. The Judiciary Police (PJ) launched an investigation after a formal complaint was filed, leading to surveillance operations. On Aug. 4, authorities apprehended her while she attempted another theft, intercepting her and discovering chips taped to her body. The investigation continues as the suspect remains uncooperative, complicating efforts to recover the stolen chips.

COMPANY INCORPORATIONS SURGE IN Q2

The Statistics and Census Service (DSEC) has reported a notable increase in new company registrations in the second quarter of 2024, with 1,179 new companies incorporated, up 62 from the previous quarter. However, the number of dissolutions also rose by 137, totaling 365, resulting in a net increase of 814 companies. The wholesale and retail trade sector led with 374 new entries, while business services followed closely with 345. Despite this growth, the total registered capital for new companies fell 24.2% to MOP154 million, primarily due to fewer large capital registrations in financial and high-tech industries.

FAOM CALLS FOR OUTDOOR WORKERS PROTECTION AMID SCORCHING HEAT

STAFF REPORTER

THE Macau Federation of Trade Unions (FAOM) is advocating for specific and binding rules to protect outdoor workers, especially during hot days and adverse weather conditions.

This comes after a survey conducted by FAOM revealed most employers do not adjust conditions for outdoor work despite high temperatures. Additionally, 65% of respondents reported their workplaces lack equipment to prevent heat stroke.

Ella Lei, FAOM vice-president, noted the survey indicates a significant gap in the protection provided to outdoor workers during hot weather.

"Labor protection for individuals who work outdoors during very hot weather remains insufficient in Macau," Lei said during the report's release.

Current laws require adequate protection against adverse environmental conditions and excessive sun exposure, but lack specific regulations and guidelines for implementation.

According to the survey results,



70% of respondents support the creation of binding rules to increase rest periods or provide heat stroke prevention equipment.

Completed by 1,004 workers in Macau, the survey found almost half the respondents spend more than one hour outdoors each day on average.

Additionally, 87.7% stated their workplaces do not adjust work schedules on hot days, and 79.8% reported their companies do not increase rest time despite the heat.

Over 65% mentioned that

their employers do not provide equipment or materials to prevent heatstroke.

More than 50% of employees believe high temperatures affect their physical and mental health. The survey also highlights a lack of sufficient knowledge among workers about heat-related illnesses and first aid measures.

Employees suggested several measures to improve working conditions for those who work outdoors. This includes increasing rest time (69%), improving the working environment (53.3%), providing thermal

protective equipment (51.9%), making reasonable adjustments to outdoor workload (48.7%), and implementing flexible working hours (39.1%).

In light of these results, Lei emphasized the importance of the government learning from international practices to develop more specific guidelines.

These should include the classification of high temperatures, adjustments to working hours, rest arrangements, risk assessments, improvements to working environments, contingency planning, and raising awareness among workers about the risks of working during hot weather.

The Labour Affairs Bureau currently provides safety guidelines for work in tropical storms, heavy rain, and adverse weather conditions, which are non-binding suggestions for companies. The bureau suggests scheduling regular breaks for outdoor workers between May and September, with 15-minute breaks in the morning and 30-minute breaks in the afternoon to prevent sunstroke and exposure to excessive heat.

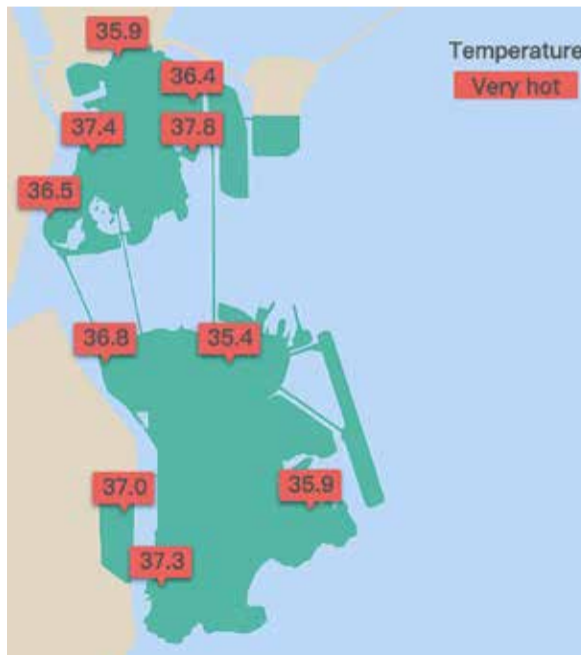
Heatstroke warnings issued as city records temperatures exceeding 37 degrees

RENATO MARQUES

AS predicted, air temperatures continue to rise in Macau, with four of 10 weather stations recording temperatures of 37 degrees Celsius and above yesterday afternoon.

According to the Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG), the highest temperature yesterday was recorded at the Outer Harbour Weather Station with a maximum of 37.8 degrees, while the station at the Mount Fortress, recorded 37.4 degrees.

The two other stations recording 37 degrees or above were the



Coloane Village and the University of Macau at the Hengqin Campus, respectively recording 37.3 degrees and 37 degrees. The SMG had issued a warning for the high

temperatures, which have reached the orange level, meaning the maximum temperature is expected to reach or surpass 36 degrees in some areas.

The SMG reiterated standard recommendations to the public to guard against heatstroke, avoid outdoor activities and stay hydrated.

The Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL) issued a statement urging outdoor workers to take precautions against heatstroke.

On the same day, the neighboring city of Zhuhai was hit by even higher temperatures, with the thermometers

rising above 39 degrees.

China is enduring a summer of extreme weather, with unseasonable heat affecting parts of the North and East, while torrential rains have recently triggered floods and landslides in Central and Southern regions.

According to several reports from weather news channels, temperatures reached 41.9 degrees Saturday in the eastern city of Hangzhou.

According to SMG, an anticyclone aloft is affecting the weather in Macau, and high temperatures are expected to persist in coming days.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo
REACHING OUT!
+25,000
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 Torrão, Albano Martins, Annabel Jackson, Emilie Tran, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Ivo Carneiro de Sousa, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Lao-Phillips, João Palla Martins, Jorge Costa Oliveira, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Risdon, Linda Kennedy, Paulo Cordeiro de Sousa, Renato Marques, Richard Whitfield, Sérgio de Almeida Correia, Viviana Seguí
DESIGNER_Rebeca Almeida | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS_JML Property, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars, Ruan Du Toit Bester | NEWS AGENCIES_Associated Press, MacauHub, MacaoNews, Xinhua
SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

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



STATS

SSM indicates possible rise in birth rate for the year

LYNZY VALLES

THE Health Bureau (SSM) has indicated a potential rise in Macau's birth rate for the upcoming year, based on current data on pregnant women.

Speaking on the sidelines of an event, Alvis Lo announced that in the first half of 2024, 3,053 pregnant women in Macau scheduled their first prenatal check-up, marking a 4.2% increase from the 2,929 appointments recorded during the same period last year.

Speaking at the 2024 Breastfeeding Promotion Award Ceremony, Lo emphasized the bureau's commitment to providing comprehensive prenatal care services throughout preg-

nancy to ensure the health and safe delivery of babies.

SSM data reveals the existence of 367 breastfeeding rooms across public and private institutions in Macau, which will continue to be optimized. The breastfeeding rate has significantly increased from 88% in 2015 to approximately 92% in 2023.

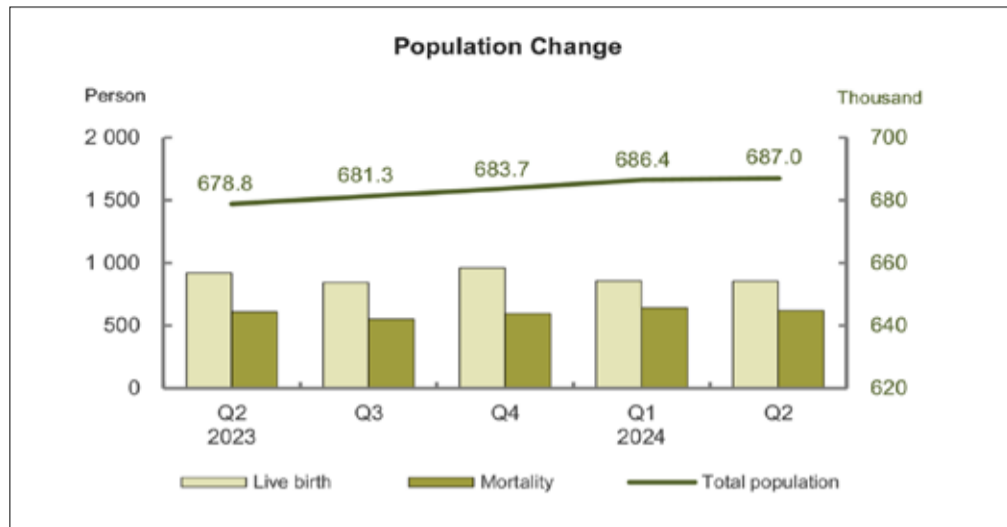
In June, the government released a birth encouragement video that received public backlash, with many residents criticizing the government's messaging and perceived lack of understanding of the challenges faced by families.

Titled "Having children brings greater happiness," the one-minute clip, posted earlier this month, depicts a

smiling baby and toddler designed to encourage married couples to have children. The video was criticized for its simplistic messaging and failure to acknowledge the obstacles faced by prospective parents.

The official birth rate in Macau has been declining in recent years, dropping to just 5.5 per thousand people in 2023, down from 6.4 per thousand in 2022 – the lowest since 1985.

Local associations have called on the government to take more substantive action to address the low birth rate. These measures include developing a stronger culture of marriage and childbearing, as well as implementing more robust support measures for families.



STATS

Population grows to 687,000 in H1

NADIA SHAW

By the end of June 2024, the total population reached 687,000 – marking an increase of 8,200 from the previous year, primarily driven by a rise in non-resident workers, according to the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC).

The demographic report reveals women make up 53.5% of the population, with 367,400 females compared to

319,600 males. This gender distribution reflects a consistent trend in Macau's population dynamics.

In the first half (H1) of the year, live births decreased to 1,709, down 198 from the previous year, while mortality rates also fell, with 1,261 deaths recorded—575 fewer than last year. The leading causes of death were neoplasms (466), circulatory diseases (301), and respiratory diseases (218), accounting

for 37%, 23.9%, and 17.3% of total deaths, respectively.

Marriage registrations rose slightly, with 1,662 cases, up by 60 year-on-year. In terms of migration, the number of new arrivals from mainland China with one-way permits decreased by 36 to 1,571, while those granted right of abode increased by 87 to 471.

Quarterly analysis shows a decline in live births, mortality, and marriages in the second quarter compared to the first. However, the number of non-resident workers rose to 181,108, an increase of 1,639 from the previous quarter, highlighting the ongoing demand for labor in Macau's recovering economy.

AD

BOUNCE THE CITY AT THE COTAI EXPO

MDT ticket giveaway



Bounce The City Macao, recognized as Asia's largest indoor inflatable park, is set to open in Macau from July 27 to September 18.

Spanning an impressive 150,000 square feet, the park will showcase five distinct inflatable attractions, complemented by a vibrant foam party and dynamic DJ entertainment to enhance

the bouncing experience.

Each of the five colossal attractions presents unique challenges designed to assess your athletic abilities, with The Giant featuring a remarkable obstacle course that stretches nearly 900 feet.

Experience the excitement of Sport Slam, AirSPACE

Pink Alien, and City Xscape, where you will be taken on thrilling cosmic alien-filled journeys, as well as explore the underwater world at OctoBlast.

There are five 90-minute sessions available each day, allowing guests to enjoy bouncing and socializing on the colorful inflatables to their fullest.

Question for our readers

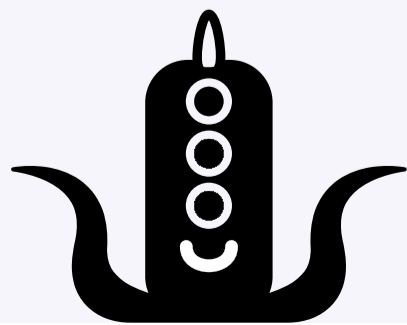
What are some of the unique inflatable attractions available at Bounce The City Macao?

Please email answers to:

bouncethecity@macaudailytimes.com
 Along with your name and cell phone number

Tickets-Giveaway

Four sets of three and two tickets each will be awarded to four readers who send us more correct answers the fastest, along with your name and cell number. The contest will run for three days (Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday), each day with a different question to be answered. Each 90-minute-session ticket is valued at MOP168 for a total prize value of MOP1680.



RON LAM DEMANDS IAM PROBE OVER TAIPA HOUSES CONCEALMENT

RENATO MARQUES

LAWMAKER Ron Lam has called for the government to launch an internal investigation into the Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) to determine the reasons behind the bureau's decision to withhold information about the pavement revamp project at the Taipa Houses Museum.

Lam submitted a written inquiry to the government via the Legislative Assembly, emphasizing the need to ascertain whether the concealment of information about the project was intentional, and its reasons. He noted the seriousness of the matter and its ability to influence public opinion on government transparency.

Information on the project was disclosed to the public by the IAM only after the media reported on it, which Lam argues does not reflect the transparency expected in government work.

"The design contract for the 'pavement optimization works'



RENATO MARQUES

was awarded on June 14 for a price of 638,930 patacas," Lam said. "When I tried to access information about the construction phase on the morning of July 31, the information was still categorized as 'work to be carried out.' Strangely, only in the afternoon of the same

day did the project appear in the section dedicated to the 'works in progress.' It was only then that it was revealed that there was a second contract for the construction phase, with a price of 1.8 million patacas."

"Was it due to a technical error

or was there a desire to withhold information?" Lam asked, urging relevant departments to "carry out a comprehensive internal investigation and clearly explain the matter to the public."

Lam also expressed his opinion on the project itself, saying that

authorities have been replacing sidewalks and pavement with Portuguese characteristics with uncharacteristic alternatives. He noted that such pavements are one of Macau's hallmarks and expressed concern that authorities have frequently failed to consult the public on matters related to the preservation of Macau's heritage and identity.

Since the works were announced, several community representatives have voiced opinions on the topic, urging the government to ensure the public is informed before the works are approved and move to construction. Some, like Lam, have also expressed concerns over the potential disfigurement of the historically significant area, which has special cultural value to the Macanese community.

According to information released by IAM and the Cultural Affairs Bureau, which is also part of the project, the revamp aims to create a path using granite stone slabs to replace some of the cobblestone pavement. The aim is to improve walking accessibility and access via wheelchairs and baby strollers. This new path will be built closer to the Taipa Houses, while the remaining area will retain the traditional cobblestones.

20 MILLION VISITORS

City sets single-day record with 717,000 arrivals and departures

RENATO MARQUES

MACAU has welcomed over 20 million visitors this year, reaching this milestone on August 3, according to visitor figures statistics released by the Public Security Police Force (PSP).

The single-day visitor arrivals and departures in Macau soared to over 717,000 last Saturday, marking the highest record in the city's history.

The PSP noted that from January to July, the average daily number of visitors to Macau was approximately 93,000, marking a 36.1% increase year-on-year compared to 2023.

Last year, the 20 million mark was reached in early October, two months later than this year.

The PSP reported that nearly 54 percent of this flow, exactly



RENATO MARQUES

717,197, passed through the Border Gate checkpoint.

1. The tourism arrival figures as of Saturday show a daily average of 93,000 arrivals, marking a 36% year-on-year increase and signaling a rebound of almost 83% from 2019 levels.

In 2023, Macau closed the year with 28.2 million visitors, representing 71.6% of pre-pandemic levels. December 2023 alone accounted for almost three million (2,943,930) visitors,

averaging nearly 95,000 visitors per day.

Local tourism authorities had earlier forecast the number of visitors this year will reach around 33 million, with 2 million expected to be international visitors.

With five months left until the end of this year, including August (a peak summer holiday month) and the remaining quarter (which traditionally has strong visitor numbers due to the Golden Week

of the National Day holidays), this target is expected to be reached by mid-December.

The deputy director of the Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) said late last week that July 2024 should account for approximately 3.02 million visitors, or over 97,400 visitors per day. The forecast also anticipates a continuous increase in hotel occupancy rates, potentially reaching 90% or more this month.



CRIME

POLICE RECOVER MOP10 MILLION IN STOLEN GOODS

NADIA SHAW

A Chinese man was arrested in Zhongshan after stealing approximately MOP10 million worth of property from a luxury residence. The 40-year-old suspect, who fled to the mainland after the crime, was apprehended and intercepted by police Sunday afternoon.

At a Judiciary Police press conference yesterday, the incident was revealed to have occurred late Saturday night.

The man broke into a luxury villa armed with a hammer, shovel, and other tools believed to have been stolen from a nearby construction site.

Over nearly three hours, he managed to drag a safe from a cloakroom and pry it open, stealing a significant amount of jewelry, watches, and foreign currency. During the theft, the

suspect suffered injuries, leaving a substantial amount of blood at the scene.

After the crime, he reportedly changed his clothes at the hotel room of a 34-year-old accomplice before escaping through Hengqin Port.

Authorities were notified and quickly initiated an investigation. They coordinated with the Zhuhai Municipal Public Security Bureau, leading to the suspect's interception in Zhongshan at around 3 p.m. Sunday. Most of the stolen items were recovered during the arrest.

Considering the scope of the crime, the 40-year-old could potentially face a prison sentence of three to 10 years under Article 264 of China's Criminal Law for the items stolen, in addition to a fine and confiscation of stolen goods.

INVESTMENT

Chinese businesses hoping to expand in the US and bring jobs face uncertainty

DIDI TANG, WASHINGTON

It was billed as the “biggest ever economic development project” in north Michigan when Gov. Gretchen Whitmer in 2022 welcomed a Chinese lithium-ion battery company’s plan to build a \$2.36 billion factory and bring a couple thousand jobs to Big Rapids.

But now the project by Gotion High-Tech is in the crosshairs of some U.S. lawmakers and local residents.

Leading the charge is Republican Rep. John Moolenaar of Michigan, chairman of the House Select Committee on China, who accuses the Chinese company of having ties to forced labor and says he fears it could spy for Beijing and work to extend China’s influence in the U.S. heartland. Gotion rejects the accusations.

“I want to see this area have more jobs and investments, but we must not welcome companies that are controlled by people who see us as the enemy and we should not allow them to build here,” Moolenaar said at a recent roundtable discussion in Michigan.

Lured by the large U.S. market, Chinese businesses are coming to the United States with money, jobs and technology, only to find rising suspicion at a time of an intensifying U.S.-China rivalry that has spread into the business world.

U.S. wariness of China, coupled with Beijing’s desire to protect its technological competitiveness, threatens to rupture ties between the world’s two largest economies. That could hurt businesses, workers and consumers, which some warn could undermine the



Gretchen Whitmer and John Moolenaar of Michigan

economic foundation that has helped stabilize relations.

“This is a lose-lose scenario for the two countries,” Zhiqun Zhu, professor of political science and international relations at Bucknell University, said in an email. “The main reason is U.S.-China rivalry, and the U.S. government prioritizes ‘national security’ over economic interests in dealing with China.”

Lizhi Liu, an assistant professor of business at Georgetown University, said the trend, along with the decline of U.S. investments in China, could hurt China-U.S. relations.

“Strong investment ties between the two nations are crucial not only for economic reasons but also for security, as intertwined economic interests reduce the likelihood of major conflicts or even war,” she said.

But U.S. lawmakers believe the stakes are high. Sen. Marco Rubio said at a July hearing that China is not only a military and diplomatic adversary for the U.S. but also a “technological, industrial and commercial” opponent.

“The technological and indus-

trial high ground has always been a precursor of global power,” said Rubio, a Republican from Florida. He argued that U.S. foreign policy should take into account the country’s commercial, trade and technological interests.

The bipartisan House Select Committee on China has warned that widespread adoption in the U.S. of technologies developed by China could threaten long-term U.S. technological competitiveness.

U.S. public sentiment against Chinese investments began to build up during President Barack Obama’s administration, in a pushback against globalization, and were amplified after President Donald Trump came into office, said Yilang Feng, an assistant professor of business at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, who studies economic nationalism and resistance to foreign direct investments in the U.S.

“The scale has increased, so has the intensity,” Feng said.

As President Joe Biden’s administration seeks to revive American manufacturing and boost U.S.

technological capabilities, many politicians believe Chinese companies should be kept out.

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation told The Associated Press it has received “bipartisan support at all levels” to move forward with the project, which will create up to 2,350 jobs.

Danielle Emerson, spokesperson for MEDC, said the project is “critical to onshore the battery supply chain and create thousands of good-paying local jobs, which reduces our reliance on overseas disruptions and further protects our national security.”

Also in Michigan, a partnership between Ford and CATL, another Chinese battery manufacturer, has been scaled back, following pushback over CATL’s potential connections to China’s ruling party.

In Worcester, Massachusetts, the Chinese biotech company WuXi Biologics paused construction of a large facility a few weeks after lawmakers introduced a bill that would, over data security concerns, ban U.S. entities receiving federal funds from doing business with

a number of China-linked companies, WuXi Biologics included.

John Ling, who has helped South Carolina and Georgia attract Chinese businesses for nearly two decades, said geopolitics have been getting in the way in recent years. Chinese companies are less likely to consider South Carolina after the state senate last year approved a bill banning Chinese citizens from buying property, even though the bill has yet to clear the statehouse, Ling said.

Data by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis show the total investments by China in the U.S. fell to just under \$44 billion in 2023, from a high point of \$63 billion in 2017, although first-year expenditures rose to \$621 million in 2023, up from \$531 million in 2022 but drastically down from the high of \$27 billion in 2016. The figures include acquisitions, new business establishments and expansions.

U.S. policymakers are worried that Chinese companies, beholden to the ruling Chinese Communist Party, could pose national security risks, he said, while Beijing is concerned that overseas investments could lead to Chinese technology leakage.

“Chinese companies are in between a rock and a hard place, dealing with both domestic governments in terms of not letting them go abroad and then the U.S. or host governments that have concerns,” Hanemann said.

Yet, Chinese investors may still find the U.S. market appealing “due to its high consumption levels and judicial independence,” said Liu of Georgetown University.

MDT/AP

CORPORATE BITS

Wynn Macau hosts exclusive hypercar exhibition



With support from the Macao Government Tourism Office, Wynn Resorts is hosting the “Wynn Signature – 2024 Hypercar Exhibition” at Wynn Macau and Wynn Palace until Oct. 13. The exhibition features 30 of the world’s rarest and most luxurious

hypercars, valued at HKD1.5 billion, including models from Apollo, Aston Martin, Bugatti, Ferrari, and Lamborghini.

This year’s exhibition showcases the fastest and rarest of hypercars, including the track-focused Pagani Huayra R, known for its un-

compromising performance; Koenigsegg Jesko Attack, which has a ‘Magic Wing’ to create enormous downforce; the classic Ferrari Enzo Hypercar with a roaring V12 engine; the limited-edition Aston Martin V12 Speedster launched in celebration of Aston Martin’s 100th anniversary; and the Lamborghini Veneno Roadster – the most expensive car in Lamborghini history with just nine vehicles worldwide.

Offering free admission to the public, the exhibit provides a unique opportunity to view these automotive masterpieces up close, many of which are being displayed in Macau for the first time.

The Londoner Arena to stage ‘Fairtex Fight Muay Thai Boxing’



The Londoner Macao, in partnership with Fairtex Fight and Tero Entertainment, will host the first-ever ‘Fairtex Fight Muay Thai Boxing’ at The Londoner Arena on Aug. 24. This event will feature renowned Thai fighters and top international

boxers in a spectacular production designed to boost the popularity of Muay Thai in Asia.

At the top of the night’s fight card will be Thai superstar Superball Teedet 99 vs. rising Chinese star Che Huashuo. Super-

ball Teedet 99, aged 28, was a gold medalist at the 2021 International Federation of Muaythai Associations World Championships. Che, aged 20, is known for his extraordinary punches and kicking ability.

Making his Macau debut is Hong Kong’s Yip Chihang (North Yip) vs. Macau’s Ng Chonin (Bryant Ng). Yip, aged 29, is skilled in powerful punches and devastating kicks.

In addition, the undercard will feature seven bouts across a range of weight classes starring exceptional Muay Thai talent from mainland China, Hong Kong and Thailand.

BRI

Cambodia breaks ground on China-funded canal and says it will be built 'no matter the cost'

SOPHENG CHEANG & ANIRUDDHA GHOSAL, PREK TAKEO

CAMBODIA broke ground yesterday on a controversial, China-funded canal to link the capital Phnom Penh to the sea, despite environmental concerns and the risk of straining ties with neighboring Vietnam.

The \$1.7 billion, 180-kilometer Funan Techo canal is planned to connect the country's capital with Kep province on Cambodia's south coast, giving it access to the Gulf of Thailand. Cambodia hopes the 100-meter-wide, 5.4-meter-deep canal will lower the cost of shipping goods to the country's sole deep-sea port, Sihanoukville, and reduce reliance on Vietnamese ports.

The project highlights the outsized role that China plays in Cambodian politics and economy. Meanwhile, concerns remain about the potential environmental impacts of the canal, especially on the flow of the Mekong River, which feeds millions of people across six countries through its fish and the agriculture that it sustains.

The project has Vietnam worried, both about the effect on its Mekong Delta rice-growing and about Cambodia moving out of its orbit, said Nguyen Khac Giang, an analyst at Singapore's ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute.

"There is a concern that most



Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet (front left) accompanied by his wife Pich Chanmony, presses the button during a groundbreaking ceremony of China-funded Funan Techo canal in Phnom Penh, yesterday

of the Cambodian exports might be diverted from the current route, crossing the Vietnamese border to Vietnamese ports and moving away from that to Cambodian ports," he said.

But Hanoi has expressed its concerns quietly, if at all, Giang said. Given the "complex historical legacy" between Cambodia and Vietnam — despite strong bilateral ties, the two nations have a contentious relationship — Vietnam is reticent to openly criticize Cambodia lest it be seen as impinging on its neighbor's sovereignty, he said.

Analysts say that the infrastructure project is in part an effort by

Cambodia's ruling elite to invigorate support for Hun Manet, who last year took over the wheel of government from his father, Hun Sen, who led Cambodia for 38 years.

The government declared yesterday — also Hun Sen's birthday — a holiday so Cambodians could participate in the "celebration in a joyful, crowded and proud manner." Thousands of people wearing t-shirts with photographs of the father and son began gathering at the canal site, that was covered in Cambodian flags. Billboards promoting the economic benefits of the canal dominated the countryside.

The canal will promote "natio-

nal prestige, the territorial integrity and the development of Cambodia," Manet said, adding that the country had built bigger and more expensive infrastructure projects before. But this "historic" canal was different and had nationwide support, he said.

"We will build this canal, no matter the cost," he said.

He emphasized that while the canal would be jointly built by Chinese and Cambodian companies, the latter would have a 51% majority share and thus maintain control. Deputy Prime Minister Sun Chanthol confirmed that the Chinese state-owned construction

giant China Road and Bridge Corporation had landed the contract to build the canal.

The U.S.-based nonprofit Stimson Center has warned that the canal would cause "significant transboundary impacts to water availability and agricultural production in Vietnam's Mekong Delta." The region is where 90% of rice exported from Vietnam is grown.

The Cambodian government has dismissed these concerns.

Earlier in April, Vietnam had asked Cambodia to share information about the canal. "We have asked Cambodia to collaborate closely with Vietnam and the Mekong River Commission in sharing information and assessing the project's impacts on water resources and ecosystem in the Mekong Delta region."

Cambodia is a key Chinese diplomatic partner, helping dampen criticism of Beijing within the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations, several of whose members, including Vietnam, are engaged in territorial disputes with China in the South China Sea.

China's outsized presence can be seen in the numerous Chinese-funded projects, hotels and casinos dotting the Cambodian landscape. China's state banks have financed airports, roads and other infrastructure built with Chinese loans. Nearly 40% of Cambodia's over \$11 billion in foreign debt is owed to China.

In June 2022, China and Cambodia broke ground on a naval port expansion project that has raised concerns from the U.S. and others that it could give Beijing a strategically important military outpost on the Gulf of Thailand. Hun Sen in 2019 reportedly granted China the right to set up a military base at the Ream Naval Base. He has long denied that, saying Cambodia's Constitution prohibits foreign military facilities. **MDT/AP**

WEATHER

Torrential rains have claimed more than 150 lives in the past two months

LANDSLIDES and flooding have killed more than 150 people around China in the past two months as torrential rainstorms batter the region.

The search was ongoing yesterday for victims of a flood and mudslide in a mountainous Tibetan area in Sichuan province that left nine people dead and 18 others unaccounted for, state media said.

The early Saturday morning disaster destroyed homes and killed at least seven



Rescuers operate excavators to restore access on National Highway 318 in the aftermath of flash floods and mudslides in Ridi Village, Kangding City, Garze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture

people in the village of Ridi, state broadcaster CCTV said in an online report. Two more people died after a

nearby bridge between two tunnels collapsed and four vehicles plummeted.

China is in the middle of

its peak flood season, which runs from mid-July to mid-August, and Chinese policymakers have repeatedly warned that the government needs to step up disaster preparations as severe weather becomes more common.

An annual government report on climate said last month that historical data shows the frequency of both extreme precipitation and heat has risen in China, according to state broadcaster CCTV.

A heat warning was in effect yesterday in parts of eastern China, where temperatures were expected to top 40 degrees Celsius in several cities including Nanjing, and 37 C in nearby Shanghai on the coast.

There have been a series of deadly rainstorms since June.

Days of intense rain from the aftermath of Typhoon Gaemi, which weakened to a tropical storm after making landfall in China about 10 days ago, killed at least 48 people in Hunan province and left 35 others missing last week.

Authorities said Friday that the death toll from an earlier storm in July that knocked out a section of a bridge in Shaanxi province in the middle of the night

had risen to 38 people, with another 24 still missing. At least 25 cars fell into a raging river that washed some of them far downstream.

In mid-June, at least 47 died from flooding and mudslides after extremely heavy rain in Guangzhou province. Six more people died in neighboring Fujian province.

Intense rains have also taken hundreds of lives elsewhere in Asia this summer, including devastating landslides that killed more than 200 people in south India last week.

The remnants of Typhoon Gaemi also drenched northeastern China and North Korea, overflowing the Yalu River that divides them and inundating cities, towns and farmland. **MDT/AP**

MYANMAR

Strategically important military HQ appears to have fallen to resistance

DAVID RISING, BANGKOK

MYANMAR'S military regime acknowledged yesterday it had lost communications with the commanders of a strategically important army headquarters in the northeast, adding credence to claims from a militia group it had captured the base.

The fall of the army's Northeast Command in the city of Lashio would be the biggest in a series of setbacks and a significant blow to Myanmar's military government this year as an offensive launched by an alliance of powerful militias of ethnic minority groups continues to make broad gains in the country's civil war.

"The regime's loss of the Northeast Command is the most humiliating defeat of the war," said Morgan Michaels, a Singapore-based analyst with the International Institute of Strategic Studies who runs its Myanmar Conflict Map project.

"Without Lashio, it will be extremely difficult for the regime to hold onto its final outposts in the theatre."

Those include the key border crossing with China of Muse, as well as the strategic crossroads at Kyaukme, and it opens the way for attacks on Pyin Oo Lwin and Mandalay City, he said.

The loss also raises questions about whether the ruling military council could be forced to give up attempts to hold contested territory in order to consolidate a defense of the central heartland. It could also contribute to growing



discontent with Senior Gen. Min Aung Hlaing, the officer who seized power after leading the overthrow of the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi in 2021.

"The battle further underlines the utter failure of the army's senior leadership, especially Senior Gen. Min Aung Hlaing," Michaels said.

"It seems increasingly unlikely that the army could survive with Min Aung Hlaing at the helm."

Lashio, about 110 kilometers (70 miles) south of the Chinese border, has been the target of an offensive by the MNDA, the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army since early July.

The MNDA is a military force of the Kokang minority, who are ethnic Chinese. It is part of the Three Brotherhood Alliance, which last October launched a surprise offensive that succeeded in seizing large tracts of territory along the northern border with China.

China helped broker a cease-

fire in January, but that fell apart in June when the Ta'ang National Liberation Army, another member of the Three Brotherhood Alliance made up of Ta'ang ethnic minority members, launched new attacks, followed by the MNDA. The alliance's third member, the Arakan Army, had never stopped fighting in its home Rakhine State in western Myanmar.

The groups in the alliance have been fighting for decades for greater autonomy from Myanmar's central government. They are loosely allied with People's Defense Forces — pro-democracy resistance groups that have arisen to fight military rule since the army took power.

The MNDA had initially claimed the capture of the Northeast Command and Lashio on July 25, but it turned out the announcement was premature as the army continued to fight.

The MNDA said in a statement

published on its Facebook page Saturday that the group had finally completely captured the military's Northeast Command headquarters and defeated the remaining army units in Lashio at 12:20 p.m. that day.

The claims could not be verified independently, with access to the internet and mobile phone services in the Lashio area mostly cut off.

A member of Lashio's Freedom Youth Volunteers-FYV, reached while he was outside the city, told The Associated Press yesterday that other members of his aid group had reported army personnel remained in control of some areas of the Northeast Command headquarters, though most had been taken by the MNDA.

He spoke on the condition of anonymity out of fear of reprisals from both sides.

There were still reports of gunfire in the city on Sunday, but photos

of captured army commanders, as well as multiple videos and photos of captured equipment and soldiers were circulating widely on social media, suggesting the MNDA had taken the base.

The MNDA itself released a photo of its troops posing in front of a sign outside the Northeast Command.

"The regime has clearly suffered an enormous loss and no longer has any meaningful control of the city, even if it retains a toehold for now," Michaels said.

The MNDA had captured a regional military headquarters in Laukaing, a key city on the Chinese border, earlier in the offensive, but the Lashio headquarters is more important.

Early yesterday, Maj. Gen. Zaw Min Tun, the spokesperson of Myanmar's ruling military council, said in an audio statement on state-run MRTV television that it had lost contact with commanders of the Northeastern Command headquarters Saturday night and had unconfirmed reports some of them have been arrested by the MNDA.

"We recognize and respect all the officers, soldiers, and policewomen of the Northeast Regional Military Command for protecting the command, Lashio territory, the military and the motherland with all their abilities," he said without specifically addressing MNDA's claim to have captured the facility.

"I would like to say that the government and the military will continue to do what should be done for the country and the people." **MDT/AP**

SOUTH CHINA SEA

Vietnam's coast guard visits Philippines for joint drills

A Vietnamese coast guard ship arrived in Manila yesterday for a four-day goodwill visit and joint exercises as the two countries attempt to put aside their own territorial disputes in the face of rising tensions with China over control of key features in the South China Sea.

The Philippines and Vietnam are among the most vocal critics of China's increasingly hostile actions in the disputed waters, a key global trade and security route. The neighboring Southeast Asian countries

themselves have overlapping claims in the busy sea passage along with Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan and the disputes are regarded as an Asian flashpoint and a delicate fault line in the U.S.-China regional rivalry.

As the host's coast guard personnel waved Philippine and Vietnamese flags and a brass band played under the morning sun at Manila's harbor, a 2,400-ton Vietnamese coast guard ship with 80 crewmembers docked. Some of its officers saluted from the lower and



Philippine Coast Guard personnel wave Vietnamese and Filipino flags to welcome the Vietnam Coast Guard (VCG) ship, CSB 8002, in Manila, yesterday

upper decks of the 90-meter white ship.

During its stay in Ma-

nila, the two coast guard forces are expected to hold talks and tour each other's

ships. They will hold joint search and rescue drills along with fire and explosion contingency drills in Manila Bay, on the western coast of northern Philippines facing the South China Sea.

"This is a good template, a good way to deescalate the situation," Philippine coast guard spokesperson Rear Admiral Armand Balilo said. "This shows that even rival claimants can have an opportunity to nurture a relationship."

Col. Hoang Quoc Dat, who headed the Vietna-

mese coast guard's delegation, said in a speech that their Manila port call was a way to strengthen the two countries' "cooperative relationship for mutual benefit."

"This will promote and enhance the efficiency of information sharing and the coordination in maritime law enforcement, in accordance with international law," he said and added such friendly collaboration contributes to "the preservation and protection of the region's maritime security and safety." **MDT/AP**

AP PHOTO



BANGLADESH

PM resigns and flees country capping weeks of unrest

JULHAS ALAM & KRUTIKA PATHI, DHAKA

BANGLADESH'S prime minister resigned and fled the country yesterday, after weeks of protests against a quota system for government jobs descended into violence and grew into a broader challenge to her 15-year rule. Thousands of demonstrators stormed her official residence, a day after nearly 100 died in the unrest.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's departure threatens to create even more instability in the nation on India's border already dealing with a series of crises, from high unemployment and corruption to climate change.

Hours after the embattled leader was seen on TV boarding a military helicopter with her sister, the country's military chief, Gen. Waker-uz-Zaman, said he would seek the president's guidance on forming an interim government.

He promised that the military would launch an investigation into the deadly crackdown on student-led protests that fueled outrage against the government.

"Keep faith in the military, we will investigate all the killings and punish the responsible," he said. "I have ordered that no army and police will indulge in any kind

of firing."

He met opposition politicians, including the head of the now-banned Jamaat-e-Islami party, and civil society members before making his statement.

The protests began peacefully as frustrated students demanded an end to a quota system for government jobs that they said favored those with connections to the prime minister's Awami League party, but the demonstrations have since morphed into an unprecedented challenge to Hasina and the party.

The 76-year-old — who was the longest-serving female head of government — was elected for a fourth consecutive term in a January vote that was boycotted by her main opponents. Thousands of opposition members were jailed in the lead-up to the polls, and the U.S. and the U.K. denounced the result as not credible, though the government defended it.

Hasina had cultivated ties with powerful countries, including both India and China. But under her, relations with United States and other Western nations have come under strain, as they have expressed concerns over human rights violations and press freedoms in the predominantly Muslim nation of 170 million people.

Her political opponents have previously accused her

of growing increasingly autocratic and called her a threat to the country's democracy, and many now say the unrest is a result of that authoritarian streak.

Hasina arrived yesterday in a city in India on the border with Bangladesh in an army helicopter, according to a military official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to release the information to the media. It was not clear where she would go next.

As she fled, people stormed her residence, taking furniture and pulling food from the refrigerators.

Protests have continued even after the Supreme Court last month ruled that the quota system — which set aside up to 30% of government jobs for family members of veterans who fought in Bangladesh's war of independence against Pakistan — must be drastically cut. The government attempted to quell the demonstrations with force, leaving nearly 300 people dead since mid-July.

At least 95 people, including at least 14 police officers, died in clashes in the capital on Sunday, according to the country's leading Bengali-language daily newspaper, Prothom Alo. Hundreds more were injured.

At least 11,000 people have been arrested in recent weeks. The unrest has

also resulted in the closure of schools and universities across the country, and authorities at one point imposed a shoot-on-sight curfew.

Authorities also shut off mobile internet on Sunday in an attempt to quell the unrest, and broadband internet was cut briefly yesterday morning. It was the second internet blackout in the country since July, but services were restored later in the day.

Over the weekend, protesters called for a "non-cooperation" effort, urging people not to pay taxes or utility bills and not to show up for work on Sunday, a working day in Bangladesh. Offices, banks and factories opened, but commuters in Dhaka and other cities struggled to get to their jobs since much public transport was halted amid fears of violence.

Hasina offered to talk with student leaders on Saturday, but a coordinator refused and demanded her resignation.

Hasina repeated her pledges to investigate the deaths and punish those responsible for the violence. She said she was ready to sit down whenever the protesters want. Earlier, she had said protesters who engaged in "sabotage" and destruction were no longer students but criminals, and that the people should deal with them with an iron hand. **MDT/AP**

this day in history

1971 SAILOR'S RECORD 'WRONG WAY' VOYAGE



A British man has become the first to sail the world non-stop in the "wrong" direction - east to west - against the prevailing winds and currents.

Chay Blyth, 31, set out on his 30,000-mile voyage from Hamble in Hampshire last October aboard a specially designed yacht, British Steel.

Today as the former paratrooper docked back at Hamble, he was met by a flotilla of 200 boats.

The welcoming party of 6,000 people included the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales, Princess Anne and Prime Minister Edward Heath.

The prime minister, who is also a keen sailor, praised Mr Blyth's achievement.

"We admire you for the skill and determination you have shown in this personal endeavour," he said.

"We are proud of the British boat, British built with British material which has carried you so successfully."

The 292-day voyage is the fastest non-stop world crossing on record.

Mr Blyth said it had been a long trip but he had thoroughly enjoyed it.

"I think I had the best of it - the people back home were doing all the worrying really, mainly my wife," he said.

This is not Mr Blyth's first long-distance sea expedition.

In 1966 he rowed the Atlantic in 92 days with fellow paratrooper John Ridgway.

In 1968-69 after leaving the army he took part in the Golden Globe race around the world - but it ended in near disaster after his vessel overturned.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

Chay Blyth's successful round-the-world voyage followed on from similar trips made by Sir Francis Chichester in 1967 and Robin Knox-Johnston in 1969 - winner of the Golden Globe.

A national hero after his accomplishment, Mr Blyth later supervised the building of 77-foot ocean racer and trained a team of paratroopers for the Whitbread round-the-world race.

He set up the first "wrong way" round the world yacht race which first took place in 1992 and is now held every four years. In 1995 Chay Blyth founded a rowing challenge in which teams of two row nearly 3,000 miles across the Atlantic ocean. He received a knighthood for services to yachting in 1997.

MACAU'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

YOUR STARS

ARIES
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
 Action gets beautiful results. Enjoy interesting creative work over the next few weeks, with Venus entering Virgo. Practice your moves. Aim for mastery and artistry.

TAURUS
Apr. 20-May. 20
 Create works of beauty. Express your heart, with love planet Venus entering Virgo for over three weeks. You're especially creative and attractive. Romance sparks naturally.

GEMINI
May. 21-Jun. 21
 Decorate your love nest. Focus on home and family over three-plus weeks, with Venus in Virgo. Beautify your surroundings. Enjoy household improvement projects.

CANCER
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
 Lead with your heart over the next three-plus weeks, with Venus in Virgo. Study a subject you're passionate about. Communications flow with ease.

LEO
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
 This next phase can get quite profitable. Gather new income, with Venus in Virgo for three-plus weeks. Find your financial comfort zone. Generate silver.

VIRGO
Aug. 23-Sep. 22
 Try a new style. For almost four weeks, with Venus in your sign, you're especially irresistible. Take advantage, and go for what you want.

LIBRA
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
 Consider eternal questions, dreams and ideas over the next three-plus weeks, with Venus in Virgo. Don't reveal secrets yet. Your imagination is especially fertile.

SCORPIO
Oct. 23-Nov. 21
 You're especially popular. Group activities go well over three weeks, with Venus in Virgo. Social activities benefit your career. Get public for a good cause.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
 Watch for career advances. Take on new professional responsibilities and creative challenges, with Venus in Virgo for three-plus weeks. Put heart into your work.

CAPRICORN
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
 It's easier to venture forth, with Venus in Virgo for almost a month. Chart itineraries. Travel, studies, research and exploration offer valuable treasure.

AQUARIUS
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
 Find a sweet deal. Silver flows into your coffers easily, with Venus in Virgo. Increase income, assets and savings. Build for the future. Put heart into your work.

PISCES
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
 Love, romance and partnerships flower, with Venus in Virgo for three-plus weeks. Share support, resources and your heart. Tap into feminine magnetism.

The Born Loser by Chip Sanson



SUDOKU

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

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

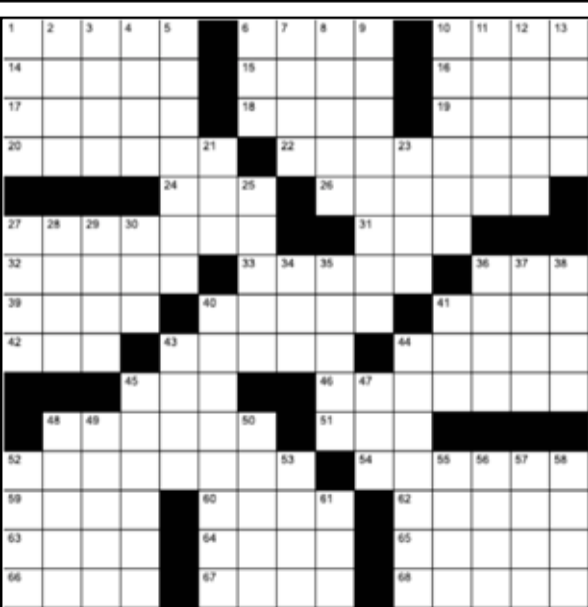
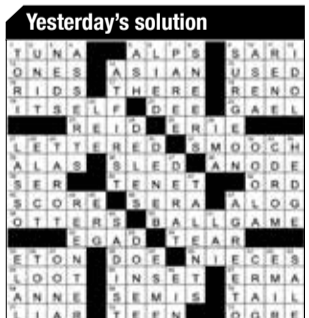
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	24	32	rain
Changchun	23	29	cloudy
Chengdu	25	33	cloudy
Chongqing	28	36	fine
Fuzhou	29	37	cloudy
Guangzhou	28	37	cloudy
Guiyang	21	29	cloudy
Haikou	26	34	cloudy
Hangzhou	29	43	thunderstorms
Harbin	23	29	cloudy
Hefei	26	37	fine
Nanjing	29	38	thunderstorms
Shanghai	28	39	cloudy
Taipei	26	31	rain
Wuhan	29	38	fine
Hong Hong	28	33	overcast
WORLD			
Moscow	16	23	rain
Frankfurt	18	31	overcast
Paris	17	31	cloudy
London	13	23	rain
New York	19	29	thunderstorms

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS 1- Dirties; 6- Scrabble piece; 10- Travel on; 14- Singer McLachlan; 15- Garage sale sign; 16- Draft classification; 17- Puppeteer Lewis; 18- Catcher's glove; 19- Diplomacy; 20- Ice cream topped with syrup; 22- Ceylon, now; 24- Recipe abbr; 26- Hams it up; 27- Singer Etheridge; 31- St. crosser; 32- French farewell; 33- Stickum; 36- Actor Erwin; 39- Are you ___ out?; 40- Sierra Nevada lake; 41- Sun. speeches; 42- A Bobsey twin; 43- Word with panel or energy; 44- For ___ sake!; 45- El ___; 46- Instructor; 48- Prizes; 51- Biol., e.g.; 52- Wrist band; 54- Punctual; 59- Stop introducing evidence; 60- Kazan; 62- Renter's sign; 63- Westernmost of the Aleutians; 64- ___ and rave; 65- Muse of love poetry; 66- Golf pegs, northern English river; 67- Queens stadium; 68- Semisynthetic textile;

DOWN 1- Flat sound; 2- Pearl Harbor's island; 3- OPEC member; 4- Hog fat; 5- Japanese massage technique; 6- Scot's cap; 7- Sister of Osiris; 8- Petrol unit; 9- Guess; 10- Take turns; 11- Silly; 12- Ship floors; 13- I could ___ horse!; 21- Slalom curve; 23- Deep affection; 25- Pertaining to Benedict XVI; 27- Common street name; 28- Dame ___ Everage; 29- Large cat; 30- Suffix with cloth; 34- Cry of discovery; 35- Arranges in groups; 36- Clockmaker Thomas; 37- Family diagram; 38- The Beatles' "Back in the ___"; 40- Young children; 41- Jiff; 43- Regal address; 44- Artist; 45- Desert plant; 47- Earth-friendly prefix; 48- Mountain ridge; 49- Squander; 50- Psalms interjection; 52- Spoiled child; 53- Fork prong; 55- When said three times, a 1970 war movie; 56- Now ___ me down to sleep...; 57- Take ___ your leader; 58- British prep school; 61- ___ crossroads;



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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



It's prime time to **BUY & RENT!**

有關樓宇廣告法例及資料請向職員查詢
 For more information on advertising laws, please speak to one of our representatives.

jml property
 置業物業 買賣租賃

CONTACT US & SEIZE THIS OPPORTUNITY!

hello@jmlproperty.com
 www.jmlproperty.com

f jmlmacau @jmlproperty

Hoi Wan Retail (Taipa)
 HKD 12,980,000

Tou Un (Taipa)
 HKD 2,750,000 1 bed 1 bath

Jade Garden (Taipa)
 HKD 11,880,000 4 bed 3 bath

AD

AP PHOTO

Zou Jingyuan, of China, competes during the men's artistic gymnastics individual parallel bars finals



OLYMPICS 2024

ZOU JINGYUAN DEFENDS PARALLEL BARS TITLE ON FINAL DAY OF ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS

ZOU Jingyuan of China was close to perfection yesterday to defend his Olympic title in parallel bars on the final day of artistic gymnastics at the

Paris Games.

It was Zou's third medal in Paris after he and his teammates were runner-up behind Japan in the team event. He also claimed

a silver in rings.

Zou, who is also a three-time world champion in the discipline, claimed gold ahead of Illia Kovtun of Ukraine.

Shinnosuke Oka of Japan, the all-around champion, took bronze.

Kovtun kicked off the event with a difficult routine that included a spec-

PARIS 2024 MEDALS TOP 20

Order	Countries	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	China	21	16	12	49
2	USA	19	27	26	72
3	France	12	14	18	44
4	Australia	12	11	8	31
5	Republic of Korea	11	8	7	26
6	Great Britain	10	12	16	38
7	Japan	9	5	11	25
8	Italy	7	10	5	22
9	Netherlands	6	5	4	15
10	Germany	6	5	2	13
11	Canada	5	4	8	17
12	Hungary	3	3	2	8
13	Romania	3	3	1	7
14	Ireland	3	0	3	6
15	New Zealand	2	4	1	7
16	Sweden	2	3	2	7
17	Ukraine	2	2	3	7
18	Croatia	2	1	1	4
19	Belgium	2	0	3	5
20	Hong Kong, China	2	0	2	4

olympics.com

tacular handstand on one rail that impressed judges and earned him a score of 15.500.

He remained in the lead until Zou posted a massive 16.200 with a sublime routine combining strenuous elements with impressive aerials that he capped

with a stuck dismount. That was the highest single score in artistic gymnastics at these Games.

It was a rare feat from Zou, who became the first man to defend his title on parallel bars at the Olympics since Sawao Kato of Japan in 1976. MDT/AP

AD

律師事務所



C&C
LAWYERS & NOTARIES
SINCE 1996



合夥人 PARTNERS:

官樂怡 Rui José da Cunha^o 山度士 Álvaro Rodrigues^o 馬天龍 Nuno Sardinha da Mata^o 趙魯 Zhao Lu^{o*} 馬傑安 João Nogueira Marques

大律師 ASSOCIATES:

高文軒 Adelino Correia^o
羅善齡 Zelina Rodrigues
馬潔冰 Maria João Marques
陶義德 António Isóo de Azeredo
白穎怡 Iclia Berenguel
冼玲鳳 Mariana Afonso Esteves
馬秀文 Sofia Mendes Martins
飛嘉華 Carlos dos Santos Ferreira^o
莫永誠 Rui Velez de Moura
安東尼 António Manuel dos Santos
巴慧雅 Vera Bastos
歐文傑 Miguel Evaristo
陳芷喬 Joana Chan

大律師 ASSOCIATES:

顏曉蓉 Teresa Xiaorong Yan
諾瑪莉 Maria Noras
康靜雅 Viviana Hong
梁淑嵐 Ana Leon
黃瀚賢 Frederico Vong
斐彥德 Gonçalo Figueiredo
吳靈鋒 Ng Teng Fong

實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS:

陳健雄 Eurico Chan
戴博晴 Tai Pok Cheng
吳佩愉 Ng Pui U
陳子健 Kimi Chan

法律專家及外地註冊律師

JURISTS AND LAWYERS
QUALIFIED IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS:
林思潔 Jessie Lin
羅成軒 José J. Rodrigues
楊詩婷 Si Teng leong

法律專家 JURISTS:

張偉鴻 Cheong Wai Hong
伍福賢 Domingos Ng
許栢桓 Rui Fernandes Brás

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

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



C&C RECEIVED THE 1ST SILVER
"DEIGNAN AWARD"
FOR RESPONSIBLE ENTREPRENEURSHIP
IN MACAU (2023)



OLYMPICS 2024

The 49-year-old skateboarder who crossed paths with dragons on 4-wheeled odyssey to Paris

JOHN LEICESTER, PARIS

OF the 10,500 athletes at the Paris Olympics, skateboarder Dallas Oberholzer is surely the only one to have crossed paths with dragons on his four-wheeled round-the-world odyssey to the 2024 Games.

The 49-year-old from South Africa had to go to the jungles of Peru to find them. There, under a shaman's watchful eye, the grizzled traveler who also competed at the Tokyo Games that marked skateboarding's Olympic debut, placing last in the men's park event, tapped into the psychedelic powers of ayahuasca, a plant-based brew that indigenous peoples in Latin America have long used for healing and rituals.

Sure enough, the hallucinations came thick and fast: a

jaguar, an anaconda, falcons, vibrant colors and, yes, those fiery beasts that put the roar into "Game of Thrones."

"I saw dragons! I was flying with dragons. I was underwater with the dragons. I was lying basking in the sunshine with the dragons, charging up," he says.

"It's not a party," he adds. "I had moments like I felt like I was being ripped apart."

After years of hauling his skateboard around the world — or, perhaps, being dragged around by it and the adventures it takes him on — Oberholzer's hope was that his inward journeying last year would help reset him for what is a monster challenge on the threshold of the Big Five Zero: competing on Wednesday in the giant Olympic bowl against skateboarders not even half his age, who soar to heights he



South Africa's Dallas Oberholzer

cannot attain.

Only 51-year-old Andrew Macdonald of Britain is older. At the other end of the age spectrum, the five youngest boarders — 16-year-old Viktor Solmunde of Denmark; 17-year-olds Keefer Wilson of Australia and Gavin Botger from the United States;

and 18-year-olds Hampus Winberg of Sweden and Alain Kortabitarte from Spain — still don't add up to the 100 years grand total of Macdonald and Oberholzer.

The elders — Oberholzer and Rune Glibberg of Denmark, both 46 then — finished at the back of the pack in 2021

in Tokyo, where 18-year-old Australian Keegan Palmer uncorked a particularly spectacular trick to win gold.

Oberholzer's prospects don't look any better in Paris.

"I've kind of accepted I'm going to come last. It doesn't matter to me," he says.

Still, the rolling stone with a shaggy, salt-and-pepper shoulder-length mane thinks it's essential that his generation is still in the Olympic mix. Oberholzer is concerned that Olympic acceptance is chipping away at the sport's rebel soul, driving a chase for medals, not life journeys.

"In the next few Olympics it'll be nothing more than a bunch of 14-year-olds. So we sure as hell better enjoy the last few editions of the old-timers," he says.

"We paved the way. We did. And I don't want to give it up to some kid that is, like, regimented in a gym," he adds. "It's scary because skateboarding was always about the freedom and about the expression and the deviance of skateboarding, you know, and doing it your way."

Roughly a year out from the Paris Games, Oberholzer was feeling the hard mathematics of age and a vagabond skateboarding life that, he says, has left him financially broke.

MDT/AP

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

Email: sales@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

**Enjoy the Good Life
Boa Vida Starts Here**

Discover Now

T +853 2856 7888
Terms & conditions apply

ARTYZEN
GRAND LAPA MACAU
澳門雅辰酒店

OPINION

Asian Views

Thitinan Pongsudhirak, Nikkei Asia



THAILAND'S ESTABLISHMENT SILENCES VOICES OF CHANGE

Nearly 15 months since Thailand's general election on May 14, 2023, a political reset is underway to preserve the disguised autocratic power of the royalist-conservative establishment.

The key issue is whether the traditional power holders will permit policy progress under Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin's coalition government. If they aim only to retain power without advancing reforms, Thailand may remain in political stasis with inconsistent policy initiatives.

When the Move Forward Party emerged as the top vote-getter in what seemed like a pivotal election, it posed an existential threat to established power. Campaigning on reforms of the military, monarchy, bureaucracy, and economy, Move Forward secured 151 of 500 elected seats, including 32 of 33 in Bangkok. The Pheu Thai Party, with its roots under ousted former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra and dominant since 2001, captured 141 seats, marking its first electoral loss.

The two parties combined for two-thirds of the vote and formed a tentative governing pact, overshadowing pro-establishment parties like Bhumjaithai, Palang Pracharat, and United Thai Nation. Move Forward and Pheu Thai's support for military reforms and lese-majeste law amendment threatened the establishment. Consequently, Move Forward faced accusations of trying to "overthrow the democratic system with the king as head of state," and its leader, Pita Limjaroenrat, was charged with owning media shares in violation of the 2017 constitution.

With Move Forward's constitutional challenges, a so-called super deal allowed Thaksin to return to Thailand after 15 years on Aug. 22, the same day Srettha received military-appointed Senate votes to become Prime Minister. This move effectively split the Move Forward-Pheu Thai alliance. Thaksin received a royal pardon, reducing his eight-year corruption sentence to 12 months, served comfortably in the Police General Hospital before his parole in February. Meanwhile, Pheu Thai withdrew its calls for military and monarchy reforms.

Since Thaksin's return, his political maneuvers have displeased palace and military circles, resulting in a lese-majeste charge against him post-parole.

Srettha faced indictment by 40 outgoing senators last May for a constitutional violation involving a cabinet reshuffle that included a Thaksin loyalist convicted of bribing court officials.

Thai politics stagnated with Move Forward relegated to opposition and Srettha facing potential removal, while Thaksin reengaged politically. Pheu Thai-led policy initiatives, like the 10,000 baht digital wallet scheme and various projects, progressed slowly.

Political clarity awaited the May-June Senate selection. The 200-member Senate was chosen from over 48,000 applicants through an internal process, favoring older patronage networks. Bhumjaithai reportedly secured over 120 of 200 Senate seats by manipulating the process.

On June 15, Bhumjaithai leader Anutin Charnvirakul received two top royal decorations, reflecting the party's significant Senate influence. The Senate's roles include appointing crucial agencies, approving charter amendments, and blocking bills like amnesty for lese-majeste offenders.

Srettha also received two royal decorations on July 12. With Move Forward's likely dissolution and Thaksin's lese-majeste constraints, Srettha's continued tenure seems probable, though Anutin could replace him.

This political reset, which subverts the democratic process, aims to stabilize the establishment forces. If it allows these forces to feel secure, Thailand may avoid further economic stagnation and political decay, though its democracy will remain weak and unstable. [Abridged]

Courtesy Thitinan Pongsudhirak/Nikkei Asia

THOUSANDS BRAVE THE HEAT FOR 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEWPORT JAZZ FESTIVAL

THE BUZZ



A capacity crowd of about 10,000 people braved heat and humidity to witness the 70th anniversary of the Newport Jazz Festival, one of the largest music festivals in New England.

The festival, which ends Sunday, is also one of the biggest multi-day jazz festivals in the world. It has brought legions of people to the coastal Rhode Island community over the decades. Held at Fort Adams State Park,

festivalgoers benefited from a cool ocean breeze, a sprinkling of rain and misting fans.

Performers at this year's festival included Elvis Costello, Meshell Ndegeocello, Dinner Party and Samara Joy. Over the years, the festival has welcomed Muddy Waters, Tito Puente, Isaac Hayes, Dizzy Gillespie and dozens of others. Gillespie recorded a 1957 live album at the festival.

The festival sold out all three days this year.

AP PHOTO



A car burns during an anti-immigration protest in Middlesbrough, England

UK LEADER STARMER CONDEMNS FAR-RIGHT ATTACK ON ASYLUM-SEEKER HOTEL AMID RISING VIOLENCE

UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer has strongly condemned an attack on a hotel accommodating asylum seekers that injured at least 10 police officers, including one seriously. In a statement issued from 10 Downing Street yesterday [Macau time], Starmer denounced the violence as "far-right thuggery" and pledged that authorities would take all necessary measures to bring the perpetrators to justice swiftly.

Starmer's remarks followed a series of violent incidents across the UK, including a stabbing rampage at a dance class that resulted in the deaths of three girls and injuries to several others. The Prime Minister emphasized that the violence seen in recent days was not a legitimate protest but rather "organized, violent thuggery" and had no place in society.

The most severe violence occurred in Rotherham, a town in northern England, where police faced hundreds of rioters attempting to breach a Holiday Inn Express used to house asylum seekers. Rioters threw missiles, including wood, chairs, and fire extinguishers, at officers. A bin set on fire near the hotel was quickly extinguished. South Yorkshire Police reported that at least 10 officers were injured,

with one left unconscious. Assistant Chief Constable Lindsey Butterfield condemned the violence as "disgusting" and warned that those involved should expect to face justice soon. Police are actively reviewing online footage to identify and apprehend suspects.

The recent surge in far-right violence has been fueled by concerns over immigration, particularly following a stabbing incident that falsely linked an asylum seeker to the crime. Far-right agitators have exploited these fears, targeting immigrant communities and stirring unrest. The situation in Middlesbrough also saw tensions escalate, with protesters vandalizing property and clashing with police.

Starmer highlighted that such attacks, which have included assaults on mosques and displays of Nazi salutes, are rooted in far-right extremism. He stressed that everyone in the UK has the right to safety and condemned the targeting of individuals based on race or religion.

The violence began after false rumors circulated online claiming the suspect in the dance class stabbing was an asylum seeker. Axel Rudakubana, who is 17 and born in Wales to Rwandan parents, has been charged with three counts of murder

and 10 counts of attempted murder. The judge permitted Rudakubana's identification to counter misinformation.

Authorities are facing a significant challenge as they attempt to manage the widespread unrest. With hundreds arrested and a backlog of over 60,000 cases in the court system, the criminal justice system is under severe strain. The National Audit Office and government reports have highlighted the need for additional measures to address these issues, including the early release of some inmates to alleviate prison overcrowding.

Stephen Parkinson, the Director of Public Prosecutions, has deployed additional lawyers to ensure swift legal proceedings. He has instructed prosecutors to make immediate charging decisions where key evidence is available, aiming to expedite justice.

Far-right groups have used social media to mobilize support for their anti-immigration agenda, with prominent figures like Stephen Yaxley-Lennon, also known as Tommy Robinson, playing a significant role. Yaxley-Lennon, banned from Twitter in 2018 but later reinstated, has over 800,000 followers and continues to incite unrest. MDT/AP

AP PHOTO



USA As the 2024 presidential race heats up, Republican strategists suggest Donald Trump should focus on economic issues to counter Vice President Kamala Harris's 'Freedom' campaign. Emphasizing economic policies may resonate more with voters amid ongoing debates over Harris's prosecutorial background and the broader implications for U.S. governance.

AP PHOTO



Venezuela Global concern is mounting over the surge in arrests following Venezuela's contentious elections. International calls for transparency and the protection of political leaders are intensifying amid reports of increased detentions. The situation underscores the deepening crisis in Venezuela, where the legitimacy of the recent electoral outcomes remains hotly disputed.

AP PHOTO



France In preparation for the Paris Olympics, France has implemented extensive anti-terror measures, restricting movements of individuals deemed security risks. Critics argue the broad application of these powers disproportionately affects minorities and may infringe on civil liberties. The heightened security efforts reflect France's commitment to ensuring a safe environment for the Olympic Games.

Germany TikTok has agreed to withdraw a rewards feature that raised concerns about its potential to encourage excessive screen time, particularly among children, the European Union's executive commission said yesterday. It was the first resolution of an investigation under the 27-country EU's sweeping Digital Services Act, which went into effect in February.