

# Civic leaders urge govt to implement spirit of mainland's Patriotic Education Law in Macau

Yuki Lei

The Central District Community Service Consultative Council held yesterday a plenary meeting at the Patane Activity Centre, during which several of its members urged the government to implement the spirit of the mainland's Patriotic Education Law in local education, while continuing to pursue patriotic education in the light of Macau's actual situation.

The government-appointed council's member Mok Chio Kuan quoted the contents of the mainland's Patriotic Education Law, which came into force at the beginning of this year, as pointing out the importance of implementing the "Loving the Country, Loving Macau" principle in the light of the actual situation in Macau by strengthening patriotic education on topics such as the law's general provisions, duties and tasks, its implementation, as well as support measures and safeguards.

She suggested: "While the content is running through the whole elementary and middle school education, grasping the clear political orientation and implementing the spirit of patriotism, it is also necessary to promote the significance of the Patriotic Education Law to parents, strengthen teacher training, raise teachers' patriotic education awareness and ability, prepare the teaching



Government-appointed Central District Social Services Consultative Council Deputy Convener Ao leong Kwong Kao (right) and fellow council member Leong Chon Kit pose during a press briefing after the government-appointed committee's closed-door meeting at the Patane Activity Centre yesterday.

— Photo: Yuki Lei

materials by ourselves according to the culture, history and geography of Macau, and to promote the core values of loving the motherland and loving Macau among young students through multi-faceted means, such as by strengthening young people's studies about and exchanges with the mainland."

Fellow member Lei Kit Ian said that as a city rooted in patriotism and love for

Macau, it should implement the core spirit of the mainland's Patriotic Education Law and combine it with the relevant provisions to do a good job in the "Loving the Country, Loving Macau" education, urging the Education and Youth Development Bureau (DSEDJ) to stipulate students' curricula based on the Patriotic Education Law, such as the "Five Histories", i.e., the history of the Communist

Party of China (CPC), the New China history, the history of reform and opening-up, the history of the development of socialism and the history of the development of the Chinese nation.

Lei said: "In the coming school year, the bureau will set up a new patriotic education camp for F1 students, in which visits to Zhuhai or the Guangdong-Macau In-depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin are planned. I suggest that site visits to various museums, memorial halls, science and technology museums, cultural centres and art galleries be arranged to create a 'second classroom', so as to build up the cultural self-confidence of young students from the perspectives of culture and science and technology, and to do a good job in educating them on patriotism and love for Macau."

Deputy Convener Wu Hang San called on the government to strengthen the protection, management and utilisation of historical and cultural heritage such as "red resources", cultural relics and monuments, while also strengthening the setting-up of patriotic education bases in Macau by giving full play to the resources and advantages of venues such as museums, memorials, libraries, science and technology museums, cultural centres, and art galleries.

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## New York Times poll shows Trump widening lead over Biden after debate

WASHINGTON — US President Joe Biden trails Donald Trump by six points in a *New York Times*/Siena College poll released yesterday, conducted after his calamitous debate performance last week — scoring 43 percent among likely voters against his rival's 49 percent.

"It is the largest lead Mr Trump has recorded in a Times/Siena poll since 2015," the newspaper reported.

However, a White House spokeswoman said later yesterday that Biden would 'absolutely not' withdraw from the presidential election. — AFP



In this handout picture released by Kazakhstan's presidential press service yesterday, President Xi Jinping (left) and Foreign Minister Wang Yi attend a working meeting with Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev in Kazakhstan's capital Astana yesterday. — AFP

### Xi urges China, Russia to continue strengthening alignment of development strategies

President Xi Jinping yesterday urged China and Russia to continue to strengthen the alignment of development strategies and international strategic coordination.

— Story on p. 6

### Heavy fighting rocks Gaza as thousands on the move again

Israeli forces bombed and battled Hamas in Gaza City yesterday as tens of thousands of Palestinians scrambled for a safe haven after the army issued an evacuation order for a vast swathe of the territory's south.

— Story on p. 10

### French PM urges united front to stop far-right takeover

France's prime minister yesterday urged voters to form a united front to block the far right in legislative elections, warning the anti-immigration party of Marine Le Pen was the only faction capable of winning an absolute majority.

— Story on p. 12

# Appointment required for foreign permanent residents' mainland travel card application: CTS

Yuki Lei

Non-Chinese, i.e. foreign permanent residents of Macau can from next Wednesday apply for special travel permits to enter mainland China through China Travel Service (Macao) Limited at Nam Kwong Building in Zape, and the agency yesterday reminded potential applicants to fill in the "Application Form for Mainland Travel Permit for Hong Kong and Macao Residents (Non-Chinese Citizens)" online and upload the required documents for preliminary review, before making an appointment.

CTS is China Travel Service's official abbreviation.

The National Immigration Administration (NIA) announced on Monday that non-Chinese permanent residents of Hong Kong and Macau can apply for the multiple-visit permit allowing them to travel to the mainland for short-term purposes such as investment, visiting relatives, tourism, business,

seminars and exchanges for up to 90 days each time.

Speaking to the *Post* on WeChat yesterday, a China Travel Service (Macao) Limited representative underlined that all the applicants must make their appointment by filling in the application form and uploading the required documents, including a photo of their Macau ID card and foreign passport, as well as their "Certificate of Personal Data" issued by the Identification Services Bureau (DSI) within six months prior to the date of application, via its website at [www.cts.com.mo](http://www.cts.com.mo), before they can process their application in person at China Travel Service (Macao) Limited, with the applicants' two recent ID photos and reply slip complete with their photo printed on it, their valid Macau permanent ID card, ordinary passport with a validity period of no less than six months, as well as the "Certificate of Personal Data", among other necessary application documents. The representative said:



Image courtesy of Macau Yellow Pages

"After the applicants have filled in the application form, we will carry out a preliminary review to examine whether their information was filled in completely, then we will send an email to the applicants to notify them to make an appointment online for processing their respective application at China Travel Service (Macao) Limited during office hours."

The representative told the *Post*: "They will be able to submit their applications online once the website

is up and running," adding that the website will be available this morning at the earliest.

The NIA guidelines state that applicants aged under 18 should be accompanied by their guardians, who are required to present their original ID certificate, including their passport and proof of guardianship.

According to China Travel Service (Macao) Limited, the fee for the application is HK\$260 or 268.20 patacas. The permit will

be issued within 20 working days after the application is officially accepted.

Infographics explaining the guidelines of the applications in Portuguese and English will only be available on the China Travel Service (Macao) Limited website later today, according to the representative.

Meanwhile, concerning the Identification Services Bureau's (DSI) "Certificate of Personal Data", the bureau pointed out that Macau ID card holders can apply for the certificate through its service counters at China Plaza on Avenida da Praia Grande, the Government Services Centre in Areia Preta and the Government Islands Services Centre in Taipa, or through its self-service kiosks or the "Macau One Account", adding that those still holding a "non-smart" ID card may submit a recent ID photo, while applicants aged under 18 must apply for the certificate in person at service counters, accompanied by a parent or guardian. ■

## MGTO to launch 'Stay Chill Macao Market' from next Friday

Ginnie Liang

The Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) is launching the second of the bureau's "Play Cool - Macao!" project starting next Friday, with a large-scale installation featuring Macau mascot Mak Mak to be shown, as well as a "Stay Chill Macao

Market" event to be held, at the Ritz Building in the city's main square, Largo do Senado, according to an MGTO statement yesterday.

The statement said that the "Stay Chill Macao Market" event will be held every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. from next Friday to December 1 at

the Ritz Building in Senado Square, with about 18 booths showcasing cultural and creative products, handicrafts and light refreshments, as well as live performances and workshops. Mak Mak will also pop up during the event to meet residents and tourists alike.

For more information, members of the public can visit MGTO's official website at <https://www.macaotourism.gov.mo/en>.

### DSEDT launches promotion activity

Meanwhile, the Economic and Technological Development Bureau (DSEDT) said in a separate statement yesterday that it has launched various online and offline promotional campaigns on all fronts, and collaborated with trade associations to launch a number of activities to promote community economy.

At the same time, the bureau also aims to empower merchants in local neighbourhoods to upgrade their business operations digitally, enhance their service quality, attract customers and boost consumption, and jointly promote the development of the city's various community economies.

The bureau has collaborated with Mango TV to create various cultural tourism programmes showcasing Macau's tourist attractions to mainland audiences, the statement said, adding that the bureau also launched two travel routes from the Qingmao and Barrier Gate checkpoints to the northern district, inviting mainland key opinion leaders (KOLs) to experience and promote them on popular social media platforms in the mainland. ■

## Civic leaders urge govt to implement spirit of mainland's Patriotic Education Law in Macau

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### Patriotic Education Camp to be set up in Coloane

Meanwhile, the council held yesterday a closed-door meeting with two senior officials from the DSEDJ, who briefed the council members about the mainland's Patriotic Education Law, telling them how the law can be implemented in accordance with the actual situation in Macau in terms of curricula, teaching materials, and school activities.

In the 2024/2025 school year, the bureau will sequentially implement the newly revised curriculum framework and basic academic requirements, publish supplementary teaching materials for National Security Education, revise its guidelines for schools, and launch a Patriotic Education Camp.

In terms of the curriculum framework and the requirements for basic academic qualifications, according to a post-press briefing, the new curriculum will require that all schools in Macau deepen the learning contents of the "National Security", "Constitution" and "Major National Scientific and Technological Achievements" in the subjects of Information Technology (IT), Morality and Citizenship, History, Geography, Natural Science, General Knowledge and Music, and that the schools must set up a class subject related to patriotic education, with a certain minimum number of hours.

The bureau in the new school year will also publish a set of six supplementary teaching materials on National Security Education

covering nursery, junior primary, senior primary, junior secondary, senior secondary and tertiary education levels to support schools and teachers in implementing national security education in the classroom, covering different contents, such as the nation's flag, emblems and anthems, as well as the Constitution and the Macau Basic Law. It is also stipulated that all the local tertiary education institutions must, starting the new semester, include national education-related liberal studies courses for their students, the press briefing noted.

The bureau, according to the press briefing, has also provided schools with guidelines on teaching and learning, hoping that schools will impose stringent regulations on the assessment and character of teaching staff, as well as their behaviour and conduct, for examples, teachers are prohibited from inculcating ideas that are detrimental to the nation and to the local government, in particular, the dissemination of inaccurate or untruthful information to students, or that would jeopardise national security or the national interest.

In the 2024/2025 school year, a "Patriotic Education Camp" will be set up on the former site of the Luso-Chinese School in Coloane to provide systematic patriotic education camp activities for all F1 students in Macau. The camp will also dovetail with the existing Defence Education Camp for F2 students and the Outdoor Education Camp for F3 students, so as to satisfy the education sector's demand for camps earmarked for junior secondary school grades. ■



This poster provided by the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) yesterday promotes its upcoming "Stay Chill Macao Market" in the Ritz Building in the city's main square, Largo do Senado.

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### Macau Weather

**VERY HOT.**  
**CLOUDY APART FROM SUNNY PERIODS.**  
**A FEW SHOWERS.**  
**FORCE 3 TO 4 SOUTH TO SOUTHEASTERLY WINDS.**  
**RELATIVE HUMIDITY WILL RANGE BETWEEN 70% AND 95%.**

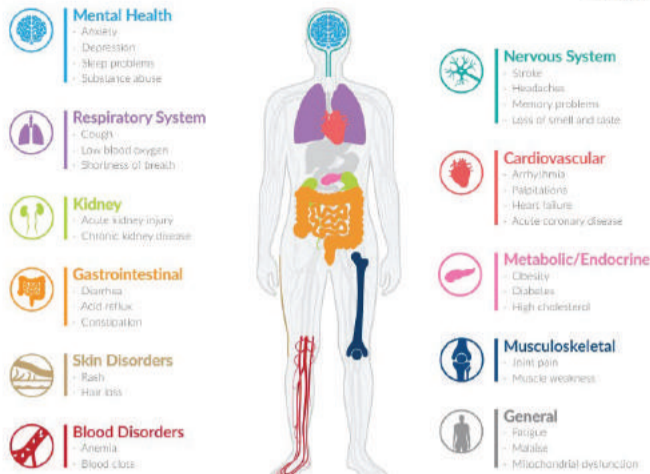


27°C~32°C

Source: SMG

# Lawmaker urges govt to pay attention to 'long COVID' patients

## LONG COVID IMPACTS



This image downloaded from the US-based company Cayman Chemical shows the impacts of long COVID.

### Ginnie Liang

Lawmaker-cum-unionist Leong Sun Iok has submitted a written interpellation recently urging the government to pay attention to residents' health condition and introduce healthcare programmes to cope with the potentially negative impact of 'long COVID' on residents.

According to the US-based organisation Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), long COVID is defined as a chronic condition that occurs after COVID-19 infection and is present for at least 3 months. Long COVID includes a wide range of symptoms or conditions that may improve, worsen, or be ongoing for at least 3 months.

Leong pointed out that according to the World Health Organisation (WHO), 10 to 20 percent of people who recovered from COVID-19 are still suffering from various medium-

to-long-term conditions.

Leong also pointed out that according to the WHO, long COVID may affect a person's ability to perform daily activities, including fatigue, respiratory difficulties and cognitive impairment, adding that young children suffering from long COVID will normally have respiratory symptoms, and persistent cough is even more likely to occur.

Leong underlined that apart from COVID-19, other viruses such as influenza and mycoplasma will cause patients to have "overlapping infections", making their symptoms more serious and taking a longer time to recover.

Therefore, Leong reminded members of the public, especially parents of young children, to step up precautionary measures and take good personal protection, and also asked the government to follow up on residents' health conditions in general. ■

# New property projects set for Taipa Village: real-estate firm

## Rui Pastorin

The historic Taipa Village will see six new property projects that will introduce an additional 50,000 square feet (4,645 square metres) of commercial space, with "progressive completion" scheduled for 2025, Asia-based real estate investment firm Sniper Capital Limited said in a statement yesterday.

The firm was established in 2004 and has offices in Macau and Hong Kong, according to its website. Yesterday's statement noted that it manages and advises on a range of property assets in Macau and Portugal valued at approximately US\$400 million. It has "spearheaded" the revitalisation of Taipa village for the past two decades.

The new project will feature "expansive al fresco terraces and flexible layouts" designed for F&B and retail operations, the statement said. The flagship project, which is a five-storey building, covers over



This artist's rendition released yesterday by Sniper Capital shows its flagship project at Taipa Village.

30,000 square feet (2,787 square metres) and has a 50-metre frontage. It is set to offer retail and restaurant facilities, with the design inspired by the site's history.

Meanwhile, the five other projects will take on a more contemporary design and add 20,000 square feet (1,858 square metres) of commercial space, according to the statement.

Taipa Village Destination

Limited is an affiliate of the firm. The statement quoted the destination development and marketing company's Managing Director Pamela Chan (陳詠璇) as saying: "With the additional space our projects are bringing to the area, combined with the surge in younger visitors to this vibrant district, Taipa Village is set for an exciting decade as it continues to evolve as one of Macau's top destinations". ■

# Drunken driver rear-ends motorcycle



This undated handout photo provided by the Public Security Police (PSP) yesterday shows the female driver suspected of drunk driving being escorted by a PSP officer to the headquarters of the PSP Traffic Department.

## William Chan

A local woman has been arrested for drunk driving after she rear-ended a motorcycle, Public Security Police (PSP) spokesman Lei Chan Hong said during a regular press conference yesterday.

The suspect surnamed Fong, who is in her thirties, told the police that she's jobless.

According to Lei, in the wee hours of yesterday when Fong was driving in Nape, she rear-ended a motorcycle ridden by a local man

in his fifties. Police officers who arrived at the scene discovered that Fong was reeking of alcohol, and a breathalyser test found her alcohol concentration was 1.84 grams of alcohol per litre of blood.

Lei noted that the rider sustained minor injuries and was taken to hospital for treatment. Fong admitted to drinking in a bar earlier.

Fong has been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP), facing a drunk-driving charge. ■

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# Catch local artist's still-life acrylics at FRC gallery till Saturday

**Rui Pastorin**

A solo exhibition entitled “The Splendor of Objects” is currently on at the Rui Cunha Foundation (FRC) gallery, showcasing acrylics by local artist Chan Man Kin until Saturday.

An artist at the Li Keran Academy and a resident painter at the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, Chan’s latest solo exhibition at the free-admission gallery comprises a total of 21 acrylics, according to a recent FRC gallery statement.

The statement said that the project was inspired by “still-nature painting and “takes the classic Dutch School\* genre as a starting point, expanding it into the abstract universe like an explosive nuclear reaction”.

The statement said that the collection started with a piece that Chan created last year titled “Still Life with Peaches”, which was closely related to the COVID-19 pandemic and gave meaning to the rest of the works in the exhibition.

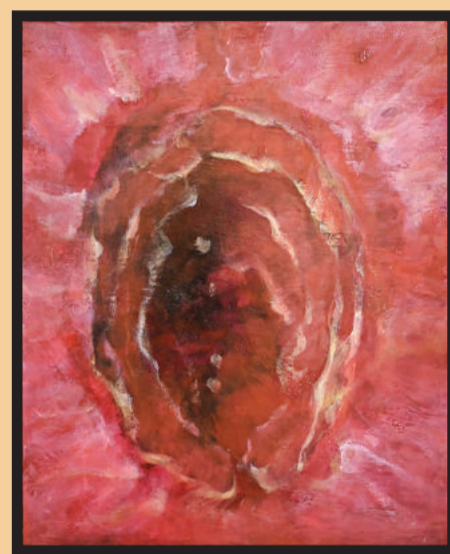
The artist was quoted in the statement as saying: “I started a discussion on the sense of security and stability needed for life: from specific objects to the examination of life and death, from gazing at death to express appreciation of life”, as well as remarking on the observations he made during the work’s creation.

The entire process was a “philosophical discussion of existence and death”, he said.

Chan added that still-life painting gives him a sense of personal stability, “allowing my body and mind to quickly integrate”.

One can visit the gallery today and on Friday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Saturday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. More details can be found on the foundation’s Facebook page.

*\*According to Wikipedia, when a work of art is labelled as ‘Dutch School’, it means that the specific artist who created it is unknown.*



Photos: Rui Pastorin

## 10 locals fall for phishing, online scams

William Chan

Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman Ho Wai Lok said at a press conference yesterday that the police received separate reports from seven local residents, two men and five women, saying that their credit card information was stolen when clicking on phishing links earlier this week.

According to Ho, the victims received messages from a purported telecommunications company claiming that their loyalty points were close to expiration. The messages urged the victims to click on embedded links to reclaim supposed “gifts” like earphones.

The victims provided their credit card information as requested. However, they later discovered that unauthorised deductions had been made from their bank accounts. These deductions were in euros and UAE dirham, ranging from 22,000 to 61,000 patacas. In total, the seven victims suffered deductions amounting to 262,000 patacas.

### 2 local uni students & man fall for online scams

Meanwhile, two local female university students and a local man reported separately to the police earlier this week that they were cheated out of between 11,620 and



Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman Ho Wai Lok looks on during a special press conference yesterday. – Photo: William Chan

101,000 patacas in an online scam.

According to Ho, the three victims read on Facebook earlier this week that an online shop was hiring people to give positive reviews and likes to non-local hotels and homestays for “commissions”.

The victims then transferred money to the website’s “customer service” and started rating. They received and cashed in “commissions” the first few times, but after that their requests to withdraw the money were refused, after which they lost contact with the “customer service”. They reported a total loss of 166,000 patacas. ■

## Available plots to be used for temporary purposes only in public interest: govt

Tony Wong

The Macau government will only use particular available plots of land for community facilities on a temporary basis before they are finally used for their permanent purposes if their temporary use involves public interest, the Lands and Urban Construction Bureau (DSSCU) reaffirmed in a statement yesterday.

The statement also said that repossessed plots of land have become part of the government’s land reserves because of which it was wrong to say that the government is keeping them idle.

The DSSCU statement came after a number of civic leaders suggested, during yesterday morning’s current affairs phone-in programme hosted by Ou Mun Tin Toi, the Chinese-language radio channel of public broadcaster TDM, that the government study the feasibility of using some of its repossessed plots for recreational facilities or open-air carparks on a temporary basis before they are finally used for their permanent purposes, instead of just keeping them idle. Over the past few years, several lawmakers and civic leaders have made similar remarks and opinions.

The Lands and Urban Construction Bureau is the public entity tasked with urban planning and land management.

The statement underlined that the Macau government has been managing and using its land resources in strict compliance with the Land Law and the Urban Planning Law, both of which came into force in 2014. After “many years of effort”, the statement said, the local government has repossessed various long-undeveloped and idle plots of land covering 720,000 square metres in total, which “have become state-owned land”.

Government land in the Macau Special Administrative Region (MSAR) is state-owned land, which the MSAR government manages and can use for urban development.

The statement noted that the local government has already



This photo taken last month shows the 94,000-square-metre government plot next to the Lisboeta Macau resort in Cotai. The plot was repossessed last year by the government, which chose it last month as the location for a temporary open-air venue for hosting concerts and other performances with a capacity of 50,000 spectators. – Photo courtesy of TDM

used 190,000 square metres, or 26 percent, of the repossessed plots, for various purposes such as the construction of government office buildings, government warehouses, public housing estates, and its senior citizens’ rental residential building on Plot P in Areia Preta, as well as for public tenders for private residential development projects.

The statement noted that Macau’s official urban master plan, which took effect in 2022, earmarks the city’s land for various purposes such as public facilities, ecological conservation, green areas and other types of public open spaces. The statement said that available plots earmarked for public facilities will be primarily used for projects such as buildings used by public entities, cultural facilities, education facilities, and recreational and sports facilities.

The statement said that public-facility projects will be planned in a way that enhances their accessibility and connection with residential areas.

The official urban master plan divides Macau into 18 subareas for planning. Eastern District 2, which covers the Zone A land reclamation area, is the first subarea for which an urban development plan has been

completed. The Eastern District 2 urban development plan, which took effect in March this year, is so far the only one completed.

Yesterday’s statement underlined that the local government is currently working on drafting urban development plans for various subareas listed by the urban master plan, adding that public facilities will be planned properly in compliance with the current conditions and development needs of the various subareas.

The statement reaffirmed that “state-owned plots of land that have still not been used are not ones that the government is keeping idle”. Instead, the statement said, government plots that have still not been used for their permanent purposes are part of its land reserves.

The statement noted that after a particular public entity has requested permission to use a particular available plot for temporary purposes, DSSCU officials will study whether the proposed temporary use is suitable on that plot, after which the MSAR government will study the DSSCU assessment findings before deciding whether to approve it.

The statement underlined that the MSAR government will only approve a particular plot’s temporary use if it is in the public interest. ■

## Top court keeps 18-year jail term for Alvin Chau

Staff Reporter

Macau’s Court of Final Appeal (TUI) announced yesterday its decision to turn down the appeals filed by nine appellants involved in a string of crimes committed by the now defunct Suncity Group of junket operators.

According to a TUI statement released through the Macau Government Information Bureau (GCS), Alvin Chau Cheok Wa’s 18-year prison term will remain unchanged. The eight other appellants’ jail terms will also remain unaltered, ranging from nine years to 12 ½ years respectively.

The court rejected the Public Prosecution’s request to increase the appellants’ prison terms.

The court sentenced the nine appellants to the joint payment of 24.86 billion patacas to the Macau Special Administrative Region (MSAR).

Alvin Chau, 50, was handed down the 18-year prison term in January 2023 for organised crime leadership



This November 9, 2018 file photo shows Suncity Group boss Alvin Chau attending a press conference about Macau’s 3rd International Film Festival & Awards – Photo courtesy of YouTube/Wikimedia Commons

and running an illegal gambling business. The co-defendants were sentenced in the same trial.

Macau’s top prison term amounts to 30 years. ■

## Shenzhen-Zhongshan Link handles 300,500 vehicles 72 hours after opening

GUANGZHOU – The Shenzhen-Zhongshan Link, a mega cross-sea passage in Guangdong province, had handled 305,000 vehicles as of 3 p.m. yesterday, 72 hours after its official opening, data from Guangdong Transportation Group showed.

Spanning 24 km, the link features two bridges, two artificial islands, and an underwater tunnel. It drastically reduces travel time between the city of Zhongshan and the technology hub of Shenzhen,

which are located on opposite sides of the Pearl River Estuary in Guangdong. The link cuts the duration of the journey between the two destinations from two hours to around 30 minutes.

“The link has already accounted for about 25 percent of the daily traffic passing through the Pearl River, which promotes market integration in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA),” said Lin Feiming, head of the Guangdong provincial

department of transport.

The GBA, encompassing Hong Kong, Macao and nine cities in Guangdong, boasts a combined population of over 80 million. It achieved a total economic output of over 14 trillion yuan in 2023.

Before the inauguration of the new link, there were three cross-sea links, but congestion had become a major issue for the transportation of both people and goods in the area.

– Xinhua

## STOCK MARKETS

### HK’s Hang Seng Index closes 1.18 pct higher

HONG KONG – Hong Kong’s stock market ended higher yesterday with the benchmark Hang Seng Index up 1.18 percent to close at 17,978.57 points.

The Hang Seng China Enterprises Index climbed 1.27 percent to end at 6,455.7 points, while the Hang Seng Tech Index jumped 2.48 percent to close at 3,626.93 points. – Xinhua

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