

# Ho says won't seek second term 'due to health concerns'

Yuki Lei

Nearly five years after taking the helm of the local government on December 20, 2019, Chief Executive (CE) Ho Iat Seng announced yesterday that he will not seek a second term as chief executive "due to health concerns".

Ho's current term ends at midnight on December 19. His successor's term will start immediately afterwards.

The Government Information Bureau (GCS) issued yesterday afternoon a statement announcing Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng's decision not to run in the election for the sixth-term chief executive, making it clear that he will not take part in the CE election scheduled to be held on October 13.

Ho was elected the fifth-term chief executive of the Macau Special Administrative Region (SAR) on August 25, 2019 with 392 of 400 valid votes in his favour by the 400-member chief executive election committee, and he assumed office on December 20 that year. Ho, born in Macau in 1957, served as a member of the Executive Council (ExCo) – the government's top advisory body – from 2004 to 2009. In 2013, he was elected president of the Legislative Assembly (AL) and re-elected in 2017. Ho was deputy to the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> National People's Congress (NPC), as well as a member of its standing committee.

In his statement, Ho expressed his



This file photo shows Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng addressing a session at Government Headquarters on Friday last week about the spirit of the third plenary session of the 20<sup>th</sup> Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee.

– Photo: GCS

gratitude to the central authorities in Beijing, the local community and the general public for the full trust and firm support he has received during his term of office, as well as to all public servants for their close collaboration

and cooperation: "As the fifth term of office of the Chief Executive of the Macau Special Administrative Region draws to a close, I, Ho Iat Seng, would like to express my sincere thanks for the total trust and firm support that

have been given to me over the past five years by the central authorities, the various sectors of Macau society and the entire population. I would also like to thank all the public servants for their close cooperation".

Ho went on to say: "The fifth Macau SAR government and I have adhered to the concept of 'Synergies and Advancement, Change and Innovation' in planning and promoting Macau's diversified development, devoting efforts to create a new environment for Macau's development while building Macau's new competitive advantages," underlining that he has deep feelings for Macau in his heart and has done his utmost for Macau's development.

As the reason for his decision not to take part in the CE election, Ho said that "my health has not been fully restored", adding that for the sake of Macau's long-term development and from the perspective of the overall situation, he has decided to refrain from participating in the election for the sixth-term chief executive.

Ho pledged his full support to the sixth-term chief executive and government to govern in accordance with the law: "I will fully support the sixth chief executive and the Macau SAR government in governing in accordance with the law and in their continued contribution to the cause of 'One Country, Two Systems' and the development of Macau".

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## Premier Li says China ready to join Russia for cooperation in emerging areas

MOSCOW – Premier Li Qiang said here yesterday that while consolidating cooperation in traditional areas, China is willing to work with Russia to explore cooperation in emerging areas.

Li made the remarks when meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin at the Kremlin after he co-chaired the 29<sup>th</sup> regular meeting between Chinese and Russian heads of government with Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin.

Li conveyed President Xi Jinping's cordial greetings and best wishes to President Putin. He said that the two heads of state have met twice this year, drawing a new blueprint and injecting strong momentum into further deepening bilateral relations and cooperation, especially at the historical juncture of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and Russia.

The steady development of China-Russia

relations not only serves the fundamental interests of the two countries and two peoples, but also contributes to regional and world peace, stability and prosperity, Li noted, expressing China's willingness to work with Russia to implement the important consensus reached by the two heads of state, maintain the sound momentum of the development of bilateral relations, expand all-round mutually beneficial cooperation and achieve more practical results.

Li pointed out that the current round of scientific and technological revolution and industrial transformation is deepening, which implies huge development opportunities. China is ready to further highlight the role of scientific, technological and industrial innovation in powering bilateral cooperation with Russia, to constantly foster new economic growth points, he added. (More on page 6) – Xinhua



In this pool photograph distributed by the Russian state agency Sputnik, Russia's President Vladimir Putin (left) meets Chinese Premier Li Qiang in Moscow yesterday.

– AFP

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### HKMAO praises MSAR's 25-year 'brilliant' achievements

The State Council's Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office (HKMAO) released a statement on its WeChat account yesterday evening praising Macau's "brilliant" achievements over the past 25 years since its return to the motherland. – Story on p. 5

### Pakistani man faces cyber terror charge over false posts linked to UK riots

A Pakistani man appeared in court yesterday to face charges of cyber terrorism after allegedly spreading disinformation on his clickbait website thought to have fuelled anti-immigration riots in Britain. – Story on p. 9

### Kenya police in court over serial killer suspect's escape

NAIROBI - Five Kenyan police officers appeared in court yesterday, suspected of helping a man accused of murdering and dismembering dozens of women escape from a Nairobi police cell. – Story on p. 11



## Ho says won't seek second term 'due to health concerns'

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Ho went on leave on June 21, then extended his leave twice until July 29, during which time the Government Information Bureau issued a statement on his behalf noting that Ho had taken advantage of his leave of absence to undergo a routine medical check-up and to receive the necessary medical treatment, and that he was in good health. After resuming work on July 30, Ho attended a number of official events, including a briefing on the spirit of the third Plenary Session of the 20<sup>th</sup> Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and a meeting with Shi Taifeng, head of the Communist Party of China's (CPC) Central Committee's United Front Work Department (UFWD), as well as a reception held by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Macau Garrison to mark the 97<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

The election for the sixth term of chief executive (CE) has been slated for Sunday, October 13. The nomination period for candidates in the sixth-term chief executive election will run from next Thursday to September 12, during which anyone interested in running for the position or their representative may collect election nomination form from the Chief Executive Electoral Affairs Commission (CAECE) and later submit it with the signatures of at least 66 members of the 400-member Chief Executive Election Committee, or 16.5 percent of the total number of electors.

Macau's two former chief executives - Edmund Ho Hau Wah and Fernando Chui Sai On served their two five-year terms of office in 1999-2009 and 2009-2019 respectively.

According to the Macau Basic Law, the special administrative region's chief executives can serve up to two five-year terms.

### CE Election Committee members' expectations of new chief executive

Meanwhile, following the announced by Ho Iat Seng that he would not run for a second term in the CE election, three Chief Executive Election Committee members expressed their empathy regarding Ho's health condition and their recognition of his work

during his term in office, in separate interviews with the *Post* on WeChat and WhatsApp yesterday.

Business community leader Kevin Ho King Lun, one of Macau's 12 deputies to the National People's Congress (NPC), said: "I think even if the chief executive does not seek re-election, it does not mean that there will be a big adjustment to the future government's administration," adding he believed that the new government will also move Macau's development towards a diversified economy, which is an overall goal that the central authorities and all the people of Macau would like to see.

Commentator Ron Lam U Tou, a directly-elected lawmaker, said: "It seems that the incumbent chief executive's decision not to run for a second term may be a good choice for the whole community and for future aspirations," adding that even though Ho had made an effort to push Macau's development in a different direction, Macau's socio-economic conditions have remained unchanged even after the three-year COVID-19 pandemic and the extension of the six gaming concession agreements.

Lam said he expects the new chief executive to give an account to the public on the policies proposed and those in progress by the current-term government, such as the Light Rail Transit (LRT) East Line, the four-key industrial development objectives - 1) big health, 2) modern finance, 3) high-tech, and 4) conventions and exhibitions as well as culture and sports; the government's rental housing building for senior citizens, and the Islands Healthcare Complex - Macao Medical Centre of Peking Union Medical College Hospital (PUMCH) - in south Cotai.

Dominique Sio Chi Wai, a local NPC deputy, said he expected the new government to continue to solve the current economic issues under the global economic crisis and lead civil society as a whole towards stability, adding: "Representing the clout of different sectors of society, each member of the CE election committee will do their best to select a person who is suitable for the times to lead the society". ■

## SmarTone to cease operations in Macau, CTM to take over

Ginnie Liang

Telecom operator SmarTone - Mobile Communications (Macau), Limited announced in a statement yesterday that it will cease the provision of mobile communication services in Macau, and CTM will provide customers' communication services for their remaining contract period.

The statement said that SmarTone's decision was made after its "business consideration", adding that SmarTone has reached an agreement with CTM to ensure that customers' mobile communication services "are not affected", and customers can choose to subscribe to different service plans offered by CTM.

Starting from today till October 31, SmarTone will arrange SIM card replacements for users in batches and other SIM card based information and communication technology services, the statement said, adding that the arrangement will be sent to customers individually via SMS.

For enquiries, users may call SmarTone's customer hotline on 1628 or CTM's customer service hotline on 1000, or go to SmarTone's outlets in person.



This photo taken yesterday shows one of the SmarTone's outlets in Avenida de Horta e Costa. - Photo: MPDG

Meanwhile, the Post and Telecommunications Bureau (CTT) confirmed in a separate statement yesterday that SmarTone has forfeited its 4G licence and has no plans to renew the 3G licence after its expiration.

On the other hand, SmarTone is committed to handling employee arrangements in accordance with the Labour Relations Law and employment contracts, and will coordinate with CTM on providing employment opportunities to suitable current employees in order to retain talent for the

telecommunications industry, the bureau said.

Listed in Hong Kong in 1996, SmarTone is a subsidiary of Sun Hung Kai Properties. It began its pursuit of 5G development in Hong Kong in May 2020. However, it does not provide any 5G services in Macau.

After SmarTone's exit from the local telecom market, there will be only three telecom operators running 4G services, namely CTM, and China Telecom (Macau) Company Limited and 3 Macau, with the former two running 5G services as well. ■

## 3 mainlanders steal donation box cash: police

William Chan

The Public Security Police (PSP) arrested three male mainlanders on Saturday for stealing money from a charity organisation's donation box, PSP spokesman Lei Chan Hong said during a regular press conference yesterday.

Lam identified the three suspects as a farmer surnamed Chen and two men surnamed Le and Lu. Le and Lu told the police that they're jobless. The trio, from Guangxi, are aged between 30 and 50.

According to Lei, while patrolling a religious site on Estrada Governador Albano de Oliveira in Taipa, the officers noticed the suspicious behaviour of the trio, where one of them approached the donation box at the religious site of the Four Faced Buddha with tools, presumably to steal money, while



This handout photo provided by the Public Security Police (PSP) yesterday shows evidence including banknotes, rolls of adhesive tape and retractable tape measure.

the other two acted as lookouts.

The officers intervened immediately, finding torches, rolls of adhesive tape, a retractable tape measure, hooks, as well as 1,000 patacas, HK\$250 and 30 yuan on them.

Upon questioning, Chen and Le told the police that they had initially

planned to commit a burglary but were tempted to commit theft upon discovering cash in the box. Lu denied the accusation.

The trio have been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP), facing theft charges, according to Lei. ■

## Mainland woman falsely accuses man of rape

William Chan

A woman from the mainland falsely reported to the Judiciary Police (PJ) on Sunday, that she had been raped in a hotel guestroom in Cotai by a man with whom she met in a casino, PJ spokesman Ho Wai Lok said in a regular press conference yesterday.

The 32-year-old suspect surnamed Liu told the police that she's jobless. The victim is a middle aged non-local man.

According to Ho, the two met on August 10 at a local casino, after which they engaged in sexual activity and the man gave Liu 2,500 yuan as payment.

They then both left Macau separately.

Later, the man contacted Liu to invite her to gamble in Macau. On Saturday, Liu went to the victim's hotel room in Cotai, and they had sex before gambling together at a casino. The next morning, Liu asked the man for payment, but he refused, prompting her to report to the police that she had been raped.

Ho noted that Liu showed no signs of being raped.

The suspect has been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) for further questioning and possible arraignment on a charge of making a false police report. ■



Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman Ho Wai Lok looks on during a regular press conference yesterday.

- Photo: William Chan

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### Macau Weather

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**A FEW SHOWERS AT FIRST.**  
**FORCE 2 TO 4 SOUTH TO SOUTHWESTERLY WINDS.**  
**RELATIVE HUMIDITY WILL RANGE BETWEEN 70% AND 95%.**



26°C~31°C

Source: SMG



# Tickets for WTT Champions Macao 2024 available from tomorrow

Rui Pastorin

Tickets for the WTT [World Table Tennis] Champions Macao 2024 presented by Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG) are set to go on sale from tomorrow, with more details of the upcoming event presented during a press conference yesterday at the Galaxy International Convention Centre (GICC) in Cotai.

The event, which marks the fifth time that it will be held in Macau, is slated to take place from September 9 to 15 at the Macau East Asian Games Dome - Coliseum in Cotai, where a total of 64 competitors, comprising of 32 male and 32 female players from around the world, will vie for prizes.

In his speech, Sports Bureau (ID) Acting President Luís Gomes remarked that among the leading table tennis players competing are Wang Chuqin and Sun Yingsha of the Chinese National Team. He also thanked the players for coming to Macau after the Paris Olympics and the WTT for starting event preparations immediately after the Olympics.

Wang, aged 24, and Sun, aged 23, are both ranked number one in the world in the men's and women's categories respectively. Both players won medals at the Paris Olympics.

Moreover, GEG Corporate Affairs Director Buddy Lam Chi Seng also noted in his speech that

with the tournament being "the first high-level international table tennis event after the Olympic Games, the regathering of the world's top 32 male and 32 female players in Macau for an intense contest over a 7-day period will undoubtedly attract wide attention."

A statement provided at the event noted that the matches from September 9 to 13 are divided into two sessions. A round of 32 matches to be played on September 9 and 10 and during the first session on September 11, according to the statement. A round of 16 matches will be held during the second session of September 11 and on September 12, while the quarter finals and semi-finals will be held on September 13 and 14 respectively.

The finals will be held on September 15 and will start at 7 p.m.

Tickets for the event are priced between 300 patacas and 1,200 patacas. More details can be found on [www.wttmacao.sport.gov.mo](http://www.wttmacao.sport.gov.mo) or the bureau's social media pages. ■



Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG) Corporate Affairs Director Buddy Lam Chi Seng (left to right), Sports Bureau (ID) Acting President Luís Gomes and Macau Table Tennis General Association Chairman João Ma Chi Tat pose for a group photo after yesterday's press conference at the Galaxy International Convention Centre (GICC) in Cotai.

## 'Macao Week in Shaanxi·Xi'an' kicks off today



Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes addresses a tourism promotion conference yesterday in Xi'an.

— Photo: MGTO

Ginnie Liang

The five-day "Macao Week in Shaanxi·Xi'an" will kick off today, launching a raft of activities including presenting over 38-million-yuan worth of special travel offers covering air tickets, hotels and restaurants, in order to attract more tourists to Macau, according to a statement from the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) yesterday.

The statement noted that various Macau government entities, enterprises and businesses will run different themed booths, showcasing Macau's "tourism+" at the Zhonghe plaza in the Qujiang Heritage Park in Xi'an.

Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes said in a press conference held in Xi'an yesterday that Macau has a rich variety of tourism products, and the roadshow introduces the latest tourism information to Shaanxi's residents, expands exchanges and cooperation opportunities, and fully demonstrates the connotation of Macau as a "World Centre of Tourism and Leisure", the statement said.

She added that she believed the roadshow would be an important milestone in tourism and economic

and trade cooperation between the two places, the statement said.

MGTO also held a tourism promotion conference yesterday, during which Senna Fernandes also signed a cooperation agreement with representatives from the tourism sector in Xi'an, the statement said.

Senna Fernandes introduced the advantages and latest updates of Macau's tourism industry, promoted exchanges between the tourism sector of Macau and Xi'an through business matching and negotiation sessions in the promotion conference, with the aim of jointly developing potential tourist sources, the statement said.

Xi'an is one of the mainland cities that benefits from the central government's Individual Visit Scheme (IVS) since March 6 this year, enabling mainlanders to visit Hong Kong and Macau as an individual traveller.

From May 27, the number of designated mainland cities eligible for the IVS have been increased to 59.

Shaanxi Province lies around 2,033 kilometres northwest of Macau and has a population of about 40 million, while Xi'an, the capital city of Shaanxi Province, has a population of about 8,538,000. ■

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# Around 20 works on display in Un Lok I's 'Experimental Ideas' exhibition

**Rui Pastorin**

Around 20 works are on display in an ongoing solo exhibition by young local artist Un Lok I entitled "Experimental Ideas", which is being held at the 10 Fantasia gallery in the S. Lázaro district until August 30.

Born in 1999, Un is an artist who has won several awards, according to information displayed at the free-admission exhibition, which is held at the gallery's room A02. Un, the statement noted, graduated from the public Macao Polytechnic University (MPU) in 2021 from its visual arts programme, majoring in oil painting.

The works currently on display were created through different media such as acrylics, oils and sketches, the statement said, adding that there are different ways to express art, just as

there are different types of people who view them.

Un enjoyed the process of experimenting and exploring with the different media, which can bring different effects and give exhibitiongoers a different perception, the statement said.

The works on display are showcased in two categories: social and contemplative, the statement noted. The social works are for comfort and pleasure. Contemplative works, meanwhile, are those that can stimulate thinking and resonate with exhibitiongoers.

The statement underlined that among the artist's expectations for the exhibition is to bring a learning value to exhibitiongoers and to stimulate thinking.

Those interested can view the works from Tuesdays to Sundays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The gallery is closed on Mondays.



Photos: Rui Pastorin



# HKMAO praises MSAR's 25-year 'brilliant' achievements

Tony Wong

The State Council's Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office (HKMAO) released a statement on its WeChat account yesterday evening praising Macau's "brilliant" achievements over the past 25 years since its return to the motherland, believing that the new and sixth-term chief executive who will be elected later this year and his or her government, based on the solid foundations laid over the past 25 years, will "definitely be able to continue to write a splendid chapter" of the successful implementation of the "One Country, Two Systems" principle with Macau characteristics.

The HKMAO statement was issued shortly before 7 p.m. yesterday, which came after the Macau Government Information Bureau (GCS) issued a statement at 5:30 p.m. announcing that Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng has decided not to seek re-election in the upcoming election for the sixth-term chief executive as his health "has still not been fully recovered".

The Macau Special Administrative Region (MSAR) was established on December 20, 1999.

The HKMAO statement noted that the election of the Chief Executive Election Committee has recently been held, and the chief executive candidacy nomination period will start August 29. Looking back on Macau's "extraordinary" journey over the past 25 years since its return to the motherland, the statement praised the MSAR's "brilliant" achievements in the development of various causes, as well as the MSAR government's unremitting efforts in leading all sectors of civil society to promote the steady and enduring implementation of the "One Country, Two Systems" principle.



This file photo taken from the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha in 2021 shows Macau's cityscape.

— Photo: Tony Wong

The statement said that President Xi Jinping has highly praised the joint efforts of the MSAR government and all sectors of civil society for creating the best development in Macau's history and "writing a splendid chapter" of the successful implementation of the "One Country, Two Systems" principle with Macau characteristics since Macau's return to the motherland, with the strong support of the central government and the mainland.

The statement said that since Macau's return to the motherland, the "One Country, Two Systems" principle has been fully and accurately implemented, the constitutional order has been firmly established, and the governance system has been continuously improved.

The statement said that Macau has complied with the correct relationship between the central authorities' overall jurisdiction over the MSAR and the MSAR's high degree of autonomy and effectively safeguarded the constitutional order established by the Constitution and the MSAR Basic Law.

The statement noted that Macau enacted its law on safeguarding national security in 2009 based on the Article 23 requirement of the MSAR Basic Law, after which Macau has enacted amendments to its national security law – which took effect in May last year – in compliance with the central government's holistic approach to national security.

The statement said that since Macau's return to the motherland, its economy has improved in leaps and bounds and better integrated into the nation's overall development.

The statement said that the MSAR has been continuously enhancing its world-class tourism and leisure resort facilities, while it has basically gained achievements in appropriately diversifying its economy. The statement said that Macau's gross domestic product (GDP) recorded an average annual growth of 11 percent between 2000 and 2019, ranking among the top in developed economies. After the three-year COVID-19 pandemic, Macau's GDP recorded a growth of 80.5 percent last year. Macau's

GDP per capita increased from US\$15,000 in 1999 to US\$69,000 in 2023, the statement said.

The statement said that since Macau's return to the motherland, residents' living standards have continuously improved, and it has been constantly making new achievements in the development of various causes in civil society.

The statement said that the MSAR government has implemented 15-years of free education while the city's higher education sector has been rapidly developing.

Macau's primary healthcare system has been rated by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as an exemplar in the Pacific region, the statement said, adding that the MSAR government has implemented a string of measures favourable to the population's well-being for many years such as its cash sharing programme.

Macau has been maintaining social harmony and stability where its crime rate is very low, being one of the world's safest cities, the statement said.

The statement also underlined

the MSAR government's achievements in leading civil society to successfully tackle the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the three-year pandemic, the local government rolled out a string of measures aiming to relieve residents and businesses' financial hardships resulting from the adverse impact of the pandemic on the local economy, the statement said.

The statement also praised the MSAR government for rolling out effective measures to improve the population's well-being in various fields such as housing, healthcare and the protection of senior citizens' retirement.

The statement listed a string of examples such as the completion of the city's first rental residential building for senior citizens, the large Macao Union Hospital in Cotai, and the Public Health Building located next to the public Conde de São Januário Hospital Centre.

The statement also acknowledged the MSAR government's efforts in safeguarding national security and consolidating the political foundation based on the "Loving the Country and Loving Macau" principle.

In addition to amendments to its national security law, the statement said, Macau has also enacted amendments to its Chief Executive Election Law, Legislative Assembly Election Law, and oath-taking law, ensuring that the MSAR's ruling powers are firmly grasped by patriots.

The statement said that over the past 25 years, under the strong leadership of the central authorities, and with the effective leadership of all Macau's chief executives in conjunction with the efforts by all sectors of civil society, Macau has laid solid foundations enabling it to achieve better development for the future. ■

## Local athlete to compete in Paris Paralympics

Staff Reporter

The six-member Macau delegation for the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games, which will open on Wednesday next week, bid farewell to Sports Bureau (ID) Acting President Luis Gomes yesterday, according to a report by public broadcaster TDM.

While Macau is unable to compete in the Olympic Games as it

is not a member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), it can compete in the Paralympic Games, in the name of "Macao, China".

According to yesterday's report, the Macao, China delegation will depart from Macau for Paris tomorrow.

The six-member delegation includes only one athlete, Chio Hao Lei (趙巧莉) who will compete in women's long jump. ■

Yuki Lei

The 1<sup>st</sup> Macao International Children's Arts Festival – Music Camp held yesterday its achievement concert at the Macau Cultural Centre (CCM) in Nape, with 29 young violinists from different regions performing with professional musicians.

Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) President Leong Wai Man said during her opening remarks that the 1<sup>st</sup> Macao International Children's Arts Festival had provided a "summer paradise" for parents and children to get in touch with the arts in close proximity, from multiple perspectives and with all the senses through a variety of programmes and events that were rich in form, lively in content and full of creativity, in which the six-day music camp was an innovative attempt to create a platform for artistic exchange between young violin players from different regions.

According to Leong, the camp

## 29 young violinists showcase achievement at CCM



Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) President Leong Wai Man delivers a speech during yesterday's opening ceremony of the achievement concert by 29 young violinists from the 1<sup>st</sup> Macao International Children's Arts Festival – Music Camp. — Photo: Yuki Lei

attracted 29 young people aged between eight and 18 from different regions who were learning the stringed instrument, during which they received one-on-one instruction from musicians of the UK's

Academy of St Martin in the Fields, including the participation of Joshua David Bell – an American violinist and conductor who is currently music director of the Academy of St Martin in the Fields. ■

## STOCK MARKETS

### HK Hang Seng Index closes 0.69 pct lower

HONG KONG – Hong Kong stock market ended lower yesterday with the benchmark Hang Seng Index down 0.69 percent to close at 17,391.01 points.

The Hang Seng China Enterprises Index fell 0.87 percent to end at 6,141.78 points, and the Hang Seng Tech Index fell 1.82 percent to end at 3,434.39 points. — Xinhua