

MGP slated for Nov 14-17 with no F3 but FR: Gomes

'Ultimate goal is to make the MGP brand even better'

Ginnie Liang

Sports Bureau (ID) President Luis Gomes announced yesterday that the 71st Macau Grand Prix (MGP) will be held from November 14 to 17, and that a new car specification – Formula Regional (FR) – will replace the MGP's long-running Formula 3 (F3) races from this year.

Gomes made the remarks on the sidelines of a press conference yesterday held by the Macau Grand Prix Organising Committee (MGPOC) at the Macau Science Centre (MSC).

Gomes told reporters that both are formula races and stressed that FR is not a second-tier race in the international motorsports arena, and that the types of racing cars will be updated in line with the development of motor racing and, therefore, will not remain unchanged for ever.

Macau will be represented at the FR race by Tiago Rodrigues, the 2023 Chinese Formula 4 champion.

As to whether other kinds of races will be introduced in the future, Gomes said he would be happy to see more good races in Macau, taking into account the scheduling of different race tours and striking a balance between



The Sports Bureau (ID) President Luis Gomes talks to reporters on the sidelines of yesterday's press conference held at the Macau Science Centre (MSC).

residents' transport and traffic needs and the excitement that the races offer the public. He said the ultimate goal was to make the Macau Grand Prix brand even better.

Gomes announced during the press conference that this year's Grand Prix comprises seven events, namely the Macau Grand Prix - FIA FR World Cup, Macau GT Cup –



Macau Grand Prix Organising Committee (MGPOC) members pose during yesterday's press conference.

FIA GT World Cup, Macau Guia Race – Kumho FIA TCR World Tour Event of Macau, the 56th Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix (MMGP), Greater Bay Area GT Cup (GT4), Macau Roadsport Challenge, and the Macau Roadsport – Macao SAR Establishment Cup.

This year's event will continue to serve as a platform on which to work

with the private sector to develop sports tourism projects that attract international visitors, and promote the coordinated development of both a comprehensive tourism and leisure industry and the sports sector, Gomes underlined.

The budget for this year's event is around 240 million patacas, which, however, has not yet taken into

account sponsorships such as by the city's six integrated resorts (IRs) and ticket revenues, with four of the IRs providing sponsorships of 20 million patacas each and the remaining two 10 million patacas each, while the ticket revenues are estimated to be similar to those of previous years, which is around 17 million patacas.

Continued on page 5



President Xi Jinping arrives at the Kazan airport to attend the three-day BRICS summit, hosted in the Russian city until tomorrow. In Russia, guests are traditionally welcomed with bread and salt, both symbolising prosperity and health. Kazan is the capital of the Russian Federation's Republic of Tartarstan. - (More about the BRICS summit on pages 6,7 & 11) - AFP

Iran, Saudi plan joint military exercises: Iranian media

TEHRAN – Iran and Saudi Arabia are planning to conduct joint military exercises in the Red Sea, according to an Iranian report not confirmed by Riyadh, in what would be a first for the regional heavyweights.

The two Middle East rivals, which have long backed opposing sides in conflict zones across the region, severed diplomatic ties in 2016.

However Shi'ite Muslim-dominated Iran and Sunni-majority Saudi Arabia resumed relations last year under a surprise China-brokered deal.

"Saudi Arabia has asked that we organise joint exercises in the Red Sea," the commander of Iran's navy, Admiral Shahram Irani, was quoted as saying by the Iranian news agency ISNA.

"Coordination is underway and delegations from both countries will hold the necessary consultations on how to conduct the exercise," he added, without providing details including a timeline.

Saudi Arabia did not immediately confirm whether it would hold joint military exercises with Iran. - AFP

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China's dark energy detector granted SKA pathfinder status

China's Tianlai Experiment, a scientific project aimed at detecting dark energy using a radio telescope array, has been officially granted "pathfinder" status by the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) Observatory.

- Story on p. 6

Blinken urges Israel to 'capitalise' on Sinwar death and reach Gaza truce

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken urged Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday to seize on the killing of Hamas's leader to work towards a Gaza ceasefire

- Story on p. 10

In Mozambique, cigars 100 pct made in Africa

In a small neon-lit factory in Maputo, a dozen workers are hand-rolling premium cigars intended for the global market, seemingly undisturbed by the pungent tobacco smell.

- Story on p. 12

Health Bureau logs 417 infectious disease cases in Sept

Yuki Lei

The Health Bureau (SSM) yesterday released its figures on infectious diseases recorded last month, with an increase in the number of cases of four types of infectious diseases compared with the previous month, totalling 417 cases – while the bureau recorded one fatal case of Group B Streptococcus infection late last month.

Among the 417 cases of mandatory declaration of diseases recorded last month, according to the bureau, the risk of respiratory illness showed a decline, with 145 cases of influenza recorded, a month-on-month decrease of 68.7 percent and a significant drop from nearly 5,000 cases in the same period last year; while the number of COVID-19 cases stood at four, a month-on-month decrease of 77 percent and a year-on-year decline of 83 percent.

For other infections, including scarlet fever, salmonella and Norwalk virus infections, there was an upward trend compared with the previous month, the bureau noted, with 36, 56 and 25 cases

respectively, representing a two-fold increase over the same month last year, and 28.6 percent up from the previous month; an increase of about 1.2 times over the same month last year and 47.4 percent over the previous month; and a decrease of 3.8 percent compared with the same month last year but an increase of about 2.1 times when compared with the previous month.

Last month, the bureau noted, there were 16 cases of tuberculosis (TB), a decrease of 11.1 percent from 18 cases recorded in September last year and one case of legionnaires' disease, as well as 98 cases of enterovirus infection, representing a decrease of 66.1 percent from the same month of last year 289 cases and a decline of 3.9 percent from the preceding month.

Meanwhile, according to a separate SSM statement yesterday, the bureau has recently received from the public Conde de São Januário Hospital Centre a report of four severe cases involving Group B streptococcal infection, according to its separate statement, which identified the

infected as local residents – three males and one female – aged between 60 and 86, two of them linked to contact with raw freshwater fish prior to the onset of the disease. One of them was pronounced dead on September 27 and the other was hospitalised.

More separate statements by the bureau yesterday noted that influenza-like illness and COVID-19 cluster infections were detected in a nursery on Rua do General Ivens Ferraz (筷子基南街) and in a secondary school on Rua da Prata (風順堂上街) on Sunday and last Tuesday, respectively, involving 13 crèche-children and five schoolchildren.

Meanwhile, the bureau logged on Monday Macau's 15th travel-associated dengue fever case, in which the victim was identified as a 68-year-old local man living in Polytec Garden Building (Block 6) on Rua Central da Areia Preta (黑沙環中街), who visited relatives in Foshan City, some 100 km north of Macau, on October 7-10 and came down with fever last Wednesday. ■



Poster courtesy of Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety

Ex-convict steals from 3 shops' cash registers

William Chan

During a special press conference yesterday, Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman Leng Kam Lon announced an aggravated theft case, in which a local man, who has a history of multiple theft cases, stole a total of 8,500 patacas from three shops' cash registers.

The 52-year-old suspect surnamed Hoi is a logistics worker. Leng noted that Hoi had been involved in multiple theft cases and was sentenced to 12 years in prison, and released on parole in March.

According to Leng, a dessert shop in the northern district and a souvenir shop in Zape reported to the police separately earlier this month that someone had broken into the shop and pried open the

cash registers to steal the cash inside, losing 975 and 3,950 patacas respectively.

During the investigation, the police discovered that the suspect, Hoi, committed the crimes each time between 1 a.m. and 2 a.m., wearing a mask and a hat for disguise, using hard objects to damage the shops' door locks to break in. He also broke into a clothing shop in the Ferreira de Almeida neighbourhood and stole 3,500 patacas in the wee hours on Monday. He was arrested at his work place in Coloane later that day.

Under questioning, he refused to cooperate.

Hoi was transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) yesterday, facing an aggravated theft charge, according to Leng. ■



The hooded theft suspect is escorted by Judiciary Police (PJ) officers from the PJ headquarters in Zape to a vehicle yesterday. – Photo: William Chan

Local man lets scammer use bank accounts for money laundering: police

William Chan

A local man has been arrested for allegedly allowing a scammer to use his bank accounts which were then used for laundering money linked to at least over a dozen scams, Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman Leng Kam Lon said at a special press conference yesterday.

The 37-year-old suspect surnamed Lai is a doorman.

According to Leng, a man told the police in May that he had been scammed by a fraudster purported to be a school staff member, where the victim was tricked into ordering items for the school from a "supplier" for a certain amount of profit, but lost contact with the scammers after he had paid for the items, losing 92,400 patacas.

While tracking the money, the police discovered that Lai's bank accounts had received money



The hooded money laundering suspect is being escorted by Judiciary Police (PJ) officers from the PJ headquarters in Zape to a vehicle yesterday. – Photo: William Chan

from the victim, as well as at least 12 more victims who had fallen for online placing orders scams, laundering over a total of 100,000 patacas for fraud gangsters.

Lai was arrested in his workplace in

the northern district on Monday. Under questioning, he refused to cooperate.

Lai was transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) yesterday, facing charges of money laundering and fraud, Leng said. ■

Duo nabbed for conning pawn shops with artificial diamond rings

William Chan

Two women from the mainland have been arrested for presenting rings containing artificial diamonds as natural ones to deceive three local pawn shops, Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman Leng Kam Lon said during a special press conference yesterday.

The suspects in their forties, surnamed Liu and Su, told the police they're jobless.

According to Leng, Liu and Su attempted to hock a purported natural diamond ring for 40,000 patacas in a pawn shop in Nam Van. After inspecting, the staff discovered that the diamonds were artificial, also recognising the duo later as they had swindled the shop out of HK\$50,000 with a similar tactic back in August. The staff reported the case to the

police, leading to the arrest of the duo at the scene.

Leng noted that the suspects were also involved in similar scams at two other local pawn shops last month, which reported losses of HK\$30,000 and HK\$20,000 respectively.

Under questioning, the duo admitted to the deception and told

the police that they purchased the rings for 5,000 yuan each online.

Su and Liu were transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) yesterday, facing fraud charges. Su also faces a charge of using another person's identity document as she attempted to pawn the ring with Liu's ID card. ■



Evidence seized from the suspects such as rings and Hong Kong dollar notes are displayed during yesterday's press conference at the Judiciary Police (PJ) headquarters. – Photo: William Chan

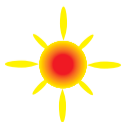
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22°C~28°C

Source: SMG

MGTO arranges fact-finding visit to Zhuhai for HK-based overseas tourism offices

Rui Pastorin

An 11-member delegation of overseas tourism office representatives based in Hong Kong recently took part in a fact-finding visit arranged by the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) to Dong'ao Island and Guishan Island in Zhuhai, an MGTO statement said yesterday.

The visit took place on Friday and Saturday according to the statement.

The statement noted that the delegation was made up of overseas tourism offices' representatives based in Hong Kong from Malaysia, Samoa, South Korea and Thailand, as well as MGTO's representatives in Hong Kong.

The statement said that among those accompanying the delegates were Zhuhai Culture, Radio, Television, Tourism and Sports Bureau Deputy Director Jiang Ying and the deputy director of the Social Affairs Bureau of the Wanshan Marine Development Experimental Zone of Zhuhai, Yan Jing.

The Wanshan ("Ten Thousand Hills") archipelago consists of 104 islands that are a part of Zhuhai City's Xiangzhou District.

The statement said that the visits aimed to enable the participants to understand both islands' cultural travel attractions, hotel facilities and the progress of major development projects, along with their tourism resources and outlook.

The visit, according to the statement, also aimed to encourage participants to "promote multi-destination island travel to Macau and Zhuhai in their own countries and showcase the shared strengths and appeal of tourism resources" in the Greater Bay Area (GBA) and tap into international markets. ■



This undated handout photo provided by the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) yesterday shows participants in the recent fact-finding trip visiting a tourist attraction on one of Zhuhai's Wanshan islands.

78 pct of Macau's traffic lights use AI: DSAT



This file photo taken on October 13 shows traffic lights in Nam Van. – Photo: Yuki Lei

Yuki Lei

An intelligent transportation system has been a key component of Macau's smart city development programme since 2016 – and the Transport Bureau (DSAT) has noted that 78 percent of Macau's traffic lights are now using artificial intelligence (AI), i.e., smart traffic lights.

According to the bureau, as of the middle of this month, 148 traffic lights in Macau, as cited by Chinese-language newspaper *Macao Daily News* in a report on Monday, were equipped with an automated timing system and cloud computing, accounting for 78 percent of the whole traffic light system, adding that the bureau expects the number of smart traffic lights to be raised to about 80 percent by the end of this year.

In 2016, Macau launched its 5-Year Programme (2016-2020) to foster the development of Macau into a smart city, with an "intelligent transportation system" as one of its key initiatives. Shortly afterwards, the Transport Bureau launched its Bus Announcer GPS mobile app to provide users with real-time bus schedules and other transport information. Through the use of Internet of Things (IoT) smart devices in the city, the bureau also provides real-time data regarding road traffic statistics and parking spaces. Once again in 2023, accelerating the smart city development was included as one of the policy initiatives of the current government, including improving public transport governance and new infrastructure construction.

The Transport Bureau has said, according to *Macao Daily News*,

that Macau had adopted, as of last Tuesday, the thermal image analysis technology in 33 percent of Macau's traffic junctions to gauge the congestion level based on the prevailing conditions and adjust the traffic signal timing scheme accordingly via its central traffic control system. The bureau added that during peak hours, law-enforcement officers operate remotely through the central control system or make manual adjustments to the traffic light timing at busy junctions to shorten the duration of traffic light switching and speed up the flow of pedestrians and vehicles, further shortening the green light interval, while enhancing the flow of vehicular traffic at the junctions as far as practicable.

The bureau said last year that the implementation of intelligent traffic signals had reduced traffic pressure in Avenida do Coronel Mesquita (美副將大馬路) by about 25 percent; Rua Nova da Areia Preta (黑沙環新街) and Avenida do Nordeste (東北大馬路) by about 14 percent; as well as Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida (荷蘭園大馬路) and Avenida de Sidónio Pais (士多鳥拜斯大馬路) by about 11 percent.

Meanwhile, the Transport Bureau and Public Works Bureau (DSOP) jointly announced on Monday their new traffic arrangements to tie in with the ongoing construction of a rainwater pumping station in the southern Inner Harbour district, noting that vehicles are now able to drive along Rua do Dr Lourenço Pereira Marques (比厘喇馬忌士街) from Rua do Almirante Sérgio (河邊新街). ■

Tito Paris, Macao Chinese Orchestra concert slated for next month

Rui Pastorin

A concert by Cape Verdean Singer Tito Paris and the Macao Chinese Orchestra is slated to take place on November 15, with tickets now on sale, the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) said in a statement yesterday.

Featuring Cape Verdean musician, composer and singer Tito Paris, who has sold albums all over the world, the concert is among the activities in the 6th "Encounter in Macao: Arts and Cultural Festival between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries", the statement noted, which is on until December.

The 61-year-old has had a career spanning over 40 years and is regarded as an "ambassador" promoting Cape Verdean music.

Paris, according to the statement, has "integrated three traditional Cape Verdean music styles – morna (characterised by a lento tempo),

funaná (accordion-based music), and coladeiras (characterised by a variable tempo) – into jazz, rock, salsa, and flamenco, while retaining performances in Cape Verdean Creole".

The musical practice of morna was inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2019, according to the UNESCO website. Wikipedia notes that it is widely considered Cape Verde's national music.

The concert will be led by Macao Chinese Orchestra Music Director and Principal Conductor Zhang Lie, a national first-class conductor. Zhang will lead the orchestra in re-arranging several of the singer's personal compositions, the statement said.

The one-night event will start at the Macau Cultural Centre's (CCM) Grand Auditorium at 8 p.m., with tickets priced at 200, 300 and 400



This poster provided by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) promotes next month's concert by Cape Verdean Singer Tito Paris and the Macao Chinese Orchestra.

patacas. More details can be found on www.macauticket.com and www.icm.gov.mo/FCP. ■

Applications to join craft market workshops start today

Rui Pastorin

Applications for joining the 64 handicraft workshops at next month's Tap Siac Craft Market start today and are open through next Wednesday, the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) said in a statement yesterday.

"Tap Siac" is the bureau's alternate spelling of "Tap Seac".

The craft market is slated to be held on two weekends, from November 14 to 17, and November 21 to 24, in Praça do Tap Seac.

The upcoming craft market's creative workshops, which

include 11 sessions for families, cover ceramics, glass, miniature works, painting and leather works, integrating fun, creativity and crafts, according to the statement.

The fee for each workshop participant is 50 patacas, and one can register for a maximum of two workshops and only once for each. The statement added that the same applies for children in family workshops.

The statement noted that a lucky draw will be held to determine the successful applicants, with the results to be unveiled via SMS on

October 31. Successful registrants must arrive on time, and anyone who arrives 10 minutes late will be replaced by those on the standby-list, the statement emphasised, while no refund will be provided.

The statement did not say how many places at the workshops are available.

More details can be found on www.craftmarket.gov.mo, which is where the statement added registration can be done until 5 p.m. on the last application day.

Enquiries can be made by calling 8399 6289 or 8399 6209. ■



This undated handout photo provided by the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) yesterday shows a workshop taking place during a previous edition of the Tap Siac Craft Market.



T Theatre hosts 'Next Step 2024' seminar art project

Review by William Chan

The local art organisation T Theatre hosted a seminar art project, "Next Step 2024," on Sunday in its theatre in Nape, featuring presentations by five local and mainland artists. They spoke about their initial developmental outcomes through the combination of art performances and presentations, shedding light on the ideas behind their behind-the-scenes processes and explorations in practice.

In this article, the focus will mainly be on local artist Lao Pui Lon and Guangzhou-based Wu Hui. In an interview conducted last February*, they presented a dance performance around the Guia Hill area, exploring the interdependent, invasive, and parasitical nature of plants, along with their interactions with one another and the environment through dance.

Wu, a dancer and choreographer, during Sunday's talk gave insights into her inspiration for last year's performance. Her name, Hui (卉), meaning "plant" or "herb," was given to her by her grandmother due to her deep affection for plants. Since childhood, she has been introduced to a wide array of plants by her family.

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, Wu found herself spending most of her time at home, developing a keen interest in plants during this period. Eager to understand how plants interact with the world, she demonstrated the process of transferring a plant into a larger pot to the audience during the performance, highlighting the essential steps for a healthy transition and showcasing her care and knowledge of plants.

Following this, Wu placed a plant beside her and stood opposite it, immersing herself in the perspective of the plant by remaining still for five minutes, mimicking how a plant perceives the world with minimal movements - an attempt to view the world through a plant's lens.

Wu has dedicated years to her ongoing research project, "Expressive Sight," where she challenges the human-centric worldview and explores an alternative path through dance, engaging with social and ecological themes. She emphasises that regardless of how growth manifests itself, it is a remarkable process, representing a decentred, non-subjective "self." She noted that her upcoming performance will be in December.

Queerness in performance

Immersed in creation and collaboration across various disciplines, Lao said in his presentation that his past works on queerness have explored themes positively and boldly. In one instance, he embodied a homosexual teacher delivering flamboyant talks on race and sex to the audience (portrayed as students), and in another, he enacted a drag queen persona. Additionally, he parodied Miss Macau, satirising Macau's tourism strategy that indiscriminately welcomes visitors.

Lao emphasised that his aim is to challenge the power dynamics in performances and perceptions of queerness. By engaging the audience in a reciprocal gaze, he alters the traditional performance setup. Many of his performances in his career are queer-orientated, experimenting with different scenarios to redefine the role of queerness.

Reflecting on feedback questioning the idea of queerness as fragile and vulnerable rather than strong and positive, Lao revealed that in his upcoming performance, "KIWI," scheduled for this Friday and Saturday, he intends to treat queerness as a transformative force, akin to mould—initially subtle but capable of profoundly reshaping its surroundings.

Both Lao and Wu are contemporary artists striving to deconstruct traditional stage performances and introduce innovative elements based on their unique experiences and research. Wu aims to shift the anthropocentric view of performances by exploring the world from a plant's perspective and considering how this perspective can be integrated with the human body.

Lao, on the other hand, continually situates queerness in diverse contexts, challenging norms and exploring its playful and boundary-pushing potential in various settings beyond traditional norms.

Contemporary art forms demand additional context to help audiences understand the nuances of the work, thereby fostering a deeper appreciation of the evolving world, especially in the face of outdated educational systems and constantly changing realities. Seminars like these play a crucial role in the local art scene's development.

*<https://www.macaupostdaily.com/news/16905>



Artist Guo Rui hosts "Next Step 2024", introducing other artists' projects to the audience. - Photos provided by Weng Kei



Local artist Lao Pui Lon performs during Sunday's presentation at T Theatre in Nape.



Guangzhou-based artist Wu Hui mimics a plant at T Theatre.

CE election result published in Official Gazette

Staff Report

The officially validated result of the sixth-term chief executive election has been published in the Official Gazette (BO) of the Macau Special Administrative Region (MSAR).

According to a statement by the Macau Government Information Bureau (GCS), the notice was gazetted on Monday after the Court of Final Appeal (TUI) had validated the result and, consequently, confirmed former TUI president Sam Hou Fai as Chief Executive-elect.

The election took place on October 13. Its outcome was not contested. Sam won 98.99 percent of the 398 votes cast. Two of the 400

members of the Chief Executive Election Committee were absent.

Sam, 62, is slated to receive his MSAR chief executive appointment certificate from the State Council, expected to be represented by Premier Li Qiang, in Beijing in due course. Following his official designation by the State Council, Sam will be Macau's Chief Executive-designate until his swearing-in by one of the most senior leaders of the People's Republic of China (PRC) on December 20, coinciding with the 25th Anniversary of Macau's return to the motherland.

Sam, who headed Macau's highest court for nearly 25 years,

has been elected for a five-year term at the helm of the MSAR. Macau's chief executives can serve a maximum of two successive five-year terms.

Current Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng, 67, announced in August that for health reasons he would not seek a second term.

Sam will be the MSAR's fourth chief executive, after Edmund Ho Hau Wah, Fernando Chui Sai On and Ho Iat Seng. The first two served two terms each.

Macau's political system is based on traditional Asian consensus politics. It is devoid of Western-style party politics. ■



Sam Hou Fai, the sixth-term Chief Executive-elect of the Macau Special Administrative Region (MSAR), delivers his acceptance speech after his election by a 400-member committee at the Forum Macao Complex in Nam Van on October 13. Sam garnered 394 of the 398 votes cast, or 98.99 percent. Two electors were absent. Sam is slated to be sworn in as the MSAR's fourth chief executive on December 20, coinciding with the 25th Anniversary of the establishment of the MSAR, in accordance with the "One China, Two Countries" principle. - Xinhua

Observatory may hoist Stand-by Signal No.1 tomorrow or Friday

Yuki Lei

Tropical Storm Trami may affect Macau between tomorrow afternoon and Friday morning, the weather bureau said yesterday, adding that "SMG will issue the tropical cyclone warning signal [No.1] accordingly".

"Trami is expected to enter within 800 kilometres of Macau between Thursday afternoon and Friday morning, moving generally towards Hainan Island," the Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG) noted on its website yesterday, warning the public about an expected drop in temperature in the coming few days, which, according to a SMG statement on Monday, could be as low as 20 degrees Celsius later in the week.

The bureau also reminded the public of the big difference in temperature between day and night under the influence of a northeast monsoon: "The temperature will drop in the next few days, and it will be slightly cooler in the morning and evening".



According to Monday's statement, the bureau then expects Trami in the northwestern Pacific to gradually strengthen over the next few days and move roughly east of the Philippines, with a possibility of entering the South China Sea or moving closer to Taiwan later this week. The statement added that autumn typhoons are subject to a

high degree of uncertainty as they are heavily influenced by the interplay of different weather systems.

At about 9 p.m. yesterday, Trami was gathering in the northwestern Pacific Ocean, about 1,560 kilometres southeast of Macau, and moving north-westward at a speed of about 15 kilometres per hour. ■

DSEDJ launches funding scheme for organisers to hold patriotic activities

Ginnie Liang

The Education and Youth Development Bureau (DSEDJ) announced in a statement yesterday that it launched the "Annual Activity Funding Scheme for Promoting Comprehensive Student Development in 2025" to encourage associations and tertiary education institutions to organise activities that will enhance students' sense of patriotism and integrate them into the overall situation of the country's development, as well as strengthen their comprehensive abilities and competitiveness.

The scheme will accept applications until November 15.

According to the statement, the first round of applications covers activities to be organised in the first half of next year, and eligible applicants can submit their applications online, while local students enrolled in higher education programmes in Macau's tertiary institutions can also

submit their applications through their respective institutions.

The second round of applications will start next April for events to be held in the second half of next year, the statement said, adding that the applications must be submitted at least 45 days prior to the commencement of the programme.

The statement underlines that the bureau will implement various monitoring measures for the funding scheme, strictly enforcing the principle of good use of public funds, and also will continue to vet and approve the funding applications in a rigorous manner, with the implementation of electronic monitoring and a two-tier supervisory mechanism.

Each funded programme is required to submit reports and evidence upon completion and will be settled on the basis of the applicants' accounts submitted to the bureau. ■

MGP slated for Nov 14-17 with no F3 but FR: Gomes

Continued from p.1

This year's event has attracted more than 180 drivers and riders from 35 countries and regions around the world, Gomes noted, noting that the Macau Grand Prix has a grandstand capacity of about 14,900 seats.

The list of drivers announced yesterday includes Rob Huff, Raffaele Marciello, Edoardo Mortara, Augusto Farfus, and Maro Engel.

The list of riders includes last year's Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix winner Peter Hickman, runner-up Davey Todd, as well as veteran Michael Rutter.

Gomes said: "The number of participating countries and drivers has already surpassed the [pre-pandemic] 2019 level, showing that the Macau Grand Prix is recognised by the international motorsports community and has a high status in the motorsports world."

A total of 9 GT4 racing car brands will compete in the Greater Bay Area GT Cup – Aston Martin, Audi, BMW, Lotus, Mercedes, McLaren, Porsche, Toyota, and Ginetta.

In addition, the Macau Grand Prix Family Carnival will be held in Praça do Tap Seac from November 2 to 3, where the square will feature

a simulated Guia Circuit and a mini racing track. Meanwhile, the Macau Grand Prix Auto Show will be held in Praça do Tap Seac from November 9 to 10, allowing members of the public to see the racing vehicles up close, according to the conference.

Tickets for this year's Grand Prix go on sale from 10 a.m. today, with the price ranging from 400 to 1,200 patacas, and each purchase is limited to a maximum of 20. The MGP Organising Committee has set up a total of 15 sales points in Macau, Hong Kong and the mainland, as well as online, telephone, email and mobile app purchase channels. ■



This banner downloaded from the Education and Youth Development Bureau (DSEDJ) website yesterday promotes the "Annual Activity Funding Scheme for Promoting Comprehensive Student Development in 2025".

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STOCK MARKETS

Hang Seng Index closes 0.1 pct higher

HONG KONG – Hong Kong stock market ended higher yesterday with the benchmark Hang Seng Index up 0.1 percent to close at 20,498.95 points. The Hang Seng China Enterprises Index edged up 0.31 percent to end at 7,363 points, while the Hang Seng Tech Index rose 0.66 percent to end at 4,521.63 points. - Xinhua