



# Homegrown C919 jet makes debut flight to Macau

Yuki Lei

Macau welcomed yesterday for the first time the nation's homegrown passenger aircraft C919, with the jet arriving at the local airport in the morning and being greeted with a "ceremonial water salute" – the highest form of aviation etiquette symbolising respect of and recognition for a pilot's career and contributions to aviation.

Adorned with the five-star red flag, the plane landed smoothly at Macau International Airport at 10:05 a.m. yesterday.

At the invitation of the organiser of the 13<sup>th</sup> Macau Business Aviation Exhibition, the jet – a narrow-body airliner developed by state-owned aerospace manufacturer Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China (COMAC) – is on display at the airport for three consecutive days starting today, making it one of the highlights of the exhibition.

Being parked in a designated area of the airport for static display, the exhibition organisers, including Nam Kwong (Group) Company Limited, China Aviation Supplies Holding Company (CASC), Melco International Development Limited, and the Association of Macao Convention & Exhibition Organisers, said in a statement that invited representatives of the



A homegrown C919 aircraft arrives at the local airport, greeted by the civil aviation industry's traditional "water salute". Air China's B-919Y aircraft arrived here yesterday morning, marking the first visit of the nation's homegrown C919 jetliner to Macau, as well as the inaugural flight since the delivery of the B-919Y aircraft to Air China. – Xinhua

aviation industry from Macau and beyond, youth groups and community organisations will be allowed to board the jet.

In honour of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Macau's return to the motherland, the statement noted, the organisers are holding a C919-themed photo competition between today and Sunday, inviting members of the public to witness and record the historic moment of the aircraft's visit to Macau.

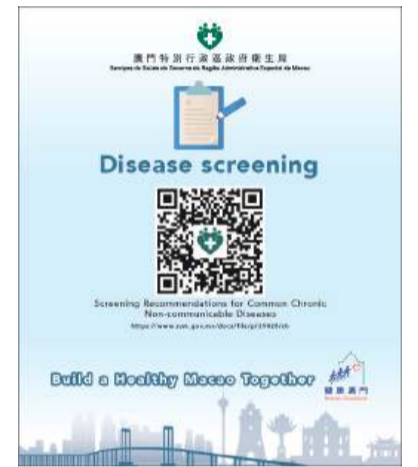
Yesterday's ceremony was addressed by Secretary for Transport and Public Works Raimundo do Rosário and Macau Civil Aviation Authority (AACM) President Pun Wa Kin, as well as State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council (SASAC) Publicity Department Deputy Director Wang Ying, among other representatives and senior officials.

Rosário and Pun presented flower bouquets to the crew and staff to congratulate them on the flight.

Clad in the Chinese national

flag, the C919 China's domestically produced airliner, Air China B-919Y, is COMAC's second C919 aircraft received by Air China, "its energy consumption is no less than that of the current mainstream airliners, such as the Airbus A320 family and the Boeing 737", Hao Xin, deputy head of the Air China C919 flight team, told reporters on the sidelines of the ceremony.

Xinhua quoted Hao as saying that "this is the first time the C919 has flown the Macau route, and I'm especially proud to bring the homegrown aircraft to the people here."



According to Hao, Air China received its first C919 aircraft on August 29 this year, which has already made successful flights on the Beijing-Shanghai and Beijing-Hangzhou routes and will be expanded to the Beijing-Wuhan routes next.

Xinhua said that not only did yesterday's flight mark the first visit of the C919 jetliner to Macau but also its inaugural flight since the delivery of the B-919Y aircraft to Air China.

Meanwhile, the exhibition is being held at the airport's FBO north restricted area, featuring more than 10 public aircraft, helicopters and eVTOL (electric vertical take-off and landing aircraft). ■

## Xi congratulates Trump on his election as US president

BEIJING – President Xi Jinping yesterday extended congratulations to Donald Trump on his election as president of the United States.

Xi urged the two countries to find the right way to get along in the new era, so as to benefit both countries and the wider world.

History teaches that China and the United States gain from cooperation and lose from confrontation, said Xi, noting that a stable, sound and sustainable China-US relationship serves the two countries' shared interests

and meets the aspiration of the international community.

He expressed the hope that the two sides will uphold the principles of mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation, strengthen dialogue and communication, properly manage differences and expand mutually beneficial cooperation.

On the same day, Vice President Han Zheng extended congratulations to J.D. Vance on his election as vice president of the United States.

– Xinhua



A fair attendant stands in front of an electric vertical takeoff and landing aircraft displayed at the booth of TCab Tech at the Automobile Exhibition Area during the 7<sup>th</sup> China International Import Expo (CIIE) in Shanghai yesterday. The Automobile Exhibition Area, with the theme of "Unlimited Mobility Possibilities in the Future," serves as a platform for showcasing high-end technology and debuting new automotive products. – Xinhua

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### Xi urges promoting building of community with shared future with Malaysia

President Xi Jinping met with Prime Minister of Malaysia Anwar Ibrahim in Beijing yesterday, calling on the two sides to take the opportunity of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic ties to promote and enrich the China-Malaysia community with a shared future. – Story on p. 6

### Israelis in Jerusalem see Trump return as 'God's plan'

Israelis in Jerusalem welcomed Donald Trump's US election triumph on Wednesday, hoping he might help end the wars devastating the region, while some called it "part of God's plan". – Story on p. 10

### German crisis could be 'blessing in disguise' for Europe

The political crisis in powerhouse Germany spells uncertainty for Europe at a critical time, but the prospect of a snap election may ultimately be welcome news for Berlin's EU allies frustrated by its chronic instability. – Story on p. 12

# Police warn youngsters of danger & criminal liability for '3 seconds of death'

Yuki Lei

A game known as "dream back to Tang Dynasty" or "three seconds of death" has recently re-emerged on social media platforms, in which the players squat against a wall, take a deep breath, and then someone else vigorously presses on their chest so that the player can reach the state of asphyxiation and lack of oxygen, and a Judiciary Police (PJ) statement yesterday urged teenagers to refrain from taking part in such games endangering the life of those participating in them.

Yesterday's PJ statement stressed the importance of not endangering the lives of others by participating in or imitating dangerous games and behaviours for the sake of momentary excitement or mischievousness, citing doctors who pointed out that such behaviours could cause ischemia (stoppage of blood flow) and hypoxia (deprivation of adequate supply of oxygen) to the heart and brain of the games' passive participants within a very short period of time, resulting in shock, loss of consciousness, permanent

brain damage, loss of organ functions throughout the body, and even death.

In the statement, the Judiciary Police strongly remind youngsters to refrain from this kind of dangerous game and consider the consequences to avoid any tragedy and having to face criminal liability.

Meanwhile, parents and schools were also urged by the statement to pay close attention to and be vigilant of teenagers playing such games, and to join hands to raise the safety and law-abiding awareness of young people. ■



This poster provided by the Judiciary Police (PJ) yesterday warns youngsters of the dangerous game known as "dream back to Tang Dynasty" or "three seconds of death" circulating online.

## Tap Siac Craft Market kicks off next week

Rui Pastorin

The Tap Siac Craft Market in Autumn will again be held on two weekends, slated to kick off next Thursday at 6 p.m. in Praça do Tap Seac.

The craft market will be held from November 14 to 17 and November 21 to 24, according to a Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) statement last night, this year featuring over 220 handicraft and creative gastronomy stalls, 64 creative handicraft workshops and a total of 47 music performances.

The statement said that the stalls will be run by cultural and creative practitioners from Hong Kong, the mainland, Macau, Malaysia, South Korea and China's Taiwan region, showcasing original products ranging from daily necessities to handmade products.

Meanwhile, the 47 music performances will involve singers

from Hong Kong, Macau, and the mainland. Among them, Hong Kong singer-songwriter Kiri T will be a guest performer at the craft market's opening ceremony, according to the statement. The singer produced and released the Cantonese single "Dear Kiwi" in 2022 and the chart-topping single "You Gotta Screw Up At Least Once" in 2024, which according to Wikipedia, had 1.2 million streams on Swedish audio streaming and media service provider Spotify in just one and a half months.

The craft market will be open from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays, and from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

More information can be found on [www.craftmarket.gov.mo](http://www.craftmarket.gov.mo), the "Macao Craft Market" page or on [www.icm.gov.mo](http://www.icm.gov.mo).

Tap Siac is the bureau's alternate spelling for Tap Seac. ■



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

## Man defrauds couple out of HK\$4,000 with 'iPhone': police

Yuki Lei

A mainland man defrauded in mid-August a local couple walking in Cotai of HK\$4,000 by using a bogus "iPhone" on the pretext that he had lost all his money gambling in a casino and needed cash urgently, Public Security Police (PSP) spokeswoman Lai In Hong said yesterday.

Speaking during yesterday's regular press conference, Lai added that the Public Security Police only were able to intercept the suspect at the Barrier Gate checkpoint at the end of last month.

According to the PSP investigation, the couple, who had bought the phone from the suspect in the street after negotiating its price down to HK\$4,000, later confirmed with a local telecom company that the phone was counterfeit.

The Public Security Police,



This undated handout photo provided by the Public Security Police (PSP) yesterday shows the fraud suspect being escorted by two police officers to a police station in Taipa.

after scrutinising the police forces' citywide CCTV camera system, identified the suspect as an Individual Visit Scheme (IVS) travel permit holder surnamed Chen who is in his thirties.

Under questioning, the suspect insisted that he had not been aware

that the phone was counterfeit, adding that he had purchased it in the mainland.

The Public Security Police have transferred the suspect to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) for further investigation, facing a fraud charge. ■

## Police probe 2 theft-by-finding cases

Yuki Lei

The Public Security Police (PSP) uncovered early this month two "theft-by-finding" cases that occurred in September, involving a pair of sneakers and a mobile phone with reported losses of 1,300 patacas 10,000 patacas respectively, PSP spokeswoman Lai In Hong said during a regular press conference yesterday.

In the case of the lost sneakers, according to Lai, the Public Security Police pinpointed and intercepted on Tuesday at the Barrier Gate checkpoint a mainland woman in her fifties, surnamed Huang, who

stole on September 5 a grey shoebox containing a new pair of sneakers placed by their owner outside a shop on Rua Um do Bairro Va Tai (華大新村第一街).

In the case of the lost phone, Lai noted that a Hong Kong man in his forties, surnamed Long, was intercepted by the Public Security Police at the Taipa Ferry Terminal last Friday after picking up a phone left by a tourist on a bench at a hotel in Cotai and taking possession of it.

Both suspects admitted to their respective offences. While the female suspect handed back the sneakers to the police, the male

suspect who claimed he would return the phone had not done so by the time of yesterday's press conference.

The duo have been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP).

### Illegal currency exchange dealer nabbed

Meanwhile, the Judiciary Police on Wednesday arrested at a casino in Cotai another illegal currency exchange dealer from the mainland – a 35-year-old man surnamed Zhou, seizing a total of HK\$10,000 in cash and HK\$57,400 in casino chips in the operation. ■



These two undated handout photos provided by the Public Security Police (PSP) yesterday show the two theft-by-finding suspects being escorted by police officers to two different police stations in the northern district and Taipa respectively.



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### Macau Weather

TEMPERATURE FALLING SLIGHTLY. FINE. FORCE 3 TO 4 NORTH TO NORTHEASTERLY WINDS. RELATIVE HUMIDITY WILL RANGE BETWEEN 30% AND 70%.



19°C~28°C

Source: SMG

# Transport Bureau warns of 'big' traffic jams during MGP

Ginnie Liang

The Transport Bureau's (DSAT) Coordination Department Chief Mok Soi Tou warned residents about "big" traffic jams during a press conference yesterday at the Macau Grand Prix Building about the 71<sup>st</sup> Macau Grand Prix (MGP), which will take place between next Thursday and Sunday (November 14-17).

Mok made the remarks during a press conference at the Grand Prix Building in Zape yesterday.

Mok said that according to past experience, the first day of the MGP (next Thursday) was expected to see the most serious traffic jams. He pointed out that major traffic congestion could be expected to mainly affect Avenida Dr Rodrigo Rodrigues (羅理基博士大馬路), Avenida do Coronel Mesquita (美副將大馬路), Avenida do Ouvidor Arriaga (雅廉訪大馬路), Rua de Francisco Xavier Pereira (俾利喇街), and Avenida de Sidónio Pais (士多烏拜斯大馬路).

Mok also said that 52 bus routes will be temporarily affected, pointing out that two will be suspended, while two new temporary bus routes will be added.

The Macau Grand Prix Organising Committee (MGPOC) Infrastructure Subcommittee Coordinator Vong Ka Kun said that of the Guia Circuit's 162 metal barriers some were still being installed, adding that the MGPOC

has set up LED display panels and road signs outside the barriers to remind residents of the temporary transport arrangement.

Vong said the remaining barriers will be installed between Monday and Wednesday next week. On Monday, the installation schedule will start in the afternoon in roads including Avenida da Amizade (友誼大馬路), Estrada D. Maria II (馬交石炮台馬路), Rua dos Pescadores (漁翁街), while on Tuesday the installation begins at 10 a.m. in Avenida da Amizade and Estrada de Cacilhas (海邊馬路); next Wednesday, on the eve of the MGP, the exit of the Macau-Taipa Friendship Bridge to the Outer Harbour area will be closed.

The Transport Bureau urged the public to pay close attention to the temporary transport adjustments, and to plan their trips ahead of time to avoid traffic peaks.

## 200-300 tickets reserved every day for walk-in

Meanwhile, Sports Bureau (ID) President Luís Gomes (張子軒) told reporters that tickets for the main events for Grand Prix this year are almost sold out, adding that 200 to 300 tickets will be reserved for sale during the races every day, so that walk-in spectators still have the chance to buy them.

Gomez made the remarks on the sidelines of the traditional blessing



Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes (from left to right), Sports Bureau (ID) President Luís Gomes, Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Elsie Ao leong U, Macau Grand Prix Organising Committee (MGPOC) member-cum-legislator Andrew Chan Chak Mo, and MGPOC Sporting Subcommittee Coordinator Chong Coc Veng pose during yesterday's traditional blessing ceremony for next week's 71<sup>st</sup> Macau Grand Prix outside the Grand Prix Building in Zape. - Photo: GCS

ceremony for the upcoming MGP outside the Macau Grand Prix Building in Zape yesterday.

Gomez said that the organising committee has also cooperated with more than 20 schools and will arrange for more than 4,200 local students to watch the races.

Gomez said that the number of racers participating in this year's Grand Prix was higher than that of the pre-pandemic year in 2019, with

more than 190 racers, 25 of them from Macau.

Gomez also revealed that staff from the Paris-based Federation Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) arrived in Macau last Saturday to inspect the track and the event's communication measures. He said they would make a final pre-race inspection on Wednesday to ensure that the track is in the safest and best condition for the arrival of the racing cars.

Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes estimated that this year's MGP will attract over 400,000 tourists to Macau, which may lead to a higher than 90 percent occupancy rate of local hotels, adding that the bureau will invite KOLs from the mainland and from other places to promote the event, so as to further boost the MGP effect.

## Zone A-peninsula flyover opens on Saturday

During yesterday's press conference, Public Works Bureau (DSOP) Infrastructures Department Chief Ng Hong announced that the government will open the flyover connecting the Zone A land reclamation area and the peninsula near the Macau Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant on Saturday.

Ng added that the bureau will only open the lanes from the direction of Zone A to Avenida do Dr Francisco Vieira Machado (馬撻度博士大馬路) in Areia Preta district, while the opposite direction will open later.

The flyover is officially known as A2, which has two lanes – one in each direction.

The 500-metre-long two-way flyover runs between Zone A's northern part and Avenida 1<sup>o</sup> de Maio near the Macau Peninsula Wastewater Treatment Plant in Areia Preta district. ■

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# Sands China to host NBA legends celebrity game



This poster provided by Sands China yesterday promotes next month's "NBA Legends Celebrity Game Presented by Sands China".

Rui Pastorin

Integrated resort (IR) operator Sands China said in a statement yesterday that it is set to host a celebrity game headlined by six NBA legends at its recently renovated The Venetian Arena in Cotai on Saturday, December 7.

Titled the "NBA Legends Celebrity Game Presented by Sands China", the legends headlining the event are Tracy McGrady – seven-time NBA All-Star and Hall of Famer; Ray Allen – two-time NBA champion, 10-time NBA All-Star and Hall of Famer; Tony Parker – four-time NBA champion, six-time NBA All-Star and Hall of Famer; Stephon Marbury – two-time NBA All-Star and three-time CBA champion; DeMarcus Cousins – four-time NBA All-Star; and Cuttino Mobley – Houston Rockets legend known as the Cat.

Moreover, the event will also see performances by pop superstars and influencers including Hong Kong singer

and actress Sammi Cheng Sau-man and Raymond Lam Wui Man, a singer and actor also from Hong Kong.

There will also be performances by an NBA dance team, a shooting and skills challenge and a slam dunk show.

Sands China Chief Executive Officer and President Grant Chum Kwan Lock was quoted by the statement as saying: "Basketball is one of the most popular sports in the region, we are delighted to host the NBA Legends Celebrity Game at The Venetian Arena, which we have upgraded and transformed into a dynamic venue that is best in class for live entertainment, sports and MICE events. This game not only represents our dedication to sports entertainment, it also aligns with Sands' commitment to integrate tourism and sports".

Tickets are now on sale, with prices ranging from 388 patacas to 3,688 patacas. One can find tickets on Cotai Ticketing, Macau Ticket and Ctrip.

# MGM, MGTO host 'Macao Courtesy Campaign' Training Seminar

Rui Pastorin

MGM and the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) organised a training seminar earlier this week at MGM Macau's Grand Ballroom, according to a statement by the integrated resort (IR) operator.

The seminar, themed on the expansion of international tourist markets, marked the third event in the joint training series and follows the "Macao Welcomes You" training programmes for foreign guests and "Together We Deliver Exceptional Hospitality as Tourism Ambassadors" Training series launched by MGM and MGTO earlier this year, the statement said.

During the event, MGTO Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes was quoted by the statement as saying that the seminar focused on the consumption behaviour of tourists from different regions in the mainland and the needs of Muslim travellers, aiming "to enable the tourism industry to provide customised services and develop amenities for emerging visitor markets".

MGM Senior Vice President of Hospitality Iwan Dietschi was quoted by the

statement as saying: "As tourism practitioners, we are all 'tourism ambassadors'. To fulfil this important role, we have to provide exceptional services to our guests. This is not only our responsibility, but also reflects our identity as residents of Macau, a world-class tourism and leisure destination.

The guests speakers at the event were University of Macau's (UM) Centre for Continuing Education Director and Faculty of Business Administration Professor Matthew Ting Chi Liu, and 3 Hani Enterprises Limited Managing Director Sharifa Leung.

They respectively delivered talks entitled "Enhancing Traditional Customer Experience: Consumption Preferences and Regional Differences Among Chinese Tourists" and "Strategic Development of Emerging Markets: Muslim-Friendly Restaurants and Establishments", the statement said.

Guests, Assessment Committee of the Quality Tourism Services Accreditation Scheme representatives, professionals from the tourism and other related sectors, local university faculty and students, and over 200 MGM staff attended the seminar.



This handout photo provided by MGM earlier this week shows Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes (1st row, 6th from left) and MGM Senior Vice President of Hospitality Iwan Dietschi (1st row, 5th from left) posing with other guests and attendees of Tuesday's training seminar.

# Melco promotes ethical, sustainable cookery among staff



This undated handout photo provided by Melco Resorts & Entertainment yesterday shows participants in the recent "Melco Sustainability Culinary Competition 2024".

Rui Pastorin

Melco Resorts & Entertainment said in a statement yesterday that it recently held a competition and seminar at Studio City in Cotai to promote ethical and sustainable culinary practices among its staff.

According to the statement, the "Melco Sustainability Culinary Competition 2024" was joined by 30 chefs from City of Dreams, Studio City and Altira Macau, divided into 15 groups, competing in categories including Western Cuisine, Chinese Cuisine and Deserts.

The aim of the competition was to create dishes using sustainable ingredients and cooking methods, the statement said, and featured a judging panel comprising three internal chefs and members of Melco's sustainability team. Gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded per category.

Moreover, the statement noted that MICHELIN Two-Star and Green-Star Chef Richard Ekkebus, Culinary Director at The Landmark Oriental, Hong Kong was invited to talk about his experience as a leader in sustainable dining, and also shared the principles and practices that guide his culinary approach, highlighting the importance of sourcing ingredients locally and minimising waste.

Calvin Soh (蘇景俊), Vice President, Culinary, Melco was quoted by the statement as saying that the events "supported Melco's sustainable sourcing strategy to encourage local procurement and create demand for products that have sustainability attributes, as well as building capacity and awareness of the social, ecological and biodiversity impacts in sourcing."

# SJM, Lululemon host outdoor yoga event

Rui Pastorin

The "SJM x lululemon" yoga and wellness event was held by SJM Resorts in collaboration with yoga and exercise apparel company lululemon on Sunday.

Held in Jardim Secreto ("Secret Garden") of Grand Lisboa Palace in Cotai, the event offered participants a "chance to connect with nature in a serene and harmonious atmosphere, allowing for deep relaxation of the mind, body, and spirit", according to a statement yesterday from the integrated resort (IR) operator.

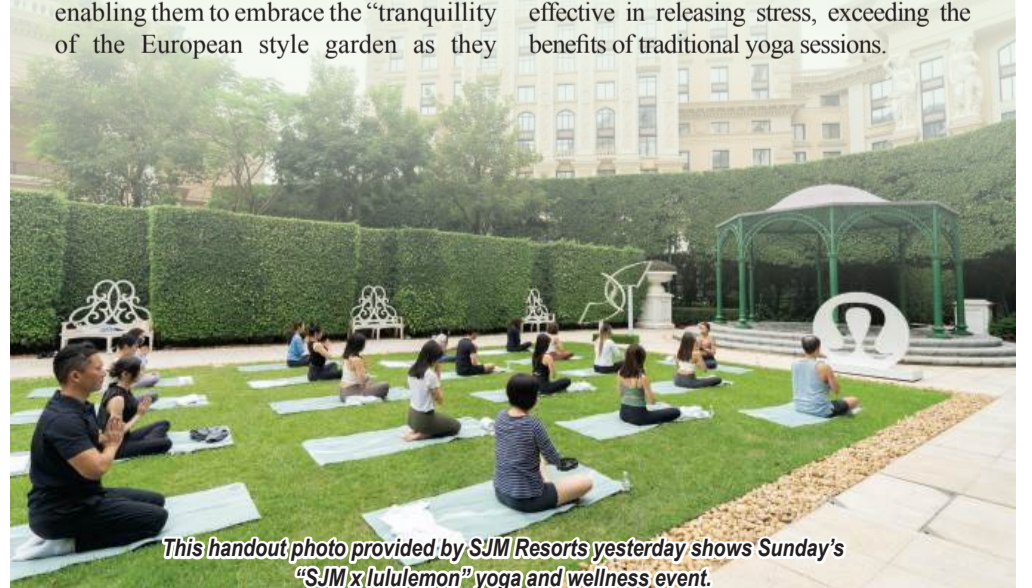
The statement said that the event featured a 60-minute outdoor yoga workshop led by a professional instructor, enabling them to embrace the "tranquillity of the European style garden as they

stretched, connected with nature, and released deep-seated tension with each breath and exhale".

Afterwards, guests had health juices prepared by SJM before proceeding to the Forbes Five-Star "The Spa" at GLP, along with using various "luxurious amenities", according to the statement.

The statement added that some participants joined the spa's 60-minute "Mindful Sound Class", which employed singing bowls to "harmonise the body's vibrations, promoting mental clarity and emotional well-being".

The statement said that many participants in the outdoor yoga event noted that it was effective in releasing stress, exceeding the benefits of traditional yoga sessions.



This handout photo provided by SJM Resorts yesterday shows Sunday's "SJM x lululemon" yoga and wellness event.

# Govt plans smaller population & larger green areas for Ilha Verde

Tony Wong

The government has published a revised version of its urban development plan for Ilha Verde district, according to which the neighbourhood on the peninsula's north-western tip is earmarked to have a smaller population and to be covered by larger green areas, compared to the previous version published in 2010.

The new version also aims to ensure stronger protection of Ilha Verde Hill in the central part of the district compared to the old version.

Lands and Urban Construction Bureau (DSSCU) officials briefed members of the Urban Planning Council (CPU) about the Ilha Verde urban development plan's new version during a regular meeting of the government-appointed council on Wednesday. After the meeting, the newly revised plan was uploaded onto the DSSCU website.

In the newly revised plan's introduction, the government says that in compliance with new urban planning requirements listed in Macau's official urban master plan, which took effect in February 2022, it decided to draft its Ilha Verde urban development plan's new version with the aim of meeting the desire of residents living there for the district's urban improvements such as stronger protection of the 54.5-metre Ilha Verde Hill as well as the relocation of the



This undated aerial photo in the revised version of the government's urban development plan for Ilha Verde released on Wednesday shows part of the district.



An artist's rendition for the Ilha Verde urban development plan.

district's current fuel distribution depot, abattoir and dredging dock.

The total area covered by the Ilha Verde urban development plan amounts to 238,800 square metres, unchanged from the previous version.

According to the new version, the protected area of the heritage-listed Ilha Verde Hill amounts to 40,871 square metres, accounting for 17.1 percent of the total area, more than double the 17,800 square metres listed in the previous version.

According to the plan, Ilha Verde

district is earmarked for residential buildings, commercial and office spaces, government buildings, and infrastructure, as well as tourism, social service, municipal, education, recreational, and cultural facilities.

According to the plan's new version, the gross construction areas of the various buildings and facilities will amount to 611,780 square metres, 41 percent down from the 1,032,500 square metres listed in the previous version.

The new version of the plan earmarks a population of 13,000 in Ilha Verde district, 52 percent down from the 27,200 residents there envisaged in the 2010 version.

The Macau Special Administrative Region's (MSAR) urban master plan for 2020 to 2040 divides the city into 18 "subareas for planning".

After the urban master plan took effect in February 2022, the government drew up its first urban development plan for a subarea

for planning, i.e., Eastern District 2, which covers the Zone A land reclamation area. The government's Eastern District 2 urban development plan took effect in March this year.

The Eastern District 2 urban development plan is the first and so far the only one currently in force for a subarea for planning listed by the urban master plan. The government is still working on drafting urban development plans for several other subareas required by its urban master plan.

According to the urban master plan, Ilha Verde district is covered by the Northern District 1 urban development plan, which the government is currently still drafting, and on which a public consultation is scheduled to be launched next year.

In addition to Ilha Verde, Northern District 1 also covers Fai Chi Kei and Lam Mau Tong in the north-west peninsula. ■

## HKZMB Macau section to close half day for cycling race

Ginnie Liang

The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge's (HKZMB) Macau section will be closed on November 24 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in order to make way for the 2024 Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau Road Cycling Race and the 15<sup>th</sup> National Games Road Cycling Test Event on that day, according to a statement issued by the organising committee for the 15<sup>th</sup> National Games yesterday.

Accordingly, cars will be barred from entering the lane to the HKZMB Macau checkpoint building from 8 a.m. on that day, the statement said. Meanwhile, the Macau Bridge will also be closed to traffic from 4 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on that day.

As the Hong Kong-Macau cross-boundary passenger transport service will be temporarily suspended during the affected period, members of the public and travellers are advised to make travel

arrangements in advance or defer their trips, or go to other checkpoints to cross the border during the suspension, and those travelling to and from Hong Kong, may consider taking a ferry, the statement said.

Therefore, the government has requested the ferry companies plying the Hong Kong-Macau route to increase the number of trips, the statement said.

The 15<sup>th</sup> National Games will organise a cross-border cycling event linking Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau, with the Macau section totalling 13.5-kilometres.

The Macau route will start from the artificial island of the HKZMB, cross the Macau Bridge and go along Estrada de Pac On (北安大馬路), and return to the Macau Bridge at the ferry terminal in Pac On (北安碼頭), and then leave Macau through the HKZMB Macau checkpoint, before continuing to Hong Kong for the next leg. ■



This banner downloaded from the website of the race promotes the upcoming 2024 Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau Road Cycling Race and the 15<sup>th</sup> National Games Road Cycling Test Event on November 24.

## STOCK MARKETS

### Hang Seng Index closes 2.02 pct higher

HONG KONG – Hong Kong's stock market ended higher yesterday with the benchmark Hang Seng Index up 2.02 percent to close 20,953.34 points.

The Hang Seng China Enterprises

Index rose 2.49 percent to end at 7,546.95 points, while the Hang Seng Tech Index rose 2.25 percent to end at 4,677.64 points.

– Xinhua

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## Xi urges promoting building of community with shared future with Malaysia

BEIJING – President Xi Jinping met with Prime Minister of Malaysia Anwar Ibrahim in Beijing yesterday, calling on the two sides to take the opportunity of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic ties to promote and enrich the China-Malaysia community with a shared future.

Noting that China and Malaysia are good neighbors, good friends and good partners, Xi said the two countries have maintained close interactions and exchanges at all levels and advanced mutually beneficial cooperation with high quality on all fronts since Anwar's first China visit in March last year after taking office as prime minister, delivering tangible benefits to the two peoples.

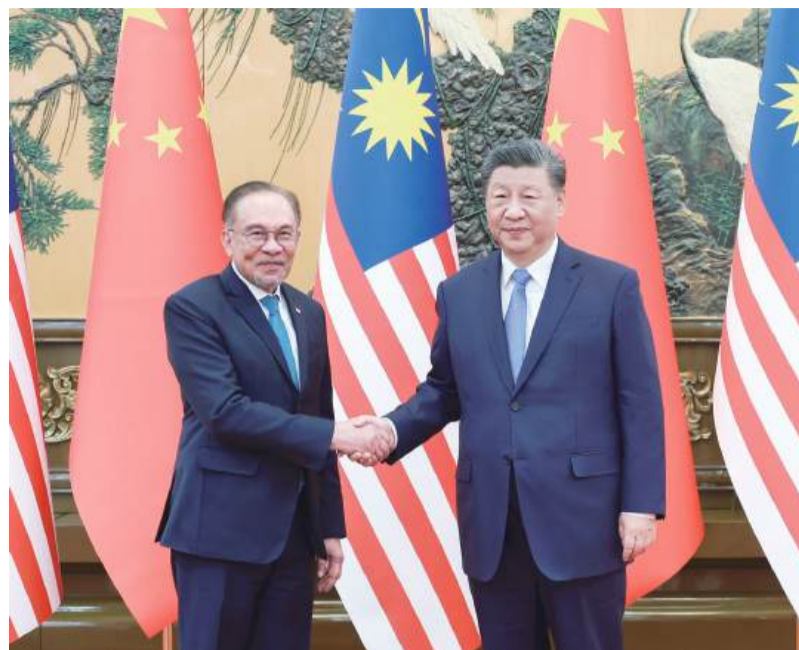
China and Malaysia are both at crucial stages of national development and rejuvenation, Xi said.

"The two sides should take the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic ties and the China-Malaysia Year of Friendship as an opportunity to work together for a more concrete China-Malaysia community with a shared future, to help each other achieve their development goals, and to make new and greater contributions to regional prosperity and stability," said Xi.

Xi urged the two sides to develop a high-level strategic partnership, continue to maintain close high-level exchanges, deepen exchanges on experience of governance, enhance political mutual trust, and firmly support each other on issues of core interests and major concerns. China supports Malaysia in upholding strategic independence and choosing a development path suited to its national conditions, he said.

Xi called on the two sides to synergize development strategies, deepen all-round and mutually beneficial cooperation, continue to promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, jointly implement flagship projects such as the "Two Countries, Twin Parks," foster new growth areas of cooperation including the digital economy, artificial intelligence and new energy, and explore the establishment of exchange and cooperation mechanisms for poverty reduction.

China welcomes the Malaysian side to make good use of the platform of the China International Import Expo to bring more Malaysian quality and specialty products to China, Xi said, adding that China is also willing to deepen exchanges and cooperation with Malaysia in



President Xi Jinping shakes hands with Prime Minister of Malaysia Anwar Ibrahim in Beijing yesterday. – Xinhua

higher education, culture, tourism, youth and local government, and strengthen bonds between the two peoples.

Xi said that, as important representatives of developing countries and emerging economies in Asia, China and Malaysia should strengthen communication and cooperation on international and regional issues, firmly support each

other, jointly oppose protectionism, advance trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, advocate an equal and orderly multipolar world and inclusive economic globalization that benefits all, push for the reform and improvement of the global governance system, and uphold international fairness, justice and the common interests of developing countries.

China supports Malaysia in assuming the rotating presidency of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) next year, and supports ASEAN centrality and strategic independence, to maintain the mainstream of regional cooperation in development, Xi added.

Hailing the important concepts and initiatives put forward by President Xi as the embodiment of wisdom and a sense of responsibility for the progress of human civilization and people's benefits, which represent the common wishes of the Global South, Anwar expressed the appreciation and support for Xi's vision and initiatives. He said the Malaysian government is committed to strengthening cooperation with China in such areas as information technology, digital economy and energy.

Anwar said Malaysia and China share the same ideas and similar positions on multiple major international and regional issues. Malaysia sticks to strategic independence, and is willing to maintain close multilateral coordination with China to help safeguard regional peace, stability, development and prosperity, he added. – Xinhua

## Xi sends congratulatory letter to inaugural World Conference of Classics

BEIJING – President Xi Jinping sent a congratulatory letter yesterday to the inaugural World Conference of Classics.

The three-day conference ends today.

Xi noted that the conference, co-organized by China and Greece, along with the establishment of the Chinese School of Classical Studies in Athens, has created a new platform for civilizational exchange and mutual learning for China, Greece and other nations in the world.

Xi said that the ancient civilizations of China and Greece flourished on opposite sides of the Eurasian continent more than two millennia ago, laying the foundation for the development of human civilization.

He emphasized China's commitment to the preservation

and development of civilizations and added that China is dedicated to enhancing international people-to-people exchanges and fostering global dialogues among civilizations.

The Chinese president said China stands ready to work with other nations in implementing the Global Civilization Initiative, addressing shared challenges facing humanity, and promoting the advancement of human civilization.

Xi also expressed hope that experts and scholars will embrace the responsibility of advancing classical studies, contributing to the preservation and development of civilizations, and enhancing their exchange and mutual learning.

The theme of the conference is "Classical Civilizations and the Modern World." An opening

ceremony was held in Beijing on Thursday.

Li Shulei, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and head of the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee, attended the opening ceremony and read out Xi's congratulatory letter.

Greek President Katerina Sakellariopoulou's congratulatory letter was also read out at the ceremony. UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay sent a written address on this occasion.

The conference has drawn over 600 participants, including those from related departments and institutions of China and Greece, and experts, scholars, cultural figures, youth representatives and media professionals from around the world. – Xinhua

## CTT to issue 'China 2024 Asian International Stamp Exhibition' envelopes

Rui Pastorin

The Macau Post and Telecommunications Bureau (CTT) will commemorate the upcoming "China 2024 Asian International Stamp Exhibition" in Shanghai by issuing commemorative envelopes and providing postmark cancellation services on-site at the exhibition.

The exhibition will be held in Shanghai from November 29 to December 3, the statement said, adding that no postmark cancellation will be provided in Macau.

Moreover, the commemorative envelope complete with stamp will also be sold at the General Post Office's (GPO) Philatelic Shop for 6.50 patacas from November 29.

The statement said that

customers can post their cancelled commemorative envelope from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on November 29 at the Philatelic Shop. One can also do so at local post offices from November 29 to December 3. ■



This image provided by the Macau Post and Telecommunications Bureau (CTT) yesterday shows the commemorative envelope for the "China 2024 Asian International Stamp Exhibition".

## Xinjiang harvest breaks China's cotton yield record

URUMQI – A vast cotton field in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region has broken the country's large-scale mechanical harvest cotton yield record.

The new record of 11,154 kilograms per hectare was set in a 7.1-hectare cotton field in the Mongolian Autonomous Prefecture of Bortala.

Harvesting and output data

were monitored and evaluated by the Xinjiang regional department of agriculture and rural affairs, alongside experts from the National Agro-Tech Extension and Service Center, the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, the Xinjiang Academy of Agricultural Sciences, and Shihezi University.

Wang Daguang, an agro-tech extension and services researcher

in Bortala's Jinghe County, said that the average local cotton yield was just 4,500 kilograms per hectare in the 1990s.

The new record will encourage cotton growers to introduce more science and technology to their agricultural development.

This year, Bortala has 92,667 hectares of cotton fields, making it one of Xinjiang's leading cotton-producing areas. – Xinhua

## Hunan hosts inaugural wheelchair marathon

CHANGSHA – Hunan Province hosted its inaugural wheelchair marathon yesterday in Wulingyuan, a World Natural Heritage site in Zhangjiajie.

102 participants took part in the competition, propelling their manual wheelchairs along a 5-kilometer route, with Li Bin and Xu Chunfen finishing first in the men's and women's competitions, respectively.

"The course was grueling,

with a 5-kilometer uphill stretch. Through events like this, we hope to show that, even in wheelchairs, we can still take on marathons and lead full lives," said Li, who highlighted that wheelchair marathons inspire people with disabilities to embrace sports and engage with society.

"Competing in such a beautiful setting motivated me to push my limits and move forward with courage," said Xu. – Xinhua