



Sam visits Seac Pai Van, vows to improve public housing quality

William Chan

Sam Hou Fai, the sole candidate for Macau's sixth-term chief executive, has embarked on a series of walkabouts in various neighbourhoods recently.

Sam visited the Seac Pai Van public housing estate in Coloane yesterday, accompanied by about half a dozen community leaders. During his walkabout, he spent most of the time talking with senior citizens to understand their living conditions.

Sam's first stop was outside Seac Pai Van Health Centre, where he spoke with two elderly residents and listened to their comments on the government's public health services.

At a bus terminus in the sprawling housing complex, Sam observed the bus services and raised concerns about overcrowding, particularly in areas heavily populated by local residents and non-resident workers (NRWs). Sam expressed the hope that the completion of the Light Rail Transit (LRT) Cotai-Hengqin section, scheduled to open by the end of this year, would help address the community's transport needs.

Sam also visited a community canteen to ask its users about its food quality and prices, and also spoke with people in the street, including those with disabilities, to



Sam Hou Fai talks with senior citizens in a community canteen during yesterday's walkabout in Seac Pai Van.

— Photo: William Chan

gain better insight into their living conditions.

Concluding his visit to Seac Pai Van, the 62-year-old former president of the Court of Final Appeal (TUI) acknowledged quality issues that surfaced during the construction of Seac Pai Van public housing. However, he underlined the collaborative efforts of the government and developers in implementing

remedial measures. Sam underlined the present inclusion of comprehensive ancillary facilities in the public housing complex, and he anticipated that the forthcoming LRT extension would enhance transportation accessibility in the vicinity.

When asked by reporters about ensuring the quality of public housing, Sam underlined the need for a more hands-on

approach during the progression of public housing construction. He underscored the importance of bolstering thoroughness and precision in design, construction, renovation, supervision, and post-quality management procedures to systematically reduce the likelihood of quality concerns.

Sam also highlighted that the government has garnered significant



insights from the Seac Pai Van public housing construction, adding that future public housing endeavours, including the Zone A public housing project development, will prioritise a more thorough consideration of residents' needs, in order to ensure increasingly suitable public housing solutions for the community.

So far, Sam has visited the Iao Hon district, San Kio district, Inner Harbour area, central Taipa, and Seac Pai Van. The chief executive election campaign period will end on Friday night, with the election slated to be held at the Forum Macao Complex in Nam Van district on Sunday. By law, electioneering is prohibited on the eve of an election. ■

Time running out in Florida to flee Hurricane Milton

SARASOTA, US — Florida residents fled or just hunkered down in the final hours yesterday (local time) before massive Hurricane Milton pummels the state, as government emergency relief efforts were dragged to the center of the US election.

Ferocious winds and tidal surges are expected to inundate the heavily populated and low-lying coast, with the cities of Tampa and Sarasota in the storm's path, amid rising fears of widespread chaos and multiple fatalities.

With Milton coming immediately after lethal Hurricane Helene also hit the US southeast, Donald Trump

has sought political advantage from the twin storms by saying aid is channeled away from his Republican Party supporters toward migrants.

At the White House yesterday, US President Joe Biden slammed the Republican election candidate's "onslaught of lies."

"There's been a reckless, irresponsible and relentless promotion of disinformation and outright lies," Biden said in angry remarks.

Biden said the disinformation was "undermining confidence" in rescue and recovery work and it was "harmful to those who need help the most."

In Florida, officials again warned those in danger zones to seek safe shelter.

"You still have time to evacuate if you are in an evacuation zone," Governor Ron DeSantis told a press briefing.

"This hurricane is going to pack a major, major punch and do an awful lot of damage."

But time was running out.

By yesterday morning (local time), Milton was located 400 kilometres southwest of Tampa, generating maximum sustained winds of 250 kph, according to the National Hurricane Center (NHC). — AFP



A car drives through the heavy rain in Fort Myers, Florida, yesterday as Hurricane Milton approaches. Milton regained power on Tuesday to become a Category 5 storm with maximum sustained winds of 270 kph as it barrels towards the west-central coast of Florida, according to the US National Hurricane Centre. — AFP

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The Macau Post Daily

Jewish refugees in Shanghai: an unforgettable chapter in history

In the 1930s and 1940s, more than 20,000 Jews took refuge in Shanghai. For the Jewish refugees, a whole new way of life awaited them in a land with radically different customs and rules.

— Story on p. 6

US-UK trio win chemistry Nobel for protein design, prediction

Americans David Baker and John Jumper, together with Briton Demis Hassabis, shared the Nobel Prize in Chemistry yesterday for work revealing the secrets of proteins through computing and artificial intelligence.

— Story on p. 11

Mozambique votes in tense election likely to keep ruling party in power

Voters in Mozambique cast their ballots yesterday for a new president and parliament, with the Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO) party that has ruled for 49 years expected to hold on to power.

— Story on p. 12

'Heritople' documentary to premiere on Saturday

Interview by Rui Pastorin

A trilingual documentary entitled "Heritople" will premiere at Cinematheque•Passion on Travessa da Paixão (戀愛巷) on Saturday, with the film aiming to expand the connection between people and local heritage.

Lasting just over an hour, the film features testimonies from eight interviewees that aim to help audiences understand the importance of cultural legacy, as well as preserving and continuing it, according to a statement from the International Institute of Macau (IIM), which produced the Macao Foundation-sponsored film.

The film's director António Salas Sanmarful told the *Post* in an interview yesterday at IIM on Rua de Berlim (栢林街) that when the institute proposed the project to him, he wanted to do something different. Rather than just looking at heritage sites and monuments, focus is placed on people and their stories.

"I wanted to do something different, or explore a different part of heritage like the people", touching on several points such as how heritage affects people in civil society and how the city is a "migrant society".

IIM Secretary-General António Monteiro, who was interviewed with Sanmarful, added that people normally only associate heritage with monuments, but he emphasised that there

is more to it than that, noting its intangible aspects, events and festivities as examples. "This documentary will focus exactly on the identity, memory and culture".

The film comprises testimonies from Na Tcha Temple Association President Ip Tat; Macao Cultural Heritage Reinventing Studies Association President Harry Kwah Hou Ieong; IIM President Jorge Rangel; Macao Heritage Ambassadors Association (MHAA) President Matias Lao Hon Pong; "O Santos" Restaurant owner Santos Pinto; Secondary education teacher and Júbilo 31 bookstore founder Lin Yin Cong; Architect André Lui Chak Keong; and Macanese Cultural Research Association President Elisabela Larrea. Each speaks on the importance of cultural heritage and their experiences in Macau, telling personal stories that are connected to the culture in Macau or the city's heritage elements, according to Sanmarful.

An idea that he also wanted to convey in the film was the feeling of finding out that there is more to be seen in Macau than we think, while there are also stories to be found through interaction, Sanmarful added.

Moreover, Monteiro pointed out: "We want people to also be more connected not only with the monuments...because

the people should be also celebrated. Maybe the living stones, or 'pedras vivas' in Portuguese, they are the main people to move the city with festivities, several actions or events, traditional or not, but they are doing it from Macau. So, heritage cannot be separated from people, and people from the heritage. I think this is the main message here. But the focus is mainly on Macau."

"You can't have heritage without the people. Or if you don't have the people, the heritage makes no sense", Sanmarful emphasised. "It's Heritople, right? Heritage and people" Sanmarful added.

"Heritople" is an artificial word created for the film, a portmanteau that combines the sounds and meanings of two different words – heritage and people.

Though Saturday's premiere already has a full house, they intend to do more screenings in institutions like universities and garner a bigger audience as well as show the film at festivals, according to Monteiro. Moreover, as IIM is a resource centre for everyone, Monteiro pointed out that someday the film could, perhaps, also be a good resource for people.

The film's trailer can be viewed on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0oE9V-71oI1&t=7s>



This poster provided by the International Institute of Macau (IIM) earlier this week promotes "Heritople", which premieres this Saturday at Cinematheque•Passion.

澳門理工大學
視覺藝術課程學生作品展
MACAO POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY
VISUAL ARTS STUDENT WORK EXHIBITION

時間
DATE
10/10
2024
至
10/26
2024

開幕
OPENING
10/10
2024
18:30

像素
PIXELS

免費入場
FREE ADMISSION

展覽地點 VENUE
澳門氹星海夫馬路文化中心地下創意空間

Local dies after hit by car in Zhuhai: SPU

Ginnie Liang

An 18-year-old local woman was hit by a car at around midnight between Tuesday and yesterday in Zhuhai and died on the spot, a statement issued by the Unitary Police Service (SPU) said yesterday.

According to the statement,

the SPU was informed by the Guangdong Provincial Public Security Department yesterday afternoon that a car accident occurred at about midnight between Tuesday and yesterday in Zhuhai's Xiangzhou District.

According to the statement, a

car collided with pedestrian at the junction of Changsheng Road and Guihua South Road in Zhuhai's Gongbei border town, resulting in her immediate death.

The Guangdong authorities are investigating the cause of the accident, the statement said. ■

Police nab HK man collecting 'guess who I am' scam proceeds

Ginnie Liang

A Hong Kong man was arrested on Tuesday for assisting a gang in collecting fraudulently obtained money through a "guess who I am" phone scam in Macau, in which the suspect pretending to be a "lawyer" collected 250,000 patacas from an elderly local woman earlier that day in the northern district, a Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesperson said during a special press conference yesterday.

According to the spokesperson, PJ officers identified the "lawyer" as a Hong Kong man in his twenties, who told the police that he is a barista.

According to yesterday's special press conference about the case, the victim fell for the scam on Tuesday and lost 250,000 patacas after she had received a call on her landline from her "son", who claimed that he had injured someone and needed to pay compensation, asking her to hand over the money in cash to a "lawyer".

The woman then withdrew the money from the bank in the afternoon the same day, and handed the cash to the "lawyer". However, she soon grew suspicious and contacted her real son in Macau, only to realise that she had been scammed.

The woman reported the case to the police.

After receiving the report, PJ officers put the suspect under surveillance and arrested him at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau (HKZM) Bridge checkpoint on Tuesday when he was about to leave Macau in the evening of the same day.

Under questioning, the suspect said that the proceeds he collected had been handed to the gang members, and PJ officers seized

the 10,300 patacas and HK\$500 he had on him, which PJ officers believed to be the payment he got for collecting the "filthy lucre".

The suspect was transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP), facing charges of organised crime and fraud, the spokesperson said, adding that at the time of the press conference PJ officers were still tracing the whereabouts of the ill-gotten money and other suspects involved in the case. ■



The hooded organised crime and fraud suspect from Hong Kong is escorted by Judiciary Police (PJ) officers from the PJ headquarters to a police vehicle in Zape after yesterday's special press conference. - Photo: Ginnie Liang

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Macau Weather

CLOUDY APART FROM SUNNY PERIODS.

FORCE 3 TO 4 NORTH TO NORTHEASTERLY WINDS, BECOMING EASTERLIES.

RELATIVE HUMIDITY WILL RANGE BETWEEN 50% AND 90%.



24°C~31°C

Source: SMG

Annual Encounter in Macau – Arts & Cultural Festival kicks off

Yuki Lei

The sixth edition of the “Encounter in Macau – Arts and Cultural Festival between China and the Portuguese-speaking Countries” kicked off yesterday outside the Taipa Houses museum complex, marking the start of nearly 70 activities to be held between this month and December.

Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) President Deland Leong Wai Man delivered a speech during the launch ceremony, saying that the bureau expects the “rich and colourful programme event” to help residents and tourists alike gain a deeper understanding of Macau’s urban characteristics and cultural connotations of “inclusive and harmonious co-existence of Chinese and Western cultures” and, at the same time, give full play to Macau’s role as a “a base for exchange and cooperation where diverse cultures coexist with Chinese culture as the mainstream”, while serving as a bridge between China and Portuguese-speaking countries, deepening cultural and artistic exchanges between China and Portuguese-speaking countries, and promoting the development of a cultural exchange centre between China and Portuguese-speaking countries, thus adding “colours” to the establishment of a “Cultured Bay Area”.

According to Leong, once again to be held in parallel with the “2024 GEG Lusofonia Festival”, the “representative brand event” of the Encounter in Macau – Arts and Cultural Festival, through programmes such as “Chinese and Portuguese Picture Book Fair”, “Memories • Legacies • Mutations - Annual Arts Exhibition between China and the Portuguese-speaking Countries”, “GEG Traditional Music and Dance Performance in the Community”, “China and the Portuguese-speaking Countries Film Festival”, “Wine tasting workshops”, “Tito Paris Concert with the Macao Chinese Orchestra”, features 70 sessions with more than 700



Goa Groovie Band, a local Portuguese art group, performs during yesterday’s kick-off ceremony of the “Encounter in Macau – Arts and Cultural Festival between China and the Portuguese-speaking Countries” at the waterfront Taipa Houses museum complex. – Photos: Yuki Lei



Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) President Deland Leong Wai Man delivers a speech during the ceremony.

artists and performers at historical cultural heritage buildings, local neighbourhoods and modern theatres.

Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG) is one of Macau’s six integrated resort operators. Tito Paris 61, is a Lisbon-based Cabo Verdean singer and musician.

Leong added that this year’s Lusofonia Festival will be held for an extended period of two weekends from October 25-27 and November 1-3 at the Taipa Houses, with special emphasis on the local culture of Goa, Damão and Diu in India, while the Annual Arts Exhibition between China and the Portuguese-speaking

countries has been enlarged and relocated to the Macau Museum of Art (MAM) in Nape, displaying 136 artworks by 23 artists from the mainland, Macau, Portugal, and Cabo Verde.

“Lusofonia” is a Portuguese term denoting the world’s Portuguese-speaking community. Portugal was known as “Lusitania” when it was a Roman province between 27 BC and 410 AD.

Leong told the media after the ceremony that this year’s programme budget amounts to about 8.6 million patacas, lower than that of the previous year. ■

Govt has no plans yet for revitalising Jockey Club site: IC chief

Yuki Lei

A Legislative Assembly (AL) member has urged the government in a written interpellation to revitalise the site of the erstwhile Jockey Club in Taipa as a multi-purpose venue for leisure, recreation and sports activities, but Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) President Deland Leong Wai Man said yesterday that “there are no plans yet” by the government for the site’s revitalisation.

Lawmaker-cum-civil engineer Leong Hong Sai raised the issue in a written interpellation in late August, with three questions – “Would the government consider including the Jockey Club site in its planning regarding the implementation of its development strategy of increasing and enhancing leisure facilities for the public?”; “Would the government take the former greyhound racetrack (Yat Yuen Canidrome) as a blueprint to develop the area into a multi-functional venue for leisure and entertainment, sports and physical activities?”; “Would the government retain some of the existing facilities and cooperate with neighbouring regions to develop equestrian sports or horse riding lessons, so as to promote Macau’s diversified sports and entertainment culture?”.

On January 15 this year, the government signed an agreement with the Macau Jockey Club (MJC) according to which the MJC concession contract was terminated with effect from April 1. Its last races took place on March 30. Established in 1989, the Macau Jockey Club finally stopped operating, the same as the greyhound races at Yat Yuen Canidrome, ending Macau’s two-century-long history of horse racing.

Following the return of the former MJC plot of land to the government, Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng pledged early this year that the site covering hundreds of thousands of square metres would be developed into a multi-purpose activity venue.

Replying to the lawmaker’s written interpellation in a statement last month, Cheong Chok Man, director of the government’s Policy Research and Regional Development Bureau (DSEPDR), reaffirmed that there was no specific development plan for the site’s future arrangement, underlining that the compilation of a detailed plan would be outlined only after listening to the views of all sectors of the community and considering the respective plans by the relevant public entities.

The reply also quoted the responses from several public entities, among which the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) said that it has kept on optimising the city’s cultural and sports facilities, striving to promote the conversion and utilisation of historical and cultural resources, and creating more space for the revitalisation of historical buildings, while the Sports Bureau (ID) said that it has continued to set up more sports facilities for residents through different channels, and already has improved the respective software and hardware supporting facilities at various levels.

When asked by a reporter on the sidelines of yesterday’s kick-off ceremony of the “Encounter in Macau – Arts and Cultural Festival between China and the Portuguese-speaking Countries” at the Taipa Houses, Leong reaffirmed that “we don’t have any plans yet” to revitalise the site of the former Jockey Club.

Meanwhile, DSEPDR Director Cheong stressed in the statement that the government has always attached great importance to optimising residents’ work and living environment, adding that in line with Macau’s urban development master plan (2020-2040), the government has scientifically determined the scale and spatial layout of the city and coordinated the planning of land use. ■

Loan shark ‘imprisons’ gambler for 8 hours: police

Ginnie Liang

A young local gambler was falsely imprisoned in a flat in the city centre by a loan shark for eight



Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman Chan Wun Man looks on during yesterday’s regular press conference at the PJ headquarters. – Photo: Ginnie Liang

hours last Tuesday after he had failed to repay his gambling debt of HK\$50,000, and only was able to escape due to a fire near the flat, a Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman said yesterday, adding that PJ officers arrested the 30-year-old mainland male suspect on Monday when he re-entered Macau via the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge (HZMB) checkpoint.

According to a PJ report, a woman reported last Tuesday that her brother was being kept in a flat against his will after he failed to repay his gambling debt, after which PJ officers found him in the evening of the same day in a casino in Zape.

The victim told PJ officers that he had obtained a loan of HK\$50,000 from a loan-sharking gang for which he agreed to pay HK\$5,000

in cash first and 20 percent interest on each winnings.

The spokesperson said that after the male victim gambled away all the borrowed money, he was held against his will in a flat that day until eight hours later when he took the opportunity to escape from the flat due to a fire that had broken out near the flat.

After he escaped from the flat, the victim went back to the casino to continue gambling, the spokesperson said, adding that at least three suspects were believed to be at large.

The suspect refused to cooperate with the PJ officers, and he was transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) yesterday, facing charges of usury and illegal imprisonment. ■



This file photo taken in May shows part of the former Macau Jockey Club site in Taipa. – Photo: Yuki Lei



This photo shows some of Miyako's work over the years.
- Photos: Rui Pastorin



Manga artist Miyako poses with her work displayed at the Portuguese Bookshop.

Asia's manga artists present works in Macau

Rui Pastorin

A variety of works are currently on display at the ongoing 2nd Asia Manga Artists Exhibition in the basement of the Portuguese Bookshop on Rua de São Domingos (板樟堂街), presenting the work of eight artists until tomorrow.

From Hong Kong to Malaysia to Vietnam, members of the public can find works that showcase the respective style of each artist of different backgrounds. Among those presenting their artworks is Japanese manga artist Miyako Cojima, who told the *Post*, with translation by her husband, during the exhibition's opening on Tuesday that she has worked in the manga world for 35 years and now specialises on creating horror illustrations. This marked the artist's first visit to Macau, a place that she said she was happy to visit.

Having such a long career, Miyako said she got her start as the mascot artist for the JBS of *Weekly Shonen Jump* at Shueisha Publishing in 1986 and created a four-panel manga of Dragon Quest game in 1992.

According to the Poe AI website, the JBS (Jump Book Store) of *Weekly Shonen Jump* refers to a collection of manga volumes and merchandise related to the popular manga magazine. *Weekly Shonen Jump* is known for serialising some of Japan's most popular manga series.

Her first manga book entitled "Junnama-kids" was released in 1993, and later went on to the X-Men manga tie-in to the TV series in 1995 and an original story in 1996, according to information provided by Miyako.

Information at Portuguese Bookshop's exhibition points out that Miyako's major works include "Wonder House of Horror", which was her first horror manga that was released in 1996, "The Mysterious Nikuko-chan, and Otomejigoku. Moreover, she has also created works for art galleries in Japan, while the artist also said that she has worked on illustrations for CD covers for bands, film promotions, magazines, book covers and blu-ray booklets.

While Miyako has worked mostly in Japan, some works have been published in different languages, while her old works are also being translated into other language thanks to manga's growing popularity worldwide. Miyako said she hopes to have her work published in Chinese, Korean and even Arabic.

Her husband also noted: "As an artist, she wants people to see her art. She wants to communicate through art."

One can visit the exhibition from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The exhibition closes on Friday.

The *Post* published an article yesterday on the exhibition's opening.



Airport passengers rise 27 pct during National Day holiday

Tony Wong

The Macau International Airport recorded about 144,000 passengers during this year's seven-day National Day Golden Week holiday, an increase of 27 percent from the corresponding period of last year, the airport operator CAM announced in a statement yesterday.

The mainland's 2024 National Day Golden Week holiday officially lasted seven days, from October 1 to 7.

The number of passengers recorded during this year's National Day Golden Week holiday returned

to 82 percent of the level recorded during the corresponding period in pre-pandemic 2019.

The statement also said that during this year's National Day Golden Week holiday, which started on Tuesday last week and ended on Monday, the local airport recorded 1,202 aircraft movements, an increase of 24 percent from last year's corresponding period, returning to 77 percent of the level recorded during the corresponding period in 2019.

Meanwhile, the statement also said that the airport is planning to

launch a passenger route between Macau and Laos, officially known as the Lao People's Democratic Republic (LPDR).

In addition, the statement said, the airport is also in talks with a number of airlines with the aim of launching transit passenger routes between Macau and Europe and the United States, providing one-ticket-through-baggage-check service.

The statement also underlined that the local airport will continue with its campaign to expand its passenger routes to destinations in Southeast and Northeast Asia. ■



This undated handout photo released by CAM yesterday shows the local airport's boarding area.

Macau logs this year's 8th imported dengue case

Tony Wong

Macau recorded this year's eighth imported case of dengue fever yesterday, the Health Bureau (SSM) announced in a statement last night.

This came after two imported cases of dengue fever were reported in a day, on Tuesday.

According to last night's statement, this year's eighth dengue fever patient is a 53-year-old local woman who lives in Lok Man House (樂民樓) of the Lok Fu Garden (樂富新邨) residential estate on Avenida da Longevidade (長壽大馬路) in Iao Hon district.

The woman travelled to Heshan, a county-level city administered by Jiangmen city, on September 1, before returning to Macau on Sunday, the statement said.

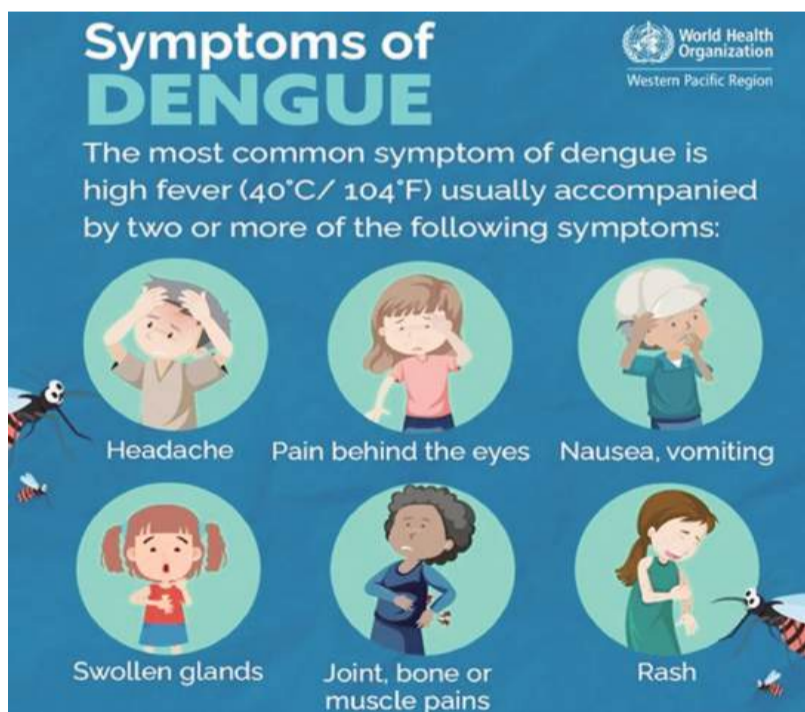
The woman came down with a fever on Tuesday and then sought treatment at a hospital, which the statement did not identify.

As her symptoms persisted, the statement said, the woman sought treatment at the public Conde de São Januário Hospital Centre yesterday where a doctor's examination showed that she developed a rash on her arms and back. She was diagnosed with Grade I dengue fever by the Health Bureau's Public Health Laboratory.

Last night's statement said that the woman was in a stable condition. However, the statement failed to mention whether she has been hospitalised.

The statement underlined that the Macau Health Bureau has classified the woman's case as an imported case of dengue fever after considering her travel history and the time of the onset of her symptoms, as well as its laboratory test results.

Macau reported seven imported cases of dengue fever last year. ■



Poster courtesy of World Health Organisation (WHO)

It's time US woke up and smelled the coffee

China Daily Editorial

That Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao held a "candid, in-depth and pragmatic" conversation on bilateral trade and economic ties with US Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo on the phone on Tuesday shows the two sides are maintaining close contact on different levels under the Sino-US communication mechanism agreed to by the two heads of state during their meeting in San Francisco in November.

Although the full details of the conversation are not known, Wang said progress has been made in deepening cooperation, managing differences and addressing the concerns of enterprises through such exchanges, indicating trade and economic relations could improve.

As Wang said, China is willing to work with the US on the basis of mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation to implement the consensus reached by the two leaders in San Francisco, and put Sino-US relations back on track.

Yet the fact remains that despite China's willingness to rebuild healthy bilateral trade relations, Washington has not eased its de facto embargo on export of advanced semiconductors to China or lifted the punitive tariffs on Chinese products such as electric vehicles and green energy products. The US side should make clear what exactly are its national security concerns in the

economic and trade field, because a favorable policy environment for cooperation could be created and bilateral trade relations stabilized by addressing those concerns. This is particularly important for the US people, who, along with their counterparts in some US ally states, have been footing the bill for Washington's protectionist, coercive and bullying trade policies.

Also, the US has failed to thwart the progress of China's high-tech sector or contain the country's overall development by imposing those punitive tariffs. By addressing the concerns of Chinese enterprises, lifting sanctions on Chinese entities, and improving the business environment for Chinese companies in the US, the administration will not only earn substantial benefits but also create the necessary conditions for normalizing the most consequential bilateral ties of the 21st century, while strengthening cooperation in the fight against issues of global concern such as climate change and nuclear proliferation.

But that depends on whether Washington can see China for what it is, a developing partner, not a strategic challenger or a threat to the US. That, however, is not what the US side has been doing. While US Secretary of State Antony Blinken wrote in an article published in the *Foreign Affairs* magazine recently that China is the only country with the

intent and means to reshape the international system, US President Joe Biden said the US would treat China as its "pacing challenge", its most consequential long-term strategic competitor.

By portraying China as a "strategic challenger" to the US, American politicians may be able to misguide some people and garner their votes, but they would be doing a great disservice to the US and global economies by stymieing free trade and consequently global economic growth.

As Mao Ning, spokesperson for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, said, the US views the international landscape and its relations with China through the lens of strategic competition, which shows it is obstinately clinging on to the Cold War mentality. The fact that the Biden administration sees China as its long-term strategic competitor and a "pacing challenge" shows how the US imposes its own hegemony on other countries.

The US' gross misjudgment of China and Sino-US relations does not serve the interests of the two peoples or meet the expectations of the international community.

It's time the US woke up and smelled the coffee, and worked together to normalize Sino-US relations, especially trade relations. After all, the two economies are still structurally complementary and stand to gain much through cooperation.

— Xinhua

Double Ninth Festival holiday

Due to it being the Chong Yeong Festival, aka Double Ninth Festival, public holiday tomorrow *The Macau Post Daily's* editing team will be taking today off and will return to work on Sunday so the print edition of your favourite newspaper will be on the newsstands again on Monday. However, our digital edition on our website <https://www.macaupostdaily.com/> is being updated 24/7. Our local news and editorials as well as commentary by national media organisations are also available on various LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook accounts. *The Macau Post Daily's* office will be closed tomorrow.

We wish all our readers, advertisers, distributors and contributors a restful holiday.

All government offices and banks will be closed tomorrow and will reopen on Monday.

The Double Ninth Festival, known as "Chongyang Festival" in Mandarin, is a traditional Chinese holiday celebrated on the ninth day of the ninth lunar month. The number nine is considered auspicious in Chinese culture, as it represents permanence and eternity. The double occurrence of nine (9/9) amplifies these meanings. Common practices during the festival include climbing mountains and enjoying chrysanthemum tea. The festival also serves as a time to honour and remember ancestors, as families gather to pay their respects at graveyards.

STOCK MARKETS

Hang Seng Index closes 1.38 pct lower

HONG KONG – Hong Kong's stock market ended lower yesterday with the benchmark Hang Seng Index down 1.38 percent to close at 20,637.24 points.

While the Hang Seng China Enterprises Index fell 1.58 percent to end at 7,365.59 points, the Hang Seng Tech Index fell 1.17 percent to end at 4,640.75 points. — Xinhua