

## Community Consumption Grand Prix generates 1.04 billion patacas for 20,000 businesses

Armando Neves

The Economic and Technological Development Bureau (DSED), Macau Monetary Authority (AMCM) and Macau Chamber of Commerce (ACM) co-hosted a closing ceremony yesterday for their “Community Consumption Grand Prix 2025”, announcing that the 10-week consumer spending drive generated over 1.04 billion patacas for over 20,000 local businesses.

The ceremony was held at the ACM headquarters in Zape yesterday.

DSED Acting Director Cheang Hio Man said in a speech during the ceremony that promoting community economic development remained a key government priority, adding that this year’s Community Consumption Grand Prize initiative had enhanced consumer satisfaction and engagement through integrated resources and optimised event design, while effectively channelling spending to better support small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in residential communities.



Macau Chinese Chamber of Commerce (ACM) Vice Chairwoman Tina Ho Teng lat stands next to the lucky wheel for the winners of the Community Consumption Grand Prix campaign's lucky draw at the ACM headquarters in Zape yesterday. – Photo: GCS

Cheang also said her bureau would continue to collaborate with the business sector in developing diverse campaigns, aiming to stimulate consumption and revitalise local communities.

ACM Vice Chairwoman Tina Ho Teng lat noted in a speech that the chamber has collaborated with the government in launching a raft of large-scale consumption promotion initiatives, including

“Weekend Consumer Rewards in the Northern District”, “Macau Consumer Grand Prix”, and “Community Consumption Grand Prix 2025”. These sustained efforts, Ho said, have revitalised the local

economy and stabilised operational confidence among local SMEs.

The bureau said in a statement that the Community Consumption Grand Prix involved about 20,000 businesses, of which retail shops accounted for 61 percent, eateries for 29 percent, and services and others for 10 percent. During the campaign, e-vouchers worth 290 million patacas were issued, of which 250 million patacas were redeemed, generating 1.04 billion patacas in associated consumer spending.

Yesterday’s closing ceremony also featured a grand lucky draw. The prizes included weekly draws, which totalled 480,000 patacas, sponsored by the chamber. Grand prizes and e-vouchers and gifts exceeded 1 million patacas sponsored by financial institutions, with a total of 642 winners. All winners will be notified by phone, and the full list will be available on the event website [www.macaospendingrewards.com](http://www.macaospendingrewards.com) tomorrow, according to the statement. ■

### Iran ready to resolve issues at negotiating table: president

TEHRAN – Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said yesterday that his country is ready to resolve issues within international frameworks and at the negotiating table.

He made the remarks in a phone call with the President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, according to a statement published on the website of Pezeshkian’s office.

Pezeshkian said Iran expected the UAE would convey to the United States that Iran seeks only its legitimate rights and is in no way after developing nuclear weapons.

He said Iran was capable of responding to Israel’s military attacks, hoping that US President

Donald Trump’s ceasefire between Iran and Israel would hold.

He also voiced his country’s readiness to deepen relations with the UAE and emphasized the importance of regional stability.

“We consider the peoples of the UAE and other regional countries as our brothers and respect all states’ territorial integrity. We believe that we can build the region only through stability and peace, and of course in the absence of others’ interference,” said Pezeshkian.

For his part, the UAE president said self-defense was a natural right of all states, stressing that Iran, the UAE and other regional countries were always one another’s neighbors. “We should see how we can guarantee a better

future for our peoples through our bilateral relations.”

He also voiced his country’s support for Iran amid current challenges.

On June 13, Israel launched major airstrikes on different areas in Iran, including nuclear and military sites, killing senior commanders, nuclear scientists, and civilians. Iran responded by launching several waves of missile and drone attacks on Israel, inflicting casualties and heavy damage.

On Saturday, the US Air Force bombed three Iranian nuclear sites of Fordow, Natanz, and Isfahan. In retaliation, Iran on Monday targeted US Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar with missiles. – (More on pages 7, 10 & 11). – Xinhua

### China’s poverty eradication role model for other countries: Ramos-Horta

KUALA LUMPUR – China’s poverty eradication efforts will serve as a role model for other countries to follow suit, José Ramos-Horta, president of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, has told Xinhua.

Speaking following a ceremony to mark the bestowal of an honorary professorship on him by Malaysia’s Taylor’s University in Kuala Lumpur last week, Ramos-Horta also commended China’s progress in food security and the support it has extended to Timor-Leste, particularly in boosting agricultural productivity.

During his first state visit to China last July, Ramos-Horta

said, he appealed for support in improving the half-island nation’s poverty eradication and agricultural efforts.

Noting “We have a strong relationship with China,” he said he believes China’s expertise can help boost Timor-Leste’s efforts in poverty reduction.

“And in a very typical Chinese way of doing things – fast action, talk and act. [Chinese] engineers for water and infrastructure were mobilized,” he said, adding that with Chinese support, the agriculture output has increased and can go up even further.

Timor-Leste is East Timor’s official Portuguese name.

– Xinhua, MPD

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### China to hold military parade marking 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of victory against Japanese aggression, fascism

China will hold a military parade in Beijing’s Tian’anmen Square on September 3 to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the victory in the Chinese People’s War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War. – Story on p. 7

### Xi meets Singaporean PM, calling for boosting China-Singapore cooperation

President Xi Jinping met with Singaporean Prime Minister Lawrence Wong in Beijing yesterday. – Story on p. 7

### Vietnam puts 41 on trial in US\$45 million graft case

A US\$45 million corruption trial against 41 people including state officials began in Vietnam yesterday, part of the government’s wide-ranging anti-graft drive. – Story on p. 9



# Health lecture aims to promote prevention strategies for colon cancer

Ida Cheong

The one-day community health lecture entitled “At-home Colon Cancer Test Kits and Nutritious Diets to Prevent Colon Cancer” was held yesterday, aiming to promote “early detection, diagnosis, and treatment” prevention strategies for colon cancer, which ranks among Macau’s top three fatal cancers.

The community health lecture, organised by the Healthy Macau Association, was held at the General Union of Neighbourhood Associations of Macau’s (UGAMM aka Kai Fong) Southern District Activity Centre.

Allevia Lifesciences\* Chief Executive Officer Emily Cheung Wai Yee from Hong Kong told the *Post* that despite government efforts to provide free colorectal

cancer screenings for citizens aged 55 and above, the disease persistently ranks among Macau’s top three fatal cancers.

Cheung noted that given the prevalence of unhealthy dietary habits among young people nowadays, regular testing is extremely necessary, adding that everyone should undergo testing annually or biennially, and beyond regular screenings, daily attention to lifestyle habits and diet are essential for maintaining healthy intestinal management.

According to a statement issued by the Health Bureau (SSM) earlier this year, the free “Colorectal Cancer Screening Programme”, which was launched in 2016, aims to provide free colorectal cancer screenings for citizens aged between 55 and 69, due to colorectal cancer being

one of the most common cancers in Macau, ranking second among the top ten cancers with the highest incidence and leading cause of cancer death.

The statement noted that 27,849 residents had completed the faecal occult blood test by the end of 2024, of which 3,079 were identified with a positive result in the test and subsequently referred for a publicly funded colonoscopy carried out by subsidised private medical institutions.

The statement pointed out that most cases of colorectal cancer can be prevented and cured, and the screening can identify colorectal cancer patients who do not have symptoms and high-risk people early, allowing them to receive treatment as early as possible, in order to increase the cure rate. ■



Residents attend yesterday's community health lecture about “At-home Colon Cancer Test Kits and Nutritious Diets to Prevent Colon Cancer” at the General Union of Neighbourhood Associations of Macau’s (UGAMM aka Kai Fong) Southern District Activity Centre.

– Photo: Ida Cheong

\* Allevia HK Limited is a bioanalytics through strategic lifesciences company transforming collaborations and breakthrough personalised healthcare and technologies. – LinkedIn

## Police nab gaming supervisor for stealing electric hammer

Ada Lei

A local gaming supervisor was arrested on Thursday for stealing an electric hammer from a construction site, Public Security Police (PSP) spokesman Wong Chi Weng said during a regular press conference yesterday.

Wong identified the suspect as a local man surnamed Chan in his forties.

According to Wong, the police received a report early this month about a theft at a reinforcement project site in Taipa. A contractor told the police that an electric hammer had been stolen from the site on March 25. After the theft, the contractor installed surveillance cameras, and in May, employees noticed on the footage that someone had sneaked onto the site. Suspecting that it was the same person who had stolen the electric hammer, the contractor reported the case to the police on June 5.

Using their citywide CCTV surveillance footage, the police identified Chan as the suspect and arrested him at the Qingmao checkpoint on Thursday when he was about to leave Macau.

Under questioning, Chan admitted to stealing the electric hammer out of greed. The police later retrieved the electric hammer from Chan’s flat.

Chan has been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) and is facing a theft charge. ■



This undated handout photo provided by the Public Security Police (PSP) yesterday shows PSP officers escorting the theft suspect into a police station.

## Gongbei Customs busts man smuggling 1.6 kg of ivory statuettes

Ada Lei

Zhuhai’s Gongbei Customs said in a statement earlier this week that it has recently apprehended a man at the Barrier Gate checkpoint for attempting to smuggle two African elephant ivory statuettes weighing 1.6 kilogrammes from Macau to the mainland.

The statement noted that on the morning of May 20, customs officers intercepted a man from the mainland, surnamed Li, in the “green channel” at the Gongbei Port inspection hall.

In this context, “port” means border checkpoint.

Officers noticed that Li appeared nervous and was attempting to avoid the luggage X-ray inspection. Upon inspection, they discovered two ivory statuettes weighing about 1.6 kilogrammes in his backpack. After appraisal by the Gongbei Customs Technology Centre, it was confirmed that the figurines were crafted from African elephant ivory.

In the statement, Gongbei



This undated handout photo provided by Zhuhai’s Gongbei Customs yesterday shows the smuggled African elephant ivory statuettes.

Customs reminded the public that African elephants are listed as protected species under Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). It is prohibited to transport endangered

species and their products across border checkpoints without a valid CITES export or import certificate and proper customs procedures. The statement emphasised that serious violations may result in criminal liability. ■

## Macau Customs nabs smuggler with 1,600 cigarettes in takeaway cartons

Armindo Neves

The Macau Customs Service announced in a statement on Monday that its officers nabbed a local man on Sunday when he was trying for smuggle 1,600 cigarettes in three takeaway cartons from Zhuhai to Macau.

According to the statement, the suspect is a 63-year-old resident.

The statement said that on Sunday evening, customs officers at the Barrier Gate checkpoint noticed a male passenger acting suspiciously during random inbound inspections. Upon thorough examination, the individual was found to have concealed 1,600 cigarettes in three

takeaway cartons in an attempt to evade detection. The seized goods lacked valid import declaration documents, the statement said.

As the suspect has violated the External Trade Law, he faces a fine of 5,000 to 100,000 patacas, according to the statement. ■



This undated handout photo released by the Customs Service on Monday shows 1,600 cigarettes smuggled in three takeaway cartons from Zhuhai to Macau.

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### Macau Weather

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A FEW SHOWERS LATER.  
FORCE 3 SOUTHEASTERLY  
WINDS, BECOMING FORCE 4 TO  
5 WITH GUSTS.  
RELATIVE HUMIDITY WILL  
RANGE BETWEEN  
60% AND 95%.



27°C~32°C

Source: SMG



## Developing low-pressure area to affect Macau: SMG

Rui Pastorin

The local observatory announced on its website yesterday that a developing low-pressure area may turn into a tropical cyclone, while Macau is expecting to see cloudy weather accompanied by occasional showers and thunderstorms.

The Macau Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG) said on its website that a low-pressure area is developing in the central South China Sea and is expected to move towards western Guangdong and Hainan Island in the next day or two, with the skies over the city to gradually become cloudy, and occasional showers and thunderstorms will be experienced today and tomorrow.

As the low-pressure area may develop into a tropical cyclone, members of the public were reminded to stay updated on the latest weather information from the bureau, the statement said.

Meanwhile, the Yellow hot weather alert remains, with the city expected to continue experiencing very hot weather today. Maximum temperatures may go up to 33°C or higher and the bureau again reminded members of the public to beware of heatstroke and to stay hydrated, while suggested measures are available on its website.

Macau has a two-level hot weather alert system, with Yellow signifying that it is "very hot" in Macau, while Orange denoting that it is "extremely hot" in the city. ■

## USJ opens dual exhibition featuring works by architecture & design students



Exhibitiongoers explore works at the Kent Wong Gallery on the University of Saint Joseph's (USJ) Ilha Verde campus last night. — Photos: Rui Pastorin



This photo shows some of the exhibits showcased at the dual exhibition.

Kristina Vallesteros

The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) launched two exhibitions yesterday on its Ilha Verde campus, bringing together student work from undergraduate and master's degree programmes in a single opening event.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held last night for both the "CITY MAKERS" bachelor's degree graduation exhibition and the "Unseen Macao" master's degree showcase in the Kent Wong Gallery.

The private Catholic university's Head of the Department of Architecture and Design Professor Nuno Soares delivered a speech before the ribbon-cutting ceremony, after which he guided guests and participants around the venue and introduced the exhibits.

The undergraduate "CITY MAKERS" exhibition features final projects from architecture and design students completing their bachelor's degrees. Architecture students present "Building a Green Island Community", exploring sustainable and community-focused development concepts for Macau's North-1 urban zone. Design graduates showcase "Designing for Empowering", with works addressing accessibility, sustainability, social inclusion and cultural identity through product, furniture and graphic design, according to a recent statement from the university's website.

The statement noted that simultaneously, the "Unseen Macao" exhibition displays first-year work from the department's master's programmes. The Master of

Architecture contribution, "Unseen Hengqin: Prototyping the future of GBA", offers speculative prototypes for Greater Bay Area (GBA) development, while the Master of Design presents "Unseen Interactions", examining interactive experiences, digital interfaces and user-centred solutions.

Both exhibitions will remain open to the public through July 31, operating Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It is closed on Sundays and public holidays. Admission is free for all visitors.

The dual exhibition offers members of the public insights into emerging ideas for Macau's urban and cultural development from the university's next generation of design professionals. ■

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# Jaco Ng Quartet to perform at Carmo Hall

Interview by William Chan

**T**he Jaco Ng Quartet, led by local bassist Jaco Ng (吳禮廷) and featuring three other local musicians, will take to the stage at Carmo Hall in Taipa on July 13, Ng told the *Post* in an online interview last week.

Organised by the Macau Jazz Promotion Association (MJPA), the concert is part of the Macau Jazz Upcomer Concert series, which aims to introduce local musicians - many of whom studied abroad and have returned to Macau - to a wider audience.\* The series has already featured several up-and-coming jazz artists, with Ng being the latest addition.

Born in Hong Kong, Ng began studying the double bass at age 17. He graduated in 2020 from the Macau Conservatory's secondary school programme, majoring in Double Bass.

"I moved to Macau with my father when I was young, so I've been studying here ever since, all the way through high school," Ng said. "My first instrument was the piano, and thanks to the influence of my dad, who also sings and plays the electric bass, I started picking up his hobbies one by one."

He continued, "Eventually, I became most fond of playing the electric bass as I got into jazz, leading me to pick up the double bass. Even when I was young and listening to music, I would pay close attention to what the bass was doing in the background. Initially, I started learning the double bass simply because I wanted to improve my electric bass skills—since in jazz, the double bass is considered the next level up from the electric bass. As I explored classical double bass, I realised I really enjoyed it and that it suited me well, so I kept going."

According to DeepSeek, the electric bass (also called bass guitar) and the double bass (also called upright bass or acoustic bass) are widely used in jazz music, but they serve different roles depending on the style and era of jazz.

On the role of the double bass in both jazz and classical music, Ng said, "In both genres, the double bass provides the foundation for the lower register, but the way you play it is very different. In jazz, you have a lot of freedom within the structure [the chords], and you can try many different things. Most of the time, you use pizzicato\*\*, and arco\*\*\* is less common. In classical music, everything is more regulated. You can interpret the music from different angles, but you can't deviate significantly from what the composer and other musicians have written. In classical, you usually play arco, and pizzicato is used more as an accent."

When asked about his bandmates in the upcoming quartet concert, Ng said, "The musicians performing with me this time are friends I met through the jazz association. We used to play together quite a bit. Choosing the setlist took some time because I wanted to find songs that suit my style and cover a wide range of musical genres, so the audience wouldn't get bored." He also expressed his gratitude to the Macau Jazz Promotion Association for the invitation.

Despite his passion for jazz, Ng has decided to continue his studies in classical double bass performance, beginning in September at LUCA School of Arts in Belgium. When asked about the music scene in Macau, he remarked: "The music environment in Macau is gradually improving, but it's still very different to Singapore's. Singapore has many professional music groups of varying sizes - though not all are equally high-level, I think they've done quite well in this regard compared to other Asian regions. The audience there is also very open to diverse genres. From a musician's perspective, Singapore offers many different career paths, whether in performance or teaching, and the general public is very supportive of local ensembles and culture."

The performance will take place on July 13 at 4 p.m. at Carmo Hall near the Taipa Houses, with free admission. The concert will be divided into two parts. The first part transitions from classic swing, modal, and lyrical styles to the more modern-sounding tunes, while the second part centres on funk/groove as its theme and concludes with a ballad.

\*<https://macaupostdaily.com/news/22589>

\*\*Pizzicato is a musical term derived from Italian, meaning "plucked." It refers to a technique used primarily with string instruments (like the violin, viola, cello, and double bass) where the player plucks the strings with their fingers instead of using the bow. - DeepSeek

\*\*\*Arco is an Italian musical term used in string instrument notation (violin, viola, cello, double bass) meaning "with the bow." It tells the player to use the bow (after a section played pizzicato) and produces smooth, sustained notes (unlike the short, plucked sound of pizzicato). - DeepSeek



This undated photo shows Jaco Ng playing the double bass. - All photos provided by Ng





# S Korean medical centre opens at Wynn Palace

Rui Pastorin

A medical centre operated by Seoul-headquartered high-end beauty clinic brand Blanc de Vie opened yesterday at Wynn Palace in Cotai.

Called Blanc de Vie Medical Centre and located in The Spa level, its opening marks the first and only South Korean medical centre located within an integrated resort in Macau, according to yesterday's statement by Wynn Palace.

Blanc de Vie ("White of Life"), the statement said, has been "recognised as a leading dermatology institution" in South Korea's beauty care sector after participating and contributing to domestic and

international conferences for years through exchanges, research, and presentations.

"By introducing high-end medical aesthetic services and chronic disease management approaches to Macau, Wynn aims to attract new tourist markets while also demonstrating its steadfast support for the Macau SAR Government's '1+4' appropriate economic diversification strategy", the statement pointed out.

The integrated resort operator also said it aims to enable Macau's big health industry and its position as a medical tourism destination to grow through efforts promoting

"tourism+" cross-sector integration.

Yesterday's opening was officiated by guests and representatives including Shanxi Provincial Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference member Prof. Tang Xiaoqing; President, Vice Chairman and Executive Director of Wynn Macau, Limited Linda Chen Chih-ling; and Blanc de Vie CEO Jun Choi. ■

*\*Appropriately diversified development refers to the framework of the government's "1+4" appropriate economic diversification model, which aims to consolidate and diversify the development of the city's tourism and leisure industry while putting special emphasis on promoting the development of four diversified industries, namely 1) big health, 2) modern finance, 3) high-tech, and 4) MICE as well as culture and sports.*



Guests and representatives propose a toast during the opening ceremony of the South Korean Blanc de Vie Medical Centre at Wynn Palace in Cotai yesterday afternoon. — Photo: Maria Cheang Ut Meng

## Huafa announces Hengqin Int'l Mozart Competition for young musicians

William Chan

Zhuhai Huafa Group announced the Hengqin International Mozart Competition for Young Musicians (Violin), slated to take place in September at the Hengqin Culture and Art Centre, during a music event held at the centre last Friday.

Originally launched in 2015 as the Zhuhai Mozart International Youth Music Week, the competition series has been rebranded to highlight its new location in Hengqin, according to a statement released at the event.

The statement noted that the 2025 edition will focus on the violin, with the theme "Strings to the Future, Music for the World", followed by a piano competition

in 2026 and a wind instrument competition in 2027, rotating disciplines annually.

The statement pointed out that this year's violin competition targets young musicians under the age of 23 worldwide, having attracted a record number of applicants from 23 countries and regions. Participants are divided into three age categories, and the preliminary selections have already concluded.

The September finals will be held at the Hengqin Culture and Art Centre, the statement said, adding that the finals will be open to the public, with free admission. For details and ticket bookings, follow Huafa Music's official WeChat account. ■



Two music performers receive awards from Huafa Music during an event at the Hengqin Culture and Art Center last Friday.

## Police warn of WhatsApp phishing messages

Ida Cheong

The Judiciary Police (PJ) yesterday warned residents in a statement yesterday of phishing\* messages in which fraudsters pretending to be WhatsApp representatives send scam messages to users of the messaging service to hijack their accounts.

The statement noted that the scam messages claim that the respective user's WhatsApp account has been "abnormal" and is being accessed from foreign countries (such as India, Japan and the Philippines), potentially leading to data leaks. The scammers then ask the user to "verify their account immediately" by clicking on a link.

According to the statement, when the victims click on the link, they are redirected to a WhatsApp contact controlled by the scammers, who provide an 8-digit code and instruct the victims to enter the code into their WhatsApp interface.

The respective victim's WhatsApp account is then immediately hijacked by the scammers, who use it to deceive the victim's contacts or engage in other illegal activities, the statement said.

The Judiciary Police reminded members of the public in the statement that WhatsApp will never ask members of the public to click on any link through SMS or software messages to deal with account suspension issues, no matter how realistic it appears to be, adding that any official WhatsApp account has a "blue tick" beside the name of its holder.



This undated poster provided by the Judiciary Police (PJ) shows details about the phishing messages.

One may call the PJ anti-scams hotline on 8800 7777 or the crime report hotline on 993 for assistance if one suspects that he or she is a victim of fraud or other crimes. ■

*\*Phishing is a type of cyber attack where criminals impersonate legitimate organisations or individuals to trick victims into revealing sensitive information. — DeepSeek*

## Police arrest mainlander for selling used concert tickets

Ada Lei

A man from the mainland was arrested on Sunday for defrauding a fellow mainlander out of HK\$2,500 (2,575 patacas) by selling him two used concert tickets, Public Security Police (PSP) spokesman Wong Chi Weng said during a regular press conference yesterday.

Wong identified the suspect as a clothing industry worker surnamed Wu in his fifties.

According to Wong, the police received a report on Friday from a man from the mainland who said that a man had sold him at a hotel in Cotai two tickets for a concert. The victim was keen to attend the concert and bought two tickets from Wu for HK\$2,500. However, when the victim arrived at the concert venue, he was informed that the tickets had already

been used. Realising that he had been scammed, the victim reported the case to the police that night.

Using their citywide CCTV surveillance system, the police identified Wu as the suspect and apprehended him on Sunday in the hotel lobby.

Under questioning, Wu denied selling used tickets to the victim. He claimed that he had purchased the tickets from a couple unknown to him for HK\$3,000. Wu told the police that he had sold the tickets to the victim because he no longer wanted to attend the concert. Wu insisted that he was unaware that the tickets had been used.

Wu has been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP), facing a fraud charge, according to Wong. ■



This undated handout photo provided by the Public Security Police (PSP) yesterday shows PSP officers escorting the fraud suspect into a police station.

## STOCK MARKETS

### HK stocks close higher

HONG KONG — Hong Kong stock market ended higher yesterday with the benchmark Hang Seng Index up 2.06 percent to close at 24,177.07 points.

The Hang Seng China Enterprises Index rose 1.9 percent to end at 8,760.45 points, while the Hang Seng Tech Index jumped 2.14 percent to end at 5,297.96 points. — Xinhua



# Legislative electioneering to be banned from Friday until start of campaign period

Tony Wong

The Legislative Assembly Electoral Affairs Commission (CAEAL) said yesterday that electioneering will be banned between this Friday and August 29 (the day before the commencement of the two-week official election campaign period) for the upcoming direct and indirect legislative elections, which will take place on September 14.

CAEAL President Seng Ioi Man made the remarks while speaking to reporters after chairing a regular closed-door meeting of the commission at the Public Administration Building on Rua do Campo.

Electoral lists are required to submit their respective lists of candidates and political platforms to the commission tomorrow at the latest.

Only eight candidacy lists will compete for the 14 seats at stake in the 2025 direct election.

As of yesterday, six of the eight direct election lists had submitted their respective lists of candidates and political platforms, while the six indirect election lists that will run in the upcoming indirect election had all submitted their respective lists of candidates and political platforms.

Before polling day on September 14, the 14-day official election campaign period will run from August 30 and September 12. No electioneering is allowed on the eve of polling day and on polling day.

According to the current version of the Legislative Assembly Election Law, which was amended last year, electioneering is banned from the day

after the deadline for the submissions of lists of candidates, until the commencement of the two-week official election campaign period.

However, according to the law's previous version, electioneering was only banned after the commission's announcement of its final list of accepted candidates, until the commencement of the 14-day official election campaign period.

This means that the amended Legislative Assembly Election Law has banned the official electioneering period earlier compared to the law's previous version.

Seng pointed out yesterday that the amended Legislative Assembly Election Law has brought the commencement of the official period banning electioneering forward, namely to the day after the deadline for the submissions of lists of candidates, according to which, he noted, electioneering for the 2025 direct election will be banned between Friday and August 29. He noted that violators will face a fine of between 2,000 patacas and 10,000 patacas.

Seng also said that the commission will post the submitted lists of candidates for the 2025 direct and indirect elections on the ground floor of the Public Administration Building on Saturday.

The commission will assess the qualifications of the candidates fielded by the electoral lists for standing in the upcoming direct and indirect legislative elections, during which it will request the Macau Special Administrative Region's (MSAR)



Legislative Assembly Electoral Affairs Commission (CAEAL) President Seng Ioi Man (centre) addresses yesterday's press briefing at the Public Administration Building, flanked by fellow commission members (from left to right) Louie Wong Lok I, Lai U Hou, Ng Wai Han, and Daisy Ho In Mui. — Photo: GCS

Committee for Safeguarding National Security to assess whether the candidates uphold the MSAR Basic Law and bear allegiance to the MSAR.

After the process, Seng noted yesterday, the commission will be required to announce its list of accepted candidates by July 15, adding that if no objections to the commission's decision are lodged, the commission will be required to announce its final list of accepted candidates by July 18, while if appeals are lodged to the Court of Final Appeal (TUI) against the commission's decision, the commission will be required to announce the final list by July 31 following the court's ruling.

## Key points to know about electioneering

Seng also said that the commission has uploaded a Q&A

page about the upcoming official period banning electioneering onto the dedicated website of the direct and indirect legislative elections with the aim of enabling candidates and all other individuals to gain a better understanding of the rules that they have to comply.

The Q&A page, available in Chinese and Portuguese, can be checked on: [https://www.eal.gov.mo/zh\\_hant/QandA\\_2025.html](https://www.eal.gov.mo/zh_hant/QandA_2025.html)

Seng outlined key information concerning the upcoming official period banning electioneering, which will start on Friday.

Seng noted that according to the Legislative Assembly Election Law, electioneering refers to any act intended to draw public attention to specific candidates, whether explicitly or implicitly, in order to encourage voters to vote for them or

not to vote for them.

During the period banning electioneering, Seng said, no individual is allowed to solicit support for specific candidates through any means such as phone text messages, phone calls, emails, smartphone apps, or postal mails.

Seng also said that during the period banning electioneering, no individual is allowed to publish any information concerning campaigns for any candidates, including posting them on online platforms. In addition, they are not allowed to again post or forward any previous news related to the elections.

Seng clarified that previous news related to the elections that has already been posted on online platforms before the no-electioneering period will not need to be deleted during this period.

Moreover, Seng also said that candidates who are incumbent lawmakers must cover or remove campaign materials, such as posters and videos, displayed in public areas of their offices. Seng said that they can, for exercising their duties as a lawmaker, continue to attend public events and to talk to the news media commenting on current affairs or summarising their work as a lawmaker – provided that such activities do not include any elements of electioneering, including their political platforms and prospects for being elected.

Macau's direct elections are based on continental Europe's proportional representation system. ■

## China to hold military parade marking 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of victory against Japanese aggression, fascism

BEIJING – China will hold a military parade in Beijing's Tian'anmen Square on September 3 to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the victory in the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War.

President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, will review the troops and address a grand gathering held that day to mark the anniversary.

At a press conference yesterday, Hu Heping, executive deputy head of the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee, announced a series of events to be held this year for the commemoration.

Foreign leaders, former political dignitaries, high-level officials and heads of international organizations will be invited, Hu said.

China designated September 3 as Victory Day to mark the signing of the Japanese Instrument of Surrender on September 2, 1945. On September 3, 2015, a military parade was held in commemoration of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the victory.

The Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression was the first to break out and lasted the longest in the World Anti-Fascist War, resulting in over 35 million Chinese military and civilian casualties from 1931 to 1945.

In the main Eastern battlefield of the global fight against fascism, China's resistance effort was decisive in defeating Japanese fascism and supporting other fronts in Europe and Asia, profoundly contributing to the final victory and lasting world peace, he added.

Hu said this year's commemorative events serve as a solemn tribute to the Chinese people's arduous and heroic resistance against Japanese militarist aggression, reaffirming the Chinese people's steadfast commitment to the path of peaceful development and to upholding world peace.

## SHOWCASING NEW COMBAT CAPABILITIES

At yesterday's press conference, Wu Zeke, a senior officer of the Joint Staff Department of the Central Military Commission, said organizing a military parade in

Tian'anmen Square is a key part of the commemoration and carries far-reaching significance.

This year's parade will feature marching formations, armored columns and aerial echelons, showcasing both traditional main battle forces and new-domain forces with new combat capabilities, he said.

In addition to the latest generation of conventional weapons, the parade will display unmanned intelligent systems, underwater combat units, cyber and electronic forces, and hypersonic weapons, demonstrating the Chinese military's strong ability to adapt to technological trends and evolving warfare, and to prevail in future wars, Wu said.

"Every piece of weaponry slated for display is domestically produced and serves as active-duty main battle equipment," Wu said.

All weapons and equipment featured in the parade will be selected from combat units across a range of services and arms, encompassing strategic strike forces, advanced operational and tactical equipment, and emerging units designed for future warfare.

The display will showcase a comprehensive array of capabilities,

including command and control, reconnaissance and early warning, air and missile defense, firepower strike, and integrated support, according to Wu.

"The weapons and equipment on display offer higher strike precision, enhanced adaptability to battlefield conditions, and greater combat effectiveness," Wu said.

## FIRM COMMITMENT TO PEACE

Officials attending yesterday's press conference emphasized China's unwavering dedication and resolve to peace as showcased by the planned commemorations marking the war victory.

"The Chinese military has always been a staunch force for upholding world peace," Wu said.

He said Chinese troops with UN peacekeeping experiences will participate in the parade.

This arrangement not only highlights China's solemn commemoration of the victory in the war, but also demonstrates the country's commitment to fulfilling international obligations and safeguarding world peace, Wu noted.

In the 35 years since joining UN

peacekeeping operations, China has dispatched over 50,000 peacekeepers to over 20 countries and regions, undertaking 26 UN missions to safeguard security and stability.

"We will make even greater contributions to maintaining world peace and regional stability," he added.

Wu said the Chinese people will never forget the invaluable support and assistance provided by peace-loving countries, peoples, international organizations, and all other anti-fascist forces around the world.

To honor this international cooperation, China will invite foreigners who aided the country's resistance against Japanese aggression or representatives of their family members to observe the military parade on September 3.

Hu noted that the victory in the World Anti-Fascist War laid "a crucial foundation for the post-war international order."

"The Chinese people will work hand in hand with all peace-loving nations and peoples worldwide to promote a community with a shared future for humanity," Hu said.

— Xinhua



# Xi meets Singaporean PM, calling for boosting China-Singapore cooperation

BEIJING – President Xi Jinping met with Singaporean Prime Minister Lawrence Wong in Beijing yesterday.

Xi congratulated Wong on his second term in office. Noting that this year marks the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between China and Singapore, Xi highlighted that the two sides have consistently upheld mutual understanding and respect, which has provided a solid foundation for the stable and healthy development of bilateral relations.

Cooperation between the two countries has aligned with China's development priorities at various stages, yielding substantial outcomes such as the Suzhou Industrial Park, significantly contributing to each country's modernization efforts, and also setting a benchmark for cooperation among regional nations, Xi noted.

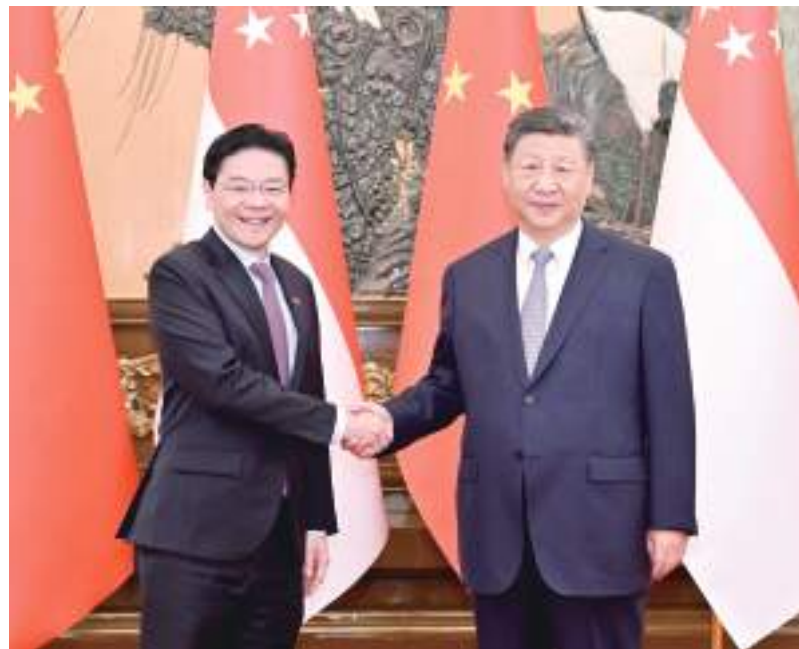
He called on both sides to draw experience and wisdom from the development process of bilateral relations, inherit and carry forward fine traditions, and enable the tree of China-Singapore friendship to thrive and bear abundant fruits.

Xi emphasized that China and Singapore should firmly grasp the general direction of bilateral friendship, and continuously observe and develop China-Singapore relations from a strategic height and a long-term perspective.

He called for consolidating the political foundation of China-Singapore friendship, supporting each other's core interests and major concerns, and enhancing political mutual trust to facilitate the development of bilateral relations.

China welcomes Singapore's continued deep engagement in China's development, Xi said, calling on both sides to promote Belt and Road cooperation, create landmark achievements in areas such as digital economy, green development and artificial intelligence, promote the improvement and upgrading of major projects, and continue to write a new chapter in high-quality cooperation.

Both sides should encourage frequent people-to-people exchanges to deepen cultural exchanges and cooperation and strengthen the popular support for China-Singapore friendship, Xi said.



President Xi Jinping (right) shakes hands with Singaporean Prime Minister Lawrence Wong, who is on an official visit to China, at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing yesterday. – Xinhua

China has always believed that peace, development, cooperation and mutual benefit are the unstoppable trend of the times, Xi said, adding that the world must not revert to hegemonism or be dragged back to the law of the jungle.

China is willing to work with Singapore to stand on the right side of history and uphold fairness and justice, and jointly advocate for an equal and orderly multipolar world and a universally beneficial and inclusive economic

globalization, Xi added.

Wong said that Singapore and China share a deep-rooted and enduring friendship, and the two sides have always respected and trusted each other, ensuring the stable development of bilateral relations and close cooperation.

Singapore will continue to adhere to the one-China policy and oppose "Taiwan independence," Wong said.

Singapore stands ready to fully leverage the opportunities brought about by China's prosperity and development, expand bilateral trade and investment, enhance cooperation in digital economy, artificial intelligence, new energy and other fields, strengthen people-to-people exchanges, and advance Singapore-China relations to new heights, Wong said.

In the face of a turbulent global landscape, Singapore is willing to strengthen coordination and cooperation with China on regional and multilateral platforms to jointly uphold multilateralism and the international order, Wong added.

– Xinhua

## China opposes settling disputes by force: Wang Yi

BEIJING – Foreign Minister Wang Yi said yesterday that China opposes settling disputes by force and has always stood on the side of peace.

Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, made the remarks during a phone conversation with Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan.

Wang said Israel and the United States have used force against Iran on the grounds of "potential future threats," which has seriously violated the international law and infringed upon Iran's sovereignty.

Dialogue and negotiation is the fundamental way out, Wang said, noting that all parties should restart

dialogue on an equal basis and push the Iranian nuclear issue back onto the track of political settlement.

Wang said that the Palestinian question is at the heart of the Middle East issue, and it is necessary to promote the implementation of the two-state solution.

For his part, Fidan said if Israel wants to safeguard its security, it should accept the two-state solution and stop the humanitarian disaster in Gaza.

Türkiye is willing to enhance communication and coordination with China and jointly commit to achieving peace and stability in the Middle East region, he said.

– Xinhua

## China calls for genuine ceasefire, de-escalation in Middle East: Wang Yi

BEIJING – Foreign Minister Wang Yi said yesterday that China supports Iran's efforts to safeguard national sovereignty and security, and on that basis, achieve a genuine ceasefire, restore normal life for the people, and help de-escalate the situation in the Middle East as soon as possible.

During his phone call with Iranian Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi, Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, said China is willing to promote the UN Security Council in fulfilling its due role and primary responsibility of safeguarding international peace and security.

China also hopes that Iran will continue to ensure the safety of Chinese institutions, personnel, and diplomatic missions, he said.

Araghchi, for his part, stressed that the dangerous actions by Israel and the United States in attacking Iran's nuclear facilities are serious violations of international law, leaving Iran with no choice but to respond.

Genuine negotiations can only begin once Israel halts its aggression, he said.

Iran is willing to maintain close communication with China and looks forward to China's greater role in easing tensions, he added.

– Xinhua

## Wang Yi meets Singaporean counterpart

BEIJING – Foreign Minister Wang Yi yesterday met with Singaporean Foreign Minister Vivian Balakrishnan in Beijing.

Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, said that President Xi Jinping had just held a fruitful meeting with Prime Minister Lawrence Wong. China appreciates Singapore's reaffirmation of the one-China

policy and unequivocal opposition to "Taiwan independence."

China is willing to take the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Singapore as an opportunity to implement the important consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries and the outcomes of the visit, Wang added.

Balakrishnan said that Singapore was willing to work

with China, with a forward-looking and strategic vision, to seize the opportunities brought by the development of emerging technologies and deepen cooperation in various fields such as economy, trade, investment and connectivity. Singapore will, together with other ASEAN countries and China, adhere to openness and inclusiveness and defend multilateralism. – Xinhua



Foreign Minister Wang Yi (third from right), also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, meets with Singaporean Foreign Minister Vivian Balakrishnan (third from left) in Beijing yesterday. – Xinhua

## China to mark 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Taiwan's recovery from Japanese occupation in October

BEIJING – China will hold a gathering around October 25 to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Taiwan's recovery from Japanese occupation, a senior official said yesterday, adding that overseas Chinese will also be

supported in organizing relevant commemorative events.

The gathering is part of a series of events to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the victory in the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and

the World Anti-Fascist War, said Hu Heping, executive vice minister of the Publicity Department of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, at a press conference.

– Xinhua