

73 victims of Alipay, Taobao scams lose 7.13 million patacas: police

Tony Wong

The Judiciary Police (PJ) announced yesterday that 73 people became victims of scam calls impersonating Alipay or Taobao customer service representatives between August 11 and Wednesday this week, with total losses amounting to 7.13 million patacas.

Cheong Un Hong, who heads the PJ Anti-fraud Coordination Centre, briefed the media about the latest data involving this type of frauds and its modus operandi during a special press conference yesterday.

According to Cheong, the 73 victims comprised 71 local residents and two non-local people; 28 males and 45 females; 28 young people, 41 middle-aged people and four senior citizens.

Cheong, also a PJ spokesman, noted that each of the 73 victims lost nearly 100,000 patacas on average, with the smallest amount being 500 patacas and the largest loss amounting to 1.3 million patacas.

Cheong also said that between August 11 and Wednesday this



Judiciary Police (PJ) Anti-fraud Coordination Centre head Cheong Un Hong speaks during yesterday's press conference about scam calls impersonating Alipay or Taobao customer service representatives. – Photo: PJ

week, 433 residents who received scam calls impersonating Alipay or Taobao customer service

representatives avoided being defrauded as, instead of falling into the scammers' trap, they called the

PJ anti-fraud hotline or contacted the PJ anti-fraud app to inform the Judiciary Police about the



unsuccessful scamming attempts.

Cheong also reminded the public yesterday that “funds security insurance” services provided by the Alipay or Taobao platforms are always free so that customers are not required to renew such services. Consequently, Cheong pointed out, any calls claiming to be from Alipay or Taobao customer service representatives about expiring “funds security insurance” are certainly scams. ■

Nation's first photonic quantum computer factory breaks ground in Shenzhen

SHENZHEN – China's first factory dedicated to the production of photonic quantum computers has recently broken ground in Shenzhen.

Once completed, the facility is expected to manufacture dozens of photonic quantum computers annually, establishing a mass production capacity for specialized machines.

The news was confirmed yesterday by the science and technology innovation bureau of Shenzhen's Nanshan District. The factory will be built and operated by QBoson, which is a leading Chinese quantum computing company based in Beijing.

“Quantum computing carries a massive information capacity and ultra-strong parallel processing power, allowing an exponential acceleration in solving certain computationally difficult problems,” Wen Kai, the founder of

QBoson, said in an interview with Xinhua.

“Photonic quantum computing is a technology that leverages the quantum properties of light for computation and is considered a mainstream quantum computing approach,” Wen said.

Compared to other technological paths, photonic quantum computing does not require ultra-low temperatures and offers multiple advantages, including a high number of qubits, stable operation at room temperature, and long coherence times.

Wen noted that the new facility will include three main operational divisions: module development, full-system production and manufacturing, and quality control and testing. Construction on the factory is currently underway, with equipment expected to be deployed gradually by the end of October. – Xinhua



A girl looks at a robot dog during the China International Big Data Industry Expo 2025 in Guiyang, capital of Guizhou Province, yesterday. The expo opened here yesterday. It spotlights cutting-edge innovations integrating data with artificial intelligence, which aim to drive efficient convergence and value realization of data resources, injecting robust momentum into industrial upgrading and high-quality economic growth. – Xinhua

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Carrying forward Shanghai Spirit with renewed vitality

China will host the largest-ever summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) from Sunday to Monday in the northern port city of Tianjin.

– Story on p. 7

Need a pee? Japan has QR code for that

Japanese toilet giant TOTO has launched a service allowing those caught short in public to locate the nearest public toilet and see how busy they are real-time with a phone and QR code.

– Story on p. 8

'Old things work': Argentines giving new life to e-waste

Need a new gaming console? Just make one yourself with an old ventilator. Got an old payment terminal? Turn it into a camera.

– Story on p. 12

Contest aims to infuse cultural value into local brands



Macao International Brand Enterprises Commercial Association (MIBA) President Terry Sio Un I addresses yesterday's press conference at MGM MACAU. – Photos: Armindo Neves



Macao International Brand Enterprises Commercial Association (MIBA) Chairman Vincent Tung Chi Un delivers a speech during yesterday's press conference at MGM MACAU.

Armindo Neves

The Macao International Brand Enterprises Commercial Association (MIBA) held a press conference yesterday about its “GBA BRANDING DESIGN COMPETITION”, aiming to infuse cultural value into local brands.

The contest started in May and the award ceremony will be held on October 23.

The contest has been supported by the Economic and Technological Development Bureau (DSED), the Commerce and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) and the Education and Youth Development Bureau (DSEDJ). The venue has been sponsored by integrated resort operator MGM.

MIBA President Terry Sio Un I said that youthful creativity serves as a new starting point for brand development. Sio said she was anticipating the collaborative sparks between enterprises and students, hoping to revitalise Macau's brands through the power of design and elevate them to new heights – even extending their reach to the other Greater Bay Area (GBA) and the

international stage, Sio said.

Apart from the Macao Special Administrative Region (MSAR), the Greater Bay Area includes nine cities in Guangdong Province and the Hong Kong SAR.

MIBA Chairman Vincent Tung Chi Un said in a speech during yesterday's press conference about the competition that the startup practices integrated into the event would help students translate theory into real-world application.

Tung also said that the contest fosters multi-faceted business collaborations, aiming to provide students with entrepreneurial thinking across the entire “design-production-sales-promotion” spectrum, thereby helping cultivate design talents who are well-equipped to meet market development needs.

The contest, according to an introductory presentation by an MC held on the sidelines of the press conference, has brought together six local small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and five local higher education institutions, comprising the University of Macau (UM), City University of Macau (CityU),

Macao University of Science and Technology (MUST), Macao Polytechnic University (MPU), and Macao University of Tourism (UTM).

According to the presentation, each enterprise was paired with two to three teams of brand ambassadors to develop tailored brand solutions. The collaboration encompassed product development, packaging design, special holiday editions, regional limited editions, and crossover collaborations. Furthermore, it covered the entire process from marketing promotion and social media management to the final physical production and launch of the goods.

The competition provides a platform for students to transform creative ideas into practical applications while infusing SMEs with a fresh, generational perspective, according to the presentation, which stressed that the initiative aims to facilitate brand upgrading and enhance market competitiveness. ■

SJM Resorts to acquire former gaming areas at Hotel Lisboa

Rui Pastorin

SJM Holdings Limited announced in a statement yesterday that its subsidiary SJM Resorts has entered into a promissory agreement with controlling shareholder Sociedade de Turismo e Diversões de Macau, S.A. (STDM) to acquire around 7,504 square metres of former gaming areas within Hotel Lisboa for a consideration of HK\$529 million.

The statement noted that the acquisition represents “a strategic reallocation of resources into one of the group's core gaming venues”, aiming to deliver “earnings accretion and margin enhancement”.

The statement said that it will be used to “expand the current operation of Casino Lisboa, supported by a planned reallocation of certain gaming tables and slot machines from satellite casinos scheduled to cease operations by the end of 2025”.

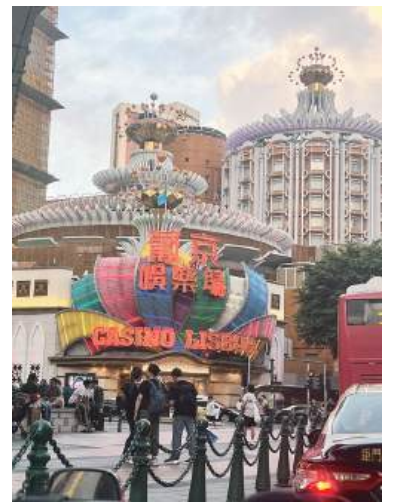
By transferring certain gaming assets from satellite casinos to a central flagship location under Casino Lisboa, the statement noted that the group “expects to generate stronger returns on these resources through enhanced gaming tables and slot machines productivity in an integrated, high-volume environment”, while also anticipating “meaningful improvements in operating efficiency by unlocking economies of scale in client acquisition and other cost areas”.

“Hotel Lisboa and the connecting Grand Lisboa together form the largest integrated resort on the Macau peninsula, currently offering over 1,500 hotel rooms”, according to the statement.

Both Hotel Lisboa and Grand Lisboa are currently undergoing

upgrades, with the latter aiming for an increase of over 10 percent in room inventory “through the conversion of former junket spaces into a collection of exclusive villas, mansions, and premium suites”, while the former's modernisation programme introduces “refurbished accommodations and refreshed attractions”.

The statement quoted SJM Holdings Chairman and Executive Director and SJM Resorts Managing Director Daisy Ho Chiu Fung as saying: “The acquisition, together with the enhancement of Hotel Lisboa and Grand Lisboa, represents a coordinated transformation of the two iconic Lisboa properties. This strategic development will strengthen the brand's competitive positioning of the Group by fostering deeper customer loyalty across both VIP and mass market segments, while also enabling the retention of geographically loyal patrons from the former satellite casinos.” ■



Pedestrians walk near the entrance to Casino Lisboa. – Photo taken recently by Rui Pastorin

IC receives more 19 bids for intangible cultural heritage list

Armindo Neves

The Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) said yesterday that it had received 19 applications for inclusion into Macau's list of statutorily protected intangible cultural heritage.

IC President Deland Leong Wai Man made the remarks during a press briefing yesterday after a closed-door meeting of the government-appointed Cultural Heritage Council at the Macau Cultural Centre (CCM) in Nape.

According to Leong, yesterday's regular meeting focused on a raft of matters, followed by consultations to gather its members' opinions, such as concerning the 19 applications' status for inclusion into the intangible cultural heritage list.

Leong did not elaborate on the 19 bids.

In order to protect Macau's intangible cultural heritage, Leong said that her bureau would continue to encourage entities associated with Macau's intangible cultural heritage to apply for designation as the properties' safeguarding units.

The council presented and sought

opinions on the 19 applications, covering areas such as religious customs, culinary techniques, and craftsmanship. Applicants included associations, production companies, and businesses.

Installation of St Paul's Ruins' lightning rod 'reversible'

Regarding opinions from visitors and residents that the lightning rod installed on top of the UNESCO World Heritage listed Ruins of St Paul's has impacted its appearance, Leong said that her bureau had

consulted the Academy of Cultural Heritage under the National Cultural Heritage Administration (NCHA) in Beijing and developed several alternative plans before arriving at the current solution, Leong said.

In addition to considering the lightning rod's visual impact, according to Leong, the installation method was carefully evaluated – including avoiding invasive mounting techniques. Leong stressed that the current installation is reversible and has not caused any damage to the structure of the Ruins of St Paul's. ■



Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) President Deland Leong Wai Man (right) and Wu Chou Kit, a member of the Cultural Heritage Council, look on during yesterday's press briefing at the Macau Cultural Centre (CCM) in Nape. Wu, a civil engineer by profession, is also a member of the Legislative Assembly (AL). – Photo: Armindo Neves

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Macau Weather

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25°C~30°C

Source: SMG

San Kio Garden hosts Chinese Valentine's Day market

Review by Armindo Neves

Today is Chinese Valentine's Day, and couples as well as lovers of traditional Chinese culture and historical costumes have the opportunity to participate in the "Qixi Festival Summer Experience in San Kio" event, held in San Kio Garden.

Qixi Festival (七夕节), according to DeepSeek, also known as the Double Seventh Festival, is a traditional Chinese holiday celebrated on the 7th day of the 7th lunar month. It is often called Chinese Valentine's Day because it celebrates the annual meeting of two star-crossed lovers, the cowherd and the weaver girl, represented by the stars Altair and Vega.

Fong Lai Fan, a senior member of the Macau General Union of Neighbourhood Associations' (UGAMM – widely known as Kai Fong) San Kio District Residents Mutual Aid Association, told the *Post* that the local Qixi Festival has been held for over a decade since its inception in 2014.

Fong said that the event aims to attract residents and tourists of all ages to San Kio district through diverse experiences such as Hanfu showcases, Qipao performances, and traditional rituals, allowing them to gain a deeper understanding of local culture, cuisine, and retail characteristics, Fong said.

"Hanfu" (汉服) is the specific name for the traditional clothing of the Han Chinese people. The Qipao (旗袍), also known as Cheongsam, is a classic and iconic Chinese dress, famous for its elegant, form-fitting silhouette and high neck.

Carman, her nickname, founder of "C garden macau", told the *Post* in her festival



A woman wearing a "Hanfu" walks through the "Qixi Festival Summer Experience in San Kio" market in San Kio Garden yesterday.



This photo taken yesterday shows the "Tricky Garden" (扭計花園) booth in San Kio Garden. – Photos: Armindo Neves



The owner of the "C garden macau" brand gives the victory sign at her booth in San Kio Garden yesterday.

booth in San Kio that her brands focus on hand-painted green plants and African violets cultivated in Macau to promote community greening. For the Qixi Festival theme, Carman said, she has especially introduced pink-toned plants to align with the festive atmosphere and cater to women's preferences. She said her products aim to

alleviate stress through gardening and attract young people's attention to greening efforts and community beautification.

The founder of "Tricky Garden" (扭計花園), nicknamed Yan, told the *Post* at her booth that by creating floral handicrafts from willow branches, she is aligning her handicrafts with the romantic theme of the

Qixi Festival. Yan said she believes that the market's long history and warm atmosphere highly resonate with the style of her work. Through her participation, she hopes to convey a sense of leisure and comfort to visitors.

The event, which began on August 9, continues today and through the weekend, ending on Sunday night. ■

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Sands China celebrates 1.1 billionth visitor

Rui Pastorin

Integrated resort (IR) operator Sands China announced in a statement yesterday that its properties have welcomed over 1.1 billion visitors, celebrating the arrival of its 1.1 billionth guest with a welcome ceremony yesterday at The Venetian Macao.

The statement noted that this marked “a major milestone in the company’s over two decades of development” in the city.

The ceremony, which also coincided with The Venetian Macao’s 18th anniversary, was attended by Sands China Executive Vice Chairman Wilfred Wong Ying-wai and Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director Grant Chum Kwan Lock. They presented “exclusive surprises” to the lucky guest.

The statement quoted Wong as saying: “This remarkable achievement would not have been made possible without the guidance and strong support of the central and [Macau] SAR governments, the concerted efforts of our 27,000 team members, and the solidarity of over 2,500 suppliers”.

He added: “Sands China calls Macau home and we are committed to fulfilling our corporate social responsibility while actively giving back to our community. Moving forward, we will continue to work alongside Macau and invest in non-gaming projects to polish further its ‘golden business card’ as an international metropolis, showcasing its unique charm to both residents and visitors from around the world.”

Sands China’s cumulative investment in Macau has exceeded 134.5 billion patacas, the statement said, adding that its integrated resorts offer over 10,000 hotel rooms, 150 dining options, and 760 retail outlets, altogether featuring



Sands China representatives pose at the integrated resort operator’s flagship property, The Venetian Macao, to celebrate the 1.1 billionth visitor (front, centre, holding a bouquet) to its local properties.

a meetings and conventions destination, spanning over 150,000 square metres, as well as two arenas and four theatres with a total seating capacity of over 25,000.

“Through efforts such as holding overseas roadshows and launching initiatives that promote the integration of

sports, culture, and tourism, Sands China remains focused on enriching the visitor experience and raising the benchmark for hospitality, entertainment and gourmet experiences in Macau to attract international visitors”, according to the statement.

SJM Resorts presents scholarships to 36 outstanding kids of employees



This photo taken and released on Wednesday by SJM Resorts shows SJM Managing Director Daisy Ho Chiu-fung (centre) posing with 10 student recipients for 2025 after presenting them their scholarships during the 21st SJM Scholarship Award Ceremony held at Grand Lisboa Macau.

Rui Pastorin

The 21st SJM Scholarship Award Ceremony took place at the Grand Ballroom of Grand Lisboa Macau on Wednesday, during which 36 “outstanding children of employees”, among them 10 new “exemplary students”, received scholarships, according to an SJM Resorts statement released on the same day.

The statement noted that a total of 730,000 patacas was presented at the event.

This year’s 10 new recipients comprise Leong Chi Hin, Wong Iok Pan, Ng Chi Keng, Lai Wai Ian, Ho Chi Cheng, Ivan Pun Chon Lam, Hung Tien Yen, Mak Wai Ian, Chen Yun Lin and Wong Man Hin, each receiving 20,000 patacas annually until graduating from university. Meanwhile, the 26 previous awardees in full-time education also had their scholarships renewed, with Chan Weng Chin and Zeng Ho Wun also recognised for their academic achievements with an “Outstanding Performance Award” and a 5,000 pataca book grant.

One of this year’s scholarship recipients, Ng Chi Keng, was quoted as thanking the integrated

resort operator, adding: “This scholarship not only provides financial support but also serves as a profound moral encouragement, demonstrating that diligence will invariably be recognised.”

Moreover, during her speech at the event, SJM Managing Director Daisy Ho Chiu-fung was quoted as saying: “In facing future opportunities and challenges, you must comport yourselves with dignity and resilience, upholding a rigorous approach to learning while continuously striving for self-improvement”.

With this year marking the 80th Anniversary of the Victory in the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and Fascism, Ho also encouraged students to “learn from history, contribute to safeguarding global peace, carry forward the spirit of patriotism, and dedicate their youthful energy to advancing the development of Macau and the nation”, the statement said.

Established in 2005, the SJM Scholarship has benefited over 320 outstanding students, with total scholarship disbursements exceeding 15 million patacas, according to the statement.

Macau 2049 garners innovative performance IP award

Rui Pastorin

Integrated resort (IR) operator MGM said in a statement on Wednesday that its residency “Macau 2049” has received the Annual Innovative Performance IP Award at the 2025 Weibo Cultural Night held in Zhengzhou.

Jointly presented by MGM and renowned mainland Chinese filmmaker Zhang Yimou, “Macau 2049” features eight distinct Chinese art forms reimagined using cutting edge technology such as air fountains and biometric robots, according to the statement. It debuted in December last year and has since won multiple accolades, the statement added.

The new award was presented during the ceremony held on Monday in Zhengzhou, with the residency’s Executive Producer Catarina Lio (廖穎琦) accepting the award on behalf of the production. The prize highlights “the show’s innovative approach to preserving and revitalising traditional Chinese culture through cutting-edge creative expression”.

The statement added that the Monday event was guided by the Publicity Department of the Henan Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Henan Provincial Cyberspace Administration, and co-organised by Weibo, Sina, the Publicity Department of the CPC Zhengzhou Municipal Committee, and the Zhengzhou Municipal Cyberspace Administration. It highlighted “the year’s most influential figures and moments in Chinese arts and culture”.

During the event, the statement said that the production team also launched the national campaign “Culture in Action” inspired by a 12,500-kilometre journey across the Chinese cultural landscape. “The campaign encourages the public to take part in the living legacy of intangible heritage through interactive, tech-powered experiences”, according to the statement.



This photo provided by integrated resort operator MGM on Wednesday shows “Macau 2049” receiving the “Annual Innovative Performance IP Award” at the 2025 Weibo Cultural Night held in Zhengzhou.

Art Macao 2025 unveils 'Time Tower'

Khalel Vallo

"Art Macao: Macao International Art Biennale 2025" (commonly known as "Art Macao 2025") has unveiled "Time Tower" at the Macau Cultural Centre (CCM) Plaza, according to a statement from the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) yesterday.

The public artwork is a collaborative piece created by artists from the Chinese mainland, Japan, and South Korea.

The installation is part of the "Public Art Exhibition" section themed "Waves & Ways", which was created to commemorate Macau's designation as a "Culture City of East Asia", the statement noted. Time Tower was jointly created by mainland artist Guan Huaibin, Japanese artist Hirotoshi Sakaguchi, and Korean artist Kim Sang-yeon, the statement noted, adding that the work integrates Eastern philosophies of time and space with contemporary artistic language to form a "lighthouse of the soul" in the city, aiming to engage viewers through shifting light and shadow to evoke both individual and collective memories.

According to an information board displayed at the exhibition site by the bureau, Time Tower is "a tribute to time, nature, and the light of the soul". The installation restructures the eternal dialogue between humanity, time and space, while incorporating Macau's unique cultural character, the message said, adding that its towering form resembles a sundial that records the city's cultural layers in the flow of light and shadow, weaving together



The art installation "Time Tower" is displayed at the Macau Cultural Centre's (CCM) Plaza in Nape yesterday.

– Photo: Khalel Vallo

memories of the Ruins of St Paul's with the energy of the digital age.

Drawing on the movements of wind and light, the cycle of energy, and the spirit of all things, the piece embodies the philosophy of "Symbiosis of All Things" and transforms it into a perceptible public space for reflection and connection, the message noted.

The bureau emphasised that Time Tower serves as an artistic landmark that commemorates the cultural bonds and spiritual connections among East Asian Cities, the statement said. ■

Su Tong delivers Dr.h.c. Lecture on 'My Literary Life' at CityU

Khalel Vallo

As part of its new academic year activities, City University of Macau (CityU) invited renowned contemporary writer and CityU Professor Tong Zhonggui, known by the pen name of Su Tong* (苏童), to deliver his Doctor honoris causa Lecture titled "My Literary Life" yesterday at the private university's Cultural Centre in Taipa, attracting nearly 700 attendees onsite and online yesterday, according to a CityU statement.

CityU Rector Liu Jun (aka Jun Liu) welcomed Su Tong on behalf of the university, praising him as one of the most influential voices in contemporary Chinese literature. Liu highlighted his works such as "Wives and Concubines", "Rice", and "Arrowhead Tubers", as well as the international recognition brought by translations of his publications. Liu emphasised that Su Tong's literary practice represents a continuous exploration of literature and culture, contributing to both humanities research and international cultural exchange, Liu said.

In his lecture, delivered in Putonghua, Su Tong spoke about key moments in his literary journey. He recalled that in the early 1970s he began writing stories about what he had heard from his neighbours, adding that in order to continue a story he hadn't finished hearing from them yet, he tried to create the rest of the plot himself.



Prof. Su Tong delivers his Doctor honoris causa Lecture titled "My Literary Life" at the City University of Macau in Taipa yesterday.
– Photo: Khalel Vallo

Later, the literary enthusiasm of the 1980s further inspired his writing style, as Su Tong reflected that writers serve as spokespersons for their eras, comparing the shifting "face" of history to the Egyptian Sphinx: "The face and expression of an era, like the Sphinx, are ever-changing and can never be fully captured in writing." He noted that literature itself often defines how an era is remembered, citing 19th-century French authors as examples.

During the Q&A session following his lecture, Su Tong engaged directly with students and faculty, discussing character development in "Wives and Concubines", noting the role of relationships in shaping fate. He cited Wang Xifeng, one of the

principal characters in the classic 18th Century novel "Dream of the Red Chamber" to explain how strong characters can transcend time as classical figures. His reflections on rural literature and its connection to broader literary development generated a lively debate and hearty applause. ■

* Su Tong (born Tong Zhonggui on January 23, 1963 in Suzhou) is one of the nation's most celebrated and internationally recognised contemporary authors. He is renowned for his darkly poetic and psychologically complex stories. He lives and writes in Nanjing. Su Tong is a member of the Chinese Writers' Association and has also been involved in screenwriting. – DeepSeek

Observatory hoists Standby Signal No.1

Tony Wong

The Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG) hoisted tropical cyclone Standby Signal No.1 at 7 p.m. yesterday after a tropical depression came within 800 kilometres from Macau.

The bureau said on its website last night that the Standby Signal No.1 was expected to remain hoisted early this morning.

Depending on its strength, Macau's observatory classifies a tropical cyclone into tropical depression, tropical storm, severe

tropical storm, typhoon, severe typhoon, and super typhoon.

Signal No.1 is the lowest of Macau's tropical cyclone warning signals. It is hoisted when a tropical cyclone comes within 800 kilometres from Macau. Its higher warning typhoon signals are the No.3, No.8, No.9, and No.10.

Late last night, according to the SMG website, the tropical depression was about 690 kilometres south of Macau. It was moving west-northwest at a speed of 18 kilometres per hour, towards the area south of Hainan Island. ■



MGTO, 2 IRs take home prizes for marketing campaigns

Rui Pastorin

The Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) brought home a PATA Grand Award in Marketing for its "Experience Macao Limited Edition" International Promotional Campaign launched last year in conjunction with Macau's six integrated resort operators, while Sands China and Melco Resorts & Entertainment also garnered awards.

A statement released yesterday noted that the prizes were given out at the PATA Gold Awards 2025 presentation ceremony on Wednesday during the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Travel Mart 2025, which took place in Bangkok from August 26-28. Two Grand Awards and 26 Gold Awards were presented during the ceremony, the statement said.

The statement said that the award-winning campaign featured a series of promotional initiatives and prizes through an online game. "The overall count of impressions of the online campaign amounted to 5.16 billion, with 28,000 prizes given out, while MGTO's official accounts on Facebook and Instagram gained 650,000 additional followers", according to the statement.



This group photo provided by the Macau Government Tourism Office (MGTO) yesterday shows MGTO Director Maria Helena de Senna Fernandes (front, 6th from left) posing with Macau travel trade representatives during the PATA Travel Mart 2025 in Bangkok.

MGTO also received a PATA Gold Award in the Best Sustainable and Inclusive Marketing Campaign category for the "A New Standard of Excellence" media campaign launched with Fortune, overall reaching 15.1 million impressions and receiving multiple awards in other competitions.

Moreover, Melco Resorts & Entertainment received a PATA Gold Award in the category of Best Marketing Campaign – Hospitality

for the "SANRIO CHARACTERS Studio City Carnival," while Sands China's publication of "In Search of Its Roots: An Illustrated History of Rua das Estalagens" as part of its community revitalisation programme in the area was recognised with a PATA Gold Award for Best Printed Marketing Campaign (Industry).

The winner's list and details are available on <https://www.pata.org/pata-gold-awards-2025>. ■

Police bust 2 Filipinos for selling & taking drugs

Tony Wong

The Judiciary Police (PJ) separately arrested two Filipinos on Wednesday for selling and taking drugs, seizing a total of 3.2 grammes of ice, the street name of methamphetamine, from the duo with an estimated street value of 9,600 patacas in total, PJ spokesman Chao Teng Hin said during a special press conference yesterday.

The two men from the Philippines are friends. Both are employed as non-resident workers (NRWs) in Macau. One of them had been selling drugs for at least two months.

Chao identified the two suspects as a 39-year-old surnamed Salvador, who told the police that he works as a "labourer", while 36-year-old surnamed Padillo told the police that he works as a security guard.

According to Chao, the Judiciary Police recently received a tip-off that at least one Filipino was selling drugs in Macau. In the early hours of Wednesday, Chao said, PJ officers intercepted Salvador in a street near the Praia do Manduco



Judiciary Police (PJ) officers escort the two hooded drug suspects to a PJ van outside the PJ headquarters in Zape yesterday.

— Photos: Tony Wong

neighbourhood and seized a bag containing 0.25 grammes of ice from him.

The Praia do Manduco neighbourhood is known as Ha Van in Cantonese.

According to Chao the police later searched his nearby home where they seized another bag of ice, weighing 0.75 grammes, and drug packaging tools.

On Wednesday afternoon, Chao said, PJ officers intercepted Padillo

in a street also near the Praia do Manduco neighbourhood and seized a bag containing 2.2 grammes of ice from him. The police later searched his nearby home where they seized an electronic scale and drug packaging tools, as well as 9,000 patacas in cash that the police believed he had earned from selling drugs.

Chao said that both Filipinos tested positive for drugs.

According to Chao, the police confirmed that they are friends, and



Evidence seized in the drug case are displayed at a pressroom of the PJ headquarters yesterday.

both are drug users. All of the ice seized from Salvador and his home was bought from Padillo.

The police also confirmed that Salvador had bought ice from Padillo, with some of the drug for personal use, while he resold some of it to other compatriots in Macau.

According to Chao, the police believe that Padillo had been selling drugs in Macau for at least two months.

Chao noted that ice weighing

a total of 3.2 grammes was seized from both, with an estimated street value of 9,600 patacas in total.

Chao underlined that the police are still tracing the sources of the ice and investigating whether others were involved in the duo's respective drug-selling activities.

The two Filipinos have been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP) for further investigation, both facing drug-trafficking and drug-taking charges. ■

China to host world leaders for V-Day commemorations



Journalists pose for a group photo at the press center of Commemoration of 80th Anniversary of Victory of Chinese People's Resistance against Japanese Aggression and World Anti-Fascist War in Beijing yesterday. The press center opened on Wednesday. Based at Beijing Media Center Hotel, the center handles press credentials and coordinates interview opportunities for both Chinese and foreign journalists. It also offers technical support, reference materials, and assistance with reporting inquiries. — Xinhua

BEIJING — President Xi Jinping will host leaders from 26 countries at a massive military parade in Tian'anmen Square next week to mark the 80th anniversary of the country's victory against Japanese aggression and the world's victory against fascism.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and the top leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Kim Jong Un are high up on the guest list announced yesterday by China's Assistant Foreign Minister Hong Lei.

Leaders from Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Belarus, Serbia, Iran, and Cuba will also come, said Hong at a press conference on the September 3 commemorations for the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War.

Hong said Putin's attendance highlights the high level of the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era and underscores their unity in safeguarding the victorious outcomes of World War II.

On Kim Jong Un's attendance, Hong said China and the DPRK are traditional friendly neighbors. During the arduous years of war, the two peoples together made important contributions to the victory of

the World Anti-Fascist War and humanity's just cause.

The Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression (1931-1945) was the first to break out and lasted the longest in the World Anti-Fascist War. In 14 years, 35 million Chinese were killed or wounded. Japan officially surrendered on September 2, 1945, by signing the Instrument of Surrender.

In 2014, China's national legislature designated September 3 as Victory Day of its War of Resistance. A year later, the country held its first-ever large-scale parade in Tian'anmen Square to mark the occasion.

Hong said China's victory in the War of Resistance 80 years ago had inspired colonized and semi-colonized nations in their struggles for independence and liberation then.

Eighty years later, China is willing to work with all parties, including countries in the Global South, to promote an equal and orderly multipolar world and an inclusive economic globalization drive that benefits everyone, and advance the righteous cause of promoting world peace, development and progress, he added.

China has also invited foreign friends who had made contributions to the country's victory in the war, as well as family members of these friendly personages who have

since deceased. Fifty people from 14 countries, including Russia, the United States, the United Kingdom, France and Canada, will attend this year's commemorations.

Answering a question on Japan's negative attitude toward the commemorations, Hong urged Japan to face history squarely, reflect on its crimes of aggression, make a clear break with militarism, and follow the right path of peaceful development and good neighborly relations.

There are always some forces in Japan that seek to deny and whitewash its aggression, distort history, or even attempt to change the conviction of its war criminals in WWII, Hong said. Such acts pose challenges to the post-WWII international order, to human conscience and to all peace-loving people.

Wu Zeke, deputy director of the office for organizing this year's parade, said preparations are basically complete.

He noted that the parade will highlight the Chinese military's recent advancements in modernization and enhanced combat readiness.

Three comprehensive rehearsals have been completed with satisfactory outcomes, Wu said.

"All troops are in high spirits and all military equipment is in good condition," he said. — Xinhua

Scientists make breakthrough in ultra-wideband photonic-electronic 6G communication

BEIJING — Chinese scientists have made a breakthrough in ultra-wideband photonic-electronic integrated technology for 6G wireless communication, according to Peking University (PKU).

By leveraging photonic-electronic hybrid integration, a joint research team from PKU and City University of Hong Kong successfully developed an ultra-wideband system capable of high-speed, frequency-tunable wireless transmission — a world-first achievement that is expected to enhance the reliability and efficiency of future 6G networks.

The team's findings were published online in *Nature* on Wednesday.

As the next generation of wireless communication, 6G requires high-speed transmission across diverse frequency bands in varying scenarios. However, conventional electronic hardware is typically limited to specific frequency ranges due to differences in design, structure and materials, making it difficult to achieve cross-band or full-spectrum operations.

To address this challenge, the team spent four years developing an ultra-wideband photonic-electronic integrated system.

This system supports high-speed transmission at any frequency between 0.5 GHz and 115 GHz — a globally leading capability for full-spectrum compatibility. It also features flexible tunability, allowing dynamic switching to secure frequencies when interference occurs, thereby improving communication reliability and

spectral efficiency.

"This technology is like building a super-wide highway where electronic signals are vehicles and frequency bands are lanes," explained Wang Xingjun, deputy dean of the School of Electronics at PKU. Previously, signals were crowded into one or two lanes, but now many lanes are available. If one lane is blocked, signals can switch flexibly to another, ensuring faster and smoother communication, Wang said.

Experiments have demonstrated that the system is capable of achieving wireless transmission rates exceeding 100 Gbps, which is sufficient to stream 1,000 simultaneous 8K ultra-high-definition videos, meeting the peak rate requirements of 6G while maintaining consistent performance across the full frequency range.

The research team is now working on increasing the system's integration level to develop intelligent photonic-electronic modules adaptable to various other systems, with aims to minimize size, weight and power consumption.

According to Wang, the future 6G network will feature ubiquitous wireless connectivity. Enhanced with AI algorithms, this new system could enable smarter and more flexible networks capable of real-time data transmission, precise environmental sensing and automatic interference avoidance, ensuring more secure and efficient communication in complex scenarios, he said.

— Xinhua

Carrying forward Shanghai Spirit with renewed vitality

BEIJING – China will host the largest-ever summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) from Sunday to Monday in the northern port city of Tianjin.

President Xi Jinping will chair the 25th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO as well as the “SCO Plus” Meeting, delivering keynote speeches with a focus on deepening cooperation within the organization and strengthening its role in global governance.

Founded in Shanghai in 2001, the SCO has adhered to the Shanghai Spirit – a set of principles centered on mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for diversity of civilizations and pursuit of common development.

Xi has attended every SCO summit since taking over the helm of China, putting forward key initiatives and promoting joint efforts that have kept the Shanghai Spirit vibrant in today’s global landscape.

CHAMPIONING THE SHANGHAI SPIRIT

Chairing the SCO summit for the first time in Qingdao in June 2018, Xi reviewed the organization’s development and achievements and emphasized that the Shanghai Spirit serves as a shared asset for all member states.

“The Shanghai Spirit, transcending outdated concepts such as the clash of civilizations, Cold War mentality, and zero-sum mindset, has opened a new chapter in international relations and won growing recognition from the global community,” Xi said.

At each SCO summit since 2013, Xi has underscored the profound relevance of the Shanghai Spirit while continually enriching and expanding its meaning.

Guided by this philosophy, the SCO has pioneered a new model of regional cooperation that brings together nations with diverse social systems and development paths.

This partnership advocates non-alignment, non-confrontation and not targeting any third party, offering a model for a new type of international relations based on mutual respect, fairness, justice and win-win cooperation.

Owing to the practice of these principles, the SCO has been growing steadily, exuding robust vitality. What began in 2001 with six member states – China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan – has since expanded to include India, Pakistan, Iran and Belarus.

Comprising these 10 member states, two observer states and 14 dialogue partners spanning



A humanoid robot (center) welcomes journalists with volunteers at the media center for the upcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit 2025 in Tianjin yesterday. The media center opened yesterday. The two-day summit starts on Sunday. – Xinhua

Asia, Europe and Africa, the SCO boasts a 26-nation “big family.” It is now the world’s largest regional international organization by both geographical area and population.

“The increasing number of countries seeking to join the SCO family reflects the broad appeal of its principles and strong confidence in its future,” Xi had said.

He emphasized that as the organization continues to grow, it stands ready to collaborate with all progressive forces around the world in contributing to global peace, promoting international development and upholding the international order.

DEEPENING PRACTICAL COOPERATION

The SCO was established initially to address shared security challenges. Over time, it has remained steadfast in its commitment to fostering a peaceful and stable environment that supports the development of all its member states.

Since assuming the SCO rotating presidency last July, China has facilitated several key events, including meetings of the SCO Council of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure, and of leading officials of border defense authorities, and a joint anti-terrorism exercise.

Just over a month ago, the SCO Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs convened in Tianjin, where member states agreed to accelerate the establishment of four security centers dedicated to addressing issues including security threats and challenges, and drug offenses.

Guided by Xi and leaders of other SCO

member states, practical cooperation among SCO countries in economic domains has intensified. The alignment of the Belt and Road Initiative and development strategies of various sides has been accelerated, exemplified by projects such as the China-Belarus Industrial Park and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, alongside cooperation in emerging fields like cross-border e-commerce, artificial intelligence and big data.

Expanded cooperation in various areas has yielded tangible results. Official statistics show that trade between China and other SCO countries reached a record US\$890 billion in 2024.

Xi has also consistently championed cultural and educational exchanges within the SCO. In Kazakhstan, Chinese experts are collaborating with local archaeologists for the preservation of the ancient site of Rakhat; in Egypt, engineering students at Ain Shams University gain practical experience through training at a Luban Workshop.

Additional initiatives – such as vocational skills competitions, snow football matches and youth camps – have further strengthened people-to-people bonds across the region.

BUILDING COMMUNITY WITH SHARED FUTURE FOR HUMANITY

Xi has made use of the SCO events as a platform to call for fairness and justice in global affairs.

“We firmly oppose hegemonic, high-handed and bullying acts, and promote a more equal and balanced multipolar world,” Xi told

foreign ministers and heads of permanent bodies of the SCO in Beijing in July.

He opposed the notion that acting from a so-called “position of strength” is the way to handle international affairs, rejected moves that undermine the international order and stoke confrontation and division under the pretext of “rules,” and advocated equal rights, equal opportunities and fair rules for all.

A series of outcome documents of the SCO summit in Astana last year echoed Xi’s vision, calling for solidarity, cooperation and justice rather than division, confrontation, and hegemonism.

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the victory in the Chinese People’s War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War, as well as the founding of the United Nations. Yet, the world today is confronted with unilateralism, bullying and the resurgence of power politics.

In view of this critical juncture, Xi has on multiple occasions underscored China’s commitment to promoting the correct historical perspective on World War II, deepening coordination within multilateral frameworks such as the UN and SCO frameworks, and jointly safeguarding international fairness and justice.

This reflects the shared aspiration of the SCO member states, spelled out in an April statement voicing support for an open world economy and a WTO-centered multilateral trading system, a clear rebuke to unilateral tariffs and protectionism.

Sharing a natural bond with the Global South, whose collective rise has become an undeniable trend, the SCO is increasingly seen as an indispensable force in the global governance system.

Given the current global landscape marked by rapid and irreversible changes, the proactive stance of the SCO in international affairs is unquestionably highly sought after, said Russian President Vladimir Putin at the Astana Summit last year.

At the same event, Xi called for the SCO to contribute to eliminating what he described as the world’s deficits in peace, development, security and governance.

As this year’s SCO summit is around the corner, China is expected to cap its term as rotating chair with key outcomes. Guided by Xi and leaders of other SCO member states, the upcoming summit is set to chart a clear course for the organization’s future and advance the vision of building a community with a shared future for humanity. – Xinhua

SCO Tianjin Summit to energize cooperation, chart blueprint: diplomat

Interview

BEIJING – The upcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Tianjin Summit is set to build consensus, inject fresh momentum into cooperation and map out a blueprint for future development, Fan Xianrong, an ambassador responsible for the work of China’s SCO national coordinator, told Xinhua in a recent interview.

Scheduled for Sunday and Monday in the northern port city of Tianjin, the summit will be the largest gathering in the SCO’s history, Fan said.

President Xi Jinping will chair the 25th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO and the “SCO Plus” Meeting, and deliver keynote speeches, while more than 20 foreign leaders and 10 heads of international organizations are expected to attend

the meeting, he added.

According to Fan, Xi will jointly sign and issue a declaration with leaders of other SCO member states, approve a development strategy of the SCO for the next 10 years, issue statements marking the 80th anniversary of the victory in World War II and the 80th founding anniversary of the United Nations, and adopt a series of outcome documents on strengthening security, economic, people-to-people and cultural cooperation.

Founded in Shanghai on June 15, 2001, the SCO is the first regional international organization that was co-founded by China and is named after a Chinese city.

Over the past 24 years, the SCO has pioneered and practiced the Shanghai Spirit – featuring mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality,

consultation, respect for diversity of civilizations and pursuit of common development.

Guided by this principle, the organization has deepened political, security, economic and cultural cooperation, bolstering regional stability and development while offering a model for a new type of international relations, Fan said.

The Shanghai Spirit echoes the principles of the UN Charter and builds on the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, Fan noted.

“It has transcended outdated notions such as the clash of civilizations, Cold War mentality, and zero-sum mindset, winning growing recognition from the international community,” he said.

The SCO has grown from its six founding members into a 26-nation family spanning Asia, Europe and

Africa – comprising 10 member states, two observer states and 14 dialogue partners. It is now the world’s largest regional international organization in terms of both geographical area and population.

“The SCO will keep its door open, welcoming more countries that embrace the Shanghai Spirit into the SCO family,” Fan said.

China assumed the SCO rotating presidency of 2024-2025 after the Astana Summit in Kazakhstan in July last year. Since then, China has facilitated the implementation of over 100 events under the “SCO Year of Sustainable Development” theme, Fan said.

Fan said he believes China will take more pragmatic steps and adopt a more proactive approach to bring greater benefits to the people of the SCO countries – and to help

build a closer SCO community with a shared future.

Fan pointed out that the SCO is now at a pivotal stage of upgrading its development, facing both opportunities and challenges.

He believes China will work closely with all parties to advance the SCO’s high-quality growth, focusing on five key priorities – enhancing security mechanisms, creating and sharing development opportunities, strengthening good-neighborly relations, upholding international fairness and justice, and maintaining openness and inclusiveness.

Through the “SCO Plus” model, China aims to attract broader participation in SCO cooperation across various fields, adding certainty and positive momentum to lasting peace and shared prosperity worldwide, Fan said. – Xinhua