

DOMESTIC FOSTER PLAN

The proposal says that the Canidrome company has "found enough houses" to shelter the animals



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TAX INFORMATION EXCHANGE

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN"

WORLD BRIEFS



PHILIPPINES A bombladen van driven by a suspected militant went off in a powerful blast yesterday that killed 11 people, including a soldier, five militiamen and the driver, in a brazen attack that reignited terrorism fears in the southern Philippines.

THAILAND is seeking the extradition from the United Kingdom of former Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, who fled her country last year ahead of a conviction on a charge of negligence in overseeing a moneylosing rice subsidy program.



NORTH KOREA U.S. spy agencies suspect that North Korea is building new missiles in the same research facility that manufactured the country's ballistic missiles capable of reaching the United States, according to a recent report by The Washington Post, which cited officials who spoke on condition of anonymity in order to describe classified intelligence. More on p13

JAPAN's nuclear policysetting panel yesterday approved revised guidelines on plutonium use, putting a cap on its stockpile and pledging to eventually reduce it to address international concerns, but without giving a specific timeline or targets. More on p13

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Biggest health center in Macau opens, expected to serve 100,000 people . 194

Over 7,400 sign petition against hazardous materials warehouses

Lynzy Valles

EPRESENTATI-VES of Seac Pai Van residents, along with a few lawmakers, have delivered a petition with some 7,426 signatures requesting that the draft plan of building two warehouses storing hazardous materials near the Cotai residential area be withdrawn.

A representative of the residents, Edith Mak, expressed that the neighborhood is "worried and scared" about the government's plan to build the dangerousgood-containing warehouses.

Mak explained that the warehouses are located less than 200 meters from residential areas, criticizing the government's draft plan for building warehouses in Concordia Industrial Park.

"This is not a normal warehouse that stores harmless goods, but a warehouse that store dangerous goods. We think that it is a threat to our lives. By locating the warehouses on this site, we are very disappointed with the decision of the government," Mak told the press following the petition delivery at the government headquarters.

"We want to rebut [...] the statement made by Fire Services Bureau Commissioner, Leong Iok Sam. He expressed that that selected site for the warehouses are quite far from the location of infrastructure. We strongly disagree with this idea," said the Seac Pai Van resident.

Mak also lamented that the



Edith Mak, representative of the residents

project lacked a proper public consultation process, as many residents were not informed about it.

"Although the government claimed to have made a public consultation, they have only received two proposals. We want to ask how big of an impact can two proposals make and represent? These 7,000 signatures are the ones that truly represent the voices and thoughts of the residents," she said.

The proposal from the government to build new hazardous materials storage at the industrial park in Coloane had previously raised several questions from the Urban Planning Committee (CPU).

Although Leong previously mentioned that the land plots will serve only as temporary locations for storage "until we can find a more suitable and definitive land plot, that should possibly be in a landfill," residents

hoped that the government will locate the planned warehouses away from residential areas. "Because the site selected is wrong from the very beginning. No matter how safe this warehouse is, we won't believe it. [...] We have collected related information and evidence that

is backed up by data. We are not

people going against the government without backed-up information," Mak added.

The Seac Pai Van residents believe that the proposal is an example of "bad urban planning that lacks rationality and futuresightedness."

Meanwhile, lawmaker Sulu Sou, who was also present at the petition delivery, recalled two incidents: the explosion of an illegal warehouse at Ilha Verde in 2003 and the Tianjin Port chemical warehouse explosion in 2015.

"Citizens have [requested] to remove the warehouse for many years but the government refused and did not care about those opinions," he recalled.

"We don't want the residents to [hold demonstrations] on the streets every month regarding these facilities," he added, recalling the protest held last month against the government's crematorium plans.

CE: DEPARTMENTS SHOULD BETTER EXPLAIN NEW PROJECTS

THE CHIEF Executive (CE) said yesterday that public departments should "take a step forward and better explain the new projects to [the] population." Chui Sai On was commenting on the project for the new warehouse for the storage of "hazardous products" that the government plans to install temporarily in a land plot within the Concordia Industrial Park in Coloane, next

to the Coloane Wastewater treatment plant. Responding to citizens' concerns, the CE said that "it is a concern for the government on how to create a healthy environment for the population. In the end, we have the same focus as the population, we all want to be in [a] healthy and safe environment." He noted that on this matter, he is currently "available to hear opinions."

Canidrome and Anima submit domestic foster plan

THE Macau (Yat Sequence of Yeun) Canidrome and Anima – Society for the Protection of Animals have jointly proposed a plan of establishing a domestic foster plan.

"In order to provide immediate and proper care to the greyhounds: Domestic Foster Plan - Macao Canidrome currently has found enough houses, most of which are villas or detached houses, totaling more than 166,000 square feet," a press release issued by the Canidrome reads. "It can provide about 100 square feet of activi-



ty spaces for each dog, and staff will be arranged for taking turns to take care of the dogs for all day. Furthermore, staff members along with Anima volunteers will take turns caring for the dogs all day.

The company also says that it would welcome daily inspections from the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau, all in the name of its new "open and transparent" attitude.

The company states that the proposal is "aimed at preparing a proper dwelling place that conforms to international standards of fostering greyhounds, thereby initiating a responsible adoption procedure under the supervision and management of Anima."

Last week, the Canidrime and the animal rights association announced a plan to set up an international center for the rehoming of former racing greyhounds in an area

located in Pac On, Taipa.

However, it is still pending approval by the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau, who will need to decide if the land can be used for rehoming the animals

The Chief Executive yesterday commented on the proposal from the two parties, saying, "I have spoken to Secretary [for Transport and Public Works] Raimundo do Rosario even this morning, and all I can say is that until [yesterday] he has not yet received any application regarding the land plot mentioned."

Chui Sai On said that only when the government receives a request to change the land plot use can "further steps can be [taken]."



Meeting to debate Lai Chi Vun conservation

The Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) will organize a meeting on Saturday about the revamp and preservation of the Lai Chi Vun shipyards area. Several heritage conservation experts will speak during Saturday's meeting, which will be held at the Macau Musem of Art at 10 a.m. As recently as in the 1950s, coastal villages were thriving in Macau. Historical accounts indicate that at the time there were around 10,000 fishermen and over 30 shipyards in Macau, many of them in Lai Chi Vun. Suffering from regional competition and the surge of the gaming industry in Macau, the industry collapsed in the 1990s.

Judge suspends taxi driver

A taxi driver who is being accused of locking passengers inside a car and overcharging has had his license suspended. The Public Prosecutions Office (MP) has questioned the suspect, and a judge has ordered that, in addition to the work suspension, he must present himself to authorities on a regular basis and pay bail. A statement issued yesterday by the MP noted that "several cases of taxi drivers suspect of abuse and overcharging have been recently discovered, hence the MP will establish the penal responsibility of the suspects."

Viva Macau case: 'We should wait calmly for the results'

Commenting on the case of the subsidies paid by the Macau government to the bankrupted airline Viva Macau, the Chief Executive (CE) noted that the Secretary for Economy and Finance, Lionel Leong, has already forwarded his report to the Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) to proceed with an investigation. "Now we need to wait for the investigation that will also produce a report that will be [made] public," Chui said. "According to its status, the CCAC, if there is any illicit [activity] ... will for sure forward it to the Public Prosecutions Office," the CE said, not wanting to comment more on future possibilities and noting that the public should wait for the results of the investigation and final report of the CCAC.