



EXPANDING CREDIT. A Grab bike driver is seen on his motorbike in Jakarta, Indonesia. Southeast Asian ride-hailing app Grab is expanding into financial services in partnership with a Japanese credit card company, hoping to offer credit to millions of people without bank accounts. (AP Photo/Achmad Ibrahim)

Southeast Asian ride-hailing app Grab expands into lending

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Southeast Asian ride-hailing app Grab is expanding into financial services in partnership with a Japanese credit card company, hoping to offer credit to millions of people without bank accounts.

Grab, founded by Malaysian businessman Anthony Tan, said it will use its “huge cache” of customer data from the app to provide ways to measure creditworthiness of people outside the formal banking system.

The ride-hailing app says it has more than a billion transactions a year including food deliveries and other services.

It said the joint venture with Japan’s Credit Saison will initially focus on providing loans to Grab drivers and merchants for purchasing smartphones or working capital.

The World Bank estimates that more than 260 million people in Southeast Asia lack bank accounts, which restricts their access to credit.

“Many in our region have no access to loans that they can use to purchase a new home or grow their small business,” Grab said in a statement. It said its lending business would “accelerate financial inclusion.”

Grab dominates car- and motorbike-hailing in much of Southeast Asia. *The Wall Street Journal*, citing people familiar with the matter, has reported that Uber has agreed in principle to sell its Southeast Asian operations to Grab, which would end the U.S. company’s costly fight for market share in the region.

In Indonesia, Southeast Asia’s biggest economy and most populous nation, Grab is in a fierce battle for customers with local operator Go-Jek.

Indian wildlife sanctuary sees jump in one-horned rhinos

By Wasbir Hussain
The Associated Press

GAUHATI, India — A tiny wildlife sanctuary in northeastern India has reported a jump in the number of one-horned rhinoceroses.

All of the world’s five rhino species are under threat from poachers who sell their horns on black markets, often in countries where rhino horn is believed to increase male potency.

A survey carried out at the Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary showed 102 one-horned rhinos now living in the park, up from 93 during the last count, in 2012, said Pradipta Baruah, a forestry officer who supervised the census.

“Our efforts at conserving the rhino have paid off,” Baruah said by phone.

The reserve, which is just 15 square miles, is outside of the Assam state capital, Gauhati. India’s Kaziranga National Park, also in Assam, is the



CONSERVATION PAYOFF. A one-horned rhinoceros stands inside the Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary in Assam state, India. The tiny wildlife sanctuary in northeastern India has reported a jump in the number of one-horned rhinoceroses. (AP Photo/Anupam Nath)

main home of the one-horned rhino, with more than 2,000.

More than 20 rangers were involved in the count, traversing the park’s forests, grasslands, and wetlands on seven domesticated Asiatic elephants.

“The animals looked carefree in the wilds, lazing around shrubs and grasslands,” said ranger Mukul Tamuli.

Six rhinos have been poached in Pobitora since 2012, officials said, and 20 died of natural causes.

Hong Kong’s skyline farms harvest more happiness than food

HONG KONG (AP) — High above downtown Hong Kong’s bustling, traffic-clogged streets, a group of office workers toil away.

They’re working not on a corporate acquisition or a public share offering, but on harvesting a bumper crop of lettuce atop one of the skyscrapers studding the city’s skyline.

This is rooftop farming taken to the extreme.

And it’s more about

reaping happiness than providing food.

The volunteers were picking lettuce on a decommissioned helipad on the 480-foot-high roof of the 38-story Bank of America tower.

The farm is run by Rooftop Republic, a three-year-old startup whose founders are tapping growing interest in organic food and taking advantage of unused roof space in the cramped, high-rent Chinese city.

Rooftop Republic has set up on average one farm per month since its founding and now manages 36



URBAN GARDEN. Volunteers pick lettuce growing in rows of low black plastic planters on a decommissioned helipad on the 480-foot-high roof of the 38-story Bank of America tower in Hong Kong. (AP Photo/Kin Cheung)

covering more than 30,000 square feet (about 2,800 square meters), including one in mainland China,

Hong said. It also provides workshops for companies, building owners, schools, and community groups.

TICKET ORDER FORM

The Asian Reporter Foundation's Twentieth Annual Scholarship & Awards Banquet

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Wong's King Seafood Restaurant, 8733 S.E. Division St., Portland, Oregon

Doors open: 5:15pm • Social hour: 5:30-6:30 pm

Dinner, entertainment, and awards: 6:30-8:30pm • Dancing 8:30-10:00pm

Ticket Order Deadline: Thursday, April 12 at 5:00pm

ALL seating is reserved. Tickets must be purchased in advance

Please reserve _____ tickets to the awards banquet

I have enclosed payment in the form of (circle one)

Check / M.O. Visa MasterCard American Express

Credit Card # _____ Security Code: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Zip Code: _____

Signature of cardholder: _____

Please send my tickets to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone/ Fax/ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

Send this order form to:

The Asian Reporter
Foundation
922 N. Killingsworth Street, #2D
Portland, OR 97217
Fax: (503) 283-4445

Traditional attire encouraged

- Individual Ticket: \$50.00
- Community Table: \$500.00
- Corporate/Government Table: \$1,000.00
- Check this box if this order is for table of 10
- Seating preference (near awardee, group, etc., if applicable): _____

No refunds will be issued for no-show tickets

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For more information, visit <www.ARFoundation.net>.

FAIR HOUSING
MAKES US
STRONGER

COMMEMORATING THE
50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE FAIR HOUSING ACT

THE CITY OF PORTLAND CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF FAIR HOUSING April 11, 2018

CITY LEADERS BREAKFAST DISCUSSION

8:00 am - 9:30 am

Join Mayor Ted Wheeler and City of Portland leadership for coffee as they discuss the role of government in furthering Fair Housing and creating inclusive communities. Call 503-823-5312 to RSVP.

WHERE

Portland City Hall
Atrium
1221 SW 4th Ave
Portland, Oregon 97204

FAIR HOUSING PROCLAMATION

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Join Portland City Council as they commemorate Fair Housing Month with a proclamation and a presentation by community leaders and advocates.

WHERE

Portland City Hall
Council Chambers
1221 SW 4th Ave
Portland, Oregon 97204

OTHER EVENTS

Visit www.portlandoregon.gov/phb/fairhousing for a list of Fair Housing Month speakers and events.

MORE INFO

WWW.PORTLANDOREGON.GOV/PHB



Have you experienced housing discrimination? Get Help! Call 503-424-3247 ext. 2.

Historically and statistically identifiable groups of people have received unfavorable treatment in housing transactions. In attempting to rent, buy, and get a mortgage, or secure home insurance they have been denied, harassed, given less favorable terms and conditions or experienced a lower level of service than other groups. As a result, fair housing laws were enacted to protect against illegal housing discrimination based on "protected class status." In Multnomah County those protected classes include race, color, national origin, religion, gender, familial status, disability, marital status, age (over 18), source of income, sexual orientation including gender identity, and domestic violence victims.

If you have a fair housing question, or to report a fair housing complaint, please call (503) 223-8197 ext. 2 or (800) 424-3247 ext. 2 (translation available) or HUD at (800) 877-0246.