

# China clips wings of Malaysian bird's nest industry

THE Malaysian bird's nest industry is facing another hurdle as China has banned its citizens from bringing the item back after visiting Malaysia, *China Press* reported.

Federation of Malaysia Bird's Nest Merchants Association deputy president Datuk Tok Teng Sai said this posed a great challenge to the bird's nest industry as China had already stopped its import from Malaysia due to high levels of nitrate found in them.

(Chinese ambassador to Malaysia Chai Xi was reported last month as saying that the import of bird's nest to China was expected to resume next month following efforts by both Malaysian and Chinese governments to resolve the matter).

Tok said many bird's nest farmers had invested their life savings in the industry.

He said China should practise reciprocity as the Malaysian Government did not place any restriction on its people from bringing in food products



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from the republic.

> *China Press* also reported that a grocery store owner in Seremban found a sanitary pad inside a packet of 1kg cooking oil.

The man said he bought a batch of cooking oil stock two months ago from a distributor.

He said a female customer took the packet and went to the cashier's counter without realising that there was a foreign object inside.

Upon seeing the pad inside, the owner immediately gave the customer another packet and subsequently complained to the distributor.

He claimed that the distributor wanted to compensate him with five boxes of oil as "hush money".

He rejected the offer and lodged a report with the Negri Sembilan Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs office.

> *Nanyang Siang Pau* and *Sin Chew Daily* reported that world renowned physicist and cosmologist Stephen Hawking, who has motor neurone disease, visited a sex club in California.

Both dailies referred to a report in US website *Radaronline* which quoted a witness as saying that he spotted Hawking several times in the club.

The witness, who is a member of the club, claimed that he saw Hawking visiting the club a handful of times with an entourage of nurses and assistants.

It was reported that the 70-year-old was not afraid to be recognised and even allowed his fans to take photographs with him.