



## ALL-STAR CREW

PHOTO BY ZHANG ZHENG / FOR CHINA DAILY

Chinese pianist Lang Lang (left) shows off his skills to NBA All-Star LeBron James, who visited Beijing to take part in the Nike Rise basketball campaign at Hi-Park of Wukesong on Monday. The campaign will select three young Chinese players out of 30 nominees to represent China at the Nike International Basketball Festival in Barcelona from Sept 5 to 7.

# China's mobile Web users overtake computer ones

By CAO YIN

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The number of people who surf the Internet via mobile devices in China has for the first time exceeded the number using computers to go online, an industry report said on Monday.

The number increased by 14.42 million over the past six months, so that now 83.4 percent of China's Internet surfers are using mobile phones to go online, according to the report issued by the China Internet Network Information Center, a government-backed industry administrative body.

The total number of Chinese netizens was 632 million by the end of June, 527 million of whom logged onto the World Wide Web through their smartphones, the report said.

It is the first time that the number of mobile Internet users has surpassed that of those surfing the Web in traditional ways, such as with personal computers and laptops, said Liu Bing, deputy director with the CINC.

"In other words, the mobile phone can be regarded as the key terminal device for Chinese to get online," he said.

As the mobile network has taken the lead in the country's Internet development, its status has also become firmer among netizens, he said.

The increasing number of

smartphone owners has driven a rapid rise in e-commerce, instant messaging and entertainment applications, "which reflects a diverse demand of netizens", he said.

According to the report, the number of users who use mobile phones to make payments has increased 63.4 percent from January to June, with the growth of payment apps likewise surging in that period.

"The mobile payment is becoming much closer with consumers and it has been making greater contributions to e-commerce development," Liu said.

Yin Jingxue, a mobile Internet analyst, confirmed that mobile devices have played the more important role in Web development in the country.

"Instant messaging applications such as Weibo and Wechat are still used the most among mobile Internet users, followed by online shopping apps, including Taobao and Jingdong," Yin said.

People aged 20 to 40 are the main mobile Internet users, Yin said, adding that they are more likely to try new applications.

She said she does not think that mobile devices will replace computers. "Instead, different Internet users will find their own channels to get online and apps will be promoted in accordance with their various demands," she said.

## CHINESE MOBILE INTERNET USERS AND THEIR PROPORTION AMONG NETIZENS

Unit: million



Source: China Internet Network Information Center

LIU CHEN / CHINA DAILY

## POPULARITY OF SOCIAL MEDIA WEBSITES DECLINING

As Facebook tries to win back young users from competitors around the world, a new report indicates that Chinese netizens' interest in social media has waned.

The report, released by the China Internet Network Information Center, showed that the number of Chinese social network users declined to 257 million by the end of June. Social network websites in China have lost 20.4 million users in the past six months.

The percentage of Chinese netizens visiting social websites dropped 4.3 percentage points compared with December.

In 2012, China had more than 400 million social network users, or

one-third of the users around the world, according to People's Daily.

The network information center said it thinks the prospects for Chinese social network websites are not optimistic.

Part of the decline can be attributed to competition from social apps on mobile phones, the report said.

At the same time, social websites did not focus enough on their own operations, which led to fewer interactions among users, it added.

Even though social network websites are going out of fashion, the social element is still valued by other Internet companies.

# Expert calls for research push to make greener jets

By ZHAO LEI in Guiyang  
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China should step up research and development so it can produce advanced aviation materials and build aircraft that are greener and more competitive, says an expert.

"Advanced materials can reduce an aircraft's weight, lowering fuel consumption and cutting back its ecological footprint," said Cao Chunxiao, a member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and senior researcher at the Beijing Institute of Aeronautical Materials.

Aircraft have traditionally been made of aluminum alloy, but composite materials and titanium alloy are becoming increasingly attractive to manufacturers.

Extensive use of composite materials and titanium alloy means that the Boeing 787 Dreamliner uses 8 percent less fuel than aircraft made of traditional materials, said Cao.

"About 50 percent of a Boeing 787 by weight consists of polymer-based composites, while titanium alloys account for another 15 percent. In



**Compared with Western aviation powers, we have only a small range of advanced aviation materials."**

CAO CHUNXIAO  
MEMBER OF THE CHINESE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND SENIOR RESEARCHER AT THE BEIJING INSTITUTE OF AERONAUTICAL MATERIALS

contrast, composite materials make up only 10 percent of a Boeing 777, and titanium alloy accounts for just 8 percent."

In addition, advanced materials have a longer life than traditional alloys.

However China has a long way to go before it is able to make aviation materials as advanced as those used by Boeing and Airbus.

"Compared with Western aviation powers, we have only a small range of advanced aviation materials."

Chinese manufacturers have recognized the technology gap and are allocating

more resources to develop new materials.

The C919, China's answer to the Airbus A320 and Boeing 737, will contain nearly 10 percent titanium alloy, said Cao.

"It is understandable that the C919 can't use too many of the new materials at present because our engineers must avoid any technical uncertainties. But it is an irreversible trend that our new aircraft will be built from more eco-friendly materials."

Cao said the government and aviation industry should encourage the development of new materials as otherwise the Chinese aircraft industry will be dominated by foreign companies.

His comments were welcomed by Lin Zuoming, chairman of the Aviation Industry Corporation of China, the nation's main aircraft manufacturer.

Lin said during a recent green aviation forum in Guiyang, Guizhou province, that the corporation will fund more research into new materials.

He added that it will also conduct research into the development of solar-powered aircraft.

# Anti-smog gains marred by rising ozone levels

By WU WENCONG

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China's air quality improved slightly in the first half of 2014 compared with the same period in 2013, but aggravated ozone pollution became a prominent problem across the country, according to Environmental Protection Ministry figures released on Monday.

In 74 major cities, air quality was good 60.3 percent of the time from January to June. The figure was 58.7 percent during that period in 2013. In addition, the frequency, duration and pollution concentration of severely polluted days all decreased this year.

A ministry official who wished to remain anonymous said the improvement came from tougher policies adopted after the Airborne Pollution Prevention and Control Action Plan was issued in September 2013, and more favorable weather conditions.

But the rising ozone level marred the overall improvement. Ozone concentration

# 60.3

percent

Air quality in 74 major cities was good 60.3 percent of the time from January to June

increased by 6.8 percent nationwide — it was as high as 12.8 percent in the Yangtze River Delta region.

Although ozone is beneficial in the stratosphere, blocking ultraviolet rays from reaching Earth, high ozone levels at low altitudes can irritate the eyes and irreversibly damage the lungs and central nervous system. Adding to the danger, ozone pollution is easily shrugged off by the public because it does not affect visibility, said Chai Fahe, vice-president of the Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences.

Chai said ozone levels can be raised by natural conditions such as stronger sunshine and higher temperatures, and by manmade factors such as growing concentrations of nitrogen oxide and volatile organic compounds.

"The total of nitrogen oxide emissions has just reached the peak, but VOCs are still increasing because they are just beginning to be controlled," he said.

The higher average temperature in the first half of 2014, compared with last year, is also likely a factor, he said.

Regionally, air quality improved in the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei cluster, by 3.2 percent, in 2014. But it decreased by 0.5 percent in the Yangtze River Delta region, and by 0.8 percent in the Pearl River Delta.

"The results reflected the level of efforts made by the government bodies of the three regions," said Chai. "Policies being adopted in the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei cluster are unparalleled in the nation."

But despite these efforts, eight of the 10 cities with the worst air quality in the first half of 2014 are in that region. The 10 cities were Xingtai, Shijiazhuang, Baoding, Tangshan, Handan, Hengshui and Langfang, all in Hebei province; Jinan in Shandong province; Xi'an in Shaanxi province and Tianjin.

# Confessions of Japanese war criminals

**Editor's note:** To offer a clearer picture of history, the State Archives Administration released a large number of files on 45 Japanese war criminals who were tried and convicted in China after World War II. The special military tribunal of the Supreme People's Court held public trials, sentencing the criminals to between eight and 20 years in jail. China Daily is publishing abstracts of the criminals' confessions.

## Rokusashi Takebe

Takebe was born in Nagasaki, Japan, in 1893 and became chief of general affairs in "Manchukuo".

According to his confession, the first five-year industrial development plan for "Manchukuo" was finalized in 1937.

Takebe said it was impossible for "Manchukuo" to

implement the plan by itself, so it had to rely largely on aid from Japan. The plan was agreed after full consultation with the Japanese government and army headquarters.

He said the plan was amended in 1939 to increase its scale, and this was again decided after discussions with the Japanese authorities. Takebe said a second development plan was started in 1942 during his term as chief of general affairs.

## Tadayuki Furuumi

Furuumi was born in Tokyo, Japan, in 1900. In July 1932, he took part in the War of Aggression against China.

He held a number of senior posts, including special division chief and section chief of the accounting office at the Ministry of General Affairs, undersecretary at the Ministry of Economic Affairs, undersecretary at the Ministry of General Affairs and director-general of the Planning Bureau.

In July 1936 he attended a meeting presided over by the Kwantung Army and the Japanese government. Plans

to resettle a million Japanese households in China were discussed, and Furuumi took an active part in reaching a decision to go ahead.

In September 1936 he attended a number of five-year-plan formulation meetings.

In October 1937 he took part in meetings presided over by the Kwantung Army and the Planning Bureau that discussed opium cultivation.

In April 1943 he gave permission to plant opium poppies in test fields in the plains of Mukden, Jilin and Siping, with a view to expanding them in due course.

In April 1945 he sold 5,000 kilograms of opium to the puppet government of Wang Jingwei in Central China.



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