



**Press Review Taiwan
Science, Technology and Education**



Trade Office of Swiss Industries, Taipei, May 1-31, 2016

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Science

Taiwan achieves best ever performance at Intel science contest (Focus Taiwan, 14.05.2016)

Taiwanese students won 14 awards at the 2016 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF) in Phoenix, Arizona the second week of May, the best performance ever by Taiwan in the world's largest pre-college science competition. The most outstanding Taiwanese competitor was 17-year-old Chang Pei-hsuan from Taipei Municipal LiShan High School, who won four awards.

After fish slaying, only 6 endangered humphead wrasses left (The China Times 24.05.2016)

The Council of Agriculture's Forestry Bureau confirmed May 22 that only six of the protected species humphead wrasse are still in the wild on outlying Green Island, after a killing of one of the species by a local bed-and-breakfast owner led to a public outcry, according to multiple reports by the Central News Agency (CNA).

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Education

NTU slips in university reputation survey (Focus Taiwan, 05.05.2016)

National Taiwan University's ranking in a global survey of university reputations has slipped for the third consecutive year, according to the results of the survey announced May 4 by British magazine Times Higher Education. Harvard University had the best reputation among the world's universities for the sixth straight year.

Kindergarten marketing criticized (Taipei Times, 06.05.2016)

Fierce competition and weak regulation have made deceptive marketing and legally dubious practices widespread among private kindergartens, teachers' union members said yesterday. "Private kindergartens exist to make money, which gives rise to a wide variety of sales pitches and other gimmicks," National Federation of Teachers' Unions early childhood education committee member Lai Min-li said, citing deceptive statements about the quality of teachers.

Taiwan and Japan deepen ties of technology schools (The China Post, 09.05.2016)

The National Taiwan University of Science and Technology (Taiwan Tech) and the Tokyo Institute of Technology (Tokyo Tech) jointly inaugurated an office in Taipei on May 7, with the aim of deepening ties between them. The Tokyo Institute of Technology Engineering Office in Taiwan will be responsible for faculty and student exchange programs and business internships between the two schools, said Liao Ching-jong, president of Taiwan Tech, where the office is located.

Taiwan pitching culture to promote Mandarin learning (Taipei Times, 10.05.2016)

Taiwan is promoting itself as the top choice for foreigners to learn Mandarin through a new initiative for international students to take part in cultural activities while learning the language. The latest activity in the Ministry of Education's "learn Chinese from everyday life" initiative gave about 100 foreign students an insight into the nation's Hakka culture and language, the ministry said. The event was held during the Tung flowers' peak season, which usually lasts from April to May.

Alma matters: Falling birthrates changing Taiwan's universities (The China Post, 23.05.2016)

Earlier in May, individual university application results were released, showing the largest ever gap between the number of openings and successful applicants. Toko University had offered admission to 118 applicants nationwide, but only secured 20 new recruits. One place was even left empty in the generally full National Taiwan University's medical department, which has never seen any vacancies in the past.

Most Taiwan workers do not see postgrad degree as job guarantee: poll (Taipei Times, 25.05.2016)

More than 80 percent of workers in Taiwan think that an advanced degree does not guarantee a good job, the online job bank yes123 said May 24, citing a poll it conducted recently. According to the poll, 83.7 percent of workers think it not that easy for people with master's degrees or higher to land a good job since more and more people are earning such qualifications in Taiwan, the job bank said.

Education best way to promote 'go south' policy (Taipei Times, 25.05.2016)

"Go south" is a key policy of the new government, and it has established a "New Southbound Policy Office" to push the policy. Several government officials have pushed for the government to place greater importance on Southeast



Asia and proposed various ways on how this can be achieved. Indeed, the whole world is turning its focus to the development and potential of ASEAN states, with major economies investing in these nations.

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Technology

HTC reportedly to unveil smartwatch in June (Focus Taiwan, 04.05.2016)

Taiwan-based smartphone vendor HTC Corp. will unveil a smartwatch in June, hoping to diversify its product portfolio as global demand for smartphones weakens, according to tech website PhoneArena. The tech website cited 3C tipster Evan Blass as saying on May 2 that HTC is expected to launch its long-awaited smartwatch in the week of June 6. "FYI, this has been pushed to the week of June 6th. #htcwatch," the blogger tweeted.

Taiwan mobile phone users to get earthquake alerts from May 10 (Focus Taiwan, 05.05.2016)

Beginning May 10, mobile phone users in Taiwan will be given alerts on their phones whenever a strong earthquake strikes the country, the Executive Yuan announced that day. Earthquake information will be automatically sent to 4G mobile phone users living in areas with greater earthquake intensity, if the quake measures 5 or above on the Richter Scale, and has an intensity level of 5 or greater, the Executive Yuan said.

Chinese in Kolkata seek Taiwan aid for education revival (Taipei Times, 07.05.2016)

The government has been asked to help ethnic Chinese revive Mandarin and Chinese cultural education in Kolkata, India. "I have received pleas for help from the leaders of ethnic Chinese groups during my visits to the groups in Kolkata this year," said Chen Ho-hsien, the head of the technology division of Taiwan's representative office in India. They asked for assistance in addressing the lack of qualified Mandarin teachers and textbooks in the capital of West Bengal state, Chen said.

ROC wins 78 medals at Paris invention fair including 8 golds (The China Post, 09.05.2016)

Taiwan was awarded 78 medals — eight gold, nine silver and 61 bronze — at one of the world's most prestigious invention fairs May 7 in Paris. One of the gold medal winners at the Concours Lepine International Paris 2016 was the "Selfie Video Signature," which makes a video recording of the person entering an electronic signature on an e-document, and thus substantiates the identity of the person. It was invented by Wu Yu-jen, CEO of Think Cloud Technology Co.

Innovative technology center opens in southern Taiwan (Taiwan Today, 19.05.2016)

Southern Taiwan Interdisciplinary Center for Innovative Technologies opened May 16 in Kaohsiung City, underscoring the commitment of the government to ensuring the balanced development of the knowledge-based economy nationwide. The center, launched by Hsinchu County-based Industrial Technology Research Institute, Kaohsiung City Government and National Sun Yat-sen University on the latter's campus in Gushan District, is anticipated as playing a frontline role in this process.

Internet of Things to be showcased at Computex Taipei (Focus Taiwan, 22.05.2016)

The "Internet of Things (IoT)," which connects various objects online, will again be a highlight of this year's Computex Taipei, with companies such as Microsoft Corp. showcasing products in the field, according to exhibitors. Apart from Windows 10 and related products and services, Microsoft said it will showcase devices jointly developed with partners in Taiwan and applications of IoT technology in the retail sector.

Taiwan's ITRI creates world's first pocket sanitizer for chopsticks (Focus Taiwan, 26.05.2016)

Taiwan's Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI) has developed a pocket gadget to sanitize chopsticks before use. The Pocket Chopstick Sanitizer kills 99.99 percent of E.coli and other pathogens in just 90 seconds, using deep ultraviolet light emitting diodes, the ITRI said. Furthermore, it is portable, environmentally friendly, and leaves no chemical residue, the ITRI said in a press release May 24.

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