

NEWSLETTER

CHEMICAL & PHARMACEUTICAL

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Seven departments jointly issued a plan to stabilize growth in the petrochemical industry

The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology and six other departments jointly issued the "Work Plan for Stabilizing Growth in the Petrochemical Industry (2025-2026)," which clarifies the core objectives for 2025-2026: an average annual growth of over 5% in the industry's added value, and a move towards high-quality development of chemical industrial parks. **(Ministry of Industry and Information Technology)**

Ministry of Commerce: approval of some general export licenses for rare earth items

According to information from the Ministry of Commerce of China, China has received and approved some general export license applications for rare earth-related items. This has been a significant development since the implementation of the rare earth export control policy. Rare earth, as a strategic and scarce resource, plays an irreplaceable role in fields such as new energy, high-end manufacturing, and defense technology. **(ChemNet Chemical Headlines)**

The added value of the chemical raw materials manufacturing industry increased by 6.7%

The National Bureau of Statistics officially released national industrial economic data for November. The data shows that the added value of industries above designated size increased by 4.8% year-on-year in November, maintaining a steady growth trend. Among them, the chemical raw materials and chemical products manufacturing industry performed particularly well, with its added value increasing by 6.7% year-on-year. **(National Bureau of Statistics)**

New bulk-buy to drive drug price cuts

China's latest centralized drug procurement has selected 55 medicines, including antivirals and diabetes treatments, for public hospitals. This 11th bulk-buy round emphasized quality assurance over low bids, requiring manufacturers to demonstrate production experience and compliance. The selected drugs, such as oseltamivir and metformin, are expected to be available at lower prices starting February 2026. **(China Daily)**

Nation's AI-backed drug market hits global stride

China's AI-driven drug discovery sector is gaining global prominence through major international partnerships, such as XtalPi's \$6 billion (5.1 billion euro) deal. The domestic market is growing rapidly, with a compound annual growth rate of 57.4%. While no AI-discovered drug has reached the market yet, AI is accelerating early-stage research and development. The industry is now entering a new phase. **(China Daily)**