

NEWSLETTER
FASHION/PERSONAL CARE/LEISURE
6 - 12 July 2026



Hong Kong Launches Trial for Centralized Gold Clearing and Shanghai “Delivery Connect”

Hong Kong officially commenced trial operations for its state-owned gold central clearing and settlement system on Tuesday, managed by the HKPMCC. The landmark launch introduces "Delivery Connect," a two-way physical gold-transfer mechanism linking local markets with the Shanghai Gold Exchange, alongside a new "HAU" gold price ticker to boost transaction efficiency and regional liquidity. **(China Daily)**

Gold Overtakes Equities as China’s Largest ETF Amid Surging Capital Preservation Demand

In a historic shift, the Huaan Yifu Gold ETF has overtaken the Huatai-PineBridge CSI 300 ETF to become China's largest ETF of any kind, reaching roughly 90 billion yuan in assets against the flagship equity fund's 83 billion yuan. The milestone underscores a massive recalibration among domestic investors prioritizing liquid safe-havens for asset insulation over volatile stock markets. **(Bloomberg)**

PBOC Extends Gold Accumulation to 20 Months with Record Cycle Purchase

The People's Bank of China (PBOC) extended its gold-buying streak to a 20th consecutive month in June 2026, adding 480,000 ounces to bring its official reserves to 75.44 million ounces. Capitalizing on retreating bullion prices, this marked the largest single-month increase since the current accumulation cycle began in November 2024, reflecting a long-term strategy to optimize asset insulation amid a volatile global landscape. **(Nikkei Asia)**

Accor Group to Double China Footprint to 1,600 Hotels, Upgrading Luxury Portfolio

Accor Group CEO Sébastien Bazin announced plans to double the hospitality giant's Chinese footprint over the next 5 to 6 years, scaling from 800 to 1,600 hotels (250,000 rooms). As part of this premium acceleration, Shanghai's iconic Peace Hotel will be rebranded from a Fairmont to a global flagship for Raffles, Accor's top-tier luxury brand, to target evolving experiential and multi-generational consumer demands. **(CGTN)**

China Mobile Launches AI E-Commerce Platform to Disrupt Yiwu's Jewelry Cluster

China Mobile's "AI E-commerce Xingcan" platform allows Yiwu's jewelry hub to generate commercial images in 40 seconds and promotional videos in three minutes. Local merchants report a 90% surge in efficiency and a 96% cost reduction, drastically accelerating fast-fashion turnover. The system also integrates automated compliance checks to safeguard cross-border trade. **(China Daily)**