ITALIAN TRADE AGENCY

ITA Beijing Office

NEWSLETTER

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)
19 - 25 January 2026

China's "digital valley" reports computing power surge in 2025
China’s Guizhou Province reported computing power exceeding 150 EFLOPS (exaflops) in 2025, nearly triple the 2024 level, with intelligent computing accounting for over 90%. The province hosts 50 data centers and attracted 48 service providers, while fixed-asset investment topped 22 billion yuan (USD 3.14 billion). Guizhou aims to reach 190 EFLOPS in 2026. (**People’s Daily**)

Foldables set to show steady growth
China’s foldable smartphone market is set for steady growth as flexible screen technology and designs improve. Screen shipments are expected to rise from about 10 million units in 2025 to 12 million in 2026, while global foldable panel shipments may jump 46 percent year-on-year. Apple’s expected entry and rising demand for book-type models are seen as key growth drivers, despite persistently high prices. (**China Daily**)

China and ASEAN to deepen cooperation in AI, digital security
China and ASEAN agreed to deepen digital cooperation at the 6th ASEAN Digital Ministers’ Meeting in Hanoi (12-16 Jan.), adopting a 2026–30 plan covering AI, digital security and infrastructure. Both sides will establish a China-EAN digital academy and an AI industry innovation center in 2026, align China’s 15th Five-Year digital plan with the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2030, and expand collaboration on governance, talent and technologies. (**China Daily**)

China's AI chip firms lead 2025 top 50 ranking
A Hurun report shows AI chip companies leading China’s 2025 AI Top 50, taking seven of the top ten spots, led by Cambricon, Moore Threads and MetaX. Driven partly by U.S. export restrictions, China’s push for computing self-reliance has accelerated. Chinese open-source AI models’ market share rose from 1.2% in 2024 to nearly 30% in 2025, highlighting rapid AI commercialization and adoption. (**China Daily**)

Sony, TCL to explore joint venture in global home entertainment push
Sony has signed a non-binding MoU with TCL Electronics to explore forming a global joint venture for Sony’s home entertainment business. TCL would hold 51 percent and Sony 49 percent. Covering TVs and home audio across the full value chain, the venture aims to start operations in April 2027, subject to approvals. (**Xinhua**)