ITALIAN TRADE AGENCY

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NEWSLETTER

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China's Pinglu Canal Cargo Throughput Hits 1 Million Tons since Mid-Sep Opening
China's Pinglu Canal, opened on September 16, has already handled over 1 million tons of cargo. The 134.2-kilometers canal accommodates 5,000-ton vessels and shortens the sea route by 560 kilometers, saving an estimated 5.2 billion yuan ($778.7 million) annually. Analysts expect cargo volumes to reach about 5 million tons in 2026 and 40 million tons in 2027. **(Global Times)**

Chengdu-Lhasa Freight Train Offers Reliable Transport of Goods
A scheduled Chengdu-Lhasa freight train launched on Sunday. The inaugural service carried over 500 tons of goods worth 15 million yuan ($2.25 million) in 25 cars, reaching Lhasa in about 68 hours. Marking the 20th anniversary of the Qinghai-Xizang Railway, annual freight volume surged from 360,000 tons in 2006 to 8.31 million tons in 2025; rail cuts cost around 60% and triples efficiency versus road transport. **(China Daily)**

China-Europe Freight Train Trips Top 140,000, Goods Value Tops $560 Billion
China-Europe freight trains surpassed 140,000 cumulative trips by Oct 22, 2026, carrying goods worth over $560 billion. The network, now reaching 237 cities in 26 European countries and 100+ cities in 12 Asian nations, runs 96 scheduled routes linking 132 Chinese cities. The southern route ran 746 trains in Jan-Sep (up 125% YoY), and border clearance was cut to under 30 minutes. **(China.com.cn)**

Sep 2021-Sep 2026: Guangzhou Railway Bureau Handled 5.21 Billion Passenger Arrivals/Departures
Guangzhou Railway Group handled 5.21 billion passenger trips from September 2021 to September 2026. In the first three quarters of 2026, cross-border high-speed rail trips via Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong exceeded 29.4 million, tourism trains grew from 133 in 2023 to 357 in 2025, reflecting a shift from standardized transport to demand-driven services. **(China.com.cn)**

National Railway Fixed-Asset Investment Hit 601.2 Billion Yuan in Three Quarters
China completed 601.2 billion yuan ($8.99 billion) in railway fixed-asset investment in the first three quarters of 2026, up 1.3% year-on-year, putting 1,625 kilometers of new lines into service. Key routes opened include the Xiongan-Shangqiu and Xi'an-Ankang high-speed sections, while several major projects entered testing or tracklaying. **(China.com.cn)**