Internet key to bridging digital divide

Nation’s opening-up, tech development aiding poverty alleviation campaign

BEIJING – China’s booming internet industry has played a key role in helping to bridge the digital divide nationally, according to experts and business execs.

Microsoft founder Bill Gates, who is widely regarded as the man who developed the personal computer and has been called a “genius,” has notably praised the country’s fast-developing internet industry, saying that “China will be one of the world’s leading internet economies.”

He added that the World Bank predicted that China would become the world’s largest internet economy by 2020, surpassing the United States, which is currently the world’s largest internet economy.

With its increasing role in the world, the internet is becoming an increasingly effective tool for poverty alleviation, experts said.

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