

# Changing Landscapes of China - in the perspective of ICT

## A PRELUDE



Welcome to the "**Changing Landscapes of China - in the perspective of ICT**" web site created as part of our fulfilment of 'CS1105 Computing and Society' module

China is commonly perceived to be developing hence still relatively less developed or advanced in terms of ICT. Of late, it has been noted that China is taking intense interest in ICT. This is however, in conflict with its still existent reins over the usage of ICT, especially the Internet.

The goal of this site is to provide the visitor a clear picture of Information Technology in China. To study China's ICT birth and evolution till date, the policies and laws drawn up and to analyse the weakness or strengths of these and then criticise or praise these through revelations of incidents or events.

### **Framework**

Research question: To study the evolution of China's ICT landscape  
(China - commonly known to be less advanced and backward.)

Project statement: To investigate the birth and changes shaping China's ICT landscape

Purpose statement: To validate the link between the factors governing China's ICT landscape and its present state, so as to unfold most desirable factors to benefit her ICT landscape and development on the whole

Hypothesis: China's ICT landscape is developing and the thought of her being backward and less advanced is a misconception.

### **1. ICT Laws & Policies**

Provide updates on laws/policies implemented in China based on various aspects.

- Education

The use of information and communication technologies (ICT) in schools in China has seen significant growth in recent years as the Chinese government looks to establish education for all (EFA) in Chinese schools. Amongst numerous educational reforms that the government employed, the most extensive reform was seen in 1999 where ICT comes into play. The usual textbook-based content delivery process is dejected, and the use of ICT is encouraged to help students access to rich learning content...[\(Read more\)](#)

In order to increase the level of ICT literacy in China, education is important, and it starts with the teachers, because they are the knowledge deliverers. China realized the criticality of this and thus has implemented a number of programs to upgrade the teachers in terms of their ICT knowledge and skills... [\(Read more\)](#)

- Politics

Inter-country relation is enhanced where China and Finland work together to promote cooperation in the areas of information and communication technologies. This enhances the existing cooperation and seeks for new opportunities in the ICT market and R&D activities in China. The Verso programme has also initiated a new project together with the Chinese authorities to increase commercial competitiveness and competence of Finnish IT companies, thus benefiting both countries...[\(Read more\)](#)

- Leisure

The People's Republic of China's Copyright Law was disseminated in 1990 and modified in October 2001. The revised Law allows the copyright owner, performer and the producer of the sound recording or audio-video recording to communicate through the information network.

The nature and content of this is similar to the right of communication to the public provided in WCT and also WPPT's authority to create fixed performance and phonogram.

The China Audio and Video Copyright Collective Management Association has been set up in Beijing to implement China's "Copyright Collective Management Rule". The association targets to solve copyright problems related to the audio and video programs used by Karaoke sites, radio stations, TV stations and websites on behalf of the relevant obligees... ([Read more](#))

Karaoke operators all over China are required to pay a daily charge of CNY12 for each karaoke room, the amount is less in underdeveloped regions, for the use of musical and video products...([Read more](#))

China seems stringent on implementing the law right whereby violators will face dire consequences..([Read more](#))

- Communications

Strong Internet censorship laws are imposed in China and this has become a major issue. In accordance with these laws, more than sixty Internet regulations have been made by the Chinese government; other censorship systems are also vigorously implemented by provincial branches of state-owned ISPs, business companies, and organizations.

An audit of the Internet audio-visual services in China was done by China's State Administration of Radio Film and Television. Orders were then issued to ten different websites to halt their web-based video and music services..... ([Read more](#))

**greatfirewallofchina.org** - a website hosted by a non-profitable group of web designers, directors and journalists. Anyone on the Net can send a URL (uniform resource locator) to the website master and a test will be performed on the website to check whether it's being blocked in China. If the result is positive, the website would be added to the list of censored website which was maintained by the organization..... ([Read more](#))

China has been monitoring and censoring messages sent through the internet service Skype. The Chinese authorities blocked a database containing thousands of politically sensitive words which also reflected personal data of subscribers too..... ([Read more](#))

## **2. Statistics**

Are they coherent with the above or are there anomalies?

[An Overview](#) of China's ICT landscape at present shows anomalous results when compared to the past but shows coherence with the laws and policies China has adopted thus far. Whilst developing very quickly, China's ICT landscape has also undergone many changes in terms of type and spread. ICT is becoming increasing ubiquitous in China. This is evident in China's [TMT - A Booming Industry](#), the increase in [Internet Users in China](#) and the increase in [TV Sales in China](#) and the expanding growth of [China's Electronic Market](#). These bring along with it many [ICT Contributions to the Economy of China](#). A breakdown of [China's ICT Expenditure](#) necessary for all these to materialise is also important for the formulating of [Initiatives](#) for continued prosperity through ICT.

## **3. News/ Incidents**

- China and cyber-terrorism

As China upgrades her technology and IT infrastructure, there are more and more reports of cyber attacks initiated by China. Various countries such as USA and UK have blamed China for disrupting their domestic IT systems and services. In addition, many are speculating China is attempting to start a new arm race in the cyber world...([Read full article](#))

- Beijing Olympics

In the summer of the year 2008, the 26<sup>th</sup> Olympic Games was held at Beijing, the capital of China. This is one of the most major event for this year and a historical moment for the people of China and they receive the world's recognition of them. After the closing ceremony of the summer Olympics Games, the Paralympic Games was held in Beijing too. ([Read more](#))

- ICT Censorship in China's Tainted-milk Scandal

China's tainted milk scandal has brought much negative attention to the way how Chinese government tried to cover up certain issues in the country. However, this time, the magnitude of this incident is simply too huge for the Chinese government to control it. Despite efforts to censor the issue, the world was eventually notified of such a horrible happening in China...([Read full article](#))

## **4. Conclusion**

In summary, one can witness distinct development of China's ICT industry coupled with a booming economy and a recognized status in the field of ICT. However, her success of her efforts in ICT still remains questionable mainly due to two reasons... ([Read more](#))

Sources: [www.ipd.gov.hk/eng/promotion\\_edu/seminars/20040315/shen\\_rengan\\_materials.doc](http://www.ipd.gov.hk/eng/promotion_edu/seminars/20040315/shen_rengan_materials.doc)