Half Vietnamese to use Internet by 2020: report

HANOI, June 10 (Xinhua) -- Some 45 to 50 percent of Vietnamese population will use the Internet by 2020, Vietnam's state-run news agency VNA quoted a report as saying on Wednesday.

The report on Vietnam's digital economy potential was released at a forum co-held by Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) and the Singapore-based Technology Research Project Corporate (TRPC) in Vietnam's capital Hanoi recently.

According to the report, currently, with over 30 percent of its population using the Internet, Vietnam has been among the top 20 countries with the biggest proportion of net surfers worldwide.

Nguyen Quang Vinh, from the VCCI's standing board, said at the forum that each job in the information technology (IT) sector will generate five to seven related jobs while every 20 percent increase in investment of IT and telecommunications will raise the gross domestic product (GDP) by 1 percent.

However, Vietnam ranks only the 45th out of the 50 surveyed countries in terms of digital economic transformation as its IT connection and application indexes are relatively low, Vinh added.

John Ure, director of the TRPC, for his part, said at the forum that Vietnam boasts vast potential to transform into a fully-digitalized economy and society.

A digital economy is a knowledge economy where people are equipped with necessary skills to design and produce digital goods and services for the community, and e-learning is a direct path to the digital transformation, said Ure.

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