

Flourishing Business V

Staff members of an online store process orders in Qingyanliu Village of Yiwu City, east China's Zhejiang Province, on January 3.

According to the Department of Commerce of Zhejiang, consumers spent more than 1 trillion yuan (\$149.4 billion) at online stores from the province in 2016, up 35.43 percent year on year.

In the fourth quarter of 2016, China's exports were up 0.3 percent from a year ago, while imports climbed 8.7 percent, compared with a 0.3-percent decrease in exports and a 2.3-percent rise in imports in the third quarter, according to GAC spokesperson Huang Songping.

China's foreign trade surplus narrowed to 3.35 trillion yuan (\$485.9 billion) in 2016, down 9.1 percent from a year earlier, according to GAC data.

In December alone, exports were up 0.6 percent year on year, while imports jumped 10.8 percent.