

CHINA

NATIONAL VISION, LOCAL ACTION

Jinhua shows sustainable economic path

City with robust private sector to further reshape industries, trade environment

By CHEN YE in Hangzhou
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Jinhua, a city in the heart of Zhejiang province, is transforming and upgrading its industries while fostering new ones to drive high-quality development, the city's Party Secretary Zhu Chonglie said.

In 2022, the Zhejiang Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China designated Jinhua as a "high-level, inland open hub". In response, the city has developed a robust private economy, with 2 million market entities.

In recent years, Jinhua has deepened its participation in the Belt and Road Initiative, developed new trade models such as cross-border e-commerce and accelerated its opening-up efforts. Last year, the city's exports reached 771.92 billion yuan (\$106.62 billion), an increase of 16.4 percent year-on-year, contributing 32.1 percent to Zhejiang's growth and accounting for 3 percent of China's total.

This year, the Government Work Report mentioned the issue of involution, proposing a comprehensive correction to unhealthy, involuntarily competitive. The term refers to destructive price wars between companies and the homogenization of products within an industry.

Zhu highlighted the economic impact of such competition and outlined steps the city government has taken to foster a more sustainable economic cycle. He noted that involutionary competition, particularly in price-cutting, erodes corporate profits and household incomes. Addressing the issue requires systemic reform to reshape the industrial ecosystem and cultivate new growth drivers, he said.

Jinhua is promoting technological and industrial innovation through the Zhejiang Central Science and Technology Innovation Corridor, which connects universities, platforms, enterprises and industrial chains. Last year, the city launched 15 provincial sci-tech initiatives to support more than 1,000 major projects with a combined investment of 1 trillion yuan, established 25 joint research and development centers and led the province in terms of



Zhu Chonglie

R&D investment and high-tech industry investment growth.

Also last year, a key technological innovation and application project for the edible and medicinal fungi industry chain, developed by Zhejiang Shouxiangu Pharmaceutical Co, won top honors at the National Science and Technology Progress Awards. In 2024, Jinhua was named one of China's top 50 innovative cities, with its innovation capability index rising 16 places.

The city has also strengthened its open economy through the Yiwu International Trade Comprehensive Reform Pilot Zone and the China-Europe freight train network, helping enterprises tap into the markets of countries involved in the BRI.

Last year, the number of import and export enterprises in Jinhua surpassed 17,000, up 10.3 percent year-on-year.

The city has also improved its business environment by enhancing municipal coordination, value-added services, fair competition and enterprise support.

Jinhua has introduced a "double chain" drive mode, pairing a government-led industrial chain leader with industry-led chain owners. The government supports enterprises with innovation, market expansion and problem-solving, while leading enterprises spearhead industry-wide innovation collaborations.

Jinhua's leaders and major enterprises are working together to develop an innovation ecosystem centered on 10 key industrial chains, including new energy vehicles. In the electric vehicle sector, Leapmotor has received strong support, with 38 related enterprises clustered in Jinhua and the local procurement ratio for components and parts exceeding 40 percent.

"The cultivation of new quality productive forces is a long-term task," Zhu said. "We will persist in transforming and upgrading traditional industries, nurturing emerging ones and planning for future industries to promote high-quality development."

Public caution released after black bear attack

By LI SHANGYI
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Authorities have warned about an increased risk of wildlife attacks after a black bear injured two rangers in Wangqing county, Jilin province.

In an announcement on its WeChat account on Friday, the management bureau of the Northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park urged local communities to avoid unnecessary entry into the park's core protection area. The bureau said conservation efforts have led to growing populations of tigers, leopards and bears, increasing the likelihood of human-wildlife encounters.

On March 10, Fan Huizhong, a ranger from the Lanjia protection station, was attacked by a black bear during a routine mountain patrol. He was walking ahead of his team when the bear emerged from behind a tree and lunged at him.

Fan sustained severe injuries, including deep lacerations to his head and a serious injury to his left eye. He also received penetrating wounds to both hands and injuries to his back and arms.

Dong Shoubin, another patrol team member, rushed to Fan's aid and fought off the bear with a wooden stick. Dong also sustained a deep laceration to the back of his head.

The management bureau said the Wangqing protection center immedi-

ately activated an emergency response plan, ensuring the injured rangers were transported to a hospital.

By the afternoon of the next day, Fan had undergone eye repositioning surgery and facial sutures. His eye was largely preserved, and his condition remained stable. In addition, Dong's head wound had been stitched, and he remained under hospital observation in stable condition.

Following the incident, the management bureau notified all branches and protection centers, emphasizing the increased risk of wildlife attacks during the winter-to-spring transition. This period marks the end of hibernation for bears and the peak breeding season for many large predators.

"Safety should be prioritized, and predators' activity should be closely monitored," the announcement said. "Patrol routes should be carefully planned to avoid key habitats of large carnivores such as bears and tigers."

In a separate incident on March 11, a black bear weighing approximately 150 kilograms broke into a villager's home in Garze, Sichuan province, in search of food.

The black bear is a second-class nationally protected animal in China. Police have reminded residents to avoid provoking or frightening bears and to refrain from using illegal hunting methods such as traps and metal cages.

Deity celebration



People gather for a group photo on Sunday during the Ap Lei Chau Hung Shing Cultural Festival in Hong Kong. The festival honors Hung Shing, a deity in Chinese folk religion, as participants seek his blessings for good weather and community harmony. Celebrated on the 13th day of the second lunar month, the festival boasts a rich history of over a century. PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

Chan: More tech firms to cultivate AI talent in SAR

By WU MENGLEI in Hong Kong
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With more technology companies nurturing artificial intelligence professionals in Hong Kong, the city can better leverage technology and innovation to drive economic development, Hong Kong Financial Secretary Paul Chan Mo-po said in his Sunday blog.

In the 2025-2026 Budget, Chan proposed inviting large technology enterprises based in the special administrative region to provide greater support for technological education, such as technical guidance and practice opportunities.

Hong Kong Investment Corp, Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corp, and Hong Kong Cyberport Management Co have been invited to coordinate with their partners and startup technology companies in sharing their cutting-edge technology exploration and entrepreneurial experience through product demonstrations at schools, or by allowing students to visit the companies on site.

At Wetch for Good — an event organized by Shenzhen-based tech giant Tencent on Saturday — middle school students shared with Chan the programming skills they have acquired, such as optimizing and improving program interface and operation with simpler instructions through AI.

"If students can solve problems in their studies and daily life through technology and the AI knowledge

they have learned, their interest in science will be enlightened, and their passion for pursuing dreams in the innovative and technological field will be ignited," Chan said.

The event saw the establishment of the first youth innovation and technology academy.

The academy aims to accelerate programming training and AI learning on campus, including through a one-stop cloud development learning space and interesting teaching tools, combining AI programming with large-scale model applications, so that teachers and students can better mas-

ter AI development skills in practice.

The college will hold a global youth programming competition to encourage young people to observe real problems in society, and combine the programming knowledge they have acquired before proposing innovative technological solutions for various problems and pain points.

Chan said he is encouraging more technology companies to join in cultivating local talent and providing them with more job opportunities.

"Last month, Hong Kong Science

and Technology Parks Corp held a themed job fair, with more than 150 companies engaged in artificial intelligence offering more than 1,000 innovative and technological positions in areas like software development, data analysis and large-scale model algorithms," he said.

"Cyberport will also hold a two-day AI-focused job fair, with more than 580 companies and organizations offering over 2,000 positions, of which about 60 percent are AI-related," he added.

According to the finance chief, HKIC will enter into a strategic partnership with a technology company focusing on RISC-V — a technology for chip designing with great potential — to accelerate the implementation of related industries and talent cultivation in Hong Kong.

HKIC will also host the first Hong Kong RISC-V development summit with the technology company to showcase the SAR's unique role and potential in this field. Secondary school students will be invited to the event to enable them to learn the latest trends in the chip industry.

"Strengthening the cultivation and attraction of innovative and technological talent, and promoting the deep integration of science, technology and industry will inject key and exciting momentum into the high-quality development of Hong Kong's economy," Chan said.



Hong Kong Financial Secretary Paul Chan Mo-po (front row, left) listens to middle school students as they demonstrate their programming skills, during the Wetch for Good event in Hong Kong, on Saturday. PHOTO / HKSAR GOVERNMENT

HK scientists building multifunctional lunar robot

By GARY CHIU in Hong Kong
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Scientists in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region are playing an active role in the nation's efforts to set up an international research station on the moon by engineering a multifunctional lunar surface robot for scientific exploration.

The Chang'e-8 mission, part of the nation's lunar exploration program, is scheduled to be launched around 2028 to lay the groundwork for the construction of a China-led international lunar research station.

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology has been appointed by the China National Space Administration to lead an international project under Chang'e-8 to develop a lunar surface robot.

Yu Hongyu, director of HKUST Space Science and Technology Institute, explained that the robot would be equipped with dual robotic arms and capable of deploying and installing instruments, collecting lunar samples and more.

After the Chang'e-8 probe lands on the lunar surface, the robot will need to retrieve other probes or

sensors from it and move them to their designated locations.

"Precise control of the robotic arms is a challenging task. The process requires avoiding collisions with other instruments and positional accuracy," Yu said.

The moon's extreme temperatures and lack of satellite navigation systems pose additional challenges, so the robot was designed to perceive lunar topography and change its path accordingly.

"In response to the moon's low-gravity and harsh environmental conditions, we are developing software to ensure that the robot can autonomously adapt its posture and functions based on the environmental changes," Yu added.

Another key feature of the robot is its ability to serve as a mobile charging station for various lunar surface equipment.

"In the future International Lunar Research Station, there will be several robots and instruments working collaboratively. They require a stable energy supply. Our robot, fitted with solar panels, can provide wireless charging capabilities," Yu elaborated.

To complete the international collaboration project, the HKSAR government has established the

Hong Kong Space Robotics and Energy Centre under the InnoHK Research Clusters.

Led by HKUST, the center brings together researchers from local and Chinese mainland universities, the Shanghai Academy of Spaceflight Technology and the South African National Space Agency.

The Innovation and Technology Commission estimated that the center will provide training for around 20 PhD students and employ over 70 researchers to build the city's aerospace technology capabilities.

Since aerospace technology is a multidisciplinary field, the center will not only enhance Hong Kong's aerospace research and engineering capabilities, but also impact other sectors such as microelectronics, artificial intelligence, computing and communications, promoting their development.

Noting that Hong Kong has a solid foundation in basic research and development, Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry Sun Dong said the HKSAR government strongly backs local universities and research institutions in conducting aerospace technology-related research and supporting

the country to become the world's leading spacefaring nation.

He said that the center will capitalize on the SAR's distinct advantages under the "one country, two systems" principle, enhancing the city's research and development capabilities and international scientific reputation.

"In recent years, China has achieved remarkable accomplishments in the field of deep space exploration. The level of deep space exploration capability is an important indicator of a country's scientific and technological strength," Sun said.

"Through deeply engaging in national space missions and strengthening international scientific and technological cooperation, the center will facilitate the transformation and application of cutting-edge technologies related to aerospace, significantly enhance Hong Kong's global competitiveness in the aerospace field and propel its advancement as an international innovation and technology center," he added.

Sun also said that the SAR government has started to establish the third InnoHK research cluster focusing on advanced manufacturing, materials, energy and sustainable development.