

SCED visits Guangzhou and Dongguan (with photos)

The Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Algernon Yau, arrived in Guangzhou this morning (March 10) to begin his two-day visit.

Mr Yau first called on the Director General of the Department of Commerce of Guangdong Province, Mr Zhang Jinsong, to exchange views on deepening economic and trade co-operation between Guangdong and Hong Kong, including attracting businesses and investments, with a view to assisting Guangdong enterprises to go global while bringing in foreign enterprises and investments via Hong Kong's two-way platform, thereby jointly promoting the high-quality development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

Mr Yau then attended a forum on innovation development and the award presentation ceremony of the Gold Pilot Award 2024 organised by the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce in Guangdong and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC).

Addressing the event, Mr Yau said that reform and innovation are key directions for the development of enterprises, which are conducive to exploring new growth areas and opening new markets. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government will strive to fully utilise Hong Kong's bridging role between the Mainland and the world in developing Hong Kong into a multinational supply chain management centre to attract more Mainland enterprises to establish a foothold in the city and set up international or regional headquarters for managing offshore trading and supply chain.

He pointed out that the Mainland has become the world's largest e-commerce market amid the rapid growth of e-commerce businesses worldwide in recent years, adding that the HKSAR Government has launched E-commerce Easy to provide funding support to enterprises for implementing e-commerce projects to tap into the Mainland domestic market. Meanwhile, the HKTDC will continue to organise the Hong Kong Shopping Festival on Mainland e-commerce platforms in August this year to enhance brand awareness of Hong Kong products and drive sales.

Mr Yau also encouraged Hong Kong businessmen in Guangdong Province to actively participate in innovation and entrepreneurship on the Mainland to contribute to national development. He said that the latest Agreement Concerning Amendment to the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement Agreement on Trade in Services came into effect on March 1, making it easier for Hong Kong enterprises and professionals to access to the Mainland market.

Mr Yau will proceed to Dongguan tomorrow (March 11) to continue his visit.

