

## SITI continues visit to Wuhan (with photos)

The Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, Professor Sun Dong, continued his visit in Wuhan, Hubei Province today (September 25).

In the morning, Professor Sun attended the 2024 China Automotive Supply Chain Conference and the Third China Intelligent Networked New Energy Vehicle Ecological Conference organised by the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers and Dongfeng Motor Corporation, as well as the launching ceremony of the International Automotive and Supply Chain (Hong Kong) Summit and the 2025 International Automotive and Supply Chain Expo (Hong Kong).

Speaking at the Conference, Professor Sun said that the automobile industry has entered the new energy era, making it an emerging industry under new industrialisation. In the Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Development Blueprint, new energy vehicle is also one of the significant industries advocated for development under new industrialisation.

He added that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government and the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology signed the Co-operation Agreement on the Development of New Quality Productive Forces and the Promotion of New Industrialisation last week. Those areas jointly promoted by the two sides are intertwined with the supply chain of new energy vehicle industry. Over the past two years or so, the HKSAR Government attracted over 100 strategic innovation and technology (I&T) enterprises to set up their businesses in Hong Kong, including BeyonCa, a joint enterprise established earlier in Hong Kong by today's event co-organiser Dongfeng Motor Corporation and France's Renault Group. He is confident that Hong Kong can make new contributions to the innovative development of the national supply chain of new energy vehicle industry, thereby augmenting the new advantages of Chinese vehicle brands.

Professor Sun then visited Dongfeng Motor Corporation and learned about the corporation's latest development, product planning and corporate culture. He had in-depth exchanges with the Chairman of the corporation, Mr Yang Qing, on the corporation's development of new quality productive forces in the future and potential co-operation opportunities between the two parties in aspects such as new industrialisation, with the aim of making good use of Hong Kong's roles as a "super connector" and "super value-adder" and the unique function as a dual lane to assist Mainland enterprises to go global and expand overseas markets. He particularly hoped that both sides' collaboration on the project of BeyonCa setting up in Hong Kong will serve as a demonstration of co-operation with each other.

Professor Sun also visited the corporation's Mengshi Tech Intelligent Park to tour the assembly final workshop, and experience the functionality and performance of the latest domestic high-end off-road electric vehicles at the off-road experience field. Through on-site visits, exchanges and

interactions, as well as dynamic experiences, he learned more about the production process and technology capabilities of Mengshi automobiles. Besides, Professor Sun was briefed in detail on the first model car of BeyonCa and he called for accelerating the plan of setting up assembly production line in Hong Kong.

In the afternoon, Professor Sun visited Wuhan FineMEMS Inc. to gain an understanding of the national high technology enterprise's technology research and development and products in providing MEMS (Microelectromechanical Systems) sensors, and metallic thick film pressure sensors and system. He also visited the fully automated one piece flow smart production line established by the company.

Professor Sun then proceeded to the Wuhan University to meet and exchange views with leaders and experts from Wuhan University, other local higher education institutions, Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the People's Government of Hubei Province, Department of Science and Technology of Hubei Province, as well as high-tech enterprises. Professor Sun gave the participants an update on Hong Kong's overall I&T development. They also exchanged views on strengthening collaboration in scientific researches among higher education institutions between Hubei and Hong Kong, as well as advancing the expansion of business by Hubei I&T enterprises to Hong Kong. Professor Sun expressed his support for deepening co-operation in the I&T aspect among higher education institutions between the two places, noting that the HKSAR Government would provide appropriate support and services to university spin-off start-ups planning to establish their footholds in Hong Kong. He also encouraged start-ups in Hubei Province to leverage on Hong Kong's edges of internationalisation and a highly market-oriented environment to expand their businesses overseas.

The Commissioner for Industry (Innovation and Technology), Dr Ge Ming, also joined the visit.

Professor Sun concluded his visit and returned to Hong Kong in the evening.





