

SITI commences visit to Xi'an (with photos)

â€‹The Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, Professor Sun Dong, led a Hong Kong delegation to begin their visit to Xi'an today (November 11).

Professor Sun called on the Secretary of the CPC Shaanxi Provincial Committee, Mr Zhao Yide, and both sides exchanged views on the development of innovation and technology (I&T) in Hong Kong and Shaanxi. At the meeting, Professor Sun introduced the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government's plan and latest work on leading the development of the city's I&T industry. He also learned about Shaanxi Province's achievements in I&T and high-tech industrialisation, particularly its strengths in industries which enjoy advantages such as electronics information, new materials and equipment manufacturing. He said the Innovation and Technology Commission and the Shaanxi Provincial Department of Science and Technology signed the "Memorandum of Understanding on Launching Innovation and Technology Co-operation" in September this year, noting that the two sides would continue to explore ways to further enhance co-operation and exchanges between Shaanxi and Hong Kong in R&D and I&T industries development on this basis.

Professor Sun and the Hong Kong delegation also visited iHARBOUR of Xi'an Jiaotong University, which is a national project jointly established by the Ministry of Education and the Shaanxi Provincial People's Government. Comprising a platform area, a college area and an incubation area, the project has established several research institutes, large platforms as well as scientific research bases. He was briefed that the project has served the function of being an innovation engine by pooling together innovation resources and promoting the economic development of industry, thereby establishing a new paradigm for facilitating the Western Development Programme.

Members of the Hong Kong delegation include the Permanent Secretary for Innovation, Technology and Industry, Mr Eddie Mak; the Commissioner for Innovation and Technology, Mr Ivan Lee, as well as representatives from universities, I&T parks, and research and development institutes.

Professor Sun will continue the visit to Xi'an tomorrow (November 12) and co-host the 18th meeting of the Mainland/Hong Kong Science and Technology Co-operation Committee with the Ministry of Science and Technology.

