

Efforts required to deepen opening-up

Premier calls for upgrading from 'Made in China' to 'Innovated in China' when touring Canton Fair venue

By YUAN SHENGGAO

More efforts should be made to deepen reform and opening-up and pursue innovative development, in order to make the China Import and Export Fair, also known as Canton Fair, better serve the global foreign trade, Premier Li Qiang said on Thursday.

Li made the remarks when touring the booths of multiple enterprises at the venue of the ongoing 135th Canton Fair, which kicked off on April 15.

The enterprises include Lexy Electric, Mevion Medical Technology, Skyworth, iFlytech, GAC Group and Loncin Motor.

Li expressed support for these companies to occupy a place in the international market featuring fierce competition via technology accumulation and product innovation.

He also encouraged them to continuously improve their independent research and development capabilities; boost digital, intelligent, green and low-carbon transformation; accelerate the upgrading from "Made in China" to "Innovated in China"; and strive to be pioneers in their industries.

Enterprises should fully leverage the opportunities from Canton Fair to enhance the popularity and influence of Chinese brands, and

boost foreign trade, the premier said.

Li had cordial exchanges with buyers from all over the world, and encouraged them to serve as a bridge for China-foreign cooperation to pursue win-win results.

The premier also visited an exhibition on the history of Canton Fair in Guangzhou, South China's Guangdong province, and said the fair should play a bigger role in expanding China's high-level opening up and promoting the building of an open world economy.

Moreover, Li noted the fair should explore ways to promote better integration of its online and offline platforms, and strength-

en thematic designs and attract more participators by focusing on new technologies and new forms of business.

Before he toured the exhibition venue, Li held a symposium with representatives of companies attending the 135th Canton Fair. They include Midea Group, Senci Electric Machinery, Profit Cultural and Creative Group, and Xinjiang Tianshan Wool Textile.

Against the backdrop of sluggish world economic growth and the growing trend of protectionism, China's foreign trade has shown strong resilience and competitiveness in recent years, which can be partly attributed to the hard

work and dedication of foreign trade enterprises, Li said during the symposium.

He hoped that foreign trade enterprises will attach greater importance to further exploring the international market, constantly improving quality and added value of products, and proactively participating in the formulation of international standards.

Government departments should offer strong support, effective guidance and quality services for foreign trade enterprises, safeguarding their legitimate rights and interests, and providing strong backing for market exploration and product updating, Li noted.

'Making Canton Fair a splendid gobal event', governor says

By YUAN SHENGGAO

Efforts should be made to ensure high-quality services for the ongoing 135th China Import and Export, or Canton Fair, to make it a splendid and effective global economic and trade event, Wang Weizhong, governor of Guangdong province, said on Thursday.

Wang made the remarks when visiting the Canton Fair Complex, the venue of the fair in Guangzhou, Guangdong province.

He toured the booths of multiple exhibitors, such as Guangzhou HD Electronics Technology, Jinyuan Solar Energy, tech company East Group and the robot maker Doni.

In addition to looking at their exhibits, Wang talked with company representatives to learn about product features, research and development, manufacturing, market and export sales.

Wang encouraged exhibitors to seize the opportunity, participate in business matchmaking activities organized by the fair, and engage with buyers from around the world.

Enterprises should develop more competitive products based on market demands, in order to secure more orders and expand into larger markets through the fair, he said.

Wang also communicated with

overseas buyers at the fair, expressing his hope that they would return home with fruitful results.

Wang emphasized the importance of teaming up with the Ministry of Commerce and other ministries to make Canton Fair distinctive, effective, and high-level and build it into an important platform for China's all-round opening-up.

More efforts should be made to ensure various commercial and business activities go smoothly during the fair, Wang said, adding that organizers should give exhibitors great support to help them win orders and make contributions to the

stability of the province's foreign trade sector.

The fair should play a bigger role for opening-up and its spillover effects should be further expanded, Wang said.

He called on relevant departments at the provincial and municipal levels to continuously improve the fair's services, including exhibition layout as well as transportation, catering, accommodation and payment, to enhance the experience of exhibitors and buyers from home and abroad.

With the theme of "serving high-quality development, promoting high-level opening-up", this session of Canton Fair is held in three

phases from Monday to May 5. The first phase concludes on Friday.

Over 29,000 enterprises will attend the fair, with 74,000 booths established.

Of them, more than 5,500 are national high-tech enterprises, "little giant" firms, and enterprises recognized as "single-product champion in manufacturing industry", up 20 percent from the last session.

By Thursday, this session of Canton Fair had received a total of 120,244 buyers' representatives from 212 countries and regions, marking an increase of 22.7 percent in comparison with the previous session.

Top trade event helping Chinese NEV makers go global

By YUAN SHENGGAO

At the ongoing 135th China Import and Export Fair, also known as Canon Fair, a red electric supercar model featuring cool appearance and superior performance has caught the attention of many overseas buyers visiting the fair's exhibition area of new energy vehicles and smart travel.

As a new form of foreign trade, the NEV industry has become a strong engine to promote China's high-quality development of foreign trade. Official statistics

showed that the country exported more than 1.2 million NEVs in 2023, an increase of 77.6 percent year-on-year.

Canton Fair, the largest one of its kind in China, also provides stronger support for Chinese new energy automakers to go global.

The 134th fair, for example, added an exhibition area for new energy and intelligent connected vehicles. And, this session of Canton Fair has set up brand booths in the sector for the first time, creating business opportunities for more NEV enterprises to explore

overseas markets.

Nanjing-based Sume Group, a subsidiary of China National Machinery Industry Corp — the country's largest machinery maker by production capacity, displays three NEV models at the exhibition. Of them, two models are right-hand drive vehicles, which have received enquiry from many overseas buyers.

"The right-hand driving models can not only meet the market demand of more countries and regions like Australia, Malaysia, Thailand and South Africa, but also

make foreign buyers more confident in China's research, development and production capabilities," said Xu Feng, an international trade business manager of the company.

A frequent participant of Canton Fair, Jimpeng Group has gained fruitful results at the ongoing trade event. During the first three days of the exhibition, the company had received about 6,000 overseas buyers and secured orders worth nearly \$700,000.

"With the help of Canton Fair, we have met many new partners

and developed more new markets, especially those involved in the Belt and Road Initiative. It has injected new impetus into the company's development," said Hou Dafu, an international brand promotion manager of Jimpeng.

Commenting on the popularity of NEV at this session of Canton Fair, Xu said energy conservation and emission reduction is currently the common development goals of all countries and regions in the world.

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