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2019 National Mass Innovation and Entrepreneurship Week, with the theme of “pooling vitality of innovation and entrepreneurship to boost drivers of growth” ran from June 13th to 19th. Various forms of activities were held across the country, including exhibitions, competitions, and professional services. Innovation and entrepreneurship, deeply integrated with economic and social development, has been vital to promoting high-quality growth, replacing old drivers of growth with new ones, stabilizing and expanding employment.

Hangzhou city of Zhejiang Province was the main venue for this event. Over 170 projects across the country were brought here to showcase the latest achievements of innovation and entrepreneurship.

Premier Li Keqiang Attends and Addresses National Mass Innovation and Entrepreneurship Week

Mass innovation and entrepreneurship is in essence to develop productivity, incentivize market entities, unleash social creativity and better tap the potential of everyone through reform.

Innovation and entrepreneurship boosts employment, which is key to improving people’s lives. Innovation and entrepreneurship opens up job opportunities for China’s abundant labor force, particularly young people. It will help promote full employment so that every family has the means to earn a living. Government departments at various levels should press ahead with reforms to delegate power, improve regulation and upgrade services, improve business environment and further cut taxes and fees. This will create a level playing field for entrepreneurs and innovators to operate based on market rules and lessen their burdens, and enable them to survive and thrive.

Innovation and entrepreneurship is key to China’s innovative development. At this stage of growth, China must accelerate the fostering of new growth drivers. This event pools wisdom and strength via “Internet+” platform, and has fostered new drivers of growth, which are vital for China’s future development. Venture capital should be encouraged to boost innovation and entrepreneurship. Besides, it will also expand channels for upward social mobility, offer platforms for more people, grassroots entrepreneurs in particular, to reach their potential through hard work and create social wealth. This will help ensure equal opportunities and promote market boom. Innovators and entrepreneurs should be committed to entrepreneurship, craftsmanship and professionalism, start with little things in the pursuit of excellence, and work hard to turn exciting ideas into reality. This will not only help them win over the consumers with popular products and services, but more importantly, promote high-quality growth.

Vice Minister of Science and Technology Xu Nanping Addresses Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship Summit 2019

Technology innovation plays an increasingly core role. China has seen a growing share of technology-based innovation and entrepreneurship, which, as a reflection of China’s innovative capability, is of great importance for China to speed up innovation-driven growth. In the new era, technology-based innovation and entrepreneurship focuses more on research and development, on bringing research results out of laboratory, and on commercialization of technologies. The Ministry of Science and Technology will stay committed to shifting its role from overseeing research and development to offering innovation services. It will endeavor to build professional maker-spaces and new-type R&D institutions, improve the policy environment for technology-based SMEs, and cement the connection of innovation chain, industrial chain and investment chain. This will spur on the commercial application of original research results and high-quality economic growth.

Various Innovation and Entrepreneurship Activities Pool Drivers of Growth

A large number of Internet companies were on display at the “Dream Corridor” in Hangzhou, the main venue for 2019 National Mass Innovation and Entrepreneurship Week.
Deep-ocean scientific survey equipment showcased at 2019 National Mass Innovation and Entrepreneurship Week

**Boom in Multi-field Innovation**

Over 170 booths were set up within six pavilions in Hangzhou, namely “ever-improving environment for innovation, entrepreneurship and creation”, “flourishing vitality of market entities”, “enhanced science, technology and innovation capabilities”, “job opportunities brought by entrepreneurship”, “thriving new growth drivers” and “Qiantang tidal wave”. The exhibition showcases the growing momentum of multi-field, multi-player and multi-tier innovation and entrepreneurship.

The assembly platform for the world’s first 3.4MW LHD modularized large ocean tidal current power generator has been completed. This project is expected to fully address big issues concerning marine economy, including island power supply and development of ocean islands, making massive development and utilization of offshore clean energy a reality in China.

China Mobile’s 5G innovative application became a focus of attention at the exhibition. 5G+ smart transport makes it feasible for route planning, congestion alert, traffic light inducement, and smart parking. 5G+ smart manufacturing greatly improves the efficiency of monitoring, manufacturing and designing parts and components. In 5G+ smart health-care, China’s first “5G remote emergency easy-access”, enables doctors to identify disease emergencies and distribute first-aid resources via smart monitoring by a 3D emergency network and AI technology.

**High-Tech Displayed**

A PINTRACE orthopedic surgical robot was released, the world’s first with three functions rolled into one. With a surgical precision of less than 0.5mm, it has better precision than conventional surgical operation and similar robots.

The world’s first OR eye surgical robot which can treat ocular diseases such as fundus flavimaculatus, glaucoma and cataract, can totally replace doctors for surgical operation. Fully automatic, safe to operate and accurate, it makes the patient feel more comfortable when the operation is ongoing, and reduces the risk of eye inflammation due to contamination caused by manual injection.

Shengzhou of Zhejiang Province brought their techniques for high-density full-age silkwork-rearing with artificial feed, which will produce silk without feeding on mulberry leaves. Sugon’s new-generation silicon cube high-performance computer made its debut at the exhibition. With a cooling technology for over-computing, the system can slash total energy consumption by 40% with equal computing power, making it a world leader in energy efficiency.

**Incubators Power the Growth of Enterprises**

In response to lack of one-stop logistics services, low IT application in logistics management, and difficult access to funding for trading companies, Transfer Payment launched a customized financial solution known as “logistics wallet”, to cover the whole dispatch-to-delivery process including online payment, item tracking, and shipment management, making it equally safe and convenient for big and small items. This platform has already served more than 20,000 small and medium-sized trading companies in Zhejiang, Henan, Shaanxi, Shandong and Hebei Provinces.

The “Seed Granary” makerspace, converted from 12 old granaries, has become a great nurturer of high-tech enterprises. Since its start in March 2015, it has brought together 17,000 people, over 50 market-based incubators, over 1,400 capital management agencies and over 1,800 start-up projects.
China’s Start-up Incubator Development Report 2019 and China’s Distinctive Start-up Spaces White Paper Published

On June 13, China’s Start-up Incubator Development Report and China’s Distinctive Start-up Spaces 2019 were published at the Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship Summit.

China’s Start-up Incubator Development Report Authors: Torch High-tech Industrial Development Centre of the Ministry of Science and Technology
Capital Institute of Science and Technology Development Strategy (CISTDS)
Main contents:
  1. The number of start-up incubators grows at an annual rate of 20%, offering more professional services.
     From 2016 to 2018, the number of start-up incubators in China grew from 7,553 to 11,808, including 4,849 high-tech start-up incubators and 6,959 makerspaces. The annual growth rate was around 20%. The number of enterprises under incubation and start-up teams totaled 620,000.
     Private start-up incubators have been main players, accounting for over 60% of the total.
     Specialized incubation agencies have sprung up. In 2018, the number of specialized incubators was 1,429, or 29.47% of China’s total. They focus on industrial frontiers, such as electronic information, new energy, e-commerce and AI. In 2018, electronic information took up 42% of total incubation, the highest share among all fields.
  2. Research and Innovation Boosts Start-up Incubators.
     In 2018, R&D intensity of enterprises under incubation across the country was 8.7%. Their total R&D spending reached RMB 72.66 billion in 2018, registering a year-on-year increase of 23.4%. There were 216,000 valid IP owned by enterprises and teams in makerspaces nationwide, a growth of 41.8% over the previous year.
     Research input brings high-quality growth. In 2018, among the 205,000 incubated enterprises, 13,000 were certified as national high-tech ones, and 60,000 were technology-based small and medium-sized enterprises.
  3. RMB 275.6 billion VC Pushes Take-off of Start-ups
     In 2018, a total number of 48,060 enterprises under incubation across the country received RMB 275.6 billion VC support.
     In 2018, makerspaces helped 9,849 start-up teams and enterprises secure RMB 33.393 billion, providing financial support for their growth.
     Geographically, Zhenjiang, Guangdong, Jiangsu, Henan, Shandong and Chongqing helped more than 500 start-up teams and enterprises secure funding, which accounted for 47.47% of the country’s total.

China Distinctive Start-up Spaces White Paper 2019 Authors: Capital Institute of Science and Technology Development Strategy (CISTDS)
Main contents:
China’s Distinctive Start-up Spaces White Paper 2019 publishes a number of venture spaces (including makerspaces, incubators, nurseries and accelerators) with distinctive features and focus, which are highly professional and can support industrial development, aiming to promote industrial upgrading.

The white paper examines the status and features of China’s start-up incubators in 2018, and based on the second “Top 100 start-up spaces” selection results and relevant data, it describes in detail the distinctive start-up spaces from 10 dimensions, namely the integration of small-, medium-sized and large enterprise, commercialization of research results, comprehensive start-up services, investment and financing services, industry incubation, international innovation and entrepreneurship, chain-type incubation, themed innovation and entrepreneurship, incubation by targeted groups, sharing incubation platforms. By summarizing the experience of distinctive start-up spaces, this white paper aims to spread best practices of the role models, contributing to further innovation and entrepreneurship and offering reference for more focused development of start-up incubators.

(Source: Ministry of Science and Technology)