City enjoys boom in digital economy and takes advantage of the latest tech to govern

By SONG MENGXING

Guiyang was once jokingly called a capital city without a sense of presence, but it has disproved that view completely with the big data industry boom there.

It has now taken the lead in a race among Chinese cities with doubledigit economic growth and it has become a model for second movers, as it upgrades traditional industries by using an innovation-driven path.

These were the remarks that Li Junru, former vice-president of the Party School of the Central Commit-tee of CPC, made when he gave a prize to Guiyang at a ceremony held on Dec 16.

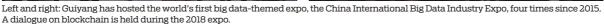
Guiyang, capital of the province, has hosted the world's first big datathemed expo, the China International Big Data Industry Expo, four times since 2015. The event has become a world-class arena to discuss development plans and share achievements, its organizers said.

It also works as a platform for global experts, enterprises and startups in the field to communicate and network. The event serves the national big data strategy together with the World Internet Conference, which is held in Zhejiang province.

In recent years, Guiyang has seen its digital economy thrive and traditional industries upgrade faster. Early statistics showed 50 large big data companies set up in the city last year. It is now home to more than 220 such businesses.

The city plans to create 10 big datafocused areas, including a digital logistics demonstration center, and





it has established a big data industry chain. Fortune Global 500 enterprises such as Intel and Foxconn have chosen to expand their operations in the city, which has attracted big data companies such as Alibaba, Huawei and JD.

Guiyang has promoted the integration of big data and the real economy (industry, the service sector and agriculture) to boost industrial digitization.

Between big data and industry, the city has developed an online service that offers industrial companies a number of ways to upgrade. Based on the online platform Guizhou Ind Cloud, it uses "big data plus intelligent manufacturing" technology to offer industrial companies guidance and solutions for improvements.

Guiyang-based XDX Materials has realized intelligent production in plants by setting up China's first commercial concrete big data management platform. It was promoted nationally last year as a demonstration project for intelligent manufacturing.

Locally based sauce brand Laoganma, famous for its chili sauces, uses big data to buy raw materials and market products. It has expanded its market, increased sales and exported to countries and regions involved in the Belt and Road Ini-

Guiyang also used the internet and big data to support the upgrading of tourism, commerce, finance and transport.

Based in the city, Huochebang is one of the country's largest online platforms of shipment data. It uses big data to track down car owners, cargo sources and haulage routes.

The city has also promoted the use of big data and the internet of things in farming and its products market.

Guinong.com, an e-commerce platform of agricultural products. integrated supply and marketing resources, has helped more than 500,000 impoverished rural households increase their income. Libei village in Xifeng county gave a priority to e-commerce and found a new way to generate income for residents.

Guiyang has used the "internet plus" to organize the city's fruit and vegetable production, a management information service and a safety traceability system for agricultural products. Its internet of things and big data cloud platform can collect, monitor and analyze data throughout the whole process, from production to marketing.

Tang Zhenjiang, director of the Guivang big data development and management committee, said Guiyang has also used big data to improve people's lives. The city has promoted the application of big data in healthcare, education, tourism and

providing for the elderly. The online platform Zhuminsheng combines more than 190 government services social services and commercial services, including employment services and registration. It has been listed as an "internet plus government affairs service" demonstration project by the National Development and Reform Com-

The online Guiyang Healthcare Platform contains basic information of 6.03 million people in the city. It gathered more than 800 million diagnosis and treatment results from

hospitals and medical institutions.

Guiyang's internet hospital recruited more than 1,000 medical experts and its mobile platform serves more than 6,000 people every day. The city has developed regional

cooperation platforms. Based on the Zhongguancun Guiyang Science and Technology Park, it has established an innovation-driven regional partnership between Beijing and Guiyang. The two cities have united on scientific and technological research and development, related infrastructure construction, resource sharing and professionals' communication.

Guiyang cooperated with countries such as the United States, Russia, India and Japan and established international institutes such as the Guizhou Berkeley Big Data Innova-

tion Research Center. Tang said the city plans to further support local big data companies and attract more such companies and high-tech enterprises to Guiyang. It will continue to promote the inte-

gration of big data with the real

economy, rural revitalization and social governance.



Guiyang flexes its muscles with major advances in big data face technology

By ZHANG DANDAN

High-tech company Guiyang Sensing Technology Co — located in Guiyang — has made great strides in its face recognition technology and its applications, helped by the city's favorable investment, industrial environment and its strong support for developing its big data indus-

Founded by parent group Beijing Sensing Technology Co in September 2017, vative company dedicated to artificial intelligence research, their applications

The company's core competency is face recognition technology, or face big data technology - capable of recognizing more than 40 kinds of facial features and widely used at key monitoring sites, including airports, train stations and internet cafes.

Li Zhen, president of the parent company, said the reasons why a Beijingbased company chose to establish a key unit in Guivang were straightforward.

"The officials at Guiyang government departments have an in-depth understanding of and gave strong support to the big data sector and artificial intelligence industry, far beyond my expec-

'We have a high level of efficient communications with each other."

The company said that in addition to its cooperative officials, the city's determination to develop and consolidate its big data industry had given it a strong sense of purpose to develop its operations in Guiyang.

The city's district of Nanming, where

40 kinds

of facial features can be recognized by face big data technology of Guiyang Sensing Technology Co

Guiyang Sensing Technology settled, has a development strategy of prioritizing the big data industry, aiming to make breakthroughs in data sharing and exchange, data processing, intelanufacturing, digital logistics and in blockchain - the fast-evolving sector focused on secure financial records, called blocks, linked using cryp-

Operating in tandem with the district's development plan, Guiyang Sensing Technology developed well last year, generating an output value worth 20 million yuan (\$2.9 million), and becoming a new economic driver of Guiyang, according to local officials.

They added that by employing its cutting-edge intelligent security and protection expertise, Guiyang Sensing Technology has made a significant contribution to building a secure and safe society in Guivang.

"We expect to help Guiyang forge itself into a safer city with our face recognition technology," said Lu.

The company installed face recognition cameras at Zhucheng square, a landmark in Nanming district, at the start of 2018. This helped local public security officers detain more than 20 criminals as well as hundreds of drug addicts, according to Situ Yuxing, sales director of Beijing Sensing Technology.

Utilizing AI face recognition cameras

deployed in Guiyang, the company has helped police arrest a total of 4,094 suspects to date, according to local officials.

Liu Changchun, an officer at Nanming district public security subbureau, said the intelligent security system offered by Guiyang Sensing Technology could help with crack downs against criminals, boosting the ability of police officers to accurately control and handle cases.

Statistics showed that from January to November in 2018, the daily average s involving robberie: reduced to 0.64, marking a record low.

Beijing Sensing Technology's Situ Yuxing said more progress for the wider community was coming.

"Based on experiences gained in intelligent security and protection, Guiyang Sensing Technology is also about to develop the intelligent community, intelligent finance, intelligent transportation and intelligent medicine facilitating Guiyang's establishment as a

Nanming district is set to provide further support for Guiyang Sensing Technology, in the form of preferential policies and first-rate services, aimed at forging the company into a famous brand nationwide in 2019 and a unicorn company in the Chinese big data industry, local officials noted.

Unicorns refer to successful startup companies that are valued at \$1 billion or more.

In fact, Beijing Sensing Technology is holding discussions with Nanming district about moving the company's headquarters from Beijing to Nanming and establishing an artificial intelligence lab in Guiyang, according to officials.





Left and right: Opening ceremony of the 2018 expo attracts lots of visitors. Attendees try hightech products at the 2018 expo.

Expert advice directs this year's expo

Organizers of this year's China International Big Data Industry Expo plan to combine scientific and technological concepts in activities at the expo and high-

light the uses of big data. The event is to be held from May 26 to 29 in the Guiyang International Conference and Exhibition Center and the Guiyang International Eco-Conference Center. It will feature six pavilions where exhibitors can launch new products, speak to

guests and promote projects. Organizers said they began planning for this year after the 2018 expo ended on May 29. They have now worked out a pre-

liminary plan for this year's expo. To increase the event's quality and influence, they held an expert consultancy meeting in Beijing on Nov 21, asking for suggestions. Attendees included Mei Hong, vice-president at the Beijing Institute of Technology,

and Pan Jiaofeng, president of

the area of Shubo Avenue (Shubo means Big Data Expo in Chinese) in Guiyang

the Institutes of Science and Development at the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Experts analyzed the industry's position and big data's influence on economic restructuring and industrial upgrading. It was necessary to pursue a high-quality development of technology while paying attention to the newest

concepts, they said. According to the experts, the 2019 expo is expected to welcome more educational and scientific research institutes, which will help Guiyang attract more professionals to aid its big data development.

To attract globally top international big data sectors and showcase the newest big data Shubo Avenue (Shubo means Big Data Expo in Chinese).

The avenue involves an area of 74.56 square kilometers and extends about 20 kilometers. Its key elements will be a big data finance zone, a big data industry zone, a big data health zone and a zone focusing on big data experience.

At an arrangement meeting on Jan 14, Zhao Deming, a member of the Standing Committee of CPC Guizhou Provincial Committee and Party chief of Guiyang, said it is necessary to expand the avenue into a platform featuring high-level opening-up and high-quality development. The building of the avenue is key to the character of Guiyang's development, he said.

Zhao said the avenue will focus on the integration of the internet, big data, artificial intelligence and the real economy and will become a showpiece of an excellent business environ-