



A Visit to Guangzhou by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture

were textiles, plastics, telecom equipment, livestock products, ferrous metal, electric home appliances, handicrafts and paper, among which electric home appliances, ferrous metal, non-ferrous metal and handicrafts had the highest growth rates..

### Export Commodities Fair

Guangzhou is an international trading city with great vigour and vitality. Since 1957, two sessions (spring and autumn) of the Chinese Export Commodities Fair have been held annually in the city. To date, 84 sessions have been held, which have attracted business persons from all over the world to do business in Guangzhou.

At the 84th session of the Fair in October 1998, total business turnover of 10.2 billion USD was achieved, translating into 25% of the total export value of the whole country. As many as 67,000 business persons from all over the world attended the session, over 800 were from Canada.

### Foreign investment enterprises

In 1997, the Guangzhou Government approved 909 contracts for using foreign capital. The contracted capital totaled an amount of USD 3.111 billion, actual investment amount was USD 2.889 billion. The projects with direct foreign investment totalled 661, with contracted foreign funds of USD 2.715 billion of which USD 2.48 billion were direct investments by foreign investors. The other 242 foreign invested projects had a contracted funds of USD 26 million, with actual investment funds of USD 13.8 million. 452 projects, or 68.4% of the total, were directly invested in manufacturing industries which remains the investment mainstream. Commerce and the catering service sector were the two fastest growing sectors in the tertiary industry. Investments in real estate rebounded in the latter half of 1997. Projects in agriculture grew at a rate of 7 %.

In 1997, Hong Kong enterprises invested in 438 projects in Guangzhou, which accounted for a 66.3% share of the total direct investment projects in the

city. Hong Kong investments in Guangzhou are chiefly in restaurants, domestic trade and real estate projects.

The top ten investors by actual invested capital are: Hong Kong, Britain, the United States, Singapore, Taiwan, Japan, Canada, Macau, the British Virgin Islands and Switzerland. Out of the total foreign investments, over 80% were from Hong Kong, Britain, the U.S. and Taiwan.

Total industrial output of foreign invested enterprises for the year was RMB 87.826 billion, accounting for 48.51% of the total industrial output of the city, which emphasizes the role of foreign invested enterprises in the economic development of Guangzhou.

Year	1978	1980	1985	1990	1995	1996	1997
Actual Foreign Investment (million USD)	10	30	158	267	2253	2600	2894

### Overseas Enterprises:

In 1997, eight enterprises were approved to be established outside of China, with a total investment of USD 1.48 million. These enterprises were distributed across America, Europe, Asia, Australia and the Pacific Region, among which four were trading enterprises and two were manufacturing enterprises. One of the manufacturing enterprises is for apiculture and breeding located in South Korea and the other is located in the USA for production and sales of knit goods. Guangzhou now has 183 enterprises overseas, 77 of which are in Hong Kong and Macau, 34 in North America, 28 in Asia (excluding Hong Kong and Macau), 20 in Europe, 14 in Australia, 8 in South America, and 2 in Africa.

### Foreign representative offices in Guangzhou:

Over 300 foreign representative offices were established in Guangzhou in 1998, bringing the total to 2300 offices. They are chiefly engaged in import and export business liaison, preliminary investigation and research for investment projects, shipping agencies, and consultants for trade and the economy. By the end of 1998, four countries decided to set up five business and trade centres in Guangzhou, two of which are in full operation. These business and trading centers are not only engaged in the marketing and promotion of import and export commodities but also play a role in soliciting merchants and introducing investments by promoting Guangzhou.

### International Economic and Technological Cooperation:

In 1997, China International Economic and Technological Cooperation Corp. (Guangzhou) has made steady progress in securing contracts for engineering overseas and other projects authorized by the State. Eight new contracts with a total contracted value of USD 22 million have been signed

Guangzhou International Corp. signed five new