



Artist's rendering of the China-Malaysia Qinzhou Industrial Park

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Qinzhou park forges ties with ASEAN

China works with Malaysia to build model for cooperation in SE Asia

By HUO YAN AND ZHANG ZHAO

The China-Malaysia Qinzhou Industrial Park in Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region is the third industrial park created through a partnership between China and a foreign government.

The park serves as the latest symbol of the friendship between the two nations and a platform for bilateral cooperation.

Two decades after China established dialogue with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao visited Malaysia in April of last year, and the park was part of the common understanding reached by Wen and Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak.

The project was approved by China's State Council on March 26 this year and unveiled on April 1 by top government officials of both nations. It is expected to promote trade between China and Malaysia.



Agreement signing ceremony of the industrial park

On June 15, the contract for a second joint Sino-Malaysian industrial park was signed. The park will be based in Kuantan, the largest city on Malaysia's eastern coast.

The city of Qinzhou is located at a key position in an economic zone near the Beibu Gulf, a hub of China-ASEAN cooperation. The park in Qinzhou is also expected to further enhance the partnerships that were created with the establishment of the China-ASEAN Free Trade Area at the beginning of 2010.

The park sits beside the Qinzhou Port Economic and Technical Development Zone and the Qinzhou Port Bonded Area. The planning of the project has made good use of the

city's advantageous geographic position and advanced transportation infrastructure.

The Qinzhou Port Economic and Technical Development Zone highlights a petrochemical industrial park that covers 36 square kilometers. Its key industries also include automobile and equipment manufacturing, shipbuilding, papermaking, energy and food processing.

The Qinzhou Port Bonded Area is China's only bonded area in its western coastal region and the nearest to the ASEAN region. It serves as a hub of logistics, research and international trading and transfer.

Temporary electricity and water have been established in

the park, but a water plant will soon start construction to serve as the permanent water supply. There will also be a service center with total floor space of around 8,000 square meters.

With advanced facilities, efficient service and low cost, the park welcomes investment from around the world, said local government officials.

Qinzhou speed

"Today I learned a new phrase - 'Qinzhou speed'" said Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak on April 1 at the launch ceremony of the park, praising the efficiency of the park's construction.

"In the future, if I want a project to be finished as fast as possible, I would say, 'Finish it with Qinzhou speed,'" said the prime minister.

From conceptualization to starting construction, the park required less than a year to develop. And the achievements of the park over the past year have been "a result of the mutual trust between China and Malaysia," said Ong Ka Ting, the Malaysian prime minister's special envoy to China.

He said the China-Malaysia Qinzhou Industrial Park would become an emerging trade focus of Guangxi, and it would

have great potential because of its advantageous geographic position, excellent administration and support from the governments of the two nations.

Key industries

The China-Malaysia Qinzhou Industrial Park, with a planned area of 55 sq km, will focus on traditional industries as well as emerging sectors. It will comprise industrial areas, R&D centers, service facilities and residential communities.

With a focus on "a cooperation model, a development pilot and an innovation test zone", the project has attracted a number of competitive industrial clusters.

The park is focusing on six major industries — equipment manufacturing, IT, food processing, new materials, bio-technologies and modern services.

The planners have chosen these industries based on the need for market expansion in China and Malaysia as well as the need to restructure industries, according to China's 12th Five-Year Plan (2011-2015) and Malaysia's Vision 2020.

Contact the writers at huoyan@chinadaily.com.cn and zhang-zhao@chinadaily.com.cn



Overall plan for the park



Groundbreaking at the industrial park in April 2012

XIE YONGYUN / FOR CHINA DAILY

MAJOR SECTORS OF THE CHINA-MALAYSIA QINZHOU INDUSTRIAL PARK

- Equipment manufacturing: engineering machinery, auto and auto parts, power and agricultural equipment, medical equipment.
- IT: smart electronic devices, intelligent appliances, automated data processing, next-generation mobile communication equipment, integrated circuits, displays, multimedia equipment.
- Food processing: health foods, Muslim food, specialty farm produce and seafood processing.
- New materials: materials made from palm

trees, alloys, new chemical materials, marine materials.

- Bio-technologies: modern herbal medicines, medicines made of marine organisms, bio-technologies for agriculture, health bio-products, environmental protection technologies.

- Modern service: modern logistics, financial services, exhibition, cultural industries, technical consultancy, service outsourcing, training and education, regional headquarters economy.



Busy container terminal in Qinzhou Port

LI FAN / FOR CHINA DAILY

DECADE OF DEVELOPMENT

In recent years, Qinzhou in Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, has witnessed sound and rapid development, making it well known at home and abroad. And, with a favorable geographical location, it enjoys enormous potential for further development.

- The Guangxi Qinzhou Bonded Port Area was approved by the State Council of China in 2008.
- The China-Malaysia Qinzhou Industrial Park, launched in April 2012, was the third industrial park founded through collaboration between China and a foreign country.
- The State Council approved the creation of China's fifth coastal import port for finished automobiles at Qinzhou in 2009.
- The State Council gave its approval for the Qinzhou Port Economic Development Zone to be upgraded into a state-level economic and technological development zone in 2010.
- The State Council of China approved the expansion of connections between the Port of Qinzhou and the outside world in 2010.
- Qinzhou was listed by Chinese Ministry of Commerce to accommodate the gradual relocation of processing trade within China in 2008.
- Qinzhou was listed by the Ministry of Commerce as one of China's model cities in terms of logistics in 2010.
- Qinzhou was elected as China's "City of Charm" at the seventh China-ASEAN Expo in 2010.
- The technology used to fire Qinzhou Nixing Pottery was listed as a National Intangible Cultural Heritage in June 2008; Qinzhou Nixing Pottery was identified as a nationally protected local specialty in December 2008.
- Qinzhou Maowei Sea Ocean Park was identified as one of China's first national marine parks in 2011.

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