

75th

ANNIVERSARY

China celebrates National Day as
march to modernization gains pace
See news updates on www.chinadaily.com.cn香港版
HONG KONG

CHINADAILY

HOLIDAY
EDITION

TUESDAY, October 1, 2024

中國日報

www.chinadailyhk.com HK \$10

CUHK satellite to contribute to disaster response, smart city planning

By FANG XUE in Hong Kong
fangxue@chinadailyhk.com

The Chinese University of Hong Kong has successfully launched an observation satellite aimed at improving disaster response, geographic data analysis, and smart-city solutions for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

The satellite, co-developed by CUHK and ADA Space, a Chinese mainland satellite company, was sent into orbit on Sept 24 by a Jie-long-3 rocket from a base in East

China's Shandong province. The project received guidance from the China National Space Administration and funds from the Hong Kong Innovation and Technology Commission.

At a news conference on Monday, CUHK highlighted the satellite's innovative features, including its built-in artificial intelligence and big data technologies. These advancements enable the satellite to monitor the Earth's surface, atmosphere and traffic conditions, and build 3D models of cities.

This satellite is also fitted with multiple state-of-the-art scientific devices, including submeter high-resolution optical remote sensing cameras, which can capture detailed images with spatial resolution below one meter.

CUHK experts have gained comprehensive experience throughout the satellite's design, manufacturing, and data application process, the university said.

The university said it hopes that the satellite will contribute significantly to disaster response, smart-city development, carbon

neutrality and the low-altitude economy in the GBA and beyond.

CUHK President Rocky Tuan Sung-chi expressed his excitement about the successful launch, saying it marks a new milestone in the ongoing collaboration between CUHK and the mainland's aerospace researchers.

Tuan added the university will continue to promote learning about space remote sensing education, and enhancing public understanding of space technology, while contributing to the sustainable development of Hong Kong

and the country.

Kwan Mei-Po, director of the Institute of Space and Earth Information Science of CUHK, stressed the satellite's potential to provide valuable data for nationwide urban services and to enhance education in smart transportation, smart-city planning, and smart disaster prevention.

The launch is part of a broader trend of advancement in satellite technology among Hong Kong institutions.

In August 2023, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technol-

ogy launched its first multispectral optical satellite in collaboration with a mainland commercial satellite company, which aimed to enhance environmental monitoring and disaster forecasting.

Hong Kong's first satellite manufacturing factory, the ASPACE Hong Kong Satellite Manufacturing Center, opened in July 2023 at the Tseung Kwan O InnoPark. The 18,580-square-meter facility aims to produce up to 200 satellites annually, according to its operator, Hong Kong Aerospace Technology Group.