

SNAPSHOTS



Merchants look at Baigou's future development plan at Baigou City Planning Museum, in North China's Hebei province.
PHOTOS BY WANG JING / CHINA DAILY

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Clothing market moves from Beijing to Hebei, offering better facilities to traders

By ZHANG LEI

At the end of November, 12 wholesale clothing markets in the Beijing Zoo area were moved to North China's Tianjin and Hebei province and other places.

The move is part of Beijing's plan to remove functions not related to the capital and promote the coordinated development of Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei.

One of the sites where the markets were moved to is Baigou, Hebei, 120 kilometers southwest of Beijing, where more than 2,000 clothing merchants have been relocated.

The shops at the new location are larger than the merchants' previous ones, and, recently, some merchants reportedly have seen an average daily turnover of

more than 20,000 yuan (\$3,160) a day, a big jump from earlier.

Meanwhile, to better serve these merchants, they have been offered a 10-year lease and exempted from a rent fee for three years and a property fee for one year.

The new market was particularly busy before the recent Spring Festival holiday, when hordes of customers from across the nation converged on the new market.

Commenting on the new facility, Xu Fei, one of the merchants, said: "This bright store now has more than 600 square meters of display space, and the clothes can be neatly showcased in the shop."

"In my previous shop in Beijing, it was all a mess. In addition, we can carry out our online and offline business at the same time."



Clothing businesses from Beijing are enjoying a new lease of life since relocating to the Hedao International Dongpi Clothing Plaza in Baigou, North China's Hebei province.



A lorry driver waits for business outside the Hedao Plaza.



Xu Fei, one of the merchants at Hedao, occupies more than 600 square meters of display space.