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Story Headline: IOC President Thomas Bach praises Olympic Village construction ahead of Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018

Location: PyeongChang Olympic Village, Gangwon Province, Republic of Korea

Date: 15th March 2017

STORY SCRIPT

IOC President Thomas Bach praised ‘great progress’ on the 2018 Winter Olympic Village as he toured the site in PyeongChang, Republic of Korea today.

After meeting local construction workers, Bach said:

“I think it will be an excellent village. I’ve seen the progress since being here last time just six months ago. The apartments are looking friendly and spacious and I was happy to hear from the athletes accompanying me here that they also feel very comfortable.”

Joined on his visit by a selection of Olympic athletes, including US skeleton racer Katie Uhlaender, Bach added:
“PyeongChang 2018 has all the ingredients to be an excellent Games for the athletes, with the compact venues, with the great Olympic Village, so I’m really looking forward to the 9th of February when the Games will start here”.

The skeleton athletes have been taking part in a test event at the Alpensia Sliding Centre - one of 17 that have been successfully held so far.

The Olympic Village in PyeongChang is one of two Villages that will house athletes during the 2018 Olympic Winter Games, and will house competitors who compete on snow and at the sliding centre - comprising disciplines ranging from skiing and biathlon to bobsled and luge.

Already 55 per cent complete, all the units have already been sold to private buyers once the 2018 Games are over.

Nearby the Gangneung coastal cluster (60km), which has its own...
Olympic Village, will host the ice sports competitions.

The Games are scheduled to begin on February 9th 2018, when the Olympic flame will arrive in the mountainous Gangwon Province for the start of 17 days of competition.

The Republic of Korea has participated in 18 Olympic Winter Games since 1948 but has never hosted them until now.

Eight new medal events at PyeongChang will take the total of gold medal events to 102, more than any previous Olympic Winter Games, and the first time in history that the number will have exceeded 100.

Ticket sales are now underway in the Republic of Korea and in many territories around the world.

Planning and construction of new infrastructure for the 23rd Olympic Winter Games is also transforming the region with a new high-speed train connection bringing the eastern and western parts of the country.
together. Thirteen state-of-the-art sports venues are being prepared and new hotels and tourist facilities are under construction in both PyeongChang and Gangneung.

The next and final visit of the IOC's Coordination Commission to PyeongChang will be in August.

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