

CHEN CHAO / CHINA DAILY

Liu Pingsheng, deputy director of the Universiade executive office speaks during a press conference.

Village officials and workers earn a gold

By CHEN XIAO
CHINA DAILY

SHENZHEN — More than half the events at the Universiade have finished, and that means the Universiade Village is more than halfway through its brief but colorful life.

Since it opened on Aug 6, the Village has been operating smoothly, Xuan Zhuxi, the deputy mayor of the Village, said at a press conference.

"So far, we've heard many positive and excellent comments about the Universiade Village, from athletes, team officials and our officials," Xuan said.

"One of our principles is to make all the athletes and other delegation members feel like they are at home in this Village. And I'm glad we've reached that goal."

By Aug 18, the Village had welcomed 10,615 people — 7,003 athletes and 3,612 team officials — said Liu Pingsheng, deputy director of the Universiade Executive Office.

"No Universiade Village has had that many guests before," Liu said.

At the conference, Liu summarized

different aspects of the Village operations and pointed out some highlights.

"Many people have said they were impressed by the food in the dining hall, which runs 24/7," he said. "During dining hours, the dining hall offers 145 courses, 70 percent Western food and 30 percent from Asia and other areas. The supply of food is so plentiful that there are no crowds and no waiting in line."

Liu also mentioned people's comments about the dormitory and the various art performances in the Village.

"The 5,228 rooms in the six accommodation buildings have offered Village guests the warmth of home, while the performances have given them a chance to learn about Chinese culture, to have fun, and also to build up the communication among youngsters from all over the world."

At the conference there were also deputies from 13 departments of the Village committee, such as the media department, security department, transport department, religious service department and informa-

tion technology department. Each deputy reported on the work of his or her departments.

One thing they all said was that in the Village there are many stories happening every day — some touching, some warm.

"The operation of each department is all very complex and detailed," Ying Shihong, deputy director of the media department in the Village, said.

"But it's really the hard work and various stories from people behind the scenes, such as the volunteers, add to Village life every day."

Ying said there were also difficulties in keeping the Village running. "We have to make sure every detail is right, and that may sound easy but it takes lots of effort from everyone."

As for whether the Village will be open for public visits after the Universiade, Ying said, due to a plan devised beforehand, the Village will be handed over to the Shenzhen Institute of Information Technology to be used as a new campus. He said he was not sure whether there would be time for public visits.

Universiade to enhance economic openness

By MICHELLE FEI
CHINA DAILY

SHENZHEN — The Universiade has enhanced economic openness and accelerated communication with the world, the Shenzhen Social Science Academy's Vice-President, Huang Fayu, said on Saturday.

"The Universiade has had a major impact on the city in many respects," Huang said.

"It gave Shenzhen a precious opportunity to better introduce itself to the world. It also provided citizens a chance to broaden their horizons and learn more about the different cultures of different countries. It has also brought about substantial improvements in infrastructure, civility, livelihoods and the like."

Shenzhen began its transformation as a key experimental economic zone 30 years ago when it was a small fishing settlement. Its economic openness has propelled its advance as a metropolis and economic leader.

Huang believed such international events as the Universiade could improve Shenzhen's investment environment.

In 2009, the Comprehensive Economy Openness Index, which evaluates economic performance in such major areas as trade, investment and

industrial output, found Shenzhen to be the mainland's most economically open city.

Shenzhen's index rating was 60.33 percent — 41.36 percentage points higher than the average mainland city. Beijing was rated at 37.12 percent, while Shanghai was 42.36 percent.

Shenzhen's total foreign trade value reached \$346.7 billion in 2010. Its export value was \$204 billion, or 12.9 percent of the country's total. The city has had the highest export value among all Chinese cities for 18 years.

Shenzhen also possesses diverse economic ownership, with most of the economy in private hands. As of 2009, there were 6.3 million employees, 93.35 percent of whom worked for non-State-owned enterprises.

Shenzhen is a city of immigrants. There were only 300,000 people in Shenzhen 30 years ago. As of November 2011, immigrant influx increased the population to 10.3 million. Almost everyone is covered by the social medical security system, although less than 25 percent of residents have residency permits.

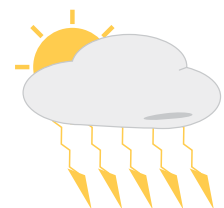
Shenzhen is also a tourism destination. In 2010, the city hosted about 77 million tourists and the tourism industry generated 62.8 billion yuan.



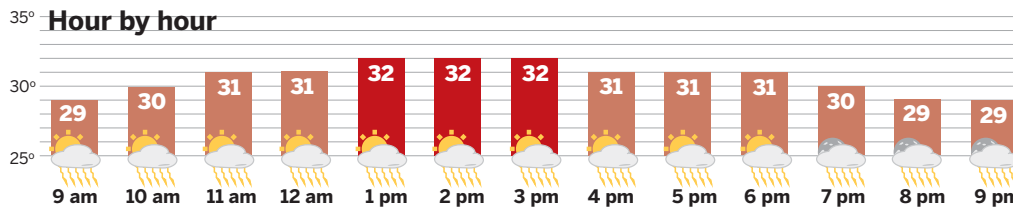
PROVIDED TO CHINA DAILY

Huang Fayu says the Universiade will have a major impact on Shenzhen.

WEATHER CENTRAL >> FORECASTS, TEMPERATURES AND TODAY'S CHANCE OF RAIN



Today's forecast
Scattered T-Storms
Max **32°C**
Min **27°C**
Source: weather.com



Monday

33°C
27°C



Tuesday

32°C
27°C

