



SOUTH KOREA SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT

AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment

Analysis Period: March 03, 2026 - March 10, 2026

This report was produced using automated open-source intelligence analysis. The assessment is grounded in publicly available reporting and should be cross-referenced with primary sources. RSS feed articles are listed in the annex for reference.

Executive Summary

During the period of March 03 to March 10, 2026, South Korea's security landscape was primarily shaped by ongoing joint military exercises with the United States, heightened tensions with North Korea, and the spillover effects of the escalating Middle East conflict. The annual Freedom Shield drills commenced, drawing strong condemnation from Pyongyang and underscoring the persistent inter-Korean standoff. Concurrently, South Korea navigated complex diplomatic challenges, including calls for renewed dialogue with North Korea despite explicit rejections from Pyongyang, and concerns over the potential redeployment of U.S. military assets to the Middle East. Furthermore, South Korea continued to solidify its position as a global defense exporter through significant international deals and addressed evolving cybersecurity threats, particularly those amplified by artificial intelligence.

Key Security Developments

- **Military Activities and Exercises: Freedom Shield 2026 Commences**

South Korea and the United States initiated their annual Freedom Shield (FS) joint military exercises on March 9, 2026, scheduled to continue for 11 days until March 19. These drills involve 22 field training exercises with actual troop maneuvers, aimed at strengthening the allies' combined defense posture. The exercises also include the Korean Marine Exercise Program (KMEP) 26.1, featuring U.S. and ROK Marines conducting close air support, live-fire ranges, and logistics training.

- **North Korea's Condemnation of Joint Drills**

North Korea swiftly condemned the Freedom Shield exercises. On March 10, Kim Yo Jong, sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, criticized the drills as undermining regional stability and warned of "terrible consequences" if North Korea's security is challenged. Pyongyang has historically denounced such joint exercises as rehearsals for invasion.

- **Defense Policy and Strategic Shifts: US 2026 National Defense Strategy**

The United States' 2026 National Defense Strategy (NDS) signals a significant shift in the South Korea-U.S. alliance, moving beyond peninsula-focused deterrence towards a broader regional role. This strategy positions South Korea as a key security and defense production partner for the U.S. Indo-Pacific strategy, encouraging deeper industrial and operational integration.

- Defense Policy and Strategic Shifts: Wartime Operational Control Transfer Assessment

A key focus of this year's Freedom Shield exercise is to assess the conditions for the transfer of wartime operational control (OPCON) from the United States to South Korea. This aligns with South Korean President Lee Jae Myung's administration's long-term priority of achieving defense autonomy and the conditions-based handover of wartime command by 2030.

- Defense Policy and Strategic Shifts: Pursuit of Nuclear-Powered Submarines

South Korea's Ministry of National Defense is actively pursuing legislation to support the acquisition of nuclear-powered submarines. This initiative is considered a national strategic project requiring substantial, long-term budgetary commitments and a comprehensive regulatory framework for military nuclear energy use. This follows a U.S. green light in October 2025 for Seoul to build such submarines on American soil.

- Diplomatic Relations: Inter-Korean Dialogue Standoff

Despite North Korea's recent declaration of South Korea as a "most hostile entity" and its explicit rejection of reconciliation, South Korean President Lee Jae Myung reiterated calls for the resumption of dialogue with Pyongyang on March 1 and March 3. North Korea, however, has maintained its hardline stance, stating it has "absolutely no business dealing with South Korea."

- Diplomatic Relations: Philippines-South Korea Defense and Digital Cooperation

On March 3, South Korea and the Philippines signed ten agreements, including an amendment to an implementing arrangement for the procurement of certain defense materials. Other agreements covered cooperation in digitalization, agriculture, trade, and law enforcement, reinforcing their strategic partnership.

- Diplomatic Relations: Middle East Crisis and US Asset Relocation Concerns

South Korea expressed alarm over the escalating conflict in the Middle East, particularly its potential to disrupt global energy supplies. On March 10, President Lee Jae Myung acknowledged that South Korea could not prevent the potential redeployment of some U.S. Patriot anti-missile systems from the Korean Peninsula to the Middle East, though he asserted it would not impact deterrence against North Korea.

- Cybersecurity: Emerging AI-Driven Threats

Samsung SDS released a report identifying AI-driven cyberattacks, ransomware, cloud vulnerabilities, phishing, and data security breaches as the top cybersecurity risks for 2026. A scenario for March 3, 2026, depicted a sophisticated operation targeting Naver's AI Recommender System to spread misinformation, highlighting the vulnerability of South Korea's highly concentrated digital services.

- Defense Acquisitions and Arms Deals: Hanwha Aerospace Investment in Estonia

South Korean defense giant Hanwha Aerospace announced a nearly €100 million investment in Estonia on March 8. This investment aims to strengthen Estonia's defense industry and build regional capabilities for territorial defense systems, including a new 40mm ammunition production facility. This reflects South Korea's growing role as a global defense exporter.

- Intelligence Activities: Middle East Security Support

On March 9, the National Intelligence Service (NIS) announced it is providing real-time intelligence on terror threats and combat-related information to Korean companies operating in seven Middle Eastern countries. This follows the Ministry of Foreign Affairs raising travel advisories to Level 3 (evacuation advisory) for these nations on March 8. The South Korean government is also preparing supply support for Korean vessels in the Strait of Hormuz.

Geopolitical Impact and Regional Dynamics

South Korea's security developments this week underscore its complex position within a volatile geopolitical landscape. The commencement of the Freedom Shield exercises with the U.S. on March 9, while reinforcing the alliance's deterrence against North Korea, simultaneously exacerbates inter-Korean tensions. Pyongyang's immediate and strong condemnation, including threats of "terrible consequences," highlights the persistent cycle of provocation and response on the Korean Peninsula. This dynamic is further complicated by North Korea's hardened stance, explicitly rejecting dialogue with Seoul and emphasizing its irreversible nuclear status, while leaving a narrow opening for talks with the U.S. if its nuclear status is acknowledged.

The U.S. 2026 National Defense Strategy (NDS) signals a significant shift, pushing South Korea towards a broader regional security role beyond peninsula-focused deterrence. This strategic pivot, positioning South Korea as a key defense production partner for the Indo-Pacific, implies greater integration into U.S. regional competition, particularly with China. While strengthening the alliance, this expanded role could present diplomatic challenges for Seoul in managing its crucial economic ties with Beijing. South Korea's efforts to enhance its defense industry, exemplified by Hanwha Aerospace's investment in Estonia, also reflect its ambition to become a top global defense exporter by 2030, further integrating it into international security frameworks beyond Northeast Asia.

The escalating conflict in the Middle East has introduced additional layers of complexity. South Korea's alarm over potential energy supply disruptions and the safety of its vessels in the Strait of Hormuz directly links its economic security to global instability. Furthermore, the potential redeployment of U.S. Patriot missile defense systems from South Korea to the Middle East, though deemed by President

Lee Jae Myung as not impacting deterrence against North Korea, raises concerns in Seoul about being drawn into conflicts beyond the Korean Peninsula and the implications of unilateral U.S. actions. This situation underscores the need for South Korea to clearly define its actions under various international scenarios.

Military and Defense Analysis

South Korea's military posture remains robust, heavily reliant on its alliance with the United States, as demonstrated by the ongoing Freedom Shield 2026 and KMEP 26.1 exercises. These drills are crucial for enhancing combined defense capabilities and assessing the conditions for the transfer of wartime operational control. The focus on "multi-domain warfare" elements, including operations in space, cyberspace, and special operations, indicates a modernization effort to address evolving threats.

A significant development in South Korea's capability enhancement is the push by the Ministry of National Defense to enact a special law for the acquisition of nuclear-powered submarines. This initiative, viewed as a national strategic project, would significantly bolster South Korea's ability to monitor maritime threats and enhance its naval-industrial base, especially given North Korea's own advancements in nuclear-powered submarines. This move aligns with South Korea's broader strategy to increase defense spending, with the Lee administration pledging an 8.2% increase in 2026, and to acquire \$25 billion in U.S. military equipment by 2030.

South Korea's defense industry continues its trajectory towards becoming a global powerhouse. The investment by Hanwha Aerospace in Estonia for a 40mm ammunition production facility highlights Seoul's expanding role as a defense exporter and its strategic partnerships beyond its immediate region. The upcoming KADDEX 2026 exhibition in October will further showcase Korea's advancements in military technologies, including unmanned systems, AI, and robotics, reflecting a commitment to high-tech weapon development to compensate for a shrinking population and declining military.

Outlook and Forecast

Short-term trends (1-3 months): In the immediate future, tensions on the Korean Peninsula are likely to remain elevated, particularly as the Freedom Shield exercises continue until March 19. North Korea is expected to maintain its hardline rhetoric and may conduct further military demonstrations or weapons tests in response to the drills. South Korea will likely continue its calls for dialogue, but a breakthrough in inter-Korean relations appears unlikely given Pyongyang's current stance. Diplomatic

efforts will also focus on managing the implications of the Middle East conflict, including ensuring energy security and the safety of Korean nationals and vessels.

Critical flashpoints and risk areas: The primary flashpoint remains the Korean Peninsula, with the potential for North Korean provocations in response to the joint exercises. Any miscalculation or escalation could quickly destabilize the region. The Strait of Hormuz also represents a critical risk area for South Korea's economic security due to its heavy reliance on Middle Eastern energy imports. The potential for U.S. military asset redeployments to the Middle East could also create internal debate and external scrutiny regarding the robustness of deterrence on the peninsula.

Indicators to monitor: Key indicators to monitor include any further statements or actions from North Korea following the conclusion of Freedom Shield, particularly missile tests or significant military parades. The progress of discussions between the U.S. and South Korea regarding the OPCON transfer and any concrete plans for the acquisition of nuclear-powered submarines will also be important. Developments in the Middle East conflict, especially those impacting shipping lanes or global energy markets, will directly affect South Korea's economic and maritime security. Additionally, the evolution of AI-driven cyber threats and South Korea's response mechanisms will be crucial to watch.

Strategic recommendations: South Korea should continue to prioritize strengthening its alliance with the United States, while also pursuing a more independent and diversified defense strategy, including the development of advanced capabilities like nuclear-powered submarines. Diplomatic efforts should persist in seeking avenues for dialogue with North Korea, even amidst rejections, to de-escalate tensions and explore potential common ground. Proactive measures to safeguard maritime trade routes and ensure energy security, in light of the Middle East crisis, are essential. Furthermore, investing heavily in cybersecurity infrastructure and developing robust defenses against AI-driven attacks is paramount to protect critical national systems and private data. Finally, South Korea should leverage its growing defense industry to forge strategic partnerships and enhance its influence in global security affairs.

ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

Source: Daily NK

- [Post-congress crackdown: North Korea conducts wired broadcast inspections to enforce ideological compliance](#) (2026-03-10 02:21)

North Korean authorities are conducting household inspections of wired broadcast equipment across multiple provinces following the conclusion of the ninth Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) congress, in what analysts see as a coordinated push to reinforce ideological control, a Daily NK source said Monday. A source in South Hamgyong province told Daily NK that neighborhood [...]

- [Kim Jong Un' s 9th party congress sets a new course for North Korean agriculture](#) (2026-03-10 00:48)

The Rodong Sinmun, the official newspaper of North Korea' s Workers' Party of Korea (WPK), reported on Feb. 28 that participants of the Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea had carried out various political and cultural activities. 1. Overview of the Ninth Party Congress The Ninth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea was [...]

- [North Korean youth are skipping political events, and the regime is worried](#) (2026-03-09 20:46)

Attendance at political events and propaganda gatherings inside North Korea has been falling, and the regime appears to be taking notice. A source in South Pyongan province told Daily NK recently that the provincial party committee' s propaganda and agitation department held internal discussions on how to push participation in rallies tied to the decisions of [...]

- [North Korea intensifies jangmadang crackdown, seizing household goods for state stores](#) (2026-03-09 18:41)

North Korean authorities have sharply escalated inspections of jangmadang markets in Hamhung city, seizing domestically produced household goods from vendors and routing them into the state-run commercial network, a source inside the country told Daily NK on Monday.

“Since the beginning of this month, there has been a noticeably stronger push in Hamhung to investigate [...]

- [North Korea orders teachers to take malnourished orphans home as state welfare collapses](#) (2026-03-09 13:33)

The Nampo party committee has ordered teachers at orphan care facilities to personally take malnourished and sick children into their own homes to nurse them back to health, framing the directive as a socialist patriotic campaign under the slogan “Love the Future,” a source told

Daily NK on Monday. “After the Ninth Party Congress, the [⋯]

- [Kim Jong Un’ s ideology supplants founding doctrine after ninth party congress](#) (2026-03-09 13:26)

North Korea’ s state media has stopped referencing “Kimilsungism-Kimjongilism,” the ideological framework underpinning the Kim dynasty for decades, following the ninth congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea (WPK). In its place, a new formulation has emerged: “Kim Jong Un’ s ideology.” The shift, subtle in phrasing but sweeping in implication, points to the consolidation of a [⋯]

- [Kim rewards parade soldiers with special leave](#) (2026-03-09 07:41)

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un rewarded soldiers who marched in the military parade at the Ninth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea with 12-14 days of special leave, according to a source inside the country, after Kim verbally ordered the gesture on Feb. 27 to honor the troops’ efforts during the annual winter [⋯]

- [North Korean youth outmaneuver state labor drives by volunteering for construction brigades first](#) (2026-03-09 02:43)

Young people in Sinuiju are volunteering for construction brigades before the state can assign them elsewhere, choosing what they see as the least harmful option in a sweeping labor mobilization drive launched after the Workers’ Party of Korea’ s Ninth Congress, Daily NK has learned. The move reflects growing fear of permanent placement at collective farms [⋯]

- [After Iran: Why a strike on North Korea’ s nuclear sites is a last resort](#) (2026-03-09 00:29)

On June 21, 2025, the United States carried out Operation Midnight Hammer, deploying B-2 stealth bombers armed with GBU-57 massive bunker busters and cruise missiles to strike Fordow, Natanz and Isfahan — the three key facilities in Iran’ s nuclear program, which has reportedly benefited from North Korean technical support — in what marked the first [⋯]

- [North Korean factory workers ordered to hand over farming tools ahead of planting season](#) (2026-03-08 21:40)

A North Korean factory in Hyesan has ordered each of its workers to submit one farming tool by mid-March under the banner of “rural support,” reviving annual complaints about a state collection drive that many workers say yields no visible improvement in food production, Daily NK has learned. A Daily NK source in Ryanggang province [⋯]

- [News of Khamenei killing spreads along North Korea’ s border, fueling doubts about nuclear deterrence](#) (2026-03-06 13:34)

Word that Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei was killed in U.S. and Israeli airstrikes has spread rapidly along North Korea’ s border regions, prompting quiet but striking expressions of doubt about the country’ s nuclear weapons program among local people, Daily

NK has learned. “Even a country with nuclear weapons got attacked — we can’t guarantee [...]”

- [Pyongyang’s post-congress economic push hits raw material wall in Ryanggang](#) (2026-03-06 10:52)

As North Korea’s Ninth Party Congress wrapped up with a renewed emphasis on local development, the cabinet issued its first concrete implementing directive on March 1, ordering all provinces nationwide to begin producing signature regional goods and specialty products, a source in Ryanggang province told Daily NK on Thursday. “In accordance with the local development [...]”

- [The Ninth Party Congress aftermath: What Kim Jong Un’s era really means](#) (2026-03-06 09:17)

North Korea’s five-yearly marquee political event, the Ninth WPK Party Congress (Feb. 19-25), has now concluded. Since December of last year, this writer has been producing a series of analytical pieces focused on forecasting the congress, in view of its significance for the 15-year Kim Jong Un regime and its likely impact on inter-Korean relations [...]

- [North Korea touts uniform success at Ninth Party Congress, but factory workers say otherwise](#) (2026-03-06 08:55)

North Korea is celebrating the nationwide supply of school uniforms as one of its crowning socialist achievements, but factory workers tasked with producing those uniforms say the reality on the ground is a far cry from the official narrative. A Daily NK source in North Hamgyong province said Wednesday that the Chongjin city people’s committee [...]

- [North Korean teens skip school for gold mines as livelihood crisis deepens](#) (2026-03-05 13:59)

In some parts of North Korea, the number of teenagers heading to gold mining sites has been growing as their families struggle to make ends meet. While young people have sought income from gold mining in the past, multiple sources say the current surge in school-age children joining mining operations is unlike anything seen in [...]

- [North Korea restricts shampoo, stationery and snack imports as localization drive intensifies](#) (2026-03-05 10:45)

North Korea is tightening import controls on detergents, soap and stationery as part of a broader push to promote domestic consumer goods, following the ninth congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea, which identified the modernization of local industrial factories and the localization of consumer goods as key priorities. According to a Daily NK source [...]

- [More fish farms, but seafood prices keep climbing in North Korea](#) (2026-03-05 02:01)

North Korea has been promoting the expansion of coastal fish farms as an achievement, but seafood prices in local markets have actually been rising. North Korean people say they are not feeling any effect from the authorities' seafood production increase policy. According to a Daily NK source in South Pyongan province on Tuesday, dried seaweed [...]

- [North Hamgyong residents decry forced levies for Pyongyang' s Hwasong district phase 5 construction](#) (2026-03-04 22:54)

North Hamgyong province has issued emergency orders demanding material support and labor brigade recruitment for the phase 5 construction project in Pyongyang' s Hwasong district, Daily NK has learned. According to a Daily NK source in North Hamgyong province yesterday, the North Hamgyong provincial party committee issued an emergency directive on Feb. 20 calling for "construction [...]"

- [North Korea' s war on superstition backfires as fortune-telling goes underground](#) (2026-03-04 21:13)

Despite the North Korean authorities' intensified crackdown on superstitious practices, the fortune-telling market is spreading in ever more covert forms. Rather than suppressing demand, harsher punishments appear to be pushing the market underground, creating a paradox in which enforcement produces the very outcome it seeks to prevent. A Daily NK source in South Pyongan province [...]

- [North Korea' s winter games: Samjiyon as propaganda showcase](#) (2026-03-04 08:51)

Unable to qualify for the Milan-Cortina 2026 Winter Olympic Games — held Feb. 6-22 in Italy — North Korea opened its 2026 National Winter Games on Feb. 4 in Samjiyon, Ryanggang province, the northernmost of the country' s nine provinces. The roughly 50-event competition, held at the Mount Pegae sports complex in the Paekdusan area, drew [...]

- [WeChat surveillance ensnares two N. Korean women planning to reach South Korea](#) (2026-03-04 08:39)

Two North Korean defector women who exchanged WeChat messages about reaching South Korea were arrested by Chinese police in early February and remain in detention, Daily NK has learned. A source with knowledge of North Korea told Daily NK yesterday that the two women were apprehended after sending messages related to their plan to go [...]

- [Compost theft attempt at North Korean military unit sparks nightly guard rotations](#) (2026-03-03 22:12)

A near-theft of compost painstakingly produced by a side-business work team under the logistics bureau of North Korea' s Ninth Corps headquarters has prompted workers to organize nightly guard rotations at the storage site, Daily NK has learned. According to a Daily NK source in North Hamgyong province yesterday, someone arrived at the compost storage site [...]

- [North Korea's construction boom: Who really benefits?](#) (2026-03-03 10:05)

North Korea's Supreme Leader Kim Jong Un attended the groundbreaking ceremony for Phase 5 of the Hwasong District development on Feb. 18, 2026, in Pyongyang — the latest milestone in the Korean Workers' Party's campaign to build 50,000 residential units in the capital before the Ninth Party Congress, which convened in early 2026, raising questions [...]

- [Ryanggang province residents told to prepare gravel for road work as state shifts burden onto the people](#) (2026-03-03 09:00)

Households in Ryanggang province have been ordered to prepare gravel for spring road repairs, Daily NK has learned. The directive, issued under the pretext of fixing roads damaged by the freeze-thaw cycle over winter, has prompted an outpouring of frustration from North Korean people who feel the state is once again offloading its responsibilities onto [...]

- [Pyongyang's consulate fleet quietly ferrying banned goods across the North Korea-China border](#) (2026-03-03 02:50)

North Korean consulate vehicles in China have been used to transport goods banned under U.N. Security Council sanctions on North Korea. The practice has continued even during the Ninth Korean Workers' Party Congress, with consulate cars making repeated crossings between North Korea and China carrying prohibited items. Multiple Daily NK sources familiar with North Korea [...]

- [North Korea's showpiece capital struggles with basic winter heating](#) (2026-03-03 01:48)

As modern apartment dwellers in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang struggle to heat their homes in the winter, some apparently miss the old-fashioned stoves of the countryside. Chronic energy shortages in North Korea's showcase capital have rendered central heating systems largely ineffective, leaving residents of Pyongyang's high-rise apartment buildings to improvise in the cold [...]

Source: Hankyoreh

- [Mojtaba Khamenei named new supreme leader of Iran after father's assassination](#) (2026-03-09 12:01)
- [Korea braces for energy shock as Middle East crude production falls](#) (2026-03-09 12:01)
- [Iran war fuels demand for Russian oil, raising possibility of eased sanctions](#) (2026-03-09 12:01)
- [\[Editorial\] Trump's baseless claim that Iran bombed girls' school crosses line](#) (2026-03-09 12:01)

- [\[Interview\] Is war in Iran the beginning of the end for nuclear nonproliferation?](#) (2026-03-09 12:01)
- [Seoul mayor issues ultimatum to party: Drop Yoon or lose me](#) (2026-03-09 12:01)
- [Wave of US transport planes depart from Osan for Mediterranean amid speculation of Patriot shipments](#) (2026-03-09 12:01)
- [It's UNC's militarized DMZ police, not peaceful civilian entry, that's 'at odds with' armistice](#) (2026-03-08 06:00)
- [\[Editorial\] US dragging Kurds into its war with Iran would be a disaster](#) (2026-03-06 12:00)
- [Trump claims he'll have say in who leads Iran, hails possible Kurdish role in war](#) (2026-03-06 12:00)
- [Trump may lean on Kurds as proxy force to destabilize Iran](#) (2026-03-06 12:00)
- [\[Column\] Withstanding Trump's predatory hegemony](#) (2026-03-06 12:00)
- [Top 3 Scottish pension fund poised to lead US class action against Coupang](#) (2026-03-06 12:00)
- [KOSPI makes dramatic recovery after record plunge](#) (2026-03-06 12:00)
- [\[Correspondent's column\] JD Vance's 67-hour disappearance](#) (2026-03-06 12:00)
- [Khamenei the martyr, Trump the fool? Why a wider, longer war may be in store](#) (2026-03-05 12:00)
- [Days of panic selling erase 1 quadrillion won from Seoul's overheated stock market](#) (2026-03-05 12:00)
- [Korean lawmakers reach bipartisan deal to pass US investment bill on March 12](#) (2026-03-05 12:00)
- [Trump warns next in line to lead Iran could 'end up dead' too](#) (2026-03-05 12:00)
- [On trial for 6 years in South Korea, a Pyongyang woman seeks to return home](#) (2026-03-05 12:00)

- [Trump’ s strike on Iran demonstrates ‘peace through strength’ and signals resolve to Russia, China and North Korea, says expert \(2026-03-05 12:00\)](#)
- [Netanyahu’ s plot to stay in power by goading US into war with Iran \(2026-03-05 12:00\)](#)
- [\[Editorial\] North Korea’ s tough talk mustn’ t deter Seoul’ s efforts to rebuild trust \(2026-03-04 12:01\)](#)
- [\[Column\] US allies in the Gulf are in flames. Can Korea avoid a similar fate? \(2026-03-04 12:01\)](#)
- [Cascading effects of oil shock and ‘screwflation’ threaten to tank Korea’ s economy \(2026-03-04 12:01\)](#)
- [US risks finding out the hard way Iran is no Iraq \(2026-03-04 12:01\)](#)
- [War in Middle East widens to 12 countries within 72 hours of US-Israeli strikes on Iran \(2026-03-04 12:01\)](#)
- [Black Tuesday: KOSPI logs largest drop in history amid Iran uncertainty \(2026-03-04 12:01\)](#)
- [\[Editorial\] Trump’ s unjustified war with Iran threatens chaos for us all \(2026-03-03 12:00\)](#)
- [\[Editorial\] Attack on Iranian girls’ school is an indefensible crime against humanity \(2026-03-03 12:00\)](#)
- [Middle East edges toward regional war as Hezbollah, others wade into Iran’ s conflict with US, Israel \(2026-03-03 12:00\)](#)
- [\[Exclusive\] South Korean unit drilled paramotor, submersible raids into North for months ahead of martial law declaration \(2026-03-03 12:00\)](#)
- [Can Trump’ s carrot and stick approach avoid a protracted war with Iran? \(2026-03-03 12:00\)](#)
- [Kim Jong-un, confident in nuclear deterrent, appears in public amid US strikes on Iran \(2026-03-03 12:00\)](#)
- [Iran’ s all-out reprisals could drag Gulf, European states into war \(2026-03-03 12:00\)](#)

Source: Korea Times

- [Korea University vows to address climate change issues](#) (2026-03-10 05:57)

Korea University pledged to expand the university's role in addressing the climate crisis and restoring ecosystems during a "Nature Positive" declaration ceremony at its Sejong campus last Thursday. A Korea University official said the event aimed to extend the university's social responsibility beyond carbon reduction to broader environmental restoration initiatives. Korea University Kim Dong-one said during his welcome address that universities must go beyond their traditional role as institutions of knowledge and act as a community, taking practical steps to address the climate crisis. "Universities must now lead efforts to solve the climate crisis that threatens the survival of humanity," Kim said. "Korea University will pioneer a 'Nature Positive' path that contributes not only to carbon neutrality but also to the recovery and enhancement of nature, leaving a healthy planet and a sustainable campus for future generations." Former United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon also delivered congratulatory remarks via video, expressing strong support for the initiati

- ['Lee' or 'Yi?' Korean court rejects passport surname spelling change](#) (2026-03-10 05:57)

A Korean court ruled that passport holders cannot change the Romanized spelling of their surname solely based on personal preferences if there is no practical inconvenience in daily life. According to legal sources on Monday, the Seoul Administrative Court ruled against the 36-year-old plaintiff surnamed Lee in a lawsuit filed against the foreign minister to overturn the government's refusal to change the spelling of his passport surname from "Lee" to "Yi." Lee filed a suit after his request to change the Romanized spelling of his surname on his passport was rejected. He argued that he had long used the spelling "Yi" since childhood, including in financial transactions, English ability tests and company ID cards, and that his passport spelling should reflect the same spelling. The plaintiff also claimed that when he applied for the passport, he spelled his surname "Yi," but a government official changed it to "Lee" before issuing the document. He said he requested his name to be spelled "Yi" when he applied for the passport a second time, but was told the chang

- [DPK, gov't mull buying over 6 mln barrels of crude oil from foreign refiners in S. Korea](#) (2026-03-10 05:57)

The ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) and the government are considering exercising priority purchase rights to secure over 6 million barrels of crude oil from foreign refiners stored in South Korea, officials said Tuesday, amid the widening conflict in the Middle East. DPK lawmakers and government officials reviewed the plan during an inaugural meeting of a task force launched earlier in the day to assess the economic impact from heightened tensions in the region and discuss response measures. "South Korea can exercise priority purchase rights over crude oil jointly stockpiled by foreign companies in the country at market prices," Rep. Oh Gi-hyoung said during a briefing. The plan will allow Seoul to secure 6.86 million barrels of

crude oil owned by foreign refiners that are stored at domestic facilities. The officials also discussed ways to diversify imports of crude oil and liquefied natural gas to regions beyond the Middle East, while exploring ways to supply crude oil via alternative routes without passing through the Strait of Hormuz, which has effectively been shut down due to

- [Ex-President Yoon refuses to attend hearing on 2022 Itaewon disaster](#) (2026-03-10 05:57)

Former President Yoon Suk Yeol on Tuesday refused to meet with representatives of a special investigation committee on the 2022 crowd crush who visited the Seoul Detention Center to persuade him to attend a hearing. The National Commission for the Investigation of the October 29 Itaewon Disaster is scheduled to hold the hearing Thursday and Friday to uncover the truth behind the crowd accident that killed 159 people in the central Seoul district in October 2022, when Yoon was serving as president. Wee Eun-jin, standing commissioner of the commission, told reporters that she was unable to meet with Yoon because of his refusal, and he said through his lawyers that it would be difficult to attend the hearing due to trial preparations. Wee said she instead met with the head of the detention center and requested his cooperation in having Yoon attend the hearing Friday morning. Yoon has been in custody while standing trial over his failed bid to impose martial law in December 2024 and other charges. Wee said she still believes Yoon's detailed explanation of what happened the day of the disaster

- [S. Korea providing supplies to its stranded vessel in Strait of Hormuz: official](#) (2026-03-10 05:57)

South Korea is in the process of providing supplies to one of its ships stranded in the Strait of Hormuz amid the conflict in the Middle East, a foreign ministry official said Tuesday. The vessel is among some 20 ships stranded in the key waterway where roughly 20 percent of global oil and gas pass through. The shipping channel has effectively been shut down as the war between U.S.-Israeli forces and Iran intensified. About 180 South Korean seafarers are currently aboard the 20 vessels, according to the ministry. While most of the ships have enough supplies to last several weeks, one ship needs additional supplies, mainly food and other necessities, a ministry official said. "A situation has arisen requiring the vessel to enter port and receive supplies, and we are working with the host country to ensure it can dock without difficulties," he said. The official said consultations with relevant countries in the region, excluding Iran, are under way regarding the provisions, but declined to give further details citing safety concerns and diplomatic reasons. The Strait of Hormuz is located between

- [Assembly speaker urges rival parties to form special committee on constitutional revision](#) (2026-03-10 05:57)

National Assembly Speaker Woo Won-shik on Tuesday called on rival parties to form a special committee to ensure that a national referendum to revise the Constitution is held along with the upcoming local elections. Woo made the call during a press conference at the National Assembly, stressing that a bill to revise the Constitution must be proposed by April 7 for a national referendum to be held on the day of the June 3 elections. "If we miss this timing, it is

uncertain when the next opportunity will come," Woo said, urging the ruling and opposition parties to create the committee before next Tuesday. Woo added that the revision is aimed at establishing institutional safeguards to prevent illegal declarations of martial law, referring to former President Yoon Suk Yeol's short-lived martial law declaration in December 2024. Under the Constitution, a constitutional amendment bill should be put on public notice for at least 20 days and put to a vote during a parliamentary plenary session within 60 days of the public notification. The bill can be passed with the approval from at least two th

- [Chungnam National University sets sights on AI-powered campus transformation](#) (2026-03-10 05:57)

As artificial intelligence (AI) reshapes how universities teach and learn, Chungnam National University is setting its sights on becoming a leader in AI-driven education in Korea. University President Kim Jeong-kyoum said the central question for higher education institutions is how they understand and approach artificial intelligence, urging them to embrace the sweeping changes the technology is expected to bring. "AI will undoubtedly bring significant changes across industries and in our daily lives," Kim told The Korea Times in a recent interview.

"Universities need to approach this shift with an open mindset and be ready to accept it. I want Chungnam National University to become a university that uses AI better than anyone else." While acknowledging that the term "AI-leading university" has become something of a cliché, Kim said the university's real focus is on integrating AI meaningfully into education.

"We want to teach students how to use AI effectively in practice," he said, adding that the university is considering incorporating AI-related elements into more

- [Lee says relocation of USFK assets does not impact Korea's defense posture](#) (2026-03-10 05:57)

The Korean government has expressed its opposition to the transfer of some U.S. Forces Korea air defense weapons to the Middle East, President Lee Jae Myung said Tuesday, but stressed that the move will not weaken the country's deterrence against North Korea. Speaking at the beginning of a Cabinet meeting at the presidential office, Lee addressed the growing debate over reports that some U.S. air defense batteries stationed in Korea have been transferred abroad. "We have expressed opposition to U.S. Forces Korea transferring some air defense weapons according to its own military needs, but it is also the reality that we cannot fully enforce our position," the president said. Lee emphasized that the transfer will not significantly affect Korea's ability to deter potential aggression from North Korea. "If you ask whether this would seriously create obstacles for our deterrence strategy against North Korea, I can say with certainty that it does not," he said. He noted that Korea's defense spending ranks among the highest in the world, adding that some estimates place the countr

- [Number of foreign residents in Korea nears 1.7 mil. in 2025](#) (2026-03-10 05:57)

The number of foreign nationals residing in Korea approached 1.7 million as of May last year, government data showed Tuesday. The total number came to 1.69 million, up 8.4 percent from

a year earlier, according to data released by the Ministry of Data and Statistics. The figure refers to foreigners aged 15 and older who have resided in the country for more than 91 days. By category, Koreans with foreign nationalities accounted for the largest share at 24.2 percent, followed by non-professional employment visa holders at 19 percent, the data showed. International students accounted for 14 percent and permanent residents at 9.6 percent. Among foreign nationals, ethnic Koreans with Chinese nationality accounted for 29.9 percent of the total, followed by those from Vietnam with 16 percent, the data showed. The data also showed that 65.5 percent of foreign nationals had jobs. Among those employed, 10.8 percent of foreign workers said they were seeking new jobs, with most citing low income as the main reason. About 32 percent of foreign nationals reported earning a monthly income between 2 million

- [Indians in Korea celebrate spring's colorful Holi Hungama festival in Seoul](#) (2026-03-09 23:57)

Spring arrives this year in an explosion of colors with Holi Hungama, a major Hindu festival celebrated mainly in India and Nepal and by diaspora communities worldwide. Participants throw colored water and powder at each other in a celebration symbolizing the victory of good over evil, the arrival of spring and the celebration of love, unity and renewal. For anyone in Korea interested in taking part in this high-energy festival, the Indian community here is organizing its own Holi Hungama event. Organizers highlighted that Holi celebrations in Korea began informally within the Indian community in the early 2000s. Over time, through the structured efforts of Indians in Korea (IIK), a registered nonprofit organization and community chamber established in 2002, the festival has evolved into a well-organized multicultural event in Seoul and other cities. IIK President Nagendra Kumar Kaushik, a professor at Kwangwoon University, told The Korea Times about the festival's origins. "Holi has deep roots in Indian mythology," he explained. "One of its most significant origins is linked to th

- [Japan's Melt-Banana returns to Korea after 17 years](#) (2026-03-09 23:57)

The legendary Japanese noise rock band Melt-Banana is finally coming back to Korea for the third time, 17 years after their last show. The band had its first show here in January 2005, and returned for a second show in August 2009. "This time will be our third visit," said Yako, the duo's lead vocalist. "I clearly remember how cold it was the first time we went, and I remember that everything we ate tasted incredibly good." "The second time, we also visited a recording studio in Korea, and we had a bit more time to relax," said Agata, the other half of the duo. "We went to a building that had a lot of musical instrument shops, and I ended up making a bit of an impulse purchase. Both stays were really enjoyable." Finally, after years of scheduling conflicts and the pandemic, Melt-Banana is ready to return to Seoul. Melt-Banana's origins date back to 1991, when Yako started it with the name Mizu. Soon she recruited Agata, and in 1992 the band name changed to Melt-Banana. "There isn't really a deep meaning behind it," Yako said. "Maybe at the time I just liked the combination of the word 'm

- [Infanticide conviction exposes vacuum in Korea's abortion law](#) (2026-03-09 17:57)

A murder conviction in a case involving an infant who died immediately after birth during what is called a late-term abortion procedure has cast fresh light on the legal void surrounding abortion in Korea. This comes nearly seven years after the Constitutional Court of Korea struck down the country's ban, as the issue remains unresolved amid a prolonged political stalemate. Last week, the Seoul Central District Court sentenced the director of an obstetrics clinic in Incheon, identified by the surname Yoon, to six years in prison for murder in a case widely referred to as the "36-week abortion case," along with a fine of 1.5 million won (\$1,000). Judges also ordered the forfeiture of 1.15 billion won in proceeds that prosecutors said the director had earned over the years by performing illegal abortions on hundreds of patients. The operating surgeon, identified only by his surname Shim, was sentenced to four years in prison, while the mother, surnamed Kwon, received a three-year sentence suspended for five years after the court found her guilty as an accomplice to murder. The jud

- [PPP adopts resolution opposing ex-President Yoon's political comeback](#) (2026-03-09 11:57)

The main opposition People Power Party on Monday apologized for the 2024 martial law declaration by then President Yoon Suk Yeol and pledged to sever ties with him amid an ongoing internal feud ahead of the June 3 local elections. The announcement came in a resolution issued in the name of all party lawmakers, as the party grapples with falling public support after Yoon's martial law attempt and internal divisions over its political direction and ties with the former president. Some party members have called for a clear break from Yoon, while others back the so-called Yoon Again movement. "We once again sincerely apologize to the public for the great confusion and disappointment caused by the wrongful declaration of the Dec. 3 martial law," the resolution read. "We clearly oppose any calls for Yoon's political comeback." The resolution was read by floor leader Rep. Song Eon-seog, while all lawmakers attending the meeting, including party leader Jang Dong-hyeok, stood in support.

- [Top presidential aide voices hope 'yellow envelope act' to promote labor-management dialogue](#) (2026-03-09 11:57)

President Lee Jae Myung's chief of staff said Monday the revised labor law aimed at broadening workers' bargaining rights should serve as a starting point for promoting dialogue and co-prosperity between labor and management. Kang Hoon-sik made the remark during a meeting with senior presidential aides on the eve of the implementation of the so-called yellow envelope act, which is designed to guarantee bargaining rights for indirectly employed and subcontracted workers and prohibit companies from filing damage claims against unionized workers. "The act should become a new starting point for co-prosperity between workers and management," Kang said. The pro-labor bill will take effect after passing on a third attempt, following two vetoes by former President Yoon Suk Yeol, who argued it would make it difficult for companies to hold unions accountable for illegal strikes and could hamper business activities. "It will serve as an important turning point that removes the shackles of retaliatory damage claims threatening workers' right to live and opens the door to dialogue," Kang said. He call

- [8th Army participates in Freedom Shield exercise to enhance readiness posture](#) (2026-03-09 11:57)

The U.S. Army based in South Korea began taking part in an annual springtime military exercise with the ally's forces Monday with a focus on enhancing readiness and modernizing the South Korea-U.S. alliance, the Eighth Army said. The U.S. Eighth Army has joined the Freedom Shield (FS) exercise, which kicked off earlier in the day and will run until March 19, as the ground component for U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) and the Combined Forces Command, according to U.S. military officials. During the joint drills, the allies will train under complex scenarios, including a combined live-fire air assault exercise, a combined wet gap crossing and a joint medical evacuation exercise, the Eighth Army said in a statement. All of the Eighth Army's major subordinate commands, including the 2nd Infantry Division, the 19th Expeditionary Sustainment Command and the 65th Medical Brigade, will participate in the FS exercise. The U.S. 11th Airborne Division deployed from Alaska will be engaged in a combined airborne operation in which paratroopers will perform a strategic airborne insertion into the Korean thea

- [Industry ministry to form team to manage envisioned US investment projects under trade deal](#) (2026-03-09 11:57)

The industry ministry said Monday it will create a team dedicated to managing South Korea's investment projects in the United States as part of a trade deal between the two countries, vowing to develop projects that benefit Korean companies. The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources unveiled the plan in a policy briefing to the National Assembly as the rival parties have agreed to pass a special bill to support Seoul's investment in U.S. through the parliament this week. The bill was designed to support the implementation of Seoul's \$350 billion investment pledge to the U.S. made under its trade deal with Washington finalized late last year in return for tariff cuts. The envisioned investment will comprise \$150 billion for shipbuilding cooperation and \$200 billion for projects in strategic sectors. The ministry said the team will be in charge of identifying potential investment projects with "commercial rationality," where the participation of Korean companies and investment recovery is assured. For example, for shipbuilding cooperation, the team plans to pursue low-risk projects, inc

- [Police crack down on software-enabled scalping ahead of BTS concert](#) (2026-03-09 11:57)

Police have opened an investigation into the alleged use of automated “macro” programs and ticket scams ahead of BTS’ s comeback concert at Gwanghwamun Square on March 21. The city-sponsored performance, which is expected to attract more than 200,000 fans from across Korea and overseas, requires advance reservations to secure seats, resulting in a surge in black market trading and fraud cases. Speaking to reporters Monday, Park Jeong-bo, chief of the Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency, said officers are currently investigating three criminal cases tied to ticket sales for the event, after ticketing operator Nol Universe filed a complaint over suspected “macro driven” bulk purchases. Macros are automated scripts that refresh pages and enter login and payment details at high speed, allowing users to snap up tickets far faster than ordinary buyers. Using macros or other tools to hoard tickets for resale at higher prices is

illegal in Korea. Park urged fans not to trust brokers who claim they can secure tickets using macros or offer “proxy ticketing” services. He warned that tho

- [Mount Gwanak becomes Seoul's new viral spring hiking spot](#) (2026-03-09 11:57)

Mount Gwanak, a granite peak that forms the southern ridgeline of Seoul, has quietly watched over the city for centuries. This spring, it is transforming into something else entirely: a viral “energy hotspot” where hikers line up for over an hour at the summit marker, hoping to soak up good fortune along with the skyline views. On recent weekends, the narrow path to Yeonjuda, the clifftop hermitage near the 632-meter summit, has turned into a human queue that can stretch more than 100 meters. Many in their 20s and 30s say they are not just there for the workout. Posing for “proof shots,” visitors post captions that read like whispered prayers: “Let this year go well,” “Please let me get a job,” “Let me come back here with good news.” Among them are Lee and Park, Seoul residents who climbed Mount Gwanak with their friends recently. “In the past I would have gone to a fortune teller, but now I’d rather hike, clear my head and ask the mountain for help,” said Lee, a 31-year-old job seeker who wrote her employment wish in the caption of a summit selfie she posted o

- [Families of Jeju Air crash victims protest discovery of additional remains](#) (2026-03-09 11:57)

The bereaved families of the victims of the Jeju Air plane crash in late 2024 on Monday protested the recent discovery of additional remains and belongings of the victims in the wreckage. They held a news conference in front of Cheong Wa Dae, the presidential office and residential compound in central Seoul, to condemn the “sloppy” disaster recovery process and demand an investigation into the truth and punishment for those responsible. A Jeju Air jet from Bangkok erupted into flames on Dec. 29, 2024, after crashing into the localizer’s concrete mound when it made an emergency belly landing at Muan International Airport, about 290 kilometers south of Seoul, claiming the lives of 179 passengers and crew members. Government officials and police investigators discovered nine pieces of remains presumed to belong to the crash victims during their reexamination of the wreckage on Feb. 26. Among them, one 25-centimeter-long bone has been confirmed to be the remains of a victim. “The discovery of additional remains of the victims more than one year after the disaster demonstrates the absence of

- [Prosecutors release identity of suspect accused of murdering two with laced drinks](#) (2026-03-09 11:57)

Prosecutors on Monday released the identity and mug shots of a 20-year-old woman arrested for allegedly murdering two men with laced drinks. The mug shots of Kim So-young were made public by the Seoul Northern District Prosecutors Office after undergoing a review by a dedicated committee on such disclosures. Kim is accused of handing the drinks containing benzodiazepine, a depressant, to three men on separate occasions between last December and last month, resulting in the two deaths. One of the three men recovered after treatment. Kim has admitted to giving the drinks to the men but has said that she did not know it would lead to

their deaths. Police, however, referred the case to the prosecution on murder charges after determining that Kim had intent to commit murder. Police took Kim into custody last month after one of the victims was found dead. Kim has been diagnosed as a psychopath after she met the criteria for antisocial personality disorder in a Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised test administered by police.

- [PPP faces candidate shortage for local elections as heavyweights skip primaries](#) (2026-03-09 11:57)

The main opposition People Power Party (PPP) is facing growing strain ahead of the June 3 local elections after several political heavyweights opted out of the party's primary races, potentially weakening its chances against the ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK). According to the party's primary registration list that was finalized Sunday night, candidate sign-ups were weak across key regions, including the Seoul metropolitan area and South Chungcheong Province. Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon, considered one of the party's most prominent figures, opted out of the PPP's Seoul mayoral primary. His announcement, made just hours before the registration deadline, came as a surprise to many as he previously hinted he would seek a fifth term. His decision comes amid a widening rift with the PPP leadership. Oh has publicly urged PPP chairman Rep. Jang Dong-hyeok to clarify the party's political direction and distance its leadership from supporters of former President Yoon Suk Yeol and his martial law debacle, saying it would improve the party's chances in local elections. Rep. Na Kyung-won, a

- [PM to attend Boao Forum in China this month](#) (2026-03-09 11:57)

Prime Minister Kim Min-seok plans to attend the Boao Forum for Asia in China later this month, his office said Monday. Kim is scheduled to deliver a keynote speech at the annual conference slated to be held in Boao, Hainan Province, from March 24-27, the office said in a press release. This will be the prime minister's second trip overseas since he took office, following his visit to Washington in January, where he met with U.S. Vice President JD Vance. Kim is likely to use his trip to China to meet with senior Chinese officials as the two countries seek to strengthen ties following President Lee Jae Myung's state visit to Beijing in January. Also a factor in the decision to attend the forum was that former U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon currently serves as chairman of the organization, sources said.

- [K-water showcases AI-powered hydro management tech at MWC 2026](#) (2026-03-09 11:57)

Korea Water Resources Corporation (K-water) showcased its artificial intelligence (AI)-based water management technology at MWC 2026 in Barcelona last week, highlighting its competitiveness in the sector. The initiative reflects the corporation's strategy under K-water CEO Yun Seog-dae to strengthen water management policies aimed at addressing the climate crisis while expanding overseas, as the state-run utility this year launched a global push for AI-driven water management. K-water aims to expand into the high-value AI and digital markets with three core technologies: water management digital twins that replicate dam operations in a virtual environment, supporting decision-making; AI-powered water treatment plants enabling

autonomous operations through algorithm analysis; and Smart Water Network Management(SWNM), which uses Internet of Things technology to reduce leaks and stabilize pipelines.K-water' s SWNM was selected as a winner at this year' s Global Mobile Awards, held duringMWC, marking the first time a Korean public institution has received the honor andunderscoring i

- [Gov't to implement price cap system for petroleum products this week](#) (2026-03-09 11:57)

The Korean government plans to introduce a temporary price cap on petroleum products as early as this week to curb surging fuel costs triggered by escalating tensions in the Middle East, the presidential policy chief said Monday. The system will allow the government to set an upper limit on retail fuel prices for a fixed period to prevent sharp spikes. Presidential chief of staff for policy Kim Yong-beom said at a briefing that the government will work fast to complete administrative steps, including issuing a ministerial notice, so the cap could take effect within days. He said officials had discussed detailed measures to prevent abnormal pricing of petroleum products and improve price predictability in the market, adding that the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources will move quickly to finalize procedures needed to introduce the system. Earlier Monday, President Lee Jae Myung convened an emergency economic meeting and ordered the immediate introduction of the price cap, along with a crackdown on price manipulation, to shield the public from economic fallout linked to the Middle

- [Hyundai Rotem, gov't agency set 2035 target for hypersonic missile development](#) (2026-03-09 05:57)

Hyundai Rotem, the defense and rail subsidiary of Hyundai Motor Group, aims to mass-produce hypersonic missiles by 2035 in cooperation with the state-run Agency for Defense Development (ADD) — weapons widely regarded as a key element of modern warfare. The plan reflects South Korea' s broader push to secure advanced strike capabilities as neighboring countries develop or already operate hypersonic weapons that are difficult for existing missile defense systems to intercept. With speeds faster than Mach 5, or about 6,120 kilometers per hour, hypersonic missiles are capable of striking targets worldwide within hours. Their extreme speed and maneuverability make them difficult for existing missile defense systems to intercept. The United States, Russia and China currently operate hypersonic missiles, while several other countries, including North Korea, India and France, are developing their own capabilities. According to defense industry sources, Sunday, Hyundai Rotem and ADD recently acquired a key early-stage technology for stable propulsion in hypersonic vehicles. The system allows

- [Gov't to refer Nonghyup chief to police over alleged embezzlement, bribery](#) (2026-03-09 05:57)

The government said Monday it plans to refer the chairman of NongHyup, the country's agricultural cooperative and banking group, to the police for investigation over allegations of embezzlement and bribery. The plan was announced by an interagency team, comprised of the Office for Government Policy Coordination, the agriculture ministry, the Financial Services

Commission and the Financial Supervisory Service, following a special audit of NongHyup (the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation), its affiliates and member cooperatives that began Jan. 26. The team said it found various irregularities, such as possible embezzlement of public funds, preferential loan agreements and accounting fraud. Of them, the team plans to refer 14 major cases to the police for investigation, while ordering NongHyup to devise remedies or improvements for a tentative 96 additional cases. According to the findings, NongHyup Chairman Kang Ho-dong embezzled the funds of an affiliated foundation in 2024 and 2025 with the help of one of its senior officials to procure 490 million won (\$327,000) worth of gifts

- [Lee orders price caps, seeks alternative supply routes as Middle East crisis deepens](#) (2026-03-09 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung convened an emergency economic meeting Monday, ordering the immediate implementation of a maximum price system for petroleum products, along with a crackdown on price manipulation, to shield the public from turmoil in the Middle East. Warning that the regional crisis had created “extraordinary” uncertainties for the energy-dependent country, Lee also directed officials to secure alternative supply routes that bypass the Strait of Hormuz, while vowing to strictly punish any hoarding or collusion in the market. “As the situation surrounding energy supply and household economic anxiety is serious, extraordinary countermeasures commensurate with the circumstances are needed,” Lee said during the meeting. “In cooperation with our strategic partner countries, we should swiftly identify alternative supply routes that do not pass through the Strait of Hormuz.” He also called for strict enforcement against illegal practices in the domestic oil market, including collusion among refiners and gas stations, hoarding and speculative stockpiling. “Illegal activities su

- [Korea, US kick off major spring drills amid speculation over Patriot redeployment](#) (2026-03-09 05:57)

Korea and the United States kicked off their major spring joint Freedom Shield exercise Monday amid speculation that U.S. Forces Korea's (USFK) Patriot missiles have been deployed to the Middle East as regional tensions rise. The 11-day exercise, which runs through March 19, involves about 18,000 personnel and incorporates lessons drawn from recent wars to reflect evolving and realistic threats in its operational scenarios, according to Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff. With Seoul and Washington accelerating efforts to transfer wartime operational control to Korea, this year's drills are also expected to focus on assessing and verifying whether conditions for the transition have been met. The exercise comes amid rising indications that Patriot missile systems operated by USFK have been redeployed to the Middle East, as demand for interceptor missiles and air defense systems grows following the Feb. 28 U.S.-Israeli strikes on Iran. Several U.S. military transport aircraft have been seen arriving at and departing from a U.S. air base in Pyeongtaek, just south of Seoul, in recent days, fueling

- [Gov't to crack down on illegal foreign delivery riders](#) (2026-03-09 05:57)

The government will initiate an intensive crackdown on foreigners who work illegally as delivery riders, the Ministry of Justice said Monday. The crackdown will be implemented for two months until April 30, and foreigners caught will face fines and forced deportation, the ministry said. Cases of illegal work in the delivery industry by foreigners residing in Korea are increasing, and illegal acts such as driving motorcycles without a license are emerging as social problems, it noted. Recent reports say that some foreign students borrow Korean names to sign up on delivery platforms. The ministry said those who lend their delivery platform accounts to foreigners will also be reported to the police and other relevant authorities. A ministry official said the government will do its best to protect the jobs of Koreans and establish the order for foreigners staying here by cracking down on those working illegally in the delivery industry.

- [203 Koreans return from Abu Dhabi aboard chartered flight](#) (2026-03-09 05:57)

YEONGJONGDO — More than 200 Korean nationals who had been stranded in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) due to the escalating U.S.-Iran conflict returned home Monday aboard a chartered flight. The Etihad Airways plane, carrying 203 Koreans and three family members of other nationalities, arrived at Incheon International Airport, west of Seoul, in the early morning, about 8 hours after departing from Abu Dhabi. It marked the first chartered flight organized by Seoul to bring back Korean nationals from the UAE amid the widening conflict that has disrupted air traffic in the region. The foreign ministry estimates about 1,400 Koreans remain in the UAE as short-term travelers. It expects them to gradually return home as commercial flights resume. Families embraced each other as they were reunited at the airport, with a 4-year-old shouting, "Daddy," as he ran to his father, who had been waiting for his arrival. The boy's mother, Kim Bora, who arrived back home with her son, said she was able to book the chartered flight after getting in touch with the foreign ministry the previous day. "While eva

- [Lee urges caution over reform measures to minimize side effects](#) (2026-03-09 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung on Monday urged caution in pushing ahead with reform measures to minimize potential side effects, suggesting a "surgical correction" approach where necessary. Lee reaffirmed his commitment to carrying out reform initiatives to address problems across various sectors, but stressed the need to avoid discouraging or hurting many members who are not involved in causing those problems. "Reform often requires surgical correction," Lee wrote on social media platform X. "To resolve problems, it is essential to accurately identify their root causes and clearly distinguish what is right from what is wrong." "Whether it is prosecution reform, labor and economic reform, media reform or judicial reform, that is how I believe reform should be approached," he added. Even when pursuing necessary reforms, Lee said the government should avoid indiscriminately condemning everyone or treating all as targets of reform, warning against "burning down the whole house to catch a flea." "No matter how difficult reform may be, we must never give up on it, but we must proceed with great cauti

- [Seoul goes green for St. Patrick's Day Festival](#) (2026-03-08 23:57)

It's that time of year again — the ice melts, the sun sets later and the greens come out. It's time once again for St. Patrick's Day, including the big annual festival at D-Cube City Plaza in southwestern Seoul this Saturday. Under this year's theme of "Seoul's Going Green," the plaza will be transformed into a lively showcase of Irish heritage and contemporary culture, highlighting the deep and growing tie between Ireland and Korea. "St. Patrick's Day has been a staple in Seoul for many years now, and what makes it special is the feeling of Irish hospitality and community on display for all to see," said Alan Leavy, chairman of the Irish Association of Korea (IAK), the main organizer. "It's not just for Irish people. We really want it to be open to anyone who wants to come along, take part and enjoy themselves. St. Patrick's Day is among the most widely celebrated national days in the world, and here in Seoul it's a great day out for the whole family and a chance to experience a bit of Irish culture." Running from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., the free, family-friendly outdoor

- [Chartered plane departs from UAE to bring home 203 Koreans: ministry](#) (2026-03-08 11:57)

A chartered plane departed from the United Arab Emirates on Sunday to bring home hundreds of Koreans stranded in the Middle Eastern country amid the escalating conflict between Iran and the United States and Israel, the foreign ministry said. An Etihad Airways chartered flight carrying 203 Koreans and their three foreign spouses departed from Abu Dhabi at 5:35 p.m., according to the ministry. The plane was expected to arrive at Incheon International Airport at around 2 a.m. Monday. Korea has been seeking to bring home some 3,000 nationals stranded in the UAE due to flight disruptions amid escalating tensions in the Middle East after U.S.-Israeli strikes against Iran began in late February. Around 1,500 Koreans, including those aboard the chartered plane, have left the UAE since flights heading to and departing from the country resumed. The foreign ministry has dispatched a joint rapid response team to the UAE to assist evacuation operations. The Korean Embassy in the UAE began receiving applications early Saturday from Korean nationals wishing to board the chartered plane.

- [Seoul mayor didn't apply for PPP's candidacy for June local elections](#) (2026-03-08 11:57)

Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon on Sunday did not register his candidacy for reelection with the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) by the deadline, according to his aides. Oh did not register as a PPP candidate for the Seoul mayoral race in the June 3 local elections by the deadline set for 6 p.m. Sunday, as he thinks the party should prioritize severing ties with former President Yoon Suk Yeol ahead of the polls, according to his aides. Oh has been calling for PPP leadership to shift the party line to distance itself from Yoon, who is now in jail over the December 2024 martial law crisis.

- [Korea marks Int'l Women's Day with gender equality rally](#) (2026-03-08 11:57)

Korea marked this year's International Women's Day with rallies, awards and renewed political pledges over the weekend, underscoring both the gains women have made and the persistent gender gaps in the country. Korean Women's Association United hosted the 41st Korean Women's Rally in central Seoul on Saturday, turning the Gwanghwamun area into a

purple-hued sea of celebration and protest ahead of International Women's Day on Sunday. This year's Women's Movement of the Year award symbolically went to all women who advocated for gender-equal democracy during the rallies calling for the impeachment of former President Yoon Suk Yeol, with organizers rolling out a red carpet for participants to pose with bouquets and mock trophies. Women of all ages attended in the event's dress code of purple, long been used globally as a suffragette color symbolizing justice and dignity. It also became the trademark hue of Korea's feminist movement in recent years, from annual women's marches to #MeToo protests. Participants chanted, "Complete the revolution of light!" and "Gender eq

- [Seoul launches crackdown on lodging violations ahead of BTS concert](#) (2026-03-08 11:57)

City authorities in Seoul have started a crackdown on lodging facilities near Gwanghwamun ahead of K-pop group BTS' comeback concert on March 21, uncovering a string of violations including hotels operating without posting mandatory room rate information. During its special inspections carried out in central Seoul between Feb. 25 and March 4, 18 hotels and other lodging facilities had violated regulations by failing to display official room rates or business registration certificates, the Seoul Metropolitan Government said Sunday. Under the Public Health Control Act, hospitality business owners have to display their business registration certificate inside the premises and post a room rate table at the reception desk. The city's special judicial police bureau, working in cooperation with the Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency, will formally book all 18 offending establishments and conduct investigations. Depending on the findings, the violators could face up to six months in prison or fines of up to 5 million won (\$3,400). City officials will also ask Jongno and Jung district offices t

- [Rising Sun flag at WBC Korea-Japan game sparks criticism](#) (2026-03-08 11:57)

The appearance of the Rising Sun flag during a World Baseball Classic (WBC) game between Korea and Japan has sparked criticism after Japanese spectators were seen displaying the controversial symbol at Tokyo Dome. The flag, widely associated with the Imperial Japanese Army and Navy, is viewed by many throughout Asia as a symbol of the country's militaristic colonial past, including its 35-year rule over Korea. The incident occurred during the 2026 WBC match played Saturday. Seo Kyung-duk, a professor at Sungshin Women's University, said he sent a protest email to the tournament's organizers after reports showed several Japanese fans holding and waving the controversial flags before entering the stadium. "Some Japanese fans were openly displaying the Rising Sun flag and cheering before entering Tokyo Dome," Seo wrote on social media Saturday, citing footage reported by broadcaster JTBC. "The Rising Sun flag is a symbol of Japan's militarism and imperialism," he said. "Using it while cheering denies the history of Japan's past wars of aggression and reminds many Asians

- [Korea to allow Iranians to overstay visas until conflict eases](#) (2026-03-08 11:57)

Korea will allow Iranians to remain here beyond their visa limits on humanitarian grounds, as the U.S.-Israeli war on Iran intensifies in the Middle East. In response to inquiries from The Korea Times regarding Iranian nationals in Korea, the Ministry of Justice said those whose visas

cannot be extended under ordinary rules will be permitted to stay until war-related risks are deemed to have subsided enough to allow safe travel. As of January, 2,133 Iranian nationals were residing legally in Korea. “The Ministry of Justice plans to allow Iranians who are currently staying in Korea legally, but can no longer extend their visas or change their status, to remain here on humanitarian grounds until the situation stabilizes,” a ministry official said. This measure comes as some other countries are moving to ease immigration rules or grant temporary protections to Iranians who would face heightened danger if forced to return. At least two countries — Canada and Japan — have so far announced special measures allowing Iranians to extend their stay rather than forcing them to return to a w

- [Lee to preside over emergency economic meeting on Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-08 11:57)

President Lee Jae Myung will preside over an emergency meeting with related ministries on Monday to review the economic impact from heightened tensions in the Middle East and discuss response measures, Cheong Wa Dae said Sunday. The meeting will bring together ministers and senior officials from the finance, industry, climate and energy, budget planning and agriculture ministries, as well as the Korea Customs Service and the Fair Trade Commission, according to presidential spokesperson Kang Yu-jung. Lee is expected to review global financial markets and oil prices and assess their effect on the domestic stock market, the foreign exchange market and inflation. Lee previously reviewed the latest developments in the Middle East during an extraordinary Cabinet meeting on Thursday, following U.S.-Israeli strikes on Iran and Tehran's retaliatory attacks in the region. Korea, which relies heavily on energy imports, is particularly vulnerable to external price shocks, which often drive inflation.

- [Experts see growing links between European, Asian security amid Ukraine war](#) (2026-03-08 11:57)

Security developments in Europe and East Asia are becoming increasingly intertwined in the wake of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, experts said at the Inaugural Strategic Dialogue in Seoul last week. Participants said the war had accelerated debate over whether to view crises in different regions as part of a broader strategic environment rather than isolated regional challenges. They also pointed to growing pressure from the United States for allies to assume greater responsibility for their own defense, as well as expanding opportunities for Europe-Asia cooperation in fields such as defense and advanced technologies. The discussion took place at the Korea Military Academy, where the International Policy Studies Institute (IPSI) and Hungary's Danube Institute jointly hosted the event, titled “Changing Dynamics of Geopolitics in Europe and East Asia: Assessing Constraints and Opportunities for Cooperation.” Hong Kyu-dok, president of IPSI, said the forum was intended to promote deeper exchanges between experts from Europe and Asia as geopolitical risks continue to grow. “This fo

- [Airlift operations at USFK base signal possible shift of assets to Middle East](#) (2026-03-08 11:57)

Recent U.S. military airlift activity at a major air base in South Korea has drawn attention to the possibility that air defense assets assigned to United States Forces Korea (USFK) have been redeployed to the Middle East. According to the real-time flight tracking website Flightradar24 Sunday, U.S. Air Force C-5 and C-17 transport aircraft that landed at Osan Air Base in Pyeongtaek, Gyeonggi Province, in late February departed in a series of flights earlier this month. Particular attention has focused on the C-5 Galaxy, which is larger than the C-17. At least two C-5 aircraft arrived at the base in late February and were seen departing on Feb. 28 and last Monday. Their final destinations were not listed, but flight records indicate journeys lasting more than 14 hours, raising the possibility that they continued on to the U.S. mainland or the Middle East. While C-17 aircraft routinely stop at Osan to transport U.S. troops and equipment, the arrival of the much larger C-5 aircraft is considered unusual. Reports earlier indicated that USFK had relocated some Patriot air defense systems fro

- [Ruling party seeks stricter corporate penalties for customer data breaches](#) (2026-03-08 11:57)

The Korean government and the ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) are moving to advance a second revision of the country's Personal Information Protection Act that would strengthen corporate liability for large-scale data breaches. The proposed amendment is intended to enhance compensation and relief for victims of large-scale data breaches. However, industry insiders warn that the measures could impose excessive burdens on companies. Discussions at the National Assembly are focusing on amendment bills introduced by several DPK lawmakers, political sources said Sunday. The proposals share a central provision: eliminating the requirement to prove "intent or negligence" in compensation claims stemming from cases of compromised user data, a change that would broaden corporate liability. The push for stricter liability follows a series of high-profile data breaches in Korea, including a recent case involving Coupang, the country's largest e-commerce platform. Authorities said the incident may have exposed personal information linked to a large number of user accounts, intensifyin

- [Lee to meet executives of large firms, SMEs this week](#) (2026-03-08 11:57)

President Lee Jae Myung will meet with senior officials from major conglomerates and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) this week to discuss ways to promote a co-prosperity business model, Cheong Wa Dae said Monday. Lee plans to host the meeting with business and government officials on Tuesday to encourage mutually beneficial cooperation between large companies and SMEs and to share best practices, presidential spokesperson Kang Yu-jung said in a press notice. Senior executives from Samsung Electronics, Hyundai Motor, SK Group, Hanwha Ocean and Naver as well as representatives from SMEs and experts will participate, alongside Finance Minister Koo Yoon-cheol, SME Minister Han Sung-sook and senior presidential aides, Kang said. Participants will introduce examples of cooperation between large corporations and smaller firms and discuss ways to build a co-prosperity business ecosystem, Kang said.

- [Bureaucratic hurdles undermine Korea's ambitions to attract international students](#) (2026-03-08 11:57)

Korea's drive to attract and retain international students is hitting a roadblock at immigration offices, a place many students now view as a source of fear rather than support. Even as universities expand recruitment and the government pledges to ease visa rules, inconsistent administrative practices and constantly shifting guidelines at immigration offices are emerging as major hurdles to the country's study-to-settlement pathway for foreign students. All students interviewed by The Korea Times for this article requested that their names not be used. One Iraqi student said she nearly lost an internship due to a delayed decision on her part-time work permission. She received an internship offer from a tech company building apps for foreign communities in Korea and was scheduled to begin work on Jan. 5. She applied for part-time work authorization on Dec. 20 last year, and received a text message six days later stating the application had been "accepted by an appropriate department." There was no further notice for about a month, until the immigration office informed her on Jan. 2

- [Tablets replace heavy textbooks at universities as e-book sales quadruple](#) (2026-03-08 05:57)

University students in Korea are increasingly swapping heavy printed textbooks for tablets and laptops, as e-book sales of course materials have more than quadrupled in the past four years, data showed Sunday. Kyobo Book Centre said e-books accounted 29.9 percent of its online and offline university textbook sales by value last year, up from just 7.1 percent in 2021. The share has climbed steadily — 8 percent in 2022, 15.2 percent in 2023 and 23.1 percent in 2024 — even though print still generates more than three times the sales of digital textbooks. Considering that e-books remain under 10 percent of overall book sales, the shift in the higher education textbook segment is particularly striking, the retailer noted. Behind the trend are the literal burdens of printed books. One top-selling e-textbook, "Electronic Engineering Experiment 1" from Kyungpook National University Press, runs 602 pages and weighs about 1.5 kilograms. Many students say it's no longer practical to carry several such "brick books" across sprawling campuses. Improved e-book platforms, which offer search

- [Lee pledges to promote gender equality on International Women's Day](#) (2026-03-08 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung on Sunday pledged to advance gender equality and foster a more inclusive society, marking International Women's Day. "I will fulfill my given role and responsibility to ensure that the Republic of Korea is reborn as a gender-equal society," Lee wrote on his Facebook page, referring to Korea's official name. Lee said gender equality policies were scaled back under the previous administration, which had pledged to abolish the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family but failed, noting that his administration will work to restore and strengthen those efforts. "(The government) is reversing that trend by restoring gender equality policies to their rightful place, filling the gaps left in the past and moving step by step toward a gender-equal society," he said. Reflecting on the long journey of those who have worked to advance women's rights, Lee reviewed the remaining tasks needed to achieve gender equality

and protect the rights of those who have been discriminated against or marginalized. "We will build a society where differences do not lead to discrimination and divide

- [US transport aircraft spotted departing Osan Air Base amid Patriot relocation speculation](#) (2026-03-08 05:57)

U.S. military transport aircraft have been spotted arriving at and departing from a U.S. air base in Korea over the past week, raising speculation that the U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) may be deploying some of its assets to the Middle East amid the escalating conflict involving Iran. According to the real-time flight tracking website Flightradar24, C-5 and C-17 U.S. transport aircraft have landed at Osan Air Base in Pyeongtaek, south of Seoul, since late last month and departed between Wednesday and Saturday. At least two C-5 aircraft arrived at the air base in late February and were spotted departing last Saturday and Monday, while C-17 aircraft departed between Tuesday and Saturday, with six confirmed to be heading to Anchorage, Alaska. The C-17 aircraft regularly stopped at the key U.S. base to transport U.S. assets and personnel, but the arrival of the C-5 appears to be rare. The latest move has fueled speculation that the USFK may be preparing to move Patriot missile defense systems, as it is known to have recently relocated some Patriot batteries to Osan Air Base from other U.S. bases.

- [No. of drug addicts rises 49% from 2020 to 2024](#) (2026-03-08 05:57)

The number of drug addicts receiving treatment in Korea surged 48.7 percent from 2020 to 2024, driven by a sharp increase among people in their 20s and 30s, data showed Sunday. The number of patients who received treatment stood at 828 in 2024, up from 557 in 2020, according to the data compiled by the state-run Health Insurance Review and Assessment Service (HIRA). By age group, patients aged 20-29 jumped 139.1 percent over the period to 275 in 2024, while those aged 30-39 rose 89 percent to 223, HIRA said. Male patients accounted for 606 cases in 2024, compared with 266 female patients, though the rate of increase over the period was faster among women. Meanwhile, the total cost of treatment doubled to about 1 billion won (\$67,340) during the cited period, it noted.

- [Gender minister issues apology to former sex work victims near US bases](#) (2026-03-07 11:57)

Gender Equality Minister Won Min-kyong issued an apology to former sex workers Saturday whose rights were violated in now-defunct brothels built around American military bases, marking the government's first official apology. "As the gender minister dealing with gender equality and women's rights, I offer my sincere apologies to the victims for the state's actions that violated their human rights at the Gijichon," Won said in a message marking International Women's Day, which falls Sunday. "We will make every effort necessary to ensure that the history of human rights violations suffered by the victims is not forgotten and that they live the rest of their lives with dignity and fully restore their damaged honor," she added. The apology came more than three-and-a-half years after the Supreme Court in 2022 ordered the state to pay between 3 million and 7 million won (\$2,086-\$4,866) in compensation each to a total of 95

former sex workers from brothels at villages around U.S. military bases, known as "basevillages" or "Gijichon" in Korean. The victims filed the suit in 2014, claiming the g

- [Sex workers in Miari Texas end weekly rallies after reaching relocation support agreement](#) (2026-03-07 05:57)

The Miari Texas Sex Worker Relocation Committee held its 69th and final regular weekly rally on March 5 in front of Seongbuk District Office, after achieving a hard-fought relocation support agreement with the redevelopment association for the Sinwolgot District 1 urban renewal project in northeastern Seoul. Miari Texas is the name given to Seoul's last remaining large-scale red-light district, which operated for nearly seven decades in the Hawolgok-dong neighborhood near Gireum Station on Seoul Metro Line 4. Now that it faces redevelopment, its evicted residents face the challenge of relocating elsewhere. Committee members, activists and citizen supporters had staged weekly rallies since November 2023 in front of the district office, demanding relocation compensation and defending their right to a livelihood. Ultimately, the agreement had to be made with the redevelopment association, as only landlords and brothel owners were legally eligible for government support. For the workers and residents of Miari Texas, largely middle-aged and elderly women, their most desperate need is stabl

- [Lawmaker at center of election nomination bribery scandal questioned by police](#) (2026-03-07 05:57)

Rep. Kang Sun-woo, an independent formerly affiliated with the ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK), was questioned by police Saturday over bribery allegations linked to the 2022 local elections. Police said they began questioning Kang early Saturday, four days after she was arrested Tuesday following the passage of her arrest motion in a plenary vote at the National Assembly. Kang left the DPK in January to become an independent in the wake of the snowballing scandal. Kang is accused of receiving 100 million won (\$68,200) in cash from former councilor Kim Kyung ahead of the 2022 elections allegedly in exchange for her support for Kim's nomination as a DPK candidate for the Seoul city council at the time. Kim ultimately was nominated and won a city council seat in the elections. Police believe Kang had met Kim with knowledge of the cash in advance and spent the money on a rental deposit. Kang has rejected accusations that she accepted the money, claiming she belatedly learned of her aide's receipt of the cash.

- [Chartered plane to bring home Koreans from UAE on Sunday: ministry](#) (2026-03-07 05:57)

A chartered plane to evacuate South Koreans from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will take off this weekend amid escalating violence in the Middle East, the foreign ministry said Saturday. The ministry said it is arranging a 290-seat Etihad Airways chartered flight, set to depart from Abu Dhabi at noon Sunday (local time). Starting early Saturday, the South Korean Embassy in the UAE will receive applications from South Korean nationals wishing to board the plane, with priority given to critically ill patients, people with severe disabilities, pregnant women, the elderly and children. The planned departure comes as Seoul seeks to bring home some 3,000

nationals stranded in the UAE due to flight disruptions amid the escalating conflict between Iran and the United States.

- [When adoption doesn't mean the end of the story](#) (2026-03-06 23:57)

Despite a proliferation of stories about fairytale reunions, or stories that treat adoption as the end of an individual's journey, Korean adoptees have a wide range of experiences. Those experiences are not monolithic, nor are they always black and white. One such adoptee is Ally Yoon Chae, born in 1979, who came to the U.S. at the age of 10. Named Choi Yoon-kyeong at birth, Ally was born out of wedlock and later neglected by her birth parents. She and her brother were living in a one-bedroom hut with no electricity or running water when a stranger — likely a social worker — brought the two of them to an orphanage in Seoul in the late 1980s. After a year, Ally and her brother were adopted through what she believes was the Eastern Social Welfare Society. Her adoptive parents, she says, saw them in what was essentially a magazine. Her adoptive mother named her Alexandra Porter. When Ally moved to her adoptive parents' home in Ventura, California, in March 1989, it felt like a new start. But after a year, the adoptive parents divorced. Ally juggled several things at once: learning

- [Incheon airport weighs parking fee hike to curb congestion](#) (2026-03-06 17:57)

For Lee, a 45-year-old resident of Seoul's Gangbuk District, deciding how to travel to Incheon International Airport with his family is a matter of simple math. A round-trip bus ride for two adults and one elementary school child costs 96,000 won (\$66), or 18,000 won per adult and 12,000 won per child. Driving, however, costs only 6,400 won in round-trip tolls and 9,000 won per day for parking. For Lee, it is significantly cheaper and easier to use a private car than to haul luggage on public transit. This economic reality is pushing families away from buses and driving extreme congestion at the nation's primary gateway, prompting Incheon International Airport to consider raising its parking fees for the first time in a decade. The Incheon International Airport Corporation announced Wednesday it plans to carefully review a fee hike in consultation with the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, alongside a potential expansion of parking facilities. The move is in response to gridlocked lots caused by shifting traveler habits. The share of passengers driving private cars to the a

- [Viral ex-civil servant known as Chungju Man earns YouTube gold button in 3 days](#) (2026-03-06 11:57)

Former municipal worker Kim Seon-tae amassed 1 million subscribers on his newly launched independent YouTube channel in just three days, drawing a flood of sponsorship offers from major corporations and state-run agencies. Kim, who revolutionized local government public relations under the moniker Chungju Man, surpassed 1 million subscribers Thursday evening. Reaching this number qualifies the channel for a YouTube Gold Button. He launched the channel Monday following his departure from the Chungju municipal government. Kim joined the city as an entry-level worker in 2016. He turned the official Chungju City YouTube channel into a nationwide success model using bold, self-deprecating humor, earning a fast-track

promotion to a midlevel official in just seven years. He resigned on Feb. 13 after posting a videotitled "Farewell" on the city's official channel. "After leaving public service, I received direct and indirect offers from various places, but I wanted to try it freely," Kim said. "I also had a desire to earn more money. I am 40 now, but I wanted to realize my full potential before

- [Korean YouTuber referred to prosecutors over false claim of 37 mutilated bodies](#) (2026-03-06 11:57)

A Korean YouTuber accused of spreading false claims that dozens of mutilated bodies were discovered in the country has been referred to prosecutors, police said Wednesday. The Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency's cyber investigation department said it sent a case involving a man in his 30s, identified only by his surname Cho, to prosecutors on Feb. 13 without detention on suspicion of violating the Framework Act on Telecommunications. Police also requested a pre-indictment forfeiture order for \$2,421 in alleged criminal proceeds earned from his YouTube channel. Cho runs a YouTube channel targeting a Japanese audience and has about 960,000 subscribers. He is accused of posting a video on Oct. 22, 2025, claiming that 37 bodies consisting only of the lower halves had been discovered in Korea and that there were more than 150 undisclosed investigations. The video also claimed that murder and organ exchange crimes have surged in Korea after the country allowed visa-free entry for Chinese nationals, police said. Last November, Korea's National Police Agency designated the video as a serious a

- [Suspected Seoul serial killer ordered \\$90 worth of food after drugging victim](#) (2026-03-06 11:57)

A suspect accused of killing two men in a series of attacks at a Seoul motel made a large food delivery order shortly after drugging one of the victims and later took the food home, according to police and investigative records. Kim, a woman in her 20s identified only by her surname, is accused of administering beverages containing a benzodiazepine-based sedative to three men between December and February. Two of the victims died and another survived with injuries. Interviews and investigative records reviewed by the Hankook Ilbo show that the suspect ordered 22 food items delivered immediately after the second killing. She briefly left the crime scene with food, leading police to suspect that one of her motives for luring men into the motel had been obtaining food. According to order records from a local fried chicken restaurant, a large delivery order was placed at 9:23 p.m. on Feb. 9. The order, totaling 22 items, included two fried chickens in four flavors along with chewy rice cakes, cheese balls, cheese sticks, spicy simmered rice cakes, rice, fries, bottles of cola and extra sauce

- [Korea secures 6 mil. barrels of crude from UAE as fuel prices surge amid Iran conflict](#) (2026-03-06 11:57)

Korea will import more than 6 million barrels of crude oil from the United Arab Emirates in an emergency effort to stabilize fuel prices, the presidential office said Friday, as the conflict involving Iran roils global energy markets. Presidential chief of staff Kang Hoon-sik said the decision was made following consultations directed by President Lee Jae Myung. "I would also

like to share the welcome news that we will purchase crude oil from the UAE,” Kang told reporters. “We discussed measures to secure additional oil imports, and as a result, emergency imports totaling more than 6 million barrels of crude have been confirmed.” Kang added that the additional supply is expected to help ease pressure on domestic fuel prices. Korea, the world’s fourth-largest crude oil importer, relies almost entirely on overseas energy supplies due to a lack of domestic petroleum resources. The country imports the vast majority of its crude oil from the Middle East, particularly from major producers such as Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait. The emergency purchase comes as global

- [Seoul immigration to bring on-campus services to 27 universities](#) (2026-03-06 11:57)

International students in Seoul will be spared long lines at immigration offices this month as authorities plan to offer registration services directly on university campuses through an on-site visit program. The Seoul Immigration Office and its Sejongno branch will visit 27 universities that have large numbers of foreign students from March 9 to April 9, Yonhap News Agency reported Friday. The measure is intended to reduce crowds at immigration offices, where international students typically gather early in the semester to complete foreign resident registration and other administrative procedures. Immigration officials will visit campuses to process fingerprint registration and other documents required for foreign resident registration. The Seoul Immigration Office will visit 19 universities where around 4,000 international students are enrolled, including Seoul National University on March 11, Konkuk University on March 17 and Hanyang University on March 18. The Sejongno branch will operate similar services at eight universities where about 2,800 foreign students are enrolled, including

- [Illegal employment of foreign workers surges in delivery sector](#) (2026-03-06 11:57)

Korea’s delivery sector is rapidly becoming a major channel for the illegal employment of foreign workers, according to the Ministry of Justice. The trend has also raised concerns about safety because of inadequate checks on licenses and insurance, while domestic delivery riders say the growing competition is making it harder to secure delivery calls. The ministry reported that the number of foreigners caught working illegally in the delivery and courier sector surged from 117 in 2023 to 486 last year. Under current regulations, delivery work is permitted only for foreigners holding certain residency statuses, including the F-2 resident visa, F-5 permanent resident visa and F-6 marriage visa. However, cases continue to emerge of foreigners working as delivery riders while on nonprofessional employment visas like E-9 or student visas like D-2. Many foreign riders circumvent restrictions by using accounts registered under Korean citizens’ names. Delivery agencies reportedly secure multiple accounts under Korean identities and rent them to foreign riders for monthly fees of 200,000 to 3

- [USFK may send Patriot missiles to Middle East](#) (2026-03-06 11:57)

U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) may be or is suspected of preparing to deploy some of its Patriot batteries to the Middle East, as tensions escalate following U.S.-Israeli strikes on Iran. Korean authorities are closely monitoring the situation and have not ruled out the possibility that USFK

assets could be moved to the region. According to local reports, USFK recently relocated several Patriot missile defense launchers and interceptors from other U.S. bases in Korea to Osan AirBase in Pyeongtaek, Gyeonggi Province. In addition to the missile batteries already stationed there, additional equipment was deployed as of Thursday, noticeably increasing the number of launchers at the base. U.S. military transport aircraft, including C-17 and C-5 cargo planes, were also spotted at the site on the same day. The C-17 was previously used to transport two USFK Patriot batteries to the Middle East between March and April last year, just months before Washington carried out airstrikes on Iran in June under Operation Midnight Hammer. The two Patriot units returned to Korea in October. The developments come

- [Ex-President Moon calls for minimizing use of force, diplomatic solution in Iran crisis](#) (2026-03-06 05:57)

Former President Moon Jae-in called for minimizing the use of force and making efforts for a diplomatic solution in the U.S.-Iran conflict during his visit to the United States on Thursday. Moon, who led Korea from 2017 to 2022, made the call at a dinner event hosted by the nonprofit Pacific Century Institute in Los Angeles in his first overseas trip since leaving office. As he mentioned the war in the Middle East, Moon said the use of force leads to a cycle of hatred and revenge, urging against it and calling for making efforts to resolve the conflict in a diplomatic and peaceful way. He also voiced concern over extremism around the world, saying peace through dialogue and cooperation is the only solution in an era of growing tension and confrontation. Moon's trip comes at the invitation of the U.S. think tank RAND and the Pacific Century Institute. He is scheduled to participate in a roundtable discussion with security experts at RAND on Friday to discuss inter-Korean relations and the international order.

- [UAE seeks faster delivery of Korean air defense system after reported 96% hit rate](#) (2026-03-06 05:57)

The United Arab Emirates has asked Korea to accelerate deliveries of Cheongung-II surface-to-air missile batteries to help intercept incoming attacks, officials familiar with the matter said. The request comes as Iranian forces have launched retaliatory strikes across the Middle East following continued attacks on Iran by the United States and Israel. The system, sold to the UAE in recent years as part of Seoul's expanding defense exports, has been integrated into the country's broader air defense network. Defense industry sources say Cheongung-II's strong performance in combat conditions could strengthen its export prospects in the Middle East and beyond, especially if the conflict is prolonged and involved countries move to replenish depleted air defense stockpiles. U.S. and Israeli strikes on Iran have continued since Saturday, when Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei was killed in the initial barrage. Tehran responded with missile and drone attacks on U.S. bases in Middle Eastern countries, damaging civilian facilities, including airports and hotels. Korean media, cit

- [Korea University research team offers alternative treatment for leukemia](#) (2026-03-06 05:57)

A Korea University research study is claiming to have identified a mechanism that allows leukemia cells to survive despite excessive growth signals, offering a potential new strategy for related cancer treatment. The study, led by Lee Jae-woong of the university's School of Biosystems and Biomedical Science, was released Feb. 10 through *Science Signaling*, a sister journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The paper was selected as the issue's cover article. Leukemia occurs when cancer-driving proteins remain continuously active, causing abnormally strong proliferation signals inside cells. While these signals induce tumor growth, excessively strong signaling can also impose severe stress on cells and potentially trigger cell death. Leukemia cells can grow continuously despite an unstable signaling environment. Most existing therapies generally aim to halt tumor growth by blocking proliferation signals, but the mechanisms that allow cancer cells to maintain growth under such conditions have yet to be fully understood. The research team said it has long studied

- [Antitrust regulator to inspect gas stations for price gouging](#) (2026-03-06 05:57)

The state antitrust regulator said Friday it will closely monitor possible price gouging practices of gas stations across the country and take necessary measures as fuel prices recently soared amid the military conflict in the Middle East. "We will mobilize all of our regional offices to check for possible collusion of gas stations, particularly those with high fuel prices, and will launch on-site investigations immediately, depending on the monitoring results, for a comprehensive response," the Fair Trade Commission (FTC) said in a press release. The FTC's announcement comes as fuel prices sharply increased over the past few days despite no immediate disruptions reported to Korea's oil supply from the escalating conflict in the Middle East sparked by U.S. and Israeli attacks against Iran. Government authorities were set to conduct at least 2,000 monthly inspections on prices and quality of fuel products across gas stations nationwide starting Friday as part of efforts to stabilize the local energy market. On Thursday, Finance Minister Koo Yun-cheol said the government will use all possi

- [3 civilian suspects in drone flights to N. Korea referred to prosecution](#) (2026-03-06 05:57)

Investigators on Friday referred three civilian suspects to prosecutors on charges of involvement in drone flights into North Korea, following the arrest of one of the suspects last week. The joint team of police and military investigators sent the case to the prosecution on charges of benefiting the enemy, and violating laws on aviation safety and military installation protection, according to a police press notice. The suspects, a graduate student in his 30s and two others who worked at a drone startup, are accused of flying drones into North Korea four times — once last September, twice last November and once in January this year. The joint investigation was launched shortly after North Korea's accusations earlier this year that South Korea infringed on its sovereignty with drone incursions in September and in January. Police believe the drones were programmed to fly from Ganghwa Island, west of Seoul, and travel over North Korea's border city of Kaesong and the central county of Pyongsan, before returning to the South's northern city of Paju. The suspects also allegedly took photos

- [Human rights body approves foundation supporting transgender people after nearly 2 years](#) (2026-03-05 11:57)

Korea's human rights watchdog on Thursday approved the establishment of a foundation advocating for the rights of transgender people following nearly two years of deliberations. The National Human Rights Commission gave the nod to the non-profit Byun Hee-soo Foundation, named after a late transgender soldier who was forcibly discharged from service, after a civic group filed the application in May 2024. While decisions on such matters are typically made within 20 days, proceedings were delayed as the move faced opposition from a conservative member of the watchdog's three standing commissioners. The delay prompted the foundation's preparatory committee to take legal action against the watchdog, with the Seoul Administrative Court ruling last December that the delayed proceedings were illegal. Along with the ruling, the standing commissioner who had voiced opposition to the envisioned foundation left office last month, leading to Thursday's decision. "I apologize to the preparatory committee for the approval's delay due to unreasonable reasons, such as a certain member's continued oppositi

- [Rival parties agree to create state-run agency to implement US investment pledge](#) (2026-03-05 11:57)

The ruling Democratic Party Korea (DPK) and the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) agreed Thursday to establish a new state-run entity specialized in implementing South Korea's investment package for the United States, officials said. The agreement came a day after the rival parties said they were expected to pass a special U.S. investment bill without delay on March 12 under a bilateral trade deal with Washington. With a paid-in capital of 2 trillion won (\$1.36 billion), the South Korean government will fully finance the new entity, lawmakers said. During a subcommittee meeting of a special parliamentary committee dedicated to advancing legislation on South Korea's \$350 billion investment pledge to the U.S., the two parties agreed to establish the special corporation with a total workforce of up to 50 employees. "After discussions on whether to entrust the task to the Korea Investment Corporation or establish a new corporation, we agreed to create a new corporation at a minimal scale," PPP Rep. Park Soo-young told reporters after the meeting. The corporation will have three members

- [Special counsel concludes 90-day probe into Coupang's severance pay suspicions](#) (2026-03-05 11:57)

Special counsel Ann Gweon-seob's team, which was launched to look into suspicions of unpaid severance pay at Coupang and the prosecution's alleged loss of key evidence related to the probe into former first lady Kim Keon Hee, completed its 90-day investigation period Thursday. Ann's team comprising 65 prosecutors, investigators and officials began its activities on Dec. 6 last year. It has since raided Coupang, the Supreme Prosecutors Office, the labor ministry and other institutions and questioned key suspects multiple times. The team succeeded in indicting two prosecutors — Uhm Hee-joon and Kim Dong-hee — over their suspected intervention in the investigation into allegations of Coupang's unpaid severance pay. Uhm and Kim are accused of pressuring a subordinate prosecutor not to indict Coupang over the suspicions of unpaid

severance pay while serving as head and deputy head of the Incheon District Prosecutors Office's Bucheon branch last year. Chung Jong-chul, CEO of Coupang Fulfillment Services, a logistics subsidiary of Coupang, and his predecessor, Eom Seong-hwan, were also indi

- [Koreans' life satisfaction unchanged in 2024; suicide rate up: report](#) (2026-03-05 11:57)

Koreans' average satisfaction with life remained unchanged from a year earlier in 2024, while the suicide rate went up, a government report showed Thursday. The level of life satisfaction came to 6.4 points on a 10-point scale in 2024, remaining unchanged from 2023, according to the annual report on Koreans' quality of life by the Ministry of Data and Statistics. Income appeared to have affected life satisfaction, as the life satisfaction score was the lowest among households in the lowest income bracket with a monthly income of less than 1 million won (\$681.7), at 5.8 points. In contrast, life satisfaction levels in households that earned 3 million won or more per month ranged from 6.4 to 6.5 points, nearly on par with the average for the entire population, the ministry said. In the report, the ministry cited a separate report published by the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network to compare Koreans' level of life satisfaction with other member countries of the Organization of Economic Cooperation (OECD). Korea ranked 33rd among the 38 OECD countries in terms of a thre

- [Korea exhibits 2nd-largest gender divide over perceived progress in equality: survey](#) (2026-03-05 11:57)

A new global survey released Thursday found that Korea exhibits the world's second-widest gap between men and women in their perception of sufficient progress in gender equality. The 2026 International Women's Day survey, conducted by Ipsos and King's College London's Global Institute for Women's Leadership, found that 65 percent of Korean men believe gender equality has gone far enough, compared to 42 percent of women — the second-widest gap among 29 countries represented in the survey and more than twice the global average of 11 percentage points. Overall endorsement in Korea of gender equality having “gone far enough” rose to 53 percent from 39 percent in 2019, with increases seen among both men and women. The poll, conducted online from Dec. 24, 2025, to Jan. 9, covered 23,268 adults in 29 countries. Korean men were the least likely in the survey to identify as feminists, with just 13 percent using the label, compared to 28 percent of Korean women; both figures sit well below global averages. Support for women's leadership among Korean men was the lowest measured: On

- [Japan court dissolves Unification Church; Korea branch could face financial strain](#) (2026-03-05 11:57)

A Japanese court upheld an order to dissolve the Unification Church over its controversial fundraising practices, clearing the way for liquidation proceedings against the religious group years after the assassination of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe brought its activities under renewed scrutiny. According to public broadcaster NHK, the Tokyo High Court on Tuesday upheld a lower court decision ordering the dissolution of the Family Federation for

World Peace and Unification, more widely known as the Unification Church. The court said the group had encouraged its followers to solicit large donations through fundraising methods that could constitute illegal acts, causing substantial financial losses and psychological distress to many people. Judges said it was difficult to expect the organization to establish measures to prevent such illegal acts, adding that dissolution was therefore inevitable. NHK reported that the ruling marks the third instance a Japanese court ordered the dissolution of a religious group of its legal status as a religious corporation, and first time such

- [Gov't considers gasoline price ceiling to curb sudden spike](#) (2026-03-05 11:57)

The government is planning to take strict action against gasoline price gouging, as domestic fuel prices have surged amid escalating tensions in the Middle East. Speaking at a Cabinet meeting on Thursday, President Lee Jae Myung condemned the sharp rise in retail gasoline prices, warning that attempts to exploit a national crisis for profit will not be tolerated. In line with the president's directive, the government is reviewing a price ceiling that would prevent gas stations from raising prices beyond a designated level. "Objectively, there has not been a serious disruption to global oil supplies, yet prices suddenly skyrocketed," Lee said. "I've heard that prices differ between morning, afternoon and evening, and that some gas stations have raised prices by nearly 200 won per liter ... It appears some are trying to profit from a national crisis with little regard for the hardships of others." He added that while it is understandable that concerns over potential disruptions to the global oil supply have pushed international crude prices higher, the sudden surge in retail f

- [Gov't uncovers \\$420.13 mil. in hidden income in stock market probe, refers dozens to prosecution](#) (2026-03-05 05:57)

The national tax agency said Thursday it has uncovered 615.5 billion won (\$420.13 million) in unreported income tied to unfair practices in the stock market, taking action in 46 alleged tax crime cases. The National Tax Service (NTS) investigated 27 companies and around 200 related individuals from July 2025 through February, focusing on false disclosures aimed at boosting stock prices, controlling shareholders siphoning off company assets and stock manipulation for profit. After confirming 615.5 billion won in unreported income, the agency collected 257.6 billion won in back taxes and referred 30 cases to the prosecution for further investigation and possible indictment, while issuing penalty notices in 16 others. In one case, a manufacturing company falsely announced plans to launch new eco-friendly energy businesses and invest nearly 10 billion won in a paper company, with executives fabricating documents to funnel about 3 billion won to the owner. When the new business was found to be nonexistent, the company's stock price plunged and it was eventually delisted, leaving retail invest

- [Unification ministry adopts new English term for North Korean defectors](#) (2026-03-05 05:57)

The Ministry of Unification said it will use "North Korean-born citizens" as the standard English expression for people from North Korea who now live in the South. The ministry

recently circulated guidance on the new term, explaining that it was chosen to better reflect both their birthplace and their legal status as citizens protected under South Korea's Constitution. Previously, several English terms have been used to describe them, including "defectors," "refugees" and "escapees." Officials said those expressions tend to focus on the act of fleeing North Korea rather than the individual's identity. The new phrase, they said, reflects both their birthplace in North Korea and their status as citizens under South Korean law. The ministry added that the term also reflects the constitutional principle that people from North Korea are recognized as South Korean citizens, even if they are currently residing in a third country. The guidance comes as the government promotes a new Korean term referring to people whose hometown lies in the North, rather than the commonly used

- [Ruling party voices concerns about possible plunge in exports to Middle East amid escalating war](#) (2026-03-05 05:57)

The chief policymaker of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) on Thursday warned that South Korea's exports to the Middle East could be tanked due to a widening U.S.-Israeli strike on Iran, saying that measures are being prepared to cope with a longer-than-expected geopolitical crisis in the region. Rep. Han Jeoung-ae, chair of the National Assembly's policy committee, made the remarks at a meeting with DPK lawmakers from relevant parliamentary committees, noting that the escalating conflict could affect South Korean exports to major Middle Eastern countries, which reached about 200 trillion won (\$136.7 billion) last year. "We cannot ignore the possibility that projects in the Middle East worth about 100 trillion won, which our companies have developed as future growth engines, including smart cities, nuclear power plants and artificial intelligence data centers, could be delayed or even scrapped," she said. Han added that the government is preparing a 100 trillion-won market stabilization program amid mounting geopolitical concerns triggered by U.S.-Israel attacks on Iran last week.

- [Jeonbuk National University concludes mentoring program in Colombia](#) (2026-03-05 05:57)

Jeonbuk National University said it successfully completed a preparatory mentoring program to recruit trainers for an international entrepreneurship education project in Colombia. The program was jointly promoted with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) to initiate a long-term innovation-based startup education in the capital of Bogota. According to a Jeonbuk National University official on Monday, the university held an eight-day Training of Trainers (ToT) program in Colombia starting Feb. 10 as part of the "Innovation Entrepreneurship Education Capacity-Building Project" for the Latin American country's vocational training institution Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje (SENA). The project aims to establish a technology-driven startup ecosystem in the capital city between 2025 and 2028. The ToT program serves as the project's first major step toward implementing the initiative. About 80 participants attended the training, including SENA entrepreneurship instructors, field mentors, startup support staff and facility managers. The university said the participation of

- [Lee calls for \\$68 bil. market stabilization plan as Middle East tensions mount](#) (2026-03-05 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung called on the government Thursday to swiftly roll out a 100 trillion won (\$68 billion) program to stabilize the country's financial markets, citing rising tensions in the Middle East as a threat to market confidence. During his opening remarks at Thursday's Cabinet meeting, Lee warned that the worsening crisis in the Middle East is deteriorating the global economic and security environment. He noted that financial markets are facing growing uncertainties, while instability in energy supply and trade conditions could create broader difficulties across the economy. The president also called for medium- to long-term strategies to diversify energy import sources in order to manage volatility in energy supply and prices, which directly affect the broader economy and daily life. At the same time, he ordered authorities to crack down on attempts to exploit the volatile market environment through hoarding, stockpiling or excessive profiteering, stressing that the government will respond firmly. "It appears some are trying to profit from a national crisis with little re

- [Ex-President Moon set to visit US for discussions on inter-Korean ties](#) (2026-03-05 05:57)

Former President Moon Jae-in was set to depart for the United States on Thursday, marking his first visit to the U.S. since leaving office in 2022. The trip comes at the invitation of U.S. think tank RAND and the Pacific Century Institute. Moon, who led Korea from 2017 to 2022, is scheduled to deliver a keynote speech and participate in a roundtable with Nancy Staudt, vice president of RAND, and other experts to discuss inter-Korean relations and the rapidly changing global order on Friday (local time). He will also visit the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and tour the Lane Victory, a U.S. cargo ship known for helping rescue around 7,000 people in the so-called Hungnam evacuation during the 1950-53 Korean War.

- [NIS issues joint AI supply chain guidance with global cybersecurity agencies](#) (2026-03-05 05:57)

The National Intelligence Service (NIS) said Thursday it has issued a joint guidance on artificial intelligence (AI) supply chains together with six cybersecurity agencies from like-minded nations, including the United States, Japan and Australia. In the joint guidance, titled "Artificial intelligence and machine learning: Supply chain risks and mitigations," the NIS and partner agencies emphasize that AI systems should integrate security considerations from the design stage rather than treating security as something to be addressed only after deployment. It also outlines potential risks across six key components of the AI supply chain — AI training data, model, software, infrastructure, hardware and third-party services — while presenting recommended mitigation strategies for each area. According to the NIS, the guidance was prepared amid growing concerns that the increasing complexity of AI supply chains could introduce security vulnerabilities, including the possibility of hidden backdoors or malicious code embedded in systems. The NIS said it will continue cooperation with intern

- [Man behind push to abolish 'academic caste system'](#) (2026-03-04 23:57)

An education reform advocate says a proposed "ban on school background discrimination in hiring" bill, which would bar employers from asking job-seekers about their alma mater, is a

first step toward dismantling what he describes as Korea's "academic caste system." SongIn-soo, co-head of Education Spring, a civic group driving the campaign for the bill, said he wants to fix what he sees as a hiring culture that treats school names as a kind of social rank, rather than a measure of ability. "In Korea we treat school names almost like a social caste. One child's admission to a top university can make neighbors feel as if their own children's status has been downgraded," he told The Korea Times. "If we keep throwing our children into this credentialist society, this never-ending competition, there is no hope." Song added that the bill is not a blanket ban on considering educational backgrounds in hiring, but a targeted curb on the use of school names in recruitment. "This is not about banning education from hiring decisions," he said. "It is about banning d

- [Unification is 2nd Miracle on Han River: Global Peace Foundation head](#) (2026-03-04 23:57)

Global Peace Foundation (GPF) founder and Chairman Hyun Jin Preston Moon said the two Koreas' unification would not be an economic disaster but could instead create a "second Miracle on the Han River" by expanding Korea's domestic market. During an interview with The Korea Times, Moon strongly disagreed with mounting concerns, especially among the younger generation, that possible unification with the North would induce overwhelming economic costs. "I cannot emphasize enough how the influx of the 25 million North Koreans would drive the domestic market," Moon said during the interview at Fairmont Ambassador Seoul on Feb. 25. "This will fuel the domestic economy. You will have a more balanced market between export and domestic." According to a 2024 survey collected by the Korea Institute for National Unification, only 52.9 percent of respondents said that unification is necessary. It was the lowest figure in 10 years, demonstrating an overall decline in public support for unification. The government-funded think tank also reported in the survey that people born after 1991

- [Recent fighter jet crash caused by midair collision with another fighter during nighttime training](#) (2026-03-04 11:57)

An F-16C fighter jet crashed near the southeastern city of Yeongju last week after a mid-air collision with another fighter during a nighttime training exercise, the Air Force said Wednesday. The aircraft went down in a mountainous area near Yeongju at about 7:31 p.m. last Wednesday during nighttime training, but the pilot ejected to safety and no civilian damage was reported. The Air Force said the incident, involving two F-16C fighter jets, occurred during the training, when the lead aircraft was conducting a damage check on the trailing jet from behind. The pilot of the lead jet, who was wearing night vision goggles, misjudged the distance between the planes and flew too close. The mid-air collision took place when the leading aircraft's fuel tank struck the right wing of the trailing jet. Pilots are required to wear such night vision goggles during nighttime training to enhance visibility and improve operational capability in low-light conditions. The incident disabled the trailing fighter's head-up display system, which provides critical flight information, including altitude and pos

- [About 40 Korean tourists stranded in Dubai to return home Thursday](#) (2026-03-04 11:57)

About 40 Korean tourists stranded in Dubai due to disruptions at the city's main airport are expected to return home Thursday, travel agencies said, as they scramble to secure alternative flights amid a Middle East conflict triggered by a joint U.S.-Israeli strike on Iran. Dubai International Airport, the world's busiest hub for international passengers, remains partially operational as of Wednesday as the regional security crisis affects airspace and flight schedules. Korea's major tour agencies, Hanatour and Modetour, said they are working to bring back hundreds of their clients currently in the Middle East. Of the roughly 540 travelers booked on the companies' package tours in the region, some 240 are in Dubai. Hanatour reported that around 40 of its clients left Dubai early Wednesday (local time) and arrived in Taipei later the same day. Following an overnight stay in Taiwan, they are scheduled to fly to Incheon on a Korean Air flight on Thursday afternoon. Modetour said it has also secured connecting flights via Taipei, Hanoi and Guangzhou for groups departing Thursday, with about 5

- [186 Korean seafarers aboard ships stranded in Strait of Hormuz: oceans ministry](#) (2026-03-04 11:57)

More than 180 Korean seafarers remain aboard over two dozen ships stranded in the Strait of Hormuz, the oceans ministry said Wednesday, as safety concerns mount after the vital shipping route was effectively closed by the Middle East conflict. A total of 144 Korean crew members are aboard 26 Korean vessels in the key waterway where roughly 20 percent of global oil and gas pass through, the ministry said in a release after holding a meeting to check the situation in the region. An additional 42 Koreans remain on board foreign ships. The crew and vessels are unable to leave the region as the escalating conflict in the Middle East following U.S.-Israeli strikes on Iran has effectively shut down the shipping channel. The ministry said it maintains a real-time communication system with shipping companies and vessels, while closely monitoring the ships' locations and safety conditions. Vice Oceans Minister Kim Sung-bum, who presided over the meeting, said the ministry is discussing with shipping firms on supplying daily necessities to vessels and arrangements for crew members to disembark and r

- [Lee reunites with Filipino worker he helped win 1992 factory injury retrial](#) (2026-03-04 11:57)

President Lee Jae Myung met Ariel Galac, a Filipino worker he once represented as a lawyer, on Wednesday during his state visit to the Philippines. In 1992, Galac lost an arm in a factory accident in Korea and was deported without compensation. Lee, then a human rights lawyer, helped him win recognition for medical care and industrial accident compensation through a retrial. Lee himself suffered a permanent injury to his left arm while working as a teenage laborer, after it was crushed by a factory press. “(Back then) foreign workers injured on the job were often deported,” Lee said, adding that younger generations no longer have to face such injustice thanks to Galac’s case. Galac said he was honored and grateful that Lee remembered him and took time to meet. Despite the accident, Galac said, he still holds fond memories of Korea and thanked Lee for helping secure a favorable outcome in his case. Lee said he appreciated the fact that Galac still has good memories of Korea, even though he must have felt

wronged. Galac told Lee he now volunteers by advising neighbors who are preparin

- [Why glamorous TV weathercasters are being replaced by meteorological analysts in Korea](#) (2026-03-04 11:57)

Korean broadcaster MBC has replaced its weathercaster format with a meteorological analyst, introducing expert Yoon Tae-gu during Tuesday's broadcast of its flagship evening program "Newsdesk." "Starting today, I will deliver the weather on 'Newsdesk' as MBC's meteorological analyst Yoon Tae-gu," he said. "I will do my best to explain weather information in a way that is easy to understand and detailed for viewers." Yoon then delivered his first briefing, explaining a total lunar eclipse coinciding with Jeongwol Daeboreum, a traditional lunar holiday and outlining weather patterns expected the following day. Yoon studied atmospheric science at Monash University in Australia and holds a national weather forecaster certification. He previously served as a meteorological officer in the Korean Air Force. The change comes after MBC announced it would eliminate its freelance weathercaster system and instead hire full-time meteorological and climate specialists, following the death of weathercaster Oh Yoanna last year. Her death sparked controversy after allegations emerged that

- [Head of Seongdong district steps down to join Seoul mayoral race](#) (2026-03-04 11:57)

The head of the Seongdong district, Chong Won-o, stepped down from his post Wednesday to join the race for Seoul mayor in the June 3 local elections. Chong, who has officially declared his bid for Seoul mayor, held a retirement ceremony at the Seongdong District Office earlier in the day. He plans to register as a preliminary candidate on Thursday. Chong will be competing with four other contenders in the ruling Democratic Party's primary for Seoul mayor: three-term lawmakers Rep. Park Ju-min and Jeon Hyeon-hui, two-term lawmaker Kim Young-bae and Kim Hyoung-nam, former secretary general of the Center for Military Human Rights Korea. Under the country's election law, public officials must step down from their positions by March 5, or 90 days prior to the vote, to run for a seat in the upcoming election. Cho, who served 12 years as the district's chief, drew attention late last year when President Lee Jae Myung shared on social media platform X a news report on a survey that showed 93 percent were satisfied with Chong's performance. Lee praised Chong in the post, saying he "must be doing a

- [USFK commander observes multinational Cobra Gold drills in Thailand](#) (2026-03-04 11:57)

The commander of the U.S. military stationed in Korea, Gen. Xavier Brunson, traveled to Thailand this week to observe the multinational Cobra Gold drills, which Korea's Navy and Marine Corps troops have also taken part in, according to the U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) on Wednesday. Brunson's visit to the drills, one of the largest multinational military exercises in the Indo-Pacific region, "underscored USFK's sustained focus on combined readiness and the deepening of alliance relationships that form the foundation of regional stability," the USFK said in a statement. The visit also "showcases how the specialized capabilities honed on the Korean Peninsula integrate into a broader, multinational framework of stability," it said. "Cobra Gold is

a powerful demonstration of what happens when like-minded nations commit to a shared vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific," Brunson was quoted as saying in the statement. "The level of synchronization I observed across the combined joint all-domain environment is exactly what makes our deterrence credible. Our collective ability to operate seamlessly

- [Iran war raises prospect of shifting USFK assets to Middle East](#) (2026-03-04 11:57)

Officials in Seoul and Washington are monitoring the possibility that, should the conflict with Iran extend beyond initial expectations, some U.S. military assets currently based in South Korea — including air defense systems and other rapidly deployable units — could be sent temporarily to the Middle East, a prospect that has raised concern about readiness on the Korean Peninsula. Military experts interviewed by The Korea Times said a limited redeployment, particularly of air defense systems, could not be ruled out. Still, they emphasized that any such move would likely be carefully calibrated to avoid weakening allied deterrence on the peninsula. Washington has drawn on forces from the Korean Peninsula in the past. Between March and October last year, it redeployed two Patriot missile batteries and roughly 500 service members from U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) to the Middle East. Those units were used to bolster defenses at American installations in Qatar after Iran fired missiles in June following U.S. strikes on its nuclear sites. Given this precedent, experts say Patriot systems could

- [Kyungpook Nat'l Univ. 1st Korean public university to launch overseas branch](#) (2026-03-04 11:57)

Kyungpook National University (KNU) is set to operate an overseas franchise program, a move that officials describe as a milestone in the global expansion of the country's public higher education system. The university will export its academic curriculum to Vietnam's FPT University, where it will oversee instruction and administration. Local students will be able to complete the same coursework offered in Korea and earn a degree from the Korean institution without leaving Vietnam. FPT is Vietnam's largest IT company, with core businesses in software and telecommunications, and operates FPT University to train technology students. According to the Ministry of Education, Wednesday, the two universities will sign a memorandum of agreement for the franchise program in Hanoi on Thursday. The agreement marks the first time a Korean public university will operate its own curriculum at an overseas university. Several private universities, including Ajou University and Inha University, have similar programs. Until now, overseas activities by national universities have largely been limited to

- [Rival parties expected to pass US investment bill on March 12](#) (2026-03-04 11:57)

The ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) and the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) agreed Wednesday to pass a special U.S. investment bill without delay in consideration of the national interest, with a parliamentary vote expected on March 12. The two sides reached the consensus during their talks at the National Assembly, agreeing to cooperate in passing the special bill to carry out Seoul's investment pledges to Washington as part of a trade deal

reached by the two countries last year, following tariff actions by U.S. President Donald Trump. " We heard from the PPP side that they will complete the review of the special U.S. investment bill by March 9 as planned," DPK Rep. Cheon Jun-ho told reporters. "If things proceed as planned, the bill will be submitted and put to a vote during a parliamentary plenary session on March 12 at the latest." PPP Rep. Yoo Sang-beom said the agreement was reached under the understanding that the U.S. would expect the bill to be passed as scheduled given the " turbulent international situation stemming from the war between the U.S. and Iran." "The U

- [\[RESTAURANT OF THE WEEK\] Say 'oui' to authentic French pastries at Titipainpain](#) (2026-03-04 11:57)

Craving croissants and baguettes but not planning a trip to France anytime soon? In the heart of Apgujeong, Titipainpain brings a slice of Paris to Seoul with handcrafted pastries that transport you straight to a charming French boulangerie. From Paris to Seoul Titipainpain is owned by Maxime Rossetto, a pastry chef born and raised in Paris. Baking has always been more than a profession for Rossetto — it is also a source of comfort. During his university years, he often turned to pastry-making to cope with academic stress and anxiety. What began as a form of solace eventually took on greater meaning. In July 2023, he opened Titipainpain in Seoul to share his love for French baking with the local community. A bakery that draws you in The scent of freshly baked bread drifts onto the street, drawing pedestrians into the shop. Inside, pastries line the counter in neat rows. They include flaky croissants that shatter at first bite, sugar-dusted cinnamon buns and savory turnovers crimped at the edges. Among the most popular savory offerings are classic sourdough loaves and croissants. Rossetto

- [Korean air defense system in UAE downs Iranian missile](#) (2026-03-04 11:57)

As Iranian forces launched retaliatory strikes across the Middle East following Saturday's U.S. and Israeli airstrikes on Iran, the United Arab Emirates turned to South Korea's Cheongung-II surface-to-air missile system to help intercept incoming attacks, according to officials familiar with the matter. The system, sold to the UAE in recent years as part of Seoul's expanding defense exports, has been integrated into the country's broader air defense network. The interception marks the first combat use of a South Korean-made air defense weapon deployed overseas, underscoring the country's expanding arms exports to the Middle East and offering a rare glimpse of the system's performance in combat. According to Korean media reports citing military officials, the system has been used as part of the UAE's missile defense network, which also includes the U.S. Patriot system. U.S. and Israeli strikes on Iran have continued since Saturday, killing Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in the initial barrage. Tehran responded with missile and drone attacks on U.S. bases in Midd

- [Seoul mayor denies charges of proxy poll payment in court](#) (2026-03-04 11:57)

Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon denied accusations of a proxy payment for opinion poll expenses during the first formal trial on the case at a court Wednesday. The trial at the Seoul Central District Court came after Oh was indicted by a special counsel team last December on charges

of getting his longtime supporter to pay 33 million won (\$22,300) on his behalf to MyungTae-kyun, a self-proclaimed power broker, for 10 public opinion surveys conducted from January to February 2021. The Future Korea Research Institute, a polling company in the southeastern city of Changwon effectively run by Myung, allegedly conducted the surveys ahead of the 2021 Seoul mayoral by-election. The team of special counsel Min Joong-ki alleged in the trial that Oh called Myung around Jan. 21, 2021, to ask him to conduct an opinion poll for the Seoul mayoral by-election and then instructed his chief of staff Kang Cheol-won to consult with Myung. Around that time, Oh also asked his supporter Kim Han-jung to pay for the opinion poll expenses, the team said. Oh's lawyers countered the claim, saying he neither requested Myun

- [Kookmin University to host design contest with Italian institute](#) (2026-03-04 11:57)

Kookmin University said it will host an international design competition under a partnership with Italy's Associazione per il Disegno Industriale (ADI). The school has appointed Paola Antonelli, senior curator of architecture and design and director of research and development at Museum of Modern Art in New York, as a jury chair. She is widely recognized for expanding the definition of design by bridging Eastern and Western perspectives and integrating technology and human interaction into everyday life. Kookmin said the Design Beyond East and West (DBEW) Award 2026 aims to move beyond geographic and cultural divisions and to examine the universal values and evolving role of design in contemporary society. Judging will take place in two rounds by an international panel of experts in design, architecture and curation. In addition to Antonelli, jurors include John Thackara, known for his work on sustainability in design; Stefano Giovannoni, an industrial designer recognized for his market-driven design language; Korean architect Cho Byoung-soo; and Lou Yongqi, president of the Universit

- [Lee to preside over extraordinary Cabinet meeting on mounting Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-04 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung will preside over an extraordinary Cabinet meeting this week to discuss response measures to the mounting crisis in the Middle East shortly after returning from his Southeast Asia trip, Cheong Wa Dae said Wednesday. The extraordinary meeting, set for Thursday, will be attended by top officials from the finance and foreign ministries, as joint U.S.-Israeli airstrikes on Iran have triggered military responses from countries across the region, fueling concerns over a wider regional conflict. During the meeting, Lee is expected to be briefed on the situation surrounding the Iran crisis, and discuss its potential impact and response measures. Lee is scheduled to return home late Wednesday from his state visits to Singapore and the Philippines.

- [Students flood president's TikTok with playful pleas as followers surpass 110,000](#) (2026-03-04 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung’s newly launched TikTok account has quickly drawn attention from young users, with students flooding the comment section with playful requests as the new school term began across Korea. As of Wednesday morning, Lee’s official TikTok account, @jaemyung_lee, had 111,300 followers and about 248,600 cumulative likes. The account was launched Saturday, marking Lee’s entry into the short-form video platform as he expands online communication beyond Facebook and X, formerly called Twitter. The first video posted on the account has already surpassed 2.6 million views, drawing strong engagement from younger users. In the clip, Lee is seen pressing a “join TikTok” button on a document handed to him by an aide before making a hand-heart gesture toward the camera. “Follow, like and comment — you know the drill,” Lee says in the video. The comment section has since turned into an unexpected outlet for students as most schools across the country resumed classes this week. Many comments appear to come from teenagers or elementary school students, with messages such

- [Iranian model in Korea explains why some Iranians seem happy about strikes on Tehran](#) (2026-03-04 05:57)

For Hoda Niku, an Iranian living in Korea, the same question keeps coming up. Why do some Iranians appear happy when they hear news of war and bombing of their own country? The Iranian model said the answer lies in decades of repression and suffering under the current regime. “I don’t believe anyone is truly happy about bombings,” Niku wrote on social media Monday. “But over the past 47 years, the Iranian people have endured immense suffering and repeatedly tried to coexist with this government.” She went on to criticize the regime directly, saying Iran’s vast natural resources and wealth have largely been used by the government for its own benefit. Public protests have erupted several times, she added, but have been violently suppressed. “If a government capable of killing more than 40,000 of its own unarmed citizens in just two days were to obtain nuclear weapons, would it really use them peacefully?” she asked, referring to recent protests and the government’s violent crackdowns. Niku placed third in the 2018 Miss Iran competition before leaving the country and settling

- [Over 200 people with criminal records worked as sports coaches from 2020-2024: audit](#) (2026-03-04 05:57)

More than 200 people with criminal records worked as sports coaches from 2020-2024 amid lax vetting by the top national sports body, the state auditor said Wednesday. The Korean Sport & Olympic Committee (KSOC) was asked by the culture ministry in 2020 to allow only licensed coaches to work in the field, as those with licenses are regularly subject to criminal record checks, according to the Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI), which released the findings of its audit of operations and management at the KSOC. The sports body, however, delayed the adoption of the new requirement until the end of this year, citing the time needed for coaches to obtain licenses. As a result, 222 people whose licenses had been revoked over crimes, including assault and sexual violence, worked as coaches between August 2020 and December 2024, the BAI said. The agency also found irregularities in the selection process for national

team coaches. From 2022-2024, 70 KSOC officials responsible for designing criteria and assessing candidates for national team coaches were found to have applied for and gotten the job

- [354 Seoul residents take on 100-day challenge to reduce household waste](#) (2026-03-04 05:57)

Seoul has begun a 100-day “waste diet” experiment involving 354 residents, as city officials seek to demonstrate that the capital is taking responsibility for its own household trash and to spark a broader movement — amid criticism that it has been offloading its waste burden onto other regions. Under the program, 354 participants — matching the city’s per capita daily household waste generation of 354 grams — receive small electronic scales and are asked to weigh everything they throw away once a week over the course of the project, scheduled to run through June 10. They record the weight of general waste in volume-based bags and seven types of recyclables — paper, plastic, vinyl, cans, glass bottles and polystyrene foam — and submit the data online. Participants are first asked to establish a baseline for their typical waste output, then try to cut that amount over 10 rounds and track how much they have reduced. Noh Su-im, director of the Seoul Metropolitan Government’s climate and environment policy division, said the campaign is meant to be a citizen-led scheme

- [Korean, US Marines to hold annual joint military drills next month](#) (2026-03-04 05:57)

Korean and U.S. Marines will hold an annual joint military exercise next month designed to enhance interoperability between the allies' troops, the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command said Wednesday. The U.S. III Marine Expeditionary Force, based in Japan, and Korea's Marine Corps were scheduled to participate in this year's Korean Marine Exercise Program (KMEP), slated for March 9-19, according to a release uploaded on the website of the command. The KMEP exercise features field training exercises consisting of close air support evolutions, live-fire ranges and logistics training, demonstrating "combined resolve," and upholding regional security and deterrence, it said. The drills, which involve tactical-level field training events, include a diverse set of scenarios designed to boost interoperability and strengthen the alliance, it said. "For more than 70 years, U.S. and ROK Marines have maintained a strong relationship that has promoted regional security and enhanced our combined capability to respond to any potential challenge," U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Roger Turner, commanding general of th

- [Woman accused of drugging 2 men to death diagnosed as psychopath](#) (2026-03-04 05:57)

A 20-something woman, who was recently arrested for killing two men by giving them drugged drinks at motels in Seoul, has been diagnosed as a psychopath, police said Wednesday. The woman, whose identity has been withheld except for her surname, Kim, is accused of killing the two men and injuring another man with drug-laced drinks between last December and January. She was transferred to the prosecution last month for further investigation and indictment. According to the Seoul Gangbuk Police Station, Kim met the criteria for antisocial personality disorder in the Hare Psychopathy Checklist-Revised test, a 20-item clinical rating scale assessing

coldness, impulsivity, lack of empathy, irresponsibility and other personality traits. A score of 25 or more out of 40 points is considered psychopathic, and Kim reportedly got a score above the standard in her test. The police said they immediately sent the test results to the prosecution.

- [Trade minister asks Nat'l Assembly to pass US investment bill on time](#) (2026-03-04 05:57)

Trade Minister Yeo Han-koo on Wednesday asked the National Assembly to pass a special bill on implementing Korea's investment package for the United States by March 9 as planned, calling it key to maintaining stable trade ties with Washington. Yeo made the remarks in a meeting hosted by the Korea-U.S. parliamentary union at the National Assembly, highlighting the importance of parliamentary support. "The National Assembly's timely passage of the bill is extremely important," Yeo said, noting growing uncertainties in the global trade order following the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to strike down U.S. President Donald Trump's global "reciprocal" tariffs. "As I hold talks with the U.S. administration and Congress, I realize the important role of our parliament in stabilizing Korea-U.S. trade relations," he added. He stressed the need for the union to closely communicate with the U.S., noting that misunderstandings can arise as the authority over foreign trade and tariffs in the U.S. primarily lies with the Congress, unlike in Korea. Yeo added that he has explained this point in his talks w

- [Navy chief offers to resign after being suspended over martial law involvement](#) (2026-03-04 05:57)

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Kang Dong-gil offered to resign Wednesday, shortly after he was suspended from duty over his alleged involvement in former President Yoon Suk Yeol's botched martial law bid in late 2024. The move comes as the defense ministry has decided to impose "heavy" disciplinary action against Kang, who was relieved from duty last month over the allegations. "The Navy chief respects the results of the disciplinary action against him and offered to resign as of Wednesday," the Navy said in a statement. Kang is alleged to have instructed his subordinate to support the establishment of the martial law command on the night of Dec. 3, 2024, when he served as chief of the directorate of military support at the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Since his exclusion from duty on Feb. 13, the deputy chief of the Navy has been serving as acting Navy chief.

- [Finance minister vows efforts for smooth implementation of 'yellow envelope' bill](#) (2026-03-04 05:57)

The government will focus all its capabilities for smooth implementation of the revised labor law aimed at broadening the bargaining rights of workers, Finance Minister Koo Yun-cheol said Wednesday. Koo made the remarks in a meeting with officials from government ministries related to the so-called yellow envelope bill as the legislation is set to take effect Tuesday. The revision, passed by the National Assembly last year, was designed to guarantee the bargaining rights of indirectly employed, subcontracted workers and prohibit companies from filing lawsuits for damages or provisional seizures against unionized workers. "We know expectations

and concerns coexist ahead of the scheduled implementation of the revision," Koo said. "But the revised labor law is aimed at promoting mutual respect and cooperation between the management and labor to establish a framework of coexistence of the two sides and support the development of the national economy." The finance minister said the government will designate the first three months following the law's implementation as an intensive inspection period.

- [Appeals court to begin ex-President Yoon's obstruction of justice trial](#) (2026-03-03 23:57)

An appeals court on Wednesday is set to hold the first hearing of former President Yoon Suk Yeol's trial on obstruction of justice and other charges stemming from his failed martial law bid. The hearing is scheduled to take place at the Seoul High Court after a lower court sentenced Yoon to five years in prison in January on charges of obstructing investigators' attempt to detain him last year following his short-lived imposition of martial law in December 2024. He was also found guilty of violating the rights of Cabinet members who were not called to a meeting to review his martial law plan, and drafting and later destroying a revised proclamation after the decree was lifted. Both Yoon and special counsel Cho Eun-suk's team, which sought a 10-year term, appealed the ruling. The trial's proceedings will be led by the appellate court's Criminal Division 1 — one of two divisions recently designated to handle cases related to charges of insurrection, treason and rebellion. Video recordings of the trial will be released online after the court accepted the special counsel team's request to broadcast the trial.

- [Seoul unveils 24-hour AI system to combat digital sex crimes](#) (2026-03-03 23:57)

Seoul will offer its patented artificial intelligence (AI) system, which automatically detects and reports sexually exploitative content online, free of charge to institutions across Korea. The technology, first introduced in 2023, uses 24-hour real-time monitoring to automatically identify unlawful sexual images and videos on illicit websites and social media, request their removal and block re-uploads, according to the Seoul Metropolitan Government, Tuesday. City officials said the first transfer agreement has been signed, opening the door for central government agencies, local governments and even private companies working for the public interest to adopt the system. Nonprofit organizations based abroad may also be able to use the technology, given the cross-border nature of digital sex crimes, they added. Seoul's AI tool has been recognized at home and abroad, winning a top presidential award in a government innovation competition in 2023 and the U.N. Public Service Award the next year. It has also secured national patents and copyright registration. Since the program was completed, it has been widely used by various institutions.

- [Korean won drops below 1,500 per dollar for first time since 2009 financial crisis](#) (2026-03-03 17:57)

The Korean won fell past the 1,500 mark against the U.S. dollar early Wednesday for the first time since March 2009 during the global financial crisis, as escalating military clashes involving the U.S., Israel and Iran sent investors rushing to the dollar. According to Reuters and other foreign media reports, the won-dollar exchange rate briefly broke above 1,500 won at around 1,500 won per dollar.

12:20 a.m. on Wednesday. The rate extended gains to as high as 1,506 won before retreating below the 1,500-won level. The move reflected a sharp surge in the dollar amid heightened geopolitical uncertainty. The breach marked the first time in 17 years that the won-dollar rate had crossed the 1,500 threshold, a level widely viewed as a psychological support line in local currency markets and last seen during the global financial crisis.

- [Court issues arrest warrant for lawmaker, ex-councilor in bribery case](#) (2026-03-03 17:57)

A court on Tuesday has issued arrest warrants for an independent lawmaker and a former Seoul city councilor over bribery allegations linked to the 2022 local elections. The Seoul Central District Court issued the warrants for Rep. Kang Sun-woo, formerly of the ruling Democratic Party (DP), and former councilor Kim Kyung on Tuesday, citing concerns that they might destroy evidence. Prosecutors sought their detention early last month. Kang is accused of receiving 100 million won (US\$68,200) in cash from Kim ahead of the 2022 elections allegedly in exchange for her support for Kim's nomination as a DP candidate for the Seoul city council at the time. "I apologize for causing concern to the people," Kang told reporters before attending her hearing. "I will sincerely make an explanation in the courtroom." Kang has claimed that she did not know the shopping bag Kim gave her at the time contained cash, adding that she returned the money after discovering it three months later. Police believe Kang had met Kim with knowledge of the cash in advance and spent the money on a rental deposit. Kim ultim

- [Brazilian woman indicted for stalking BTS member Jungkook](#) (2026-03-03 11:57)

Prosecutors said Tuesday they have indicted a Brazilian national while in custody for allegedly stalking Jungkook of K-pop boy group BTS and trespassing at his residence in Seoul. The Seoul Western District Prosecutors Office said it indicted the woman, in her 30s, last week on charges of violating the Act on Punishment of Stalking Crimes and trespassing. The suspect allegedly visited Jungkook's home around 20 times, pressing the doorbell or leaving letters from December to January. The Brazilian national told prosecutors that she committed such acts "out of love for Jungkook." The woman was initially caught in the act and arrested in December but was later released. Police had prohibited her from coming within 100 meters of the star's residence in Seoul's Yongsan District. Police referred her to prosecutors in February after she continued attempting to visit Jungkook's home.

- [Main opposition party stages rally against passage of DPK-led judicial reform bills](#) (2026-03-03 11:57)

Lawmakers of the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) staged a rally Tuesday in protest of a set of controversial judicial reform bills passed by the National Assembly, led by the ruling Democratic Party of Korea. About 80 PPP lawmakers and party officials gathered at the National Assembly in western Seoul at 2 p.m. and began marching through Gwanghwamun Square before heading toward Cheong Wa Dae, in what the party described as a rally aimed at defending judicial independence and constitutional order. PPP leader Jang Dong-hyeok denounced the bills as measures that would "destroy the judiciary" and ultimately pave the way

for a dictatorship under President Lee Jae Myung. "I strongly urge President Lee Jae Myung to abandon his dreams of a long-term dictatorship and exercise his veto power against the three judicial destruction bills to uphold the constitutional order." The three bills seek to establish anew offense of "legal distortion," allow constitutional appeals of court rulings and increase the number of Supreme Court justices from the current 14 to 26. The PPP has questioned whet

- [Court holds arrest warrant hearings for lawmaker, ex-councilor over alleged bribery](#) (2026-03-03 11:57)

A court on Tuesday held hearings to decide whether to issue arrest warrants for an independent lawmaker and a former Seoul city councilor over bribery allegations linked to the 2022 local elections. The Seoul Central District Court convened the separate hearings for Rep. Kang Sun-woo, formerly of the ruling Democratic Party Korea (DPK), and former councilor Kim Kyung after prosecutors requested warrants for their arrests early last month. Kang is accused of receiving 100 million won (\$68,200) in cash from Kim ahead of the 2022 elections allegedly in exchange for her support for Kim's nomination as a DPK candidate for the Seoul city council at the time. "I apologize for causing concern to the people," Kang told reporters before attending her hearing. "I will sincerely make an explanation in the courtroom." The court is expected to make a decision on their arrests as early as later in the day. Kang has claimed that she did not know the shopping bag Kim gave her at the time contained cash, adding that she returned the money after discovering it three months later. Police believe Kang had met

- [Investigators try again to raid opposition party over ties to religious sect](#) (2026-03-03 11:57)

Investigators launched a second attempt Tuesday to raid the headquarters of the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) over suspicions a religious sect meddled in its primaries for the 2022 presidential election and the 2024 parliamentary elections, legal sources said. The investigators on a joint prosecution-police team had tried to execute a search warrant at the PPP headquarters in western Seoul last Friday but withdrawn after an hourslong standoff with party officials. The raid also targets a company handling the party's membership list. The Shincheonji Church of Jesus, a nonmainstream religious sect, is suspected of forcing tens of thousands of its followers to become dues-paying members of the PPP in order to sway the results of the 2022 and 2024 elections. Investigators have reportedly obtained testimony that Shincheonji's leaders urged party membership by citing the need to "return the favor to Yoon Suk Yeol," who, as prosecutor general in 2020, had dismissed search warrants for a Shincheonji church in the southeastern city of Daegu when it was targeted as an epicenter of COVI

- [Middle East conflict raises alarm on Korea's oil dependence](#) (2026-03-03 11:57)

The U.S.-Israel attack on Iran and Tehran's retaliatory strikes across the Middle East have turned the Strait of Hormuz into a critical flash point, reigniting concerns over Korea's heavy dependence on energy imports from the region. With the strategic waterway accounting for

roughly 27 percent of global seaborne oil trade, fears are mounting that any disruption could jolt energy markets and threaten supply stability. In the aftermath of the attack, the government said Tuesday it will seek to secure oil supplies from outside the Middle East in response to a possible closure of the Strait of Hormuz, while emphasizing that Korea currently holds sufficient oil reserves. While the U.S. military Central Command denies the strait has been closed, Iran's Revolutionary Guard has been escalating their threats against shipments, saying they "will set those ships ablaze," raising the specter of a prolonged disruption to one of the world's most vital oil export routes. Any closure would directly disrupt crude oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG) shipments from the Persian Gulf. Korea reli

- [Korea to expand visa benefits for foreign brain and talent](#) (2026-03-03 11:57)

Korea will expand the scope of "top-tier visas" for high-tech foreign talent and create a new visa program for foreign technicians to address the low birth rate and aging population, the Ministry of Justice said Tuesday. Minister of Justice Jung Sung-ho held a press briefing to announce the new visa measures to be pushed as part of the nation's immigration policy strategy for the 2030s. The top-tier visa issuance is now limited to personnel from companies in eight cutting-edge industries, including semiconductors, artificial intelligence and robotics. But the scope of the top-tier visas will be expanded to include professors and researchers in the science and technology fields, the ministry said. The ministry also said it will create the "K-Core visa" to enable domestic technical colleges to systematically foster foreign talent with intermediate technical skills, thereby alleviating the labor shortage in the local manufacturing industry. The government will provide foreigners with information on employment and entrepreneurship in depopulation regions and establish a regional immigration p

- [Gov't begins evacuation measures for Koreans in Middle East](#) (2026-03-03 11:57)

The government is evacuating some Korean nationals from parts of the Middle East as tensions in the region escalate, while withholding specific details for safety reasons, officials said Tuesday. About 21,000 Korean nationals are currently in 13 countries across the region. Prime Minister Kim Min-seok said the protection of overseas nationals must remain the government's top priority as uncertainty grows. "The protection of our nationals abroad is the government's top priority," Kim said during a Cabinet meeting at Government Complex Seoul. "Please ensure that evacuation measures and response plans for residents in the affected countries are thoroughly prepared." He added that relevant ministries must be ready to act if conditions worsen. "The Ministry of National Defense has reported that military transport aircraft and other assets are on standby," Kim said. "We must be prepared to respond immediately, should circumstances require it." The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and lawmakers gave a briefing at a meeting between the ruling party and government earlier in the day

- [Iranians in Korea express mixed reactions to death of Khamenei](#) (2026-03-03 11:57)

The Iran that Park Si-ma remembers was once described as the “Paris of the Middle East,” a place where women wore miniskirts instead of hijabs and some residents flew abroad for weekend shopping trips. That changed in 1979, when the Iranian Revolution toppled the Pahlavi dynasty and ushered in the Islamic Republic — the same year Park moved to Korea with the husband she had met in Iran. The revolution transformed Iranian society and governance, ending decades of secular, Western-oriented rule and replacing it with a theocratic system that reshaped everyday life and cultural norms. Since 2009, the Iranian Network in Korea (INK) has carried out activities from Korea opposing the Iranian government. On Saturday, too, Park and about 70 other Iranians held a rally in Seoul condemning Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. That same day, Khamenei was killed in coordinated U.S.-Israeli airstrikes on his central Tehran compound — a dramatic escalation in hostilities that marked one of the most significant military operations in the long-running conflict and triggered retaliator

- [Spy agency launches 24-hr emergency response team in response to Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-03 11:57)

The National Intelligence Service (NIS) has launched an around-the-clock emergency response team to monitor developments in the Middle East following U.S.-Israeli strikes against Iran and assist with the safe evacuation of nationals from the region, officials said Tuesday. The NIS is in cooperation with other spy agencies of like-minded countries to conduct the monitoring, officials said, amid escalating tensions after recent attacks by the United States and Israel on Iran, which killed Iran's supreme leader and prompted retaliatory strikes on U.S. bases in the Middle East. Officials said the NIS is also closely tracking potential supply chain risk factors and providing relevant information to government agencies, while reviewing the latest conditions in the energy, logistics, defense manufacturing and shipbuilding industries following the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. On the day of the attack on Iran last Saturday, the NIS also formed a task force led by its director to hold an emergency situation assessment meeting every day, officials said.

- [Chonnam National University holds AI training camp for incoming freshmen](#) (2026-03-03 05:57)

Chonnam National University said it has wrapped up a special artificial intelligence (AI) training camp for incoming freshmen, part of its Glocal University 30 initiative to boost students’ AI skills before they start academic courses at the campus. The education innovation office and the university’s software-centered academic affairs team jointly ran the AI Capability Enhancement Program for Prospective Freshmen, which took place from Feb. 2 to Feb. 12 and drew 117 early admission students. The program was designed to make productive use of the time between high school graduation and university entrance and to help the new students acquire essential AI literacy. The course was divided into two major strands: generative AI and physical AI. In the generative AI segment, students used leading AI platforms to design business models and took part in “vibe coding” workshops that let them build their own websites using natural language prompts, even without prior coding experience. The physical AI segment

focused on hands-on work that blended software and hardware. Students learned p

- [Most Koreans see poverty as matter of discipline, not predetermined](#) (2026-03-03 05:57)

Public attitudes in Korea toward poverty remain sharply divided, with a majority of respondents attributing hardship to a lack of individual effort, while low-income families point instead to structural barriers that keep them at the margins, according to a survey released Tuesday. The 2025 Korean Welfare Panel Study, conducted jointly by the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs and the Seoul National University Social Welfare Research Institute, found that 89.6 percent of 2,661 respondents cited insufficient motivation and effort as the main cause of poverty. Nearly nine out of 10 respondents, or 88.3 percent, pointed to a lack of frugality or poor household financial management, suggesting that for a majority of Koreans, economic hardship is still seen largely as a matter of personal responsibility and discipline. Because the survey allowed participants to weigh multiple contributing factors independently, the total percentages exceed 100 percent. In contrast, only 62.8 percent blamed inborn ability or talent, and just 12 percent viewed it as a “very important” factor, ind

- [Korea's defense ministry freezes drone procurement over performance concerns](#) (2026-03-03 05:57)

The Ministry of National Defense has decided to temporarily suspend spending on a budget allocated for additional drone purchases, after it emerged that the country's Drone Operations Command had sought to acquire two dozen drones that have been widely criticized for poor performance. According to data the command submitted to Rep. Boo Seung-chan of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea, a member of the National Assembly's Defense Committee, the unit set aside 1.34 billion won (\$914,000) this year to purchase 24 small reconnaissance drones. The drone is a domestically developed model unveiled in 2023 by the Agency for Defense Development as part of an in-house research initiative. Within six months, the agency had produced 100 drones, each costing about 30 million won. The model is the same type of drone the command deployed to Pyongyang in October 2024 as part of a controversial infiltration operation, during the presidency of Yoon Suk Yeol, a conservative leader who favored a hard-line deterrence policy toward North Korea over engagement. However, because the program prioritized low

- [Court allows live broadcast of ex-President Yoon's appellate trial for obstruction of justice](#) (2026-03-03 05:57)

A court said Tuesday it will allow live broadcasts of former President Yoon Suk Yeol's appellate trial on obstruction of justice and other charges. The Seoul High Court's Criminal Division 1, which was recently designated to handle insurrection and related cases, said all the trial's hearings, starting with Wednesday's first hearing, can be broadcast from beginning to end. Exceptions can be made for reasons of national security, maintaining order or the public interest, it added. The broadcasts had been requested by special counsel Cho Eun-suk's team, which investigated allegations surrounding Yoon's failed imposition of martial law in December

2024. The former president has been sentenced by a lower court to five years in prison on charges of obstructing investigators' attempt to detain him last year following the martial law attempt. He was also found guilty of violating the rights of Cabinet members who were not called to a meeting to review his martial law plan, and drafting and later destroying a revised proclamation after the decree was lifted. Yoon is standing a total of eight trials.

- [Health ministry unveils trillion-won investment blitz to secure biohealth dominance](#) (2026-03-03 05:57)

Seeking to transform a record-breaking export surge into a permanent pillar of the national economy, the Ministry of Health and Welfare unveiled Tuesday a trillion-won investment into its biohealth sector, anchored by a new state-backed fund designed to push local drugmakers through the riskiest stages of global development. The plan centers on a 1.1 trillion won (\$750 million) allocation for national health care research and a specialized 150 billion won fund dedicated to Phase 3 clinical trials — the prohibitively expensive "final mile" that has long stymied the country's mid-sized biotech firms. Coming on the heels of a record \$27.9 billion in exports last year across the pharmaceutical, medical device and cosmetic industries, the measures signal Seoul's intent to pivot from a manufacturer of components to a global powerhouse in original drug innovation. With the aim of raising exports to \$30.4 billion this year, up 9.1 percent from 2025, the health ministry will invest 233.8 billion won — 3.5 times more than last year — to support Korean companies' expansion into global markets.

- [Legal loophole allows fans to camp for BTS concert at Gwanghwamun](#) (2026-03-03 05:57)

Seoul Metropolitan Government is bracing for a massive encampment of ticketless BTS fans at Gwanghwamun Square, hampered by legal limitations that prevent police from forcibly clearing the area. The global K-pop act is scheduled to hold a free concert, "BTS The Comeback Live — Arirang," on March 21. With all 15,000 tickets selling out immediately upon release on Feb. 23 and nearby hotels fully booked, some fans, known as ARMY, are coordinating online to pitch tents in the square a day before the show to secure prime viewing spots. Under current Korean law, authorities cannot legally prevent individuals from occupying public spaces like sidewalks if their sole purpose is waiting for an event, provided they do not block roadways. Because waiting does not constitute an illegal assembly, law enforcement is restricted to basic crowd control rather than forced dispersal. "Although we can impose a fine for unauthorized occupation, there is no basis unless it is an illegal act or a case that causes damage to other pedestrians," a city official said. "We can only maintain basic order and guide

- [G-Dragon faces backlash from Chinese netizens over 'Lunar New Year' greeting](#) (2026-03-03 05:57)

K-pop star G-Dragon has come under fire from Chinese netizens after referring to the Lunar New Year during an overseas concert, with some accusing him of mislabeling what they call Chinese New Year. The controversy arose following his appearance at the "Krazy Super Concert" music festival held Feb. 17 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. While greeting the

audience on stage, G-Dragon offered seasonal greetings and mentioned the Lunar New Year. Online criticism quickly followed, particularly among Chinese internet users, who argued that the holiday should be referred to as “Chinese New Year” and accused the singer of distorting Chinese culture. The issue drew renewed attention after Seo Kyung-duk, a professor at Sungshin Women’s University, said Sunday that he had received a tip from a netizen regarding the backlash. The incident was also reported by Hong Kong’s South China Morning Post on Feb. 28. According to reports, criticism intensified after a Chinese idol who appeared as a special guest at the same event used the term Chinese New Year in a separate greeting. Chinese netizens

- [Oceans minister nominee vows to make Busan into country's maritime capital](#) (2026-03-03 05:57)

Oceans Minister nominee Hwang Jong-woo on Tuesday vowed to make the southeastern port city of Busan the maritime capital of South Korea in an anticipated era of Arctic shipping routes. Hwang reaffirmed the government's vision of developing Busan, about 330 kilometers southeast of Seoul, into a global maritime hub for the Arctic shipping routes, expected to expand in coming years, on his first day as a minister nominee. A former career bureaucrat, Hwang was tapped as the new oceans minister by President Lee Jae Myung the previous day, about 81 days after former Minister Chun Jae-soo stepped down amid allegations that he accepted bribes from the Unification Church. "To transform Busan into a true maritime capital, we need to create a public-private cluster comprising maritime and fisheries institutions," Hwang told reporters, calling for the relocation of the headquarters of HMM Co., South Korea's leading shipper, to Busan. The Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries relocated to Busan last year under the government's maritime hub initiative. Regarding the U.S. and Israeli strikes on Iran, Hwang's

- [Some 21,000 Koreans currently in Middle East amid US-Israeli war with Iran](#) (2026-03-03 05:57)

Around 21,000 Korean nationals are currently staying in the Middle East amid escalating tensions in the region following U.S. and Israeli airstrikes on Iran, officials said Tuesday, adding that the government and the foreign ministry have been in communication to secure their return. Government officials are communicating through various channels to see whether Koreans, including residents and short-term visitors, can be relocated to neighboring countries or be transported back home, they said. "Approximately 21,000 Korean nationals are staying in 13 Middle Eastern countries and about 4,000 short-term visitors are estimated to be in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), particularly in Dubai," Rep. Kim Young-bae of the ruling Democratic Party Korea (DPK) said in a press briefing following a meeting between government officials and DP lawmakers at the National Assembly. A total of 59 Koreans, excluding embassy staff, remain in Iran, while another 616 nationals are currently residing in Israel. "It is difficult to assess how long the situation will last so we are first identifying the number of

- [Cabinet approves revised bill adjusting role of new investigation agency, to be submitted to parliament](#) (2026-03-03 05:57)

The Cabinet on Tuesday approved a revised bill adjusting the role of a new government agency that would replace the prosecution, following criticism that it would be effectively no different from the current prosecution service. The government has pushed for the prosecution service to separate its exclusive authority of both indictment and investigation, amid criticism that such power is too excessive as prosecutors could launch their own probe even though there is no complaint. The so-called serious crimes investigation agency and the indictment agency are set to be established in October under a government reorganization bill approved by the National Assembly last September. Under the revised bill, the investigation agency will be tasked with investigating six major types of crimes, excluding crimes involving public officials, elections and large-scale disasters, in response to concerns it could overlap with the powers of other agencies. The original proposal allowed the agency to handle nine major categories of crimes, including corruption and insurrection. The government plans to subm

- [Chief justice urges Assembly to review judicial reform bills](#) (2026-03-03 05:57)

Supreme Court Chief Justice Cho Hee-dae said Tuesday that he fully respects the National Assembly's recent passage of three judicial reform bills but called for efforts to minimize any negative impact the new laws may have on the public. Cho made the remarks regarding the ruling Democratic Party-led bills that establish a new offense of "legal distortion," allow constitutional appeals of court rulings and increase the number of Supreme Court justices from the current 14 to 26. "I entirely respect the legislative activities of the National Assembly. The judiciary will, under all circumstances, fulfill its mission imposed by the Constitution. (But) I want to ask that (the Assembly) carefully considers until the end whether there is any content that is harmful to the people," Cho told reporters on his way to work at the Supreme Court building in southern Seoul. "There is no perfect system in the world and we will seek agreement on areas that need improvement. I earnestly request (the Assembly) to carefully consider whether this sudden transformation will be helpful to the people and whethe

- [PM says top priority on Koreans' safety amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-03 05:57)

Prime Minister Kim Min-seok said Tuesday the government is responding all-out to the Middle East crisis with top priority on Koreans' safety. Kim made the remark during a Cabinet meeting, as the U.S.-Israeli airstrikes on Iran over the weekend prompted military responses from countries across the region. "The situation in the Middle East is very fluid," the prime minister said, noting that President Lee Jae Myung was away on state visits to Singapore and the Philippines. "The government is responding by fully mobilizing its capabilities across agencies with the people's safety and protection of overseas nationals as our top priority." Kim instructed the foreign ministry and other relevant agencies to promptly and transparently share information regarding the crisis so that the people "do not feel overly anxious." "As the president is away, I ask each ministry to be on heightened alert and perform its duties without any gaps," he said. He also asked the nation to trust the government's response and carry on

with their everyday lives. Second Vice Foreign Minister Kim Jina reported that no Kor

Source: The Korea Herald

- [BTS to launch ‘Arirang’ pop-up store in Seoul ahead of album release](#) (2026-03-10 05:58)

BTS will open a special pop-up store in Seoul to mark the release of its upcoming album, “Arirang,” the group’s agency said Tuesday. According to Big Hit Music, the pop-up event will run from 1 p.m. on the day of the album’s release (March 20) through 8:30 p.m. on April 12 at two locations: Shinsegae Department Store’s The Heritage building in Jung-gu, central Seoul, and the Hybe headquarters in Yongsan. Merchandise for sale at the pop-up was created in collaboration with the National Museum Fou

- [Police probe ticket scams ahead of BTS Gwanghwamun comeback show](#) (2026-03-10 05:58)

Police have launched an investigation into suspected ticket scams and misuse of automated programs related to BTS’ upcoming comeback show at Gwanghwamun Square. Park Jeong-bo, chief of the Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency, said Monday that police are currently investigating three suspected criminal cases tied to ticket sales for the concert, after ticket platform Nol Universe requested a probe into signs of automated programs buying tickets for the event on March 21. Police said the main types o

- [Government to push phased retirement age increase](#) (2026-03-10 05:53)

The National Human Rights Commission of Korea said Tuesday that the Ministry of Employment and Labor had informed it the government would begin working to meet its recommendation to gradually raise the statutory retirement age. “We plan to draft new legislation to gradually raise the retirement age as part of the government’s national agenda,” the ministry said, according to the commission. “The government will actively support discussions so that labor and management can find common ground in a

- [Seoul calls for port access support for Korean ships stranded near Strait of Hormuz](#) (2026-03-10 05:51)

Seoul has asked countries near the Strait of Hormuz to assist South Korean vessels operating in the area by allowing them to enter nearby ports and receive supplies, a Foreign Ministry official said Tuesday. According to the official, requesting anonymity, more than 20 South Korean-flagged vessels with about 180 crew members are currently in or near the Strait of Hormuz, a strategic waterway linking the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman between Iran and Oman. Concerns are growing that the vessel

- [US investors drop Section 301 petition over Coupang probe](#) (2026-03-10 05:44)

Two US investors in Coupang — Greenoaks and Altimeter — have withdrawn their petition urging the United States Trade Representative to investigate the South Korean government’s handling of the e-commerce platform following a massive data breach in November last year. The investors filed the petition in January under Section 301 of the US Trade Act of 1974, a law used to address unfair trade practices by foreign governments. “Over the last several weeks, we have had constructive discussions with

- [Korean AI chip startups ramp up hiring as new processors near launch](#) (2026-03-10 05:44)

South Korea’s leading AI chip startups are sharply expanding their workforces as the sector enters a critical phase: commercializing next-generation processors designed to run artificial intelligence services. Industry sources and data from Korean startup investment database TheVC show that four prominent Korean AI fabless firms — Rebellions, DeepX, Mobilint and FuriosaAI — have significantly increased headcount over the past year as their latest chips move toward initial mass production or cust

- [‘Mad Concrete Dreams’ starring Ha Jung-woo takes aim at South Korea’s property obsession](#) (2026-03-10 05:37)

Ha Jung-woo, known for hits such as “Along with the Gods” and “1987,” returns to television for the first time in 19 years with “Mad Concrete Dreams,” a satire that taps into one of modern South Korea’s most enduring aspirations: property ownership. “(Shooting this series), I came to think that becoming part of the FIRE movement (Financial Independence, Retire Early) shouldn’t be something that comes easily,” Ha said during a press conference in Seoul on Monday. “It’s great if you manage to buy

- [Are butter rice cakes the new ‘Dubai chewy cookie’ ?](#) (2026-03-10 05:34)

After the frenzy surrounding the “Dubai chewy cookie,” a new dessert trend is quickly gaining traction in Korea: butter rice cakes, a treat defined by its “crispy outside, chewy inside” texture. Across social media and video platforms, recipe clips and cafe reviews featuring butter rice cakes are spreading rapidly, drawing attention to the dessert’s unusual texture and flavor combination. Made with glutinous rice dough enriched with butter, the pastry develops a crisp golden crust during baking

- [Ne-Yo launches Asia-focused label Pacific Music Group with top regional stars](#) (2026-03-10 05:28)

Grammy-winning singer-songwriter Ne-Yo has teamed up with Indian music star Sonu Nigam, Chinese American rapper MC Jin and veteran music executive Jonathan Serbin to launch a new entertainment company aimed at the Asian market, according to the firm on Tuesday. The newly established label, Pacific Music Group, will be headquartered in Hong Kong and focus on discovering and developing Asian artists for global audiences. PMG plans to operate multiple genre-specific labels — spanning pop, R&B, hip-

- [Trump says Iran war could be over soon, but oil disruption would trigger harsher US strikes](#) (2026-03-10 05:27)

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — US President Donald Trump said Monday that the war against Iran could be short-lived, but he left open the possibility of an escalation in fighting if global oil supplies are disrupted by the Islamic Republic, which chose a new hard-line supreme leader. Oil prices briefly shot to their highest level since 2022 a day after Iran selected Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei to succeed his late father as Iran's supreme leader. Investors saw it as a signal that Iran was digg

- [SK hynix unveils world's first 1c-based LPDDR6 chip](#) (2026-03-10 05:15)

SK hynix said Tuesday it has developed a next-generation 16-gigabit LPDDR6 DRAM built on its 10-nanometer-class sixth-generation 1c process, designed to support on-device artificial intelligence in mobile devices. LPDDR, or low-power double data rate memory, is widely used in smartphones and tablets because it operates at a lower voltage to reduce power consumption. The company recently completed what it said was the world's first certification for a 1c-based LPDDR6 product after unveiling the c

- [Riize wraps 'Riizing Loud' world tour with electrifying finale in Seoul](#) (2026-03-10 05:09)

Boy group Riize closed its first world tour in Seoul over the weekend, delivering a high-energy finale concert that highlighted the group's rapid growth and deepening connection with fans. Held from Friday to Sunday at Kspo Dome in Songpa, southern Seoul, the finale of the group's "Riizing Loud" tour drew a combined audience of 32,000 over three sold-out shows. Sunday's concert marked the culmination of an eight-month global journey that took Riize across 21 cities in Asia and North America, dra

- [Stablecoins can cut costs of cross-border payments: Woori Financial digital chief](#) (2026-03-10 05:04)

Woori Financial Group is exploring global partnerships to expand stablecoin-based cross-border payments as the government moves toward regulating digital assets. "Companies with overseas subsidiaries constantly need to send money abroad," Ok Il-jin, executive vice president of digital innovation at Woori Financial, said in an interview with Herald Business in Seoul. "Stablecoins can significantly shorten settlement times and reduce transaction costs." The group is reviewing ways to integrate sta

- [France to deploy dozen warships: Macron](#) (2026-03-10 04:56)

PAPHOS, Cyprus (Reuters) -- France was deploying about a dozen naval vessels, including its aircraft carrier strike group, to the Mediterranean, Red Sea and potentially the Strait of Hormuz as part of defensive support to allies threatened by the conflict in the Middle East. Speaking in Cyprus before visiting the Charles de Gaulle aircraft carrier, which arrived over the weekend in the eastern Mediterranean, President Emmanuel Macron sought to reassure his Cypriot counterpart after drones were

- [China exports surge into 2026 after record year](#) (2026-03-10 04:51)

BEIJING (Reuters) -- China roared into 2026 with exports far outstripping forecasts, fueled by red-hot electronics demand, putting the economy on track to top last year's record \$1.2 trillion trade surplus and blunting the blow from the war in Iran. Outbound shipments from the world's second-largest economy grew 21.8 percent in US dollar terms in the January-February period, sharply up from the 6.6 percent increase recorded in December and blowing past the median forecast in a Reuters poll of

- [Korea Zinc to showcase strategic minerals at InterBattery](#) (2026-03-10 04:43)

Korea Zinc said Tuesday it will highlight its role in strengthening Korea's resource security by producing strategic minerals essential for advanced industries — including batteries, semiconductors and defense — at InterBattery 2026. Having participated in the exhibition for five consecutive years since 2022, the company plans to showcase its 52 years of technological expertise as one of the world's leading non-ferrous metals smelters, presenting a broad portfolio spanning battery materials and

- [LG CNS takes stake in Silicon Valley robot startup Dexmate](#) (2026-03-10 04:37)

LG CNS has taken a stake in Silicon Valley robotics startup Dexmate as the Korean technology services company moves to deploy humanoid robots in industrial workplaces such as warehouses and factories. The investment, announced Tuesday, was made through LG Technology Ventures, the venture capital arm of LG Group. Financial terms were not disclosed. Dexmate, based in Santa Clara, California, develops mobile humanoid robots designed for logistics and manufacturing environments. According to LG CNS,

- [Hyundai Mobis expands Mercedes-Benz partnership with Hungary facility](#) (2026-03-10 04:37)

Hyundai Mobis said Tuesday its newly operational plant in Hungary will supply chassis modules to Mercedes-Benz, expanding their partnership beyond North America. Located in Kecskemet in central Hungary, the facility is Hyundai Mobis' first European production base dedicated to global customers outside Hyundai Motor Group. It is the company's fourth manufacturing site in the region after plants in the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Turkey. The Hungary plant will mass-produce chassis modules for ele

- [More regions pay grandparents for child care](#) (2026-03-10 04:34)

Jeju will begin offering stipends to grandparents caring for their grandchildren starting in March, following strong public approval of a similar program in Seoul. A survey conducted by the Seoul Metropolitan Government in February found that 99.2 percent of guardians were satisfied with the program, while 99.5 percent said they would recommend it to other caregivers. "I want to give my parents money for taking care of my children, but I'm glad the city is supporting them on my behalf," said a p

- [Foreigners through eyes of media: Does coverage lead to prejudice?](#) (2026-03-10 04:32)

Crimes committed by foreigners account for only a small share of offenses in South Korea. But news coverage and public debate often make them appear far more common than the numbers suggest. As of 2024, the number of “foreign residents” — defined by the Interior Ministry as foreign nationals staying in Korea for more than 90 days, naturalized citizens and their children — surpassed 2.58 million, the highest figure on record. They now make up roughly 5 percent of the population. Despite this demo

- [Why Chinese students flock to Korea’ s MBA programs?](#) (2026-03-10 04:26)

The number of Chinese students enrolled in graduate programs at South Korean universities has surged over the past decade, and now account for more than half of all foreign master's and doctoral students in the country. Chinese graduate students totaled 30,081 as of April 1 last year, according to data submitted by the Education Ministry to Rep. Kim Min-jeon of the National Assembly’ s Education Committee. The figure represents a 167 percent increase from 11,250 in 2016, marking a roughly 2.6-fol

- [Swiss bar fire probe widens to five more local officials](#) (2026-03-10 04:26)

GENEVA (AFP) -- Swiss prosecutors on Monday said five more current and former local officials were under criminal investigation over the New Year bar fire in the ski resort of Crans-Montana that killed 41 people. The prosecutor's office in southwestern Switzerland's Wallis canton, where the upmarket ski resort is located, declined to provide further details. However, a source close to the case confirmed to Agence France-Presse that the mayor of the Crans-Montana municipality, Nicolas Feraud, is

- [Enhypen’ s Jungwon to feature on Japanese film soundtrack](#) (2026-03-10 04:25)

Jungwon of Enhypen is set to lend his voice to a Japanese film soundtrack, teaming up with singer and actor Tomohisa Yamashita for a collaborative track. According to Enhypen’ s agency Belift Lab on Tuesday, Jungwon participated in the track for the upcoming Japanese film “Honest Real Estate.” The song, titled “Koe,” was partially unveiled in the film’ s newly released trailer. Jungwon described the project as a meaningful experience, marking his first time singing for a movie soundtrack. “I perso

- [Much of Iran's uranium likely to be in Isfahan: Grossi](#) (2026-03-10 04:22)

PARIS (Reuters) -- Almost half of Iran's uranium enriched to up to 60 percent purity, a short step from weapons-grade, was stored in a tunnel complex at Isfahan and is probably still there, UN nuclear watchdog chief Rafael Grossi said Monday. The tunnel complex is the only target that appears not to have been badly damaged in attacks last June by Israel and the US on Iran's nuclear facilities. Diplomats have long said Isfahan has been used to store 60 percent uranium, which the International A

- [Trump's Gaza plan on hold as Iran war pauses disarmament talks, sources say](#) (2026-03-10 04:20)

Talks to advance US President Donald Trump's plan to end the Gaza war have been on hold since last week when the US and Israel jointly attacked Iran, sparking a broader Middle East war, three sources with direct knowledge of the negotiations said. The pause threatens to stall implementation of Trump's flagship Middle East peace initiative, which he has cast as a major foreign policy objective. It comes less than a month after he secured billions of dollars in pledges for Gaza from Gulf Arab sta

- [Colombia's President Petro wins in congressional election, but lacks majority to advance reforms](#) (2026-03-10 04:19)

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — The party of Colombian President Gustavo Petro secured a victory in congressional elections, but will have to build coalitions with other parties to carry out announced reforms, including a controversial push to rewrite the nation's constitution. Petro's Historical Pact party won almost a quarter of all seats in the Senate Sunday, more than any other party. But its staunchest opponents also made gains, with the Democratic Center party — the conservative party led by forme

- [K-pop concerts drive record traffic to Nol World](#) (2026-03-10 04:01)

Nol Universe said Tuesday that its global travel and entertainment booking platform Nol World recorded a record 2.64 million monthly active users in January, driven by an influx of Chinese tourists during the Lunar New Year holiday and K-pop concert ticketing. The figure represents roughly a 33-fold increase from the same period last year and marks the highest monthly user count since the platform's launch. Membership also grew rapidly, with about 300,000 new users joining in January to bring th

- [Ex-President Yoon refuses to attend hearing on 2022 Itaewon disaster](#) (2026-03-10 03:48)

Former President Yoon Suk Yeol on Tuesday refused to meet with representatives of a special investigation committee on the 2022 crowd crush who visited the Seoul Detention Center to persuade him to attend a hearing. The National Commission for the Investigation of the October 29 Itaewon Disaster is scheduled to hold the hearing Thursday and Friday to uncover the truth behind the crowd accident that killed 159 people in the central Seoul district in October 2022, when Yoon was serving as presiden

- [S. Korea providing supplies to its stranded vessel in Strait of Hormuz: official](#) (2026-03-10 03:44)

South Korea is in the process of providing supplies to one of its ships stranded in the Strait of Hormuz amid the conflict in the Middle East, a foreign ministry official said Tuesday. The vessel is among some 20 ships stranded in the key waterway where roughly 20 percent of global oil and gas pass through. The shipping channel has effectively been shut down as the war between US-Israeli forces and Iran intensified. About 180 South Korean seafarers are currently aboard

the 20 vessels, according

- [Seoul's aging poor driven toward bankruptcy by living costs](#) (2026-03-10 03:17)

A growing number of residents in Seoul are falling into irrecoverable debt, with new city data showing that people in their 60s and older now make up the majority of personal bankruptcy applicants. Six out of every 10 individuals who sought personal bankruptcy assistance through the Seoul Financial Welfare Counseling Center last year were aged 60 or above, according to a report released Tuesday. The center analyzed 1,192 valid bankruptcy applications filed in 2025 as part of its annual review of

- [Kard's BM joins 2nd season of 'Beef'](#) (2026-03-10 03:04)

BM of Kard appears in the trailer for the second season of Netflix drama series “Beef,” confirming his upcoming Hollywood debut. BM plays a tennis coach from the country club that serves as the backdrop of the new season, set to premiere April 16. In the trailer, BM can be spotted touching faces with the club owner and Korean billionaire (Youn Yuh-jung) as well as having a chat with one half of the couple managing the club, played by Carey Mulligan. The television series' first season won critic

- [VeriVery's Kangmin to drop 1st solo set](#) (2026-03-10 02:53)

Kangmin of VeriVery will begin his solo career later this month with the physical single “Free Falling,” his agency Jellyfish Entertainment said Tuesday. He is set to release the album on March 26, about seven years after his debut with VeriVery. Along with four bandmates, he picked up a trophy from a television music chart show for the first time in three years, with “Red (Beggin’),” the main track from the group's fourth physical single, “Lost and Found.” Kangmin embarked on a solo fan meet to

- [Lee says S. Korea's deterrence intact regardless of developments regarding USFK air defense assets](#) (2026-03-10 02:49)

President Lee Jae Myung said South Korea's deterrence against North Korea is not affected by the movement of US Forces Korea air defense assets, while underscoring the importance of self-reliant national defense. Presiding over a weekly Cabinet meeting, Lee noted that “it appears that recently controversy has arisen over the US Forces Korea taking certain assets — such as (missile) batteries or air defense systems — out of the country.” “From our government's standpoint, we expect the role of US

- [S. Korea seeks to tap crude oil stored by foreign refiners: lawmaker](#) (2026-03-10 02:49)

South Korea is moving to exercise its rights to tap crude oil reserves stored in the country's oil terminals by foreign oil firms to cope with the volatility caused by the situation in the Middle East. According to Rep. Ahn Do-geol of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea on Tuesday, the government has initiated coordination with undisclosed foreign refiners over the rights to purchase oil stored in South Korea. According to Ahn, up to 6.86 million barrels of oil could be

secured based on South K

- [LS Eco Energy secures first cable supply contract in Japan](#) (2026-03-10 02:39)

LS Eco Energy said Tuesday its Vietnamese subsidiary LS-VINA has signed an annual supply contract for 6.6-kilovolt CVT distribution cables with Kitanihon Electric Wire, marking the company's first entry into Japan's power infrastructure market. Kitanihon Electric Wire is a subsidiary of Tohoku Electric Power and supplies distribution cables to major electric utilities in Japan. Japan's power infrastructure market is widely considered difficult to enter due to its unique technical standards and s

- [KickFlip readies for 4th EP](#) (2026-03-10 02:30)

Boy group Kickflip unveiled the timetable for the release of its fourth EP, "My First Kick," through its label JYP Entertainment on Tuesday. Following teaser content, the six-member act will drop the mini album and host a comeback showcase on April 6. On Monday, the prerelease "Twenty" came out, and the bandmates celebrated with a fan event where they watched the single's music video and chatted. Donghyun, the youngest member, participated in writing the melody for the rock-based tune. The group

- [Lee says possible shift of USFK's military assets won't affect deterrence against N. Korea](#) (2026-03-10 02:23)

President Lee Jae Myung said Tuesday that a potential relocation of military assets owned by the US military stationed in South Korea will not affect the deterrence posture against North Korea. Citing media reports that the US Forces Korea might have recently shipped out some weapons, including an anti-missile defense system, Lee told a Cabinet meeting, "If you ask if our deterrence strategy against North Korea is severely affected (because of a possible shift of such assets), I can say absolute

- [Additional Cheongung-II interceptors shipped to UAE: reports](#) (2026-03-10 02:14)

The United Arab Emirates appears to have received dozens of Cheongung-II interceptor missiles from South Korea, according to multiple reports Tuesday. Local wire service News1 reported that a UAE Air Force C-17 strategic transport aircraft was spotted departing from Daegu Airport, near South Korea's K2 Air Base, on Monday afternoon. According to reports, the UAE's C-17 transport aircraft arrived at Daegu Airport late Monday night, and the Cheongung-II interceptor missiles — developed by South Ko

- [Blog of jailed Telegram sex ring leader shut down after post bragging about prison award](#) (2026-03-10 02:13)

A blog associated with Cho Ju-bin, the imprisoned leader of a Telegram-based sex exploitation ring, has been shut down as of Tuesday after a post boasting about an award he received in prison. When accessed, the blog currently displays only a notice stating that the page has been restricted for violating the platform's policies. The closure follows public backlash over a blog

post from Monday titled “Award acceptance speech,” which shared the news of Cho receiving recognition in a prison education program.

- [Paris Hilton launches recovery fund for women business owners after disasters](#) (2026-03-10 02:07)

The pop culture star, advocate and entrepreneur Paris Hilton launched an initiative Monday to support female small-business owners impacted by disasters, a nationwide expansion of her philanthropic support for women entrepreneurs after the 2025 Los Angeles fires. Hilton is donating \$350,000 to kick-start the Back in Business Recovery Fund, with a goal to raise at least \$1 million by the end of March. “Women-owned businesses are really the heart of so many of these communities,” Hilton told The A

- [Cosmax Indonesia partners with BRIN on skin microbiome research](#) (2026-03-10 02:04)

Cosmax’s Indonesian unit said Tuesday it has signed a research agreement with the National Research and Innovation Agency to build the “Nusantara Skin Microbiome Map,” expanding microbiome research tailored to local skin characteristics. BRIN, a research institution directly overseen by the Indonesian president, is responsible for managing the country’s national research and development strategy and related research budgets. The agency also conducts research in bio and health sciences and works

- [Attacks reported near South Korean overseas units amid Middle East conflict](#) (2026-03-10 02:04)

Attacks have occurred near South Korean overseas military units following the outbreak of war in the Middle East, with the units maintaining heightened protection measures to ensure the safety of personnel, according to government data released Tuesday. Data submitted by the Defense Ministry to Rep. Hwang Hee of the Democratic Party of Korea showed that a strike occurred about 31 kilometers northeast of the Dongmyeong Unit in Lebanon on Feb. 28, when the United States and Israel carried out air

- [Innometry to unveil next-generation inspection solutions at InterBattery](#) (2026-03-10 02:03)

Innometry said Tuesday it will participate in InterBattery 2026, set to be held at Coex in Seoul this week, where it will showcase next-generation nondestructive inspection technologies for secondary batteries and other advanced industries. At the exhibition, the company will operate a booth highlighting its core technologies based on X-ray and 3D CT solutions. Innometry will divide its showcase into two sectors — secondary batteries and advanced industries — presenting inspection technologies t

- [Five Iranian women's soccer players granted humanitarian visas in Australia](#) (2026-03-10 01:56)

SYDNEY (Reuters) -- Australia on Tuesday granted humanitarian visas to five Iranian women's soccer team players after they sought asylum fearing persecution in their home nation. The announcement came after US President Donald Trump said he had spoken to Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese about the Iran women's soccer team in Australia following reports that the players had requested asylum. The remaining players are in a hotel on the Gold Coast. Albanese said help is available to the ot

- [CJ Olive Young takes K-beauty festival global](#) (2026-03-10 01:56)

CJ Olive Young said Tuesday it would expand its signature beauty event, Olive Young Festa, to global markets this year, holding events sequentially in Japan and the United States. Launched as Korea's first large-scale beauty festival, Olive Young Festa has served as an experiential platform where participating brands introduce their products directly to consumers, leveraging Olive Young's product curation and beauty trend insights. This year's Olive Young Festa 2026 will retain the event's origi

- [Day6's Wonpil returns with 'Unpiltered' after 4 years](#) (2026-03-10 01:55)

Wonpil of Day6 is set to release his first solo EP “Unpiltered” on March 30, JYP Entertainment announced Monday. The release was announced via a post on Day6's official social media channels Monday. The teaser captures Wonpil gazing through a fogged window as droplets slowly slide down from a section wiped clean, visually conveying the album's dreamy, melancholic mood. In the clip, Wonpil's plaintive vocals deliver the line, “I'm just breathing empty air, I'm not alright, oh God, save me,” hinti

- [Lee thanks UAE and Qatar, calls for sustained evacuation efforts](#) (2026-03-10 01:49)

President Lee Jae Myung on Tuesday called on government agencies to continue efforts to evacuate Korean nationals from the Middle East and thanked foreign governments for their support. Speaking at Tuesday's Cabinet meeting, Lee said hundreds of South Koreans had safely returned home in recent evacuation operations facilitated by the United Arab Emirates and Qatar amid escalating conflict in the region. “Early yesterday morning, 203 of our nationals who had been staying in the UAE returned home

- [Kia unveils upgraded Niro hybrid, discontinues EV version](#) (2026-03-09 23:31)

Kia unveiled an upgraded version of its eco-friendly crossover Niro, offering the model exclusively as a hybrid while discontinuing the Niro EV as part of its shift toward dedicated electric vehicles. The South Korean carmaker said it will begin taking orders for the mildly face-lifted Niro model on Tuesday in South Korea. The refreshed model comes four years after the second-generation Niro was launched in January 2022. The upgraded Niro is offered in a hybrid version that delivers a combined f

- [\[Graphic News\] S. Korea shuts 153 schools over five years](#) (2026-03-09 23:00)

A total of 153 schools were consolidated or closed across South Korea between 2021 and 2025 as the nation's school-age population continues to shrink, according to data from the Ministry of Education obtained by Rep. Park Sung-hoon of the People Power Party. Of the schools closed, 120 were elementary schools, 24 were middle schools and nine were high schools. The closures come as the number of students nationwide fell from 5,323,075 in 2021 to 5,015,310 last year, a drop of nearly 310,000. By re

- [\[Mariana Mazzucato\] Reimagining the economics of culture](#) (2026-03-09 20:30)

Brazil's Carnival, the greatest party on earth, ended last month. For those who have never been, no description does it justice. The blocos playing in the streets, the samba schools parading through Rio de Janeiro's Sambadrome, the drumlines, the costumes, and the collective joy of millions of people constitute a spectacle unto itself. In dark and divided times, Carnival reminds us that participation, creativity and shared celebration are not peripheral to economic life. They are part of what ec

- [\[Lim Woong\] Becoming 'New Lee Jae Myung'](#) (2026-03-09 20:30)

Modern Korean presidential history often reads like a long-running case study in leadership types. Over the decades, the office has been occupied by a variety of figures in style and ambition, yet many shared an implicit premise: The president stands apart from the public, legitimized not so much by higher statesmanship as by extreme ideology, elite credentials, regional identity and ties to wealth and status. President Lee Jae Myung appears, at least so far, to break with that pattern. He proje

- [Going to Miami: S. Korea beats Australia to reach quarterfinals](#) (2026-03-09 13:42)

South Korea defeated Australia 7-2 on Monday to advance to the quarterfinals of the World Baseball Classic, getting out of the opening round for the first time in 17 years after beating steep odds to win the tiebreaker. Designated hitter Moon Bo-gyeong hammered a two-run home run as part of his four-RBI night at Tokyo Dome in the teams' final Pool C game, helping South Korea grab the final ticket to Miami. In order to move on to the quarterfinals, South Korea had to beat Australia by at least fi

- [Top diplomats of S. Korea, Qatar discuss evacuations, energy supply amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-09 12:22)

Foreign Minister Cho Hyun held a phone call with his Qatari counterpart Monday and asked for support for the safe return of South Korean nationals and stable energy supplies amid the ongoing conflict surrounding Iran, Seoul's foreign ministry said. During the call with Qatar's Foreign Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani, Cho mentioned Qatar's recent announcement to suspend production of liquefied natural gas and asked for the country's cooperation to ensure stable energy suppli

- [N. Korea cancels int'l marathon due to some reasons: tour agency](#) (2026-03-09 11:02)

North Korea has decided to cancel the 2026 Pyongyang International Marathon, originally set for April 5 in the country's capital, due to some reasons, a Beijing-based tour agency said Monday. Koryo Tours, which specializes in travel to North Korea, broke the news on its website, saying, "This decision was communicated to us by the DPR Korea Athletics Association and has been confirmed as final." DPRK stands for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the official name of North Korea. The agen

- [Conservative party formally severs ties with ex-President Yoon](#) (2026-03-09 11:00)

South Korea's main opposition People Power Party formally broke with disgraced former President Yoon Suk Yeol on Monday, adopting a resolution explicitly opposing his return to politics as the party moves to unify ahead of crucial local elections. The declaration, issued collectively in the name of all sitting People Power Party lawmakers, came 296 days after Yoon left the party in May 2025, following his removal from office by the Constitutional Court in April 2025 over his short-lived declarat

- [Conservative party open to accepting Seoul mayor's reelection bid after deadline](#) (2026-03-09 09:47)

The main opposition People Power Party remained open to accepting incumbent Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon's candidate registration to run again for the mayoral post, even after the deadline passed Sunday. Lee Jung-hyun, who oversees the conservative party's candidate nomination process for the upcoming local elections in June, told reporters Monday that Oh's unexpected decision not to apply for the candidacy would not necessarily mean his chances of reelection have completely disappeared. "Our door to

- [3-term lawmaker vows free access to public transit in Seoul mayor bid](#) (2026-03-09 09:23)

Rep. Park Ju-min, a three-term lawmaker of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea, pledged Monday to grant all citizens free access to the Seoul public transit services within 10 years, reiterating his road map from February. It was part of his local election campaign pledges in the field of transportation services unveiled Monday as he launched his Seoul mayor bid, alongside pledges to increase passenger capacity for Line No. 9 trains and backtrack Seoul's introduction of the controversial Han Ri

- [Seoul plans first fuel price caps in 29 years as oil shock hits](#) (2026-03-09 09:18)

South Korea plans to impose fuel price caps this week for effectively the first time since 1997, after a sharp run-up in prices that authorities say has occurred even before any Middle East supply disruption has hit the country. President Lee Jae Myung ordered the measure's swift implementation in opening remarks at a 90-minute emergency economic response meeting held Monday at Cheong Wa Dae, as the government moved to contain the fallout from the war triggered by joint US and Israeli strikes on

- [Telegram sex ring leader bragging about award from prison sparks criticism](#) (2026-03-09 09:17)

A blog linked to Cho Ju-bin, the imprisoned mastermind behind a notorious online sex blackmail ring, is stirring controversy after a post revealed he received an award while incarcerated, according to online communities Monday. The post titled "Award acceptance speech," uploaded late last month on the blog he has operated through a legal representative since January 2024, reads: "I received an award. It was given in recognition of my diligent participation in education programs over the past thr

- [Lee Se-dol returns to build with AI, not battle it](#) (2026-03-09 09:02)

Ten years after his historic game against Google DeepMind's AlphaGo transformed global perceptions of artificial intelligence, Go legend Lee Se-dol returned to the same venue. This time, the encounter was not a contest between human and machine but a demonstration of how the two might work together. The event held at the Four Seasons Hotel Seoul in central Seoul was organized by Korean AI startup Enhans, which showcased a system designed to coordinate multiple AI "agents" to carry out complex ta

- [Is it hard to befriend Koreans?](#) (2026-03-09 07:48)

Most friends of Lena Smit, a 25-year-old psychology major from the Netherlands studying at Ewha Womans University, are Koreans she met at school. She doubts those relationships would have formed as naturally off campus. "Being part of the same school, department or company seems to naturally create opportunities to connect in Korea. Making friends here feels less random and more structured," said Smit, who has been living in Korea for two years. "I would be very hesitant to approach a Korean in

- [Pablo Air aims higher with AI drone swarms](#) (2026-03-09 07:01)

For Kim Young-joon, the 36-year-old founder and chair of Pablo Air, volunteering for South Korea's Army special forces was an easy decision. "I don't really like doing what others usually do," Kim said in an interview with The Korea Herald at the company's office in Incheon last week. While Korean men typically complete their mandatory military service through conscription, Kim chose the more demanding route of volunteering as an officer in the special forces. "I like adventures, so I was lookin

- [Seoul shares sink nearly 6 pct amid Iran crisis, crude price hike; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-09 06:45)

South Korean stocks fell nearly 6 percent Monday, with the main bourse operator temporarily suspending trading during the morning amid extreme market volatility caused by US-Israeli airstrikes on Iran. The local currency fell sharply against the greenback. The Korea Composite Stock Price Index surrendered 333 points, or 5.96 percent, to close at 5,251.87. In the morning, the Korea Exchange activated a circuit breaker, suspending all trading on the main bourse for 20 minutes after the main index

- [How Boston Dynamics IPO could unlock Hyundai Motor Group's ownership overhaul](#) (2026-03-09 06:20)

Hyundai Motor Group's decadeslong effort to streamline its complex ownership structure could finally gain momentum. The catalyst is not a new SUV, but the company behind the back-flipping humanoid robot Atlas. Boston Dynamics, the auto-to-steel conglomerate's US robotics unit, will work toward a long-anticipated initial public offering on the Nasdaq this year, according to sources. With a potential listing as early as 2027, the company is expected to select underwriters and file for a preliminary

- [KCCI launches recruitment platform for USFK veterans](#) (2026-03-09 06:20)

The Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry said Monday it has launched a recruitment platform designed to connect former US military personnel who served in South Korea with Korean companies operating in the United States. The KCCI said it signed a memorandum of understanding with the Korea-US Alliance Foundation and participating companies to operate the job-matching platform, targeting American service members completing their assignments with US Forces Korea. The platform, accessible at www.U

- [Discovery of remains rekindles scrutiny of Jeju Air crash recovery](#) (2026-03-09 06:18)

The South Korean government faces renewed criticism from families of victims of the Jeju Air crash that killed 179 people on Dec. 29, 2024, after human bone fragments and eight other suspected remains were discovered in rubble removed from the crash site in recent weeks. The accident occurred at Muan International Airport in South Jeolla Province, when a Boeing 737-800 skidded off the runway during an emergency landing following a reported bird strike, struck a concrete structure near the runway

- [Seoul to expand medical tourism interpreters tenfold](#) (2026-03-09 06:13)

The Seoul Metropolitan Government said Monday it will expand its pool of medical tourism interpreter-coordinators to about 1,000 this year — nearly ten times the current level — to better serve the rapidly growing number of foreign patients visiting the city. To support the initiative, the city signed a memorandum of understanding with the K-Medical Tourism Association last week. Under the agreement, interpreter-coordinators affiliated with the association will be deployed to major medical insti

- [Why cheaper flour, sugar may not mean cheaper ramyeon](#) (2026-03-09 06:06)

South Korean makers of instant noodle are facing mounting pressure to cut retail prices, as government antitrust investigations into key ingredients such as sugar and flour trigger markdowns across the supply chain. Seven Korean flour millers — CJ CheilJedang, Daehan Flour Mills, Sajo Dongaone, Daesun Flour Mills, Samyang Corp., SamHwa Flour Mills and Hantop — face antitrust proceedings over allegations they colluded to fix flour prices between 2019 and 2025. Potential penalties could reach as h

- [Kospi plunges, won weakens as oil shock rattles markets](#) (2026-03-09 06:05)

A surge in global oil prices triggered by the war in the Middle East rattled investors Monday, raising concerns about renewed global inflation pressures and weighing heavily on both South Korea's stock market and the local currency. Higher oil prices are stoking inflation concerns for Korea, a country heavily dependent on energy imports. Rising import costs reduce production efficiency and could deal a major blow across the industrial supply chain, putting additional pressure on the bourse. Pric

- [SPC Samlip names safety, global strategy experts as co-CEOs](#) (2026-03-09 06:01)

SPC Samlip said Monday it has appointed Sangmidang Holdings CEO Do Se-ho and Kellanova's Korea chief Jeong In-ho as co-chief executive officers. The appointments were approved at a board meeting held earlier in the day and will be finalized at a shareholders' meeting scheduled for March 26. The move is part of SPC Samlip's broader effort to reform management, strengthen workplace safety and accelerate overseas expansion. Do is known for his experience in safety management and labor relations. Th

- [Film about tragic Joseon king sends crowds to historic exile site in Yeongwol](#) (2026-03-09 05:58)

A recent hit at the box office is reshaping travel patterns in Gangwon Province, drawing thousands of visitors to Yeongwol to trace the final days of one of Korea's most tragic monarchs. "The King's Warden" has sparked a surge of interest in sites connected to King Danjong, the sixth ruler of the Joseon era (1392-1910), who was dethroned and exiled as a teenager. According to Yeongwol County, the historic sites of Cheongnyeongpo Meandering Stream and Jangneung Royal Tomb welcomed more than 10,00

- [JungKwanJang showcases Korean red ginseng at Expo West](#) (2026-03-09 05:55)

Korea Ginseng Corp. said Monday that its flagship brand JungKwanJang showcased the value of Korean red ginseng to global visitors at Natural Products Expo West, held March 4-6 in Anaheim, California. The event, one of the world's largest natural food exhibitions, brought together about 3,000 food and beverage companies from 130 countries and more than 60,000 industry professionals. It serves as a key global platform for identifying emerging trends in the food and wellness industries. JungKwanJan

- [S. Korea launches new project to recover Korean War remains](#) (2026-03-09 05:51)

South Korea's Defense Ministry said Monday it has launched this year's recovery mission searching for the remains of soldiers who died during the 1950-53 Korean War. According to the ministry, the project will be conducted in two phases, from March 9 to July 3 and from Sept. 1 to Nov. 27, with a preparation period in between. A total of 31 military units, including 30 Army units and the Marine Corps' 1st Division, will participate in the project, with more than 100,000 troops participating cumul

- [\\$350b US investment bill set for passage Thursday](#) (2026-03-09 05:47)

The National Assembly's special committee on US investment bills reached a bipartisan consensus Monday, the deadline to conclude its one-month operation. The bill, drafted in accordance with the joint fact sheet on trade and security between Seoul and Washington in November, was granted approval at the 16-member special committee and is eyeing passage in the National Assembly plenary session Thursday. The bill maps out plans to establish a public institution with 2 trillion won (\$1.34 billion) o

- [President Lee thanks Turkmenistan, Singapore for evacuating Koreans from Iran](#) (2026-03-09 05:45)

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung on Monday sent letters of appreciation to the leaders of Turkmenistan and Singapore, thanking them for their countries' support in helping South Koreans evacuate from the Middle East, Cheong Wa Dae said Monday. According to the presidential office, Lee thanked President Serdar Berdimuhamedov of Turkmenistan for assistance in the evacuation from Iran. In the operation, 25 South Korean citizens, along with four Iranian family members of the Korean nationals, we

- [Lotte Biologics seeks global partnerships at DCAT Week](#) (2026-03-09 05:37)

Lotte Biologics said Monday it will participate in DCAT Week 2026, a major pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry gathering to be held in New York from March 23 to 26, as it looks to expand partnerships and strengthen its global presence in the contract development and manufacturing organization market. During the event, the company will host meetings at the Lotte New York Palace, the main venue of DCAT Week, to engage with potential partners and explore new business opportunities, particular

- [Kim Jong-un projects 'socialist family' ideals in Women's Day attendance with 'beloved daughter'](#) (2026-03-09 05:33)

The North Korean regime could be projecting the idea that the country is "one big socialist family" through Kim Jong-un and his daughter's attendance of a Women's Day event, seeking to coagulate society and further consolidate the "beloved daughter." Pyongyang's state media said Monday that Kim attended a concert marking International Women's Day Sunday at Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, accompanied by his wife Ri Sol-ju and daughter known as Ju-ae. The North Korean people welcomed their leader as he

- ['The King's Warden' boosts Korea's film revival push](#) (2026-03-09 05:31)

The culture minister delivered cake and flowers to the director in person. The head of the national heritage agency posted guides on social media to the film's real-life locations. The president put up his own congratulations on X. "The King's Warden" had already broken records before any of that happened, but the wave of official recognition that followed the film's run has been remarkable in its own right. The film crossed 10 million admissions on Friday, 31 days after its Feb. 4 opening. In K

- [Dominique Perrault to headline 2026 Korea Herald Architecture Talk](#) (2026-03-09 05:30)

The 2026 Korea Herald Architecture Talk will bring together Korean and French perspectives on public architecture, with renowned French architect and urbanist Dominique Perrault as the keynote speaker. The forum will be held at 3 p.m. on April 7 at the Ewha Campus Complex at Ewha Womans University in Seoul. Marking the 140th anniversary of diplomatic ties between South Korea and France, the fourth edition of the annual architecture forum will take place under the theme “Architecture Beyond Border

- [Celltrion biosimilars gain strong market share across Asia](#) (2026-03-09 05:30)

Celltrion said Monday it continues to see solid prescription growth across Asian markets, with several of its key biosimilar products capturing leading market shares. Its flagship autoimmune disease treatment Remsima has established a dominant presence in multiple markets. According to clinical research provider IQVIA, as of the third quarter of 2025 Remsima held market shares of 93 percent in Singapore, 77 percent in Hong Kong, 73 percent in Thailand and 65 percent in Malaysia. Another autoimmu

- [Samsung SDI to debut batteries for AI humanoid robots, data centers](#) (2026-03-09 05:22)

Samsung SDI said Monday it will showcase next-generation batteries designed for humanoid robots and AI data centers at InterBattery 2026 this week in Seoul. Under the theme “AI Thinks, Battery Enables,” the company will debut a pouch-type all-solid-state battery sample developed for physical AI applications such as humanoid robots. The battery is designed to deliver high energy density, strong power output and enhanced safety in a compact form factor. It addresses the tight installation space ty

- [Lee Jae Myung to send special envoy to Chile for presidential inauguration](#) (2026-03-09 05:21)

Rep. Chung Il-young of the ruling Democratic Party will attend the inauguration of Chile's new president Jose Antonio Kast as President Lee Jae Myung's special envoy, Cheong Wa Dae said Monday. According to Cheong Wa Dae, Chung will travel to Chile from March 10 to March 12 as Lee's special envoy for the presidential inauguration. Chung, who serves as a board member of the Korea-Chile Parliamentary Friendship Association, is expected to meet Kast and deliver a personal letter from Lee. During th

- [Justice Ministry to crack down on illegal foreign delivery riders](#) (2026-03-09 05:17)

The Ministry of Justice said Monday it will launch a two-month crackdown on foreigners working illegally as food delivery drivers, citing a rise in unlicensed riding and unauthorized employment. The ministry designated March and April as intensive enforcement months, saying some international students have recently begun working as delivery drivers using borrowed or falsified Korean identities, raising concerns that local job opportunities are being affected. Major delivery platforms such as Bae

- [Justice Ministry launches task force to protect migrant rights](#) (2026-03-09 05:17)

The Ministry of Justice said Monday it has set up an Immigrants Rights Protection Task Force under the Korea Immigration Service to prevent human rights violations and strengthen remedies for foreign residents in South Korea. The ministry said responsibility for protecting foreign residents' rights had previously been dispersed across multiple departments. The new task force is intended to provide a more systematic and coordinated response. According to the ministry, the team will conduct on-site

- [Students showcase research at National History Day Korea](#) (2026-03-09 05:09)

Hallways at Seoul International School in Seongnam, Gyeonggi Province, were packed as more than 800 students from 37 schools across South Korea gathered for National History Day Korea -- an international competition promoting historical research among middle and high school students. Under this year's theme, "Revolution, Reaction and Reform," students presented projects ranging from short documentaries and research papers to websites and theatrical performances during the event Saturday. Topics

- [Kospi tumbles over 8%, triggers circuit breaker](#) (2026-03-09 05:09)

South Korea's benchmark Kospi tumbled over 8 percent in trading Monday, prompting the activation of a circuit breaker, a 20-minute suspension on trading to curb excessive volatility. The Korea Exchange activated a circuit breaker on the Kospi at around 10:31 a.m., after the index fell more than 8 percent in the course of just over a minute. It was the second activation of a circuit breaker on the main bourse this year. At the time of the activation, the Kospi stood at 5,132.07 points, shedding 8

- [Envoy, Herald CEO pledge to boost Thai-Korea economic links](#) (2026-03-09 05:03)

Thai Ambassador to Korea Tanee Sangrat and Herald Media Group CEO Choi Jin-young pledged to boost Thailand-Korea economic cooperation in a meeting Friday. Highlighting upcoming trade agreements and business initiatives, Sangrat said negotiations on the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement between Thailand and South Korea are nearing completion. A CEPA is a type of free trade agreement that goes beyond market access by promoting broader economic cooperation between partner countries. The

- [Lee calls for 'extraordinary measures,' fuel price cap amid energy shock](#) (2026-03-09 05:03)

President Lee Jae Myung ordered "extraordinary measures" to shore up energy supplies and rein in surging oil prices, including the swift imposition of a petroleum price cap for the first time in nearly 30 years. Lee convened an emergency economic response meeting at Cheong Wa Dae at 11 a.m. to assess the economic and inflationary fallout from the widening war in the Middle East, sparked by US-Israeli strikes on Iran that began Feb. 28. "As the crisis in the Middle East deepens, uncertainty at ho

- [BTS returns — and so does Army](#) (2026-03-09 05:01)

BTS' return this month will be the most closely watched K-pop comeback in recent memory. But the spotlight surrounding the comeback is not focused only on the artists. It is also turning to Army, the worldwide fandom that has played a central role in BTS' rise and stands as one of the largest and most organized communities in pop music today. By the numbers alone, Army is formidable. More than 44.7 million users follow the group on X, while 33.5 million users are registered on Weverse, the globa

- [Allies kick off Freedom Shield drills with fewer field exercises](#) (2026-03-09 04:36)

The annual South Korea-US military exercise, Freedom Shield, kicked off Monday, with a reduced number of outdoor field training drills. The command post-based exercise will run through March 19. This year's drills are based on a scenario reflecting lessons from recent global conflicts, including changes in North Korea's tactics following its troop deployment to Russia and the evolving threat posed by Pyongyang's nuclear weapons program. The exercise also carries added significance as the allies

- [China consumer inflation sees quickest jump in three years](#) (2026-03-09 04:18)

BEIJING (Reuters) -- China's consumer inflation accelerated to the highest in more than three years due to the effects of the Lunar New Year holiday, while producer deflation persisted as weak demand remained a drag on an economy facing stiff external challenges. Policymakers have been trying to boost consumption over the past two years, but analysts say more needs to be done to address the supply-demand imbalance. The consumer price index rose 1.3 percent year-on-year for the fifth month of g

- [Israel strikes Beirut hotel as toll rises](#) (2026-03-09 04:04)

BEIRUT (AFP) -- Israel struck a hotel in central Beirut Sunday, the first attack on the city centre since the start of the new war with Hezbollah, as Lebanon said nearly 400 people were killed over the past week. Lebanon was drawn into the Middle East war Monday, when Iran-backed militant group Hezbollah attacked Israel in response to the killing of Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei during US-Israeli strikes. Israel, which has kept up strikes targeting Hezbollah despite a 2024 ceasef

- [Police in Norway investigate an explosion outside the US Embassy in Oslo](#) (2026-03-09 04:03)

Police in Norway were investigating an explosion early Sunday outside the US Embassy in Oslo, the capital of the Scandinavian country, officials said. No injuries were reported. Police received reports of a "loud bang" or explosion around 1 a.m., Oslo police said in a news release. The explosion was caused by some sort of incendiary device, according to Frode Larsen, leader of the Oslo police joint unit for investigation and intelligence. Investigators believe the embassy was the target and are

- [Israeli settler attack in West Bank kills three Palestinians](#) (2026-03-09 04:01)

Palestinian authorities and the Israeli military said Sunday that three Palestinians were killed during an Israeli settler attack in the occupied West Bank, taking to 4 the number reported dead in such incidents over two days. Agence France-Presse journalists witnessed the funerals of the four men where relatives wept as mourners carried the bodies and chanted slogans. The spate of killings is the latest bloodshed as a result of violence that has soared in the West Bank since the start of the Ga

- [German state election deals blow to Merz: exit polls](#) (2026-03-09 03:59)

The German Greens on Sunday beat Friedrich Merz's conservative CDU in a state poll, exit polls showed, marking a blow for the chancellor ahead of elections this year as polls show the far right surging. Almost 32 percent of voters opted for the Greens led by Cem Ozdemir, according to exit polls by broadcasters ARD and ZDF, edging out the CDU with around 30 percent. Updated exit polls for both broadcasters showed the far-right Alternative for Germany almost doubling its result compared with 2021

- [Red Velvet's Irene outlines solo comeback](#) (2026-03-09 03:01)

Irene of Red Velvet is poised to drop her first solo full-length album on March 30, SM Entertainment announced Monday. The album will be titled "Biggest Fan" and consist of 10 tracks, including the title track. As the name of the album and lead single suggest, she portrays how she has matured into her own biggest fan through the support of her fans. The LP rolls out more than a year after her first solo endeavor, EP "Like A Flower." the eight-track set sold over 250,000 copies in one day and top

- [Global arms exports soar on European demand: study](#) (2026-03-09 02:38)

STOCKHOLM (AFP) -- Global weapons flows grew by almost 10 percent in the past five years, with Europe more than tripling imports, a report showed Monday. The surge in European countries can be explained, in part at least, by the fact they are buying in weapons to supply to Ukraine and because they are seeking to boost their own military capabilities against a perceived threat from Russia, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute said. The volume of worldwide arms flows grew by 9.2 pe

- [Kep1er to return without Seo Youngeun](#) (2026-03-09 02:37)

Kep1er will put out a new album on March 31, but Seo Youngeun will be nowhere to be found, Klep Entertainment said Monday. The group is set to release "Crack Code," returning about seven months since seventh EP "Bubble Gum." The upcoming set will feature the six remaining bandmates after Seo decided to leave the team. She had been on a break since July 2025 due to health reasons. Last week she made her departure official. "The time I spent with Kep1er and Kep1ian was like a treasure, which I wou

- [Chong Won-o vows AI-driven governance in Seoul mayor bid](#) (2026-03-09 02:36)

Chong Won-o, who is competing for the Democratic Party of Korea candidacy in the June mayoral election in Seoul, vowed to adopt artificial intelligence in his governance as he launched his Seoul mayor bid. In a prerecorded speech unveiled on his YouTube channel Monday, Chong pledged to introduce AI technology to streamline the process of granting municipal approvals, and to improve citizens' welfare. He described his pledge as a way to improve citizens' sovereignty and turn Seoul into a "key eng

- [US marks 61st anniversary of Bloody Sunday](#) (2026-03-09 02:08)

SELMA, Alabama (AP) -- Sixty-one years after state troopers attacked Civil Rights marchers on the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, thousands gathered in the Alabama city amid new concerns about the future of the Voting Rights Act. The March 7, 1965, violence that became known as Bloody Sunday shocked the nation and helped spur passage of the landmark legislation that dismantled barriers to voting for Black Americans in the Jim Crow South. The anniversary was celebrated in this southern city, that

- [Stray Kids garner 400m views with 'Back Door' music video](#) (2026-03-09 02:02)

Stray Kids exceeded 400 million mark on YouTube with the music video for "Back Door," label JYP Entertainment announced Monday. This is the third time the group has reached the milestone, following "God's Menu" and "Thunderous." "Back Door" was released in 2020 as the lead track from "In Life," a repack of the group's first album "Go Life." With the single, the group came in first place on television music chart shows twice and made Time magazine's "The Best K-pop Songs of 2020" list. The repack

- [Thousands march for women's rights and against Mideast war](#) (2026-03-09 01:56)

PARIS, France (AFP) -- Tens of thousands of demonstrators took to the streets in cities across the world Sunday to mark International Women's Day and denounce the war in the Middle East. From Rio in Brazil, Caracas in Venezuela and cities across France, Spain, Turkey and other European countries, demonstrators marched to demand women's rights across a range of issues. Thousands marched in cities across Spain to protest gender-based violence and call for an end to the war in the Middle East. Rape

- [Blackpink enters Billboard 200 at No. 8 with 3rd EP](#) (2026-03-09 01:38)

Blackpink's third EP "Deadline" debuted on Billboard 200 at No. 8, according to the chart preview released Sunday in the US. The mini album is the group's first new release in almost 3 1/2 years, after its second album "Born Pink," a chart-topper on the main albums chart. Blackpink claimed spots for all of its albums on the chart: first EP "Square Up" at No. 40; second EP "Kill This Love" at No. 24; and first LP "The Album" at No. 2. "Deadline" landed atop the iTunes Top Albums chart in 38 regio

- [Korean won sharply depreciates against greenback over Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-09 01:33)

The South Korean won depreciated sharply against the US dollar Monday, hitting its lowest point since the 2008 global financial crisis, as oil prices spiked amid the expanding conflict in the Middle East. The won traded at 1,494.55 won per dollar as of 9:45 a.m., down 19.05 won from the previous session. It marked the lowest intraday won-dollar rate since March 12, 2009, when the rate hit 1,500 won. Investor sentiment was dampened by instability in global energy prices. The US benchmark West Tex

- [S. Korea, U.S. kick off annual key springtime military exercise](#) (2026-03-09 01:33)

South Korea and the United States kicked off a key annual joint springtime military exercise Monday, with the number of planned field training drills cut in half compared with last year. The allies launched the Freedom Shield exercise, which will run through March 19, aimed at strengthening their combined defense posture. This year's FS exercise will be focused on assessing conditions to achieve the transfer of wartime operational control from Washington to Seoul. South Korea has been seeking to

- [Crude oil prices surpass \\$100 a barrel as Iran war impedes production](#) (2026-03-09 01:20)

CHICAGO (AP) — Oil prices eclipsed \$100 per barrel for the first time in more than three and a half years Sunday as the Iran war hinders production and shipping in the Middle East. The price for a barrel of Brent Crude, the international standard, was at \$107.97 after trading resumed on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, up 16.5 percent from its Friday closing price of \$92.69. West Texas Intermediate, the light, sweet crude oil produced in the United States, was selling for about \$106.22 a barrel.

- [Lee thanks Turkmenistan, Singapore for helping evacuate S. Koreans from Middle East](#) (2026-03-09 01:08)

President Lee Jae Myung has sent letters of appreciation to the leaders of Turkmenistan and Singapore for their assistance in evacuating South Korean nationals from the Middle East amid rising regional tensions, Cheong Wa Dae said Monday. In a letter to Turkmen President Serdar Berdimuhamedow, Lee expressed gratitude for Turkmenistan's cooperation in helping 25 South Korean nationals staying in Iran, as well as four Iranian nationals who are family members of Korean nationals, safely evacuate to

- [\[Graphic News\] Korean films with over 10m admissions](#) (2026-03-09 01:00)

Korean films with over 10m admissions 천만 관객 돌파한 한국 영화들 “The King’ s Warden” crossed the 10 million admissions mark Sunday, recording a cumulative audience of 11.17 million, a notable achievement as movie theaters continue to struggle to attract audiences amid fierce competition from streaming platforms. 영화 "왕과 사는 남자"가 일요일 천만 관객을 넘기며 누적 관객 수 1,117만 명을 기록했다. 이는 스트리밍 플랫폼과의 치열한 경쟁 속에서 관객 유치에 어려움을 겪고 있는 영화관들에게 주목할 만한 성과이다. The Korean historical film achieved the milestone in just over a month after it

- [Kospi sinks over 6% as oil surge triggers sell-side sidecar](#) (2026-03-09 00:54)

South Korea's benchmark Kospi plunged in early trading Monday as surging oil prices triggered by the US-Israel war with Iran rattled global markets, prompting the activation of a sell-side sidecar designed to curb excessive volatility. The Korean won also weakened sharply against the dollar. The Kospi opened at 5,265.37, down 5.72 percent from the previous session, and extended losses to as low as 5,171.53 in early trading. As of 9:35 a.m., the index was trading at 5,234.82, down 6.27 percent. A

- [Gov't urges oil refiners to refrain from excessive price hikes amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-09 00:24)

Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan on Monday called on major oil refiners to refrain from excessively raising prices amid a recent surge in international crude oil prices due to the ongoing Middle East situation, his office said. "We ask that transparent and fair petroleum pricing be implemented to ensure that the burden of rising international oil prices due to the recent situation in the Middle East is not unilaterally or excessively passed on to consumers," Kim said in a meeting with oil refiner

- [Lee urges caution over reform measures to minimize side effects](#) (2026-03-09 00:21)

President Lee Jae Myung on Monday urged caution in pushing ahead with reform measures to minimize potential side effects, suggesting a "surgical correction" approach where necessary. Lee reaffirmed his commitment to carrying out reform initiatives to address problems across various sectors, but stressed the need to avoid discouraging or hurting many members who are not involved in causing those problems. "Reform often requires surgical correction," Lee wrote on social media platform X. "To resol

- [203 S. Koreans return from Abu Dhabi aboard chartered flight](#) (2026-03-09 00:20)

More than 200 South Korean nationals who had been stranded in the United Arab Emirates due to the escalating US-Iran conflict returned home Monday aboard a chartered flight. The Etihad Airways plane, carrying 203 South Koreans and three family members of other nationalities, arrived at Incheon International Airport, west of Seoul, in the early morning, about 8 hours after departing from Abu Dhabi. It marked the first chartered flight organized by Seoul to bring back South Korean nationals from t

- [Seoul shares plunge nearly 6 pct; KRX issues sidecar; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-09 00:15)

South Korean stocks opened nearly 6 percent lower Monday over the escalating geopolitics in the Middle East and rising international oil prices, prompting the main bourse operator to issue a sell-side sidecar. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index lost 334.55 points, or 5.99 percent, to 5,250.32 as of 9:15 a.m. Program trading of the benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index was suspended for five minutes at 9:06 a.m., according to the Korea Exchange. A sidecar is triggered when the

- [E-cigarette, dual users linked to higher metabolic, lung risks: KMI study](#) (2026-03-09 00:02)

E-cigarette users and dual users — those who use both conventional cigarettes and e-cigarettes — are associated with a higher prevalence of metabolic syndrome and declining lung function, according to a recent study by the Korea Medical Institute. The findings are part of KMI’s “Health Big Data Series,” based on medical check-up data from approximately 3.05 million individuals who underwent examinations at eight KMI health screening centers nationwide. The study compared the prevalence of metabo

- [\[Graphic News\] Korean films with over 10m admissions](#) (2026-03-08 23:00)

“The King’s Warden” crossed the 10 million admissions mark Sunday, recording a cumulative audience of 11.17 million, a notable achievement as movie theaters continue to struggle to attract audiences amid fierce competition from streaming platforms. The Korean historical film achieved the milestone in just over a month after its Feb. 4 premiere, making it the first film - domestic or foreign - in two years to surpass that threshold. The last films to do so were Jang Jae-hyun’s supernatural thrill

- [\[팟캐스트\] \(773\) 첫 손님 여자 받으면 재수 없다? 제주 식당 성차별 논란](#) (2026-03-08 21:00)

진행자: 박준희, Chelsea Proctor 'Woman as 1st customer is bad luck': Jeju restaurant sparks sexism complaints 기사 요약: 제주도의 한 식당이 “첫 손님이 여성이면 재수 없다” 는 이유로 여성 고객에게 차별적으로 응대했다는 주장이 제기돼 공분을 사고 있다. [1] A controversy has been brewing over an alleged sexual discrimination of a popular beef soup joint on Jeju Island, where the owner was accused of making disparaging comments about female customers. controversy: 논란 brew: (차·맥주 등을) 끓이다, 우려내다. (논란 등이) 점점 커지다. discrimination: 차별 disparage: 폄하하다, 깔보다, 헐뜯다 [2] Those

- [\[Lee Kyong-hee\] ‘Arirang’ to celebrate Korea’s global moment](#) (2026-03-08 20:30)

“On March 21, the world’s biggest band is back!” Netflix’s teaser announces BTS’ upcoming live event at Gwanghwamun Square. The concert will follow the release of the group’s first studio album in more than three years, which drops a day earlier. The 14-track album — as well as the comeback show — is titled “Arirang.” The concert is expected to be viewed worldwide through Netflix’s exclusive live streaming to more than 190 countries. Hundreds of thousands of Armys, as BTS fans are known, from ar

- [\[Javier Blas\] Iran war's strategic commodity](#) (2026-03-08 20:25)

The CIA calls it the “strategic commodity” of the Middle East. But it’s not referring to oil or natural gas. What the American spy agency has in mind is far more prosaic: drinking water. Don’t underestimate it, though, because if military hostilities continue to escalate, water could become the geopolitical commodity that decides the war between the US and Iran. The Persian Gulf is gifted with a fabulous hydrocarbon endowment, worth trillions of dollars. What its desertic countries don’t have is

- [US not likely to hike tariffs if special investment bill passed in parliament: industry minister](#) (2026-03-08 11:09)

Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan said Sunday he has been told the United States is not likely to hike tariffs on South Korea if the National Assembly passes a special bill on Seoul's \$350 billion investment pledge to the US. Kim made the remarks at Incheon International Airport, west of Seoul, after visiting the US to meet with Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick and others to discuss tariff issues and other bilateral trade matters between Seoul and Washington. "At a meeting with Lutnick, I explained

- [Oh Se-hoon drops Seoul mayor re-election bid for June 3 local elections](#) (2026-03-08 10:30)

Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon of the main opposition People Power Party dropped his bid for the party's nomination for the June 3 local elections, effectively stepping back from the Seoul mayoral race. The four-term mayor did not submit his application by the 6 p.m. deadline Sunday for metropolitan mayoral nominations set by the People Power Party. Oh has urged the party to "normalize the party's line" to improve its chances in the local elections and reverse the party's free-fall approval ratings. "Re

- [Kim Yun-ji wins Korea's first women's gold at Winter Paralympics](#) (2026-03-08 10:23)

South Korea's para biathlete Kim Yun-ji won a gold medal Sunday in the women's sitting biathlon sprint at the 2026 Milan-Cortina Winter Paralympics, becoming the first Korean female athlete to claim gold at the Winter Paralympics. Kim, 19, finished the women's sitting 12.5 kilometer sprint in 38 minutes and 0.1 seconds at the Tesero Cross-Country Stadium in Italy, beating Anja Wicker of Germany to take the top spot on the podium. The victory marks the first individual gold medal by a South Korea

- [Chartered plane departs from UAE to bring home 203 S. Koreans: ministry](#) (2026-03-08 10:15)

A chartered plane departed from the United Arab Emirates on Sunday to bring home hundreds of South Koreans stranded in the Middle Eastern country amid the escalating conflict between Iran and the United States, the foreign ministry said. An Etihad Airways chartered flight carrying 203 South Koreans and their three foreign spouses departed from Abu Dhabi at 5:35 p.m. (Korean time), according to the ministry. The plane is expected to arrive at Incheon International Airport, west of Seoul, at around

- [Lee Mi-hyang captures 3rd career LPGA title in China](#) (2026-03-08 09:10)

Lee Mi-hyang has claimed her third career LPGA title in China, ending a long winless drought in the process. Lee won the Blue Bay LPGA at Jian Lake Blue Bay Golf Course in Hainan Island, China, on Sunday by shooting an 11-under 277. The 32-year-old South Korean held off Zhang Weiwei of China by one stroke and earned \$390,000 in prize money. Lee struggled to a final round of one-over 73. She had two double bogeys, two bogeys and two birdies on the chaotic front nine, but recovered with three bird

- [Gender pay gap hovers near 30% in Korea: report](#) (2026-03-08 08:34)

The gender pay gap at South Korea's major conglomerates still hovers near 30 percent while women make up roughly one-quarter of the workforce, a report showed Sunday. According to an analysis of the 2024 business report by the Korea CXO Institute, women accounted for 25 percent of employees at 150 major conglomerates across key industries. The figure marks a 0.3 percentage point increase from 24.7 percent in 2023. From a year earlier, the number of female employees increased by 2,876 while their

- [Shin Yoo-yeol steps into spotlight as Lotte's biotech bet tests heir](#) (2026-03-08 08:03)

The message from Chairman Shin Dong-bin at the start of this year was blunt and poignant: Lotte Group cannot preserve its empire without shedding old habits. That mandate for renewed innovation and tighter capital discipline now seems to fall squarely on his eldest son, Shin Yoo-yeol, at the helm of the group's future-growth agenda. Just three months after the 39-year-old took charge of Lotte Biologics, the conglomerate's contract development and manufacturing arm, expectations are gathering aro

- [Koreans flee Middle East conflict, government pledges further support](#) (2026-03-08 07:50)

South Koreans escaping the conflict in the Middle East have begun arriving back in Korea, with the government pledging to direct all necessary resources to ensure the safety of Korean nationals in the region. A direct flight carrying South Korean nationals departed Dubai International Airport at 3:50 a.m. local time Sunday, scheduled to arrive at Incheon Airport at around 5 p.m. Korea time. Another commercial flight that had been urgently arranged earlier left Abu Dhabi and landed in South Korea

- [KCA issues consumer safety warning over Dubai Chewy Cookie](#) (2026-03-08 07:43)

The Korea Consumer Agency on Sunday issued a consumer safety alert over the Dubai Chewy Cookie after confirming cases of allergic reactions and tooth damage linked to the product. The agency said 23 cases were reported to its Consumer Injury Surveillance System between January and February. Of those, 11 involved allergy symptoms after consumption, while five reported digestive disorders. Four cases involved tooth damage caused by hard foreign substances, two reported finding foreign matter in th

- [Seoul plan to create forest near Cheong Wa Dae scrapped: report](#) (2026-03-08 07:33)

A Seoul city government plan to create forest areas and restore waterways near Cheong Wa Dae has effectively been scrapped, local media reported Sunday. According to Korea Herald sister paper, the Herald Business, authorities decided not to pursue projects to redevelop areas around Cheong Wa Dae, including Hyoja-ro, Cheongwadae-ro, Samcheong-ro and Jahamun-ro. The government also halted plans to restore historic waterways such as Baegundong Stream and Samcheongdong Stream. The original plan call

- [Speculation grows over possible USFK redeployment to Middle East](#) (2026-03-08 06:30)

Recent military movements in South Korea are raising questions over whether some United States Forces Korea assets could be redeployed to the Middle East as tensions between Washington and Tehran intensify. The speculation comes as the conflict in the Middle East appears increasingly likely to drag on, potentially increasing demand for US military assets and prompting the Pentagon to draw on forces stationed overseas. Such a scenario carries particular weight in Seoul. The “strategic flexibility

- [Pulmuone showcases K-food, plant-based products at US expo](#) (2026-03-08 06:29)

Korean food company Pulmuone showcased traditional Korean cuisine alongside its latest plant-based innovations at Natural Products Expo West 2026, held March 4-6 in Anaheim, California. The leading tofu maker has participated in the exhibition since 2003, introducing plant-based convenience foods such as tofu, plant-based meat, dumplings and fried rice to local consumers. At this year’s booth, the company highlighted tofu and kimchi, underscoring both its leadership in the tofu market and its ro

- [Ruling party chair calls for probe of prosecution](#) (2026-03-08 06:28)

South Korea's ruling party is increasing pressure on the prosecutors' office, accusing it of fabricating evidence against President Lee Jae Myung and calling for a parliamentary probe into the issue. Democratic Party of Korea chair Rep. Jung Chung-rae told a press conference Sunday that the ruling bloc would spare no efforts to achieve prosecutorial reform, calling it "a symbolic representation of the Lee administration and the Democratic Party." The party passed legislation last year to split u

- [Media artist Cha Jae-min wins 21th Hermes Foundation Missulsang](#) (2026-03-08 06:21)

Korean media artist Cha Jae-min has won the 21st Hermes Foundation Missulsang for her distinctive approach to media art — listening to marginalized voices and building relationships through “essay films.” While her earlier work raised critical voices about structural conditions and power dynamics in society, her recent practice seeks to bring forth the voices of those who remain unheard. “After extensive and passionate discussions regarding the many outstanding candidates the jury of the 21st He

- [Time to buy Korean won: FX strategist](#) (2026-03-08 06:09)

The Korean won is poised for a rebound, making the deeply undervalued currency an appealing bet for investors, particularly when paired against the overvalued Thai baht, according to a seasoned foreign exchange strategist. Before the US-Israeli strikes on Iran that rattled global markets earlier this month, the Korean equity market had been booming; the benchmark Kospi briefly topped the 6,300 level for the first time, roughly doubling from a year earlier. Despite the rally in stocks, the local

- [Korea moves to curb 'excessive' celebrity security disrupting airport passenger flow](#) (2026-03-08 06:05)

South Korea has long grappled with airport congestion caused by the large entourages and security details accompanying celebrities traveling overseas. The issue has persisted for years, with fans and security personnel frequently crowding airport passageways and delaying travelers trying to catch flights on schedule. That situation may soon change. Earlier this week, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport commissioned a research project titled "A Study on Crowd Safety Management Meas

- [Iran war puts Korean drugmakers on edge](#) (2026-03-08 05:52)

Unease centered around the Iran war is keeping Korean drugmakers and health device companies on their toes amid growing concerns over supply chains and exports. The Korea Pharmaceutical and Bio-Pharma Manufacturers Association has warned that product supply schedules could be disrupted if the conflict in the Middle East leads to reduced flights, altered flight routes or closed airways. Delayed payments could also pose risks for companies, the business lobby said. “Disposable culture bags, filter

- [Samsung SDI to unveil AI solution for ESS battery safety](#) (2026-03-08 05:41)

Samsung SDI will unveil an AI-based battery safety solution for energy storage systems at InterBattery 2026, the company announced Sunday. Samsung Battery Intelligence uses artificial intelligence to diagnose the overall health of batteries, including their condition and potential anomalies, allowing operators to detect and predict safety risks in advance. Drawing on operational data from more than 1,400 ESS deployment sites worldwide, the system learns from large datasets accumulated over time.

- [Renault Filante crossover blends hybrid power with sedan comfort](#) (2026-03-08 05:40)

Renault Korea has launched the Filante crossover — the second model in its Aurora Project lineup — aiming to build this year’s sales momentum much like the Grand Koleos SUV did last year. Developed entirely at Renault Korea’s R&D center in Yongin, Gyeonggi Province, the new hybrid flagship builds on its smaller sibling Grand Koleos’ dynamic performance while adding sedan-like comfort, offering a fresh interpretation of Renault Group’s crossover DNA. Compared with the Grand Koleos, Filante takes

- [Gas price surge takes toll on truck drivers](#) (2026-03-08 05:39)

The recent surge in gas prices has slowed, but prices still hover near six-year highs, placing a heavy burden on truck drivers amid tensions in the Middle East. As of Sunday morning, South Korea’s average diesel price rose 4.8 won from the previous day to 1,915.4 won (\$1.29) per liter, while average gasoline prices increased 3.9 won to 1,893.3 won, according to industry data. The pace of increases has slowed significantly compared with recent days, when prices had been rising by several dozen wo

- [Local elections revive international school pledges, but will it work?](#) (2026-03-08 05:30)

The establishment of international schools is re-emerging as a major education pledge ahead of the local elections across Korea scheduled for June 3. Supporters of the plan cite the example of Jeju Island, which hosts four international schools and has used them to help revitalize rural areas, presenting international schools as a way to transform local communities. They say the schools could provide an environment attractive to global talent and draw Korean demand for overseas education back to

- [Lee Jae Myung' s war on housing speculation](#) (2026-03-08 05:19)

President Lee Jae Myung has declared war on housing speculation, using X as both a megaphone and a pressure tool. “For the sake of a sensible and prosperous nation, I will rein in, by any means, real estate speculation that can ruin the country,” Lee wrote in an X post on Feb. 3. In just over a month, he has posted more than two dozen times on real estate, framing it not as a narrow property issue but as a broader distortion of the national economy. “Housing speculation robs young people of hope

- [Korea moves to ban deepfake use in education superintendent elections](#) (2026-03-08 05:02)

South Korea is moving to ban the use of deepfake content in the upcoming regional education superintendent elections slated for June 3, 2026. According to the National Assembly' s legislation information system, a bill to amend the Act on Local Education Autonomy passed the Education Committee' s bill review subcommittee on Feb. 26. The bill seeks to apply deepfake regulations under the Public Official Election Act to local superintendent elections, and was first introduced by Rep. Kim Moon-soo of

- [Seoul cracks down on hotels near BTS comeback concert](#) (2026-03-08 04:34)

The Seoul Metropolitan Government said Sunday that it has uncovered multiple violations of lodging regulations near the venue of an upcoming concert by BTS, as authorities step up inspections ahead of the group' s comeback event scheduled for March 21 in Gwanghwamun Square. According to the city, 18 out of 83 accommodation facilities inspected in the Jongno-gu and Jung-gu districts were found to violate lodging regulations, mainly for failing to display required price lists or business registrati

- [Flash floods in Nairobi kill 23](#) (2026-03-08 04:03)

NAIROBI, Kenya (AFP) -- At least 23 people have been killed in flash flooding in Nairobi, police said Saturday, as search and rescue operations continued amid widespread devastation. Torrential rains lashed the Kenyan capital late Friday, turning major streets into rivers and flooding thousands of homes and businesses. Rescue teams were still pulling out bodies and rescuing trapped residents on Saturday, while Agence France-Presse reporters saw heavily damaged roads and infrastructure from the c

- [Iranian clerics seek swift naming of new supreme leader](#) (2026-03-08 04:01)

Hard-line clerics have called for the swift selection of a new supreme leader to help guide Iran, Iranian media reported on Saturday, as the Islamic Republic reels under a new wave of US and Israeli strikes. The calls suggest some in the clerical establishment may be uncomfortable leaving power in the hands of the three-man council put in charge temporarily after the killing of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who had the final say in all matters of state. US President Donald Trump has

- [Protesters come out amid war in Iran](#) (2026-03-08 03:59)

PARIS, France (AFP) -- Lion-emblazoned flags of pre-revolution Iran fluttered in cities across the world on Saturday as demonstrators took to the streets a week after the start of the war in the Middle East. Some protesters came out in support of Reza Pahlavi, the US-based son of the country's late shah, while others denounced the option. Others demonstrated against the war and some in support of Iran's late supreme leader Ali Khamenei, who was killed in the first US-Israeli strikes of the confl

- [At least 10 killed in Ukraine's Kharkiv](#) (2026-03-08 03:58)

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Two children were among at least 10 people killed on Saturday in a Russian missile that hit a five-story residential building in Ukraine's second-largest city, Kharkiv, officials said. Sixteen others were wounded. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy condemned the attack and called for an international response. He said that Russia struck Ukraine overnight with 29 missiles and 480 drones, targeting energy facilities in Kyiv and other central regions and with damage reported in at l

- [Tehran residents keep up semblance of normality](#) (2026-03-08 03:57)

TEHRAN, Iran (AFP) -- For a moment Tehran resembled a city at peace, with birdsong, joggers and tranquil views of the snow-capped Alborz mountains in the distance. Then the sound of another explosion ripped through the air. A week ago, opening strikes by the US and Israel killed Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, upended residents' lives and transformed the city streets into a battleground. In Tehran's west, a block that belonged to the security forces had been blasted apart, and the

- [HD Hyundai Electric breaks ground on 2nd US transformer plant](#) (2026-03-08 02:35)

HD Hyundai Electric said Sunday that it held a groundbreaking ceremony on Friday for a second plant at its North American production base in Montgomery, Alabama, HD Hyundai Power Transformers USA. Construction is scheduled for completion in April next year. The new facility will span about 29,000 square meters within the existing site and is expected to generate roughly 200 billion won (\$134 million) in annual revenue. The company plans to invest about \$200 million to boost production of extra-h

- [Top 3 universities see highest freshmen vacancies in 6 years](#) (2026-03-08 02:28)

The number of unfilled freshman seats at South Korea's top three universities has tripled over the past six years, apparently driven by continued preference for medical schools and last year's expansion of medical school admission quotas, data showed Saturday. According to an analysis by Jongro Academy based on the state-run Higher Education in Korea university information disclosure system, freshman vacancies at Seoul National University, Yonsei University and Korea University rose from 21 in b

- [Iran's president apologizes for strikes on neighbors](#) (2026-03-08 02:12)

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Iran's president apologized Saturday for attacks on "neighboring countries," even as its missiles and drones flew toward Gulf Arab states and hard-liners asserted that Tehran's war strategy wouldn't budge. A rift between more pragmatic politicians looking to deescalate the weekold war and others committed to battling the US and Israel could complicate efforts to end the fighting. Conflicting statements involved two of the three members of the leadership council

- [Lee pledges to promote gender equality on International Women's Day](#) (2026-03-08 02:11)

President Lee Jae Myung on Sunday pledged to advance gender equality and foster a more inclusive society, marking International Women's Day. "I will fulfill my given role and responsibility to ensure that the Republic of Korea is reborn as a gender-equal society," Lee wrote on his Facebook page, referring to South Korea's official name. Lee said gender equality policies were scaled back under the previous administration, which had pledged to abolish the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family but

- [S. Korea mulls adopting oil price cap system for 1st time in 30 yrs: sources](#) (2026-03-08 02:09)

The government is considering adopting a price cap system for oil for the first time in nearly 30 years, sources said Sunday, amid concerns over rising energy prices following the escalating conflict in the Middle East. Officials began reviewing the possibility after surging global crude prices were reflected almost immediately in domestic fuel prices, rather than after the typical two-week lag, following US-Israeli strikes on Iran and Tehran's retaliatory attacks in the region. South Korea, whi

- [Canadian PM supports removing Andrew from royal line of succession](#) (2026-03-08 02:03)

TOKYO (AFP) -- Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney said on Saturday that former prince Andrew should be removed from the line of royal succession over his "deplorable" behavior. Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor is being investigated for alleged misconduct in public office following revelations about his dealings with the late US sex offender Jeffrey Epstein. He was arrested and released in February on suspicion of having passed confidential information to Epstein during his 2001-2011 role as a UK trad

- [US transport aircraft spotted departing Osan Air Base amid Patriot relocation speculation](#) (2026-03-08 01:58)

US military transport aircraft have been spotted arriving at and departing from a US air base in South Korea over the past week, raising speculation that the US Forces Korea may be deploying some of its assets to the Middle East amid the escalating conflict involving Iran. According to the real-time flight tracking website Flightradar24, C-5 and C-17 US transport aircraft have landed at Osan Air Base in Pyeongtaek, south of Seoul, since late last month and departed between Wednesday and Saturday

- [FX volatility reaches highest since COVID-19 pandemic amid Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-08 01:57)

The daily volatility of the Korean won against the dollar has risen to its highest level since the COVID-19 pandemic amid heightened tensions in the Middle East, data showed Sunday. The won has fluctuated sharply following the US-Israeli joint attacks on Iran on Feb. 28, with the average daily fluctuation of the won against the greenback reaching 13.2 won as of Friday, according to the economic statistics system of the Bank of Korea. The level of volatility marks the highest since March 2020, wh

- [Former US presidents attend Jesse Jackson memorial in Chicago](#) (2026-03-08 01:46)

CHICAGO (Reuters) -- Former US Presidents Joe Biden, Barack Obama and Bill Clinton joined thousands of mourners at a public memorial service for Jesse Jackson in Chicago to honor the longtime civil-rights activist and Democratic political leader. Jackson, who died last month at the age of 84, was a leading advocate for voting rights and desegregation. The memorial on Friday at the House of Hope, a 10,000-seat venue on Chicago's South Side, was celebratory, with a choir performing rousing gospel

- [Chartered plane to bring home S. Koreans from UAE on Sunday: ministry](#) (2026-03-08 00:57)

A chartered plane to evacuate South Koreans from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will take off this weekend amid escalating tensions in the Middle East, the foreign ministry said Saturday. The ministry said it is arranging a 290-seat Etihad Airways chartered flight, set to depart from Abu Dhabi at noon on Sunday (local time). Starting early Saturday, the South Korean Embassy in the UAE will receive applications from South Korean nationals wishing to board the plane, with priority given to critica

- [S. Korean bats start off hot, cool off later vs. Japan](#) (2026-03-08 00:55)

The South Korean bats started off hot before cooling off considerably in a deflating 8-6 loss to Japan at the World Baseball Classic on Saturday. The first three South Korean batters of the game each hit a single off starter Yusei Kikuchi, with Lee Jung-hoo capping that run with an RBI knock to left. Three batters later, Moon Bo-gyeong, an offensive hero with a grand slam in the team's 11-4 win over Czechia on Thursday, delivered a two-run double to center to give South

Korea a 3-0 lead. South K

- [Lee lauds 'The King's Warden' on surpassing 10 mln admissions](#) (2026-03-07 07:28)

President Lee Jae Myung on Saturday congratulated the South Korean historical film "The King's Warden" for surpassing the 10 million-admission mark, praising the achievement as particularly meaningful as it comes two years after the last film to reach the milestone. Directed by Jang Hang-jun, the period film depicts an unlikely friendship between village chief Eom Heung-do (Yoo Hai-jin) and the deposed King Danjong (Park Ji-hoon) during the latter's exile in the village. It reached 10 million ad

- [Gender minister issues apology to former sex work victims near US bases](#) (2026-03-07 07:27)

Gender Equality Minister Won Min-kyong issued Saturday an apology to former sex workers whose rights were violated in now-defunct brothels built around American military bases, marking the government's first official apology. "As the gender minister dealing with gender equality and women's rights, I offer my sincere apologies to the victims for the state's actions that violated their human rights at the Gijichon," Won said in a message marking International Women's Day, which falls on Sunday. "W

- [Industry minister, trade chief visit US to discuss Seoul-Washington tariff issues](#) (2026-03-07 07:27)

South Korea's industry minister and trade chief visited the United States this week to coordinate responses to tariff issues and other pending trade matters between Seoul and Washington, the industry ministry said Saturday. Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan and Trade Minister Yeo Han-koo met separately with US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick and US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer on Friday (US time) to discuss pending bilateral trade issues. The visit was arranged to ease uncertainty surround

- [Google reportedly in Korea data center talks after map data approval](#) (2026-03-07 07:00)

Google is reportedly in discussions with South Korean telecom operator LG Uplus over a data center partnership, according to industry sources cited by Korean media Thursday, as the company works to comply with conditions attached to Seoul's landmark approval of high-precision map data exports last week. LG Uplus told The Korea Herald that there was nothing it could officially confirm. Google Korea did not respond to inquiries, and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport said it had no

- [Bringing 16th-century voice to 21st century](#) (2026-03-07 07:00)

The Institute of East Asian Studies at the University of California, Berkeley has published an expanded edition of the English translation of "Chingbirok," the 1604 chronicle of the Japanese invasions of Korea written by Ryu Songnyong. Published in English as "The Book of Corrections" in 2002, the newly revised edition appears under the title "Reprimands and Admonitions:

Reflections on the Japanese Invasions of Korea, 1592-1598." The Korea Herald spoke with translator Choi Byong-hyon about the s

- [The women behind Korea's fight for equality](#) (2026-03-07 07:00)

Alongside South Korea's rapid modernization, women's lives have been profoundly transformed. Korean women continue to face structural barriers, including one of the widest gender pay gaps among members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and persistent gender-based violence. The push for equality has also fueled intense debates over feminism and gender relations in Korean society. Yet there have been major gains in education, employment and political participation. Across

- [Samsung pushes Exynos 2700 to cut Qualcomm reliance](#) (2026-03-07 07:00)

Samsung Electronics is moving quickly on its next flagship smartphone chip, preparing production-ready samples of the Exynos 2700 by midyear as the company seeks to expand the use of its own processors in future Galaxy devices and reduce reliance on Qualcomm. Industry sources said this week that Samsung aims to complete production-ready samples of the Exynos 2700 between May and June. The chip is widely expected to power a significant portion of the Galaxy S27 lineup scheduled for release early

- [Your spring wardrobe refresh starts here](#) (2026-03-07 07:00)

As temperatures rise and winter layers begin to disappear from closets, spring fashion this year is defined less by entirely new pieces than by subtle styling shifts. From oversized shirts and revived check patterns to playful scarves and fresh denim formulas, the season's must-have items show how familiar wardrobe staples can be reimagined with a modern twist. Fashion insiders say this year's spring style is less about buying new clothes and more about updating how classic pieces are worn. Over

- [Following crab season to Uljin along East Sea](#) (2026-03-07 07:00)

ULJIN, North Gyeongsang Province — Early spring arrives quietly along Korea's East Sea. The wind still carries a trace of winter, fishing boats return to port with the season's prized catch, and seaside towns begin to stir after the colder months. In Uljin, that seasonal rhythm revolves around one thing: crab. Although the annual Uljin Snow Crab and Red Snow Crab Festival recently wrapped up in Hupo Port, the town's seafood culture continues well beyond the event itself. Visitors arriving after

- [Chartered plane to bring home S. Koreans from UAE on Sunday: ministry](#) (2026-03-07 03:47)

A chartered plane to evacuate South Koreans from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will take off this weekend amid escalating tensions in the Middle East, the foreign ministry said Saturday. The ministry said it is arranging a 290-seat Etihad Airways chartered flight, set to depart from Abu Dhabi at noon on Sunday (local time). Starting early Saturday, the South Korean Embassy in

the UAE will receive applications from South Korean nationals wishing to board the plane, with priority given to critica

- [SK On lays off nearly 1,000 workers at Georgia battery plant amid EV slowdown](#) (2026-03-07 03:45)

SK On Co., a major South Korean battery manufacturer, has laid off nearly 1,000 workers at its US battery plant in Georgia amid slowing electric vehicle (EV) demand, a company filing showed Saturday. SK Battery America Inc., SK On's US unit, dismissed 968 employees at its battery manufacturing facility in Commerce, Georgia, according to a Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) notice posted on a Georgia state website. The layoffs reportedly account for about 37 percent of the plant

- [Lawmaker at center of election nomination bribery scandal questioned by police](#) (2026-03-07 02:31)

Rep. Kang Sun-woo, an independent formerly affiliated with the ruling Democratic Party, was questioned by police Saturday over bribery allegations linked to the 2022 local elections. Police said they began questioning Kang early Saturday, four days after she was arrested on Tuesday following the passage of her arrest motion in a plenary vote at the National Assembly. Kang left the DP in January to become an independent in the wake of the snowballing scandal. Kang is accused of receiving 100 mill

- [Blackpink's 'Deadline' lands at No. 11 on British Official Albums Chart](#) (2026-03-07 01:30)

K-pop girl group BLACKPINK has entered the top 100 of Britain's Official Albums Chart with its third EP "Deadline." The record, which marks the quartet's first group project since 2022, debuted at No. 11 on the Official Albums Chart Top 100 on Friday (local time), a week after its release on Feb. 27. The lead track "Go" debuted at No. 44 on the separate Official Singles Chart Top 100. According to YG Entertainment, the group's agency, the five-track album explores themes of confidence, growth an

- [US expects it will take 4 to 6 weeks to achieve 'achievable' Iran operation objectives: White House](#) (2026-03-07 01:30)

WASHINGTON -- The United States expects it to take four to six weeks to meet "achievable objectives" of its military operation against Iran, the White House said Friday, underscoring that the US is "well on its way" toward the objectives. White House spokesperson Karoline Leavitt made the remarks during a press availability at the White House, as the US operation, codenamed "Operation Epic Fury," entered its seventh day, seeking to dismantle Iran's ballistic missile capabilities and its Navy, an

- [372 S. Koreans return from Dubai on 1st direct flight since Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-06 12:15)

More than 370 South Koreans returned home Friday aboard the first direct flight from Dubai since last week's US-Israeli air strikes on Iran, according to airport officials. The Emirates flight arrived at Incheon International Airport, west of Seoul, around 8:25 p.m., carrying 422 passengers, including 372 South Koreans, the officials said. It was the first direct commercial flight to head for Incheon from Dubai in the United Arab Emirates since the war on Iran began last weekend. The government

- [Is 2026 the year of rookie boy groups?](#) (2026-03-06 11:37)

A new wave of rookie boy groups is set to reshape the K-pop landscape in 2026, as major agencies and esteemed producers race to launch new acts after years of girl group domination. The shift began in January when SM Entertainment confirmed plans to debut a new boy group. More recently, Ador — the Hybe label behind NewJeans — and YG Entertainment also announced plans to launch new male acts. SM Entertainment founder Lee Soo-man, who recently returned to Korea after three years abroad, has also r

- ['The King's Warden' hits 10 million admissions, 1st film in 2 years](#) (2026-03-06 10:15)

"The King's Warden" has crossed the 10 million admissions mark Friday, a notable achievement as movie theaters continue to struggle to attract audiences in the face of fierce competition from streaming platforms. The Korean historical film achieved the milestone in just over a month after its Feb. 4 premiere, making it the first film -- domestic or foreign -- in two years to surpass that threshold. The movie achieved the milestone at around 6:30 p.m., according to its distributor, Showbox. The l

- [Korean Air extends suspension of Incheon-Dubai route through March 15](#) (2026-03-06 10:12)

Korean Air Co., South Korea's flag carrier, said Friday it has extended its suspension of the Incheon-Dubai route by one week through March 15 due to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East. Korean Air flights 951 and 952, which fly between South Korea's Incheon and the United Arab Emirates' Dubai, were diverted or canceled on Feb. 28 following U.S.-Israeli airstrikes on Iran. The daily flights were initially set to be suspended through Sunday. "Dubai's airport authorities informed us of a fligh

- [Unification minister points to N. Korea's Kusong as 3rd site hosting uranium enrichment facility](#) (2026-03-06 10:07)

Unification Minister Chung Dong-young said Friday that North Korea is operating another uranium enrichment facility in the northwestern region of Kusong, along with previously reported ones in Yongbyon and Kangson. Chung made the remarks at a parliamentary committee session in a rare revelation of information about North Korea's nuclear weapons programs. The government has previously officially identified Yongbyon and Kangson as the main locations hosting the North's uranium enrichment facilitie

- [Justice ministry vows stern measures against gas price gouging](#) (2026-03-06 10:03)

The justice ministry said Friday it would take stern measures against those who collude to raise gas prices amid concerns over increasing fuel prices due to the U.S.-Iran conflict. Justice Minister Jung Sung-ho gave instructions for such measures to the prosecution after President Lee Jae Myung warned against possible collusion to hike gas prices, calling it a "serious" crime against the public. "As the Middle East situation has become increasingly unstable, there is a growing possibility of mar

- [US Patriot missile batteries relocated to Osan Air Base amid speculation about deployment to Middle East](#) (2026-03-06 09:34)

US troops stationed in South Korea have relocated its Patriot missile defense batteries to Osan Air Base from other US bases, sources said Friday, amid speculation that the US Forces Korea could deploy part of its assets to the Middle East amid the escalating Iran conflict. Additional Patriot missile batteries have been detected in the air base in Pyeongtaek, about 60 kilometers south of Seoul, where such missile systems have been already deployed, according to the sources. C-5 and C-17 US trans

- [‘Football serves as cultural bridge between Korea and Germany’](#) (2026-03-06 08:31)

Soccer can serve as a powerful cultural bridge between Germany and South Korea, the German Embassy in Seoul emphasized Wednesday, underscoring the sport’s role in deepening people-to-people ties and nurturing youth talent. “Football really connects people,” Joern Beisert, deputy chief of mission at the German Embassy, said at an event co-hosted with Borussia Dortmund, a sports club based in the northwestern region of the country. Beisert applauded Borussia Dortmund for its strong reputation in

- [Korea secures UAE oil, flights to bring home stranded nationals, amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-06 08:31)

South Korea will secure oil supplies from the United Arab Emirates and the two countries will resume limited commercial flights to evacuate South Korean nationals stranded in the UAE, amid the widening conflict in the Middle East. Presidential chief of staff Kang Hoon-sik on Friday announced that the two countries had agreed on South Korea’s emergency procurement of more than 6 million barrels of crude oil from the UAE. “The emergency import of more than 6 million barrels of UAE crude oil — more

- [Korean folktale picture book wins top honor at Bologna Ragazzi Award](#) (2026-03-06 08:19)

Author and illustrator Lee Uk-bae has won the grand prize in a special category at the 2026 Bologna Ragazzi Award, one of the prestigious prizes in children’s publishing. According to Sakyajul Publishing, Lee’s children’s book “The Story of a Brother and a Sister,” published in 2020 here, received the top prize in the Fairy Tales and Fables special category. The Bologna Ragazzi Award, presented during the Bologna Children’s Book Fair, honors outstanding publications in children’s literature. The

- [Beyond ‘The King’ s Warden,’ changgeuk revisits other victims of Sejo’ s coup](#) (2026-03-06 07:47)

As surprise blockbuster film “The King's Warden” draws closer to the milestone of 10 million tickets sold at the local box office, renewed attention is turning to the final four months of the young dethroned King Danjong. Yet Danjong was not the only victim of King Sejo’ s coup d’ etat. Born the second son of King Sejong, Prince Suyang (later King Sejo) seized the throne in 1453 after overthrowing his young nephew Danjong and purging officials who stood in his way. His ruthless rise to power later

- [Seoul shares end flat amid prolonged Iran crisis; won declines](#) (2026-03-06 07:06)

South Korean stocks pared earlier losses to close nearly unchanged Friday on a growing appetite for autos and defense firms amid the ongoing Middle East crisis. The local currency fell against the US dollar. Starting 1.66 percent lower, the Korea Composite Stock Price Index turned positive in the afternoon to close at 5,584.87, up 0.02 percent, or 0.97 point. The index has suffered an extreme rout this week in the wake of the Middle East conflict, tumbling 7.24 percent and 12.06 percent Tuesday

- [S. Korea to receive over 6m barrels of crude oil from UAE: Cheong Wa Dae](#) (2026-03-06 07:01)

South Korea will receive more than 6 million barrels of crude oil from the United Arab Emirates, Cheong Wa Dae said Friday, amid concerns over energy prices due to the escalating conflict in the Middle East. Kang Hoon-sik, the presidential chief of staff, made the remarks in a briefing as the US-Israeli attack on Iran and Tehran's retaliatory strikes in the region have sparked fears of an energy crisis. "At the instructions of President Lee Jae Myung, we have made consultations over measures to

- [No borders, just music: Takashi Lorenz Waschkau’ s journey from Berlin to Seoul](#) (2026-03-06 06:21)

Violinist Takashi Lorenz Waschkau was shaped by more than one inheritance. Born in Berlin in 2001 to a German father and a Japanese mother, and later drawn to Seoul, the violinist embodies a generation of musicians whose identities are formed across continents. Waschkau began violin at 4 and piano at 6. His mother, a pianist and vocal coach who studied at the New England Conservatory, raised him in a household where music was both a language and a discipline. “She was a mom, but also a trainer,”

- [Mapo Foundation launches morning concert series to make classical a habit](#) (2026-03-06 06:20)

Mapo Arts Center will launch its new matinee program, the “MAC Morning Concert” series, offering 10 performances from March to December as part of an initiative to make classical music more accessible in everyday life. Beginning March 25, the concerts will take place at 11

a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Tickets are priced at 20,000 won. The series features commentary by concert guide and pianist Kim Yong-bae, who previously served as president of the Seoul Arts Center and led its fl

- [Samsung Electronics unions launch strike vote, eye May walkout](#) (2026-03-06 06:04)

Samsung Electronics' labor unions will hold a strike authorization vote starting Monday as they move toward a possible general strike in May. The unions' joint struggle headquarters said Friday that a vote on industrial action will take place from Monday to March 18, with the aim of securing the legal right to strike by mid-March. If more than half of all union members approve the move, the unions plan to stage a large-scale rally of members in April and proceed with a general strike in May. "Th

- [Seoul steps up push for Canada submarine contract](#) (2026-03-06 05:59)

South Korea's industry minister pledged deeper industrial cooperation with Canada as Seoul intensifies its push to win a multibillion-dollar submarine contract, highlighting Korean companies' track record of delivering on investment and job commitments in the country. Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan met Canadian Industry Minister Melanie Joly on Thursday to discuss potential collaboration tied to Canada's submarine procurement program, shortly after a South Korean consortium led by Hanwha Ocean

- [Galaxy S26 preorders hit record 1.35m in Korea](#) (2026-03-06 05:59)

Samsung Electronics said Friday that preorders for its latest flagship Galaxy S26 smartphone had reached 1.35 million units in South Korea over a seven-day period, the highest preorder volume ever recorded for the Galaxy S series. The previous record was set by the Galaxy S25 lineup, which drew 1.3 million preorders during an 11-day presales period. Demand again centered on the premium model. The Galaxy S26 Ultra accounted for about 70 percent of total preorders, continuing a recent trend of str

- [Seoul to send delegation to US for nuclear fuel talks as Middle East war delays US visit](#) (2026-03-06 05:53)

South Korea will send a delegation to Washington for consultations with the United States on uranium enrichment and spent nuclear fuel reprocessing after a planned visit by a US negotiating team to Seoul was delayed by the ongoing war in the Middle East, Foreign Minister Cho Hyun and officials said Friday. "The schedule had already been delayed due to logistical issues, and the outbreak of the war made further delay unavoidable," Cho said during an emergency parliamentary session of the National

- [LG Energy Solution opens first Canadian battery plant](#) (2026-03-06 05:36)

LG Energy Solution has officially opened its first battery manufacturing plant in Canada, positioning the facility as a key hub for batteries used in energy storage systems across North America. The South Korean battery-maker said Friday it held a grand opening ceremony for the

plant, run by its Canadian manufacturing subsidiary, NextStar Energy, in Windsor, Ontario, Thursday. The ceremony invited senior officials from both countries, including Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Canadian Industry Minister

- [Hyundai Capital sells Korea's first public yuan kimchi bond](#) (2026-03-06 05:29)

Hyundai Capital said Thursday it has issued South Korea's first publicly offered offshore yuan-denominated kimchi bond by a financial institution. The 660 million yuan (\$95.6 million) notes carry a two-year maturity and a coupon of 2.2 percent. KB Securities acted as lead manager. Kimchi bonds are foreign-currency debt sold in Korea's domestic capital market, allowing issuers to tap local investors for overseas funding. The deal marks the first public offering of a yuan-denominated kimchi bond.

- [Reading declines again in Korea, but 20-somethings show rebound](#) (2026-03-06 05:28)

The number of South Koreans who read at least one book over the course of a year has continued to decline, but those in their 20s were the only age group to show a rebound, reflecting the growing popularity of the "text hip" trend, in which reading is seen as in vogue. According to a report released Friday by the Culture Ministry, the annual reading rate among adults overall stood at 38.5 percent, down from two years earlier despite heightened interest in literature following the Nobel Prize in

- [Man indicted for forging \\$4m in bank checks to lure women](#) (2026-03-06 04:54)

A man aged 33 was indicted in detention for forging bank checks worth up to 5.9 billion won (\$4.05 million) to flaunt his wealth and lure women, authorities said Friday. The Anyang branch of the Suwon District Prosecutors' Office in Gyeonggi Province indicted the man Tuesday on charges of forging 5,974 bank checks worth 1 million won each. According to the police, the suspect had the papers printed at a printing shop in August 2021, claiming they were props for a YouTube video. The counterfeit c

- [Lee says 'only we can save ourselves' amid Middle East turmoil](#) (2026-03-06 04:48)

President Lee Jae Myung said Friday that South Korea must rely on its own strength to protect its interests as the war in the Middle East deepens global uncertainty amid what he described as an every-nation-for-itself world. Lee underscored that building the country's internal strength must begin with a crackdown on entrenched illicit practices at home across the board, including drug crimes, illegal real estate dealings and stock manipulation. "The global economy is facing a vortex of upheaval

- [UAE seeks early delivery of South Korea's Cheongung-II interceptor missiles](#) (2026-03-06 04:44)

The United Arab Emirates has asked South Korea to expedite delivery of its Cheongung-II interceptor missile system, an official at Seoul's arms procurement agency confirmed Friday, as Gulf states move to strengthen air defenses following the escalating conflict involving the

United States, Israel and Iran. An official at the Defense Acquisition Program Administration, requesting anonymity, confirmed to The Korea Herald that the UAE had requested earlier delivery of Cheongung-II batteries and int

- [Drivers panic over daily fuel price hikes amid Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-06 04:24)

Volatile fuel prices stemming from the ongoing Middle East tensions are sending South Korean drivers scrambling in search of the cheapest gasoline. More than 100 cars lined up at a gas station in Anyoung-dong, Jung-gu, Daejeon, on Thursday afternoon, with the queue stretching about 500 meters. The station offered gasoline at 1,628 won (\$1.10) per liter, more than 200 won cheaper than the national average of 1,834 won per liter and far below the average price in Daejeon, which stood at 1,862 won.

- [KHNP expands SMR cooperation with Thailand to tap into Southeast Asia](#) (2026-03-06 04:21)

Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power said Friday it had jointly hosted a small modular reactor technology seminar with the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand in Bangkok on Thursday and Friday, aimed at expanding bilateral cooperation in next-generation nuclear energy. The event was organized as a follow-up to a memorandum of understanding signed in June last year on cooperation in the SMR sector. Around 80 experts from both countries attended the seminar, including officials from Thailand's Ene

- [Sejong University earns top govt. certification for internationalization](#) (2026-03-06 03:37)

Sejong University has received the highest grade in a government certification assessing universities' internationalization capabilities, including their ability to attract foreign students and enhance the global competence of domestic students. According to the university on Friday, it was recently designated an "excellent" accredited institution under the International Education Quality Assurance System administered by South Korea's Ministry of Education. The certification is valid through Feb

- [Aespa sings anime opener](#) (2026-03-06 03:20)

On Friday, Aespa set fans abuzz by dropping "Attitude," the opening theme song for Japanese TV anime "Kill Blue." The Japanese-language digital single is about how nothing can keep the singer from being "me," mixing upbeat thumping and a catchy melody with the voices of its members. The single precedes the group's pending first dome shows in Japan, at the Kyocera Dome in Osaka on April 11-12 and Tokyo Dome on April 25-26. The dome gigs are part of Aespa's ongoing international tour "Synk: aeXis

- [Cortis to drop 2nd EP main track; debut album tops 2 million in sales](#) (2026-03-06 02:55)

Cortis will release the focus track from its second EP on April 20, ahead of the full album rollout due on May 4, Big Hit Music announced Friday. The five-member act is set to bring out the EP "GreenGreen" approximately eight months since the debut set, "Color Outside the Lines."

The mini album hit Billboard 200 at No. 15, the highest rung for a debut album from anon-project K-pop group. The first EP had surpassed 2 million sales as of February, according to a local datamonger on Thursday. It i

- [‘Battle of Fates’ overtakes ‘Moving’ as most-watched Disney+ show in Korea](#) (2026-03-06 02:53)

"Battle of Fates," a Disney+ original reality series featuring 49 of South Korea's most prominent fortunetellers, has become the platform's most-watched show in Korea, dethroning hit drama series "Moving." The reality show gathers a diverse group of practitioners — including shamans, known locally as "mudang," tarot readers, physiognomists and saju and Myeongri scholars — who compete to demonstrate their ability to interpret fate. Throughout the tournament-style competition, the participants face

- [YouTuber accused of spreading false claims about ‘dismembered bodies’ in Korea](#) (2026-03-06 02:52)

The National Police Agency said Friday it had referred a case involving the spread of misleading information to prosecutors, targeting a YouTuber surnamed Jo who allegedly made unsubstantiated claims disparaging South Korea. Jo, who has nearly 1 million subscribers and is based in Japan, claimed in an October video posted in Japanese that 37 unidentified bodies with their upper bodies severed had been discovered in South Korea. He also alleged that 80,000 people were missing and that Korean auth

- [TXT's Yeonjun participates on soundtrack of World Baseball Classic](#) (2026-03-06 02:45)

Yeonjun of Tomorrow X Together has joined the official soundtrack of the World Baseball Classic, according to Big Hit Music on Friday. He sang "Make It Count," the main track from the three-track endeavor produced by Grammy-winning producer Tainy, along with Becky G and Myke Towers. This is the first time the international baseball tournament has put out a soundtrack. Meanwhile, TXT is set to unveil its eighth EP, "7th Year: A Moment of Stillness in the Thorns," on April 13. The upcoming set will

- [Daewoong affiliate CGBio in talks for private equity sale](#) (2026-03-06 02:43)

Daewoong Group is moving to sell its regenerative medicine affiliate CGBio to a local private equity firm in a deal that could value the company up to 1 trillion won (\$680 million), industry sources said Friday. The sources said IMM Private Equity has emerged as the preferred bidder for CGBio, securing exclusive negotiating rights to acquire a 51 percent stake held by the company's largest shareholder, A-Hana. A-Hana is controlled by Bluenet, a company owned by the Daewoong Group's founding fami

- [Hobak-juk, Korean sweet pumpkin porridge](#) (2026-03-06 02:40)

By the Korean Food Promotion Institute Naturally sweet and velvety, hobak-juk is a comforting Korean porridge traditionally enjoyed as a nourishing meal or gentle dessert. Made with

danhobak (sweet pumpkin) and glutinous rice, it offers a delicate balance of earthy sweetness and subtle salinity. Its golden color and smooth texture make it especially popular in autumn and winter, when warm, soothing dishes are most welcome. Optional additions such as red beans, chestnuts or corn lend extra body a

- [Yaksik, sweet rice with chestnuts and jujubes](#) (2026-03-06 02:38)

By the Korean Food Promotion Institute Also known as yakbap (medicinal rice), yaksik is a traditional Korean sweet rice dish closely associated with jeongwol daeboreum, the first full moon of the lunar new year. Its glossy brown color comes from caramelized sugar and soy sauce, while chestnuts, jujubes and pine nuts add texture and symbolize prosperity and health. The recipe involves two rounds of steaming and a resting period for the flavors to develop, so plan preparation time accordingly. The

- [Gujeolpan, royal Korean nine-delicacy platter](#) (2026-03-06 02:36)

By Korean Food Promotion Institute Gujeolpan is one of the most visually refined dishes in traditional Korean cuisine, once served in royal court banquets. Named after the nine-sectioned platter used to present it, the dish highlights balance in color, texture and flavor — a defining principle of Korean culinary philosophy. Thin wheat crepes are wrapped around vegetables, beef and seafood, then dipped in a sharp mustard sauce or soy-vinegar dressing. Though it requires careful preparation, gujeo

- [Sinseollo, royal Korean hot pot with live charcoal](#) (2026-03-06 02:35)

By Korean Food Promotion Institute Sinseollo is more than a hot pot — it is a ceremonial dish rooted in Korea's royal court cuisine. Traditionally served in a special vessel fitted with a central chimney holding hot charcoal, the dish continues to simmer at the table, allowing flavors to deepen as it is shared. Once known as yeolguatang, sinseollo was enjoyed during palace banquets and special national holidays, prized for its refined presentation and balance of textures. Thinly sliced beef, je

- [Unification ministry to pursue 'peace declaration' for turning armistice into peace regime](#) (2026-03-06 02:32)

The unification ministry said Friday it will pursue a "peace declaration" designed to express the political will to end the 1950-53 Korean War in a bid to seek the transition of the current armistice into a peace regime. The ministry unveiled the plan in a report to the National Assembly as President Lee Jae Myung vowed all-out efforts to turn the armistice into a peace regime to ease inter-Korean tensions during his speech marking the 107th anniversary of the March 1 Independence Movement. "The

- [Lee issues fresh warning against possible collusion in raising oil prices](#) (2026-03-06 02:28)

President Lee Jae Myung on Friday issued a fresh warning against oil refiners for possible collusion in raising oil prices, amid an escalating war in the Middle East following US-Israeli

attacks on Iran and Tehran's retaliation. In a post on the social media platform X, Lee shared a news article highlighting mixed reactions from the oil industry after he instructed officials to devise a price cap at a Cabinet meeting the previous day. "Price collusion is a serious crime against the public," he w

- [Men lure teen girls to remote location, abandon them on mountain](#) (2026-03-06 02:26)

A man in his 30s has been indicted with physical detention for abducting and sexually harassing two 14-year-old girls last year, leaving the victims on a mountain in the middle of the night. The Uijeongbu District Prosecutors accused the suspect and two accomplices of abduction of a minor and violating the Child Welfare Act. The two accomplices, one in his 20s and the other a teen, were indicted without arrest. The three met the victims online and suggested they visit an abandoned house, going

- [L'Oreal Korea, Naver sign strategic partnership to boost beauty commerce](#) (2026-03-06 02:19)

L'Oreal Korea and Naver said Friday they have signed a strategic partnership to strengthen beauty commerce, collaborating across Naver Shopping, media and new digital services. The companies aim to build a comprehensive collaboration covering the entire customer shopping journey by utilizing artificial intelligence technologies to enhance shopping features. The signing ceremony was attended by L'Oreal Korea CEO Rodrigo Pizarro and Lim Hyun-dong, head of Naver's E-KAM Center. Under the partnershi

- [Blackpink shatters sales record for K-pop girl group with 3rd EP](#) (2026-03-06 02:11)

Blackpink set a record for first-week sales for a K-pop girl group with its third EP, "Deadline," selling more than 1.77 million copies, YG Entertainment said Friday, citing a local tally. The newest set from the group surpassed 1.46 million copies sold on the day of its release, smashing through the first-day and weeklong marks for a K-pop girl group previously held by Aespa for its third EP, "My World," released nearly three years ago in May 2023. The five-track mini album debuted atop iTunes

- [Bill proposed to ensure support for underprivileged youth](#) (2026-03-06 01:34)

A revision to the Framework Act on Youth has been drafted to ensure support for underprivileged youth in South Korea and to shed light on the forms of marginalization young people face. People Power Party Rep. Joo Jin-woo's recent revision bill aims to clarify the definition of who would be eligible for public support under the Framework Act on Youth. Under the revision, young people with obstacles in their pursuit of employment, education and welfare would be offered greater state support. Amon

- [Antitrust regulator to inspect gas stations for price gouging](#) (2026-03-06 01:06)

The state antitrust regulator said Friday it will closely monitor possible price gouging practices of gas stations across the country and take necessary measures as fuel prices recently soared

amid the military conflict in the Middle East. "We will mobilize all of our regional offices to check for possible collusion of gas stations, particularly those with high fuel prices, and will launch on-site investigations immediately, depending on the monitoring results, for a comprehensive response," the

- [FM Cho, UAE counterpart discuss Middle East conflict, S. Korean evacuation](#) (2026-03-06 00:33)

Foreign Minister Cho Hyun has spoken by phone with his counterpart from the United Arab Emirates to discuss the Middle East conflict and coordinate efforts to bring home South Korean nationals stranded in the UAE, the foreign ministry said Friday. During the phone talks Thursday with Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, UAE's foreign minister, Cho explained that some 3,000 short-term Korean travelers are seeking to return home from the UAE amid flight disruptions, calling for the UAE government's speci

- [Trump calls on Iranian diplomats to request asylum, shape 'new, better' Iran](#) (2026-03-06 00:31)

US President Donald Trump called on overseas Iranian diplomats to request asylum and help shape a "new and better" Iran as the United States and Israel continue a military campaign against the Islamic Republic. Trump made the remarks during a White House event celebrating Inter Miami's 2025 Major League Soccer Championship, while Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth stressed that it is a "really bad miscalculation" for the Iranian military to hope that America cannot sustain the ongoing war. "We also

- [S. Korea posts 5th-largest current account surplus in Jan: BOK](#) (2026-03-06 00:29)

South Korea recorded its fifth-largest monthly current account surplus in January, driven by a semiconductor upcycle and strong exports, central bank data showed Friday. The current account surplus totaled \$13.26 billion in January, down from \$18.7 billion in December, according to the Bank of Korea. Compared with the same month a year earlier, however, the figure surged 397.4 percent, marking the fifth-largest monthly surplus on record. South Korea has recorded a current account surplus every m

- [Seoul shares open lower after strong rebound amid prolonged Iran crisis](#) (2026-03-06 00:25)

South Korean stocks started lower Friday after a 10 percent gain the previous session as a prolonged Iran crisis rekindled oil supply woes. Opening 1.66 percent lower, the benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index lost 24.51 points, or 0.44 percent, to 5,559.39 in the first 15 minutes of trading. The index has suffered an extreme rout this week in the wake of the Middle East conflict, tumbling 7.24 percent and 12.06 percent on Tuesday and Wednesday, respectively, before soaring 9.63 percent Th

- [With 1st win out of way, S. Korea looking to end winless drought vs. Japan](#) (2026-03-06 00:22)

It has been more than 10 years since South Korea last beat Japan in a best-on-best baseball game featuring professional players. It came in the semifinals of the World Baseball Softball Confederation Premier12 in November 2015, when South Korea rallied for a 4-3 win. After that, Japan went on to win 10 consecutive games. Japan nearly stretched that streak to 11 wins in an exhibition game last November before Kim Ju-won came to South Korea's rescue with a game-tying solo shot with two outs in the

- [Consumer prices rise 2% in Feb., on govt. target for 2nd straight month](#) (2026-03-06 00:13)

South Korea's consumer prices rose 2 percent from a year earlier in February, unchanged from the previous month and precisely meeting the inflation target, government data showed Friday. The reading marks the smallest on-year increase since August, when the figure stood at 1.7 percent, according to the Ministry of Data and Statistics. It also marks the second consecutive month that inflation met the Bank of Korea's 2 percent target, and the sixth straight month the growth pace remained at 2 perc

- [Movies in theaters this week](#) (2026-03-06 00:00)

"Hoppers" (US) Opened March 4 Animation/Comedy Directed by Daniel Chong An animal lover (Piper Curda) transfers her consciousness into a robotic beaver to save a wildlife glade from demolition, only to stumble into a fully functioning animal civilization. "The Bride!" (US) Opened March 4 Romance/Fantasy Directed by Maggie Gyllenhaal Set in 1930s Chicago, Frankenstein's monster (Christian Bale) enlists a scientist (Annette Bening) to bring a murdered woman (Jessie Buckley) back to life as his com

- [Salt bread, coffee and a spring view of Inwangsan](#) (2026-03-06 00:00)

Seoul weekends arrive with a quiet promise: more time, a slower pace and countless corners of the city waiting to be rediscovered. This week's picks highlight two spots that capture the simple pleasures of Seoul life. In Yeonnam-dong, a bakery known for its cult favorite salt bread draws a steady stream of fans eager for its crisp crust and buttery center. In Buam-dong, a cafe with sweeping views of Inwangsan offers a peaceful perch to sip coffee while watching the mountain slowly awaken for spr

- [Festivals, sights across Korea](#) (2026-03-06 00:00)

The Gurye Sansuyu Festival takes place from March 14 to 22 in Gurye-gun, South Jeolla Province, celebrating the bloom of sansuyu, or cornelian cherry blossoms, which blanket the area in vivid yellow. Gurye is home to the nation's largest sansuyu colonies, drawing visitors for scenic flower walks and countryside views. Included are an opening concert, traditional ritual praying for a good harvest, sansuyu fruit-peeling contest, rice cake pounding and children's craft workshops. Visitors can strol

- [Packages and promotions](#) (2026-03-06 00:00)

Signiel Busan marks White Day with music and dining Signiel Busan will mark White Day with a series of romantic offerings overlooking Haeundae Beach. On March 14, the hotel's first-floor lounge will host "A White Day Serenade," a short house concert featuring flute and harp performances by the Busan Philharmonic Orchestra's principal flutist and harpist. The 30-minute performances will take place at 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. and are open to guests visiting the lounge. From March 1 to 15, the hotel will

- [\[Graphic News\] 3 in 10 households in S. Korea have pets, mostly dogs](#) (2026-03-05 23:00)

Nearly 3 out of 10 households in South Korea have pets, mostly dogs, government data showed. A Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs survey showed that 29.2 percent of households kept pets in 2025. Of those households, 80.5 percent raised dogs, 14.4 percent raised cats and 4.1 percent raised fish. Pet owners spent an average of 121,000 won per month on their pets. The survey marked South Korea's first nationally approved statistical survey on pet ownership. In a separate survey on anim

- [\[Robert J. Fouser\] The deal behind the war](#) (2026-03-05 20:30)

The US and Israel's attack on Iran on Feb. 28 shocked the world. Within hours, Ali Khamenei, the supreme leader of Iran, was dead, along with a slew of high-ranking government and military officials. Iran retaliated for the attacks by launching strikes at US interests and other high-profile targets in the region. The war quickly spread with Israel launching attacks on Hezbollah in Lebanon. The price of oil spiked and financial markets saw a surge in volatility. The prospect of a long war has rai

- [S. Korea pounds Czechia in opener with 4 home runs](#) (2026-03-05 12:58)

South Korea launched four home runs to defeat Czechia 11-4 to begin its World Baseball Classic campaign Thursday, getting off on the right foot in its quest toward a knockout spot. Shay Whitcomb, one of three US-born players of Korean descent, smacked two homers after Moon Bo-gyeong hammered a first-inning grand slam to set the early tone at Tokyo Dome in the teams' first Pool C game. Jahmai Jones added a solo blast in the eighth inning to cap South Korea's explosion. Starter So Hyeong-jun tosse

- [Russia, Ukraine to exchange 500 prisoners of war on March 5-6: negotiator](#) (2026-03-05 12:14)

Moscow and Kyiv will each release a total of 500 prisoners of war over Thursday and Friday, Russia's top negotiator said, with the Russian defense ministry saying the first 200 on each side had already been swapped. "There will be an exchange of prisoners of war with Ukraine. 500 for 500," Russian negotiator Vladimir Medinsky wrote on Telegram, adding it was part of agreements reached at trilateral talks between Russia, Ukraine and the United States in Geneva searching for an end to the conflict

- [US and Mideast countries seek Kyiv's drone expertise as Russia-Ukraine talks put on ice](#) (2026-03-05 11:32)

The United States and its allies in the Middle East are seeking Ukraine's expertise in countering Iran's Shahed drones, according to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Various countries, including the United States, have approached Ukraine for help in defending against the Iranian drones, Zelenskyy said late Wednesday. He said he has spoken in recent days with the leaders of the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Jordan and Kuwait about possible cooperation. Russia has fired tens of tho

- [ECB policymakers warn of inflation spike if Iran war lasts](#) (2026-03-05 11:01)

Three European Central Bank policymakers warned on Thursday that euro zone inflation would likely rise, and growth sag, if the war in Iran were to become drawn out and suck in more countries. As the US-Iran war entered its sixth day, the conflict has widened beyond Gulf states and into Asia, convulsing global markets and raising questions about the ECB's benign outlook for the euro zone. The ECB's vice president Luis de Guindos and the central bank governors of Germany and Finland all said it

- [France allowing US aircraft on some Mideast bases: military](#) (2026-03-05 10:55)

France has allowed US aircraft on some of its bases in the Middle East after US-Israeli strikes on Iran triggered regional conflict, the French military said Thursday. "As part of our relations with the United States, the presence of their aircraft has been temporarily authorised on our bases" in the region, a spokeswoman for the military general staff told AFP. "These aircraft contribute to the protection of our partners in the Gulf." France has an airbase in the United Arab Emirates and aircra

- [British American Tobacco faces UK shareholders' lawsuit over North Korea sanctions breaches](#) (2026-03-05 10:51)

British American Tobacco is facing a London lawsuit from shareholders over allegations the cigarette maker failed to properly tell markets about breaches of US sanctions in relation to its business in North Korea. BAT in 2023 agreed to pay more than \$635 million to US authorities after a subsidiary admitted conspiring to violate US sanctions by selling tobacco products to North Korea and commit bank fraud from 2007 to 2017. More than 100 current and former BAT shareholders filed a lawsuit ag

- [S. Korean tourists in Middle East returning home amid regional tensions](#) (2026-03-05 10:42)

South Korean tourists in the Middle East are gradually returning home amid escalating regional tensions, travel industry sources said Thursday. According to industry officials, more than 400 tourists from major travel agencies had been staying in Dubai as of Wednesday. They included about 150 customers from Hana Tour, around 190 from Mode Tour and about 70 from Yellow Balloon Tour. Among them, 36 Hana Tour customers arrived at Incheon International Airport,

west of Seoul, at around 3:40 p.m. Thu

- [Galaxy Corp.' s IPO ambitions: Breakout success or hype?](#) (2026-03-05 10:26)

Bob McCooney, vice chairman and head of global capital markets at Nasdaq, visited Galaxy Corp.' s headquarters in Yeouido, Seoul, Thursday to review the company' s growth strategy and assess the possibility of a US stock market listing. The visit — unusual for a senior figure from a global capital market — has raised speculation that the Korean entertainment-tech firm behind K-pop icon G-Dragon could be preparing a US debut. Yet the move has also prompted skepticism within the industry over whether

- [S. Korea imposes travel ban on Iran amid rising Middle East conflict](#) (2026-03-05 09:37)

South Korea imposed a travel ban on all of Iran amid rising security concerns linked to the escalating conflict in the Middle East, the foreign ministry said Thursday. A Level 3 travel alert, which advises nationals to leave the country, was upgraded to a travel ban effective at 6 p.m., the ministry said, amid escalating tensions in the Middle East following US and Israeli strikes on Iran. The ministry warned that Korean nationals who visit or stay in Iran without authorization may face punishment

- [Surprise box-office hit 'King's Warden' leaves director with pledges he can't keep](#) (2026-03-05 09:08)

With "The King's Warden" on the verge of surpassing 10 million tickets sold, social media is abuzz with the bizarre pledges its director, Jang Hang-jun, made before the film's release, apparently not expecting such a major hit. When Jang appeared on the "Bae Sung-jae's Ten" radio program on SBS Power FM on Feb. 1, shortly before the film opened in theaters, he said he would "undergo plastic surgery, change his name and host a yacht party" if it crossed 10 million viewers. As of Thursday, the

- [BTS concerts to serve as model case in Korea' s crackdown on ticket scalping](#) (2026-03-05 09:05)

South Korea is moving to strengthen its fight against ticket scalping, with upcoming concerts by K-pop supergroup BTS expected to serve as a model case for the government' s new enforcement framework. The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism said Thursday that it has launched a public-private consultative body aimed at eradicating illegal ticket resale in the performing arts and sports sectors, ahead of new legal provisions set to take effect in August. "Only when each institution' s role — fro

- [Gold-winning short tracker Kim Gil-li models for Chanel](#) (2026-03-05 07:58)

Kim Gil-li, a two-time short track speedskating gold medalist at the 2026 Milan Cortina Winter Olympics, has participated in a fashion shoot with luxury brand Chanel. On Wednesday, Kim posted three photos from the set she worked on with the French luxury brand to her social media, along with a brief message. "At first it felt a bit unfamiliar, but discovering a new side of

myself was also a fun experience,” Kim wrote. “Participating in ‘CC League by ChanelBeauty’ with Chanel gave me time to thi

- [Posco Future M to build synthetic graphite anode plant in Vietnam](#) (2026-03-05 07:54)

Posco Future M is seeking to expand global orders by investing in a new synthetic graphite anode material plant in Thai Nguyen, an industrial city in northern Vietnam. The company said Thursday its board approved an investment of about 3.57 billion won (\$2.44 million) to build the facility. Construction is set to begin in the second half of this year, with mass production targeted for 2028. The plant will be built on a site capable of expanding production capacity to up to 55,000 tons, with phas

- [Navy sergeant, triplet daughters donate hair for children with cancer](#) (2026-03-05 07:51)

A Navy sergeant and her triplets donated their hair together to help children with cancer, the Navy said Thursday. Master Sgt. Lee Eun-ju, 37, and her triplet daughters — Jang Eun-jin, You-jin and So-jin, all 5 years old — each donated hair to a local charity campaign that provides wigs for children undergoing cancer treatment. With each donating 25 centimeters of hair, grown over about a year and a half, the total length reached 1 meter. Lee, who has served in the Navy since 2012 and worked abo

- [Pastor accused of bribing police officer to dig up dirt on rival pastor in church leadership dispute](#) (2026-03-05 07:47)

A pastor has been referred to prosecutors for allegedly bribing a senior police officer with hundreds of millions of won to use his connections to prompt a police investigation into a rival pastor for embezzlement, local media reported Thursday. The investigation eventually led to the conviction of the accused pastor, who received a suspended prison sentence in December. According to the Segye Ilbo, the Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency’ s anticorruption investigation unit last month referred nine

- [Huonslab presents HyDiffuze drug delivery data at US conference](#) (2026-03-05 07:46)

Korean biotech firm Huonslab said Thursday it had presented a preclinical study on its human hyaluronidase platform technology, HyDiffuze, at the annual meeting of the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics in Denver. The study assessed the applicability of HyDiffuze for monoclonal antibodies and antibody-drug conjugates, or ADCs, to improve subcutaneous drug delivery. Huonslab conducted pharmacokinetic studies using 11 monoclonal antibodies and three ADCs, comparing origina

- [SK Plasma clinches \\$75m plasma tech deal with Turkey](#) (2026-03-05 07:33)

SK Plasma said Thursday it has secured its largest technology export deal, signing a 65 million euro (\$75 million) technology transfer and licensing agreement with Proturk, a joint venture backed by the Turkish Red Crescent, as part of Turkey’ s effort to build domestic plasma fractionation capacity. The contract marks the largest single agreement since SK Plasma was

established in 2015, the company said. Under the deal, SK Plasma will grant Proturk a license to manufacture plasma-derived pharmac

- [Spring cabbage bibimbap](#) (2026-03-05 07:22)

Spring cabbage bibimbap is a fresh, seasonal Korean rice dish featuring delicate young spring cabbage tossed with warm rice and a variety of crisp vegetables. Lightly seasoned with sesame oil and mixed with savory gochujang chili paste, it is often topped with a fried egg and aromatic sesame seeds. The dish offers a bright balance of earthy greens, gentle sweetness, and spicy depth, capturing the refreshing flavors of early spring. Try this recipe from W Table. Ingredients: 1/2 head (150g) Sprin

- [Koreans in Middle East reveal fear, anxiety, and why they stay](#) (2026-03-05 07:06)

Gal Young-hea, a 70-year-old Korean resident of Be'er Sheva, Israel, now spends her day counting how many times she heads to the bomb shelter as air raid sirens warn of incoming missiles. “When the sirens sound now, I just think about how long it will take me to reach the shelter,” she said. Missile alerts have become a regular part of daily life as tensions escalate following US and Israeli airstrikes on Iran. Tehran has retaliated by launching missiles and drones toward Israel and nearby count

- [79 Korean tourists set to return; 330 still stranded in Dubai](#) (2026-03-05 07:04)

Seventy-nine South Korean tourists stranded in Dubai of the United Arab Emirates, amid escalating tensions in the Middle East, were set to return home Thursday afternoon, but more than 300 others remain unable to secure flights out of the region, according to industry sources and reports. Some of the tourists have begun returning through alternative routes. Forty travelers from a Hanatour package group departed Dubai earlier and are scheduled to arrive in South Korea on Thursday afternoon via Ta

- [Hope, fear among Iranians in Seoul](#) (2026-03-05 06:58)

In Seoul, Iranians gathered in two very different crowds — some singing and dancing in a Seongdong-gu bar to mark the death of Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei, others chanting outside the US Embassy to protest the bombing of Tehran. Their split captures a broader dilemma running through the Iranian diaspora over whether the war can end the dictatorship and whether it can ever deliver democracy. More than 100 Iranians gathered at a bar in Seongdong-gu on Sunday after the downfall of Iran’s supreme le

- [German court sides with Samsung in TCL QLED dispute](#) (2026-03-05 06:51)

A German court has ruled that Chinese electronics maker TCL engaged in misleading advertising by promoting certain televisions as having QLED screens despite lacking meaningful quantum-dot functionality, siding with a complaint filed by Samsung Electronics. According to industry sources Thursday, the Munich Regional Court ordered TCL’s German unit to stop marketing some models — including its QLED870 series — as QLED TVs, finding the advertising

violated Germany's fair competition law. Samsung f

- [Seoul cautious on potential redeployment of USFK assets amid Iran strikes](#) (2026-03-05 06:36)

Seoul was cautious Thursday on news reports that South Korea and Washington are discussing the potential redeployment of some United States Forces Korea assets, as tensions escalate in the Middle East. A Cheong Wa Dae official, declining to be named, said Thursday, "It would not be appropriate for our government to comment on the operational employment of USFK." The official added, "The mission of USFK is to maintain a strong combined defense posture with South Korean forces and contribute to pe

- ['Buy European' push highlights reliance on China EV supply chain](#) (2026-03-05 06:32)

The European Union's newly proposed Industrial Accelerator Act — often described as Europe's answer to the US Inflation Reduction Act — appears less aggressive toward Chinese electric vehicles than expected. Rather than curbing China's grip on the EV supply chain, the policy highlights how difficult it may be for Europe to reduce its reliance on Chinese batteries and components — a reality that could create fresh challenges for Korean automakers and battery makers in the world's second-largest E

- [Why Korean women decided to go on strike](#) (2026-03-05 06:30)

While International Women's Day is often marked with campaigns celebrating empowerment, women's groups in South Korea are preparing to stop work. Thousands are expected to gather in central Seoul on Friday as more than 20 women's and labor organizations stage a nationwide "women's strike," saying persistent gender inequality and violence have left them with little choice but to halt both paid and unpaid labor for a day. The action, organized by the 2026 March 8 Women's Strike Organizing Committee

- [Daewoo E&C; selected as sole bidder for W10.7tr airport project](#) (2026-03-05 06:23)

Daewoo Engineering & Construction said Thursday it has been selected as the sole negotiating partner for the land reclamation project for the Gadeokdo New Airport in Busan, marking a key step toward advancing one of Korea's largest infrastructure development projects. According to Daewoo E&C, it officially notified the Public Procurement Service of its intention to proceed with a negotiated contract for the project the previous day. The procurement agency had earlier informed the company that it

- [SK-backed TerraPower SMR wins US regulatory approval](#) (2026-03-05 06:21)

The US nuclear regulator has approved construction of an advanced small modular reactor developed by TerraPower, a US-based energy firm founded by Bill Gates and backed by SK Group, marking the first time a new commercial nuclear reactor has received clearance in about a decade. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Wednesday granted approval in a unanimous decision for TerraPower to build a 345-megawatt sodium-cooled reactor in Kemmerer,

Wyoming. The new plant's permit application was filed in 2

- [Hyundai Engineering targets energy value chain in 2026 strategy](#) (2026-03-05 06:18)

Hyundai Engineering said Thursday it has unveiled its 2026 management strategy, aimed at becoming a key player across the energy value chain while building a sustainable growth framework based on stronger technological capabilities. The company plans to cultivate new growth drivers by expanding its energy business, securing core technologies in strategic sectors, diversifying orders in advanced industrial construction and expanding electric vehicle charging infrastructure. As the global energy l

- [K bank reaches Kospi after long, bumpy IPO journey](#) (2026-03-05 06:17)

The market has proved no easy battlefield for K bank, Korea's first online-only lender, as it finally completed a long and bumpy journey to the Kospi on Thursday, following two failed attempts to go public. The debut drew a strong reception, with the stock surging as much as 16 percent to 9,880 won (\$6.70) in the first hour of trading, well above its initial public offering price of 8,300 won. K bank sold 60 million shares in the IPO, raising about 498 billion won and valuing the lender at rough

- [Criticism mounts after Daejeon–South Chungcheong merger bill stalls](#) (2026-03-05 06:16)

Politicians are under fire from civic groups after the merger bill to integrate South Chungcheong Province and Daejeon failed to pass during the February session of the National Assembly. The February session, which ended Tuesday, had been considered the last window to complete the integration and establish a unified provincial leadership ahead of the June 3 local elections. The ruling Democratic Party of Korea is seeking one last chance to pass the law in March, despite the already tight schedu

- [Israel, Iran envoys defend positions in same-day press briefings](#) (2026-03-05 06:15)

The embassies of Israel and Iran held separate press briefings in Seoul on Thursday, with each side reiterating its position in the ongoing conflict in briefings held about an hour apart. In his briefing, Israel's Ambassador to South Korea Rafael Harpaz underscored his country's resolve to continue until its objectives are achieved, while Iranian Ambassador Saeid Koozechi condemned the Israeli and US actions. According to Harpaz, Israel concluded that immediate action was necessary after observi

- [LG CNS unveils containerized data center 'AI Box'](#) (2026-03-05 06:00)

LG CNS said Thursday it will roll out a containerized artificial intelligence data center solution capable of housing hundreds of GPUs in a single unit, as it moves to capture rapidly growing global demand for AI infrastructure. The AI Box system is a modular micro data center designed to house up to 576 GPUs with an IT power capacity of 1.2 megawatts in a single container. By removing the need for a conventional building, LG CNS said the system can be deployed in about six months, compared with

- [SK chief to meet Nvidia CEO at GTC](#) (2026-03-05 06:00)

SK Group Chairman Chey Tae-won will attend Nvidia's annual technology conference this month, where he is expected to discuss cooperation on AI memory chips with Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang. According to industry sources on Thursday, Chey will travel to San Jose, California, to attend Nvidia GTC 2026, which begins March 16. It will mark the first time the SK chair has attended Nvidia's flagship developer conference. The anticipated meeting between the two leaders comes after their informal "chicken a

- [Kospi roars back after brutal two-day rout](#) (2026-03-05 05:59)

South Korean stocks staged a sharp rebound during trading Thursday, partially recovering from a two-day rout that rattled local markets. Buy-side sidecars were triggered on both the main and secondary bourses as a surge in buying pressure pushed prices sharply higher. The benchmark Kospi opened 3.09 percent higher at 5,250.92, compared with the previous session, according to the Korea Exchange. The index quickly extended its gains after the opening bell, touching an intraday high of 5,715.30 in

- [CJ Olive Young sets up first North American logistics hub](#) (2026-03-05 05:58)

CJ Olive Young said Thursday that it has established its first North American logistics hub, US West Center, in Bloomington, California, as it prepares to open offline stores in the United States and expand infrastructure for K-beauty brands. The facility spans about 3,600 square meters and will serve as a logistics hub for K-beauty products distributed through Olive Young across North America. With the logistics infrastructure in place, the company plans to support brands entering its local sto

- [Hana Financial teams with Circle, Crypto.com on USDC payments](#) (2026-03-05 05:57)

Hana Financial Group is stepping up its push into stablecoin payments in South Korea, launching a promotional campaign for foreign visitors using USDC through partnerships with Circle and Crypto.com. The group said Thursday that its card unit, Hana Card, will offer 5 percent cashback in CRO, a token issued by Crypto.com, to foreign users who pay at Korean merchants using Crypto.com's prepaid Visa card funded with USDC. The promotion follows a partnership signed in December between Hana Card and

- [Key liberal figures set for election](#) (2026-03-05 05:46)

The ruling Democratic Party of Korea's nominations for June 3 local elections are picking up pace, with heavyweights being named in key regions. The latest nomination to have been confirmed by the ruling Democratic Party of Korea is Kim Kyoung-soo, who led the presidential committee dedicated to balanced national development until Thursday. Kim was once considered a potential presidential contender, with ties to former presidents Moon Jae-in and Roh Moo-hyun. According to Kim Yi-su, who leads th

- [\[Photo News\] Robots join K-beauty labs](#) (2026-03-05 05:45)

Kolmar Korea said Thursday it has introduced the country's first automated system for antimicrobial effectiveness testing in cosmetics as demand for product safety verification rises amid K-beauty's global expansion. The robot-based preservative efficacy testing system, used to assess whether cosmetics remain protected from microorganisms such as bacteria and mold, has increased processing speed by about 2.5 times compared with manual operations. Facing a need for faster, more precise safety tes

- [French Embassy launches cultural season marking 140 years of diplomatic ties](#) (2026-03-05 05:44)

Marking the 140th anniversary of diplomatic relations between South Korea and France, the French Embassy in Seoul unveiled a wide range of cultural exchanges between the two countries, starting with the upcoming anniversary concert led by French conductor Adrien Perruchon. "Beyond politics, we will continue working together across all areas — including security, the economy, culture and education — to further strengthen France's relationship with Korea and ensure that the ties between our two co

- [HD Hyundai chair highlights Korea-Philippines ties during Manila visit](#) (2026-03-05 05:26)

HD Hyundai Chair Chung Ki-sun visited the Philippines this week as part of the South Korean government's economic mission, paying tribute to Korean War veterans, attending a bilateral business forum and inspecting the group's shipyard operations in Subic Bay. On Wednesday, Chung visited Libingan ng mga Bayani, the national cemetery in Manila, where he laid flowers at the Korean War Memorial Pylon. The Philippines was the first Asian country to dispatch combat troops during the Korean War, sendin

- [\[MWC\] LG Uplus bets on voice AI for global expansion](#) (2026-03-05 05:24)

LG Uplus CEO Hong Bum-shik pledged to move the company beyond its traditional telecom business and reposition it as a global software player centered on voice artificial intelligence solutions. Speaking Wednesday at a press conference on the sidelines of Mobile World Congress 2026 in Barcelona, Hong said the company aims to transform itself into "an AI-driven software company" that leads the solutionization of telecom and AI technologies. "We will pursue overseas expansion by building on capabil

- [Lee orders all available means mobilized for Koreans' evacuation from Middle East](#) (2026-03-05 05:22)

President Lee Jae Myung ordered the mobilization of all available means, including military aircraft, for the safe evacuation of South Korean nationals from war-affected Middle Eastern countries in case of contingencies. Lee convened an extraordinary Cabinet meeting Thursday morning to discuss the government's response measures to the ongoing war in the Middle East after returning the previous night from his four-day state visit to Singapore and the Philippines. "While minimizing damage to the e

- [Kolmar advances biotech push with Woojung Bio deal](#) (2026-03-05 05:17)

Kolmar Holdings, the holding company of Kolmar Korea, is set to acquire control of contract research organization Woojung Bio through a convertible bond deal, as part of a broader push to deepen the group's foothold in biotechnology research. According to a regulatory filing Thursday, Woojung Bio will issue 35 billion won (\$24 million) in convertible bonds to Kolmar Holdings through a third-party allotment, with the bonds maturing on March 3, 2030. If fully converted at 2,325 won per share, the

- [Netflix unveils teaser for BTS' comeback live at Gwanghwamun](#) (2026-03-05 05:09)

Netflix on Thursday released a trailer and poster for its upcoming comeback event, "BTS The Comeback Live Arirang," offering fans a first glimpse of the group's long-awaited return ahead of the release of its fifth full-length album. The teaser video opened with the roaring sound of fans cheering — echoing the atmosphere of past concerts. Reacting to the sound, the members can be heard expressing their longing for their supporters, with remarks such as "I really miss them," conveying their antic

- [Former 'Chungju Man' nears 1m subscribers with single video](#) (2026-03-05 05:03)

Kim Seon-tae, the former official behind the Chungju city government's wildly popular YouTube channel, is drawing explosive attention after launching his own channel following his resignation from public service. As of noon Thursday, Kim's YouTube channel "Kim Seon-tae" had about 961,000 subscribers despite having only a single video uploaded. The number has surged rapidly, approaching the 1 million mark just three days after the channel was launched. In the video, which racked up 5.6 million vi

- [Human or mechanical error? Family challenges carmaker over accident that killed child](#) (2026-03-05 04:58)

An appellate trial on compensation for the 2022 crash that killed a 12-year-old child began Thursday at the Chuncheon branch of the Seoul High Court, with the families of both the driver and the victim claiming the crash was caused by a mechanical error in the vehicle. The family of the victim, Lee Do-hyeon, is seeking 920 million won (\$630,000) in damages from KG Mobility — formerly SsangYong Motor Co. — for what they claim was sudden unintended acceleration of the car driven by Lee's grandmoth

- [Men indicted for growing cannabis at state-subsidized smart farm](#) (2026-03-05 04:57)

Two men in their 30s were recently indicted for illegally cultivating cannabis at an underground farming facility, part of a sweeping raid conducted by the joint government drug crime investigation headquarters. The suspects are accused of growing and distributing cannabis between September and February under instructions from a seller on the dark web, which is not accessible through conventional search engines or web browsers. The main suspect had been selected as a beneficiary of a government

- [Woman accused of motel drug killings treated to luxury meals, hotel stays by victims: report](#) (2026-03-05 04:56)

A woman in her 20s accused of killing two men with drug-laced drinks at Seoul motels had been treated to luxury meals and hotel stays by the victims before the killings, local media reported Thursday. According to police investigators, the suspect, surnamed Kim, gave the men drinks containing drugs when she felt it was time to give something in return, despite knowing the substances could be fatal. Investigators said she was the one who suggested staying at motels, where she provided them with d

- [British TV personality Eva Popiel becomes South Korean citizen](#) (2026-03-05 04:51)

Eva Popiel, a British-born entertainer who gained popularity in Korea through KBS' hit talk show "Global Talk Show" from 2006-2007, has officially become a Korean citizen after nearly two decades in the country. Popiel shared the news on her Instagram account Tuesday, posting several photos from the ceremony, where she received her naturalization certificate at the Yangju Immigration and Foreign Affairs Office in Gyeonggi Province, with the message "Finally. Thank you!" She reportedly passed the

- [2026 K-Royal Culture Festival opens in April as spring returns to palaces](#) (2026-03-05 04:21)

The 2026 Spring K-Royal Culture Festival, the country's largest national heritage celebration, is back for the spring season. Now in its 12th year, the 10-day festival opens on April 24 and runs through May 3. Hosted by the Korea Heritage Service and organized by the Korea Heritage Agency, the biannual festival draws visitors to Seoul's five major palaces — Gyeongbokgung, Changdeokgung, Changgyeonggung, Deoksugung and Gyeonghuigung — as well as Jongmyo Shrine, which houses the ancestral tablets

- [7 S. Korean oil tankers stranded in Strait of Hormuz: Lawmaker](#) (2026-03-05 04:19)

Seven oil tankers operated by South Korean refiners are stranded in the Strait of Hormuz, as the energy choke point remains effectively closed amid escalating conflict in the Middle East. According to the ruling Democratic Party of Korea's Rep. Kim Young-bae, these seven oil tankers are among other South Korean vessels stranded in the strait that connects the Persian Gulf to the open sea. Each of the seven tankers carries at most 2 million barrels of oil, equivalent to South Korea's daily oil co

- [LX International recognized for Philippine mine restoration](#) (2026-03-05 04:10)

LX International said Wednesday it has been formally recognized by the Philippine government for completing environmental rehabilitation at the Rapu-Rapu copper mine, marking a rare case of a mining operator fully restoring a site after closure. The commendation was presented during the Korea-Philippines Business Forum held in Manila. Philippine Environment and Natural Resources Acting Secretary Juan Miguel Cuna handed the award to LX International CEO Koo Hyuk-seo, who attended the event as par

- [Cuba hit by widespread power blackout](#) (2026-03-05 03:51)

HAVANA (Reuters) -- A power outage struck most of Cuba, including Havana, the state electric utility said on Wednesday, as the Communist-run government grapples with increased pressure from the Trump administration that has curtailed oil shipments. The electric company Union Electrica UNE said the blackout was caused by an unexpected outage at Antonio Guiteras thermoelectric plant about 100 kilometers east of Havana, cutting electricity from Pinar del Rio in the far west to central-eastern Cam

- [Iran conflict may divert US weapons from Ukraine](#) (2026-03-05 03:50)

With the United States focused on its conflict with Iran, Ukraine could face a critical shortage of US air defense missiles at a time when Russia shows no signs of easing its campaign of striking Ukrainian cities. Since the US and Israel began strikes on Iran on Saturday, Iran has fired hundreds of ballistic missiles and drones at Gulf countries. Most have been intercepted, including with the PAC-3 Patriot missile interceptors that Ukraine relies on to defend its energy and military infrastru

- [Ecuador orders mission to leave country](#) (2026-03-05 03:49)

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — Ecuador declared Cuba's ambassador, Basilio Antonio Gutierrez, and his diplomatic staff "persona non grata" on Wednesday and gave them 48 hours to leave the South American country. Ecuador's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement that the measure was adopted within the framework of international diplomatic law, but didn't say why they were forcing the diplomats to leave. The Vienna Convention allows countries to declare diplomatic personnel a persona non grata with

- [Sea is higher than we thought: study](#) (2026-03-05 03:48)

Climate change's rising seas may threaten tens of millions more people than scientists and government planners originally thought because of mistaken research assumptions on how high coastal waters already are, a new study said. Researchers studied hundreds of scientific studies and hazard assessments, calculating that about 90 percent of them underestimated baseline coastal water heights by an average of 30 centimeters, according to Wednesday's study in the journal Nature. It's a far more frequ

- [US Senate backs Trump on Iran strikes](#) (2026-03-05 03:47)

US Senate Republicans backed US President Donald Trump's military campaign against Iran on Wednesday, voting to block a bipartisan resolution aiming to stop the air war and require that any hostilities against Iran be authorized by Congress. The Senate voted 53 to 47 not to advance the resolution, largely along party lines, with all but one Republican voting against the procedural motion and all but one Democrat supporting it. The latest effort by Democrats and a few Republicans to rein in Pre

- [Nmixx adds Tokyo to ongoing tour](#) (2026-03-05 03:06)

Nmixx will hit the stage in Tokyo in August for its first international “Episode 1: Zero Frontier” tour, label JYP Entertainment announced Thursday. The group of six will have two shows in the city, more than a year after performing there for its fan concert, “Nmixx Change Up: Mixx Lab.” Nmixx launched the tour November in Incheon and will begin the European leg on March 17 in Madrid. It will visit five cities in the region before heading to Toronto, the first stop of the North American leg. The

- [Park Jihoon to return as singer after 3 years](#) (2026-03-05 02:51)

Singer and actor Park Jihoon is ready to roll out a solo album in April, his agency YY Entertainment said Thursday. It will be his first endeavor as a singer in three years, after his seventh EP “Blank or Black.” Since the release of the future hip-hop set, he has been focusing on his acting career, which he began as a child. He finished shooting the drama “The Legend of Military Cook,” based on a hit webtoon, while promoting the historical film “The King’s Warden,” a breakout movie in Korea in

- [15% global tariff likely implemented this week, Bessent says](#) (2026-03-05 02:43)

WASHINGTON (AFP) -- US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said Wednesday that Donald Trump's 15-percent global tariff is likely to be rolled out this week, as the president moves to rebuild his trade agenda after a major legal setback. The Supreme Court last month struck down Trump's country-specific tariffs, which he imposed last year on allies and competitors alike, delivering a stinging rebuke of his signature economic policy. Since then, the US leader has tapped a different law to impose a new

- [China sets lowest growth target since 1991](#) (2026-03-05 02:37)

China set its most modest growth target in more than three decades, in a tacit acknowledgment that the model powering the country’s rapid rise for four decades is showing strains. The goal — a range of 4.5 percent to 5 percent — was in a copy of the government’s annual work report seen by Bloomberg News. It marks the first formal downgrade since 2023 and the least ambitious expansion goal since 1991. While widely anticipated by economists, it carries symbolic weight in a country where growth fig

- [Who is Mojtaba Khamenei, frontrunner to be Iran's supreme leader?](#) (2026-03-05 02:36)

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's son Mojtaba has emerged as frontrunner to succeed his late father as Iran's supreme leader after years spent forging close ties with the elite Revolutionary Guards and building influence in the clerical establishment. Mojtaba Khamenei, 56, has survived the US-Israeli air war on Iran and is seen by Iran's establishment as a potential successor to his father, who was killed in an airstrike on Saturday, two Iranian sources said on Wednesday. A powerful mid-ranking cleric,

- [TWS gears up for April return: report](#) (2026-03-05 02:35)

TWS is slated to bring out a new album next month, according to a local media report on Thursday. Agency Pledis Entertainment confirmed that the group is planning for an April release but did not give details. The boy group's last album was its fourth EP, "Play Hard," from October last year. The mini album sold close to 640,000 copies in the first week, a career-best for the six-member act, and made a chart-topping debut on Oricon's Daily Album Ranking. The six-track set was certified gold by th

- [Kongnamul-gukbap, bean sprout soup with rice](#) (2026-03-05 02:13)

By the Korean Food Promotion Institute Kongnamul-gukbap transforms the light, cleansing flavors of bean sprout soup into a hearty one-bowl meal by adding steamed rice directly to the broth. Traditionally seasoned with saeujeot (salted shrimp), the dish delivers a savory depth balanced by the crisp freshness of sprouts and green onion. Long regarded in Korea as a restorative hangover remedy, its clear broth and gentle seasoning make it both soothing and invigorating. Older versions simmered rice

- [Govt. to provide vouchers, financial aid to SMEs with Middle East exports](#) (2026-03-05 01:49)

Emergency export vouchers and financial aid packages will be provided to small and medium-sized enterprises with exports to the Middle East starting next week to minimize damage stemming from an ongoing regional crisis, the industry ministry said Thursday. The Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency will operate an emergency export voucher program for SMEs with Middle East exports from Wednesday to reduce financial burden on companies facing return shipping costs and war-risk surcharges, accordi

- [Police to be dispatched to Oman, Dubai to help S. Korean departures as US-Israeli war on Iran widens](#) (2026-03-05 01:42)

Police said Thursday it will send personnel to Oman and Dubai this week to help South Korean nationals leave the Middle East as the US-Israeli war on Iran has broadened. The National Police Agency said it will dispatch three officers to each of the two Gulf region hubs early Friday to help those stranded return home as the conflict between US-Israeli forces against Iran has widened to affect neighboring countries. The move comes after the government held an interagency meeting Wednesday on respo

- [Industry minister heads to Canada to back Seoul's bid for submarine project](#) (2026-03-05 01:40)

Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan left for Canada on Thursday to lend support for a South Korean consortium's bid to secure Canada's high-profile submarine project. To help the Korean consortium win the estimated 60 trillion-won (\$41 billion) project, Kim plans to meet with Canadian Industry Minister Melanie Joly and other government officials, according to the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources. Kim is also scheduled to attend the completion ceremony for LG Energy Solution Ltd.'s joint ele

- [Lee orders evacuation plan for S. Koreans in Middle East](#) (2026-03-05 01:38)

President Lee Jae Myung ordered the government Thursday to draw up an evacuation plan for South Koreans in the Middle East as the US-Israeli war on Iran widened. Lee gave the instruction during an extraordinary Cabinet meeting convened to discuss the situation in the Middle East, saying all means should be employed, including the use of military and chartered aircraft. "I ask the relevant authorities to determine without missing a single person our nationals there, including employees, business

- [I-dle to tour North America](#) (2026-03-05 01:27)

I-dle surprised fans with plans for a tour in North America. The five members broke the news on NBC's "Today Show," which aired Wednesday. The group's agency Cube Entertainment uploaded a poster for the tour on the following day listing 10 cities across the region, the largest yet for the group. The quintet will kick it off with its first stand-alone gig in Canada on Aug. 2 before hopping around eight cities in the US and Mexico City. The 10-city trip expands I-dle's ongoing "Syncopation" tour,

- [Trump sends Fed chair Warsh nomination to Senate](#) (2026-03-05 01:23)

US President Donald Trump on Wednesday officially nominated former Federal Reserve Gov. Kevin Warsh to be the US central bank's next chair, the White House said, putting the president one step closer to installing a rate-cut-friendly Fed chief. But there are big hurdles both to Warsh's path back to the Fed and, once confirmed as Fed chair, his way forward to delivering the rate cuts Trump wants. Warsh, who would take over from Jerome Powell after his leadership term ends on May 15, would occupy

- [Korean stocks rebound, prompt buy curbs](#) (2026-03-05 00:54)

South Korean stocks staged a sharp rebound in early trading Thursday, triggering buy-side sidecars on both the main and secondary bourses. The benchmark Kospi opened 3.09 percent higher at 5,250.92, compared with the previous session, according to the Korea Exchange. The index swiftly extended gains after the opening bell, surging 10.82 percent to 5,644.91 as of 9:40 a.m. Earlier, it even touched an intraday high of 5,715.3. Amid the steep early rally, buy-side sidecars were activated on both th

- [Ex-President Moon set to visit US for discussions on inter-Korean ties](#) (2026-03-05 00:25)

Former President Moon Jae-in was set to depart for the United States on Thursday, marking his first visit to the US since leaving office in 2022. The trip comes at the invitation of US think tank RAND Corp. and the Pacific Century Institute. Moon, who led South Korea from 2017 to 2022, is scheduled to deliver a keynote speech and participate in a roundtable with Nancy Staudt, vice president of RAND, and other experts to discuss inter-Korean relations and the rapidly changing global order on Frid

- [Seoul stocks rebound after record crash, triggering sidecar](#) (2026-03-05 00:21)

South Korean stocks started sharply higher Thursday after the previous session's daily record drop of over 12 percent on fears over a prolonged Iran crisis, while Wall Street rebounded and oil prices calmed. After opening 3.09 percent higher, the benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index rose 559.78 points, or 10.99 percent, to 5,653.32 in the first 20 minutes of trading. The Korea Exchange, the country's main bourse operator, activated a five-minute buy-side sidetar six minutes after the open

- [Trump: 'When crazy people have nuclear weapons, bad things happen'](#) (2026-03-05 00:19)

US President Donald Trump said Wednesday that when nuclear weapons are in the hands of "crazy people," "bad things" take place, as he defended the ongoing US military operation against Iran that led to the death of the Islamic Republic's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Speaking at an energy-related event at the White House, Trump also said that everybody who wants to be an Iranian leader "ends up dead," in what appears to be a warning against the next Iranian leadership that could also pu

- [N. Korea's Kim oversees strategic cruise missile test from new destroyer](#) (2026-03-05 00:14)

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has overseen a test-firing of strategic cruise missiles from a new destroyer ahead of its commissioning, noting that equipping the navy with nuclear weapons is making "satisfactory progress," state media reported Thursday. Kim inspected the Choe Hyon at a shipyard in the western port city of Nampho on Tuesday and Wednesday to review its crew members' combat training and assess its operational capabilities, according to the Korean Central News Agency. Kim oversaw t

- [Hegseth says US effort to address Iran's nuclear ambitions will send 'plenty of signals' amid NK criticism](#) (2026-03-05 00:11)

US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said Wednesday that US efforts to deal with Iran's nuclear ambitions will send "plenty of signals," as he addressed a question related to North Korea's criticism of the ongoing US military operation against the Islamic Republic. Hegseth made the remarks during a press briefing on the military operation, codenamed "Operation Epic Fury," which kicked off in coordination with Israel on Saturday. "As it pertains to other countries ... they don't really bear on the c

- [Bessent says new global tariff will likely increase to 15% from 10% 'sometime this week'](#) (2026-03-05 00:09)

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said Wednesday that a new US global tariff will likely rise to 15 percent from 10 percent "sometime this week," as President Donald Trump's administration is working to replace its emergency tariffs that the Supreme Court recently struck down. Bessent made the remarks in a CNBC interview, as Trump has said his administration will raise the temporary tariff amid efforts to maintain his trade policy following last month's court ruling against his use of the Inte

- [Michelangelo's works hidden in 'secret room,' researcher say](#) (2026-03-04 23:59)

ROME (AFP) -- Renaissance artist Michelangelo ordered many of his artworks to be hidden by his pupils in a secret room to protect them for posterity, an Italian researcher claimed Wednesday. According to renowned art historian Giorgio Vasari, the Italian genius burned a large number of his own drawings and sketches before his death in Rome in 1564. But researcher Valentina Salerno says she has unearthed unpublished archival documents that reveal a plot to squirrel away his works. "One of these t

- [Korea House, royal court fine-dining restaurant, reopens after renovation](#) (2026-03-04 23:30)

Korea House will reopen on March 11 following a seven-month renovation. Founded in 1957 as a guesthouse for visiting envoys and dignitaries, Korea House has since evolved into a cultural dining space for traditional Korean cuisine centered on royal court dishes. The effort has been led by Cho Hee-sook, a former Michelin one-star chef who serves as culinary adviser, and Kim Do-seop, head of its Korean cuisine research team and a certified practitioner of Joseon royal court cuisine, a nationally d

- [\[Graphic News\] South Korea aims for WBC victory](#) (2026-03-04 23:00)

South Korea heads into the World Baseball Classic running from Thursday to March 17 with its 30-man roster now set, as announced by the Korea Baseball Organization. The roster includes seven overseas-based players, headlined by San Francisco Giants outfielder Lee Jung-hoo and Los Angeles Dodgers infielder Kim Hye-seong, along with MLB and Korean American big leaguers. National team manager Ryu Ji-yun will lead the squad. Right-hander Go Woo-suk, playing in the minors under the Detroit Tigers, al

- ['Show Me the Money' retakes place at center of Korean hip-hop](#) (2026-03-04 22:00)

Tom Cruise's iconic line from "Jerry Maguire" — "Show Me The Money" — occupies a special place in Korean culture. The phrase has become virtually synonymous with hip-hop, as the name of the country's flagship hip-hop survival program. The ultimate reward is literal, with the season's winner traditionally "shown" a 100 million won (\$68,000) cash prize. In a music market dominated by K-pop, hip-hop increasingly occupies its own niche. So the show's return for its 12th season, its first in four yea

- [\[팟캐스트\] \(772\) 넷플 1위 ‘레이디 두아’ 는 실화?](#) (2026-03-04 21:00)

진행자: 박준희, Chelsea Proctor How 'The Art of Sarah' recalls real-life luxury fraud even 'Squid Game' Lee Jung-jae fell for 기사 요약: 넷플릭스 시리즈 “레이디 두아” 의 흥행을 계기로 2006년 한국 사회를 뒤흔들었던 이른바 ‘빈센트앤코’ 가짜 명품 사건이 재조명되고 있다. [1] As the show's buzz builds, it has reignited interest in an infamous, real-life fraud case from Korea a decade ago that bears striking similarities to its central premise: counterfeit luxury goods falsely marketed as elite, European-made products, which reaped astronomical profits. buzz: 화제성

- [\[Adrian Wooldridge\] AI proves 100-year prediction](#) (2026-03-04 20:30)

Great minds go off on odd tangents. In 1930, John Maynard Keynes took time out from thinking about the Great Depression, which was throwing millions out of work, to write a charming essay about the “economic possibilities for our grandchildren.” What would life be like a hundred years hence, he asked. His answer: The depression would prove to be no more than a temporary blip, economic progress would resume its benevolent course, but then the real problems would start. The combination of innovati

- [\[Wang Son-taek\] Conflicting currents in stormy waters](#) (2026-03-04 20:30)

Last week, the world was reminded that history often moves in two directions at once. The US and Israel carried out military strikes against Iran, followed by Iranian retaliation. At nearly the same time, President Lee Jae Myung of South Korea met President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of Brazil to deepen bilateral cooperation. Some weeks earlier, South American nations and the European Union moved forward with a long-negotiated agreement on economic cooperation. One set of events was marked by for

- [186 S. Korean seafarers aboard ships stranded in Strait of Hormuz: oceans ministry](#) (2026-03-04 12:43)

More than 180 South Korean seafarers remain aboard over two dozen ships stranded in the Strait of Hormuz, the oceans ministry said Wednesday, as safety concerns mount after the vital shipping route was effectively closed by the Middle East conflict. A total of 144 South Korean crew members are aboard 26 Korean vessels in the key waterway where roughly 20 percent of global oil and gas pass through, the ministry said in a release after holding a meeting to check the situation in the region. An add

- [DP to meet business leaders over Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-04 12:43)

The main opposition Democratic Party said Wednesday it will meet with business leaders this week to discuss possible fallout from the US-Israeli strikes against Iran. The meeting, scheduled for Thursday, will bring together DP lawmakers from parliamentary committees on foreign affairs, trade and finance, along with representatives from the Federation of Korean Industries, the Korea International Trade Association and the state-run Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency. Senior executives from m

- [Head of Seongdong district steps down to join Seoul mayoral race](#) (2026-03-04 12:43)

The head of the Seongdong district, Chong Won-o, stepped down from his post Wednesday to join the race for Seoul mayor in the June 3 local elections. Chong, who has officially declared his bid for Seoul mayor, held a retirement ceremony at the Seongdong District Office earlier in the day. He plans to register as a preliminary candidate on Thursday. Chong will be competing with four other contenders in the ruling Democratic Party's primary for Seoul mayor: three-term lawmakers Rep. Park Ju-min an

- [Gov't considering chartered, military planes to bring home S. Koreans in Middle East](#) (2026-03-04 12:43)

South Korea is considering sending chartered planes or military aircraft to bring back its nationals stranded in the Middle East due to the conflict between the United States and Iran, a senior government official said Wednesday. Sending planes and additional pan-government rapid response teams to the region are among the many options the government is weighing to support their return home, Second Vice Foreign Minister Kim Jina said in a press briefing following an interagency meeting on governm

- [Samsung Electronics wage talks collapse, raising strike threat](#) (2026-03-04 11:15)

Wage negotiations between management at Samsung Electronics and its labor union have collapsed after the two sides failed to reach an agreement in mediation with the National Labor Relations Commission, raising the possibility of a walkout for the first time in two years. The commission, a quasi-judicial body tasked with mediating labor-management disputes, decided to suspend the process on Wednesday, following the second round of talks a day earlier. Samsung Electronics management and labor rep

- [Polar scientist calls for Korea to boost Arctic activities](#) (2026-03-04 09:52)

This is one of a series of interviews in which Kim Hoo-ran, editor-at-large at The Korea Herald, speaks with leaders, trailblazers, unsung heroes, and both well- and lesser-known figures who share the stories of their lives and their visions for a better world — Ed. If you felt the weather this winter was erratic — unseasonably warm days followed by deep freeze — you would not be wrong. While the average temperature in January was minus 1.6 degrees Celsius, the coldest average January temperatur

- [Ha Ye-rin says 'Bridgerton' racial bias controversy may be learning curve for global media](#) (2026-03-04 08:56)

Netflix's flagship intellectual property "Bridgerton" has returned with a milestone season, its first to feature an East Asian lead. Fronting Season 4 is Ha Ye-rin, a 28-year-old Korean-Australian actor whose blockbuster resume includes training at the prestigious National Institute of Dramatic Art and roles in tentpole projects such as Paramount+'s "Halo" and HBO's "Dune: Prophecy." The glossy alternative-history series unveiled Part 2 of its latest season on Feb. 26, this time leaning into fai

- [Lee asks Marcos for temporary transfer of jailed Korean drug kingpin](#) (2026-03-04 08:53)

President Lee Jae Myung said he asked Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. to allow the temporary transfer of a jailed Korean drug kingpin to face investigation and prosecution in South Korea. Lee noted that “one of the difficulties faced by Koreans living abroad is the issue of public safety” during his luncheon meeting with members of the Korean community in Manila on Wednesday. Lee further explained that incidents affecting Korean residents in the Philippines appear to be rising, in cont

- [Pilot error behind midair collision of two S. Korean F-16s, Air Force says](#) (2026-03-04 08:38)

Last month's crash of a fighter jet was the result of a rare midair collision caused by human error, the Air Force said Wednesday. The collision, involving two F-16C aircraft, occurred during a night training exercise on Feb. 25 caused by a pilot's misjudgment while wearing night vision goggles, according to the Air Force. One of the aircraft later crashed in a mountainous area in Yeongju, North Gyeongsang Province. According to the Air Force, the accident occurred when the external fuel tank mo

- [Korean happiness hits record high, despite political turmoil: report](#) (2026-03-04 08:34)

South Koreans reported their highest level of life satisfaction on record in 2025, despite deep political tensions following former President Yoon Suk Yeol's martial law declaration in December 2024. Overall life satisfaction scored 6.63 out of 10 points, the highest figure recorded in the annual Korea Social Integration Survey, according to a report by the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs. The figure surpassed the previous high of 6.47 points recorded in 2024. The happiness index r

- [Doctor sentenced to 6 years for murder disguised as abortion](#) (2026-03-04 08:16)

A Seoul court on Wednesday sentenced an obstetrician to six years in prison for performing a cesarean on a 36-week pregnant woman and killing the baby, amid a lack of legal provisions to regulate abortions. The Seoul Central District Court found the 81-year-old hospital director, identified only by his surname Yoon, guilty of murder for killing the baby after conducting a caesarean section. The operating surgeon, identified as Shim, 62, was sentenced to four years in prison. The mother, a 26-yea

- [Brazilian woman indicted for stalking Jungkook, visiting home 20 times](#) (2026-03-04 06:59)

A Brazilian national has been indicted and detained on stalking charges after repeatedly visiting the home of BTS' Jungkook, authorities said Wednesday. According to the Seoul Western District Prosecutors' Office, the woman in her 30s was indicted Friday on charges of violating the Anti-Stalking Act and trespassing. She allegedly visited Jungkook's residence around 20 times over the course of a month starting on Dec. 7, 2025, rang his doorbell hundreds of times and left notes and other items at

- [Korean American players look to shine for Team Korea at 2026 WBC](#) (2026-03-04 06:56)

South Korea's roster for the 2026 World Baseball Classic boasts an impressive roster of six US-based players. Among them, three in particular stand out: They neither speak Korean fluently nor have ever been part of the Korean Baseball Organization. For Jahmai Jones of the Detroit Tigers, Dane Dunning of the Seattle Mariners and Shay Whitcomb of the Houston Astros, joining Team Korea is about honoring their mothers' homeland. With the trio included, this marks the largest group of foreign players

- [Seoul shares plunge over 12% on Middle East conflict fears; won tumbles](#) (2026-03-04 06:48)

Seoul shares plunged more than 12 percent Wednesday, closing below the 5,100-point mark, as mounting concerns over the economic fallout from the escalating Middle East conflict rattled investor sentiment. The Korean won also fell sharply against the US dollar. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index tumbled 698.37 points, or 12.06 percent, to close at 5,093.54, extending losses from a 7.24 percent drop in the previous session. The 12.06 percent fall marked the steepest one-day decline since

- [Lee puts energy, infrastructure, manufacturing at core of Korea-Philippines economic ties](#) (2026-03-04 06:17)

President Lee Jae Myung on Wednesday set out priorities for a new phase of economic cooperation with the Philippines centered on energy, infrastructure modernization and manufacturing, urging business leaders to invest and seize emerging opportunities. Lee delivered the remarks at the Korea-Philippines Business Forum on Wednesday, which he attended alongside Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. and about 250 business leaders and government officials from both countries. He underscored the importance of

- [고정문](#) (2026-03-04 06:04)

“고정문”이라는 표현은 한국에서 건물 입구나 상가에서 흔히 볼 수 있는 안내 문구입니다. 양쪽으로 열리는 문 가운데 한쪽을 잠금장치 등으로 고정해 두었다는 의미인데, 영어 사용자들을 위해 ‘Fixed’라는 표현을 함께 적어두는 경우도 있습니다. 한국에서는 이러한 상황이 비교적 흔해 크게 어색하지 않지만, 이런 방식에 익숙하지 않은 영어 사용자들에게는 fixed라는 표현이 혼동을 줄 수 있습니다. 영어에서 fixed는 보통 고장 난 것을 ‘수리했다’는 의미로도 자주 쓰이기 때문입니다. 따라서 “Locked door,” “Door closed”라고 표현하거나, “Use other door”처럼 방문객이 어떻게 행동해야 하는지를 직접적으로 안내하는 것이 더 자연스럽습니다. I always see the "fixed door" sign and think that, seeing as the door is still not working, it has not actually been fixed

- [Iran war jitters halt Kospi, Kosdaq trading](#) (2026-03-04 05:55)

South Korean shares extended their sharp losses Wednesday, prompting the stock exchange operator to temporarily halt trading for 20 minutes on both the benchmark Kospi and the secondary Kosdaq markets. The Korea Exchange activated a circuit breaker to suspend trading on the Kospi for 20 minutes at around 11:19 a.m. The move followed a separate trading suspension on the Kosdaq, which was triggered at 11:16 a.m. A circuit breaker is activated when an index plunges more than 8 percent from the previous

- [Housing divide widens Seoul elementary enrollment gap](#) (2026-03-04 05:51)

The gap in first-grade enrollment at elementary schools has widened sharply this year, reaching a 59-fold difference between schools in the same district. As a result, some campuses face potential closure, while others contend with overcrowded classrooms. Researchers attribute the imbalance to a combination of factors, including differences in educational environments and

the impact of new housing developments near certain schools. They also point to a growing tendency among parents to avoid low

- [Will Korea lower juvenile offender age for the first time in 70 years?](#) (2026-03-04 05:50)

The government has begun a formal public deliberation process on whether to lower the minimum age of criminal responsibility for “juvenile offenders,” after President Lee Jae Myung signaled support for reducing the current threshold from 14 to 13. The move reopens a decadeslong debate over how Korea should respond to rising public concern about youth crime, even as ministries and experts remain sharply divided. According to the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family on Wednesday, preparations ar

- [Canada mulls split submarine deal in Korea-Germany rivalry](#) (2026-03-04 05:49)

Canada is considering splitting its multibillion-dollar submarine procurement between South Korea and Germany, according to a media report, in a move apparently aimed at securing both advanced naval capabilities and economic investment from the two rivals. Canadian newspaper The Globe and Mail reported Tuesday, citing senior government sources, that the Canadian Patrol Submarine Project -- a planned purchase of up to 12 new diesel-powered submarines to replace the country’ s aging fleet -- could

- [LG launches AI graduate school as Koo Kwang-mo urges people-first tech](#) (2026-03-04 05:41)

LG Group opened its first in-house artificial intelligence graduate school on Wednesday, with Chairman Koo Kwang-mo stressing that advances in AI must ultimately serve people and improve everyday life. In a congratulatory letter marking the launch of the new graduate program, Koo said technology should never exist as an end in itself but should be used to create meaningful value for people. “Technology should be a warm tool that designs people’ s smiles, not a goal in itself, and it must ultimate

- [Bill for \\$350b investment in US sees progress](#) (2026-03-04 05:40)

The legislative process needed for South Korea’s \$350 billion US investment plan regained momentum Wednesday, with rival parties agreeing to move ahead and leave behind the drawn-out gridlock. A special parliamentary committee dedicated to passing the bill resumed operation Wednesday, tabling all nine related bills and conducting subcommittee-level reviews. The bills differ in detail, but each of them are designed to establish a new state-run body dedicated to US investments, outline the plan to

- [TXT to unveil first comeback stage at showcase for 8th EP](#) (2026-03-04 05:34)

Tomorrow X Together will release its eighth EP, “7th Year: When the Wind Stopped for a Moment in the Thornbush,” on April 13, marking its first comeback since contract renewal. The group first made the announcement at its "Moa Con" fan concert on Sunday, and released album details Monday through the Weverse fan platform. On Wednesday, it added that it will

hold a comeback showcase at Korea University Hwajeong Gymnasium at 8 p.m. on the day of the album's release. At the showcase, the quintet will

- [BTS unveils track list for new album with single 'Swim'](#) (2026-03-04 05:34)

BTS on Wednesday unveiled the full track list for its fifth studio album, "Arirang," with the lead single "Swim" anchoring the 14-song record ahead of the group's highly anticipated comeback. The track list, released through the group's official social media channels, also includes "Body to Body," "Hooligan," "Aliens," "FYA," "2.0," "No. 29," "Merry Go Round," "Normal," "Like Animals," "They Don't Know ' Bout Us," "One More Night," "Please" and "Into the Sun." The album reflects BTS' identity and

- [Ukraine war likely to shape North Korean drone development: report](#) (2026-03-04 05:30)

North Korean military forces are gaining unprecedented experience in uncrewed aerial warfare through the ongoing war in Ukraine, exposure that is likely to influence Pyongyang's future drone development and production, according to a new analysis by a Washington-based research group. According to a report released by Beyond Parallel, a Center for Strategic and International Studies project that monitors North Korea, North Korean forces are learning from the conflict both as operators and targets

- [Korean Air chief calls for unity as Asiana merger nears](#) (2026-03-04 05:29)

Hanjin Group Chair Walter Cho has reiterated the historic importance of ushering a new era for Korean Air as South Korea's largest air carrier gears up for the merger with the country's second-largest carrier, Asiana. "As I pledged when announcing the acquisition of Asiana Airlines, I will complete the historic task of reorganizing Korea's aviation industry and creating a stronger aviation ecosystem," Cho said in a speech during Korean Air's 57th anniversary ceremony on Tuesday. "For an integrat

- [Big Bang to launch world tour for 20th anniversary, YG confirms](#) (2026-03-04 05:28)

Big Bang will embark on a global tour this year to mark the 20th anniversary of its debut, YG Entertainment announced Wednesday. The tour will feature three members — G-Dragon, Taeyang and Daesung. The announcement was made at the end of a video posted by YG Entertainment, in which founder and executive producer Yang Hyun-suk confirmed that the group had agreed to hold a series of concerts to celebrate the milestone. "I think the reason people miss Big Bang and wait for their concerts is because

- [Search built Naver. Now AI commerce may define its future](#) (2026-03-04 05:27)

Type "sofa" into Naver's shopping app these days, and something different happens. Instead of a grid of product listings, an AI agent asks questions. Do you live alone? Do you have pets? It notices browsing patterns suggesting a dog in the household and recommends waterproof fabrics and scratch-resistant materials. Then it proposes a specific product: a three-seat Aquatex sofa from Carrem Furniture, discounted 41 percent to 347,000 won (\$235),

rated 4.74 stars. Ask it to compare brands, and it i

- [CG Bio ramps up production with new regenerative medicine plant](#) (2026-03-04 05:25)

CG Bio said Wednesday that its second manufacturing facility, Novo Factory, has received final regulatory approval and begun full-scale operations, strengthening the company's production capacity for regenerative medicine. The new facility will focus on manufacturing Novosis Putty and other orthopedic surgery products, supporting the company's expansion into advanced markets such as the United States and Japan. While CG Bio's first plant, S-Campus, specializes in dermal filler production, Novo F

- [When machines learn empathy, humans grow mechanical](#) (2026-03-04 05:25)

As artificial intelligence grows more fluent in empathy -- fielding questions at 3 a.m., dispensing comfort on demand -- some artists are beginning to wonder whether humans, by contrast, are becoming mechanical. That unease animates "X," the latest work by SAL (Subverted Anatomical Landscape), the boundary-pushing contemporary dance company led by artistic director and choreographer Bae Jin-ho. Premiering March 19-22, as part of this year's ARKO Selection, the piece explores a world in which met

- [LG H&H; beverage unit posts first loss since Coca-Cola deal](#) (2026-03-04 05:14)

LG Household & Health Care reported the first quarterly operating loss in its beverage division since acquiring the local Coca-Cola bottling business nearly two decades ago, a setback that prompted the company to trim headcount in the unit. The company said its refreshment segment, which includes beverage subsidiaries such as Coca-Cola Beverage Company and Haitai HTB, recorded an operating loss of 9.9 billion won (\$6.7 million) in the fourth quarter of 2025. It marked the first such loss since L

- [BlackRock takes 5% stake in HLB amid FDA review](#) (2026-03-04 05:14)

BlackRock, the world's largest asset manager, has become the second-largest shareholder of Korean biotechnology firm HLB, amid the US Food and Drug Administration's review of its liver cancer drug. According to HLB's regulatory filing on Wednesday, BlackRock Fund Advisors had acquired 6,664,921 shares of HLB, or a 5.01 percent stake, as of Feb. 24. The filing stated that the on-exchange stock purchase was made under a simple investment purpose. Jin Yang-gon, founder and chair of HLB, owned a 7.2

- [LS ramps up rare earth, battery materials value chain](#) (2026-03-04 05:13)

LS Group is expanding its rare earth and battery materials businesses as it seeks to strengthen South Korea's position in advanced industrial materials and supply chains. With China controlling about 90 percent of global rare earth supply, diversification has become a strategic priority. LS is working to build an integrated value chain covering rare earth oxides, metals and permanent magnets to enhance supply chain resilience. LS Cable & System is pursuing plans to establish a rare earth permane

- [Eximbank backs Philippine nuclear project with KHNP, Meralco](#) (2026-03-04 05:12)

The Export-Import Bank of Korea said Wednesday it has signed a tripartite memorandum of understanding with Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power and Manila Electric Company to support nuclear power development in the Philippines. The agreement positions Eximbank as a financial partner for potential nuclear projects led by Meralco, the Philippines' largest private power distributor, while strengthening South Korea's competitiveness in the global nuclear energy market. Minister of Trade, Industry and Resour

- [Yoon Suk Yeol's appellate trial commences for obstructing arrest](#) (2026-03-04 04:59)

Former President Yoon Suk Yeol's appellate trial for resisting arrest last year begins Tuesday, with the first hearing scheduled for 2 p.m. at the Seoul High Court. The 65-year-old former president was sentenced to five years in prison in January on multiple charges, including obstructing investigators' attempt to detain him, infringing on Cabinet members' deliberation rights, drafting a revised version of his Dec. 3, 2024 martial law declaration and destroying it after the short-lived order was

- [HD Construction hosts operator challenge at Conexpo 2026](#) (2026-03-04 04:55)

HD Construction Equipment said Wednesday it is hosting the "Operator Challenge" at Conexpo-Con/Agg 2026, North America's largest construction trade show, being held in Las Vegas this week. The event, held at the company's exhibition booth through Saturday, allows visitors to test the performance of its new mini electric excavator, the HX19E. Participants compete by using the excavator to place three balls into designated holes, with the fastest operator each day winning a \$1,000 cash prize. The

- [YG Entertainment to debut new boy group this fall](#) (2026-03-04 04:18)

YG Entertainment said Wednesday it is preparing to debut a new boy group this fall, marking the agency's first launch of a male idol act since Treasure six years ago. The company revealed the plan through its official blog, stating that it is "preparing a new boy group, targeting fall 2026." Yang Hyun-suk, YG Entertainment founder and executive producer, hinted at the project last year, saying the agency had been closely evaluating a team of male trainees being considered for debut. "We have bee

- [KNU to become first Korean public university to launch overseas franchise program](#) (2026-03-04 04:07)

Kyungpook National University and Vietnam's FPT University will sign a memorandum of agreement Thursday to operate a franchised degree program in Hanoi, the Ministry of Education said Tuesday. A franchised degree program allows a foreign partner university to deliver the curriculum of a Korean university, enabling students to earn degrees from the Korean university without studying in Korea. The initiative will mark the first time a South Korean public university has operated such a program over

- [Airline, travel industries scramble with fallout](#) (2026-03-04 03:29)

The airline and tourism industries scrambled to deal with the fallout from the escalating US and Israeli air war against Iran, while governments rushed to bring stranded travelers home from the Middle East following the cancellation of more than 20,000 flights in recent days. Major Gulf hubs including Dubai, the world's busiest international airport, remained closed or severely restricted for a fourth day, leaving tens of thousands of passengers stranded. According to Flightradar24, some 21,300

- [Trump says US Navy could escort tankers, Iran aimed to strike first](#) (2026-03-04 03:28)

US President Donald Trump said Tuesday the US Navy was ready to escort oil tankers through a crucial Gulf shipping route, as he justified his war on Iran by saying he believed Tehran was about to strike first. Trump has given often conflicting explanations for the joint US-Israeli attack on Iran, while the president who once campaigned to end to America's Middle Eastern wars has set out no firm endgame. The attacks and Iran's fiery response have engulfed the Middle East -- while also causing glo

- [Macron orders France's nuclear-powered aircraft carrier to Mediterranean](#) (2026-03-04 03:27)

PARIS (AP) — French President Emmanuel Macron on Tuesday ordered France's nuclear-powered aircraft carrier to move from the Baltic Sea to the Mediterranean to help protect allied assets during the war in the Middle East. Macron said the Charles de Gaulle carrier will be escorted by frigates and its air wing. In a prerecorded speech on French TV, Macron added that Rafale fighter jets, air-defense systems and airborne radar systems have been deployed over the past few hours in the Middle East. “An

- [US turns up heat on Venezuela with threat to indict new leader Delcy Rodriguez](#) (2026-03-04 03:26)

The Trump administration is quietly building a legal case against Venezuelan interim president Delcy Rodriguez including readying a draft criminal indictment, one of several tools it is using to strengthen its leverage with Caracas, according to four people familiar with the matter. Federal prosecutors have put together possible corruption and money laundering charges, and have communicated to Rodriguez that she is at risk of prosecution unless she continues to comply with Trump's demands follo

- [Syria sends thousands of troops to Lebanon](#) (2026-03-04 03:24)

Syria's Defense Minsitry said it reinforced its border with Lebanon, and eight Syrian and Lebanese sources said this included rocket units and thousands of troops as conflict spread in the region including between Israel and Hezbollah in Lebanon. The sources included five Syrian military officers, a Syrian security official and two Lebanese security officials who spoke on condition of anonymity. The Syrian Defense Ministry said in a statement Wednesday that the army has reinforced its deployme

- [For Tino Sehgal, art lives in encounters between people](#) (2026-03-04 03:11)

As you approach the entrance to the Leeum Museum of Art in Seoul, a group of people standing to the side suddenly steps forward, chanting, “This is so contemporary.” Startled and baffled, you may wonder, questioning, “Is this part of the show or something else?” Once inside the museum, the performers, whom artist Tino Sehgal refers to as “interpreters,” blend naturally into the crowd, then slowly approach a visitor to share something intimate. If you stretch a hand toward them, they may touch or

- [Navy chief penalized for role in Yoon's martial law](#) (2026-03-04 03:05)

South Korea's Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Kang Dong-gil has been subjected to administrative action for his role in then-President Yoon Suk Yeol's imposition of martial law in early December 2024. According to the Ministry of National Defense, Kang was penalized for dereliction of duty. The ministry did not disclose the level of disciplinary action against Kang, but local reports have suggested that he was hit with a one-month suspension from duty. Following the ministry's announcement, Kang

- [Baby Dont Cry to unveil 1st EP](#) (2026-03-04 02:54)

Baby Dont Cry's agency P Nation announced Wednesday that the girl group will bring out its first EP “After Cry” on March 24. The agency uploaded a teaser trailer, dubbed “The Story Begins Here,” which hinted that the new album may be followed by two sets: “We Bloom” and “Beyond the Limit.” The upcoming mini album is the quartet’s first release since the digital single “I Don’t Care” in November. The single entered Melon’s Hot 100 chart. The group debuted last June with the digital single “F Girl

- [Drug-laced drink killing suspect qualifies as psychopath: police](#) (2026-03-04 02:52)

A 22-year-old woman accused of drugging and killing two men in a series of motel encounters in Seoul meets the clinical criteria to be considered a psychopath, police said Wednesday, as investigators examine whether the crimes were premeditated. The Seoul Gangbuk Police Station said the suspect, identified by her surname Kim, scored above the domestic cutoff on the Psychopathy Checklist Revised, or PCL R. The test measures traits including callousness, impulsivity, lack of empathy and irresponsibi

- [Korean stocks plunge 8%, circuit breakers triggered](#) (2026-03-04 02:49)

South Korean shares plunged more than 8 percent on Wednesday, prompting the stock exchange to temporarily halt trading on the benchmark Kospi and secondary Kosdaq markets, as risk-averse sentiment intensified following US-Israel strikes on Iran. The Korea Exchange activated a circuit breaker to suspend trading on the Kospi for 20 minutes at around 11:19 a.m., after the index fell more than 8 percent for over a minute. The move followed a separate trading suspension on the Kosdaq, which was trigg

- [KEF releases English guide to Korea’s business climate](#) (2026-03-04 02:47)

The Korea Enterprises Federation said Wednesday it has published an English-language booklet titled “2026 Business Environment and Labor Market in Korea,” aimed at enhancing global understanding of the country’s economic and labor policies. The publication provides an overview of Korea’s economic and labor regulations, policy direction and the latest statistical data. It was produced to support international organizations, overseas business associations and foreign-invested companies seeking a c

- [Seventeen’s S.Coups, Mingyu reclaim Oricon chart](#) (2026-03-04 02:45)

S.Coups and Mingyu of Seventeen notched No. 1 spot on Oricon’s Daily Album Ranking as a subunit, said agency Pledis Entertainment citing the latest chart. The duo’s first EP “Hype Vibes” returned to the top of the chart after five months, possibly gaining momentum from the success of its ongoing tour “Double Up — Live Party.” The mini album rolled out in September last year and landed atop the daily chart, spending three days at No. 1, before scoring chart-topping debut on its Weekly and Weekly

- ['No Other Choice' just crossed \\$10m in the US. But it's not nearly Korea's top-grossing film there](#) (2026-03-04 02:44)

Park Chan-wook's "No Other Choice" has crossed the \$10 million mark in the North American box office, pushing his career record in the region even further ahead, the film's South Korean distributor CJ ENM said Tuesday. The black comedy about a laid-off paper mill worker who goes after his rival job applicants passed \$10 million in takeings on Feb. 28, according to CJ ENM. The film opened with a limited release on Christmas Day, before expanding to 695 theaters on Jan. 16. Neon, which acquired No

- [Youngone Group tops \\$100m in World Vision donations](#) (2026-03-04 02:43)

Youngone Group said Wednesday it held a plaque unveiling ceremony at World Vision’s headquarters in Yeouido, Seoul, to commemorate its cumulative donations surpassing \$100 million. To recognize the milestone, World Vision installed a commemorative plaque titled the “Global Philanthropy Wall.” According to the organization, Youngone Group is the first donor to receive the honor. Youngone Group has partnered with World Vision since 1993, supporting programs for vulnerable children and communities

- [Global oil, gas prices soar as Iran crisis disrupts production](#) (2026-03-04 02:36)

LONDON (Reuters) -- Global oil and gas prices jumped Tuesday as the US-Israeli war on Iran halted energy exports from the Middle East, with Tehran attacking ships and energy facilities, closing navigation in the Gulf and forcing production stoppages from Qatar to Iraq. The benchmark Brent Crude oil contract settled up \$3.66, or up 4.7 percent, at \$81.40 a barrel, its highest settlement since January 2025. European gas prices soared as much as 40 percent before paring gains, adding to a 40 perce

- [Mamamoo’s Moonbyul to drop solo single](#) (2026-03-04 02:27)

Moonbyul of Mamamoo will release a third single, “Rev,” on March 25, her agency RBW Entertainment announced Wednesday. The single comes about four months after her last solo effort, the digital single “S.O.S,” which was followed by her solo concert tour in Asia, “Museum: village of eternal glow.” She kicked it off in Seoul in November and visited five cities in the region: Singapore, Macao, Kaohsiung, Tokyo and Taipei, concluding it in Hong Kong in February. In June, Mamamoo will release a full-

- [Student cyclist dies after high speed collision during training](#) (2026-03-04 02:19)

Five staff at a high school in Gyeonggi Province are under police investigation over the death of a student cyclist who was fatally injured during a highway training session in January. Officials at the Paju Police Station said they are questioning the school's principal, vice principal, the cycling team coach and two physical education teachers at the school in Yeoncheon-gun in connection with the accident, which occurred at around 1 p.m. on Jan. 24. The victim, a member of the school cycling t

- [Illit sets streams record in Japan with debut single](#) (2026-03-04 01:29)

Illit garnered 300 million streams in Japan with its debut song “Magnetic,” according to Oricon on Wednesday. The group reached the milestone on Sunday, 101 weeks after the single entered Oricon’s Weekly Streaming Ranking. The chart said it was the shortest time for an international female artist. “Magnetic” was released in March 2024 as the lead single from the group's first EP, “Super Real Me.” It exceeded 100 million plays on Oricon’s weekly tally in the shortest time for a female group ever.

- [Hyundai, Kia post record Feb. sales in U.S. on strong demand for SUV, hybrid cars](#) (2026-03-04 01:19)

Hyundai Motor Co. and Kia Corp. reported record vehicle sales for February in the United States, driven by robust demand for sport utility vehicles and hybrid models, the automakers said Wednesday. The South Korean automakers sold a combined 137,412 vehicles in the U.S. last month, up 5 percent from a year earlier, according to the companies. Hyundai Motor, including its luxury brand Genesis, sold 71,407 units, up 5.7 percent on-year, while Kia's sales gained 4.3 percent on-year to 66,005 units.

- [KOSPI opens sharply lower following over 7% dip amid Middle East tension](#) (2026-03-04 00:22)

South Korean stocks opened sharply lower Wednesday, extending losses from the previous session's more than 7 percent plunge, as escalating Middle East tensions rattled investor sentiment. After opening 3.44 percent lower, the benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index traded down 212.55 points, or 3.67 percent, at 5,579.36 as of 9:15 a.m., after briefly touching an intraday low of 5,438.97. The Korea Exchange, the country's main bourse operator, activated a five-minute sell-side sidecar immedia

- [\[Graphic News\] Global oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz](#) (2026-03-03 23:00)

The steady flow of Gulf oil to Europe, the US and Asia through the narrow Strait of Hormuz has created the world's largest oil transit chokepoint. After decades, the US and Israel launched a major attack on Iran, and Tehran's ability to disrupt the strait has rattled markets and choked trade. Oil prices have already spiked and are expected to remain high as conflict threatens supplies. More than 20 million barrels of crude, condensate and fuels passed through the strait daily last year. OPEC mem

- [\[Kim Seong-kon\] Jobs not to be replaced by AI](#) (2026-03-03 20:30)

According to the Oxford World Economic Forum's Jobs Report 2025, future jobs will heavily depend on AI. The report says, “technological literacy, particularly AI and big data, alongside cognitive skills like creative thinking, flexibility, and resilience, are critical” from now on. Consequently, there will be significant changes in the job market, as AI will take over many jobs, replacing human workers who do not cope well with radical changes. The report states, “Technology, AI, and automation

- [\[Tania Navarro\] Treating migration as investment](#) (2026-03-03 20:30)

In a country with a broken pension system that struggles to pay benefits to retirees, an injection of young laborers became crucial to increase tax revenue and keep the program afloat. It's not the first time this country has launched a program to legalize migrants; previous experiences have shown that subsidies and benefit programs are not overwhelmed with petitions when people are legalized. On the contrary, the nation gains new taxpayers and a more stable workforce. It's also proving that ope

- [Ex-Seoul councilor, lawmaker arrested for alleged bribery](#) (2026-03-03 16:30)

Former Seoul city councilor Kim Kyung and National Assembly Rep. Kang Sun-woo were arrested Tuesday, after a court issued arrest warrants for the two on bribery allegations. The prosecution asserts that Kim made an illegal transaction of 100 million won (\$68,000) to Kang, then a lawmaker with the now ruling Democratic Party of Korea, ahead of the 2022 local elections. This is believed to have been in exchange for Kang's support for Kim's nomination as the Democratic Party candidate for a Seoul C

- [\[단독\] 美 전쟁부 "주한미군 한반도 방위태세 유지"...중동 전개 여부는 "확인 불가"](#) (2026-03-03 15:20)

미국 전쟁부(옛 국방부)는 최근 이란을 둘러싼 긴장이 고조되는 가운데 주한미군(USFK) 자산의 중동 전개 가능성에 대해 구체적인 언급을 피하면서도 한반도 방어에 대한 확고한 의지를 재확인했다. 러셀 고든 미 전쟁부 인도·태평양 안보 담당 대변인(미 육군 중장)은 3일 코리아헤럴드의 이메일 질의에 대한 공식 입장으로 “작전 보안상의 이유로 특정 군사 능력이나 자산의 이동, 재배치 또는 잠재적 재배치에 대해서는 언급하지 않는다”고 밝혔다. 고든 대변인은 대신 “주한미군은 한반도에서 강력하고 준비된 전투태세를 유지하는 데 집중하고 있다”며 “미국은 대한민국 방위에 대한 확고한 공약을 유지하고 있다”고 강조했다. 이번 입장은 최근 이란 정세와 관련해 미국이 중동 지역

에서의 군사적 대응을 강화하는 과정에서 주한미군 전력 일부가 다시 활용될 수 있다는 관측이 제기된 가운데 나왔다. 지난해 3월 주한미군이 운용하던 패트리엇(Patriot) 미사일 포대 일부가 중동으로 순환 배치된 바 있다. 해

- [Pentagon declines comment on USFK shift to Middle East, reaffirms Korea focus](#) (2026-03-03 15:13)

The US Department of Defense on Tuesday declined to comment on speculations about potential repositioning of US Forces Korea assets, amid speculation that Washington may draw on its overseas assets for developments in the Middle East. “For operational security reasons, the Department does not comment on the movement, relocation or potential repositioning of specific military capabilities or assets,” US Army Lt. Gen. Russell Gordon, spokesperson for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs at the Office of

- [23 South Koreans evacuate from Iran to Turkmenistan](#) (2026-03-03 14:00)

Twenty-three South Koreans staying in Iran safely evacuated to Turkmenistan on Tuesday, the Foreign Ministry said, as Seoul steps up efforts to assist Korean nationals amid escalating tensions in the Middle East. According to the ministry, the evacuees departed Tehran on Monday morning aboard two buses chartered by the South Korean Embassy in Iran, heading east toward the Turkmenistan border. After staying overnight at a stopover location, they crossed the Iran–Turkmenistan border Tuesday evening

- [Park Bom alleges she was scapegoated in bandmate’s drug case](#) (2026-03-03 11:39)

Park Bom of K-pop group 2NE1 said Tuesday that she had been used as a scapegoat to cover up a fellow bandmate’s alleged drug scandal, sharing a handwritten letter on social media that quickly sparked controversy. However, a close associate told local media that the post appeared to stem from the singer’s unstable condition. In the note, Park said she suffers from attention deficit disorder, stressing her lack of illegal drug use. She then alleged that she had been falsely labeled a “drug addict”

- [Seoul, Manila broaden ties beyond defense to nuclear energy, critical minerals](#) (2026-03-03 11:39)

The respective leaders of South Korea and the Philippines agreed to step up cooperation in strategic sectors, including infrastructure and defense, while widening the partnership into emerging areas like nuclear energy and critical mineral supply chains. South Korea’s President Lee Jae Myung and Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. met for the summit at the Malacanang Palace in Manila on Tuesday, which marks the 77th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations on March 3, 1949.

- [Foreign sell-offs of S. Korean stocks hit record high in Feb.: data](#) (2026-03-03 11:18)

Foreign investors sold a record high amount of South Korean stocks in February amid woes over artificial intelligence and dimmed hopes for rate cuts by the Federal Reserve, data showed

Tuesday. According to the data from the Korea Center for International Finance (KCIF), foreigners sold a net 19.9 trillion won (US\$13.5 billion) worth of local stocks last month, the highest-ever monthly amount on record. They dumped a net 22.2 trillion won of shares in the country's top two chipmakers -- Samsung

- [Korean, Philippine leaders meet on 77th anniversary of diplomatic ties](#) (2026-03-03 10:56)

President Lee Jae Myung and Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. held a summit Tuesday to deepen cooperation in trade, infrastructure and defense, while widening the partnership into emerging areas that include shipbuilding. The summit at the Malacanang Palace in Manila on Tuesday carried added significance as it coincided with the 77th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations on March 3, 1949. Ten agreements and memorandums of understanding were signed or updated on the occ

- [Rookie group Tunexx launches 'Set By Us Only' with message of self-identity](#) (2026-03-03 09:07)

Rookie boy group Tunexx has officially stepped into the spotlight with its debut mini album "Set By Us Only," breaking away from fixed standards and moving with its own frequency. "Like our slogan 'Tune in to our frequency,' we want to grow by matching our wavelength with fans," member Donggyu said during a media showcase held at Yes24 Live Hall in Seoul on Tuesday. Fronting the mini album with a hip-hop-based sound, the main track "I'm Alive" delivers a bold message of self-definition and survi

- [Jung, Lee loyalists squabble over 'disappeared' handshake scene](#) (2026-03-03 09:00)

A ruling party flap has erupted over a handshake between its leader and President Lee Jae Myung, and its absence from government footage of Lee's departure for an overseas trip. What started the latest spat between a Lee supporter group and another group loyal to Democratic Party of Korea Chair Jung Chung-rae was a three-minute clip released this week on "Lee Imagine," a YouTube channel run by government media outlet KTV. The clip titled "A scene of President Lee's departure from Seoul Air Base,

- [Yoon's inauguration photo removed from Assembly](#) (2026-03-03 08:05)

A photo of former President Yoon Suk Yeol's 2022 inauguration ceremony has been removed from the National Assembly building, National Assembly Speaker Rep. Woo Won-shik's office said Tuesday. Woo said in his statement that he approved the decision to replace Yoon's photo in the basement of the National Assembly building with that of the incumbent President Lee Jae Myung. Yoon's photo on the basement floor of the National Assembly main building was previously part of the four-photo collage alongs

- [Seoul shares plummet over 7% on Middle East conflict fears; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-03 07:30)

South Korean stocks plunged more than 7 percent Tuesday to close below the 5,800-point mark as investor sentiment was dampened by escalating geopolitical concerns triggered by the ongoing Middle East conflict. The Korean won lost sharply against the US dollar. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index tumbled 452.22 points, or 7.24 percent, to close at 5,791.91, marking the lowest closing price since Feb. 20, when the index finished at 5,808.53. The country's main bourse operator, the Korea

- [Korean dance crew The Stories reflects on second Vibe win](#) (2026-03-03 07:27)

When The Stories were announced as the winner of the 2026 Vibe Dance Competition on Sunday in Costa Mesa, California, it marked the crew's second title on the prestigious stage. But for choreographer Calvin Kim, the moment was less about the trophy and more about something harder to measure. "I don't even know how to put this joy into words," Kim said in an interview with The Korea Herald on Tuesday. "To experience two victories on a stage I've dreamed of since I was young, representing Korea, s

- ['운이 아닌 무대의 힘'... VIBE 세계대회 두 번 우승한 한국 댄스팀 '더 스토리즈'](#) (2026-03-03 06:43)

“우선 이 기쁨을 어떻게 표현해야 할지 모르겠습니다. 어릴 적부터 꿈꿔왔던 무대에서 한국 대표로 두 번이나 우승을 경험했다는 게 아직도 현실 같지 않아요.” 미국 캘리포니아에서 지난 주말 열린 ‘2026 VIBE 댄스 경연 대회’ 에서 1위를 차지한 한국 댄스팀 더 스토리즈(The Stories)의 리더이자 안무가 김의정(활동명 칼빈 김)은 코리아헤럴드와의 인터뷰에서 벅찬 소감을 이렇게 전했다. 그는 “저희가 지나온 시간들이 스쳐 지나간다” 며 “몇 개월, 어쩌면 몇 년 동안 치열하게 달려왔고, 그 끝에서 큰 선물을 받았다는 생각이 든다” 고 말했다. 더 스토리즈는 이번 대회에서 15개 참가 팀 가운데 최고 점수인 99.3점(100점 만점)을 기록하며 우승 상금 5,000달러와 함께 챔피언 타이틀을 거머쥐었다. 최근 창단 10주년을 맞은 이 팀은 2024년에도 한국 팀 최초로 정상에 오른 바 있어, 이번 우승으로 다시 한 번 존재감을 입증했다. 김씨는 2024년과 2026년의 의미를 비교

- [How Blackpink weaves Korean heritage in 'Go'](#) (2026-03-03 06:37)

With the release of Blackpink's long-awaited EP "Deadline," attention has shifted not only to the group's new music, but also to traditional Korean cultural elements woven into the music video for lead track "Go." Viewers quickly began dissecting the video's visual motifs, noting that several aspects appeared to draw heavily from traditional Korean aesthetics. The music video for "Go" includes ornamental patterns such as the "sujamun" — a stylized rendering of the hanja character for "su" — that

- [Gimpo, a gateway city built for global living](#) (2026-03-03 06:31)

In Gimpo, a city defined by geography as much as ambition, a new global identity is taking shape. Flanked by rivers and canals, bordered by the Han River to the north and positioned directly across from North Korea, Gimpo has long occupied one of the most symbolic spaces on the peninsula. Today, it is leveraging that symbolism, along with rapid population growth, expanding transport links and rising international mobility, to reimagine itself as a global-facing

city built on livability, cultural

- [Is North Korean leader rattled by downfalls of Maduro and Khamenei?](#) (2026-03-03 06:22)

North Korea's sharply worded condemnation of recent US strikes on Iran has fueled debate over whether its leader Kim Jong-un feels unsettled by the dramatic downfalls of Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro and Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. And experts said the lesson for Kim may be less about fear than survival. Rather than pushing him toward talks with Washington, such events could reinforce his belief that only a credible nuclear deterrent guarantees regime security — a strate

- [Young architects-to-be challenge architecture in data-driven age](#) (2026-03-03 06:11)

As contemporary life is restructured by data-driven systems and algorithmic logic, the place of human perception and imagination within architecture grows increasingly uncertain. The exhibition “This Is Not Architecture: Somewhere, Nowhere” posed a question: “What should architecture dream of?” Architen, a nationwide network of architecture students, examined how human senses and imagination are being pushed aside in the technology-driven society. The exhibition unfolded at Boan1942, an art spac

- [\[Exclusive\] T.O.P to make solo comeback independently](#) (2026-03-03 06:10)

T.O.P is preparing for a long-awaited solo comeback, with plans to release a new album under his own label, Topspot Pictures, according to industry sources Tuesday. While the music will be issued through Topspot Pictures, an acting agency, Hiin Entertainment, is expected to oversee his promotional activities. “After discussions with several companies, including Sony Music, he decided to release the new album under his own label, Topspot,” a source told The Korea Herald on condition of anonymity.

- [Korea opens high-skilled visa pathway to tech professors](#) (2026-03-03 06:10)

The Ministry of Justice on Tuesday announced a set of immigration policy overhauls to be implemented by 2030, including expanded visa quotas for skilled workers and extended visas for “high-performing” seasonal migrant workers. The ministry said it had formulated the “2030 Immigration Policy Future Strategy” in response to falling birth rates and an aging population, as well as rapid changes in industrial and technological environments. “Immigration policy must be repositioned as a mid- to long-

- [KT shifts 6G focus from speed to AI, satellite integration](#) (2026-03-03 06:00)

KT used Mobile World Congress in Barcelona this week to make one point clear: It sees 6G less as a speed upgrade and more as a strategic reset built around AI and satellite-linked coverage. At a press briefing on Tuesday, the Korean telecom operator said it plans to design 6G as an “intelligent infrastructure” for the artificial intelligence era, focusing on network reliability, automation and wider geographic reach rather than headline download speeds. “6G goes beyond a new radio specification

- [Drone Command to acquire additional drones tied to Pyongyang operation under Yoon](#) (2026-03-03 06:00)

The Drone Operations Command is moving to introduce additional small reconnaissance drones — the same model reportedly used under the former Yoon Suk Yeol administration to fly over Pyongyang — according to a report submitted to a lawmaker Tuesday. The plan is drawing criticism as the model has faced persistent concerns over its specifications and what critics describe as insufficient efforts to address performance shortcomings. According to the report submitted to Rep. Boo Seung-chan of the rul

- [Chief Justice urges review of judicial reform bills ‘to the very end’](#) (2026-03-03 05:56)

Supreme Court Chief Justice Jo Hee-de on Tuesday expressed concern over the recent passage of three judicial reform bills, urging the National Assembly to “carefully consider until the very end” whether the legislation contains any provisions that could harm the public. Speaking to reporters outside the Supreme Court in Seoul, Jo said he “entirely respects the legislative activities of the National Assembly” and emphasized that the judiciary would fulfill its constitutional mission “under all ci

- [Korean firms evacuate, ships rerouted in Iran War](#) (2026-03-03 05:51)

As US-Israeli strikes on Iran raise fears of a broader regional conflict, South Korean companies are moving quickly to safeguard employees, relocating staff from high-risk areas and activating emergency protocols across the Middle East. Industry officials said Tuesday that Samsung Electronics, LG Electronics and Hyundai Motor Group have evacuated personnel from their Iranian and Israeli offices to nearby countries, including the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Jordan. Samsung relocated employees

- [The analyst who never sleeps: LG’ s AI scans 5,500 US stocks daily](#) (2026-03-03 05:50)

In a traditional equity research team, labor is divided. One analyst dissects corporate filings. Another tracks industry data. Others monitor macro indicators and breaking news. Their views are debated, refined and ultimately distilled into investment calls. But even the most sophisticated teams face hard limits. Coverage typically centers on large-cap stocks. Reports are produced weekly or monthly. Thousands of mid- and small-cap companies remain thinly analyzed. LG AI Research and London Stock

- [Kospi tumbles, sidecar triggered on Iran fears](#) (2026-03-03 05:44)

South Korea’ s benchmark Kospi tumbled in intraday trading Tuesday, triggering a temporary trading curb as escalating tensions in the Middle East rattled global markets. The Kospi opened at 6,165.15, down 1.26 percent from the previous session, marking the first trading day after US-Israeli strikes on Iran. While the index initially held above 6,000, losses accelerated through the session. As of 2 p.m., the index stood at 5,857.86, down 386.27 points, or 6.19 percent. At 12:05 p.m., authorities a

- [Toss Bank CEO eyes second term after profit turnaround](#) (2026-03-03 05:44)

Toss Bank CEO Lee Eun-mi is set to extend her leadership after the bank's executive nomination committee recommended her for reappointment. The online-only lender, operated by fintech unicorn Toss, said Tuesday that the committee had completed its review process and selected Lee as the sole candidate for chief executive. Since launching the succession process in January, the committee evaluated candidates capable of sustaining growth while ensuring organizational stability. At its final meeting

- [Cherry blossoms, tulips and canola fields: Where Koreans are traveling this spring](#) (2026-03-03 05:41)

Spring in South Korea is brief but spectacular — and this year, travelers are planning ahead. New accommodation search data from digital travel platform Agoda shows sharp spikes in interest around major spring flower festivals nationwide. Seoul recorded the highest increase in search growth, followed by Gurye, Gwangyang, Taean, Jeju Island and Yeosu — destinations where blossoms are paired with food markets, art programs and outdoor activities. Accommodation searches in Seoul rose 225 percent ab

- [Korea to offer discounts every Wednesday as 'Culture Day' goes weekly](#) (2026-03-03 05:38)

Starting April, South Korea will designate every Wednesday as “Culture Day,” expanding the long-running monthly program into a weekly initiative aimed at embedding cultural participation in everyday life. The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism said the revision to the enforcement decree of the Framework Act on Culture was approved at a Cabinet meeting Tuesday. After a preparatory period, the expanded program will take effect nationwide next month. Under the revised framework, public cultura

- [AWS deepens AI bet as Korea targets global G3 status](#) (2026-03-03 05:35)

Amazon Web Services Korea is accelerating infrastructure investment this year while expanding into the public sector and advancing agentic AI, aligning its strategy with the government's ambition to position South Korea among the world's top three in artificial intelligence. “We will do our utmost to provide greater convenience for customers in Korea and contribute to Korea's leap toward becoming one of the world's three leading AI nations, as proposed by President Lee Jae Myung,” AWS Korea coun

- [Eximbank Korea launches W40tr Middle East relief program](#) (2026-03-03 05:33)

Korea Export-Import Bank is providing support for Korean companies affected by conflict in the Middle East, including financial assistance and a dedicated response desk at its headquarters. The state-run lender said Tuesday it will activate a risk response program providing up to 40 trillion won (\$27.3 billion) in emergency liquidity for companies affected by the US and Israel-Iran war. The decision was made at a meeting Monday, where officials reviewed potential shock scenarios for the real econ

- [LX Pantos increases North American push at TPM26](#) (2026-03-03 05:33)

LX Pantos said Tuesday it is participating in the Trans-Pacific Maritime Conference 2026, one of the world's largest shipping and logistics forums, held March 2-4 in Long Beach, California. The annual conference gathers leading ocean carriers, logistics providers, shippers and port operators to discuss market conditions and global supply chain strategies. This year's event drew more than 1,100 companies worldwide. With volatility continuing across global logistics networks, discussions at TPM ar

- [Hyundai Mobis hosts global clients at Swedish winter test site](#) (2026-03-03 05:31)

Hyundai Mobis said Tuesday it is hosting a technology showcase for global clients at its winter testing ground in Sweden, highlighting next-generation automotive components currently under development and supply negotiations. The 10-day event, which began last weekend, is expected to draw 100 representatives from 10 European and North American customers. During the showcase, Hyundai Mobis is demonstrating new products currently under supply negotiations by integrating them into demo vehicles. Th

- [SK On to spotlight ESS, robotics tech at InterBattery 2026](#) (2026-03-03 05:22)

SK On said Tuesday it will participate in InterBattery 2026, the nation's largest battery exhibition, to be held March 11-13 at Coex in southern Seoul, showcasing next-generation technologies spanning energy storage systems, robotics and advanced cell design. The booth will be divided into three zones — Leading Tech, Future Tech and Core Tech — highlighting the company's expansion beyond electric vehicle batteries into broader energy solutions. The Leading Tech zone will feature an R&D studio, o

- [K-water showcases AI water tech at MWC 2026](#) (2026-03-03 05:21)

Korea Water Resources Corporation, or K-water, is participating in Mobile World Congress 2026, the world's largest mobile exhibition, held this week in Barcelona, showcasing its AI-driven water management technologies to a global audience. Aligned with this year's theme, "The IQ Era," K-water will present intelligent water management solutions that use data for autonomous decision-making and operational optimization, highlighting the outcomes of its AI transformation and ambitions for global exp

- [Education Ministry to expand early childcare subsidies to 4-year-olds](#) (2026-03-03 05:20)

The Ministry of Education said Tuesday that children aged 4 and 5 will be eligible to receive education and childcare subsidies starting in March 2026. The measure is part of the Lee Jae Myung administration's broader pledge to expand state support for early childhood care. The ministry began subsidizing parents of 5-year-olds in 2025 and plans to extend the benefit to 4-year-olds this year, with coverage for 3-year-olds slated for 2027. According to a survey conducted by Statistics Korea in Dec

- [Lotte Cinema to screen NCT Dream's world tour finale live](#) (2026-03-03 05:13)

Lotte Cinema will exclusively screen two performances from NCT Dream's ongoing world tour, the multiplex chain said Tuesday. Available at 18 Lotte Cinema locations nationwide, the screenings will cover the March 21 and 28 gigs of "The Dream Show 4: Future the Dream Finale," the closing leg of the group's fourth concert tour. Both take place at the KSPO Dome in Seoul's Olympic Park, as part of a six-show run spread across two weekends, March 20-22 and March 27-29. Tickets go on sale Wednesday at

- [Seoul puts overseas Koreans' safety first in the Middle East, readies evacuations](#) (2026-03-03 05:06)

Prime Minister Kim Min-seok on Tuesday ordered ministries to maintain full contingency readiness, including evacuation plans, emphasizing that protecting South Koreans in the Middle East is the government's top priority. Kim convened the weekly Cabinet meeting amid the Middle East conflict triggered by a joint US-Israel strike on Iran on Saturday and rapidly spreading across neighboring countries, with Iran's counterattacks widening. "Right now, protecting overseas nationals is the top priority

- [Business lobbies urge swift passage of US investment bill](#) (2026-03-03 05:05)

South Korea's leading business groups on Tuesday urged the National Assembly to swiftly pass a special bill to implement Korea's \$350 billion investment pledge to the US, warning that delayed legislation could weaken Seoul's leverage in trade talks and heighten tariff risks. In a joint statement, six major business lobbies — the Federation of Korean Industries, the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Korea International Trade Association, the Korea Enterprises Federation, the Korea Fede

- [Look up at the skies tonight for a 'blood moon'](#) (2026-03-03 04:44)

Skies over South Korea, along with those across Australia, the Pacific Islands, Asia and the Americas, will glow a deep reddish-orange on Tuesday during a total lunar eclipse coinciding with Jeongwol Daeboreum, the traditional Korean holiday celebrating the first full moon of the lunar year, which this year falls on March 3. Known as a "blood moon," the phenomenon occurs when Earth passes directly between the sun and the moon, casting a shadow on the moon's surface and causing it to appear crims

- [How humanoid robots are rewriting Hyundai–Toyota rivalry](#) (2026-03-03 04:38)

With the humanoid robotics boom accelerating, Hyundai Motor Group and Toyota — longtime Asian rivals in the global auto industry — are emerging as striking contrasts in how they view robots as the next engine of growth. For years, Hyundai traded at a valuation discount to Toyota, widely seen as the more technologically advanced and globally dominant automaker. Now, that perception is shifting. As robotics moves from concept to commercialization, investors are reassessing Hyundai's growth traject

- [Ive's prerelease sits atop all K-charts despite lagging album sales](#) (2026-03-03 04:06)

Ive has dominated all music charts at home for two weeks in a row with “Bang Bang,” its agency Starship Entertainment said Tuesday. The single, dropped last month ahead of the release of Ive's second LP “Revive+,” swept all charts in Korea, a first for a song released this year, and is maintaining the top spot for another week. The electronic dance tune has earned the six-member group four trophies from music chart shows. The 12-track set, however, did not meet sales expectations. It sold less t

- [Clinton says had no knowledge of Epstein crimes](#) (2026-03-03 03:49)

WASHINGTON (AFP) -- Former US president Bill Clinton said in sworn testimony released Monday by a US congressional committee that he had no knowledge of the sex crimes of the late financier Jeffrey Epstein. Clinton also said President Donald Trump, a one-time close friend of Epstein, "never said anything to me to make me think he was involved in anything improper with regard to Epstein either." Bill Clinton and his wife, former secretary of state Hillary Clinton, were deposed by the Republican-l

- [Iranian-Americans fear for relatives in homeland](#) (2026-03-03 03:46)

Many in the Iranian-American diaspora spent the weekend glued to their televisions, watching news of US and Israeli bombs falling on Iran, some clinging to hopes of a brighter future for their motherland but terrified their relatives might suffer from the collateral damage of war. Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who for decades ruled the country while violently crushing dissent, was killed early in the attack. In the US, many celebrated, some taking to the streets to cheer the toppling of the man they c

- [Lebanon' s leaders turn on Hezbollah as airstrikes hit Beirut and thousands seek shelter](#) (2026-03-03 03:42)

BEIRUT (AP) — The Israeli military on Tuesday struck a building housing Hezbollah-aligned Al-Manar channel studios in Beirut' s southern suburbs following an evacuation warning, the channel said. In a statement, the Israeli military said it targeted “Hezbollah command centers and weapons storage facilities in Beirut.” Following the strike, plumes of smoke were seen billowing over the skyline. No immediate details on casualties were available. Al-Manar' s headquarters and transmission facilities in

- ['KPop Demon Hunters' won a PGA Award. Is an Oscar next?](#) (2026-03-03 03:29)

Netflix's animated sensation "KPop Demon Hunters" won the Producers Guild of America Award for best animated feature on Saturday night in Los Angeles, the latest in a virtually unbroken string of wins that has all but cemented its status as an overwhelming favorite for the Oscars. Producer Michelle Wong took home the prize at the ceremony held at the Fairmont Century Plaza, beating out "The Bad Guys 2," "Demon Slayer: Infinity Castle," "Elio" and "Zootopia 2." The PGA ceremony also handed its to

- [BTS concert prompts closure of Gyeongbokgung, museums and theaters](#) (2026-03-03 03:05)

Less than three weeks before BTS takes the stage at Gwanghwamun Square on March 21, the city is preparing for large crowds, with authorities announcing safety measures and temporary closures of nearby historic sites and cultural venues. The Korea Heritage Service said Gyeongbokgung, the main royal palace of Joseon (1392-1910) in Gwanghwamun, will be closed, with its parking lot shuttered and public access restricted. Officials said an emergency task force for palaces would be activated to conduct

- [Six lives saved by 16-year-old organ donor](#) (2026-03-03 02:59)

South Korea's organ donation agency said Tuesday that the organs donated posthumously by a middle school student have been transplanted to help six people. The heart, liver, lung, kidney and both eyes of Park Chae-yeon were donated with the consent of her family, according to the Korea Organ Donation Agency. Park was declared brain dead on Dec. 16 at Ajou University Hospital after suffering severe injuries in a car accident two days earlier. The family said it was their wish that parts of their

- [Unis to host fan meetup in Japan](#) (2026-03-03 02:49)

Girl group Unis will meet and greet fans in Japan later this month at a fan meeting in Tokyo, agency F&F Entertainment announced Tuesday. The multinational group of eight will be returning to the Japanese capital about nine months after its Asian fan concert tour. Under the title “Moshi Moshi This is Unis!” the octet will take the stage twice on March 29. The event is named after the digital single it dropped in the country last year between the releases of “Shaking My Head” and “Mwah...” The Tok

- [Ukraine's military makes gains in Zaporizhzhia](#) (2026-03-03 02:29)

Ukrainian troops have retaken nine settlements in the Zaporizhzhia region since the end of January and are pressing ahead with a counterattack along the southeastern front line, the Ukrainian general staff said on Monday. Commander-in-Chief Oleksandr Syrskyi said that over the last month, for the first time since summer 2024, Ukrainian troops have regained control over more territory than Russian forces had been able to capture. Reports of Ukrainian advances in the Zaporizhzhia region started

- [France to boost nuclear arsenal](#) (2026-03-03 02:28)

President Emmanuel Macron said Monday that France will expand its atomic arsenal and could deploy nuclear-armed aircraft to allied countries for the first time, as he unveiled an unprecedented plan to bolster security on the continent. Speaking from the Ile Longue nuclear submarine base as the clock ticks on his presidency, Macron announced that eight European countries including Germany, Poland, Sweden and Britain had agreed to participate in what he called a "forward" nuclear deterrence scheme

- [BoA sets up own agency](#) (2026-03-03 02:20)

BoA established her own management company, BApal Entertainment, the agency said Tuesday. “BoA went for a new structure to better realize her musical direction,” added the newly established company. BoA parted ways with SM Entertainment in December after 25 years. She debuted in 2000 at the age of 14 and led the first wave of Korean culture across Asia, paving the way for K-pop artists abroad. She was a breakout hit in Japan in particular and has two million-selling albums tallied by the Oricon

- [Melania Trump presides at UN Security Council meeting on children in conflict as US attacks Iran](#) (2026-03-03 02:16)

UNITED NATIONS (AP) -- US first lady Melania Trump presided over a UN Security Council meeting on Monday focusing on children in conflict, one of her signature issues, and acknowledged she was doing so in "challenging times" as the United States has joined Israel in attacking Iran. "The US stands with all of the children throughout the world," she said, speaking generally and not specifically about the new war in the Middle East. "I hope soon peace will be yours." Hanging over Monday's meeting w

- [Global brands shut Middle East stores as conflict causes chaos](#) (2026-03-03 02:04)

PARIS (Reuters) -- In Dubai and other major Middle Eastern shopping hubs, many stores are closed or operating with a skeleton staff as the escalating conflict in the region causes chaos for businesses and travel. The US-Israeli air war against Iran expanded Monday with no end in sight, with Tehran firing missiles and drones at Gulf states as it retaliates for a weekend of bombing that killed Iran's supreme leader and reportedly killed scores of Iranian civilians, including a strike on a girls'

- [Trump awards the Medal of Honor to 3 US soldiers in a White House ceremony](#) (2026-03-03 01:49)

WASHINGTON (AP) -- President Donald Trump awarded the Medal of Honor to three US Army soldiers at the White House on Monday, celebrating heroes of old wars as he defended his launch of a new one. Retired Command Sgt. Maj. Terry P. Richardson was recognized for actions during the Vietnam War that were credited with saving the lives of 85 other service members. Staff Sgt. Michael H. Ollis, who was killed in action in Afghanistan in 2013, was recognized for saving a Polish Army officer's life. Mast

- [Govt. to secure oil supplies from outside Middle East amid possible closure of Hormuz strait](#) (2026-03-03 01:44)

The government said Tuesday it will push for securing oil supplies from outside the Middle East in response to the possible closure of the Strait of Hormuz amid ongoing US and Israeli strikes on Iran, while stressing that South Korea has sufficient oil reserves. The Ministry of Economy and Finance held an emergency response meeting on the Iran conflict with related ministries to assess the impact of the situation on South Korea and discuss a response strategy. The ministry

said no safety issues

- [Itzy's Yuna to roll out 1st solo album](#) (2026-03-03 01:35)

Yuna of Itzy will release her first solo EP “Ice Cream” on March 23, her label JYP Entertainment announced Monday. In the teaser video for the upcoming endeavor, Yuna showed her range, transforming from pure and innocent to hip and chic, before taking over the screen in a white dress. Yuna is the youngest member of Itzy and will be the second to release a solo album. The physical album in the US will hit the stores on March 27, along with a remix version of the main track. Separately, Itzy will

- [BOK reviews responses to market volatility stemming from Iran situation](#) (2026-03-03 01:21)

The Bank of Korea held a special task force meeting Tuesday to assess the impact of an ongoing Middle East conflict on financial markets and discuss response measures against possible market volatility. During the meeting presided over by BOK Gov. Rhee Chang-yong, officials discussed the impact of the joint attack by the United States and Israel on Iran over the weekend on domestic and global markets and the economy, with a focus on response plans under various scenarios, according to the centra

- ['The King's Warden' tops 9m views](#) (2026-03-03 01:14)

The historical film "The King's Warden" has surpassed 9 million cumulative admissions at the domestic box office and is on course for the 10-million milestone, official data showed Tuesday. The film hit the mark Monday, drawing a total of 9,213,408 viewers since its release Feb. 4, according to the box-office tally from the Korean Film Council. Nearly 820,000 moviegoers watched the film Sunday alone, the second day of a three-day extended holiday weekend marking the March 1 Independence Movement

- [PM says top priority on S. Koreans' safety amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-03 01:09)

Prime Minister Kim Min-seok said Tuesday the government is responding all-out to the Middle East crisis with top priority on South Koreans' safety. Kim made the remark during a Cabinet meeting, as the US-Israeli airstrikes on Iran over the weekend prompted military responses from countries across the region. "The situation in the Middle East is very fluid," the prime minister said, noting that President Lee Jae Myung was away on state visits to Singapore and the Philippines. "The government is r

- [Lee heads to Manila for summit with Marcos after Singapore visit](#) (2026-03-03 01:01)

President Lee Jae Myung departed for Manila to hold summit talks with Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. on Tuesday to discuss bilateral ties, wrapping up his three-day state visit to Singapore. It will mark Lee's second summit with Marcos following their first meeting on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in late October. The two leaders are expected to explore ways to deepen cooperation in the defense industry, infrastructure and

trade, as well as in promising

- [S. Korean stocks open 1.26% lower in 1st session following US air strikes on Iran](#) (2026-03-03 00:36)

South Korean stocks started sharply lower Tuesday amid subdued investor sentiment over ongoing US and Israeli air strikes on Iran. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index lost 78.98 points, or 1.26 percent, to 6,165.15 at the opening at 9 a.m. in the first trading session following the US-led attacks on Iran. The index further extended its losses to 6,100.61 at 9:13 a.m. The United States and Israel conducted coordinated attacks on Iran over the weekend and killed Tehran's Supreme Leader

Source: Yonhap

- [U.S. moving parts of THAAD anti-missile system from S. Korea to Middle East: report](#) (2026-03-10 05:58)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The United States has been moving parts of its Termi...

- [Train service between Beijing, Pyongyang to resume this week for 1st time in 6 yrs](#) (2026-03-10 05:43)

SEOUL/BEIJING, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Train service linking Pyongyang and Beijing ...

- [\(LEAD\) Antitrust watchdog fines Mercedes-Benz 11.2 bln won over misleading EV battery info](#) (2026-03-10 05:07)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's antitrust regulator on Tuesday imposed...

- [BTS expands Gwanghwamun concert capacity to 22,000 with added standing zones](#) (2026-03-10 05:01)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- K-pop juggernaut BTS will perform before some 22,000...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-10 05:00)

March 11

- [Antitrust watchdog fines Mercedes-Benz 11.2 bln won over misleading EV battery info](#) (2026-03-10 04:56)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's antitrust regulator on Tuesday imposed...

- [PM likely to visit New York this week for talks on U.N. hub](#) (2026-03-10 04:45)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok is likely to visit New Y...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-10 04:44)

The following is the first summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency ...

- [DP, gov't mull buying over 6 mln barrels of crude oil from foreign refiners in S. Korea](#) (2026-03-10 03:46)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The ruling Democratic Party (DP) and the government ...

- [Number of foreign residents in S. Korea nears 1.7 mln in 2025](#) (2026-03-10 03:00)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The number of foreign nationals residing in South Ko...

- [Customs agency launches inspection into illegal distribution of fuel products](#) (2026-03-10 03:00)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Tax authorities launched Tuesday an intensive inspec...

- [Ex-President Yoon refuses to attend hearing on 2022 Itaewon disaster](#) (2026-03-10 02:49)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Former President Yoon Suk Yeol on Tuesday refused to...

- [S. Korea providing supplies to its stranded vessel in Strait of Hormuz: official](#) (2026-03-10 02:47)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is in the process of providing supplies ...

- [Lee says need for extra budget to support small business owners, firms amid Mideast crisis](#) (2026-03-10 02:46)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Tuesday that it is time...

- [Assembly speaker urges rival parties to form special committee on constitutional revision](#) (2026-03-10 02:44)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- National Assembly Speaker Woo Won-shik on Tuesday ca...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee says possible shift of USFK's military assets won't affect deterrence against N. Korea](#) (2026-03-10 02:41)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Tuesday that a potentia...

- [Seoul shares extend gains late Tues. morning as crude price stabilizes](#) (2026-03-10 02:38)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks continued to trade higher late T...

- [S. Korean troops in Lebanon report strikes near military base amid Middle East conflict](#) (2026-03-10 02:20)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korean troops dispatched to Lebanon for peacek...

- [\(2nd LD\) N. Korean leader's sister warns of 'terrible consequences' amid S. Korea-U.S. military drills](#) (2026-03-10 02:19)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong-...

- [Lee says possible shift of USFK's military assets won't affect deterrence against N. Korea](#) (2026-03-10 02:08)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Tuesday that a potentia...

- [KOTRA pledges support for 80 service firms with high export prospects](#) (2026-03-10 02:00)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA) ...

- [S. Korea's per capita income edges up 0.3 pct to stay in US\\$36,000 range amid weak won](#) (2026-03-10 01:32)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's per capita income edged up 0.3 percent...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee says possible shift of USFK's military assets won't affect deterrence against N. Korea](#) (2026-03-10 01:27)

(END)

- [BTS to launch 'Arirang' pop-ups to mark new album release](#) (2026-03-10 01:26)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- K-pop supergroup BTS will open special pop-up stores...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee says difficult to fully oppose possible shift of USFK's military assets](#) (2026-03-10 01:24)

(END)

- [N. Korea rallies voters ahead of next week's parliamentary elections](#) (2026-03-10 01:24)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- North Korea on Tuesday urged voter participation ahe...

- [\(LEAD\) N. Korean leader's sister warns of 'terrible consequences' amid S. Korea-U.S. military drills](#) (2026-03-10 01:09)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong-...

- [SK hynix develops advanced LPDDR6 for mobile devices with AI features](#) (2026-03-10 00:59)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- SK hynix Inc. said Tuesday it has developed an advan...

- [Top U.S. diplomat for East Asia to pay tribute to memorial honoring USFK soldiers this week](#) (2026-03-10 00:38)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The top U.S. diplomat for East Asia policy will pay ...

- [Korean won rebounds sharply after dropping to 17-yr low amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-10 00:33)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean currency gained sharply against the...

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korean economy grows 1 pct in 2025; Q4 GDP contracts 0.2 pct: BOK](#) (2026-03-10 00:31)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean economy expanded 1 percent in 2025 ...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares open nearly 5 pct higher as Trump hints Iran war nearing end](#) (2026-03-10 00:28)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started sharply higher Tuesday, ...

- [\(News Focus\) Pro-labor 'yellow envelope act' takes effect amid continued resistance](#) (2026-03-10 00:25)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- A revised labor law aimed at broadening workers' bar...

- [N. Korean leader's sister warns of 'terrible consequences' amid S. Korea-U.S. military drills](#) (2026-03-10 00:24)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong...

- [\(URGENT\) N. Korean leader's sister warns S. Korea-U.S. military drills could result in 'terrible consequences'](#) (2026-03-10 00:10)

(END)

- [\(URGENT\) KRX issues buy-side sidecar for KOSPI on sharp hike](#) (2026-03-10 00:08)

(END)

- [Seoul shares open over 5 pct higher as Trump hints Iran war nearing end](#) (2026-03-10 00:03)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started sharply higher Tuesday, ...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul shares open 5.17 pct higher as Trump hints Iran war nearing end](#) (2026-03-10 00:02)

(END)

- [S. Korean economy grows 1 pct in 2025; Q4 GDP contracts 0.2 pct: BOK](#) (2026-03-09 23:11)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean economy expanded 1 percent in 2025 ...

- [N. Korea to hold congress of largest youth organization next month](#) (2026-03-09 23:07)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- North Korea will hold a congress of the country's la...

- [\(URGENT\) S. Korea's GDP grows 1 pct in 2025, matching earlier estimate: BOK](#) (2026-03-09 23:00)

(END)

- [\(URGENT\) BOK revises Q4 GDP growth estimate up to 0.2 pct contraction](#) (2026-03-09 23:00)

(END)

- [\(WBC\) Captain clutch: Lee Jung-hoo delivers big hit, key catch to send S. Korea to quarterfinals](#) (2026-03-09 22:29)

TOKYO, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Before South Korea played a win-or-go-home game agai...

- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on March 10\)](#) (2026-03-09 21:59)

Concerns over a prolonged war in the Middle East are spreading into what economi...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on March 10\)](#) (2026-03-09 21:58)

Freedom Shield, the annual 10-day joint military exercise between South Korea an...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on March 10\)](#) (2026-03-09 21:58)

The revised Trade Union and Labor Relations Act, more commonly known as the "Yel...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-03-09 21:58)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South K...

- [N. Korea's Kim reaffirms relations with China in letter with Xi Jinping: KCNA](#) (2026-03-09 21:49)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un reaffirmed his count...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) Much-maligned S. Korean pitchers come through in high-stakes game](#) (2026-03-09 14:59)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- With the team's fate hanging in the balance, South Ko...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) Bats wake up just in time for S. Korea](#) (2026-03-09 14:49)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean bats that had been dormant the previ...

- [\(WBC\) Emotional S. Korea manager calls win over Australia 'game of my life'](#) (2026-03-09 14:36)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Reduced to tears of joy after South Korea clinched a ...

- [\(2nd LD\) \(WBC\) Going to Miami: S. Korea beats Australia to reach quarterfinals](#) (2026-03-09 14:21)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korea defeated Australia 7-2 on Monday to advan...

- [\(WBC\) Much-maligned S. Korean pitchers come through in high-stakes game](#) (2026-03-09 14:20)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- With the team's fate hanging in the balance, South Ko...

- [\(WBC\) Bats wake up just in time for S. Korea](#) (2026-03-09 14:06)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean bats that had been dormant the previ...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) Going to Miami: S. Korea beats Australia to reach quarterfinals](#) (2026-03-09 14:03)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korea defeated Australia 7-2 on Monday to advan...

- [\(WBC\) Going to Miami: S. Korea beats Australia to reach quarterfinals](#) (2026-03-09 13:14)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korea defeated Australia 7-2 on Monday to advan...

- [FM Cho vows transparency on nuclear submarine project in talks with IAEA chief](#) (2026-03-09 13:13)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Foreign Minister Cho Hyun on Monday spoke by phone wi...

- [\(LEAD\) Top diplomats of S. Korea, Qatar discuss evacuations, energy supply amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-09 12:37)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Foreign Minister Cho Hyun held a phone call with his ...

- [Top diplomats of S. Korea, Qatar discuss evacuations, energy supply amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-09 12:04)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Foreign Minister Cho Hyun held a phone call with his ...

- [N. Korea cancels int'l marathon due to some reasons: tour agency](#) (2026-03-09 10:44)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- North Korea has decided to cancel the 2026 Pyongyang ...

- [PPP adopts resolution opposing ex-President Yoon's political comeback](#) (2026-03-09 10:41)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The main opposition People Power Party on Monday apol...

- [Top presidential aide voices hope 'yellow envelope act' to promote labor-management dialogue](#) (2026-03-09 08:31)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung's chief of staff said Monday ...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-09 08:01)

The following is the second summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency...

- [\(LEAD\) Gov't to take steps to implement fuel price cap this week as Mideast crisis intensifies](#) (2026-03-09 07:56)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The government plans to take steps to implement a cap...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea leadoff Kim Do-yeong ready to flush losses, focus on task at hand](#) (2026-03-09 07:46)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean star Kim Do-yeong said Monday he and his...

- [Around 300 S. Koreans to return home aboard Qatari flight amid Middle East conflict](#) (2026-03-09 07:45)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- A special flight carrying around 300 South Korean nat...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager wants players to see must-win game as 'opportunity'](#) (2026-03-09 07:37)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korea manager Ryu Ji-hyun said Monday he wants ...

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul shares sink nearly 6 pct amid Iran crisis, crude price hike; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-09 07:36)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks fell nearly 6 percent Monday, wit...

- [U.S. investment bill expected to pass Nat'l Assembly this week](#) (2026-03-09 07:18)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The National Assembly is expected to pass a special b...

- [Top U.S. diplomat for East Asia to visit S. Korea this week](#) (2026-03-09 07:17)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The top U.S. diplomat for East Asia policy will visit...

- [\(2nd LD\) Companies on alert over global oil price surge amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-09 07:11)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean companies are seeking responsive measure...

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korean currency slumps to 17-yr low against U.S. dollar amid Iran crisis](#) (2026-03-09 07:00)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won fell to a 17-year low against th...

- [8th Army participates in Freedom Shield exercise to enhance readiness posture](#) (2026-03-09 06:57)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The U.S. Army based in South Korea began taking part ...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares sink nearly 6 pct amid Iran crisis, crude price hike; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-09 06:53)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks fell nearly 6 percent Monday, wit...

- [Industry ministry to form team to manage envisioned U.S. investment projects under trade deal](#) (2026-03-09 06:51)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The industry ministry said Monday it will create a te...

- [Seoul shares sink nearly 6 pct amid Iran crisis, crude price hike; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-09 06:38)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks fell nearly 6 percent Monday, wit...

- [Prosecutors release identity of suspect accused of murdering two with laced drinks](#) (2026-03-09 06:37)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Prosecutors on Monday released the identity and mug s...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul shares end nearly 6 pct lower amid Iran crisis, crude price hike; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-09 06:36)

(END)

- [KRX experiences trading disruption amid sharp market drop](#) (2026-03-09 06:27)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Stock trades were briefly disrupted at the country's ...

- [Ruling party vows to pass tax bill this month to help stabilize foreign exchange market](#) (2026-03-09 06:19)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The ruling Democratic Party (DP) said Monday it plans...

- [Defense ministry aims to excavate some 200 remains from Korean War this year](#) (2026-03-09 06:03)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The defense ministry said Monday it aims to locate so...

- [Families of Jeju Air crash victims protest discovery of additional remains](#) (2026-03-09 05:59)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The bereaved families of the victims of the Jeju Air ...

- [No disruptions in essential goods supply to S. Korean vessels in Persian Gulf: ministry](#) (2026-03-09 05:52)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean vessels tied up in the Persian Gulf have...

- [Spy agency says providing real-time battle info to Korean firms in Middle East](#) (2026-03-09 05:52)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The national spy agency is providing real-time inform...

- [FSS holds emergency meeting amid oil price hike, won's depreciation](#) (2026-03-09 05:48)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The Financial Supervisory Service (FSS) held an emerg...

- [Police probing suspected use of ticket-buying bots for BTS comeback show](#) (2026-03-09 05:19)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Police have begun investigating suspected use of bots...

- [PM to attend Boao Forum in China this month](#) (2026-03-09 05:19)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok plans to attend the Boao ...

- [\(LEAD\) Companies seek measures as global oil prices surge amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-09 05:12)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean companies are seeking responsive measure...

- [Ejae named most-streamed K-pop artist in U.S. in 2025](#) (2026-03-09 05:09)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Korean American singer-songwriter Ejae, who performed...

- [\(LEAD\) N. Korea's Kim attends concert marking Int'l Women's Day with wife, daughter](#) (2026-03-09 05:06)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un attended a concert ma...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-09 05:00)

March 10

- [S. Korea, Switzerland agree to extend currency swap deal for 5 yrs](#) (2026-03-09 05:00)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and Switzerland have agreed to extend the...

- [Corporate lending expansion slows in Q4: BOK](#) (2026-03-09 04:43)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Loans extended to companies in South Korea grew at a ...

- [Crime action film 'The Ultimate Duo' finally opens after years of delay](#) (2026-03-09 04:33)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The crime action film "The Ultimate Duo" finally sees...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-09 04:30)

The following is the first summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency ...

- [Lee says to swiftly introduce fuel price cap as Mideast crisis intensifies](#) (2026-03-09 03:04)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Monday called for authorit...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee says to swiftly introduce fuel price cap, explore ways to diversify sources of energy imports](#) (2026-03-09 02:42)

(END)

- [Gov't to refer Nonghyup chief to police over alleged embezzlement, bribery](#) (2026-03-09 02:38)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The government said Monday it plans to refer the chai...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee calls for preemptive responses with worst-case scenarios in mind as Mideast crisis intensifies](#) (2026-03-09 02:38)

(END)

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul shares down 8 pct late Mon. morning following trading suspension amid market slide](#) (2026-03-09 02:33)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks plummeted around 8 percent late M...

- [KOFIA chief to attend int'l securities body gathering in India](#) (2026-03-09 02:27)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The chief of the Korea Financial Investment Associati...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares down 8 pct late Mon. morning following trading suspension amid market slide](#) (2026-03-09 02:15)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks plummeted over 8 percent late Mon...

- [Former head of Seongdong district declares bid for Seoul mayor](#) (2026-03-09 02:00)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- A former chief of the Seongdong district in Seoul, Ch...

- [KRX eyes overseas partnerships to expand Korean derivative product trading](#) (2026-03-09 01:57)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The Korea Exchange (KRX), South Korea's main bourse o...

- [KRX issues circuit breaker on KOSPI trading over market volatility](#) (2026-03-09 01:50)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The Korea Exchange (KRX) issued a circuit breaker on ...

- [\(URGENT\) KRX activates circuit breaker on KOSPI, halting trading for 20 minutes amid market slide](#) (2026-03-09 01:37)

(END)

- [Lee to send special envoy to congratulate Chilean president on inauguration](#) (2026-03-09 01:33)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung will dispatch Rep. Chung Il-y...

- [S. Korea, U.S. kick off annual key springtime military exercise](#) (2026-03-09 01:29)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and the United States kicked off a key an...

- [Gov't to crack down on illegal foreign delivery riders](#) (2026-03-09 01:14)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The government will initiate an intensive crackdown o...

- [Korean won sharply depreciates against greenback over Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-09 01:09)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won depreciated sharply against the ...

- [Lee thanks Turkmenistan, Singapore for helping evacuate S. Koreans from Middle East](#) (2026-03-09 01:04)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung has sent letters of appreciat...

- [S. Korea, S&P; to begin annual credit evaluation consultations this week](#) (2026-03-09 01:00)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will begin its annual consultation meetin...

- [Lee's approval rating rebounds to 58.2 pct: poll](#) (2026-03-09 00:34)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung's approval rating rebounded l...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares plunge nearly 6 pct; KRX issues sidecar; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-09 00:28)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks opened nearly 6 percent lower Mon...

- [\(URGENT\) KRX issues sell-side sidecar for KOSPI on sharp plunge](#) (2026-03-09 00:10)

(END)

- [203 S. Koreans return from Abu Dhabi aboard chartered flight](#) (2026-03-09 00:09)

YEONGJONGDO, South Korea, March 9 (Yonhap) -- More than 200 South Korean nationa...

- [Lee urges caution over reform measures to minimize side effects](#) (2026-03-09 00:07)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Monday urged caution in pu...

- [Seoul shares open sharply lower on market volatility over Iran; crude oil prices surge](#) (2026-03-09 00:06)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started sharply lower Monday amid...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea faced with number-crunching situation vs. Australia](#) (2026-03-09 00:04)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Having dropped two straight games after an opening wi...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul shares open 5.72 pct lower on market volatility over Iran; crude price surge](#) (2026-03-09 00:02)

(END)

- [Gov't urges oil refiners to refrain from excessive price hikes amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-08 23:55)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan on Monday called on m...

- [Samsung SDI to unveil all-solid-state battery prototype for physical AI](#) (2026-03-08 23:46)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Samsung SDI Co. said Monday it plans to showcase a sa...

- [BLACKPINK's 'Deadline' debuts at No. 8 on Billboard 200](#) (2026-03-08 23:44)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The latest album from girl group BLACKPINK has landed...

- [LIV Golf to return to S. Korea with tournament in Busan](#) (2026-03-08 23:30)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Saudi Arabia-backed LIV Golf announced Monday it will...

- [N. Korea's Kim attends concert marking Int'l Women's Day with wife, daughter](#) (2026-03-08 22:26)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un attended a concert ma...

- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on March 9\)](#) (2026-03-08 21:51)

As the war between the United States and Israel against Iran spreads across the ...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on March 9\)](#) (2026-03-08 21:51)

Recent developments surrounding the possible redeployment of U.S. Forces Korea (...)

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on March 9\)](#) (2026-03-08 21:51)

On Thursday, South Korea's stock market staged a dramatic rebound, a day after a...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-03-08 21:51)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Ko...

- [Lee congratulates Kim Yun-ji on winning gold at Winter Paralympics](#) (2026-03-08 13:36)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Sunday congratulated para ...

- [\(WBC\) Australia to start KBO pitcher Wells in crucial game vs. S. Korea](#) (2026-03-08 13:34)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korean hitters will be up against a familiar fa...

- [Kim Yun-ji becomes 1st S. Korean female to win Winter Paralympic gold](#) (2026-03-08 13:18)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Kim Yun-ji became the first South Korean woman to win...

- [\(WBC\) Japan holds off Australia as S. Korea stays alive](#) (2026-03-08 12:57)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Japan rallied past Australia 4-3 for its third consec...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul mayor not apply for PPP's candidacy for June local elections](#) (2026-03-08 12:43)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon on Sunday did not apply for th...

- [\(LEAD\) Chartered plane departs from UAE to bring home 203 S. Koreans: ministry](#) (2026-03-08 12:18)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- A chartered plane departed from the United Arab Emira...

- [Latest LPGA winner from S. Korea 'proud' of herself for overcoming adversity](#) (2026-03-08 12:14)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- For the first time in nearly nine years, South Korean...

- [\(LEAD\) U.S. not likely to hike tariffs if special investment bill passed in parliament: industry minister](#) (2026-03-08 12:01)

YEONGJONGDO, South Korea, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan sa...

- [U.S. not likely to hike tariffs if special investment bill passed in parliament: industry minister](#) (2026-03-08 10:50)

YEONGJONGDO, South Korea, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan sa...

- [Seoul mayor not apply for PPP's candidacy for June local elections](#) (2026-03-08 10:18)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon on Sunday did not apply for th...

- [Chartered plane departs from UAE to bring home 203 S. Koreans: ministry](#) (2026-03-08 09:49)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- A chartered plane departed from the United Arab Emira...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee Mi-hyang captures 3rd career LPGA title in China](#) (2026-03-08 09:35)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Lee Mi-hyang has claimed her third career LPGA title ...

- [Lee Mi-hyang captures 3rd career LPGA title in China](#) (2026-03-08 09:02)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Lee Mi-hyang has claimed her third career LPGA title ...

- [\(2nd LD\) \(WBC\) S. Korea falls to Chinese Taipei in extra innings](#) (2026-03-08 07:28)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korea lost to Chinese Taipei 5-4 in extra innin...

- [\(WBC\) Left-hander Son Ju-young to start win-or-go-home game vs. Australia](#) (2026-03-08 07:23)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Left-hander Son Ju-young's first World Baseball Class...

- [Women's rights advocates rally in Seoul on International Women's Day](#) (2026-03-08 07:17)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Advocates for women's rights held a rally in downtown...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager clinging to fading hope](#) (2026-03-08 07:13)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korea manager Ryu Ji-hyun clung to fading hope ...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korean bats silenced in loss to Chinese Taipei](#) (2026-03-08 07:00)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Save for one player's heroics, South Korean bats were...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korean pitching undone by home runs](#) (2026-03-08 06:57)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korean pitchers surrendered three home runs in ...

- [Lee to preside over emergency economic meeting on Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-08 06:44)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung will preside over an emergenc...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean bats silenced in loss to Chinese Taipei](#) (2026-03-08 06:42)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Save for one player's heroics, South Korean bats were...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean pitching undone by home runs](#) (2026-03-08 06:29)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korean pitchers surrendered three home runs in ...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korea falls to Chinese Taipei in extra innings](#) (2026-03-08 06:27)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korea lost to Chinese Taipei 5-4 in extra innin...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea falls to Chinese Taipei in extra innings](#) (2026-03-08 06:15)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korea lost to Chinese Taipei 5-4 in extra innin...

- [Samsung Electronics unionized workers to vote on strike amid controversy over disadvantages](#) (2026-03-08 05:55)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Unionized workers at Samsung Electronics Co. are set ...

- [Lee to meet executives of large firms, SMEs this week](#) (2026-03-08 05:51)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung will meet with senior officia...

- ['The King's Warden' surpasses 11 million admissions](#) (2026-03-08 05:25)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- The Korean historical film "The King's Warden" has at...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-08 05:00)

March 9

- [Fuel price rise slows amid speculation of price cap system](#) (2026-03-08 04:37)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Gasoline and diesel prices rose moderately Sunday as ...

- [Ex-President Moon says Trump's China visit could offer momentum for Korean Peninsula peace](#) (2026-03-08 03:52)

LOS ANGELES, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Former President Moon Jae-in has said U.S. Pres...

- [\(WBC\) Shortstop ready to shake off tough loss to Japan](#) (2026-03-08 03:00)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korean shortstop Kim Ju-won said Sunday he and ...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager declares unwavering faith in team after loss to Japan](#) (2026-03-08 02:57)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korea manager Ryu Ji-hyun claimed Sunday his fa...

- [Harim in legal battle with FTC over 100 bln-won price-fixing penalty](#) (2026-03-08 02:42)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Harim Co., South Korea's largest poultry-processing c...

- [Chinese Embassy in N. Korea introduces Wonsan-Kalma tourism zone](#) (2026-03-08 02:39)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- The Chinese Embassy in North Korea has introduced the...

- [Lee pledges to promote gender equality on International Women's Day](#) (2026-03-08 02:08)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Sunday pledged to advance ...

- [S. Korea mulls adopting oil price cap system for 1st time in 30 yrs: sources](#) (2026-03-08 02:01)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- The government is considering adopting a price cap sy...

- [U.S. transport aircraft spotted departing Osan Air Base amid Patriot relocation speculation](#) (2026-03-08 01:45)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- U.S. military transport aircraft have been spotted ar...

- [\(WBC\) Chinese Taipei manager hoping players will sustain momentum in must-win game vs. S. Korea](#) (2026-03-08 01:17)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- With his team fresh off a resounding first victory at...

- [FX volatility reaches highest since COVID-19 pandemic amid Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-08 00:59)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- The daily volatility of the Korean won against the U...

- [No. of drug addicts rises 49 pct from 2020 to 2024](#) (2026-03-08 00:26)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- The number of drug addicts receiving treatment in Sou...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korean bats start off hot, cool off later vs. Japan](#) (2026-03-07 14:26)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean bats started off hot before cooling ...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) Veteran Ryu Hyun-jin to start in crucial game vs. Chinese Taipei](#) (2026-03-07 14:24)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will turn to former major league All-Star...

- [\(WBC\) Ohtani looking to build on comeback win vs. S. Korea](#) (2026-03-07 14:24)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- After keying an early Japanese rally for an eventual ...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korean pitchers humbled by Japanese sluggers](#) (2026-03-07 14:07)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korean pitchers were taken to school by overpow...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager not accepting moral victory](#) (2026-03-07 14:06)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korea manager Ryu Ji-hyun wasn't prepared to se...

- [\(WBC\) Veteran Ryu Hyun-jin to start in crucial game vs. Chinese Taipei](#) (2026-03-07 13:49)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will turn to former major league All-Star...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean bats start off hot, cool off later vs. Japan](#) (2026-03-07 13:47)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean bats started off hot before cooling ...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korea falls to Japan for 1st loss](#) (2026-03-07 13:37)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korea blew an early lead and lost to the defend...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean pitchers humbled by Japanese sluggers](#) (2026-03-07 13:28)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korean pitchers were taken to school by overpow...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea falls to Japan for 1st loss](#) (2026-03-07 13:16)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korea blew an early lead and lost to the defend...

- [S. Korea reports 1 new bird flu case; total rises to 53](#) (2026-03-07 10:17)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has confirmed one additional case of high...

- [\(2nd LD\) Chartered plane to bring home S. Koreans from UAE on Sunday: ministry](#) (2026-03-07 09:21)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- A chartered plane to evacuate South Koreans from the ...

- [\(WBC\) Japan skipper wants to beat S. Korea playing Japanese way](#) (2026-03-07 08:46)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- Japan manager Hirokazu Ibata said he would love for h...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager tries to downplay magnitude of Japan game](#) (2026-03-07 08:36)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- Hours before the start of a marquee showdown against ...

- [\(LEAD\) Chartered plane to bring home S. Koreans from UAE on Sunday: ministry](#) (2026-03-07 08:03)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- A chartered plane to evacuate South Koreans from the ...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean infielder Kim Hye-seong determined to top Dodgers teammate Ohtani](#) (2026-03-07 08:02)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korean second baseman Kim Hye-seong has a ton o...

- [Industry minister, trade chief visit U.S. to discuss Seoul-Washington tariff issues](#) (2026-03-07 06:43)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's industry minister and trade chief visit...

- [\(WBC\) Chinese Taipei manager putting all hands on deck in game vs. S. Korea](#) (2026-03-07 06:39)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- After pounding Czechia 14-0 for its first win of the ...

- [Gender minister issues apology to former sex work victims near U.S. bases](#) (2026-03-07 06:06)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- Gender Equality Minister Won Min-kyong issued Saturda...

- [\(WBC\) Chinese Taipei hammers Czechia for 1st win, S. Korea up next](#) (2026-03-07 05:41)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- Chinese Taipei trounced Czechia 14-0 on Saturday for ...

- [Lee lauds 'The King's Warden' on surpassing 10 mln admissions](#) (2026-03-07 05:41)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Saturday congratulated the...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-07 05:00)

March 8

- [Chartered plane to bring home S. Koreans from UAE on Sunday: ministry](#) (2026-03-07 03:10)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- A chartered plane to evacuate South Koreans from the ...

- [SK On lays off nearly 1,000 workers at Georgia battery plant amid EV slowdown](#) (2026-03-07 03:01)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- SK On Co., a major South Korean battery manufacturer,...

- [Lawmaker at center of election nomination bribery scandal questioned by police](#) (2026-03-07 02:21)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- Rep. Kang Sun-woo, an independent formerly affiliated...

- [BLACKPINK's 'Deadline' lands at No. 11 on British Official Albums Chart](#) (2026-03-07 01:05)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- K-pop girl group BLACKPINK has entered the top 100 of...

- [S. Koreans evacuate from Qatar, Jordan with embassy assistance amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-07 00:31)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korean nationals stranded across the Middle Eas...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-03-07 00:00)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Ko...

- [\(LEAD\) U.S. expects it will take 4 to 6 weeks to achieve 'achievable' Iran operation objectives: White House](#) (2026-03-06 22:24)

WASHINGTON, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The United States expects it to take four to six...

- [\(2nd LD\) Trump says there'll be no deal with Iran except 'unconditional surrender'](#) (2026-03-06 22:03)

WASHINGTON, March 6 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump said Friday that the...

- [U.S. expects it will take 4 to 6 weeks to achieve 'achievable' Iran operation objectives: White House](#) (2026-03-06 19:33)

WASHINGTON, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The United States expects it to take four to six...

- [U.S. gov't agency working on new tariff refund system that could be ready in 45 days](#) (2026-03-06 18:55)

WASHINGTON, March 6 (Yonhap) -- A U.S. government agency is working on a new sys...

- [\(LEAD\) Trump says there'll be no deal with Iran except 'unconditional surrender'](#) (2026-03-06 16:39)

WASHINGTON, March 6 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump said Friday that the...

- [\(LEAD\) 372 S. Koreans return from Dubai on 1st direct flight since Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-06 14:30)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- More than 370 South Koreans returned home Friday aboa...

- [Trump says there'll be no deal with Iran except 'unconditional surrender'](#) (2026-03-06 14:23)

WASHINGTON, March 6 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump said Friday that the...

- [\(WBC\) Japan manager wants pitchers to minimize mistakes against 'very powerful' S. Korea](#) (2026-03-06 13:40)

TOKYO, March 6 (Yonhap) -- On the eve of his team's game against South Korea at ...

- [\(WBC\) Siderarmer Ko Young-pyo looking to keep things simple in start vs. Japan](#) (2026-03-06 13:22)

TOKYO, March 6 (Yonhap) -- This was probably the one starting assignment that no...

- [\(WBC\) Japan begins title defense with rout of Chinese Taipei](#) (2026-03-06 12:56)

TOKYO, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Japan destroyed Chinese Taipei 13-0 to open its title...

- [372 S. Koreans return from Dubai on 1st direct flight since Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-06 12:04)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- More than 370 South Koreans returned home Friday aboa...

- [\(LEAD\) 'The King's Warden' hits 10 million admissions, 1st film in 2 years](#) (2026-03-06 10:13)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- "The King's Warden" has crossed the 10 million admiss...

- [\(News Focus\) Topping 10 mln, 'The King's Warden' offers rare boost to Korean cinema](#) (2026-03-06 09:55)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The success of "The King's Warden" has come as a brea...

- [\(News Focus\) How 'The King's Warden' captured 10 mln Korean viewers](#) (2026-03-06 09:45)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Drawing 10 million admissions has become a rarity in ...

- ['The King's Warden' hits 10 million admissions, 1st film in 2 years](#) (2026-03-06 09:40)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- "The King's Warden" has crossed the 10 million admiss...

- [Korean Air extends suspension of Incheon-Dubai route through March 15](#) (2026-03-06 09:29)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Korean Air Co., South Korea's flag carrier, said Frid...

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korean delegation to visit U.S. for nuclear energy talks: FM Cho](#) (2026-03-06 09:09)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- A South Korean delegation plans to visit the United S...

- [Unification minister points to N. Korea's Kusong as 3rd site hosting uranium enrichment facility](#) (2026-03-06 09:08)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Unification Minister Chung Dong-young said Friday tha...

- [Doosan Enerbility wins U.S. order for 7 gas turbines for data center project](#) (2026-03-06 09:05)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Doosan Enerbility Co., a major South Korean plant and...

- [\(WBC\) Manager for defending champion Japan implores players to be aggressive](#) (2026-03-06 08:11)

TOKYO, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Hours before the start of Japan's title defense at th...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-06 08:01)

The following is the second summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency...

- [Justice ministry vows stern measures against gas price gouging](#) (2026-03-06 07:57)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The justice ministry said Friday it would take stern ...

- [\(LEAD\) U.S. Patriot missile batteries relocated to Osan Air Base amid speculation about deployment to Middle East](#) (2026-03-06 07:52)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- U.S. troops stationed in South Korea have relocated i...

- [FM Cho affirms captured N. Korean soldiers in Ukraine will not be sent back to Russia](#) (2026-03-06 07:51)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Foreign Minister Cho Hyun said Friday that Ukraine ha...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares end flat amid prolonged Iran crisis; won declines](#) (2026-03-06 07:34)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks pared earlier losses to close nea...

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korea to receive over 6 mln barrels of crude oil from UAE: Cheong Wa Dae](#) (2026-03-06 07:29)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will receive more than 6 million barrels ...

- [Korean won drops to near 2-month low after volatile week amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-06 07:03)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won fell to a nearly two-month low a...

- [Key developments on North Korea this week](#) (2026-03-06 07:00)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The following are key developments regarding North Ko...

- [Summary of inter-Korean news this week](#) (2026-03-06 07:00)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The following is a summary of inter-Korean news this ...

- [Summary of domestic news in North Korea this week](#) (2026-03-06 07:00)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The following is a summary of domestic news in North ...

- [Summary of external news of North Korea this week](#) (2026-03-06 07:00)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The following is a summary of external news on North ...

- [Seoul shares end flat amid prolonged Iran crisis; won declines](#) (2026-03-06 06:59)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks pared earlier losses to close nea...

- [S. Korea to receive over 6 mln barrels of crude oil from UAE: Cheong Wa Dae](#) (2026-03-06 06:27)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will receive more than 6 million barrels ...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea becomes all-time leader in grand slams](#) (2026-03-06 06:25)

TOKYO, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has moved to the top of the grand slams l...

- [U.S. Patriot missile batteries relocated to Osan Air Base amid speculation about deployment to Middle East](#) (2026-03-06 06:21)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- U.S. troops stationed in South Korea have relocated i...

- [\(WBC\) Australia beats Czechia for 2nd straight win](#) (2026-03-06 06:16)

TOKYO, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Australia defeated Czechia 5-1 on Friday to remain un...

- [\(URGENT\) S. Korea to receive over 6 mln barrels of crude oil from UAE: presidential chief of staff](#) (2026-03-06 06:11)

(END)

- [Appeal trial on ex-interior minister's martial law role to begin March 18](#) (2026-03-06 05:55)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The appeal trial of former Interior Minister Lee Sang...

- [Finance chief urges preemptive response to volatility in financial, energy markets](#) (2026-03-06 05:46)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Finance Minister Koo Yun-cheol called Friday for a pr...

- [S. Korean delegation to visit U.S. for nuclear energy talks: FM Cho](#) (2026-03-06 05:28)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- A South Korean delegation plans to visit the United S...

- [Ex-President Moon calls for minimizing use of force, diplomatic solution in Iran crisis](#) (2026-03-06 05:26)

LOS ANGELES, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Former President Moon Jae-in called for minimiz...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-06 05:00)

March 7

- [Lee's approval rating rises to 65 pct: poll](#) (2026-03-06 04:33)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung's approval rating climbed bac...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-06 04:30)

The following is the first summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency ...

- [Marine Corps joins multinational Cobra Gold drills in Thailand](#) (2026-03-06 03:49)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The Marine Corps has taken part in an annual multinat...

- [Regulator mulls possible penalty for 4 firms in alleged starch sugar price-fixing case](#) (2026-03-06 03:00)

SEOUL, March 6 -- The antitrust regulator said Friday it has begun reviewing pos...

- [Lee calls for all-out efforts to root out illegal practices in real estate, stock market, other crimes](#) (2026-03-06 02:59)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Friday instructed his aide...

- [\(LEAD\) UAE commercial flights to S. Korea expected to begin Friday: FM Cho](#) (2026-03-06 02:40)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Foreign Minister Cho Hyun said Friday the United Arab...

- [HD Hyundai Samho wins 263.2 bln-won oil tanker order in Greece](#) (2026-03-06 02:29)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- HD Hyundai Samho Heavy Industries Co. said Friday it ...

- [Seoul shares down 1 pct late Fri. morning on Middle East woes](#) (2026-03-06 02:28)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks traded lower late Friday morning ...

- [\(3rd LD\) Consumer prices rise 2 pct in Feb., on gov't target for 2nd straight month](#) (2026-03-06 02:17)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's consumer prices rose 2 percent from a y...

- [\(LEAD\) 3 civilian suspects in drone flights to N. Korea referred to prosecution](#) (2026-03-06 02:16)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Investigators on Friday referred three civilian suspe...

- [\(2nd LD\) S. Korea posts 5th-largest current account surplus in Jan: BOK](#) (2026-03-06 02:16)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea recorded its fifth-largest monthly curren...

- [Customs agency to launch task force for Middle East conflict-hit logistics](#) (2026-03-06 02:16)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The Korea Customs Service said Friday it will launch ...

- [Gasoline prices top 1,900 won per liter in Seoul amid Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-06 02:15)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The average prices of gasoline and diesel in Seoul ha...

- [UAE commercial flights to S. Korea expected to begin Friday: FM Cho](#) (2026-03-06 02:08)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Foreign Minister Cho Hyun said Friday the United Arab...

- [Finance ministry holds meeting on S. Korean economy with global investors](#) (2026-03-06 02:00)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The Ministry of Finance and Economy said Friday it he...

- [Unification ministry to pursue 'peace declaration' for turning armistice into peace regime](#) (2026-03-06 01:24)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The unification ministry said Friday it will pursue a...

- [BLACKPINK sets first-week sales record for K-pop girl group](#) (2026-03-06 01:24)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- BLACKPINK has established a new first-week sales reco...

- [Supreme Court to rule on ruling party lawmaker's possible loss of seat Thursday](#) (2026-03-06 01:19)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The Supreme Court is set to rule on Democratic Party ...

- [Middle East turmoil heightens inflation risks for S. Korea: BOK](#) (2026-03-06 01:19)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Rising global oil prices amid the Middle East crisis ...

- [Lee issues fresh warning against possible collusion in raising gas prices](#) (2026-03-06 01:19)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Friday issued a fresh warn...

- [LG Energy Solution's Canadian arm holds opening ceremony for new battery plant](#) (2026-03-06 01:05)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- LG Energy Solution Ltd. said Friday its Canadian arm ...

- [Antitrust regulator to inspect gas stations for price gouging](#) (2026-03-06 01:00)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The state antitrust regulator said Friday it will clo...

- [3 civilian suspects in drone flights to N. Korea referred to prosecution](#) (2026-03-06 00:54)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Investigators on Friday referred three civilian suspe...

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korea posts 5th-largest current account surplus in Jan: BOK](#) (2026-03-06 00:44)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea recorded its fifth-largest monthly curren...

- [\(2nd LD\) Consumer prices rise 2 pct in Feb., on gov't target for 2nd straight month](#) (2026-03-06 00:41)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's consumer prices rose 2 percent from a y...

- [Preorders for Galaxy S26 series hit 1.35 mln in S. Korea](#) (2026-03-06 00:38)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Electronics Co. said Friday preorders for its...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares open lower after strong rebound amid prolonged Iran crisis](#) (2026-03-06 00:24)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started lower Friday after a 10 p...

- [Kia PV5 Cargo tops commercial vehicle sales in Feb.](#) (2026-03-06 00:16)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Kia Corp.'s first purpose-built vehicle, the all-elec...

- [Industry minister, Hyundai Motor offer support for Seoul's submarine bid in Canada](#) (2026-03-06 00:06)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korean Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan and high...

- [Seoul shares open 1.66 pct lower after strong rebound amid prolonged Iran crisis](#) (2026-03-06 00:03)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started 1.66 percent lower Friday...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul shares open 1.66 pct lower after sharp rebound amid deepening Iran crisis](#) (2026-03-06 00:01)

(END)

- [\(LEAD\) Consumer prices rise 2 pct in Feb., on gov't target for 2nd straight month](#) (2026-03-05 23:40)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's consumer prices rose 2 percent from a y...

- [FM Cho, UAE counterpart discuss Middle East conflict, S. Korean evacuation](#) (2026-03-05 23:19)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Foreign Minister Cho Hyun has spoken by phone with hi...

- [Trump calls on Iranian diplomats to request asylum, shape 'new, better' Iran](#) (2026-03-05 23:09)

WASHINGTON, March 5 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump called on overseas I...

- [S. Korea posts 5th-largest current account surplus in Jan: BOK](#) (2026-03-05 23:02)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea recorded its fifth-largest monthly curren...

- [Consumer prices rise 2 pct in Feb., on gov't target for 2nd straight month](#) (2026-03-05 23:00)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's consumer prices rose 2 percent from a y...

- [\(URGENT\) Consumer prices rise 2 pct in Feb., on gov't target for 2nd straight month](#) (2026-03-05 23:00)

(END)

- [\(URGENT\) S. Korea logs US\\$13.26 bln current account surplus in Jan.: BOK](#) (2026-03-05 23:00)

(END)

- [\(WBC\) With 1st win out of way, S. Korea looking to end winless drought vs. Japan](#) (2026-03-05 22:53)

TOKYO, March 6 (Yonhap) -- It has been more than 10 years since South Korea last...

- [\(WBC\) Ex-KBO MVP has good feeling about S. Korean chances vs. Japan](#) (2026-03-05 22:39)

TOKYO, March 6 (Yonhap) -- Before the final Sunday of the 1999 Ryder Cup, U.S. c...

- [\(WBC\) Veteran pitcher ready for long-awaited outing at Tokyo Dome](#) (2026-03-05 22:32)

TOKYO, March 6 (Yonhap) -- As the second-oldest player for South Korea at this y...

- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on March 6\)](#) (2026-03-05 22:05)

Three controversial judicial reform bills were approved Thursday at an emergency...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on March 6\)](#) (2026-03-05 22:05)

U.S. strikes against Iran and the killing of its supreme leader, Ayatollah Khame...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on March 6\)](#) (2026-03-05 22:05)

The US-Israeli war on Iran reveals how the paradigm of modern warfare is rapidly...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-03-05 22:04)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Ko...

- [Top U.S. diplomat for East Asia policy to embark on trip to S. Korea, Japan, Mongolia next week: State Dept.](#) (2026-03-05 22:04)

WASHINGTON, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The top U.S. diplomat for East Asia policy will ...

- [N. Korea's Kim hopes for strong ties with Hanoi in message to Vietnam's leader](#) (2026-03-05 21:44)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has expressed hope th...

- [Trump fires Noem, names Sen. Mullin as new homeland security secretary](#) (2026-03-05 20:05)

WASHINGTON, March 5 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump fired Homeland Secur...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korean pitching far from spectacular in win over Czechia](#) (2026-03-05 14:21)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Given plenty of early run support, South Korean pitch...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korea flexes home run muscle in opening victory](#) (2026-03-05 14:21)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- For all the hype surrounding South Korea's right-hand...

- [\(2nd LD\) S. Korea imposes travel ban on Iran amid rising Middle East conflict](#) (2026-03-05 14:16)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has issued a travel ban on all parts of I...

- [\(WBC\) Whitcomb feels blessed to represent S. Korea for mother with big day at plate](#) (2026-03-05 14:15)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Shay Whitcomb couldn't have scripted a better debut f...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager pleased with sustained momentum in opening victory](#) (2026-03-05 14:09)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The lopsided score notwithstanding, South Korean mana...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean pitching far from spectacular in win over Czechia](#) (2026-03-05 13:22)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Given plenty of early run support, South Korean pitch...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korea pounds Czechia in opener with 4 home runs](#) (2026-03-05 13:04)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea launched four home runs to defeat Czechia...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea flexes home run muscle in opening victory](#) (2026-03-05 13:01)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- For all the hype surrounding South Korea's right-hand...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea pounds Czechia in opener with 4 home runs](#) (2026-03-05 12:54)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea launched four home runs to defeat Czechia...

- [\(2nd LD\) S. Korean tourists in Middle East returning home amid regional tensions](#)

(2026-03-05 10:25)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean tourists in the Middle East are graduall...

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korea imposes travel ban on Iran amid rising Middle East conflict](#)

(2026-03-05 09:26)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea imposed a travel ban on all of Iran amid ...

- [S. Korea imposes travel ban on Iran amid rising Middle East conflict](#)

(2026-03-05 09:12)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea imposed a travel ban on all of Iran amid ...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean cleanup hitter feeling no pressure ahead of opener](#)

(2026-03-05 09:09)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Batting cleanup in a lineup for a team hoping to go d...

- [\(URGENT\) S. Korea imposes travel ban on Iran](#)

(2026-03-05 09:01)

(END)

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager wants players to feel proud ahead of tournament opener](#)

(2026-03-05 08:49)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- With his team's first game of the World Baseball Clas...

- [\(WBC\) Czechia manager looking to build it one inning at a time vs. S. Korea](#)

(2026-03-05 08:24)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Czechia manager Pavel Chadim said Thursday his team w...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#)

(2026-03-05 08:16)

The following is the second summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency...

- [\(3rd LD\) Gov't issues level-1 alert on possible energy disruption, vows stern response to unfair market practice](#)

(2026-03-05 07:53)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The government issued Thursday a precautionary alert ...

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul shares rebound nearly 10 pct after worst-ever drop; won rises](#)

(2026-03-05 07:44)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks sharply rebounded on Thursday fro...

- [\(2nd LD\) Gov't issues level-1 alert on possible energy disruption, vows stern response to unfair market practice](#)

(2026-03-05 07:33)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The government issued Thursday a precautionary alert ...

- [Human rights body approves foundation supporting transgender people after nearly 2 years](#) (2026-03-05 07:30)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's human rights watchdog on Thursday appro...

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korean tourists in Middle East returning home amid regional tensions](#) (2026-03-05 07:27)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean tourists in the Middle East are graduall...

- [Rival parties agree to set up new state-run entity specialized in implementing U.S. investment pledge](#) (2026-03-05 07:18)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The ruling Democratic Party (DP) and the main opposit...

- [S. Korea continues to evacuate citizens from Middle East amid conflict](#) (2026-03-05 07:14)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is continuing to evacuate its citizens fr...

- [Korean won rebounds from sharp losses amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-05 07:14)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won rebounded from near a yearly low...

- [Special counsel concludes 90-day probe into Coupang's severance pay suspicions](#) (2026-03-05 07:02)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Special counsel Ann Gweon-seob's team, which was laun...

- [\(LEAD\) Gov't issues precautionary alert on possible resource disruption over Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-05 07:01)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The government issued Thursday a precautionary alert ...

- [S. Koreans' life satisfaction unchanged in 2024; suicide rate up: report](#) (2026-03-05 06:57)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Koreans' average satisfaction with life remaine...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares rebound nearly 10 pct after worst-ever drop; won rises](#) (2026-03-05 06:56)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks sharply rebounded on Thursday fro...

- [Britain sees N. Korea as 'major' cyber threat: cybersecurity expert](#) (2026-03-05 06:43)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Britain considers North Korea to be a "major" cyber t...

- [Asian nations should rethink gov't-led growth, share risks with private sector: BOK chief](#) (2026-03-05 06:36)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Asian countries should reduce reliance on government-...

- [Seoul shares rebound nearly 10 pct after worst-ever drop; won rises](#) (2026-03-05 06:35)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks sharply rebounded on Thursday fro...

- [Gov't issues precautionary alert on possible resource disruption over Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-05 06:34)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The government issued Thursday a precautionary alert ...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul shares rebound nearly 10 pct after worst-ever drop](#) (2026-03-05 06:33)

(END)

- [\(URGENT\) Gov't issues preemptive alert on possible energy crisis amid Iran conflict](#) (2026-03-05 06:08)

(END)

- [Board of flour industry association resigns over alleged price-fixing scandal](#) (2026-03-05 06:04)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The entire board of the Korea Flour Milling Industry ...

- [TerraPower wins U.S. approval for commercial SMR](#) (2026-03-05 06:00)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- TerraPower LLC, a U.S. nuclear power company founded ...

- [Unification ministry to call N. Korean defectors 'N. Korean-born citizens'](#) (2026-03-05 05:53)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The unification ministry will use a new term, "North ...

- [\(3rd LD\) Lee orders swift execution of 100 tln-won financial package amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-05 05:44)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung ordered the government Thursd...

- [\(WBC\) Australia shuts out Chinese Taipei to begin Pool C action](#) (2026-03-05 05:40)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Australia blanked Chinese Taipei 3-0 to begin Pool C ...

- [Envoys of Iran, Israel hold separate press conferences in Seoul amid escalating war](#) (2026-03-05 05:22)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The top envoys of Iran and Israel held separate press...

- [2026 Incheon Pentaport Music Festival to open in July](#) (2026-03-05 05:07)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The annual Incheon Pentaport Music Festival, one of S...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-05 05:00)

March 6

- [Gov't deliberates response to EU's industrial accelerator bill with local industries](#) (2026-03-05 04:43)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources held a ...

- [France to kick off year of cultural events in S. Korea to mark 140th anniv. of ties](#) (2026-03-05 04:40)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- France will stage a yearlong series of cultural excha...

- [Gov't uncovers 615.5 bln won in hidden income in stock market probe, refers dozens to prosecution](#) (2026-03-05 04:36)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The national tax agency said Thursday it has uncover...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-05 04:30)

The following is the first summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency ...

- [Online shopping sales rise 8.6 pct in Jan. on food delivery services: data](#) (2026-03-05 03:00)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Online shopping sales in South Korea rose 8.6 percent...

- [\(2nd LD\) N. Korea's Kim oversees strategic cruise missile test from new destroyer](#) (2026-03-05 02:46)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has overseen a test-f...

- [S. Korean tourists in Middle East returning home amid regional tensions](#) (2026-03-05 02:45)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean tourists in the Middle East are graduall...

- [Ruling party voices concerns about possible plunge in exports to Middle East amid escalating war](#) (2026-03-05 02:43)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The chief policymaker of the ruling Democratic Party ...

- [Seoul shares up over 10 pct late Thurs. morning after record sell-off](#) (2026-03-05 02:29)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks traded sharply higher late Thursd...

- [Manufacturing AI Alliance discusses ways to boost competitiveness of humanoid robot industry](#) (2026-03-05 02:16)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The government on Thursday discussed ways to strength...

- [\(2nd LD\) Lee orders swift execution of 100 tln-won financial package amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-05 02:10)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung ordered the government Thursd...

- [Trade minister discusses deeper trade cooperation with Mercosur countries](#) (2026-03-05 02:00)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Trade Minister Yeo Han-koo met with ambassadors from ...

- [S. Korea mulls sending chartered plane to bring home S. Koreans in Middle East: FM](#) (2026-03-05 01:50)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The government is drawing up plans to dispatch charte...

- [Gov't to provide vouchers, financial aid to SMEs with Middle East exports](#) (2026-03-05 01:45)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Emergency export vouchers and financial aid packages ...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee orders evacuation plan for S. Koreans in Middle East](#) (2026-03-05 01:44)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung ordered the government Thursd...

- [Industry minister heads to Canada to back Seoul's bid for submarine project](#) (2026-03-05 01:23)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan left for Canada on Th...

- [Lee orders evacuation plan for S. Koreans in Middle East](#) (2026-03-05 01:23)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung ordered the government Thursd...

- [SK hynix showcases advanced AI memory solutions at MWC 2026](#) (2026-03-05 01:17)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- SK hynix Inc. said Thursday it has showcased its late...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee orders evacuation plan for S. Koreans in Middle East, including use of military, chartered aircraft](#) (2026-03-05 01:16)

(END)

- [Police to be dispatched to Oman, Dubai to help S. Korean departures as U.S.-Israeli war on Iran widens](#) (2026-03-05 01:05)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Police said Thursday it will send personnel to Oman a...

- [Hyundai Motor launches updated Ioniq 9 electric SUV in S. Korea](#) (2026-03-05 00:48)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Hyundai Motor Co. on Thursday launched an updated ver...

- [LG Energy Solution research identifies potential for high-capacity sulfur battery](#) (2026-03-05 00:35)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- LG Energy Solution Ltd. said Thursday it has identifi...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares open sharply higher after steepest decline ever](#) (2026-03-05 00:33)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started sharply higher Thursday a...

- [Naver Plus Store recognized as top new shopping app in Asia-Pacific](#) (2026-03-05 00:32)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Naver Plus Store, the e-commerce platform of South Ko...

- [N. Korea holds Cabinet party committee meeting to advance congress decisions](#) (2026-03-05 00:22)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- North Korea's Cabinet held a plenary meeting of its p...

- [Buy-side sidecar activated for KOSPI, KOSDAQ markets after sharp rise](#) (2026-03-05 00:20)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's main bourse operator on Thursday issued...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean player wants to leave on jet plane for Miami](#) (2026-03-05 00:11)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Baseball players have a particular affinity for group...

- [\(URGENT\) Bourse operator issues buy-side sidecar for KOSPI, KOSDAQ markets after sharp rise](#) (2026-03-05 00:10)

(END)

- [Seoul shares open sharply higher after steepest decline ever](#) (2026-03-05 00:05)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started 3.09 percent higher Thurs...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul shares open 3.1 pct higher after sharpest decline ever](#) (2026-03-05 00:01)

(END)

- [Ex-President Moon set to visit U.S. for discussions on inter-Korean ties](#) (2026-03-04 23:54)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Former President Moon Jae-in was set to depart for th...

- [Samsung's Galaxy S26 Ultra wins 'Best in Show' title at MWC 2026](#) (2026-03-04 23:49)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Electronics Co. said Thursday its latest prem...

- [\(WBC\) Half-Korean outfielder Jones appreciates being welcomed with open arms](#) (2026-03-04 23:48)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- When Jahmai Jones, the half-Korean outfielder for the...

- [SK chief to attend Nvidia's annual tech conference amid HBM4 race](#) (2026-03-04 23:41)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- SK Group Chairman Chey Tae-won is set to take part in...

- [NIS issues joint AI supply chain guidance with global cybersecurity agencies](#) (2026-03-04 23:39)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The National Intelligence Service (NIS) said Thursday...

- [I-dle announces N. American tour on NBC's 'Today Show'](#) (2026-03-04 23:24)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- K-pop girl group i-dle has said it will return to Nor...

- [\(LEAD\) N. Korea's Kim oversees strategic cruise missile test from new destroyer](#) (2026-03-04 23:11)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has overseen a test-f...

- [Trump: 'When crazy people have nuclear weapons, bad things happen'](#) (2026-03-04 22:17)

WASHINGTON, March 4 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump said Wednesday that ...

- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on March 5\)](#) (2026-03-04 21:50)

The fallout from the war between the United States and Iran is hitting Korea's e...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on March 5\)](#) (2026-03-04 21:50)

Operation Epic Fury, launched by the United States and Israel to kill Iran's Sup...

- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea Herald on March 5\)](#) (2026-03-04 21:50)

The US-Israeli war on Iran reveals how the paradigm of modern warfare is rapidly...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-03-04 21:50)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Ko...

- [N. Korea's Kim oversees strategic cruise missile test from new destroyer](#) (2026-03-04 21:49)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has overseen a test-f...

- [\(URGENT\) N. Korea's Kim inspects new destroyer Choe Hyon this week: KCNA](#) (2026-03-04 21:20)

(END)

- [\(URGENT\) N. Korea's Kim oversees test launch of strategic cruise missile from new destroyer Wednesday: KCNA](#) (2026-03-04 21:19)

(END)

- [Foreign reserves rise for 1st time in 3 months in Feb.: BOK](#) (2026-03-04 21:00)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's foreign reserves rose from a month earl...

- [Colby says Trump gov't is 'well aware' of N. Korean nuclear issue amid Iran operation](#) (2026-03-04 20:05)

WASHINGTON, March 4 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump's administration is ...

- [Hegseth says U.S. effort to address Iran's nuclear ambitions will send 'plenty of signals' amid N.K. criticism](#) (2026-03-04 18:00)

WASHINGTON, March 4 (Yonhap) -- U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said Wednesd...

- [Bessent says new global tariff will likely increase to 15 pct from 10 pct 'sometime this week'](#) (2026-03-04 15:25)

WASHINGTON, March 4 (Yonhap) -- U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said Wedne...

- [Pentagon chief says 'America is winning,' U.S. submarine sank Iranian warship with torpedo](#) (2026-03-04 14:51)

WASHINGTON, March 4 (Yonhap) -- U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth claimed Wedn...

- [Britain's top envoy calls for stepped-up cyber cooperation with S. Korea](#) (2026-03-04 13:25)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- British Ambassador to South Korea Colin Crooks on Wed...

- [Lee returns home from trip to Singapore, Philippines amid Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-04 13:18)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung returned home Wednesday from ...

- [\(2nd LD\) Gov't considering chartered, military planes to bring home S. Koreans in Middle East](#) (2026-03-04 13:03)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is considering sending chartered planes o...

- [\(2nd LD\) About 140 S. Koreans evacuated from Iran, Israel as Middle East conflict widens](#) (2026-03-04 13:02)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- About 140 South Koreans have been evacuated from Iran...

- [DP to meet business leaders over Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-04 12:11)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The main opposition Democratic Party (DP) said Wednes...

- [\(LEAD\) Gov't considering chartered, military planes to bring home S. Koreans in Middle East](#) (2026-03-04 11:55)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is considering sending chartered planes o...

- [Gov't considering chartered, military planes to bring home S. Koreans in Middle East](#) (2026-03-04 11:42)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is considering sending chartered planes o...

- [186 S. Korean seafarers aboard ships stranded in Strait of Hormuz: oceans ministry](#) (2026-03-04 11:18)

BUSAN, March 4 (Yonhap) -- More than 180 South Korean seafarers remain aboard ov...

- [About 40 S. Korean tourists stranded in Dubai to return home Thurs.](#) (2026-03-04 11:16)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- About 40 South Korean tourists stranded in Dubai due ...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee to preside over extraordinary Cabinet meeting on mounting Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-04 09:49)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung will preside over an extraord...

- [\(LEAD\) Appeals court begins ex-President Yoon's obstruction of justice trial](#) (2026-03-04 09:04)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- An appeals court on Wednesday opened the first hearin...

- [\(WBC\) Japan manager notes 'great lineup' of S. Korea](#) (2026-03-04 09:03)

TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- When South Korea was hitting home runs and pounding o...

- [\(WBC\) Japanese superstar Ohtani ready for title defense](#) (2026-03-04 08:55)

TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- What's good news for Japan at the World Baseball Clas...

- [Recent fighter jet crash caused by midair collision with another fighter during nighttime training](#) (2026-03-04 08:43)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- An F-16C fighter jet crashed near the southeastern ci...

- [\(WBC\) Kim Hye-seong determined to beat Dodgers' Japanese teammates in Tokyo](#) (2026-03-04 08:39)

TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The reigning World Series champions Los Angeles Dodge...

- [Head of Seongdong district steps down to join Seoul mayoral race](#) (2026-03-04 08:05)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The head of the Seongdong district, Chong Won-o, step...

- [\(News Focus\) Lee's trip to Singapore, Philippines diversifies markets for AI, nuclear energy, defense](#) (2026-03-04 08:00)

MANILA, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung used his trips to Singapore ...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-04 08:00)

The following is the second summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency...

- [USFK commander observes multinational Cobra Gold drills in Thailand](#) (2026-03-04 07:44)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The commander of the U.S. military stationed in South...

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul shares plunge over 12 pct on Middle East conflict fears; won tumbles](#) (2026-03-04 07:43)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Seoul shares plunged more than 12 percent Wednesday, ...

- [\(WBC\) Czechia manager expresses 'big respect' for S. Korean baseball](#) (2026-03-04 07:42)

TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- After his Czechia national baseball team played South...

- [First lady watches performances at K-pop dance contest in Manila](#) (2026-03-04 07:32)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- First lady Kim Hea Kyung attended a K-pop dance conte...

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korea signs consumer goods export deals worth US\\$16 mln with Philippines](#) (2026-03-04 07:28)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean companies signed a combined US\$16 millio...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares plunge over 12 pct on Middle East conflict fears; won tumbles](#) (2026-03-04 07:15)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Seoul shares plunged more than 12 percent Wednesday, ...

- [Gov't to mobilize state supply chain fund for firms with difficulties amid Iran crisis](#) (2026-03-04 07:00)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The government will mobilize a state supply chain sta...

- [\(LEAD\) Korean won sinks toward yearly low amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-04 06:51)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won fell markedly against the U.S. d...

- [Lee asks for Philippines' support to repatriate S. Korean drug trafficker](#) (2026-03-04 06:49)

MANILA, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Wednesday he has asked ...

- [Rival parties expected to pass U.S. investment bill on March 12](#) (2026-03-04 06:42)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The ruling Democratic Party (DP) and the main opposit...

- [Seoul shares crash over 12 pct on Middle East conflict fears; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-04 06:39)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Seoul shares plunged over 12 percent Wednesday to clo...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean starter for opening game trying to take it one pitch at a time](#) (2026-03-04 06:37)

TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- When South Korean right-hander So Hyeong-jun was firs...

- [Seoul voices concerns over rising tensions in meeting with Gulf ambassadors](#) (2026-03-04 06:37)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- A senior foreign ministry official met Wednesday with...

- [\(URGENT\) KOSPI crashes over 12 pct on Middle East conflict fears; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-04 06:34)

(END)

- [Lee pays tribute at Korean War memorial in Manila](#) (2026-03-04 05:53)

MANILA, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Wednesday paid tribute at...

- [Industry minister to visit Canada to back Seoul's bid for submarine project](#) (2026-03-04 05:52)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan will visit Canada thi...

- ['Salmokji: Whispering Water' brings real-life paranormal hotspot to big screen](#) (2026-03-04 05:51)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The idea for the upcoming film "Salmokji: Whispering ...

- [Seoul mayor denies charges of proxy poll payment in court](#) (2026-03-04 05:44)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon denied accusations of a proxy ...

- [Lee seeks closer manufacturing, infrastructure cooperation with Philippines](#) (2026-03-04 05:38)

MANILA, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Wednesday that South Ko...

- [S. Korea signs consumer goods export deals worth US\\$16 mln with Philippines](#) (2026-03-04 05:26)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean companies signed a combined US\$16 millio...

- [Lee to preside over extraordinary Cabinet meeting on mounting Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-04 05:09)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung will preside over an extraord...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-04 05:00)

March 5

- [Short-selling transactions up by over 500 bln won amid Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-04 04:48)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The value of stock short selling grew by more than 50...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-04 04:30)

The following is the first summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency ...

- [\(WBC\) Australian shortstop impressed with KBO teammate for S. Korea](#) (2026-03-04 04:29)
TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Before they play their first regular-season game toge...
- [Gov't monitoring FX market with alertness amid won weakness: finance chief](#) (2026-03-04 04:24)
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The government is closely monitoring the foreign exch...
- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager praises players' mindset on eve of 1st game](#) (2026-03-04 04:20)
TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea manager Ryu Ji-hyun has experienced both ...
- [\(WBC\) Australia manager ready to lean into pitchers' KBO experience vs. S. Korea](#) (2026-03-04 04:13)
TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- When his Australian team takes on South Korea for the...
- [Over 200 people with criminal records worked as sports coaches from 2020-2024: audit](#) (2026-03-04 04:06)
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- More than 200 people with criminal records worked as ...
- [Seoul shares down 8 pct late Wed. morning on Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-04 03:00)
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Seoul shares extended losses late Wednesday morning, ...
- [IPO proceeds in S. Korea rise 15 pct on-year in 2025: data](#) (2026-03-04 03:00)
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Combined proceeds from initial public offerings (IPOs...
- [Institutions' foreign securities holdings hit record high in 2025: BOK](#) (2026-03-04 03:00)
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean institutions' investment in foreign secu...
- [\(2nd LD\) N. Korea to elect representatives to Supreme People's Assembly this month following key party congress](#) (2026-03-04 02:57)
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- North Korea will elect representatives to its parliam...
- [KRX activates circuit breaker on KOSPI, KOSDAQ, halting trade for 20 minutes](#) (2026-03-04 02:42)
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's stock exchange operator on Wednesday tr...
- [S. Korean, U.S. Marines to hold annual joint military drills next month](#) (2026-03-04 02:40)
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean and U.S. Marines will hold an annual joi...
- [NXT says it handled nearly 30 pct of country's stock trading value in 1st year](#) (2026-03-04 02:38)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Nextrade, South Korea's first alternative trading sys...

- [\(LEAD\) Navy chief offers to resign after being suspended over martial law involvement](#) (2026-03-04 02:32)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Kang Dong-gil offered ...

- [\(URGENT\) KRX activates circuit breaker on KOSPI, KOSDAQ markets, halting trading for 20 minutes](#) (2026-03-04 02:28)

(END)

- [LG Electronics tops global OLED TV market for 13th straight year](#) (2026-03-04 02:23)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- LG Electronics Inc. has topped the global market for ...

- [KEF releases annual handbook on S. Korean biz environment](#) (2026-03-04 02:20)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The Korean Enterprises Federation (KEF) said Wednesda...

- [Woman accused of drugging 2 men to death diagnosed as psychopath](#) (2026-03-04 02:05)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- A 20-something woman, who was recently arrested for k...

- [LG chief stresses importance of human-oriented AI to in-house tech school students](#) (2026-03-04 02:00)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- LG Group Chairman Koo Kwang-mo on Wednesday stressed ...

- [S. Korea, Denmark eye closer ties in AI, hydrogen, climate tech](#) (2026-03-04 02:00)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and Denmark have agreed to seek opportuni...

- [Chemical innovation alliance discusses high-value transition of industry](#) (2026-03-04 02:00)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The government and local chemical companies gathered ...

- [Trade minister asks Nat'l Assembly to pass U.S. investment bill on time](#) (2026-03-04 01:46)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Trade Minister Yeo Han-koo on Wednesday asked the Nat...

- [Navy chief suspended for 1 month over martial law involvement: sources](#) (2026-03-04 01:46)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Kang Dong-gil has been...

- [BOK warns of excessive FX volatility diverging from fundamentals](#) (2026-03-04 01:07)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The central bank said Wednesday it will closely monit...

- [Hyundai, Kia post record Feb. sales in U.S. on strong demand for SUV, hybrid cars](#) (2026-03-04 00:58)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Hyundai Motor Co. and Kia Corp. reported record vehic...

- [\(URGENT\) Navy chief given 'heavy' disciplinary action over martial law involvement: defense ministry \(2026-03-04 00:57\)](#)

(END)

- [\(2nd LD\) Industrial output down 1.3 pct in Jan.; consumption, investment gain ground \(2026-03-04 00:40\)](#)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's industrial output dipped from a month e...

- [Korean won depreciates against greenback for 3rd session amid Middle East crisis \(2026-03-04 00:39\)](#)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won depreciated further against the ...

- [\(LEAD\) KOSPI opens sharply lower following over 7 pct dip amid Middle East tension \(2026-03-04 00:37\)](#)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks opened sharply lower Wednesday, e...

- [YG Entertainment confirms BIGBANG's 20th anniv. comeback tour \(2026-03-04 00:20\)](#)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- BIGBANG will embark on a global tour later this year ...

- [KOSPI opens sharply lower following over 7 pct dip amid Middle East tension \(2026-03-04 00:15\)](#)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Seoul shares opened sharply lower Wednesday following...

- [Finance minister vows efforts for smooth implementation of 'yellow envelope' bill \(2026-03-04 00:12\)](#)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The government will focus all its capabilities for sm...

- [\(URGENT\) KOSPI opens 3.44 pct lower following over 7 pct plunge the previous session \(2026-03-04 00:02\)](#)

(END)

- [BTS unveils 14-song track list for comeback album 'Arirang' \(2026-03-03 23:59\)](#)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Global K-pop icon BTS on Wednesday unveiled the 14-so...

- [\(LEAD\) Industrial output down 1.3 pct in Jan.; consumption, investment gain ground \(2026-03-03 23:52\)](#)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's industrial output dipped from a month e...

- [Major S. Korean conglomerates operate 140 offices in Middle East: data \(2026-03-03 23:46\)](#)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean conglomerates have 140 local offices ope...

- [Appeals court set to begin ex-President Yoon's obstruction of justice trial](#) (2026-03-03 23:30)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- An appeals court on Wednesday is set to hold the firs...

- [\(WBC\) Armed with sluggers, S. Korea pursuing 1st knockout berth in 17 years](#) (2026-03-03 23:09)

TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- It has been so long since South Korea last played a w...

- [Industrial output down 1.3 pct in Jan.; consumption, investment gain ground](#) (2026-03-03 23:00)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's industrial output dipped from a month e...

- [\(URGENT\) Industrial output down 1.3 pct in Jan.; consumption, investment gain ground](#) (2026-03-03 23:00)

(END)

- [\(LEAD\) About 140 S. Koreans evacuated from Iran, Israel as Middle East conflict widens](#) (2026-03-03 22:36)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- About 140 South Koreans have been evacuated from Iran...

- [Colby calls N. Korean, Russian nuclear weapons 'primary existential threat'](#) (2026-03-03 22:34)

WASHINGTON, March 3 (Yonhap) -- The Pentagon's top policy official on Tuesday de...

- [\(LEAD\) N. Korea to elect representatives to Supreme People's Assembly this month following key party congress](#) (2026-03-03 22:21)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- North Korea will elect representatives to its parliam...

- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on March 4\)](#) (2026-03-03 21:52)

On Tuesday, six major business associations issued an urgent appeal to the Natio...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on March 4\)](#) (2026-03-03 21:51)

The passage of the Jeonnam (South Jeolla Province)-Gwangju Special Administrativ...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on March 4\)](#) (2026-03-03 21:51)

Wars are often sold as swift. This one began with a promise of speed and precisi...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-03-03 21:51)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Ko...

- [N. Korea to elect representatives to Supreme People's Assembly this month following key party congress](#) (2026-03-03 21:31)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- North Korea will elect representatives to its parliam...

- [\(URGENT\) N. Korea to elect representatives of Supreme People's Assembly on March 15: KCNA](#) (2026-03-03 21:14)

(END)

- [Trump says U.S. Navy will escort tankers through the Strait of Hormuz 'if necessary'](#) (2026-03-03 21:13)

WASHINGTON, March 3 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump said Tuesday that th...

- [About 60 S. Koreans in Israel evacuated to Egypt as Middle East conflict widens](#) (2026-03-03 20:46)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Around 60 South Koreans in Israel have been evacuated...

- [Trump says U.S. will come out with 'different tariffs on different countries' in wake of tariff ruling](#) (2026-03-03 20:38)

WASHINGTON, March 3 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump said Tuesday that hi...

- [Lee to attend business forum in the Philippines before returning home](#) (2026-03-03 20:34)

MANILA, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung is set to attend a business ...

- [South Korean won briefly falls past 1,500 per dollar for 1st time since 2009](#) (2026-03-03 19:31)

WASHINGTON, March 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean won briefly slid past the 1,500-per...

- [Trump might find it 'much more difficult' to consider military option against N. Korea than Iran: expert](#) (2026-03-03 17:30)

WASHINGTON, March 3 (Yonhap) -- A security expert said Tuesday that it would be ...

- [\(3rd LD\) Court issues arrest warrant for lawmaker, ex-councilor over alleged bribery](#) (2026-03-03 15:40)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- A court on Tuesday has issued arrest warrants for an ...

- [\(LEAD\) 23 S. Koreans flee Iran as U.S.-Israeli strikes widen](#) (2026-03-03 13:39)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Twenty-three South Koreans have been evacuated from I...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee gifts golden-plated Korean turtle ship model to Philippine president](#) (2026-03-03 13:23)

MANILA, March 3 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung presented a traditional Kore...

- [\(2nd LD\) Lee, Philippine president agree to expand defense industry, nuclear power cooperation](#) (2026-03-03 11:27)

MANILA, March 3 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung and Philippine President Fer...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee, Philippine president agree to expand defense industry, nuclear power cooperation](#) (2026-03-03 10:59)

MANILA, March 3 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung and Philippine President Fer...

- [Foreign sell-offs of S. Korean stocks hit record high in Feb.: data](#) (2026-03-03 10:25)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Foreign investors sold a record high amount of South ...

- [Lee, Philippine president discuss ways to forge closer economic ties](#) (2026-03-03 10:14)

MANILA, March 3 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung held summit talks with Phili...

- [\(3rd LD\) Gov't to secure oil supplies from outside Middle East amid de facto closure of Hormuz strait](#) (2026-03-03 10:01)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- The government said Tuesday it will push for securing...

- [PM assures nation of gov't preparedness against fallout from Middle East conflict](#) (2026-03-03 09:14)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok assured the nation Tuesda...

- [Brazilian woman indicted for stalking BTS member Jungkook](#) (2026-03-03 08:49)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Prosecutors said Tuesday they have indicted a Brazili...

- [Lee pays tribute at Jose Rizal memorial during Philippines visit](#) (2026-03-03 08:29)

MANILA, March 3 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung paid tribute at the memorial...

- [Lee to gift golden-plated Korean turtle ship model to Philippine president](#) (2026-03-03 08:21)

MANILA, March 3 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung will present a traditional K...

- [Roche to invest 710 bln won in S. Korea's pharmaceutical sector](#) (2026-03-03 08:20)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's health ministry said Tuesday it has sig...

- [Defense ministry to tentatively halt budget execution of drone command over underperforming drones](#) (2026-03-03 08:18)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- The defense ministry said Tuesday it will tentatively...

- [GM Korea's Feb. sales fall 7.6 pct](#) (2026-03-03 08:14)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- GM Korea Co., the South Korean unit of General Motors...

- [Main opposition party stages rally against passage of DP-led judicial reform bills](#) (2026-03-03 08:08)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Lawmakers of the main opposition People Power Party (...)

- [\(2nd LD\) Gov't to secure oil supplies from outside Middle East amid de facto closure of Hormuz strait](#) (2026-03-03 08:05)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- The government said Tuesday it will push for securing...

- [Kia's Feb. sales fall 2.8 pct on fewer working days](#) (2026-03-03 08:00)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Kia Corp., South Korea's second-largest carmaker, sai...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-03 08:00)

The following is the second summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency...

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul shares plummet over 7 pct on Middle East conflict fears; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-03 07:55)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks plunged more than 7 percent Tuesd...

- [Renault Korea's Feb. sales plunge 36.2 pct on weak domestic demand](#) (2026-03-03 07:45)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Renault Korea Motors Co., the South Korean unit of Fr...

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korean authorities take emergency response mode amid market volatility over Iran crisis](#) (2026-03-03 07:40)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- The Bank of Korea (BOK) held a special task force mee...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager declares team ready for battle](#) (2026-03-03 07:40)

TOKYO, March 3 (Yonhap) -- After notching a victory in his team's final exhibit...

- [\(LEAD\) Some 40 S. Korean vessels operating around Hormuz strait amid Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-03 07:28)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Some 40 South Korean commercial vessels were found to...

- [\(WBC\) MLB veteran's strong start nearly spoiled by troublesome bullpen](#) (2026-03-03 07:24)

TOKYO, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Dane Dunning made a strong first impression in his So...

- [KG Mobility's Feb. sales fall 2.6 pct on weak exports](#) (2026-03-03 07:19)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- KG Mobility Corp. said Tuesday its February sales fel...

- [Some 30 S. Korean vessels operating in Hormuz strait amid Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-03 07:16)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Some 30 South Korean commercial vessels were found to...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares plummet over 7 pct on Middle East conflict fears; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-03 07:13)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks plunged more than 7 percent Tuesd...

- [Investigators try again to raid opposition party over ties to religious sect](#) (2026-03-03 07:10)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Investigators launched a second attempt Tuesday to ra...

- [S. Koreans evacuating from Iran as U.S.-Israeli strikes widen](#) (2026-03-03 07:09)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean nationals began evacuating from Iran by ...

- [Hyundai Motor's Feb. sales fall 5.1 pct on fewer working days](#) (2026-03-03 07:04)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Hyundai Motor Co., South Korea's biggest carmaker, sa...

- [\(2nd LD\) Court holds arrest warrant hearings for lawmaker, ex-councilor over alleged bribery](#) (2026-03-03 06:53)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- A court on Tuesday held hearings to decide whether to...

- [S. Korea to expand visa benefits for foreign brain and talent](#) (2026-03-03 06:52)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will expand the scope of "top-tier visas"...

- [Korean won falls sharply to 1-month low against dollar over Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-03 06:48)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won fell sharply against the U.S. do...

- [Seoul shares end over 7 pct lower at 5,791.91 on Middle East conflict fears; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-03 06:42)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks plunged more than 7 percent Tuesd...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea makes statement with 3 homers](#) (2026-03-03 06:42)

TOKYO, March 3 (Yonhap) -- With each swing of the bat in his buildup to his Worl...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul shares end over 7 pct lower at 5,791.91 on Middle East conflict fears; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-03 06:35)

(END)

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea powers past Orix Buffaloes in final exhibition game](#) (2026-03-03 06:18)

TOKYO, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Powered by home runs from a trio of sluggers, South K...

- [Court extends deadline for approval of Homeplus' rehabilitation plan to May](#) (2026-03-03 06:00)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- A bankruptcy court on Tuesday extended the deadline f...

- [Spy agency launches 24-hr emergency response team in response to Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-03 05:56)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- The National Intelligence Service (NIS) has launched ...

- [Defense chief calls for 'immediately' deploying military assets to evacuate nationals in Iran if needed](#) (2026-03-03 05:51)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Defense Minister Ahn Gyu-back has called on the milit...

- [N. Korean magazine uses purported image of Toyota's Camry to promote car assembly service](#) (2026-03-03 05:30)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- A North Korean magazine used an image of what appears...

- [\(2nd LD\) Lee arrives in Philippines for summit talks with Marcos](#) (2026-03-03 05:29)

MANILA, March 3 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung arrived in Manila on Tuesday...

- [\(LEAD\) Some 21,000 S. Koreans currently in Middle East amid U.S.-Israeli war with Iran](#) (2026-03-03 05:28)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Around 21,000 South Korean nationals are currently st...

- [\(LEAD\) Gov't to secure oil supplies from outside Middle East amid possible closure of Hormuz strait](#) (2026-03-03 05:28)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- The government said Tuesday it will push for securing...

- [BoA founds own agency after 25 years with SM](#) (2026-03-03 05:10)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- K-pop singer BoA has established her own management a...

- [S. Korea's GDP growth may shed 0.45 percentage point if oil prices stay high: Citibank](#) (2026-03-03 05:04)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's gross domestic product (GDP) growth for...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-03 05:00)

March 4

- [Court allows live broadcast of ex-President Yoon's appellate trial for obstruction of justice](#) (2026-03-03 04:49)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- A court said Tuesday it will allow live broadcasts of...

- [Coupang's MAUs fall for 3rd straight month in Feb. after data breach](#) (2026-03-03 04:30)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Monthly active users (MAUs) of Coupang Corp. fell for...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-03 04:30)

The following is the first summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency ...

- [Oceans minister nominee vows to make Busan into country's maritime capital](#) (2026-03-03 03:36)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Oceans Minister nominee Hwang Jong-woo on Tuesday vow...

- [KRX issues sell-side circuit breaker after KOSPI plunges over 5 pct](#) (2026-03-03 03:33)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's main bourse operator, the Korea Exchang...

- [\(URGENT\) S. Korean bourse operator issues sell-side circuit breaker after sharp drop](#) (2026-03-03 03:19)

(END)

- [Some 21,000 S. Koreans currently in Middle East amid U.S.-Israeli attack on Iran](#) (2026-03-03 03:10)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Around 21,000 South Korean nationals are currently st...

- [BOK chief to attend BIS governors' meeting in Switzerland, IMF gathering in Thailand](#) (2026-03-03 03:00)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Bank of Korea (BOK) Gov. Rhee Chang-yong will depart ...

- [Gov't to focus efforts to minimize trade risks amid evolving U.S. tariff policy: minister](#) (2026-03-03 02:39)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- The government will focus efforts on minimizing trade...

- [Cabinet approves revised bill adjusting role of new investigation agency, to be submitted to parliament](#) (2026-03-03 02:35)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- The Cabinet on Tuesday approved a revised bill adjust...

- [Chief justice urges Assembly to review judicial reform bills](#) (2026-03-03 02:33)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Supreme Court Chief Justice Cho Hee-dae said Tuesday ...

- [USTR says S. Korea commits its laws, policies on digital services won't discriminate against U.S. firms](#) (2026-03-03 02:32)

WASHINGTON, March 2 (Yonhap) -- The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (UST...

- [Seoul shares plunge nearly 4 pct late Tues. morning over Middle East conflict woes](#) (2026-03-03 02:29)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks plummeted nearly 4 percent late T...

- [Budget minister nominee stresses importance of long-term strategy in financial planning](#) (2026-03-03 02:08)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Budget Minister nominee Park Hong-keun said Tuesday t...

- [\(LEAD\) PM says top priority on S. Koreans' safety amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-03 01:59)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok said Tuesday the governme...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee heads to Manila for summit with Marcos after Singapore visit](#) (2026-03-03 01:57)

SINGAPORE, March 3 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung departed for Manila to ho...

- [Gov't to secure oil supplies from outside Middle East amid possible closure of Hormuz strait](#) (2026-03-03 01:40)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- The government said Tuesday it will push for securing...

- [\(LEAD\) Ex-councilor appears for arrest warrant hearing over bribery allegations](#) (2026-03-03 01:36)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- A former Seoul city councilor appeared Tuesday for an...

- [BOK reviews responses to market volatility stemming from Iran situation](#) (2026-03-03 01:06)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- The Bank of Korea (BOK) held a special task force mee...

- [PM says top priority on S. Koreans' safety amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-03 01:05)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok said Tuesday the governme...

- ['The King's Warden' tops 9 mln views](#) (2026-03-03 00:41)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- The historical film "The King's Warden" has surpassed...

- [S. Korean stocks open 1.26 pct lower in 1st session following U.S. air strikes on Iran](#) (2026-03-03 00:25)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started sharply lower Tuesday ami...

- (Movie Review) In 'Mad Dance Office,' comfort arrives one step off-beat (2026-03-03 00:10)

SEOUL, March 3 (Yonhap) -- Much like the moving Japanese drama "Shall We Dance" ...

- (URGENT) S. Korean stocks open 1.26 pct lower on 1st trading day following U.S. air strikes on Iran (2026-03-03 00:04)

(END)

- (4th LD) Trump says Iran operation projected to last 4-5 weeks, stresses U.S. capability to go 'far longer' (2026-03-03 00:04)

WASHINGTON, March 2 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump said Monday that his...