



SOUTH KOREA SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT

AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment

Analysis Period: March 05, 2026 - March 12, 2026

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South Korea Security Analysis Report: March 05 - March 12, 2026

Executive Summary

During the period of March 5 to March 12, 2026, South Korea navigated a complex security landscape marked by ongoing joint military exercises with the United States, significant shifts in US force posture, and persistent geopolitical tensions. The annual Freedom Shield drills commenced, reinforcing the alliance's defensive capabilities against a perpetually hostile North Korea. Concurrently, reports confirmed the redeployment of some US missile defense assets from South Korea to the Middle East, prompting Seoul to reaffirm its robust independent deterrence capabilities. South Korea also continued its delicate balancing act in diplomatic and economic relations, particularly with China on critical mineral supply chains, while facing renewed Russian warnings over potential support for Ukraine.

Key Security Developments

- Military Activities and Exercises

The United States and South Korea initiated their annual springtime Freedom Shield military exercises on March 9, 2026, scheduled to run through March 19. Approximately 18,000 South Korean troops are participating in these drills, which are largely computer-simulated but include 22 field training exercises. The exercises aim to bolster combined defense capabilities and assess conditions for the transfer of wartime operational control from the US to South Korea. Notably, the number of field drills was reduced compared to the previous year (22 versus 51), a move intended to create "favorable grounds" for potential dialogue with North Korea.

- Defense Policy and Strategic Shifts

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung confirmed on March 10, 2026, that the US plans to redeploy some air defense systems, including parts of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system and potentially Patriot batteries, from South Korea to the Middle East to support operations in the war in Iran. While Seoul expressed opposition to the withdrawal, President Lee acknowledged the country's limited ability to prevent the move. Despite this, South Korea's defense ministry

asserted on March 11, 2026, that its deterrence posture against North Korea remains uncompromised, citing the strength of its own military capabilities. This redeployment aligns with the US's 2026 National Defense Strategy, which signals a shift towards South Korea taking primary responsibility for deterring North Korea and assuming a broader regional security role.

- Diplomatic Relations

South Korea's parliament agreed on March 12, 2026, to pass a special bill to facilitate \$350 billion in investments in the United States as part of a bilateral trade deal. This decision comes amid pressure from the US and threats of increased tariffs from President Donald Trump, who cited delays in the legislative approval process.

Separately, South Korea is actively pursuing cooperation with China on critical mineral supply chains, even as it participates in the US-led Forum on Resource Geostategic Engagement (FORGE) aimed at diversifying supply chains away from Beijing. This highlights Seoul's pragmatic approach to maintaining economic ties with China, a dominant supplier of rare earth minerals, while aligning with US efforts to enhance supply chain resilience.

Tensions with Russia persist, stemming from South Korea's consideration of joining a NATO-led initiative to fund weapons for Ukraine. Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova warned on February 22, 2026, that such participation would cause "irreparable damage" to bilateral relations and force Russia to retaliate.

- Security Incidents and Threats

On March 5, 2026, the South Korean government issued a precautionary alert under its resource security monitoring system for crude oil and gas. This measure was taken due to escalating tensions in the Middle East and concerns about potential disruptions to global energy supplies, given South Korea's heavy reliance on imported oil and gas from the region.

A South Korean lawmaker reported around March 3, 2026, that approximately 30 South Korean merchant ships were navigating near the Strait of Hormuz. This situation raised concerns about potential disruptions to vital maritime trade routes amidst heightened regional instability.

- Intelligence Activities

The National Intelligence Service (NIS) announced on March 9, 2026, that it is providing real-time intelligence on terror threats and combat-related information to South Korean companies operating in seven Middle Eastern countries. This initiative follows the Ministry of Foreign Affairs elevating travel advisories for Bahrain, UAE, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan to a Level 3 evacuation advisory. The NIS established a "Middle East Situation Response Task Force" on February 28, 2026, to address the escalating crisis in Iran.

- Defense Industry Developments

South Korea is preparing to host the Korea Army International Defense Industry Exhibition (KADEX) 2026, which will showcase the nation's defense capabilities in both traditional and next-generation domains, including unmanned systems, robotics, and AI. This event underscores South Korea's ambition to become a top defense exporter by 2030, leveraging its advanced manufacturing capabilities.

Geopolitical Impact and Regional Dynamics

The recent developments significantly impact South Korea's geopolitical standing and regional dynamics. The redeployment of US missile defense systems from the Korean Peninsula to the Middle East highlights the increasing strain on US military resources and the interconnectedness of global security challenges. While South Korea's defense ministry maintains confidence in its independent deterrence capabilities, this move could be perceived as a subtle shift in the US's immediate focus, potentially encouraging North Korean provocations or requiring South Korea to accelerate its self-reliance efforts.

South Korea's ongoing efforts to balance its robust security alliance with the United States against its crucial economic ties with China remain a central theme. The pursuit of cooperation with China on critical minerals, even while joining a US-led initiative to diversify supply chains, exemplifies Seoul's pragmatic foreign policy. This delicate balancing act is essential for South Korea to safeguard its economic interests without undermining its strategic alignment with Washington, especially as the US 2026 National Defense Strategy pushes Seoul towards a broader regional security role beyond peninsula-focused deterrence.

The persistent hostile rhetoric from North Korea, coupled with its formalization of a "permanently hostile relationship" with South Korea, continues to fuel instability on the Korean Peninsula. The ongoing Freedom Shield exercises, while defensive, are consistently denounced by Pyongyang as invasion rehearsals, creating a cycle of heightened tensions. Russia's deepening military cooperation with North Korea and its warnings to South Korea regarding support for Ukraine further complicate regional dynamics, potentially drawing Seoul into broader geopolitical rivalries and increasing the risk of Russian retaliation.

Military and Defense Analysis

South Korea's military and defense posture during this period is characterized by a dual focus on strengthening its alliance capabilities and enhancing self-reliance. The

Freedom Shield exercises, involving 18,000 South Korean troops, are crucial for refining combined operational capabilities with the US and advancing the conditions-based transfer of wartime operational control to Seoul. This aligns with the US 2026 National Defense Strategy's expectation that South Korea will assume primary responsibility for deterring North Korea.

The confirmed redeployment of some US THAAD and Patriot missile defense systems to the Middle East, while a point of contention, underscores South Korea's growing emphasis on its indigenous defense capabilities. Seoul's defense ministry's assertion that its deterrence posture remains strong reflects confidence in its modernization programs and increased defense spending. South Korea has pledged to increase defense spending by 8.2% in 2026, reaching 3.5% of its GDP, and plans to acquire \$25 billion in US military equipment by 2030. This investment is directed towards developing high-tech capabilities, including cooperation with the US on nuclear-powered submarines, which would significantly enhance its independent monitoring and deterrence capabilities.

The ongoing development of its defense industry, highlighted by events like KADDEX 2026, positions South Korea as a significant global player in arms exports, particularly in advanced technologies like unmanned systems, robotics, and AI. This not only strengthens its own defense but also contributes to its strategic partnerships and economic influence.

Outlook and Forecast

Short-term trends (1-3 months): In the immediate future, South Korea will likely continue to navigate a period of heightened vigilance on the Korean Peninsula, particularly as the Freedom Shield exercises conclude on March 19, 2026. North Korea's traditional response to such drills often involves missile tests or strong condemnations, which could escalate tensions. Diplomatic efforts will focus on managing the implications of the US missile defense system redeployment, with Seoul seeking assurances and potentially accelerating its own defense acquisition timelines. The parliamentary approval of the US investment bill on March 12, 2026, is expected to alleviate some trade-related friction with Washington, but broader discussions on burden-sharing and alliance modernization will persist.

Critical flashpoints and risk areas: Critical flashpoints include potential North Korean provocations, especially if Pyongyang perceives a weakening of the US-ROK alliance due to asset redeployments. Further escalation of the conflict in the Middle East could also directly impact South Korea's energy security and maritime trade routes, particularly through the Strait of Hormuz. The ongoing tension with Russia over South Korea's potential support for Ukraine carries a risk of diplomatic and economic

retaliation from Moscow, further complicating Seoul's foreign policy.

Indicators to monitor: Key indicators to monitor include North Korean military activities and official statements, particularly any new missile tests or declarations regarding its nuclear program. Developments in the Middle East, including the stability of energy supplies and maritime security, will be crucial. The nature and frequency of high-level engagements between South Korea, the US, and China, especially concerning critical minerals and regional security, will offer insights into evolving diplomatic alignments. Furthermore, any concrete steps by South Korea regarding military aid to Ukraine and Russia's subsequent reactions will be important to observe.

Strategic recommendations: South Korea should continue to prioritize the modernization of its defense capabilities, focusing on advanced technologies and independent deterrence, especially in light of the evolving US force posture. Diversifying energy sources and strengthening maritime security measures for critical shipping lanes are essential to mitigate external vulnerabilities. Diplomatically, Seoul should maintain open channels of communication with all major powers, particularly China, to manage complex economic and security interests. While upholding its alliance commitments, South Korea should strategically articulate its national interests and seek to de-escalate tensions on the Korean Peninsula through consistent, albeit cautious, engagement with North Korea, potentially leveraging the reduced field drills during joint exercises as a goodwill gesture.

ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

Source: Daily NK

- [International Women’s Day brings an unusual scene to North Korea: husbands buying lattes](#) (2026-03-11 19:41)

Coffee shops in North Korea’s Sinuiju were packed with couples on International Women’s Day this year as husbands marked the holiday by taking their wives out for drinks in a scene locals described as entirely new, a source in North Pyongan province told Daily NK on Wednesday. “On March 8, couples spending time together over [...]

- [North Korea orders officer unity training after party congress](#) (2026-03-11 14:30)

North Korea’s VIII Corps held three-day training sessions for junior officers across its units in early March, ordering them to cultivate closer bonds with enlisted soldiers and address grievances through positive reinforcement rather than punishment, following directives issued at the Ninth Congress of the Workers’ Party of Korea. A source inside the North Korean military [...]

- [North Korea’s inns become havens for drug deals as crackdowns intensify](#) (2026-03-11 13:36)

Inns across North Korea are being converted into hubs for drug dealing and use as intensifying state crackdowns push narcotics activity further underground, a source in South Hamgyong province told Daily NK on Wednesday. “The number of people using inns in Hamhung has noticeably increased recently, and people are saying this is directly linked to [...]

- [Beijing-Pyongyang passenger train service set to resume after nearly six years](#) (2026-03-11 07:37)

North Korea and China are set to resume direct passenger rail service between Beijing and Pyongyang on March 12, ending a suspension of nearly six years that began when Pyongyang sealed its borders in January 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. According to a Daily NK source with knowledge of cross-border transport arrangements, the [...]

- [North Korea drafts women’s union members to plug labor gaps at raw material bases](#) (2026-03-10 21:14)

Raw material supply bases supporting North Korea’s local factory construction drive are struggling with chronic labor shortages, forcing the regime to mobilize members of the Korean Socialist Women’s Union to fill the gap. A Daily NK source in North Hamgyong province reported Tuesday that the district party committee in Sunam district, Chongjin, issued a

directive [...]

- [Pyongsong crackdown leaves shelves bare as North Korea pushes state commerce drive](#) (2026-03-10 14:42)

North Korea's crackdown on private markets is intensifying as the regime designates March a "month of commercial revolution," triggering sharp price spikes and supply shortages across the country. A Daily NK source in South Pyongan province reported Tuesday that the provincial people's committee has declared the state commercial network must "completely overwhelm" the jangmadang, the [...]

- [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 [...]

Source: Hankyoreh

- [Strait of Hormuz bottleneck could become 'death valley' for US military](#) (2026-03-11 12:01)
- [\[Exclusive\] Scholars behind Nobel nomination call Korea's 'Revolution of Light' a beacon of democratic resilience](#) (2026-03-11 12:01)
- [Top Iranian security official threatens Trump with 'elimination'](#) (2026-03-11 12:01)
- [South Korea's Lee acknowledges US is shifting military assets to Middle East](#) (2026-03-11 12:01)
- [\[News analysis\] Air defense pullout signals new era of US strategic flexibility in Korea](#) (2026-03-11 12:01)
- [South Korea logs per capita GNI of \\$36,855 for 2025, dampened by weak won](#) (2026-03-11 12:01)
- [Extended crisis in Mideast may send shockwaves through Korea's economy, key sectors](#) (2026-03-11 12:01)
- [Korea's Democrats expect a landslide in June elections — that overconfidence could hurt them](#) (2026-03-10 12:01)
- [\[Interview\] Abandoning reunification is survival strategy for North Korea, expert says](#) (2026-03-10 12:01)
- [Party that gave rise to Yoon Suk-yeol distances itself from disgraced former president](#) (2026-03-10 12:01)
- [PPP's Jang formally agrees to cut ties with Yoon amid dismal poll numbers, looming election](#) (2026-03-10 12:01)

- 65% of Korean men say gender equality has gone ‘far enough’ ; only 42% of women agree (2026-03-10 12:01)
- Coupang investors insinuate that US is planning Section 301 probe into Korea (2026-03-10 12:01)
- ‘Everything they have is gone’ : Trump says war with Iran will be over ‘very soon’ (2026-03-10 12:01)
- 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)

Source: Korea Times

- [Ruling party, gov't agree to provide energy vouchers to vulnerable households amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-12 05:57)

The ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) and government officials on Thursday agreed to provide energy vouchers to help vulnerable groups cope with rising prices amid an intensifying war in the Middle East. During a meeting of DPK lawmakers and energy ministry officials at the National Assembly, the ruling party urged the government to ensure that energy costs do not place additional strain on low-income households, Rep. Kim Ju-young told reporters. "The DPK asked that the government maintain a thorough emergency response posture to prevent public inconvenience caused by disruptions in the supply of electricity, while also calling for support in public welfare so that the rising energy costs do not further burden vulnerable households," he said. The government said it would launch an emergency response team, and work with

state-run energy companies and private power generators to maintain a stable supply.

- [Record number of new PhD holders face low-wage trap in Korea](#) (2026-03-12 05:57)

The number of new doctorate holders in Korea hit a record high of nearly 20,000 last year, but an increasing percentage of these highly educated professionals are taking low-wage jobs in a labor market structurally incapable of absorbing them. According to data released Tuesday by the Korea Education Statistics Service under the Korean Educational Development Institute, 19,831 individuals earned a Ph.D. from domestic graduate schools in 2025. This marks a 51.6-percent surge compared to 2015, the highest since the institute began tracking data in 1999. When records began in 1999, the country produced just 5,586 new doctorates annually. That number steadily increased, surpassing the 10,000-mark in 2010 before nearly doubling again over the following 15 years. Women largely drove the surge, accounting for a record-high 43.5 percent of all new Ph.D. recipients last year with 8,629 graduates. In 1999, only 1,144 women earned a doctorate, representing 20.5 percent of the total. The latest figure reflects a 7.5-fold increase over the past 26 years. Despite holding advanced degrees, a growing sha

- [Musical actor Nam Kyung-joo referred to prosecutors over sex crime allegations](#) (2026-03-12 05:57)

Veteran musical theater actor Nam Kyung-joo is facing charges of sexual assault after police referred his case to prosecutors. The Seoul Bangbae Police Station announced Wednesday that it referred Nam to the Seoul Central District Prosecutors' Office last month while he remains free pending trial. He is accused of sexually assaulting a woman late last year in Seocho-gu, southern Seoul. The victim directly reported the incident to the police via the 112 emergency hotline. Nam has denied the charges. Following the allegations, Nam deleted his social media accounts and severed ties with his agency. Nam debuted as a musical actor in the 1980s and has remained a highly influential presence in the Korean musical theater industry. He has starred in major productions including "Guys and Dolls" and "Chicago" and was routinely cast in lead roles until October last year. Nam has also been known as a major advocate for the arts in Korea. Last October, Nam made a high-profile appearance at a parliamentary audit before the Culture, Sports and Tourism Committee. During the session, he urged institutiona

- [PM set to visit US for talks on UN hub, possible meeting with Vance](#) (2026-03-12 05:57)

Prime Minister Kim Min-seok is set to depart for the United States on Thursday to promote Korea's bid to host a U.N. hub and meet with senior U.S. officials, possibly including Vice President JD Vance. Kim's weeklong trip, which will also take him to Geneva, Switzerland, comes as the government is bidding to host the tentatively named "U.N. AI hub," an initiative aimed at bringing together U.N. bodies, and Korea's private and public sectors to produce AI-based solutions to global issues. A meeting with Vance is being arranged for his stop in Washington, sources said, which he could use to discuss tariffs and other bilateral issues, including a bill supporting Korea's \$350 billion investment commitment to the U.S. The bill is set to be passed by the National Assembly later Thursday. Kim and Vance previously met in January, also in

Washington. From the U.S. capital, the prime minister will travel to New York, where he plans to visit the U.N., UNICEF and the United Nations Development Program to meet with heads of organizations, including U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, to discuss t

- [Nearly 4,000 vehicles shipped from Korea to Russia over 3 yrs despite sanctions: customs agency](#) (2026-03-12 05:57)

Nearly 4,000 vehicles worth a combined 179.6 billion won (\$121.2 million), mostly luxury models, were illegally exported to Russia from Korea over the past three years despite automotive sanctions, authorities here said Wednesday. A total of 3,705 cars were mostly falsely declared as being destined for countries neighboring Russia, including Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, but were ultimately transported to Russia between 2023 and 2025, in violation of export controls imposed after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Korea Customs Service (KCS) said. Korea has banned exports of vehicles with engine displacements of 2,000cc or more, as well as luxury cars valued above \$50,000, to Russia and Belarus, in line with similar sanctions imposed by major economies, such as the European Union and the United States. "As a responsible member of the international community, we plan to thoroughly investigate illegal exports that violate export controls and eradicate such practices to enhance national credibility and export competitiveness," said Lee Myeong-gu, a KCS chief, in a press release. The agency a

- [Judicial reform laws take effect allowing constitutional appeals of court rulings, punishment for 'legal distortion'](#) (2026-03-12 05:57)

A set of judicial reform laws were officially proclaimed Thursday, allowing constitutional appeals of Supreme Court rulings, punishment for judges who intentionally distort legal principles and an expansion of the top court. The reforms marked the first major overhaul of the current judiciary system since a constitutional amendment in 1987. The National Assembly, controlled by the ruling Democratic Party, passed the bills last month in a push for judiciary reform despite strong objections from the main opposition People Power Party and the judiciary, which argued they could undermine its independence. The laws on constitutional appeals and punishment for the offense of "legal distortion" will take effect immediately, while the increase to the number of Supreme Court justices will gradually take place starting 2028. Under the amended Constitutional Court Act, individuals can now file constitutional complaints against finalized rulings if they are deemed to be against Constitutional Court decisions, have not followed due process or infringed fundamental rights with clear constitutional vio

- [National Assembly set to vote on bill on U.S. investment pledges](#) (2026-03-11 23:57)

The National Assembly is set to hold a plenary session Thursday to vote on a special bill on South Korea's \$350 billion investment pledge to the United States under a trade deal between the two nations after rival parties reached a bipartisan agreement earlier this week. On Wednesday, the ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) and the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) approved the bill during a meeting of the parliamentary legislation and judiciary committee. Under the bill, a new state-run corporation specialized in implementing the

investment package will be set up with a paid-in capital of 2 trillion won (\$1.36 billion), fully financed by the South Korean government. The corporation will consist of a total workforce of 50 employees, and three members on the board of directors will be required to have at least 10 years of experience in the financial sector or strategic industries to prevent crony appointments. The bill was introduced by the DPK in November to carry out Seoul's investment pledges to the U.S. as part of a trade deal reached by the two countries last year. The legis

- [Chonnam Nat'l University microfluidics study features on cover of leading journal](#) (2026-03-11 23:57)

A research team at Chonnam National University has drawn international attention after its microfluidics study was featured as the cover paper of the 25th anniversary issue of a leading scientific journal. According to the university Wednesday, the team led by Park Jin-soo, a professor in the university's School of Mechanical Engineering, conducted the international joint research with scientists from Germany's Technische Universitat Ilmenau. The study appeared on the cover of *Lab on a Chip*, an international journal published by the U.K.-based Royal Society of Chemistry. Building on years of research in microfluidics, which examines how fluids behave at microscopic scales, Park's team investigated how biological particles such as cells, bacteria and microalgae move and interact in fluid environments. Many earlier studies treated biological particles as perfectly spherical when conducting theoretical or computational analyses. Yet such assumptions often failed to align with results observed in experiments and clinical settings. To address this gap, the researchers focused on the fact

- [S. Korea to release 22.46 mil. barrels from oil reserves under IEA plan](#) (2026-03-11 17:57)

South Korea plans to release 22.46 million barrels of oil from its strategic reserves in line with an agreement among International Energy Agency (IEA) members to make 400 million barrels of oil from their reserves available to the market, Seoul's industry ministry has said. The ministry announced the plan for the release on Wednesday, shortly after the 32-member IEA unanimously agreed to carry out the agency's largest-ever oil stock release in a collective action to help address disruptions in oil markets that stem from the ongoing war between the United States, Israel and Iran. The contribution of each country in the collective endeavor was calculated in proportion to its share of the member countries' total oil consumption. South Korea's planned release accounts for 5.6 percent of the total 400 million barrels to be released. "(South Korea) assesses that close cooperation with the IEA this time will contribute greatly to stabilizing the international oil market," an industry ministry official said. "Going forward, we plan to minimize the impact on the people's economy and prices by cl

- [Cheong Wa Dae denies report on reviving open-to-all bar exam](#) (2026-03-11 17:57)

The presidential office denied a news report Wednesday that the government is reviewing a plan to partially revive the open-to-all state-run bar exam, abolished in 2017, to license lawyers outside the law school system. Kang Yu-jung, a presidential spokesperson, made the remarks in

a press notice after a local newspaper reported that the government is reviewing a plan to reinstate the bar exam to select 50 to 150 lawyers each year outside the law school system. The report said the plan will be reported to President Lee Jae Myung after a final assessment. Currently, the bar exam is limited to those who have studied law for three years at law schools. The previous one, which allowed non-law majors to take the exam, was abolished in 2017 with the introduction of law schools. The new system was intended to nurture judicial professionals from various backgrounds, but it has faced criticism that only those from wealthy families can afford law school. President Lee said in a town hall meeting in June that he "agrees to some extent" with the criticism that the law school system is favorable to t

- [Gov't reviews crowd safety measures for BTS concert](#) (2026-03-11 11:57)

The government has mapped out crowd safety measures for K-pop supergroup BTS' upcoming Seoul concert, the interior ministry said Wednesday, as a huge crowd is expected to gather at Gwanghwamun Square, the concert venue. The ministry said Minister Yun Ho-jung presided over a meeting of safety-related public institutions to review the duties of each organization in implementing crowd safety measures for the BTS concert slated for March 21. The concert is expected to attract a large crowd, including 22,000 domestic and international ticket holders. The government plans to preemptively issue a "caution" level warning for crowd disaster to prevent accidents caused by overcrowding, the ministry noted, adding the warning will be in effect for the central Seoul wards of Jongno and Jung during the concert day. The interior ministry and the police will form a situation management team, and the Seoul city government will operate a rapid response team to prepare for emergency situations. The culture ministry will provide advice on concert safety, and inspect stage facilities and seats, while the heal

- [\[PHOTO\] Checking farm machinery on Soil Day](#) (2026-03-11 11:57)

Officials inspect agricultural machinery, including cultivators that had been idle during the winter, at the Gyeonggi-do Agricultural Research and Extension Services in Hwaseong, Gyeonggi Province, Wednesday, marking Soil Day. Yonhap

- [Is Middle East crisis casting shadow over annual S. Korea-US military drills?](#) (2026-03-11 11:57)

A notable absence by the top U.S. military official in Korea at a command bunker during the start of this week's Freedom Shield joint exercises has fueled speculation about shifting priorities within the alliance. While U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) says the exercises remain on track, some experts suggest the move may reflect a broader shift in America's defense strategy toward what Washington calls "strategic flexibility." Analysts note that the United States is increasingly adjusting its force posture to manage multiple crises simultaneously in the Middle East while preparing for the long-term challenge posed by China's growing regional influence. A local media report citing an unidentified military official said Gen. Xavier Brunson, commander of United States Forces Korea (USFK) and the Combined Forces Command (CFC), did not enter the Command Post (CP) Tango bunker near Seoul until Tuesday evening — about

45 hours after the exercise began. Typically, the CFC commander and deputy receive operational briefings from the bunker at the start of the drill. But the report said only the

- [Foreign residents should be included in state cash handouts, human rights watchdog says](#) (2026-03-11 11:57)

The state human rights watchdog said Wednesday that the government should consider expanding eligibility for state relief funds to be more inclusive of foreign residents, citing concerns about discrimination. The National Human Rights Commission of Korea (NHRCK) said it had conveyed its opinion to the Ministry of the Interior and Safety and other relevant agencies, urging them to gradually broaden the scope of foreign nationals eligible for government support programs aimed at aiding households coping with economic hardship. The issue was raised in a complaint filed July last year by migrant worker groups, which argued that the government's voucher-based cash assistance program treated foreign residents unequally depending on their visa status and household composition. Last year's cash handouts were part of the government's emergency response to sluggish domestic spending. Under the scheme, all citizens and some foreign residents were eligible to receive 150,000 won (\$100), with additional benefits for low-income households. Non-Korean citizens were in principle excluded from the

- [80,000 subcontracted workers seek bargaining rights on 1st day of 'yellow envelope law'](#) (2026-03-11 11:57)

The first day after Korea's revised Trade Union Act — the so-called “yellow envelope law” — took effect saw more than 80,000 subcontracted workers at 221 parent companies and public institutions seek bargaining with what they consider their primary employers. Officials at the Ministry of Employment and Labor told reporters Wednesday that, as of 8 p.m. the previous day, a total of 407 subcontractor unions and branches, representing about 81,600 workers, had filed bargaining requests with 143 private firms and 78 public entities. Among the companies facing new union requests for talks are major employers such as Hyundai Motor Group, Hyundai Mobis, Hyundai Glovis, HD Hyundai Heavy Industries, Hanwha Ocean, GM Korea, Yonsei University, CJ Logistics, POSCO, Coupang CLS, Korea Railroad Corp. and Incheon International Airport Corp. Only five of them — Hanwha Ocean, POSCO, Coupang CLS, Hwaseong city government and Busan Transportation Corp. — have posted notices acknowledging the bargaining demands and begun the legal process to handle them, including deciding whether to unify bar

- [THAAD redeployment sparks fears of high-altitude defense gap in South Korea](#) (2026-03-11 11:57)

The reported redeployment of parts of the United States' Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system from South Korea to the Middle East has raised questions about whether the move could affect missile defense readiness on the Korean Peninsula. Although experts say the move is unlikely to create a significant gap in South Korea's defenses, it reflects the growing

flexibility in how U.S. military assets stationed here are used. The Washington Post reported Tuesday that the Pentagon was moving parts of a THAAD system from South Korea to the Middle East, citing two U.S. officials. The report said that the U.S. military is also drawing on its supply of Patriot interceptors, which are deployed in the Indo-Pacific and other regions, to strengthen defenses against Iranian drone and ballistic missile attacks. Military sources said six THAAD launcher vehicles that were recently moved from a base in Seongju, North Gyeongsang Province, to Osan Air Base in Pyeongtaek, Gyeonggi Province, have since returned to Seongju after unloading their interceptor missiles. The missiles are believed to

- [Middle East crisis prompts honeymooners, church groups to rethink trips](#) (2026-03-11 11:57)

Koreans planning honeymoons, pilgrimages and long-awaited overseas trips are scrambling to revise their itineraries as the conflict in the Middle East shuts down key transit hubs and throws global aviation into turmoil. For many engaged Korean couples, the crisis has hit hard. Over the past few years, Dubai has transformed from a mere layover into a standalone honeymoon hot spot for Koreans, marketed as “affordable luxury” and bundled with resort destinations like the Maldives and Mauritius. Its appeal has grown with K-drama shoots, social media buzz over Dubai chocolate and visa-free entry for Korean travelers, helping push Korean arrivals up 225 percent in 2023 and another 51 percent in the first half of 2024, according to Dubai’s Department of Economy and Tourism. That booming demand is now colliding with anxiety over war. Since the U.S. and Israeli strikes on Iran in late February, Iran’s retaliatory attacks have raised fears that major Middle Eastern cities could become targets, particularly after reports that United Arab Emirates air defenses intercepted missiles and drone

- [Ex-JCS chief banned from leaving country over alleged martial law role](#) (2026-03-11 11:57)

A retired admiral who served as the country's highest-ranking military officer has been banned from leaving the country over his alleged role in former President Yoon Suk Yeol's failed martial law bid, a special counsel team said Wednesday. Retired Adm. Kim Myung-soo, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS), and other former JCS officials have been booked and slapped with exit bans over their involvement in the short-lived imposition of martial law in December 2024, according to the team. “(We) have booked JCS officials at the time on charges of playing key roles in an insurrection and have imposed exit bans,” assistant special counsel Kim Ji-mi said in a briefing. “There are plans to conduct witness questioning in connection to the officials soon.” The other booked officials include Jeong Jin-pal, former JCS vice chairman, and Kang Dong-gil, who headed the JCS' directorate of military support at the time. They are accused of participating in an insurrection by forming the martial law command as they watched troops enter the National Assembly compound on the night of Yoon's de

- [Korea's truth commission to open new bureau for overseas adoption cases](#) (2026-03-11 11:57)

Korea's truth-seeking commission plans to establish a dedicated bureau to investigate alleged human rights abuses linked to the country's overseas adoption program and residential facilities, its chair said Wednesday, as complaints from adoptees continue to mount. Song Sang-kyo, chairperson of the newly launched third Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), said the body will also step up efforts to help people living abroad submit complaints through Korean diplomatic missions. Complaints related to overseas adoption have flooded the commission. A total of 311 applications alleging misconduct in intercountry adoptions were filed on Feb. 26, the commission's launch day, and officials expect the number to rise as more adoptees living overseas learn about the process. "There have been continued calls, both within and outside the commission, to establish Investigation Bureau 3 dedicated to cases involving human rights abuses at institutional care facilities and in overseas adoptions," Song said at a press conference, his first since taking office on March 4. Legislation passed in Fe

- [Multinational augmentees from UNC member states participate in Freedom Shield exercise](#) (2026-03-11 11:57)

Multinational forces from member states of the U.N. Command (UNC) have participated in an annual springtime military exercise between Seoul and Washington as augmentees, according to the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command on Wednesday. To bolster the UNC Headquarters, augmentees from UNC member states have arrived on the Korean Peninsula, as the allies have been staging the Freedom Shield (FS) exercise from Monday for an 11-day run, according to a release uploaded on the command's website. "Their arrival underscores the international community's enduring commitment to maintaining the armistice and ensuring the security and stability of the region," the release showed. The multinational augmentees visited the Joint Security Area within the Demilitarized Zone and the War Memorial of Korea in central Seoul, as part of efforts to enhance their understanding of their mission. In a separate release, the Seventh Air Force said it has taken part in this year's FS exercise alongside its Korean counterparts to integrate airpower into combined joint all-domain operations. The drills incorporate a range of tr

- [Lee congratulates Kim Yun-ji on winning second medal at Winter Paralympics](#) (2026-03-11 11:57)

President Lee Jae Myung on Wednesday congratulated para-athlete Kim Yun-ji on winning her second medal at the 2026 Milan-Cortina Winter Paralympics in Italy, calling her a "multiplayer on the snowfield." Lee wrote the message on his Facebook account after Kim clinched a silver medal in the women's cross-country skiing event at the Winter Paralympics on Tuesday (local time) after she won the women's individual sitting title in the 12.5-kilometer biathlon Sunday. "Following the precision she displayed in the biathlon, Kim also excelled in cross-country skiing, powering across the snow with explosive strength and emerging as a true 'multi-player on the snowfield,'" Lee wrote. Lee said her silver medal is particularly meaningful as it marks the first medal won by a Korean female cross-country skier in the history of both the Olympics and the Paralympics, adding that the result has helped the country surpass its previous best

performance at the 2018 PyeongChang Winter Paralympics. "She is expanding the horizons of the Republic of Korea's winter sports with her outstanding talent," he added. Ki

- [Gov't to provide free sanitary pads in public facilities](#) (2026-03-11 05:57)

The Ministry of Gender Equality and Family will launch a pilot project to place sanitary pads in public facilities so all women can access menstrual products, marking the first such initiative by any Korean government. The ministry proposed the plan at a Cabinet meeting held at Cheong Wa Dae Tuesday. While existing support programs provide monthly vouchers worth 14,000 won (\$10) to some low-income people aged between 9 and 24, the new plan would also install sanitary pad dispensers in public facilities for anyone to use. "The ministry will select 10 regions for the pilot program, taking into account factors such as population size and existing project conditions," said Gender Equality and Family Minister Won Min-kyung. Sanitary pads will be placed in public facilities such as community service centers, public health centers and family centers. In rural, farming and fishing areas, they will also be supplied to locations such as village halls to improve accessibility for residents. The ministry plans to conduct the program with a budget of about 3 billion won funded by the central gove

- [Aging baseball stadium in Jamsil to be replaced with 30,000-seat dome by 2032](#) (2026-03-11 05:57)

The Seoul city government said Wednesday it plans to replace its decades-old baseball stadium in the southeastern district of Jamsil with a 30,000-seat dome arena by 2032 in a major redevelopment plan. The 25,000-seat Jamsil Baseball Stadium, home to the Doosan Bears and LG Twins of the Korea Baseball Organization, will close for the construction of the new stadium, which is planned to be the largest of its kind in the country, according to the city government. The construction will take place as part of a 3.3 trillion-won (\$2.25 billion) project to redevelop the Seoul Sports Complex site — built for the 1986 Asian Games and 1988 Summer Olympics, and home to the baseball stadium. The city said it recently wrapped up negotiations over the project with its preferred bidder, a consortium led by Hanwha Corporation E&C Division, after 160 rounds of talks over four years. The project, which will be entirely funded by the private sector, includes plans to build an exhibition center, a five-star hotel and other commercial facilities at the 350,000-square-meter site. As construction takes place

- [Deterrence posture against N. Korea won't be hindered regardless of potential shift of USFK's assets](#) (2026-03-11 05:57)

The deterrence posture against North Korea will not be hindered regardless of a potential shift of military assets owned by the U.S. military stationed in South Korea, a senior official at Cheong Wa Dae said Wednesday, amid media reports that the U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) has shipped out some of its air defense assets from the Korean Peninsula. "Given our level of military capability, defense spending, defense industry capacity and the high morale of our troops, there is no problem with deterrence against North Korea regardless of whether some USFK assets are relocated overseas," the official said. The official, however, declined to comment on media

reports that parts of a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system and other airdefense units owned by the USFK were moved from South Korea amid a raging war in theMiddle East. "It is not appropriate for our government to comment on military operationsbetween Korea and the U.S.," the official said. The official said South Korea and the U.S. haveremained in close coordination to maintain a robust combined defense posture. " Korea and

- [Appeal trial begins for ex-PM Han over insurrection charges](#) (2026-03-11 05:57)

An appellate trial for former Prime Minister Han Duck-soo began Wednesday on charges that he played a key role in an insurrection by abetting former President Yoon Suk Yeol's 2024 imposition of martial law. The first hearing opened at the Seoul High Court after both Han and special counsel Cho Eun-suk's team appealed a 23-year prison sentence handed down by a district court in January. Han was found guilty of taking part in an insurrection by proposing that Yoon convene a Cabinet meeting before declaring martial law on Dec. 3, 2024. He was also convicted of signing a revised proclamation after the decree was lifted six hours later, in a bid to give it a veneer of legitimacy, and separately lying under oath at the Constitutional Court. With the ruling, the former prime minister was placed in custody at the same detention center in Uiwang, south of Seoul, where Yoon has been held since last July. The morning portion of Wednesday's hearing will be broadcast using court equipment at the request of the special counsel team, the court said, adding it will review whether to allow broadcasting of

- [Investigators again raid Shincheonji sect over alleged collusion with politics](#) (2026-03-11 05:57)

A joint prosecution-police team investigating suspected collusion between politics and religion again raided the Shincheonji Church of Jesus, a nonmainstream religious sect, on Wednesday as part of a probe into its alleged ties to the main opposition People Power Party (PPP). Prosecutors and investigators from the team searched Shincheonji's headquarters in Gwacheon, just south of Seoul, in the morning to seize additional data related to suspicions of church members' collective affiliation with the PPP years ago. They already searched the Gwacheon headquarters and the residence of the church's founder, Lee Man-hee, in January. Lee and others are suspected of forcing church followers to join the PPP with the aim of influencing the results of the party's presidential primary in 2021 and the party's candidate nominations for the 2024 general elections.

- [Police refer lawmaker, ex-councilor at center of bribery scandal to prosecution](#) (2026-03-11 05:57)

Police on Wednesday referred an independent lawmaker and a former Seoul city councilor to the prosecution following their arrest last week over bribery allegations linked to the 2022 local elections. Rep. Kang Sun-woo, formerly of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK), and Kim Kyung were sent to the prosecution on charges of violating political funds and anti-graft laws and others, according to the public crimes division of the Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency. Kim

is accused of giving Kang a shopping bag containing 100 million won (\$67,800) in cash in January 2022 ahead of the elections in June that year, allegedly in exchange for a DPK nomination for a councilor seat in the capital. The lawmaker served on the party's candidate nomination committee for the capital at the time. Kim ultimately received the nomination and won the election. Kang has claimed that she did not know the shopping bag contained cash, adding that she returned the money after later discovering it. Police believe Kang had met Kim with advance knowledge of the cash and spent it on a rental deposit. A court issued

- [Calls grow to stop zoos from letting visitors touch animals in defiance of ban](#) (2026-03-11 05:57)

Calls are growing to end direct contact animal experiences at zoos across Korea, as new findings show many facilities continue to defy a legal ban on riding, touching and feeding animals more than two years after it took effect. Animal welfare advocates and lawmakers said the gap between the law and practice is exposing animals to chronic stress and sending the wrong message to children about wildlife. At a National Assembly forum Monday, Animal Welfare Research Institute AWARE and the Animal Welfare Parliamentary Forum presented findings from an eight-month survey of 21 registered or licensed zoos and nine unlicensed facilities across the country. The study reviewed compliance with the revised Act on the Management of Zoos and Aquariums, which since late 2023 has prohibited zoos from allowing visitors to climb on, touch or feed animals for entertainment purposes. Despite the legal shift, 20 out of 21 surveyed zoos were still selling feed for animal encounters, and 15 imposed no limits on purchase frequency or feeding volume. In 18 facilities, visitors could touch animals at any time wi

- [All-Korean band to perform Irish music for St. Patrick's Day Festival](#) (2026-03-10 23:57)

One of the music acts set to perform at the St. Patrick's Day Festival this Saturday is the somewhat mysteriously named Gan Ainm. Gaelic for "without name," the band features four talented Korean musicians. This includes banjo player Darren Choi, fiddler Koh Hae-young, concertinist Koh Seulki and vocalist and guitarist Zee. This will be Gan Ainm's first appearance at the annual festival, organized by the Irish Association of Korea. When Choi, a Korean national whose real name is Jong-wook, joined the band in 2013, it wasn't all Koreans. He entered the picture when he attended a traditional music session and met Patricia Jones, the band's button accordion player. After the departure of some of the original members, it was down to him, Jones and Hae-young on fiddle. They went busking almost every weekend, and occasionally played other shows, including for charities. It was around this time when the band settled on Gan Ainm as the name, as they didn't want to spend too much more time thinking it over. "After much deliberation, Patricia, feeling a bit lazy about the whole process, simply sugg

- [Top general visits key Marine, Navy units to inspect Korea-US drills](#) (2026-03-10 11:57)

Korea's top general on Tuesday visited key Marine Corps and Navy units to inspect their participation in an ongoing major exercise with U.S. troops, his office said. Joint Chiefs of Staff

(JCS) Chairman Gen. Jin Yong-sung visited the Combined Marine Component Command and the Northwest Islands Defense Command and urged troops to verify wartime plans during the Freedom Shield exercise as Korea seeks to take back wartime operational control (OPCON) from the United States, according to the JCS. Jin also visited the Navy's 2nd Fleet headquartered in Pyeongtaek, about 60 kilometers south of Seoul, where he said the joint exercise serves as an opportunity for the allies to prove their capabilities, the JCS said. The allies' annual springtime exercise began its 11-day run on Monday, with this year's edition focusing on assessing conditions to achieve the transfer of wartime operational control from Washington to Seoul. Korea has been seeking a "conditions-based" transfer of wartime OPCON from the U.S. within President Lee Jae Myung's five-year term that ends in 2030.

- [Over half of skilled visa holders earn more than \\$2,000 per month](#) (2026-03-10 11:57)

More than half of foreign workers on so-called “professional” visas in Korea — holders of E-1 to E-7 work permits — now earn over 3 million won (\$2,000) a month, according to new data released Tuesday. A survey published by the Ministry of Data and Statistics shows that among professional workers — including professors (E 1), foreign language teachers (E 2), researchers (E 3), tech experts (E-4), licensed professionals (E 5), artists and performers (E 6) and specific activity workers (E 7) — more than half reported a monthly income of at least 3 million won. Across all skilled foreign employees in the country, 50.2 percent earned between 2 million and 3 million won a month, while 36.9 percent took home more than 3 million won. However, among “non-professional” workers such as E-9 visa holders, 68.9 percent were concentrated in the 2 million to under 3 million won range. The survey also examined working hours. Among foreign workers overall, 58.1 percent said they worked between 40 and 50 hours per week. Another 17.8 percent worked between 50 and 60 hours, and

- [\[PHOTO\] Dismantling THAAD launcher](#) (2026-03-10 11:57)

This combination photo shows a launcher from a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) battery in a ready position, left, and dismantling work underway on another launcher, right, at a U.S. THAAD base in Seongju, North Gyeongsang Province, last Thursday. The U.S. Department of Defense is moving part of the THAAD system deployed in Korea to the Middle East, according to media reports Tuesday. Yonhap

- [Korea's online sex abuse kingpin loses blog after prison award backlash](#) (2026-03-10 11:57)

Convicted online sexual predator Cho Ju-bin faced intense public backlash after using an outside proxy to boast about receiving a prison award online, prompting the hosting platform to permanently suspend his account. The 31-year-old is currently serving a 47-year, four-month sentence for masterminding the notorious "Baksabang" Telegram sex blackmail ring. Cho had a post titled "About award acceptance" uploaded by proxy on his Tistory blog on Feb. 20. He attached a photo of an "Intensive Character Education Excellence Award" issued by the Gyeongbuk Correctional Institution where he is held. Displaying a lack of remorse, Cho wrote that he had told his family to "stick it on the house refrigerator for a bit." He justified the post

by calling the certificate a "legitimate award" that included a prize of cup noodles. "An award is the fruit of my labor," Cho wrote. He further compared his situation to that of a struggling creative. "A solitary artist can use an award from a competition as a lantern to keep moving toward their dream," Cho wrote. "It is a treasure map. It is also a treasure that

- [Unions threaten strikes as 'yellow envelope law' comes into force](#) (2026-03-10 11:57)

Subcontracted workers represented by unions across various industries are stepping up demands for direct talks with parent companies after Korea's so-called "yellow envelope law" came into force Tuesday, with labor leaders preparing strikes against firms that refuse to negotiate. Amendments to Articles 2 and 3 of the Trade Union and Labor Relations Adjustment Act took effect, expanding the legal definition of an employer to include firms that exercise significant control over working conditions, even without a direct employment contract with subcontracted workers. The Korean Confederation of Trade Unions (KCTU), a powerful umbrella labor organization with more than 1 million members, expects a major wave of bargaining demands from these workers in the coming weeks. The KCTU and its partner unions have begun sending bargaining notices to companies that oversee subcontracted work on behalf of nearly 140,000 subcontracted workers, with plans to present the overall scale of the campaign at a press briefing later this month. "In line with the purpose of the law, the real employer must

- [Last remaining Dokdo resident dies at 88](#) (2026-03-10 11:57)

The last remaining resident of South Korea's easternmost islets of Dokdo has died, leaving the outcroppings without a registered dweller, officials said Tuesday. Kim Shin-yeol, who along with her husband, Kim Sung-do, had lived on Dokdo since the late 1960s, died March 2 at age 88, according to the Ulleung county government. Her husband died earlier in October 2018 at the age of 79. The couple made a living from fishing and became symbols of South Korea's control of the islets, which Japan has consistently laid claim to. During elections, they voted by absentee ballot. Kim Shin-yeol had largely been away from Dokdo since a typhoon damaged her house in 2020. As her health deteriorated, she mostly stayed with her daughter until her death. Officers of the Dokdo Security Police and county employees have been stationed on the islets but none are registered residents. A county official said the local government will not take immediate steps to fill the vacuum out of respect for the bereaved family but will consult with the North Gyeongsang provincial government in the future regarding the next

- [Lee says big business-SME cooperation is key to survival](#) (2026-03-10 11:57)

President Lee Jae Myung on Tuesday urged large corporations and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to work more closely together to sustain the Korean economy and deliver broader growth, describing such collaboration as a "smart survival strategy" for businesses. Lee made the remarks while presiding over a meeting with business leaders at Cheong Wa Dae, the presidential office. The gathering brought together representatives from 10 major corporations — including Hanwha Ocean, Samsung Electronics, SK SUPEX Council and Hyundai Motor — along with 10 SMEs that partner with them. The event aimed to promote mutually

beneficial cooperation between large companies and smaller firms. “Cooperation between large corporations and SMEs is not charity but an investment. Put more bluntly, it could even be a survival strategy,” Lee said at the meeting. Lee underscored that cooperation should extend beyond corporate partners, saying that regional youth, small-business owners and investors can also become long-term sources of corporate competitiveness. He noted that companies increasingly fa

- [Gov't to set up committee to honor civic resistance to martial law](#) (2026-03-10 11:57)

The government will establish the presidential "Committee of Light" to honor the dedication and spirit of people who contributed to protecting the Constitution and democracy during the Dec. 3, 2024, martial law, the interior ministry said Tuesday. The Cabinet meeting approved a bill earlier in the day on the establishment and operation of the Committee of Light, the ministry said. It will consist of no more than 35 members, including experts in the fields of the Constitution and democracy. The panel will establish basic directions for the spread of Korean-style citizen participation democracy, and issue and award the "certificate of light" to people who contributed to the protection of democracy during the martial law imposition. The government plans to establish the criteria on the issuance of the certificate after deliberation by the committee. The committee will also pursue projects to inherit the spirit of democracy, such as collecting opinions on whether to designate a national commemorative day related to the "revolution of light," which refers to the citizen-led pro-democracy move

- [Concrete mound at Muan airport built to save construction costs: audit](#) (2026-03-10 11:57)

A concrete mound blamed for the deadly 2024 plane crash at Muan International Airport was found to have been built in order to save construction costs, the state auditor said Tuesday. The mound was raised near the end of the runway at the airport some 290 kilometers south of Seoul to support a localizer, which sends signals to help aircraft find the middle of the runway. On Dec. 29, 2024, a Jeju Air jet from Bangkok crashed into the structure after making a belly landing, killing 179 passengers and crew members on board. According to the Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI), which inspected aviation safety measures and related maintenance, personnel and control, the terrain on which the runway and the adjacent Runway End Safety Area were built was sloping. In order to save construction costs from reshaping the terrain, a concrete mound was built to raise the localizer above the runway, the BAI said. The auditor also found that the Korea Airports (KAC) demanded a review of the mound's construction in 2007 after it was approved by the land ministry in 2003 without a vulnerability assessment.

- [US moving parts of THAAD anti-missile system from S. Korea to Middle East: report](#) (2026-03-10 11:57)

The United States has been moving parts of its Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) anti-missile system from South Korea to the Middle East, the Washington Post reported, citing two officials. The reported movement of parts of a THAAD missile defense system comes amid media reports that the U.S. military stationed in South Korea has shipped out some of its

military assets amid an intensifying war in the Middle East. "The Pentagon is moving parts of a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system from South Korea to the Middle East," thereport said. The THAAD batteries, which smash enemy missiles during their final phase of flight, have been deployed in South Korea to better cope with North Korea's missile threats. Earlier in the day, President Lee Jae Myung told a Cabinet meeting that a potential relocation of military assets owned by U.S. Forces Korea will not affect the deterrence posture against North Korea.

- [PPP' s break with Yoon sparks conservative rift ahead of local elections](#) (2026-03-10 11:57)

The main opposition People Power Party' s (PPP) decision to formally distance itself from former President Yoon Suk Yeol is exposing deep divisions within Korea' s conservative bloc as the country approaches the June 3 local elections. The party adopted a resolution Monday rejecting calls for Yoon' s political comeback, marking its clearest attempt yet to separate itself from the so-called "Yoon Again" movement that has gained traction among some conservative supporters following the former president' s conviction over his Dec. 3, 2024, martial law declaration. Political observers say the move reflects growing concerns within the party about its electoral prospects, particularly in the Seoul metropolitan area, where public sentiment toward conservatives has deteriorated sharply. At an emergency meeting of lawmakers, the PPP apologized for the turmoil caused by Yoon' s martial law declaration and said that it opposes "all claims calling for the former president' s political return." The resolution was issued in the name of all PPP lawmakers. Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon welcomed th

- [Busan launches infectious disease testing service for foreign residents](#) (2026-03-10 11:57)

Busan is rolling out an infectious disease testing program for foreign residents through a pilot program set to launch this month, bringing preventive on-site testing to centers serving foreign residents across the city. The Sunday infectious disease testing services reflect a broader push by the southeastern port city to expand health care access for foreign residents who face language barriers and struggle to find time on weekdays, as the city' s foreign population rises. Busan Metropolitan City said Tuesday the program will offer foreign residents testing for diseases including Hansen' s disease, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections, parasitic infections and hepatitis B and C. It aims to detect infections early and provide follow-up care for those who test positive. "While the city' s Korean population declines, the number of foreign residents in Busan continues to rise," an official at Busan' s infectious disease control division told The Korea Times, emphasizing the rising importance of early detection of major infectious diseases among foreign residents

- [S. Korea regrets transfer of USFK air defense assets to Middle East, Lee says](#) (2026-03-10 11:57)

The Korean government has expressed its opposition to the transfer of some U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) 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 in Cheong Wa Dae, 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 USFK 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 any potential aggression from North Korea. “If you ask whether this creates serious obstacles for our deterrence strategy against North Korea, I can say with certainty that it does not,” he said. He noted that South Korea’s defense spending ranks among the highest in the world, adding that some estimates place the country’s annual

- [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 initiative.

- ['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 change

- [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 betw

- [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 milli

- [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 Yeonjudae, 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 during MWC, marking the first time a Korean public institution has received the honor and underscoring 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 intercept 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 outdoo

- [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 Kyoung-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 RisingSun 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 "base villages" 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 video titled "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, spicysimmered 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 Air Base 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 opposi

- [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 we

- [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

Source: The Korea Herald

- [Why Korean memory giants aren't rushing to expand DRAM supply](#) (2026-03-12 05:55)

The world suddenly cannot get enough memory chips. Artificial intelligence data centers are consuming unprecedented volumes of DRAM, pushing prices higher and squeezing supply for everything from smartphones to laptops. The two companies at the center of that boom, Samsung Electronics and SK hynix, earned more than 72.1 trillion won (\$48.7 billion) in operating profit last year. And yet the shortage continues. The question seems obvious. If demand is booming and profits are soaring, why not simp

- [Leaving a teaching job in Korea? Here's what foreign instructors need to know](#) (2026-03-12 05:40)

When a private English academy in South Korea abruptly terminated a 30-year-old American instructor's contract, her first thoughts were about her visa and her pay. "I remember going blank, thinking about what was going to happen to my visa, and whether I would be able to receive my severance pay," said the instructor, who asked to remain anonymous. Her concerns are shared by many foreign national teachers working in South Korea. As of 2024, 13,443 instructors were residing in the country under t

- [Short-form platforms push K-pop songs to get shorter](#) (2026-03-12 05:25)

Short-form video platforms are increasingly reshaping the structure of K-pop songs, with brief moments designed as viral hooks often determining a track's success. In the past, the overall flow and musical development of a three- or four-minute track were key factors in determining a song's success. Today, however, a roughly 15-second viral hook — the segment most likely to spread through short-form videos and dance challenges — can make or break a song's popularity. As a result, the average run

- [Samsung Biologics showcases CDMO capabilities in Singapore](#) (2026-03-12 05:19)

Samsung Biologics has highlighted its contract development and manufacturing organization, or CDMO, capabilities at Biologics Manufacturing Asia 2026 in Singapore, receiving a bioprocessing

excellence award during the two-day event. According to Samsung Biologics on Thursday, the Korean CDMO leader presented its top-notch CDO technologies and services at the conference on Wednesday. Lim Heon-chang, director of formulation development at Samsung Biologics' CDO division, introduced case studies of

- [Autonomous A2Z completes W40.5b funding, gears up for IPO this year](#) (2026-03-12 05:15)

Autonomous A2Z said Thursday it has completed a 40.5 billion won (\$27.4 million) pre-IPO funding round, bringing its total funding to 122.5 billion won — the largest amount raised by a self-driving startup in Korea. The funding comes ahead of the company's planned initial public offering later this year at the nation's tech-heavy Kosdaq. It will support expansion of autonomous mobility projects at home and abroad, as well as investment in infrastructure and talent to advance end-to-end AI-based

- [Hyosung Heavy secures first ESS project in Australia](#) (2026-03-12 05:15)

Hyosung Heavy Industries said Thursday it has signed a 142.5 billion won (\$96.3 million) contract in Australia to build energy storage system infrastructure, marking the company's first ESS supply project in the country. The Korean power equipment manufacturer signed the agreement with Tangkam BESS, an Australian project company, to construct a 100-megawatt, 200-megawatt-hour battery energy storage system in Tangkam, Queensland, near Brisbane on Australia's eastern coast. The system will be capa

- [GEAN names winners of 2026 e-mobility awards](#) (2026-03-12 05:13)

The Global E-Mobility Alliance Network, or GEAN, based on Jeju Island, said Wednesday it had selected six award recipients for their contributions to advancing the global electric mobility industry. The 2026 GEAN Awards and Special Awards will be presented on March 25, during the opening ceremony of the 13th International e-Mobility Expo, which will take place at Jeju Shinhwa World. Recipients of the 2026 GEAN Awards include South Korean energy solutions provider LS Electric, China's Nansha Dist

- [Quiet comeback of Lee Na-young, the A-list mystique](#) (2026-03-12 05:10)

In the Korean entertainment scene, few married couples command as much fascination, or maintain as much distance, as Lee Na-young and Won Bin. Despite their status as perennial A-listers, the two are famously selective about their work, often letting years pass between projects. While Won Bin has remained on a cinematic hiatus since his 2010 blockbuster "The Man from Nowhere," Lee recently ended her own seven-year television drought with the ENA legal drama "Honor." The series proved to be a rat

- [KMI partners with Guardant Health on liquid biopsy cancer screening](#) (2026-03-12 05:09)

The Korea Medical Institute said Tuesday it has signed a memorandum of understanding with US-based Guardant Health to collaborate on liquid biopsy-based precision cancer screening. The agreement was signed March 5 at the KMI Foundation headquarters in Seoul, with KMI

Chairman Lee Kwang-bae, KMI Strategic Planning Office Head Lee Kwang-yup, Guardant Health/AMEA Vice President Divya Mehta, and Guardant Health Korea Country Manager Michael Jung in attendance. Under the partnership, the two organiza

- [Seoul ramps up support for international background students](#) (2026-03-12 05:00)

Seoul's education authority is expanding support for students from multicultural families and migrant backgrounds as their numbers rise in schools across the city. The Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education on Thursday unveiled a comprehensive support plan that includes establishing a second multicultural education support center and improving school environments to help such students and their parents better adapt to the Korean education system. The second Seoul Multicultural Education Support

- [Young Koreans turning to AI lawyers](#) (2026-03-12 04:46)

As artificial intelligence advances, a growing number of young South Koreans are turning to generative AI for legal advice in relatively minor criminal cases. The Maeil Business Newspaper reported Wednesday that a 23-year-old college student used generative AI to develop a legal strategy before being questioned by police over sexually insulting remarks made while playing an online video game. "I explained the facts and trained the AI on relevant legal provisions and precedents. It helped me get

- [Lives could have been saved if rescue teams had arrived minutes earlier: Itaewon survivor](#) (2026-03-12 04:45)

"If rescue teams had arrived about 10 minutes earlier, more than 100 lives could have been saved." The remark by survivor Min Sung-ho set a somber tone Thursday as a special investigation panel held its first public hearing into the 2022 Itaewon crowd crush. Speaking at the hearing in central Seoul, Min recalled the moment the crowd surge turned fatal in a narrow alley in the Itaewon nightlife district during Halloween celebrations on Oct. 29, 2022. A total of 159 people were killed. "My chest w

- [YouTuber offers \\$2.7m home as giveaway in \\$0.67 membership push](#) (2026-03-12 04:44)

A South Korean YouTuber with more than 17 million subscribers is offering an apartment, purportedly worth 3.57 billion won (\$2.4 million), as a giveaway to promote his paid membership, which costs 990 won per month. The 38-year-old YouTuber Bokyem revealed the plan in a recent video on his channel Bokyem TV, saying the roughly 165-square-meter unit to be awarded to one subscriber is fully renovated and furnished. It comes equipped with a 100-inch television, a high-end gaming computer setup, air

- [Seoul eyes using commercial satellite imagery for defense](#) (2026-03-12 04:20)

South Korea is considering the use of commercial satellite imagery for defense, a move aimed at reducing the cost of developing military satellites while expanding access to such data. The Defense Acquisition Program Administration said Thursday it has commissioned a study on

ways to utilize commercial satellite imagery for military use. The agency said the study will serve as the basis for future projects to acquire and use commercial satellite imagery for defense operations. The 64.2 million w

- [US may have struck Iranian girls' school after using outdated targeting data, sources say](#) (2026-03-12 04:00)

WASHINGTON (Reuters) -- A strike on an Iranian girls' school that killed scores of children may be the result of US use of outdated targeting data, two sources familiar with the matter told Reuters Wednesday, providing new details about what would rank among the worst cases of civilian casualties in decades of US conflicts. Reuters first reported Thursday that an ongoing, internal US military investigation showed US forces were likely responsible for the strike on the girls' school in Minab. V

- [Epstein's longtime accountant testifies on his wealth and business ties](#) (2026-03-12 03:59)

WASHINGTON (AP) — House lawmakers were digging into Jeffrey Epstein's sprawling financial portfolio on Wednesday as a committee deposed his former accountant and tried to understand his connections to some of the world's wealthiest men. Richard Kahn, who worked closely with Epstein for years and now serves as an executor of his estate, appeared for the closed-door deposition on Capitol Hill. He told lawmakers that he had not personally seen evidence of Epstein's sexual abuse, but provided a full

- [Taihan Cable breaks ground on Vietnam UHV cable plant](#) (2026-03-12 03:57)

Taihan Cable & Solution said Thursday its Vietnamese subsidiary, Taihan Cable Vina, has begun construction of an ultrahigh voltage cable plant in southern Vietnam, marking the company's first overseas facility dedicated to 400-kilovolt-class cables. The project is part of the Korean cable maker's strategy to expand its global manufacturing network and meet rising demand for power grid infrastructure worldwide. The new facility will be built on a 56,200-square-meter site within the Long Thanh Ind

- [Huons wins IND approval for Phase 2 dry eye drug trial](#) (2026-03-12 03:57)

Huons, a South Korean pharmaceutical company specializing in ophthalmic and injectable medicines, said Thursday it has received Investigational New Drug approval from the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety to begin a Phase 2 clinical trial of its dry eye treatment candidate. HUC1-394 is a peptide-based ophthalmic solution licensed from Novacell Technology. The drug selectively binds to Formyl Peptide Receptor 2 (FPR2) — a receptor involved in the body's natural resolution of inflammation — activat

- [Wealthy nations release record oil reserves](#) (2026-03-12 03:57)

PARIS (AP) — A group representing many of the world's wealthiest countries agreed Wednesday to release the largest volume of emergency oil reserves in its history, in a bid to counter the effects of the Iran war on energy markets and the halt of cargo shipping through the Strait of

Hormuz. The International Energy Agency said it will make 400 million barrels of oil available from its members' emergency reserves, which is more than double the 182.7 million barrels that the IEA's 32 member countries

- [Starbucks taps Seoul flavors](#) (2026-03-12 03:57)

Starbucks Korea said Thursday it will introduce Seoul-themed beverages — Seoul Makgeolli Cold Brew and Seoul Sunset Omija Fizzio — at 100 stores across Seoul starting Monday. The drinks reinterpret traditional Korean elements, including the aroma of makgeolli, a traditional Korean rice wine, and the sunset over palace ponds. The rollout will begin at stores in major tourist districts such as Myeong-dong, Gwanghwamun and Gangnam, as the number of foreign visitors to Korea reached a record 18.7 million

- [Arctic sea ice among lowest on record: AFP review of US data](#) (2026-03-12 03:55)

Arctic sea ice is headed for one of its smallest winter peaks on record, an Agence France-Presse review of US data showed Wednesday, as climate change shrinks the region's frozen cover and heightens geopolitical tensions. Formed when ocean water freezes, Arctic sea ice melts naturally in summer and reforms in winter, but the amount that returns has been declining due to human-induced planetary warming. The maximum sea ice extent in the Arctic reached nearly 14.22 million square kilometers on March

- [War likely to worsen repression in Iran: UN probe](#) (2026-03-12 03:53)

GENEVA (AFP) -- The war in the Middle East is likely to result in worsening institutionalised repression of Iranian citizens, UN-mandated investigators probing rights abuses in Iran said Wednesday. The UN's Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Iran said civilians in the country were caught between ongoing armed hostilities and repression that has reached unprecedented levels, which may amount to crimes against humanity. Iran's deepening human rights crisis "is likely to worsen in the

- [Child abuse killed 96 children in Korea in 5 years, many by parents](#) (2026-03-12 03:53)

Nearly 100 children in South Korea died from abuse over the past five years, most at the hands of their own parents, according to police data covering tens of thousands of reported cases nationwide. A total of 63,575 child abuse cases were recorded during the five-year period, resulting in 96 deaths, according to data from the National Police Agency released Thursday by Rep. Chung Choon-saeng of the minor Rebuilding Korea Party. In 2025 alone, 14,211 cases were recorded, up from 11,572 in 2021,

- [Sea drones target oil tankers in the Middle East as conflict risks widen](#) (2026-03-12 03:47)

LONDON (Reuters) -- Naval drones have been used in at least two attacks on oil tankers in the Gulf region since war erupted between the US, Israel and Iran, according to maritime authorities and analysts, demonstrating a dangerous new threat in the key shipping lane. The emergence of the use of explosive-laden unmanned surface vessels, which Ukraine has used

with great effect in its war with Russia, comes as Iran threatens to block oil shipments from transiting the key Strait of Hormuz, the ch

- [UNESCO fears for fate of historical sites during Iran war](#) (2026-03-12 03:46)

PARIS (Reuters) -- UNESCO said it is deeply concerned about the fate of world heritage sites in Iran and across the region, after Tehran's Golestan palace, often compared to Versailles, and a historic mosque and palace in Isfahan were damaged in the war. The UN's cultural agency on Wednesday urged all parties to protect the region's outstanding cultural sites, saying four of Iran's 29 world heritage sites had been damaged since the start of the US and Israeli war with Iran. "UNESCO is deeply

- [Seventeen's Vernon and The 8 to form new unit, album expected in June](#) (2026-03-12 03:03)

Vernon and The 8 of K-pop boy band Seventeen are preparing to debut a new subunit this summer, according to Pledis Entertainment on Thursday. Pledis said the two artists are working on a unit album with a target release of June and are participating in the album's production. Vernon, one of the group's rappers, has consistently taken part in songwriting and composing since Seventeen's debut in 2015. In 2024, he became a member of the Korea Music Copyright Association in recognition of his contin

- [NexZ to tour Japan from May](#) (2026-03-12 02:56)

Boy group NexZ will take to the stage in Japanese arenas in May and June, label JYP Entertainment announced Thursday. It will be the group's second tour and its first time visiting such venues in Japan, where six of the members are originally from. The 2-year-old group will have two shows each in Tokyo and Osaka, on May 30-31 and on June 12-13, respectively. Its previous trip was held last summer, spanning 15 cities in Japan for 18 shows, through which it made its concert debut at Budokan in Tok

- [Stray Kids win big at Japan Gold Disc Awards](#) (2026-03-12 02:46)

Stray Kids took home four awards at the 40th Japan Gold Disc Awards, according to the organizer on Thursday. The group won album of the year, best artist, music video of the year and was among the best 3 albums in Asia, scoring the most this year for an international artist. Stray Kids' third EP in Japan, "Hollow," the group's first to be entirely made up of Japanese-language songs, was chosen as the album of the year and one of the best 3 Albums. Live Blu-ray documenting the group's fan meetup

- [LG CNS teams up with Palantir on enterprise AI](#) (2026-03-12 02:43)

LG CNS said Wednesday it has signed a strategic partnership with US artificial intelligence software company Palantir to accelerate enterprise AI transformation initiatives. The agreement was announced ahead of Palantir's AIPCon event, attended by LG CNS CEO Hyun Shin-gyoon and Palantir CEO Alex Karp alongside executives from both companies. Palantir provides

enterprise data and AI platforms, including Foundry, which integrates and analyzes large volumes of corporate data, and the Artificial Int

- [Iran ‘welcome to compete’ in World Cup, says Trump](#) (2026-03-12 02:34)

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (AFP) -- US President Donald Trump would "welcome" Iran's participation at the upcoming World Cup in North America, despite the ongoing Middle East war, the White House said on Wednesday. The war, triggered by US-Israeli strikes on Feb. 28, has thrown into doubt Iran's participation at this summer's men's soccer World Cup, jointly hosted by Canada, Mexico and the United States. The US administration was confirming an Instagram post by FIFA chief Gianni Infantino earlier in

- [Alpha Drive One to host 1st showcase in Japan](#) (2026-03-12 02:26)

Rookie boy group Alpha Drive One is set to hold its first showcase in Tokyo on March 13, agency WakeOne Entertainment said Thursday. The event will welcome approximately 1,000 fans to relive the success of its first EP, "Euphoria," which was released in January. Although the group has yet to officially promote in Japan, its Korean debut album ranked No. 3 on Oricon's Weekly and Weekly Combined Album Rankings. The mini album sold more than 1.44 million copies in its first week, the second most fo

- [\[Photo News\] Jinro pop-up pocha in Melbourne](#) (2026-03-12 02:17)

HiteJinro said Thursday it opened Jinro Pocha Melbourne, to promote accessibility to the soju brand, on Feb. 27. The space is decorated in the style of a Korean pocha, featuring Jinro's signature toad figurines and limited-edition merchandise. The menu includes Jinro soju, Terra beer, as well as specialty highballs and cocktails (HiteJinro)

- [Musical actor Nam Kyung-ju referred to prosecutors over alleged sex crime](#) (2026-03-12 02:11)

Musical actor Nam Kyung-ju has been referred to prosecutors on allegations of sexual assault, while Hongik University, where he serves as an associate professor, said it has begun personnel procedures in accordance with its regulations. According to police, the Seoul Bangbae Police Station referred the 63-year-old to the Seoul Central District Prosecutors' Office on Wednesday for sexual intercourse by abuse of occupational authority. As outlined in Article 303, Nam could face up to seven years i

- [Jill Biden opens up in memoir about Joe Biden's decision to end his 2024 reelection bid](#) (2026-03-12 02:10)

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Jill Biden is breaking her silence about Joe Biden's decision to abruptly end his 2024 presidential reelection bid under pressure from Democrats concerned about his age, health and viability against Republican Donald Trump in a rematch of their 2020 campaign. A political spouse for nearly 50 years, Jill Biden said she has never publicly discussed her feelings about the three-week stretch when her husband ended his political career, instead saving her

thoughts for the pages of

- [Seventeen to launch another subunit: report](#) (2026-03-12 01:46)

Seventeen's Vernon and The8 will form a duo subunit and drop an album in June, according to a local media report on Thursday. Vernon, one of the 13-member act's rappers, has helped write songs for the group since its debut. Last year, he became a member of The Recording Academy along with Woozi, which earned them votes for the 2026 Grammy Awards. The8, one of Seventeen's performers, released his first solo EP "Stardust" in native China in 2024. Vernon co-wrote the lyrics and melodies for the lea

- [\[Graphic News\] South Korea takes pride in its people: survey](#) (2026-03-12 01:00)

South Korea takes pride in its people: survey 설문조사: 한국, 자국민에 대해 자부심 느껴 A global survey of 30,000 people across 25 countries by the Pew Research Center found that sources of national pride vary widely, reflecting cultural values and political systems. 25개국 30,000명을 대상으로 한 퓨리서치센터의 국제 설문조사에 따르면, 애국심의 원천은 문화적 가치와 정치적 체계를 반영하며 다양하게 나타난다. In South Korea, respondents most often cited "diligent and sincere people with strong national character" as their greatest source of pride, highlighting national ch

- [Veteran pitcher Ryu Hyun-jin hoping for deep run in knockout round](#) (2026-03-12 00:41)

Veteran South Korean pitcher Ryu Hyun-jin hasn't pitched in the United States since he left the majors following the 2023 season, and now he will get to reacquaint himself with American surroundings this week, as the national team prepares for the knockout round of the World Baseball Classic. The journey begins in the quarterfinals scheduled for Friday evening in Miami, and Ryu wants to make sure it lasts longer than just that one game. "We want to play a couple more games here," Ryu said after

- [National Assembly set to vote on bill on US investment pledges](#) (2026-03-12 00:27)

The National Assembly is set to hold a plenary session Thursday to vote on a special bill on South Korea's \$350 billion investment pledge to the United States under a trade deal between the two nations after rival parties reached a bipartisan agreement earlier this week. On Wednesday, the ruling Democratic Party and the main opposition People Power Party approved the bill during a meeting of the parliamentary legislation and judiciary committee. Under the bill, a new state-run corporation specia

- [N. Korea's Kim, daughter test pistols together at munitions factory](#) (2026-03-12 00:24)

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un inspected a factory for light, portable munitions, where he and his teenage daughter tested pistols together, according to state media Thursday. Kim oversaw arms production at a "major munitions factory" under the second economy commission the previous day, where production began based on a new pistol design approved at a meeting of the party's central military commission last month, the Korean Central News

Agency said. The second economy committee oversees the pr

- [Trump says 'we've won' in war with Iran](#) (2026-03-12 00:14)

US President Donald Trump claimed Wednesday that "we've won" in the war against Iran after he said in a media interview that the ongoing conflict will end "soon" as there is "practically nothing left to target." Trump made the remarks during a public event in Hebron, Kentucky, as the US military operation, codenamed "Operation Epic Fury," entered its 12th day, seeking to destroy Iran's missile capabilities and its Navy, and sever any pathway to nuclear arms. "Let me say we've won. ... You never

- [Trump says war with Iran will end 'soon' as 'practically nothing left to target': Axios](#) (2026-03-12 00:11)

US President Donald Trump said Wednesday that the war with Iran will end "soon" as there is "practically nothing left to target," according to a news report, as concerns continue over the impact of the conflict on oil prices and the global economy. Trump made the remarks in a five-minute phone interview with Axios, as the US military operation, codenamed "Operation Epic Fury," entered its 12th day, seeking to destroy Iran's missile capabilities and its Navy, and sever any pathway to nuclear arms

- [Seoul shares open lower amid extended woes over oil prices](#) (2026-03-12 00:10)

South Korean stocks started slightly lower Thursday amid escalating oil price fluctuations sparked by the lingering US-Iran conflict and shipping disruptions at the key waterway in the Middle East. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI) fell 42.3 points, or 0.75 percent, to 5,567.65 at the opening bell. The index edged up 1.4 percent Wednesday. Overnight, investors sat on the sidelines on Wall Street despite major countries' decisions to release reserve oil amid concerns tension

- [US launches Section 301 trade investigation into S. Korea, China, Japan, 13 other economies: USTR](#) (2026-03-12 00:06)

US President Donald Trump's administration opened a trade inquiry into South Korea, China, Japan and 13 other economies to uncover "unfair" trade practices related to "structural" excess capacity and production, a move that might result in tariffs, the US Trade Representative said Wednesday. In a press call, USTR Jamieson Greer said that the Trump administration published a Federal Register notice initiating an investigation under Section 301 of the 1974 Trade Act -- a legal provision that allow

- [\[Graphic News\] South Korea takes pride in its people: survey](#) (2026-03-11 23:00)

A global survey of 30,000 people across 25 countries by the Pew Research Center found that sources of national pride vary widely, reflecting cultural values and political systems. In South Korea, respondents most often cited "diligent and sincere people with strong national character" as their greatest source of pride, highlighting national character and social

cohesion. Similar sentiments were expressed in Japan, the United Kingdom and Spain, where “the people” ranked highest. In contrast, Amer

- [\[Sara Albrecht\] Refund tariffs the right way](#) (2026-03-11 20:30)

When the US Supreme Court ruled that the administration’s tariffs were unlawful, it resolved a constitutional question. What it did not resolve is how to unwind the economic damage. Gov. JB Pritzker has called for roughly \$1,700 per Illinois household — about \$8.7 billion total — arguing that families effectively paid an illegal tax through higher prices and deserve direct reimbursement. It may be appealing math. But it is not how tariffs work — and it is not how refunds should work. Tariffs are

- [\[Wang Son-taek\] The hidden cost of war: Public diplomacy](#) (2026-03-11 20:30)

Military power often produces a moment of triumph. Precision strikes dominate headlines, targets are destroyed and political leaders present the operation as evidence of resolve and strength. In the short term, such actions can create the appearance of decisive leadership. Yet the longer-term perspective often tells a very different story. History repeatedly shows that military success does not necessarily translate into strategic success. When a war is launched without plausible cause or clear

- [\[Moon Yewon\] Delays at Incheon Airport immigration](#) (2026-03-11 20:30)

If you visited Incheon Airport after Jan. 14, you may have noticed that the airport feels noticeably more crowded than before. While the steady growth of international travel naturally fills terminals, the most visible congestion now appears at immigration checkpoints. In the past, it typically took less than 30 minutes to process about 100 arriving passengers. Recently, however, the same number of passengers can take close to an hour to clear immigration — sometimes even longer during peak peri

- [Para cross-country skier wins record 3rd medal for S. Korea](#) (2026-03-11 11:53)

Para cross-country skier Kim Yun-ji captured her third medal of the ongoing Winter Paralympics in northern Italy on Wednesday. By taking the silver medal in the women's 10-kilometer interval start sitting event at Tesero Cross-Country Skiing Stadium in Tesero, Kim also set the record for the most medals by a South Korean athlete at a single Winter Paralympics. Shin Eui-hyun had the previous mark with two medals, a gold and a bronze, in para cross-country skiing at the 2018 PyeongChang Winter Par

- [AMD's Lisa Su to visit S. Korea next week, may meet with Samsung chief](#) (2026-03-11 11:50)

Lisa Su, the head of Advanced Micro Devices Inc., is expected to visit South Korea next week and meet with local conglomerate executives, industry sources said Wednesday. The chief executive officer of the US chip giant may arrive in South Korea next Wednesday, in what would be her first trip to the country since taking the position in 2014, the sources said. During her visit, Su is expected to meet with Choi Soo-yeon, the CEO of the country's largest local portal operator,

Naver. A meeting with

- [Iranian Embassy in Seoul displays banner with image of Khamenei](#) (2026-03-11 11:46)

The Iranian Embassy in Seoul has put up a banner bearing the image of the late former leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and accusing "war criminals," sources said Wednesday. The embassy in Seoul's central Yongsan district has recently installed the banner on the building's outer wall bearing an image of Khamenei and the English phrase, "When will the world hold war criminals accountable?" diplomatic sources said. It also said "the massacre of women and children is neither forgivable nor forgettable,

- [Defense minister inspects S. Korea-US military exercise sites](#) (2026-03-11 10:27)

Defense Minister Ahn Gyu-back on Wednesday inspected sites of an ongoing South Korea-US military exercise, calling for thorough preparations for the planned recovery of wartime operational command from the United States. The minister visited the defense command headquarters, the command center for the Freedom Shield exercise, where he received a briefing on the progress of the drills, his ministry said. The allies launched the annual springtime military exercise on Monday for an 11-day run, with

- [S. Korea, Ghana leaders seek tangible cooperation on security, critical minerals](#) (2026-03-11 09:22)

The leaders of South Korea and Ghana agreed to work closely together to deliver tangible results across a range of sectors, including the economy, maritime security and critical minerals, according to Cheong Wa Dae. The agreement was reached at President Lee Jae Myung's summit with Ghanaian President John Dramani Mahama, who is on a working visit to South Korea, on Wednesday afternoon at the presidential office in Seoul. Mahama's visit marks the first by an African head of state since Lee took o

- [Taemin signs with G-dragon's agency, Galaxy Corporation](#) (2026-03-11 09:20)

Taemin of SHINee has signed an exclusive contract with Galaxy Corp., an AI entertainment technology company home to G-Dragon, the agency announced Tuesday. "Galaxy Corp. has signed an exclusive contract with artist Taemin," the company said in a statement, Wednesday. "We will provide full support so that Taemin's unique artistic capabilities can create synergy with our advanced technology." Galaxy Corp. describes itself as Korea's first AI entertainment technology company, combining artificial i

- [Samsung SDI warns patent infringement, tech leakage on prismatic batteries](#) (2026-03-11 09:13)

Samsung SDI has issued a clear warning against patent infringement and technology leakage in its prismatic battery technology, an area where it holds longstanding competitive edge over rivals. During The Battery Conference, a side event of InterBattery 2026 held at Coex in Seoul on Wednesday, Joo Yong-lak, head of the R&D center at Samsung SDI, emphasized that Samsung

SDI would not tolerate unauthorized use of its prismatic battery technology. When asked about its competitors' recent foray into

- [LG Energy Solution, Samsung SDI flex patent muscle](#) (2026-03-11 08:49)

South Korea's two leading battery makers — LG Energy Solution and Samsung SDI — highlighted their patent strength at InterBattery 2026, signaling an intensifying race to secure next-generation battery technologies for emerging sectors such as energy storage systems and robotics. Speaking at The Battery Conference, a side event of the industry exhibition held at Coex in Seoul on Wednesday, Joo Yong-lak, head of Samsung SDI's R&D center, warned that the company would take action against patent inf

- [South Korea investigates BTS ticket scalping after nearly 1,900 illegal listings detected](#) (2026-03-11 08:47)

South Korea's Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism said it had identified 1,868 suspected scalping listings tied to upcoming BTS concerts in Goyang and Seoul's Gwanghwamun area after monitoring major online resale platforms. Authorities said four cases involving 105 tickets appeared to reflect organized attempts to resell seats at steep premiums, and those cases have been referred to the National Police Agency for investigation. According to data released by the ministry, the majority of susp

- [Yena returns with brighter, bolder take on love in 5th EP 'Love Catcher'](#) (2026-03-11 08:47)

Solo artist Yena returned Wednesday with a brighter, more self-assured take on love, unveiling her fifth EP, "Love Catcher," a five-track release that blends playful energy with a more mature emotional perspective. At a press conference in southern Seoul, Yena introduced the album as a project that captures different shades of love through a mix of sounds and collaborations, from the punchy main track "Catch Catch" to softer, more reflective B-sides featuring renowned artists such as Dindin, Mrc

- [Lawmaker in talks with Coupang CEO to get taste of night delivery](#) (2026-03-11 08:45)

Democratic Party of Korea Rep. Yeom Tae-young is in talks with Coupang CEO Harold Rogers to visit overnight delivery workers' workplace to experience a night shift together. According to Yeom's office, arrangements are being made to visit a Coupang Logistics Service facility to get a sense of what it is like to do delivery jobs overnight with Rogers, with March 19 being one of the options, though the schedule has yet to be fixed. Other liberal party lawmakers may accompany Yeom and Rogers. The v

- [Gender equality stalls as structural barriers persist, experts warn](#) (2026-03-11 08:38)

Experts urged coordinated efforts to tackle structural discrimination that continues to shape women's lives across society during an event hosted by the UN Women Knowledge and Partnerships Center in the Republic of Korea. They stressed that true equality requires

dismantling entrenched barriers, not merely helping women navigate around them. The center, supported by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, held a commemoration marking the 2026 International Women's Day in Seoul on Wednesday

- [Korean ring smuggled bulk cigarettes to Australia, making \\$6m in profit](#) (2026-03-11 08:30)

South Korean customs authorities have uncovered a smuggling ring that bought cigarettes in bulk from domestic convenience stores and illegally exported them to high-priced markets such as Australia and New Zealand, generating about 10 billion won (\$6.78 million) in profit. The Korea Customs Service's Incheon regional office said Wednesday that it had referred 11 suspects, including a ringleader in his 30s, to prosecutors without detention on charges of violating the Customs Act. The group allege

- [Jamsil mega convention center, dome stadium set for 2032 completion](#) (2026-03-11 08:26)

A 3.3 trillion-won (\$2.2 billion) sports and convention complex featuring South Korea's largest domed baseball stadium is planned for completion in Seoul by 2032 after the city finalized long-delayed negotiations for the Jamsil Sports and MICE Complex redevelopment. The Seoul Metropolitan Government said Wednesday it had concluded four years of negotiations with Seoul Smart MICE Park, a consortium led by Hanwha Construction Division selected as the preferred bidder for the privately funded proje

- [RBW acquires 257 Entertainment through WM, adds boy band Xlov](#) (2026-03-11 08:02)

Korean entertainment company RBW, the agency behind girl groups Mamamoo and Oh My Girl, said Tuesday that it acquired 257 Entertainment through its subsidiary WM Entertainment as part of efforts to strengthen its global expansion strategy. According to RBW, WM Entertainment recently signed a comprehensive business transfer agreement with 257 Entertainment and has begun post-merger integration procedures. Under the agreement, WM Entertainment will take over 257 Entertainment's intellectual proper

- [Senior US diplomat to discuss alliance issues in Seoul](#) (2026-03-11 07:59)

Michael DeSombre, the US assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, is scheduled to visit South Korea on Wednesday for talks on a range of alliance issues, officials said. According to South Korea's Foreign Ministry and diplomatic sources, DeSombre will stay in the country through March 15, with his official schedule beginning Thursday. During the visit, he is expected to meet with senior South Korean officials, including Jeong Yeon-doo, Seoul's chief representative for Nor

- [In Busan's Gijang, spring comes with anchovies](#) (2026-03-11 07:57)

Spring comes in many forms: cherry blossoms, pale pastel outfits appearing after months of winter drab, or the first green shoots on the dinner table. In a fishing town of Gijang, Busan, however, the season announces itself with a far more pungent sign: the salty, briny smell of fresh anchovies. Dae-byeon Village and its bustling namesake port account for about 60 percent

of South Korea's anchovy catch, harvested using drift-net fishing. Anchovies, which live for only one year, are caught primarily

- [Why did Heeseung leave Enhypen](#) (2026-03-11 07:56)

Heeseung of Enhypen announced his sudden departure from the boy group to pursue his own solo career through agency Belift Lab on Tuesday — raising questions across the industry about the rare circumstances surrounding the move. Departures from idol groups are not uncommon, but it is highly unusual for a member of a thriving group to leave the band specifically to pursue a solo career while remaining under the same agency. Speculation has quickly spread within the K-pop community, ranging from po

- [\[Key points\] NK leader oversees cruise missile test](#) (2026-03-11 07:27)

Missile launch: Kim Jong-un oversaw the launch of strategic cruise missiles from the Choe Hyon destroyer, with KCNA saying the test confirmed “the reliability of the national strategic weapons integrated command system.” Exercise response: The test is widely seen as a response to South Korea-US joint military exercises. Nuclear capability claim: Kim said the “state nuclear force has transitioned to a multifaceted operational stage.” Flight details: Missiles from the 5,000-ton Choe Hyon destroyer

- [Seoul shares up for 2nd day on bargain hunting amid Iran woes](#) (2026-03-11 07:08)

South Korean stocks finished higher for the second straight session Wednesday as investors hunted for bargains amid the market's recent volatility caused by the US-Iran war. The local currency rose against the greenback. The Korea Composite Stock Price Index moved up 77.36 points, or 1.4 percent, to close at 5,609.95 after rising as high as 5,746.36. Trade volume was heavy at 1 billion shares worth 26.3 trillion won (\$17.9 billion), with gainers far outpacing losers 701 to 198. Individual invest

- [US Senate Democrats warn Trump policies unsettling South Korea-US alliance](#) (2026-03-11 06:51)

Democratic members of the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee warned the South Korea-US alliance is facing mounting strain under the Donald Trump administration, citing a series of recent developments ranging from the detention of Korean workers in Georgia to pressure on Seoul to approve massive investments in the US. In a 56-page minority report titled “The Price of Retreat 2.0: Undermining America's Economic Edge and Alliance Advantage,” released Tuesday in the US, committee Democrats argued

- [Mirae Asset Securities launches first global pension desk](#) (2026-03-11 06:38)

Mirae Asset Securities said it would launch the industry's first dedicated service center for global companies in Korea's expanding retirement pension market. The new unit, called the Global Pension Desk or GPD, is designed to help multinational corporations navigate Korea's complex pension regulations and align local operations with global standards. The desk will

operate through a specialized network of certified tax accountants, actuaries, financial analysts and labor attorneys, providing int

- [S. Korea, Ghana leaders meet to broaden cooperation on maritime security, climate](#)
(2026-03-11 06:35)

The leaders of South Korea and Ghana met in Seoul to expand cooperation in the areas of the economy, maritime security and climate change, among others. South Korean President Lee Jae Myung and Ghanaian President John Dramani Mahama held a summit at Cheong Wa Dae on Wednesday afternoon during Mahama's working visit to South Korea. As the outcome of the summit, the two sides also signed a series of agreements aimed at broadening cooperation in maritime security, climate change and digital innovat

- [Patriots, THAAD may be shipped to Middle East. Is South Korea safe without them?](#)
(2026-03-11 06:27)

Speculation about the possible redeployment of US missile defense assets stationed in South Korea to the Middle East has been growing, along with concerns about the potential impact such a move could have on the country's defense posture. The speculation comes as Washington seeks to reinforce missile defense coverage for US bases and allies in the Middle East, amid a possibly prolonged confrontation with Iran. The Washington Post reported Monday, citing US officials, that the Pentagon is moving

- [Samsung Electro-Mechanics brings 200MP continuous zoom to Xiaomi flagship](#)
(2026-03-11 06:27)

Samsung Electro-Mechanics has begun mass production of a 200-megapixel continuous optical zoom camera module, with the technology debuting in Xiaomi's latest flagship smartphone, according to the company's 2025 business report released Tuesday. The Korean electronic components manufacturer said the module supports continuous optical zoom from 3.2x to 4.3x. The design allows a smartphone camera to maintain true optical image quality while zooming across a range rather than switching between fixed

- [Ruling party seeks parliamentary probe into 'politically motivated' indictments](#)
(2026-03-11 06:22)

The Democratic Party of Korea on Wednesday submitted a formal request for a parliamentary probe into what it claims to be politically motivated indictments through the manipulation of evidence in seven criminal cases against liberal figures. The request was submitted by Reps. Park Sung-joon, Yang Bu-nam, Lee Geon-tae and Lee Ju-hee with the National Assembly. The request will be reported to the plenary session of the National Assembly on Thursday. Among the figures affected by an allegedly wrong

- [Different electricity bills for different regions? Plan raises concerns](#) (2026-03-11 06:10)

South Korea's plan to introduce regionally differentiated electricity prices is raising concerns that inland provinces and public utilities in the greater Seoul area could face higher power costs, as the government pushes ahead with reforms to ease regional imbalances in energy supply. The proposal centers on offering cheaper electricity to areas near major power generation facilities to encourage industries to relocate from the capital region to provincial areas. Many of these regions have beco

- [Starbucks Korea first globally to fund graduate degrees for staff](#) (2026-03-11 06:04)

Starbucks Korea said Wednesday it has expanded its employee scholarship program to cover master's and doctoral degrees, becoming the first Starbucks market globally to offer graduate-level tuition support. The initiative is part of the Starbucks College Achievement Plan, an education assistance program designed to help employees pursue higher education while working. While the program previously supported bachelor's degrees, Starbucks Korea expanded the benefit last year to include graduate prog

- [Hyundai Motor tops Volkswagen in profit for first time](#) (2026-03-11 06:03)

South Korea's Hyundai Motor Group recorded the world's second-largest operating profit among global automakers last year, surpassing Germany's Volkswagen Group for the first time, industry data showed Wednesday. The group — which includes Hyundai Motor, Kia and luxury brand Genesis — posted 20.5 trillion won (\$13.95 billion) in operating profit in 2025. That placed it behind only Toyota Motor Corporation, which topped the list with 4.3 trillion yen (\$27.15 billion) in operating profit. Market wa

- [\[Photo News\] BTS' RM backs Korean art catalog](#) (2026-03-11 05:52)

A new catalog highlighting Korean paintings preserved in major museums around the world has been published with support from RM of BTS. The Overseas Korean Cultural Heritage Foundation, affiliated with the Korea Heritage Service, announced the publication of "It's ___ Here: Korean Paintings Shining Abroad," a richly illustrated catalogue that documents significant Korean paintings currently held in overseas museum collections. The project was made possible through a donation by RM in 2022, refle

- [Once criticized, Korea now helps end dog slaughter abroad](#) (2026-03-11 05:51)

Two long-running dog slaughter and meat-selling businesses in Indonesia have been shut down, marking what activists say is the first overseas application of South Korea's dog meat industry transition model. Humane World for Animals, a South Korea-based nonprofit, said Wednesday it supported the closure of a dog meat restaurant and slaughterhouse, rescuing 10 dogs that were awaiting slaughter. The operation in Kupang, on Indonesia's East Nusa Tenggara island, was conducted in partnership with Jak

- [Who's running to become next Seoul mayor?](#) (2026-03-11 05:47)

The race for Seoul mayor, the most high-profile of local government posts, remains clouded less than three months before the election. From the ruling bloc, several big names as well as relative unknowns have declared their bids, while the incumbent Seoul mayor and other conservative heavyweights are still weighing their options. From the ruling Democratic Party, five have made their bids official and will now have to go through primaries to enter the local election on June 3. One of the hopeful

- [Rights watchdog urges broader stimulus aid for foreign residents](#) (2026-03-11 05:45)

The National Human Rights Commission of Korea said Wednesday that it had advised the interior minister and other relevant officials to expand eligibility for government relief payments, including the so-called “consumption coupons for livelihood recovery,” to cover more foreign residents. The government distributed coupons worth up to 550,000 won (\$375) to Korean residents in 2025 as part of efforts to stimulate domestic consumption. The policy largely excluded foreigners, though it allowed limi

- [From idol to producer: Lee Hae-in’ s rise as a K-pop hitmaker](#) (2026-03-11 05:43)

For the past three years, the K-pop scene has been swept by girl groups backed by major agencies and veteran hitmakers such as Min Hee-jin, creative director behind NewJeans. But one of the most talked-about breakthroughs came from a far smaller company: Kiss of Life, a girl group launched by the little-known S2 Entertainment. The group’ s rapid rise — often described in the industry as a “miracle from a small agency” — has drawn attention to the creative force behind it: Lee Hae-in. The former i

- [Musinsa Standard global sales jump 162% on overseas demand](#) (2026-03-11 05:37)

Korean fashion platform Musinsa said Wednesday its casualwear brand Musinsa Standard is rapidly expanding its overseas customer base, driven by surging global sales. According to the company’ s analysis of online and offline transactions last year, sales on Musinsa’ s global platforms operating across 13 regions rose 162 percent in 2025 from a year earlier, highlighting strong international demand for the brand. Foreign customers also drove significant spending at the brand’ s offline stores in Kor

- [‘Minimalistic in very extreme way’ : Sharon Eyal brings ‘Jakie’ to Seoul](#) (2026-03-11 05:34)

For professional dancers, learning to pare themselves down can be challenging. As technique deepens, so does the instinct to add. And choreographer Sharon Eyal asks for the opposite.

“I’m asking the dancers to reduce and to be most minimalistic in a very extreme way. This is very challenging because the more professional you are, you add stuff. But I think this effort brings what I said before -- not choreography but ‘experience.’ ” Eyal is working with Korean dancers for the first time, collabor

- [Posco Future M to mass-produce LFP cathodes this year to challenge China](#) (2026-03-11 05:30)

Posco Future M President and CEO Eom Gi-chen said the company plans to begin mass production of cathode materials for lithium iron phosphate (LFP) batteries, aiming to challenge Chinese dominance in the low-cost battery segment. “The three major Korean battery companies — LG Energy Solution, Samsung SDI and SK On — are all planning to release LFP products within this year,” Eom said during a press briefing at InterBattery 2026 in Seoul, which opened Wednesday. Eom was recently appointed chairman

- [Kim supervises destroyer cruise missile test amid Seoul-Washington drills](#) (2026-03-11 05:27)

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un oversaw the test-firing of strategic cruise missiles from the Choe Hyon destroyer, state media reported Wednesday, roughly a week after a similar launch from the same vessel. The latest test is widely seen as a show of force against the ongoing South Korea-US joint military exercises, with the North's state-run Korean Central News Agency saying it was intended to underscore Pyongyang's nuclear deterrence. Kim Jong-un communicated with the warship by telephone and

- [Blackpink sets new K-pop girl group record on Billboard Hot 100 with ‘Go’](#) (2026-03-11 05:23)

Blackpink continues to expand its presence on global music charts, setting new records for K-pop girl groups on both the US Billboard and UK Official Charts. According to the latest chart update released by Billboard on Monday, the group's newly released song “Go,” the main track from its third EP “Deadline,” debuted at No. 63 on the Billboard Hot 100. The entry marks Blackpink's 11th appearance on the Hot 100, the most among K-pop female artists to date. Other tracks that made the chart include

- [Samsung Electronics to cancel W16tr in treasury shares](#) (2026-03-11 05:17)

Samsung Electronics will cancel about 87 million treasury shares worth roughly 16 trillion won (\$10.9 billion) in the first half of this year as part of its efforts to enhance shareholder value, according to its 2025 business report released Tuesday. The cancellation represents a large portion of the 105.43 million treasury shares the company held at the end of last year. Based on Tuesday's closing price of about 190,000 won per share, the shares slated for retirement are valued at roughly 16 tr

- [Samsung Electronics average pay surges to record level](#) (2026-03-11 05:17)

Samsung Electronics employees earned an average salary of 158 million won (\$107,300) last year, the highest level on record, according to the company's 2025 business report released Tuesday. The average compensation per employee in 2025 rose 21.5 percent from 130 million won a year earlier, the filing showed. The report also detailed Samsung's performance stock unit program, introduced in October to strengthen employees' accountability for long-term

business performance. Under the plan, the comp

- [Samsung Electronics spends record W37.7tr on R&D](#); (2026-03-11 05:16)

Samsung Electronics spent a record 37.7 trillion won (\$25.7 billion) on research and development last year despite heightened global economic uncertainty, according to its 2025 business report Tuesday. The figure is a 7.8 percent increase from 35 trillion won a year earlier, equivalent to more than 100 billion won spent each day on technology development. Industry observers say a significant portion of the investment likely went toward next-generation memory technologies, particularly high-bandw

- [Medicube to sponsor Coachella in first for Korean beauty](#) (2026-03-11 05:16)

Korean beauty company APR said Tuesday its flagship brand Medicube will participate as an official sponsor of the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival, aiming to strengthen its global presence and promote K-beauty to international audiences. Medicube will operate a brand booth at the festival, which runs in California from April 10 to 19. APR will sponsor the skincare and beauty device category, marking the first time a Korean beauty company has joined the globally renowned music festival in

- [Innocean makes Ad Age A-List as first Korean agency in US top 10](#) (2026-03-11 05:14)

Innocean, the advertising arm of Hyundai Motor Group, said Wednesday it has been named on Ad Age's 2026 A-List, becoming the first Korean agency to be selected among the Top 10 Most Outstanding Marketing Firms in the US. Ad Age evaluates agencies in the US — the world's largest advertising market, accounting for 35.3 percent of global ad spending — based on criteria including creative excellence, business performance and industry influence. Innocean became the first Korean advertising firm to pr

- [CICI to host news carousel competition](#) (2026-03-11 05:11)

The Core Image Communication Institute said Wednesday it will host a news carousel competition from March 10 to May 10 under themes including the future of Korean traditional and contemporary culture and the competitiveness of K-content in the AI era. The contest is open to residents in Korea aged 18 and older, regardless of nationality. Participants must submit three to 10 images in vertical carousel format. For more information, visit www.coreaimage.org

- [NCSoft to acquire German mobile game company JustPlay](#) (2026-03-11 05:10)

NCSoft said Wednesday it is investing \$202 million in JustPlay, a German-based mobile game platform company, to acquire a 70 percent stake, looking to speed up its plan to expand the global mobile casual game business. According to NCSoft, the board of directors approved the acquisition on the previous day. The Korean game company expects to complete the acquisition by the end of next month. JustPlay, an advertisement technology-based mobile casual game developer and reward platform company, was

- [Samsung Biologics, Eli Lilly to build biotech innovation hub in Korea](#) (2026-03-11 05:10)

Samsung Biologics has teamed up with Eli Lilly to set up an open innovation hub for emerging biotechnology companies in Korea, marking the first time for Eli Lilly to establish such a site outside the United States and China. According to Samsung Biologics on Tuesday, the two companies agreed to build a Lilly Gateway Labs site within the Korean contract development and manufacturing organization, or CDMO, leader's second bio campus in Songdo, Incheon. The LGL facility will consist of five stories

- [Former lawmaker's sentence confirmed over Moon-Trump call in 2019](#) (2026-03-11 05:09)

South Korea's Supreme Court has finalized a suspended prison sentence for former lawmaker Kang Hyo-sang for leaking the contents of a confidential phone call between then-President Moon Jae-in and former US President Donald Trump. The Supreme Court in January upheld a lower court ruling sentencing Kang, a former member of the Liberty Korea Party — the predecessor of the People Power Party — to six months in prison, suspended for one year, on charges including leaking diplomatic secrets. A former

- [Lee's gifts to Ghana's president: chocolate, a phone and a painting](#) (2026-03-11 05:03)

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung presented Ghanaian President John Dramani Mahama with specially produced chocolate during their summit in Seoul, Cheong Wa Dae said Wednesday. Mahama arrived in South Korea a day earlier for talks with Lee. According to presidential spokesperson Kang Yu-jung, Ghana chocolate was chosen as a symbolic gift because in South Korea, Ghana is closely associated with the popular brand, which uses over 80 percent Ghanaian cacao beans in its product. The packaging was

- [South Korea's live performing arts market hit W1.73tr in 2025, up 18.8%](#) (2026-03-11 04:55)

South Korea's performing arts market surpassed 1.73 trillion won (\$1.3 billion) in ticket sales in 2025, marking strong growth across concerts, musicals and dance performances, according to government data released Wednesday. The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism published a report analyzing ticket reservation data from the Korea Performing Arts Box Office Information System, compiled with the Korea Arts Management Service. The report showed that total ticket sales in the domestic performi

- [Calligrapher Kang Byung-in highlights philosophy of Hangeul at Korea CQ forum](#) (2026-03-11 04:53)

Renowned Korean calligrapher Kang Byung-in, known for designing iconic Hangeul lettering for popular brands and cultural works, spoke about the philosophy and artistic structure of the Korean alphabet during a lecture Tuesday at the New Zealand ambassador's residence in Seoul. The lecture, titled "Hangeul Calligraphy and the Spirit of Hangeul," was hosted by the Korea Image Communication Institute as part of its Korea CQ Forum series. More than 10

opinion leaders attended the event, including di

- [Men tied to Myanmar fraud hub indicted over romance scam](#) (2026-03-11 04:44)

South Korean prosecutors have indicted several young men accused of working for a romance scam ring based in Myanmar, part of a growing network of overseas fraud operations targeting Korean victims. The Seoul Eastern District Prosecutors' Office said Wednesday that nine men aged 23 to 34 who operated out of a crime compound known as KK Park near the Myanmar-Thailand border were charged with joining and participating in a criminal organization. Five suspects were indicted in detention, while three

- [BTS to accommodate 7,000 more for comeback show](#) (2026-03-11 04:30)

More seats will be added to the much-anticipated live show signaling BTS' return, according to Big Hit Music. The group is set to go live in central Seoul on March 21 under the title "BTS The Comeback Live: Arirang," a day after the rollout of its fifth studio album "Arirang." All 15,000 tickets sold out upon release — with a waitlist of over 100,000 people — and the label decided to expand the outdoor venue for safety reasons and allow 7,000 more fans to enter. Seoul has gone on full alert to a

- [Deterrence posture against N. Korea won't be hindered, Cheong Wa Dae says amid reports of THAAD move](#) (2026-03-11 04:16)

The deterrence posture against North Korea will not be hindered regardless of a potential shift of military assets owned by the US military stationed in South Korea, a senior official at Cheong Wa Dae said Wednesday, amid media reports that the US Forces Korea has shipped out some of its air defense assets from the Korean Peninsula. "Given our level of military capability, defense spending, defense industry capacity and the high morale of our troops, there is no problem with deterrence against N

- [Samsung's Lee Jae-yong is richest Korean on Forbes billionaires list. No. 2 may surprise you](#) (2026-03-11 03:17)

Samsung Electronics Chairman Lee Jae-yong is the sole Korean on Forbes' world's 100 richest people list this year, with an estimated net worth of \$27 billion, according to the US magazine. But the country's second-richest person may be unfamiliar to many Koreans. Chung Yong-ji, chief executive of biotech firm Caregen, ranked 268th on the global list with a net worth of \$11.7 billion. Chung founded Caregen, a South Korean biotechnology company known for peptide-based products, including antiwrink

- [Wildlife to replace humans on next series of UK banknotes](#) (2026-03-11 02:55)

Images of animals will feature on the next series of banknotes from the Bank of England, as the central bank shifts away from historical figures such as William Shakespeare, Winston Churchill and Jane Austen over the coming years. "Nature is a great choice from a banknote authentication perspective and means we can showcase the UK's rich and varied wildlife on the

next series of banknotes," Victoria Cleland, the BoE's chief cashier, said. Bank of England banknotes have featured monarchs since Q

- [Caregiver shaved her unconscious mother. Daughter's fury ends in court](#) (2026-03-11 02:48)

A South Korean woman was issued a fine of 1.5 million won (\$1,010), suspended for one year, for assaulting a caregiver who shaved her unconscious mother's head. The caregiver had also earlier received a suspended fine from the court for the incident. According to legal sources Tuesday, the Busan District Court showed leniency toward the daughter despite her conviction for special assault, which is a more serious charge than simple assault. The act was upgraded because it involved scissors, with

- [\[Photo News\] Jung Ho-yeon, Lisa attend Louis Vuitton show at Paris Fashion Week](#) (2026-03-11 02:45)

South Korean actress Jung Ho-yeon and Thai K-pop star Lisa were among the celebrity guests at the Louis Vuitton Women's Ready-to-Wear fall-winter 2026-2027 show during Paris Fashion Week on Tuesday. Jung and Lisa posed for photographers ahead of the show, held in the main courtyard of the Louvre Museum in Paris. The "Super Nature" collection closed out the Paris fashion week schedule with a natural theme. Artistic director Nicolas Ghesquiere drew inspiration from the roots of Louis Vuitton, who

- [Nearly half of Korean high school students use AI weekly for studies: survey](#) (2026-03-11 02:33)

Nearly half of South Korean high school students regularly use artificial intelligence in their studies, a recent study found. According to research released Wednesday by the Jinhak Educational Assessment Research Institute, 47.7 percent of students said they use artificial intelligence tools, including ChatGPT and Gemini, for studying at least once a week. By frequency, 25.2 percent said they use AI tools one to two times a week, 14.4 percent reported using them three times or more weekly and 8

- [Paraguay lawmakers approve defense agreement that allows increased US military presence](#) (2026-03-11 02:32)

ASUNCION, Paraguay (AP) — Paraguay's Chamber of Deputies on Tuesday approved a defense agreement allowing the temporary presence of US military and civilian personnel inside its borders, widely seen as a victory for the Trump administration, which has sought to strengthen its presence in Latin America. The Status of Forces Agreement, or SOFA, was approved by a large majority of lawmakers and now awaits the signature of President Santiago Pena to take effect. Pena, one of Trump's closest allies i

- [Police say deadly Swiss bus fire could be deliberate](#) (2026-03-11 02:30)

KERZERS, Switzerland (AFP) -- A bus caught fire in western Switzerland Tuesday killing at least six people and injuring five others in what police said may have been a deliberate act. The fire broke out on the bus in the main street of the small town of Kerzers, around 20 kilometers west of the Swiss capital Bern, at about 6:25 p.m. Videos circulating on social media showed flames several meters high bursting out from the windows, and black smoke rising into the sky. The fire left at least six

- [Italy buys Caravaggio painting for about \\$35 million, one of its largest payouts for a single work](#) (2026-03-11 02:28)

ROME (AP) -- Italy has bought a rare portrait by baroque painter Caravaggio for 30 million euros (about \$35 million), one of the largest state investments ever for a single artwork, the country's Culture Ministry said Tuesday. The portrait, painted around 1598 and attributed to Caravaggio in 1963, depicts Maffeo Barberini, a nobleman who later became Pope Urban VIII. The painting was acquired from a private collection by the Italian state after over a year of negotiations and will now enter Rome

- [Ateez charts 4 weeks on Billboard 200](#) (2026-03-11 02:27)

Ateez logged another week on the Billboard 200, ranking No. 108 with its 13th EP, agency KQ Entertainment said Wednesday. The EP “Golden Hour: Part 4” has spent four weeks on the main albums chart after entering it at No. 3. It is the group's sixth consecutive album to sit among the top three on the chart. The newest endeavor logged 200,000 units in streaming equivalent album sales in the US — a career-best for the octet. It also sold more than 1.5 million copies in the first week and became the

- [FBI finds explosive residue in storage unit](#) (2026-03-11 02:26)

NEW YORK (AP) — The FBI said Tuesday that it found explosive residue in a Pennsylvania storage unit as part of an investigation into two men charged with bringing homemade bombs to a protest outside the home of New York City’s mayor. Emir Balat, 18, and Ibrahim Kayumi, 19, told police after their arrests that they were inspired by the Islamic State group, according to law enforcement officials and a criminal complaint. The men live in the Philadelphia suburbs and drove together to New York City

- [Riize earns double platinum status in Japan](#) (2026-03-11 02:24)

Riize’s second Japanese physical single “All of You” has earned platinum certification from the Recording Industry Association of Japan, the organization announced Tuesday. Released Feb. 18, the single surpassed 250,000 cumulative shipments as of February, securing platinum status in the Gold Disc category and reaffirming the group’s strong popularity in Japan. It also topped the daily singles chart on Oricon three times. Following the release, Riize held three concerts at Tokyo Dome, performing

- [Illit surpasses 100m streams in Japan](#) (2026-03-11 02:21)

Illit surpassed 100 million streams in Japan with its first Japanese single, “Almond Chocolate,” according to Oricon on Wednesday. The track reached the milestone on Oricon’s Weekly Streaming Ranking, becoming the group’s second song to exceed 100 million plays on the chart following “Magnetic,” which has accumulated more than 300 million streams. Released in February last year, “Almond Chocolate” was produced as the theme song for the film “It Takes More Than a Pretty Face to Fall in Love.” The

- [Appeal trial begins for ex-PM Han over insurrection charges](#) (2026-03-11 02:09)

An appellate trial for former Prime Minister Han Duck-soo began Wednesday on charges that he played a key role in an insurrection by abetting former President Yoon Suk Yeol's 2024 imposition of martial law. The first hearing opened at the Seoul High Court after both Han and special counsel Cho Eun-suk's team appealed a 23-year prison sentence handed down by a district court in January. Han was found guilty of taking part in an insurrection by proposing that Yoon convene a Cabinet meeting before

- [Shinee’s Onew tops iTunes Chart in 9 regions with solo EP](#) (2026-03-11 02:07)

The fifth solo set from Shinee's Onew debuted atop the iTunes Top Albums Chart in nine regions, his agency Griffin Entertainment said Wednesday. His five-track EP “Tough Love” rolled out on Monday. Onew co-wrote all five tracks on the album, including the title track — a first for the veteran idol — which landed atop the real-time songs chart on Bugs. A pop-up store is running in Seoul through March 15 to mark the album's release. Onew released his first solo album in 2018 and has since put out

- [Shooting at US consulate in Toronto prompts increased security](#) (2026-03-11 01:57)

Two men fired multiple shots at the US consulate in Toronto early Tuesday in what police described as a "national security incident," prompting beefed-up protection for US and Israeli diplomatic buildings in the Canadian city. The individuals approached the consulate in downtown Toronto at around 4:30 a.m., exited a white SUV and fired several rounds from a handgun at the consulate, Toronto police deputy chief Frank Barredo told reporters. There were people inside at the time, but "this building

- [Airlines raise fares as Middle East conflict lifts fuel costs](#) (2026-03-11 01:45)

Some airlines in Asia and Europe raised fares, added fuel surcharges or adjusted schedules Tuesday as the Middle East conflict drove jet fuel costs sharply higher and disrupted key air routes. Australia's Qantas Airways, Scandinavia's SAS and Air New Zealand were among the carriers that announced price increases, while others warned the crisis could threaten fuel supplies or force further schedule changes. Jet fuel prices, which were around \$85 to \$90 per barrel before US-Israeli strikes on Ira

- [BTOB to return as full group after almost 3 years: report](#) (2026-03-11 01:43)

BTOB will drop a digital single on March 21 featuring all six members, according to a local media report on Wednesday. It will be the first full group effort since their 12th EP, “Wind and Wish,” released in May 2023, and will mark BTOB's 14th debut anniversary. After the mini album, the bandmates’ exclusive contract with Cube Entertainment expired. Lee Changseob and Yook Sungjae each signed with new agencies, while the remaining four set up a company named after the group. BTOB’s 13th EP “BToda

- [Exports up 55.6% during first 10 days of March on robust chip demand](#) (2026-03-11 01:02)

South Korea's exports jumped 55.6 percent from a year earlier in the first 10 days of March, driven by strong overseas demand for semiconductors, data showed Wednesday. Outbound shipments reached \$21.5 billion in the March 1-10 period, compared with \$13.8 billion tallied a year earlier, according to the data from the Korea Customs Service. It marked the country's largest exports recorded for the cited period. Imports went up 21.7 percent on-year to \$19.4 billion during the period, resulting in a

- [\[영어답게 표현하기\] 유용한 비즈니스 영어 표현들](#) (2026-03-11 01:00)

이번 회에는 저희 책 『나는 더 영어답게 말하고 싶다 일상회화 편』과 『나는 더 영어답게 말하고 싶다 비즈니스 편』에서 뽑은, 평이한 단어들로 이뤄졌지만 ‘있어 보이는’ 표현들을 소개합니다. 두 도서 모두 전자책으로 구매 가능합니다. 영어 스피킹 능력 향상에 많은 도움이 되시길 바랍니다.

1. 왜 I have some reservations.가 ‘좀 꺼려지는 면이 있습니다’ 라는 의미가 될까요? reserve는 ‘보류하다’ 입니다. 그 명사형 reservation를 활용해 I have some reservations.라고 하면, 확신이 없거나 생각이 다르다는 뜻이 됩니다. 말하자면 ‘판단을 보류하겠다’ 는 말이죠. 다른 생각이 있다는 뜻인 I have second thoughts.나 I have some reservations. 모두 ‘생각이 달라 선뜻 동의하지 못하겠다’ 라는 의미로 쓸 수 있는 정중한 표현입니다. 2. 장단점을 영어로 뭐라고 하면 좋을까요? 장단점을 merits and

- [Govt. to mobilize all policy tools in dealing with Middle East-related economic uncertainties](#) (2026-03-11 00:25)

South Korea will mobilize all available economic policy tools, including a possible supplementary budget, and activate an emergency economic response system to respond to economic uncertainties stemming from an ongoing Middle East crisis, Seoul's finance chief said Wednesday. Financial markets showed heightened volatility, with the Korean won falling sharply against the US dollar and domestic fuel prices spiking following US-Israeli strikes on Iran and Tehran's retaliatory attacks in the region.

- [Seoul shares open higher amid oil price swings](#) (2026-03-11 00:22)

South Korean stocks started higher Wednesday as investors continued to hunt for bargains despite volatility in global oil prices in the wake of the Middle East crisis. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index rose 154.83 points, or 2.8 percent, to 5,687.42 as of 9:15 a.m. The index rebounded 5.35 percent Tuesday. US President Donald Trump said in a social media post that Iran will face "military consequences" at a level "never seen before" if it has laid any mines

in the Strait of Hormuz.

- [\[Graphic News\] Air traffic tops 1 million flights for first time](#) (2026-03-10 23:00)

South Korea's annual air traffic surpassed 1 million flights for the first time last year, government data showed. The total number of flights reached 1,013,930 in 2025, according to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport. The country averaged 2,778 flights per day, up 6.8 percent from a year earlier. The annual figure exceeded the previous high of 842,041 recorded in 2019 before the COVID-19 pandemic. The growth was driven by a rebound in international travel. International flights

- [\[Kim Seong-kon\] Living in 'Jurassic World' in 2026](#) (2026-03-10 20:30)

Recently, Netflix added the Jurassic World collection to its film repository. We all remember the worldwide excitement when the epoch-making film “Jurassic Park” was released in 1993. Directed by legendary filmmaker Steven Spielberg and based on Michael Crichton's bestselling novel, the movie led to two sequels: “The Lost World: Jurassic Park” and “Jurassic Park III.” In 2015, “Jurassic World,” directed by Colin Trevorrow, reignited nostalgic feelings of “Jurassic Park” fans. “Jurassic World” ha

- [\[Allison Schrager\] US human capital is eroding](#) (2026-03-10 20:30)

America is having a collective freakout about jobs — specifically, that soon AI will do everything and leave everyone unemployable. This concern is not necessarily misplaced, but it is better understood as part of a larger worry: that one of the country's most critical resources, human capital, is eroding. A large, diverse and highly skilled labor force is what made the US an economic powerhouse. Now, both the stock and value of its human capital are degrading, and almost no one is doing anythin

- [Seoul hosts Ramadan iftar for OIC diplomats amid Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-10 13:28)

South Korean Foreign Minister Cho Hyun hosted a Ramadan iftar dinner Tuesday evening for diplomats from member states of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation in Seoul, as South Korea seeks to strengthen ties with the Islamic world amid rising tensions in the Middle East. The event, held at the Four Seasons Hotel Seoul, is part of the Foreign Ministry's annual outreach to OIC member states during Ramadan. The ministry has hosted the gathering since 2004 to promote friendship and cooperation wi

- [Wealthier overseas fans reshape power dynamics in K-pop](#) (2026-03-10 12:31)

With BTS' full-group comeback less than two weeks away, Chinese fan communities have recently announced large-scale promotional campaigns that will dominate some of Seoul's most visible digital billboards. Jungkook's official Chinese fan club said it will broadcast a congratulatory video for the singer's comeback on the 60-meter landmark megascreen at the Koreana Hotel in central Seoul from March 20 to 22. Chinese fan club Baidu V Bar has planned an even larger campaign for V, securing the massi

- [About 6,300 S. Koreans leave Middle East over past 7 days](#) (2026-03-10 12:24)

About 6,300 South Korean nationals have left countries across the Middle East over the past seven days amid the ongoing military conflict in the region, the foreign ministry said Tuesday. The number of South Koreans remaining in 14 countries in the region stood at about 14,700 as of Monday, down from some 21,000 last Tuesday, the ministry said, as many seek to return to their home country due to the widening conflict. The number of South Korean short-term travelers in those countries fell to rou

- [Train service between Beijing, Pyongyang to resume this week for first time in 6 years](#) (2026-03-10 12:18)

Train service linking Pyongyang and Beijing will resume this week for the first time since it was suspended six years ago due to the COVID-19 pandemic, sources said Tuesday. The Beijing-Pyongyang train route will resume operations Thursday, running four times a week, on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, an official at China State Railway Group told Yonhap News Agency. The train will depart from Beijing at 5:26 p.m. and arrive in Pyongyang at 6 p.m. the following day, stopping once at the

- [Samsung Biologics, Eli Lilly to establish biotech incubator in Incheon](#) (2026-03-10 11:29)

Samsung Biologics, the biotech arm of Samsung Group, said Tuesday it has signed an agreement with US pharmaceutical giant Eli Lilly and Co. to set up a biotech incubator in the western city of Incheon. Under the partnership, the two companies will establish a new site for Eli Lilly's Lilly Gateway Labs in Songdo, an international business district in the port city, according to Samsung Biologics. The US company launched Lilly Gateway Labs in 2019 to support emerging biotech companies by offering

- [NCSoft to acquire 70% stake in German game developer JustPlay for W301.6b](#) (2026-03-10 10:57)

NCSoft, a major South Korean gamemaker, said Tuesday it will acquire a 70 percent stake in Germany-based game developer JustPlay GmbH for 301.6 billion won (\$204.8 million) as part of its push to expand its mobile casual game business. The deal is expected to close on April 30, after which NCSoft will hold the controlling stake in the German company, according to the company in a regulatory filing. Headquartered in Berlin, JustPlay operates a reward-based mobile gaming platform, along with its o

- [Prosecutors indict woman accused of fatally drugging 2 men](#) (2026-03-10 10:43)

Prosecutors on Tuesday indicted a 20-year-old woman accused of murdering two men by giving them drug-laced drinks. The Seoul Northern District Prosecutors Office said Kim So-young was indicted under physical detention on charges of murder, special bodily injury and violating the Narcotics Control Act. 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 two deaths. One of the three men

- [Top general visits key Marine, Navy units to inspect S. Korea-US drills](#) (2026-03-10 10:37)

South Korea's top general on Tuesday visited key Marine Corps and Navy units to inspect their participation in an ongoing major exercise with U.S. troops, his office said. Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Jin Yong-sung visited the Combined Marine Component Command and the Northwest Islands Defense Command and urged troops to verify wartime plans during the Freedom Shield exercise as South Korea seeks to take back wartime operational control from the United States, according to the JCS. Jin al

- [Samsung Electronics spends W37.7tr won in R&D; in 2025](#) (2026-03-10 10:23)

Samsung Electronics Co. said Tuesday it spent a record 37.7 trillion won (\$25.6 billion) on research and development in 2025 as part of its push to gain an early lead in the global race for next-generation artificial intelligence chips. The amount represented a 7.8 percent increase from the previous year's 35 trillion won, the company said in an annual business report. Samsung Electronics said the massive investment was part of the company's strategy to preemptively cope with booming demand for

- [K-drama icons return for 'Climax' as spring content wars heat up](#) (2026-03-10 09:33)

Korean heavyweights are returning to television with a major new project, as the political thriller "Climax" unites Netflix's "The Trauma Code: Heroes on Call" hero Ju Ji-hoon with a beloved K-drama heroine Ha Ji-won ("Secret Garden") -- who returns from a four-year hiatus with the new series. Set to air on cable network ENA, the outfit behind the global phenomenon "Extraordinary Attorney Woo," the show follows prosecutor Tae-sup (Ju) as he becomes part of a cartel in his pursuit of political po

- [S. Korea, Ghana leaders to discuss trade, defense cooperation: Cheong Wa Dae](#) (2026-03-10 09:20)

The leaders of South Korea and Ghana seek to deepen cooperation across a broad range of areas, including trade and investment as well as defense and the arms industry, Seoul announced Tuesday. South Korean President Lee Jae Myung is scheduled to hold a summit with Ghanaian President John Dramani Mahama on Wednesday afternoon at Cheong Wa Dae, presidential spokesperson Kang Yu-jung said in a press statement. Mahama is in South Korea from Tuesday through Saturday for a working visit. "The two lead

- [PM to visit US, Switzerland in bid to host 'UN AI hub'](#) (2026-03-10 09:00)

Prime Minister Kim Min-seok will travel to the United States and Switzerland later this week as South Korea launches its bid to host a platform for the United Nations bodies dedicated to artificial intelligence, which could collaborate with the South Korean government or private-sector companies. South Korea aims to secure a joint project with the UN and share necessary AI infrastructure through the launch of an "UN AI hub," Kim said in a meeting at the

Government Complex Seoul on Tuesday. He ca

- [SK Inc. to retire record W4.8tr in treasury shares](#) (2026-03-10 08:59)

SK Inc., the holding company of SK Group, said Tuesday it will retire about 4.8 trillion won (\$3.27 billion) of treasury shares, marking the largest share retirement ever undertaken by a domestic holding firm. The board approved a plan to retire 14.69 million treasury shares out of the 17.98 million shares currently held by the company, excluding 3.29 million shares reserved for employee compensation. The retirement represents roughly 20 percent of SK Inc.' s outstanding shares and, based on curr

- [Beyond skills, attitude defines success in the AI era, says veteran civil servant](#) (2026-03-10 08:52)

Global interest in Korea has surged in recent years, ranging from its culture to its industries. But beyond what the world sees in K-culture lies something less visible, according to veteran South Korean civil servant Lee In-jae, president of the Korea Social Capital Research Center. He says it's about a way of working, a way of making decisions, a way of enduring. Drawing on 35 years in public service, Lee is set to release "The K-Attitude Advantage: Beyond the Algorithm," a guide to leadership

- [Inside Korea' s migrant population: 10 key takeaways from latest survey](#) (2026-03-10 08:51)

The Ministry of Statistics and the Ministry of Justice on Tuesday released the results of their annual Survey on the Residence and Employment Status of Migrants, offering a snapshot of how foreign residents and naturalized citizens live and work in South Korea. The government has conducted the survey since 2017, examining demographic, visa and employment trends among migrants aged 15 and older who have stayed in the country for at least 91 consecutive days. Here are some key findings from the 20

- [Heeseung to leave Enhypen](#) (2026-03-10 08:23)

Heeseung will part with Enhypen to pursue a solo career, his agency Belift Lab announced Tuesday. The agency shared the news through the fan community platform Weverse, saying it had been discussing the group' s future direction and goals with the members. According to Belift Lab, the discussions included in-depth conversations about each member' s vision and the team' s path forward. During that process, Heeseung expressed a clear musical direction he wanted to pursue, and the agency decided to re

- [Last registered resident of Dokdo dies at 88](#) (2026-03-10 08:20)

The last registered resident of Dokdo, South Korea' s easternmost islets, has died, leaving the outpost without a legal resident for the first time since the 1960s. According to Ulleung-gun in North Gyeongsang Province on Tuesday, Kim Shin-yeol died last week at the age of 88. A former haenyeo, or female free-diver who harvests seafood, from Jeju Island, she had been registered

as a resident of the islets since moving there in 1991 to join her husband, Kim Sung-do. KimSung-do had lived on the is

- [Seoul shares rebound more than 5% on eased Iran woes; won sharply up](#) (2026-03-10 07:39)

South Korean stocks rebounded more than 5 percent Tuesday after suffering a sharp decline the previous session, as investors hunted bargains amid eased concerns over the US-Iran conflict. The local currency gained sharply against the greenback. The Korea Composite Stock Price Index moved up 280.72 points, or 5.35 percent, to close at 5,532.59. Trade volume was heavy at 913 million shares worth 28.4 trillion won (\$19 billion), with gainers far outpacing losers 753 to 146. Individual investors sol

- [Lee cautions against 'burning down the house' in prosecution overhaul](#) (2026-03-10 07:01)

President Lee Jae Myung on Monday warned that prosecution reform should be carried out with precision, cautioning against attempts that “burn down the house to get rid of bedbugs,” in remarks widely seen as directed at hard-line lawmakers within the ruling Democratic Party of Korea. “To solve a problem, one must accurately identify its cause and clearly distinguish what should and should not be addressed,” Lee wrote in a post on X. “In carrying out necessary reforms, caution is needed to avoid b

- [North Korean leader signals closer Pyongyang-Beijing cooperation in letter to Xi](#) (2026-03-10 06:28)

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un reaffirmed Pyongyang’ s commitment to strengthening relations with Beijing in a reply to a congratulatory message from Chinese President Xi Jinping, the state-run Korean Central News Agency said Tuesday. The North Korean leader sent the letter to Xi on Monday in response to the Chinese leader’ s message congratulating him on his reelection as general secretary of the ruling Workers’ Party of Korea during the party’ s congress held last month. In the message, Kim Jong

- [How war in Iran is affecting Korea](#) (2026-03-10 06:27)

As the conflict involving the United States, Israel and Iran shows signs of prolonging, the ripple effects of soaring global oil prices are being felt acutely across South Korea, especially hitting workers in transport, agriculture, fisheries and island communities, whose livelihoods depend heavily on fuel. For many, the crisis triggered by the Middle East conflict is materializing in the form of rising operational costs that cannot be passed on to consumers. Truck drivers and delivery workers,

- ['I need my heart to connect': Olivier winner on taking Korea's 'The Last Man' to London](#) (2026-03-10 06:22)

In a cramped studio in Sillim-dong — a neighborhood where young Koreans gather to study for exams that can shape the rest of their lives — a young man prepares for a test he may never take. Outside, the city has collapsed. Inside, he may be the last person alive. It is the premise of a one-man Korean musical that British playwright and dramaturg Jethro Compton is now bringing to the British stage. Compton is serving as dramaturg for the UK premiere of "The Last Man," a Korean one-person rock musical.

- [Lee calls large, small firms' cooperation 'survival strategy'](#) (2026-03-10 06:20)

President Lee Jae Myung said Tuesday that cooperation between large corporations and small businesses should be treated as an investment and even a national "survival strategy." Speaking at a roundtable at Cheong Wa Dae with representatives from 10 large companies and their SME partners, Lee said some approaches that powered South Korea's industrial rise had become outdated. Held under the slogan "seeds of shared cooperation, blossoming into growth for all," the meeting aimed to encourage companies.

- [Kim Jong-un's sister issues stark warning over South Korea-US military drills](#) (2026-03-10 06:17)

Kim Yo-jong, the powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong-un, warned Tuesday that joint military exercises between South Korea and the United States could lead to "unimaginably terrible consequences," as the allies began their annual spring drills on the Korean Peninsula. Kim, a department director in the ruling Workers' Party of Korea, issued the warning in a statement carried by the state-run Korean Central News Agency a day after South Korea and the US launched their annual joint exercises.

- [Yellow Envelope Act takes effect as labor-business tensions rise](#) (2026-03-10 06:13)

The government's major revision to labor law took effect Tuesday, allowing subcontractors to negotiate directly with contractors and expanding the scope of permissible labor disputes. But mixed views persist over potential disruptions to business operations. The government promulgated the revision to the Trade Union and Labor Relations Adjustment Act, commonly called the "Yellow Envelope" bill, on Sept. 9, 2025. Since then, authorities have continued to clarify ambiguous provisions in the law, especially regarding subcontractors.

- [Speaker sets early April as deadline to draft constitutional amendment](#) (2026-03-10 06:13)

National Assembly Speaker Rep. Woo Won-shik said Tuesday that the rival parties should work to launch a special parliamentary committee for constitutional amendment by next week and propose the draft by April 7. Woo's proposal would be a prerequisite for South Korea to hold a referendum simultaneously with the June 3 local election. The last amendment came into being in South Korea in 1987, alongside South Korea's democratization. Woo stressed in the press conference that legal hurdles to hold a referendum remain.

- [Korea has five years to act on AI gap with China: KAIST professor](#) (2026-03-10 06:06)

As China accelerates its advance in foundation models, South Korea is not far behind in frontier model performance, according to Shin Jin-woo, ICT endowed chair professor at the Kim Jaechul Graduate School of AI at KAIST. But performance is not the real issue. “The technology gap is often exaggerated,” Shin said in a recent interview with The Korea Herald in Seoul. “Based on the time required to absorb and reproduce publicly released technologies, the difference is closer to half a year.”

- [After DeepSeek: China shifts from breakthrough to AI scale](#) (2026-03-10 06:06)

One year after DeepSeek unsettled the global AI landscape and signaled that China had narrowed the gap with the US in generative artificial intelligence, the question is no longer whether China can compete. It is whether China is beginning to define the architecture of the next AI order. “The difference between adopting AI and defining its architecture is huge,” said Ahn Jun-mo, a professor of public administration at Korea University. “Countries that set the standards have the power to shape ec

- [People Power Party moves to distance itself from Yoon, but doubts linger](#) (2026-03-10 06:04)

South Korea’s main opposition People Power Party has formally moved to distance itself from former President Yoon Suk Yeol, but doubts and criticism remain. The conservative party adopted a resolution Monday apologizing for Yoon’s Dec. 3, 2024, martial law declaration and formally rejecting the “Yoon Again” slogan used by some supporters advocating for the former president’s political comeback. The resolution was read by Floor Leader Rep. Song Eon-seok, who said the party must acknowledge public

- [Kospi rebounds as oil prices fall on hopes of early end to war](#) (2026-03-10 06:02)

South Korea’s benchmark Kospi surged over 5 percent Tuesday, rebounding from the previous day’s steep sell-off as hopes for an early end to the conflict in the Middle East lifted global markets. After US President Donald Trump said Monday that the war with Iran was “very complete,” oil prices fell below \$90 per barrel, helping drive a recovery in equities worldwide, including in Korea. The Kospi reclaimed the 5,500 mark, closing the session at 5,532.59, up 5.35 percent from the previous session.

- [ISS backs Korea Zinc board nominees ahead of key vote](#) (2026-03-10 06:02)

Global proxy adviser Institutional Shareholder Services threw its support behind the proposal by Korea Zinc’s incumbent board to nominate five directors ahead of a general shareholders’ meeting, as the company’s standoff with major shareholder Young Poong and MBK Partners continues to escalate. The ISS recommendation arrives roughly two weeks ahead of the March 24 annual shareholders’ meeting, at which investors in the world’s largest zinc smelter will vote on competing board nominations put for

- [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-fold

- [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 educati

- [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 preliminar

- [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 Borde

- [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-sit

- [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 ceasefire

- [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 Gaza

- [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 explaine

- [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-embazoned 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’état. 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 Minist

- [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, as 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 a non-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 yeolgujatang, 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 partnership

- [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. Among

- [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 McCooley, 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 Chanel Beauty' 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 Committe

- [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 I

- [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 grandmother

- [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 sidecar 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

Source: Yonhap

- [Lee urges extra budget to be swiftly prepared to stabilize people's livelihoods, prop up recovery](#) (2026-03-12 05:46)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Thursday instructed his a...

- [SeMA opens 7th branch, bringing media art to Seoul's southwest](#) (2026-03-12 05:30)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The Seoul Museum of Art (SeMA) on Thursday opened Se...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee calls for extra budget to be swiftly drafted](#) (2026-03-12 05:17)

(END)

- [NCSoft targets 5 tln won in sales by 2030 through more shooters, anime games](#) (2026-03-12 05:14)

SEONGNAM, South Korea, March 12 (Yonhap) -- NCSoft Corp., a major South Korean g...

- [\(LEAD\) Samsung, LG display arms closely watching fallout of Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-12 05:10)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- Heads of South Korean display makers said Thursday t...

- [Antitrust regulator fines pork processors 3.15 bln won for price-fixing](#) (2026-03-12 05:00)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The antitrust regulator said Thursday it has imposed...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-12 05:00)

March 13

- [Trade chief vows to protect S. Korea's interests through consultations with U.S. over USTR probe](#) (2026-03-12 05:00)

SEJONG, March 12 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's top trade negotiator vowed Thursday c...

- [BOK to maintain cautious monetary stance amid uncertainties over Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-12 04:52)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The central bank said Thursday it would maintain a c...

- [\(LEAD\) Top U.S. diplomat for East Asia holds talks with Seoul officials on alliance, N. Korea](#) (2026-03-12 04:46)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The top U.S. diplomat for East Asia policy held talk...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-12 04:30)

The following is the first summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency ...

- [Ruling party, gov't agree to provide energy vouchers to vulnerable households amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-12 04:27)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The ruling Democratic Party (DP) and government offi...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea to take on Dominican Republic in quarterfinals](#) (2026-03-12 04:22)

MIAMI, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will face the mighty Dominican Republic ...

- [Foreign net selling of S. Korean stocks hits record high in Feb.: BOK](#) (2026-03-12 03:00)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- Foreign investment in the South Korean stock market ...

- [FSS chief discusses regulations on banks' capital base, virtual assets at Basel meeting](#) (2026-03-12 03:00)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The chief of South Korea's financial watchdog has at...

- [Gov't picks 4,600 science researchers to promote basis research activities](#) (2026-03-12 03:00)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The science ministry said Thursday it has selected a...

- [Current account surplus expected to ease downward pressure on Korean won: BOK](#) (2026-03-12 03:00)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's current account surplus is expected to...

- [Economy shows 'gradual' increase in production despite improved consumption: KDI](#) (2026-03-12 03:00)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean economy is showing continued signs ...

- [Samsung Display expects business headwinds in H2 linked to Middle East conflict: CEO](#) (2026-03-12 02:40)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The head of Samsung Display Co. said Thursday the co...

- [\(LEAD\) Judicial reform laws take effect allowing constitutional appeals of court rulings, punishment for 'legal distortion'](#) (2026-03-12 02:34)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- A set of judicial reform laws were officially procla...

- [Seoul shares down late Thu. morning amid Iran uncertainties](#) (2026-03-12 02:26)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks continued to trade lower late Th...

- [Finance chief promises full gov't support for businesses grappling with Middle East uncertainties](#) (2026-03-12 02:15)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The government will provide full support for busines...

- [Lotte Card given penalty for leaking critical information of 450,000 customers](#) (2026-03-12 02:14)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- Lotte Card Co. has been slapped with a penalty and a...

- [S. Korean envoy delivers Lee's message for stronger ties to Chile's new president](#) (2026-03-12 02:13)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- A special envoy for President Lee Jae Myung has deli...

- [ICT exports double in Feb. on AI-driven chip demand](#) (2026-03-12 02:00)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's exports of information and communicati...

- [Industry ministry to double budget to support SMEs affected by foreign import barriers](#) (2026-03-12 02:00)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The government will double its budget this year to s...

- [S. Korea posts fiscal surplus of 11.3 tln won in Jan. on increased tax revenue](#) (2026-03-12 01:50)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- South Korea posted a fiscal surplus of more than 11 ...

- [\(LEAD\) PM set to visit U.S. for talks on U.N. hub, possible meeting with Vance](#) (2026-03-12 01:47)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok is set to depart for the...

- [S. Korea aims to actively consult with U.S. as Washington opens new trade probe](#) (2026-03-12 01:30)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will "actively consult with" the United ...

- [\(WBC\) RBI leader eyes trip to final for S. Korea](#) (2026-03-12 01:16)

MIAMI, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korean slugger Moon Bo-gyeong said Wednesday h...

- [PM set to visit U.S., Switzerland to promote S. Korea's bid to host U.N. hub](#) (2026-03-12 01:00)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok is set to depart Thursda...

- [Taihan Cable begins construction of 2nd Vietnam plant for extra-high-voltage products](#) (2026-03-12 00:57)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- Taihan Cable & Solution Co., South Korea's secon...

- [Nearly 4,000 vehicles shipped from S. Korea to Russia over 3 yrs despite sanctions: customs agency](#) (2026-03-12 00:53)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- Nearly 4,000 vehicles worth a combined 179.6 billion...

- [Judicial reform laws take effect allowing constitutional appeals, punishment for 'legal distortion'](#) (2026-03-12 00:53)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- A set of judicial reform laws were officially procla...

- [\(2nd LD\) U.S. launches Section 301 trade investigation into S. Korea, China, Japan, 13 other economies: USTR](#) (2026-03-12 00:44)

WASHINGTON, March 11 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump's administration op...

- [Korean won falls against dollar amid rising oil prices as Middle East crisis drags on](#) (2026-03-12 00:42)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean currency fell against the U.S. doll...

- [\(WBC\) Veteran pitcher Ryu Hyun-jin hoping for deep run in knockout round](#) (2026-03-12 00:38)

MIAMI, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Veteran South Korean pitcher Ryu Hyun-jin hasn't pit...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares open lower amid extended woes over oil prices; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-12 00:22)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started slightly lower Thursday ...

- [Int'l customs body classifies outdoor display modules as duty-free](#) (2026-03-12 00:19)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The World Customs Organization (WCO) has decided to ...

- [\(WBC\) Cardinals reliever O'Brien ruled out for S. Korea](#) (2026-03-12 00:14)

MIAMI, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korea manager Ryu Ji-hyun said Wednesday that ...

- [Seoul shares open lower amid extended woes over oil prices](#) (2026-03-12 00:03)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started slightly lower Thursday ...

- [N. Korea set to elect new leadership at largest women's organization](#) (2026-03-12 00:03)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- North Korea will hold a congress of the country's la...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul shares open 0.75 pct lower amid oil volatility](#) (2026-03-12 00:01)

(END)

- [National Assembly set to vote on bill on U.S. investment pledges](#) (2026-03-11 23:47)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The National Assembly is set to hold a plenary sessi...

- [\(LEAD\) U.S. launches Section 301 trade investigation into S. Korea, China, Japan, 13 other economies: USTR](#) (2026-03-11 23:35)

WASHINGTON, March 11 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump's administration op...

- [Seventeen's Vernon, The8 to launch new unit this summer](#) (2026-03-11 23:32)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- Vernon and The8 of K-pop boy group Seventeen will fo...

- [U.S. to release 172 mln barrels from strategic oil reserve: energy secretary](#) (2026-03-11 23:30)

WASHINGTON, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The United States plans to release 172 million ...

- [U.S. to initiate Section 301 trade investigation into S. Korea, China, Japan, 13 other economies: USTR](#) (2026-03-11 23:16)

WASHINGTON, March 11 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump's administration wi...

- [\(URGENT\) U.S. to initiate Section 301 trade investigation into S. Korea, China, Japan, 13 other economies: USTR](#) (2026-03-11 23:15)

(END)

- [\(2nd LD\) Trump says 'we've won' in war with Iran](#) (2026-03-11 22:52)

WASHINGTON, March 11 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump claimed Wednesday t...

- [Top U.S. diplomat for East Asia to hold talks with Seoul officials on alliance, N. Korea](#) (2026-03-11 22:30)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The top U.S. diplomat for East Asia policy was set t...

- [N. Korea's Kim, daughter test pistols together at munitions factory](#) (2026-03-11 22:19)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un inspected a factory ...

- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on March 12\)](#) (2026-03-11 22:01)

Financial markets remain volatile in the wake of tensions in the Middle East, an...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on March 12\)](#) (2026-03-11 22:01)

As the escalating conflict in the Middle East drives up oil prices, the governme...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on March 12\)](#) (2026-03-11 22:01)

Patriot and Terminal High Altitude Area Defense antimissile systems deployed wit...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-03-11 22:00)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South K...

- [\(LEAD\) Trump says war with Iran will end 'soon' as 'practically nothing left to target': Axios](#) (2026-03-11 18:15)

WASHINGTON, March 11 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump said Wednesday that...

- [S. Korea to release 22.46 mln barrels from oil reserves under IEA release plan](#) (2026-03-11 16:24)

SEOUL, March 12 (Yonhap) -- South Korea plans to release 22.46 million barrels o...

- [Trump says war with Iran will end 'soon' as 'practically nothing left to target': Axios](#) (2026-03-11 15:00)

WASHINGTON, March 11 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump said Wednesday that...

- [U.S. military has struck more than 5,500 targets in Iran, including over 60 ships: CENTCOM](#) (2026-03-11 14:39)

WASHINGTON, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The U.S. military has struck more than 5,500 ta...

- [Cheong Wa Dae denies report on reviving open-to-all bar exam](#) (2026-03-11 13:52)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The presidential office denied a news report Wednesd...

- [FC Seoul eliminated in round of 16 at top Asian club tournament](#) (2026-03-11 12:10)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- FC Seoul have been eliminated in the top Asian club ...

- [Para cross-country skier wins record 3rd medal for S. Korea](#) (2026-03-11 11:39)

TESERO, Italy, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Para cross-country skier Kim Yun-ji captured...

- [AMD's Lisa Su to visit S. Korea next week, may meet with Samsung chief](#) (2026-03-11 11:24)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Lisa Su, the head of Advanced Micro Devices Inc. (AM...

- [Iranian Embassy in Seoul displays banner with image of Khamenei](#) (2026-03-11 11:10)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The Iranian Embassy in Seoul has put up a banner bea...

- [Defense minister inspects S. Korea-U.S. military exercise sites](#) (2026-03-11 10:08)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Defense Minister Ahn Gyu-back on Wednesday inspected...

- [State oil company chief apologizes for steep price hikes at gov't-run stations](#) (2026-03-11 10:04)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The chief of the Korea National Oil Corp. (KNOC) apo...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager mulling roster change with quarterfinals on horizon](#) (2026-03-11 09:22)

MIAMI, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korea manager Ryu Ji-hyun said Wednesday he wi...

- [Relocation of THAAD interceptors to Middle East seen as imminent: sources](#) (2026-03-11 09:11)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Interceptors of a Terminal High Altitude Area Defens...

- ['The King's Warden' surpasses 12 million admissions](#) (2026-03-11 08:28)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The Korean historical drama "The King's Warden" has ...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-11 08:04)

The following is the first summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency ...

- [\(LEAD\) Gov't mulls targeted extra budget to help vulnerable groups as fuel prices surge: finance chief](#) (2026-03-11 07:45)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is considering a targeted supplementary ...

- [Gov't to provide comprehensive support for SME exporters to Middle East](#) (2026-03-11 07:44)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The government will provide comprehensive support fo...

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul shares up for 2nd day on bargain hunting amid Iran woes](#) (2026-03-11 07:29)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks finished higher for the second s...

- [Lee, Ghanaian president agree to boost cooperation in maritime securiy, climate change](#) (2026-03-11 07:28)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung held summit talks with Ghana...

- [Korean Air extends Dubai flight suspension until March 28 over Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-11 07:17)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Korean Air Co. said Wednesday it will extend the sus...

- [Gov't reviews crowd safety measures for BTS concert](#) (2026-03-11 07:12)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The government has mapped out crowd safety measures ...

- [Hanwha to showcase air defense capabilities at BEDEX 2026 in Belgium](#) (2026-03-11 07:11)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Hanwha Group, South Korea's chemicals-to-defense con...

- [\(WBC\) Pitcher Son Ju-young sidelined with elbow inflammation](#) (2026-03-11 07:10)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Left-hander Son Ju-young, who started South Korea's ...

- [\(LEAD\) Korean won rises for 2nd session on easing oil prices, weaker dollar](#) (2026-03-11 07:10)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean currency rose for the second consec...

- [S. Korea involved in oil reserve release discussions with IEA](#) (2026-03-11 07:09)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean government is "closely involved" in...

- [Singer Choi Yena hopes new single 'Catch Catch' inspires Korean baseball team](#)

(2026-03-11 06:52)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- K-pop singer Choi Yena said Wednesday she hopes her ...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares up for 2nd day on bargain hunting amid Iran woes](#) (2026-03-11 06:52)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks finished higher for the second s...

- [Football chief predicts deep run for S. Korea at World Cup](#) (2026-03-11 06:45)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korean football chief Chung Mong-gyu predicted...

- [\(2nd LD\) N. Korea's Kim oversees another cruise missile test from destroyer amid Seoul-Washington military drills](#) (2026-03-11 06:41)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has overseen another...

- [Seoul shares up for 2nd day on bargain hunting amid Iran woes](#) (2026-03-11 06:36)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks finished higher for the second s...

- [Ex-JCS chief banned from leaving country over alleged martial law role](#) (2026-03-11 06:19)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- A retired admiral who served as the country's highes...

- [Ruling party, gov't announce reform measures for NongHyup following corruption scandal](#) (2026-03-11 06:12)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The ruling Democratic Party (DP) and the government ...

- [Multinational augmentees from UNC member states participate in Freedom Shield exercise](#) (2026-03-11 06:04)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Multinational forces from member states of the U.N. ...

- [11 S. Koreans flee Saudi Arabia on Japan's chartered flight amid Middle East conflict](#) (2026-03-11 06:03)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Eleven South Koreans fled Saudi Arabia on a Japanese...

- [Gov't eyes measures for stable electricity rates amid volatile global energy prices](#) (2026-03-11 05:50)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The government will prepare precautionary measures t...

- [N. Korea speeds up preparations for next week's parliamentary elections](#) (2026-03-11 05:48)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- North Korea has been speeding up its preparations fo...

- [Son Heung-min records assist in LAFC's draw in regional tournament](#) (2026-03-11 05:36)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Son Heung-min has picked up yet another assist for L...

- [Lee congratulates Kim Yun-ji on winning second medal at Winter Paralympics](#) (2026-03-11 05:02)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Wednesday congratulated p...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-11 05:00)

March 12

- [K-pop agency RBW acquires 257 Entertainment in global push](#) (2026-03-11 04:46)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- RBW, the agency behind K-pop acts Mamamoo and Oh My ...

- [\(LEAD\) Household loans fall for 3rd month in Feb.; mortgage loans edge up on moving demand](#) (2026-03-11 04:44)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Household loans extended by South Korean banks fell ...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-11 04:30)

The following is the first summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency ...

- [\(Movie Review\) 'Samakdo': ambitious premise, uneven delivery](#) (2026-03-11 03:51)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The Korean occult thriller "Samakdo" sends chills do...

- [Samsung SDI vows to overcome EV-related business challenges through ESS, robot sector opportunities](#) (2026-03-11 03:00)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The head of Samsung SDI Co.'s research center said W...

- [Household loans fall for 3rd month in Feb.; mortgage loans edge up on moving demand](#) (2026-03-11 03:00)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Household loans extended by South Korean banks fell ...

- [Lee gifts specially designed Ghana chocolate to Ghanaian president](#) (2026-03-11 02:44)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung prepared Ghana chocolate and...

- [Aging baseball stadium in Jamsil to be replaced with 30,000-seat dome by 2032](#) (2026-03-11 02:44)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The Seoul city government said Wednesday it plans to...

- [KBO preseason to start this week amid WBC fever](#) (2026-03-11 02:39)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The preseason in South Korean baseball is set to sta...

- [Seoul shares extend gains late Wed. morning amid Iran uncertainties](#) (2026-03-11 02:31)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks extended gains late Wednesday mo...

- [Deterrence posture against N. Korea won't be hindered regardless of potential shift of USFK's assets](#) (2026-03-11 02:22)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The deterrence posture against North Korea will not ...

- [Appeal trial begins for ex-PM Han over insurrection charges](#) (2026-03-11 02:02)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- An appellate trial for former Prime Minister Han Duc...

- [Investigators again raid Shincheonji sect over alleged collusion with politics](#) (2026-03-11 01:18)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- A joint prosecution-police team investigating suspec...

- [40 years on stage, soprano Sumi Jo says music can 'change people'](#) (2026-03-11 01:04)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Renowned South Korean soprano Sumi Jo has said she h...

- [Korean won falls amid oil price volatility as Middle East conflict continues](#) (2026-03-11 00:55)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean currency fell slightly against the ...

- [\(LEAD\) Exports up 55.6 pct during first 10 days of March on robust chip demand](#) (2026-03-11 00:53)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's exports jumped 55.6 percent from a yea...

- [InterBattery 2026 kicks off to showcase future battery technologies](#) (2026-03-11 00:52)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- InterBattery 2026, South Korea's largest battery ind...

- [Hyundai Motor ranks 2nd in operating profit among global automotive peers in 2025](#) (2026-03-11 00:38)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Hyundai Motor Group, the world's third-largest autom...

- [Exports up 55.6 pct during first 10 days of March](#) (2026-03-11 00:35)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's exports jumped 55.6 percent from a yea...

- [N.K. defector-turned-journalist officially recognized by gov't as S. Korean detainee in N. Korea](#) (2026-03-11 00:30)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Ham Jin-woo, a North Korean defector-turned-journali...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares open higher amid oil price swings](#) (2026-03-11 00:22)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started higher Wednesday as inve...

- [BLACKPINK's 'Go' debuts on Billboard Hot 100 at No. 63](#) (2026-03-11 00:20)
SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- K-pop girl group BLACKPINK's latest single "Go" debu...
- [Police refer lawmaker, ex-councilor at center of bribery scandal to prosecution](#) (2026-03-11 00:10)
SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Police on Wednesday referred an independent lawmaker...
- [Gov't to mobilize all policy tools in dealing with Middle East-related economic uncertainties](#) (2026-03-11 00:03)
SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will mobilize all available economic pol...
- [Seoul shares open higher amid oil price swings](#) (2026-03-11 00:03)
SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started higher Wednesday as inve...
- [\(URGENT\) Seoul shares open 2.28 pct higher amid oil price swings](#) (2026-03-11 00:02)
(END)
- [Samsung launches Galaxy S26 series worldwide following record preorders](#) (2026-03-11 00:01)
SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Electronics Co. said Wednesday it has offici...
- [S. Korea highlights commitment to nonproliferation principles at nuclear energy summit](#) (2026-03-10 23:59)
SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has reaffirmed its commitment to upholdi...
- [Krafton CEO to double as head of new AI robotics unit in U.S.](#) (2026-03-10 23:41)
SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- Kim Chang-han, chief executive officer (CEO) of Sout...
- [\(LEAD\) N. Korea supports Iran's choice of new supreme leader amid raging war in Middle East](#) (2026-03-10 23:27)
SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- North Korea said Wednesday it respects the Iranian p...
- [\(LEAD\) N. Korea's Kim oversees another cruise missile test from destroyer amid Seoul-Washington military drills](#) (2026-03-10 22:49)
SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has overseen another...
- [N. Korea supports election of Iran's new supreme leader amid raging war in Middle East](#) (2026-03-10 22:03)
SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- North Korea said Wednesday it supports the election ...
- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on March 11\)](#) (2026-03-10 21:58)

President Lee Jae Myung said Monday that while his government opposes the redepl...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on March 11\)](#) (2026-03-10 21:58)

Spurred into action by an unprecedented lack of bids from hopefuls seeking the P...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on March 11\)](#) (2026-03-10 21:58)

Tilted playing field : With Yellow Envelope Act taking effect, unions should exe...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-03-10 21:57)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South K...

- [N. Korea conducts another cruise missile test from destroyer amid Seoul-Washington military drills](#) (2026-03-10 21:41)

SEOUL, March 11 (Yonhap) -- North Korea has conducted another test-firing of str...

- [\(URGENT\) N. Korea says it 'strongly' denounces U.S.-Israel's act of aggression against Iran](#) (2026-03-10 21:15)

(END)

- [\(URGENT\) N. Korea conducts another strategic cruise missile test from destroyer Choe Hyon on Tuesday: state media](#) (2026-03-10 21:13)

(END)

- [\(LEAD\) Iran operation will end when Trump determines military objectives have been met: White House](#) (2026-03-10 21:01)

WASHINGTON, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The U.S. military operation against Iran will e...

- [Iran operation will end when Trump determines military objectives have been met: White House](#) (2026-03-10 20:03)

WASHINGTON, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The U.S. military operation against Iran will e...

- [Senate Democrats say S. Korea-U.S. alliance is 'under strain' amid Trump's foreign policy](#) (2026-03-10 17:34)

WASHINGTON, March 10 (Yonhap) -- U.S. Senate Democrats said in a new report Tues...

- [\(LEAD\) Pentagon says USFK maintaining 'combat-credible' force posture in Korea amid THAAD redeployment report](#) (2026-03-10 15:10)

WASHINGTON, March 10 (Yonhap) -- U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) remains focused on ens...

- [Pentagon says USFK remains focused on 'combat-credible' force posture in Korea amid THAAD redeployment report](#) (2026-03-10 14:58)

WASHINGTON, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) remains focused on...

- [Hegseth says Iran war is 'quite contained,' but warns of 'most intense day of strikes' ahead](#) (2026-03-10 14:38)

WASHINGTON, March 10 (Yonhap) -- U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said Tuesda...

- [FM Cho discusses Middle East situation with Indian, Vietnamese counterparts](#) (2026-03-10 14:19)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Foreign Minister Cho Hyun held separate phone talks ...

- [\(LEAD\) About 6,300 S. Koreans leave Middle East over past 7 days](#) (2026-03-10 13:48)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- About 6,300 South Korean nationals have left countri...

- [About 6,300 S. Koreans leave Middle East over past 7 days](#) (2026-03-10 11:56)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- About 6,300 South Korean nationals have left countri...

- [S. Korea reports 2 new bird flu cases; total rises to 55](#) (2026-03-10 11:14)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has confirmed new cases of highly pathog...

- [Samsung Biologics, Eli Lilly to establish biotech incubator in Incheon](#) (2026-03-10 11:10)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Biologics Co., the biotech arm of Samsung Gr...

- [NCSOFT to acquire 70 pct stake in German game developer JustPlay for 301.6 bln won](#) (2026-03-10 10:36)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- NCSOFT Corp., a major South Korean gamemaker, said T...

- [Top general visits key Marine, Navy units to inspect S. Korea-U.S. drills](#) (2026-03-10 09:59)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's top general on Tuesday visited key Mar...

- [Samsung Electronics spends 37.7 tln won in R&D; in 2025](#) (2026-03-10 09:58)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Electronics Co. said Tuesday it spent a reco...

- [\(News Focus\) USFK's relocation of military assets to Middle East raises concerns about Seoul's capability to deter N.K. threats](#) (2026-03-10 09:54)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The U.S. Forces Korea (USFK)'s apparent move to relo...

- [Prosecutors indict woman accused of fatally drugging 2 men](#) (2026-03-10 09:23)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Prosecutors on Tuesday indicted a 20-year-old woman ...

- [Lee to hold summit talks with Ghanaian president Wed.](#) (2026-03-10 08:54)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung will hold summit talks with ...

- [\(LEAD\) Train service between Beijing, Pyongyang to resume this week for 1st time in 6 yrs](#) (2026-03-10 08:13)

SEOUL/BEIJING, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Train service linking Pyongyang and Beijing ...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-10 08:00)

The following is the second summary of major stories moved by Yonhap News Agency...

- [Starring Ju Ji-hoon, Ha Ji-won, 'Climax' gives voice to desires nobody talks about](#) (2026-03-10 07:54)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- ENA's new series "Climax" is a work that "scratches ...

- [Enhypen reshaped as six-member group with Heeseung's departure](#) (2026-03-10 07:45)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- K-pop boy band Enhypen will be reorganized as a six-...

- [\(LEAD\) PM to visit New York, Switzerland for talks on U.N. hub](#) (2026-03-10 07:44)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok will visit New York and ...

- [SK Innovation to invest US\\$380 mln in SK hynix's U.S. AI affiliate](#) (2026-03-10 07:30)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- SK Innovation Co. has decided to invest US\$380 milli...

- [Lee expresses hope new labor law will promote dialogue to resolve labor-management disputes](#) (2026-03-10 07:28)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Tuesday expressed hope th...

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul shares rebound more than 5 pct on eased Iran woes; won sharply up](#) (2026-03-10 07:28)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks rebounded more than 5 percent Tu...

- [\(LEAD\) Korean won rebounds sharply after hitting 17-yr low amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-10 07:07)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean currency rose sharply against the U...

- [Last remaining Dokdo resident dies at 88](#) (2026-03-10 07:05)

ULLEUNG, South Korea, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The last remaining resident of South ...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares rebound more than 5 pct on eased Iran woes; won sharply up](#) (2026-03-10 06:56)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks rebounded more than 5 percent Tu...

- [Seoul shares rebound more than 5 pct on eased Iran woes; won sharply up](#) (2026-03-10 06:36)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks rebounded more than 5 percent Tu...

- [Lee calls for cooperation between big firms, SMEs for sustainable growth](#) (2026-03-10 06:35)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Tuesday urged big compani...

- [\(URGENT\) KOSPI rebounds more than 5 pct on eased Iran woes; won sharply up](#) (2026-03-10 06:33)

(END)

- [Concrete mound at Muan airport built to save construction costs: audit](#) (2026-03-10 06:22)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- A concrete mound blamed for the deadly 2024 plane cr...

- [Gov't to set up committee to honor civic resistance to martial law](#) (2026-03-10 06:10)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The government will establish the presidential "Comm...

- [Hyundai Mobis wins 2nd chassis module supply deal from Mercedes-Benz](#) (2026-03-10 06:06)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Hyundai Mobis Co., South Korea's leading auto parts ...

- [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 peaceke...

- [\(2nd LD\) 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 ...

- [\(WBC\) Sidearmer 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)