



# **SOUTH KOREA SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT**

## **AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment**

Analysis Period: March 04, 2026 - March 11, 2026

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

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## Executive Summary

South Korea's security landscape from March 4 to March 11, 2026, was dominated by significant military exercises, concerns over the redeployment of U.S. assets, and persistent threats from North Korea. The joint U.S.-ROK Freedom Shield military drills commenced, drawing strong condemnation from Pyongyang and exacerbating inter-Korean tensions. Simultaneously, reports of the U.S. redeploying Patriot and THAAD missile defense systems from South Korea to the Middle East sparked debate regarding potential gaps in regional deterrence, though Seoul maintained its capabilities remain robust. North Korea continued to signal a "permanently hostile relationship" with the South and advanced its nuclear triad ambitions, while South Korea bolstered its defense industry and cybersecurity measures to counter evolving threats. The escalating conflict in the Middle East also presented economic and security challenges for Seoul, impacting energy markets and necessitating intelligence support for Korean firms abroad.

## Key Security Developments

- Military Activities and Exercises: Freedom Shield Commences

The annual Freedom Shield joint military exercise between the United States and South Korea began on March 9, 2026, and is scheduled to run through March 19. This large-scale drill involves approximately 18,000 South Korean troops, with an undisclosed number of U.S. forces, and is designed to enhance combined defense posture and response capabilities against various security threats. North Korea vehemently condemned the exercises, labeling them "invasion rehearsals" and warning of "unimaginably terrible consequences." The 2026 iteration includes expanded "multi-domain warfare" elements, encompassing operations in space, cyberspace, and special operations forces.

- Defense Policy and Strategic Shifts: U.S. Asset Redeployment Concerns

Reports emerged that the U.S. is redeploying some Patriot missile defense systems and potentially THAAD missile defense systems from South Korea to the Middle East to support operations against Iran. On March 10, South Korean President Lee Jae Myung acknowledged Seoul's opposition but stated that the country could not prevent Washington's decision, citing the U.S. right to station forces. President Lee asserted that this redeployment would "not hinder deterrence strategy towards North Korea," emphasizing South Korea's substantial defense spending and conventional military

capabilities. The Pentagon reiterated that U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) maintains a "combat-credible" posture.

- Diplomatic Relations: Inter-Korean Hostility and Alliance Strain

North Korea formally declared a "permanently hostile relationship" with South Korea on February 21, a stance reinforced during this period. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un indicated a willingness to negotiate with the U.S. only if Washington accepts Pyongyang's nuclear status, a condition the U.S. continues to reject, making dialogue unlikely. Separately, U.S. Senate Democrats released a report on March 11, stating that the U.S.-Korea alliance is "under strain" due to Trump administration policies, including pressure on South Korea for investment commitments and rumors of U.S. troop reductions.

- Security Incidents and Threats: North Korea's Nuclear Ambitions

North Korea is reportedly pursuing the establishment of another leg of its nuclear triad under its "New National Defense Development Five-Year Plan," alongside an emphasis on developing emerging military technologies. Pyongyang also condemned recent U.S. and Israeli strikes on Iran, accusing them of undermining regional peace.

- Defense Acquisitions and Arms Deals: Expanding K-Defense Exports

South Korea continued to advance its defense industry, aiming to become one of the world's top four defense exporters by 2030. On March 4, South Korea and the Philippines formalized two agreements to deepen cooperation in defense and shipbuilding. These agreements include support for the procurement and maintenance of defense materials for the Armed Forces of the Philippines, building on previous sales of FA-50 light combat aircraft and frigates.

- Cybersecurity: Power Grid Protection and AI Threats

On March 11, South Korea's National Intelligence Service (NIS) and the National Security Research Institute published "Intelligent Power Grid Cybersecurity Guidelines." These guidelines, developed in cooperation with agencies like the Ministry of Climate, Energy and Environment and Korea Electric Power Corp, aim to protect the national power grid from cyber threats, particularly in light of the increasing reliance on AI and data centers. A January 2026 report highlighted a 26.3% rise in cyber incidents in 2025 and warned of attackers' increased use of AI for sophisticated phishing and deepfake fraud in 2026. North Korea is identified as the source of 80-90% of cyber threats against South Korea, using cyberattacks to fund its WMD programs through cryptocurrency theft.

- Intelligence Activities: Middle East Support

The National Intelligence Service (NIS) announced on March 9 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 to Level 3 (evacuation advisory) for Bahrain, UAE, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan due to the escalating conflict in the region. The NIS established a "Middle East Situation Response Task Force" on February 28.

## Geopolitical Impact and Regional Dynamics

The period from March 4 to March 11, 2026, saw South Korea navigating a complex geopolitical environment, with significant implications for regional stability and its relationships with major powers. The commencement of the Freedom Shield joint military exercises with the United States, while framed as defensive, predictably drew strong condemnation from North Korea, which views such drills as rehearsals for invasion. This further entrenches the "permanently hostile relationship" declared by Pyongyang, hindering prospects for inter-Korean dialogue and maintaining a high level of tension on the peninsula. North Korea's continued pursuit of a nuclear triad and its emphasis on advanced military technologies, coupled with its deepening military alignment with Russia, underscores a hardening strategic posture that directly challenges regional stability.

The reported redeployment of U.S. missile defense assets (Patriot and THAAD) from South Korea to the Middle East, driven by the escalating conflict with Iran, introduces a new layer of complexity. While President Lee Jae Myung downplayed concerns about a weakened deterrence against North Korea, the move has sparked debate within South Korea and among regional observers about potential security gaps. This development highlights the interconnectedness of global security challenges and the potential for events in one region to impact force posture and alliance dynamics in another. It also raises questions about the future burden-sharing within the U.S.-ROK alliance, particularly as the U.S. emphasizes South Korea's responsibility for conventional defense on the peninsula.

South Korea's diplomatic efforts during this period included strengthening defense ties with the Philippines, a move that aligns with broader Indo-Pacific security strategies and aims to counter regional tensions, including those in the South China Sea. This diversification of security partnerships is crucial for Seoul as it seeks to enhance its strategic autonomy. However, the U.S.-ROK alliance itself is facing internal strains, as highlighted by U.S. Senate Democrats, due to issues like investment pressure and rumors of troop reductions under the current U.S. administration. The ongoing Iran war has also had a direct economic impact on South Korea, causing disruptions in global oil flows and market volatility, forcing Seoul to consider domestic stabilization measures. This demonstrates how external conflicts can quickly translate into domestic economic and security challenges for a trade-dependent nation like South Korea.

## Military and Defense Analysis

South Korea's military and defense posture during this period reflects a strong commitment to self-reliant defense capabilities and advanced modernization. The approval of a KRW 65.8642 trillion defense budget for 2026, representing a 7.5% increase from the previous year, is the highest annual growth rate since 2020 and underscores a national resolve to bolster security. A significant portion of this budget, KRW 19.9653 trillion, is allocated to force improvement programs, with a particular focus on achieving the conditions-based wartime operational control (OPCON) transition within President Lee Jae Myung's term.

Central to South Korea's defense strategy is the Three-Axis System (Kill Chain, Korea Air and Missile Defense, and Korea Massive Punishment and Retaliation), designed to deter North Korea's nuclear and WMD threats. Funding for this system saw a substantial 21.3% increase to KRW 8.8387 trillion in the 2026 budget, accelerating the deployment of reconnaissance satellites, Aegis destroyers, and high-powered missiles. Furthermore, the military is heavily investing in AI-enabled future force capabilities and the ambitious "500,000 Drone Warriors" initiative, with increased funding for training drones and instructor programs. This highlights a strategic shift towards leveraging advanced technology and unmanned systems for future warfare, drawing lessons from contemporary conflicts. The ongoing development of the KF-21 4.5 generation fighter aircraft also signifies South Korea's commitment to indigenous advanced air power.

The reported redeployment of U.S. Patriot and THAAD missile defense systems to the Middle East, while a point of contention, has prompted South Korean officials to emphasize the nation's robust conventional capabilities and high defense spending, which objectively exceed North Korea's. This situation may further accelerate South Korea's drive to enhance its independent defense capabilities, as suggested by experts who view it as a potential preview of a post-OPCON transfer scenario. The nation's defense industry is not only focused on domestic needs but also on expanding its global footprint, as evidenced by significant arms export growth and new defense cooperation agreements with countries like the Philippines.

## Outlook and Forecast

Short-term trends (1-3 months): In the immediate future, tensions on the Korean Peninsula are likely to remain elevated, primarily driven by the ongoing Freedom Shield exercises and North Korea's predictable condemnations and potential retaliatory actions. Pyongyang's "permanently hostile relationship" stance suggests a

continued refusal for meaningful dialogue with Seoul and Washington. We can anticipate further rhetoric from North Korea, possibly accompanied by missile tests or other military demonstrations, as a response to the joint drills. The debate within South Korea regarding the redeployment of U.S. assets will likely continue, potentially influencing domestic political discourse and calls for accelerated self-reliant defense. Economically, South Korea will continue to grapple with the fallout from the Middle East conflict, including volatile energy prices and market instability, necessitating ongoing government intervention.

**Critical flashpoints and risk areas:** The most critical flashpoint remains the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and the maritime borders, where any North Korean provocation could quickly escalate. North Korea's continued development of its nuclear triad and emerging military technologies, coupled with its alignment with Russia, poses a significant long-term threat. The potential for miscalculation during military exercises or in response to perceived threats is a constant risk. Cybersecurity threats, particularly from North Korea, targeting critical infrastructure like the power grid and aiming to steal advanced technology or cryptocurrencies, will remain a persistent and evolving risk. The stability of the U.S.-ROK alliance, particularly concerning burden-sharing and the strategic flexibility of U.S. forces, could become a flashpoint if disagreements intensify.

**Indicators to monitor:** Key indicators to monitor include the intensity and nature of North Korean responses to the Freedom Shield exercises, any further statements or actions regarding its nuclear and missile programs, and the rhetoric surrounding inter-Korean relations. Developments in the Middle East conflict, especially concerning global energy markets and the redeployment of U.S. assets, will directly impact South Korea's economic and security calculations. Domestically, public and political reactions to alliance dynamics and defense spending will be important. Internationally, the trajectory of U.S.-China relations and Russia's engagement with North Korea will significantly shape the broader regional strategic landscape.

**Strategic recommendations:** South Korea should continue to prioritize strengthening its Three-Axis System and investing heavily in advanced defense technologies, including AI and drone warfare, to enhance its independent deterrence capabilities. Diplomatic efforts should focus on maintaining robust communication channels with the U.S. to manage alliance strains and ensure a coherent response to regional threats, while also seeking to diversify security partnerships in the Indo-Pacific. Proactive cybersecurity measures, including the implementation of new guidelines for critical infrastructure and international cooperation against state-sponsored cyber threats, are essential. Economically, Seoul needs to develop resilient energy security strategies to mitigate external shocks and protect its vital supply chains. Finally, while maintaining a strong defense posture, South Korea should remain open to conditional dialogue with North Korea, leveraging international partners to de-escalate tensions.

where possible, even amidst Pyongyang's hostile rhetoric.

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## ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

### Source: Daily NK

- [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 [...]

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

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

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

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

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

Unable to qualify for the Milan-Cortina 2026 Winter Olympic Games — held Feb. 6-22 in Italy — North Korea opened its 2026 National Winter Games on Feb. 4 in Samjiyon, Ryanggang province, the northernmost of the country' s nine provinces. The roughly 50-event

competition, held at the Mount Pegae sports complex in the Paekdusan area, drew [...]

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

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

## Source: Hankyoreh

- [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)
- [\[Editorial\] North Korea’ s tough talk mustn’ t deter Seoul’ s efforts to rebuild trust](#) (2026-03-04 12:01)
- [\[Column\] US allies in the Gulf are in flames. Can Korea avoid a similar fate?](#) (2026-03-04 12:01)
- [Cascading effects of oil shock and ‘screwflation’ threaten to tank Korea’ s economy](#) (2026-03-04 12:01)
- [US risks finding out the hard way Iran is no Iraq](#) (2026-03-04 12:01)
- [War in Middle East widens to 12 countries within 72 hours of US-Israeli strikes on Iran](#) (2026-03-04 12:01)
- [Black Tuesday: KOSPI logs largest drop in history amid Iran uncertainty](#) (2026-03-04 12:01)

## Source: Korea Times

- [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 air defense units owned by the USFK were moved from South Korea amid a raging war in the Middle East. "It is not appropriate for our government to comment on military operations between Korea and the U.S.," the official said. The official said South Korea and the U.S. have remained 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 specialcounsel 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

- [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 mus

- [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," the report 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 the

- [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 ‘NaturePositive’ 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 would not be made.

- [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 the conflict.

- [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 million

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

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

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

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

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

A murder conviction in a case involving an infant who died immediately after birth during what is called a late-term abortion procedure has cast fresh light on the legal void surrounding abortion in Korea. This comes nearly seven years after the Constitutional Court of Korea struck down the country's ban, as the issue remains unresolved amid a prolonged political stalemate. Last week, the Seoul Central District Court sentenced the director of an obstetrics clinic in Incheon, identified by the surname Yoon, to six years in prison for murder in a case widely referred to as the "36-week abortion case," along with a fine of 1.5 million won

(\$1,000). Judges also ordered the forfeiture of 1.15 billion won in proceeds that prosecutors said the director had earned over the years by performing illegal abortions on hundreds of patients. The operating surgeon, identified only by his surname Shim, was sentenced to four years in prison, while the mother, surnamed Kwon, received a three-year sentence suspended for five years after the court found her guilty as an accomplice to murder. The judge

- [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 called

- [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 theater.

- [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 interceptor missiles and air defense systems grows following the Feb. 28 U.S.-Israeli strikes on Iran. Several U.S. military transport aircraft have been seen arriving at and departing from a U.S. air base in Pyeongtaek, just south of Seoul, in recent days, fueling

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

The government will initiate an intensive crackdown on foreigners who work illegally as delivery riders, the Ministry of Justice said Monday. The crackdown will be implemented for two months until April 30, and foreigners caught will face fines and forced deportation, the ministry said. Cases of illegal work in the delivery industry by foreigners residing in Korea are increasing, and

illegal acts such as driving motorcycles without a license are emerging as social problems, it noted. Recent reports say that some foreign students borrow Korean names to sign up on delivery platforms. The ministry said those who lend their delivery platform accounts to foreigners will also be reported to the police and other relevant authorities. A ministry official said the government will do its best to protect the jobs of Koreans and establish the order for foreigners staying here by cracking down on those working illegally in the delivery industry.

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

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

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

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

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

It's that time of year again — the ice melts, the sun sets later and the greens come out. It's time once again for St. Patrick's Day, including the big annual festival at D-Cube City Plaza in southwestern Seoul this Saturday. Under this year's theme of "Seoul's Going Green," the plaza will be transformed into a lively showcase of Irish heritage and contemporary culture,

highlighting the deep and growing tie between Ireland and Korea. “St. Patrick’s Day has been a staple in Seoul for many years now, and what makes it special is the feeling of Irish hospitality and community on display for all to see,” said Alan Leavy, chairman of the Irish Association of Korea (IAK), the main organizer. “It’s not just for Irish people. We really want it to be open to anyone who wants to come along, take part and enjoy themselves. St. Patrick’s Day is among the most widely celebrated national days in the world, and here in Seoul it’s a great day out for the whole family and a chance to experience a bit of Irish culture.” Running from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., the free, family-friendly outdoor

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

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

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

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

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

Korea marked this year’s International Women’s Day with rallies, awards and renewed political pledges over the weekend, underscoring both the gains women have made and the persistent gender gaps in the country. Korean Women’s Association United hosted the 41st Korean Women’s Rally in central Seoul on Saturday, turning the Gwanghwamun area into a purple-hued sea of celebration and protest ahead of International Women’s Day on Sunday. This year’s Women’s Movement of the Year award symbolically went to all women who advocated for gender-equal democracy during the rallies calling for the impeachment of former President Yoon Suk Yeol, with organizers rolling out a red carpet for participants to pose with

bouquets and mock trophies. Women of all ages attended in the event's dress code of purple, long been used globally as a suffragette color symbolizing justice and dignity. It also became the trademark hue of Korea's feminist movement in recent years, from annual women's marches to #MeToo protests. Participants chanted, "Complete the revolution of light!" and "Gender eq

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

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

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

The appearance of the Rising Sun flag during a World Baseball Classic (WBC) game between Korea and Japan has sparked criticism after Japanese spectators were seen displaying the controversial symbol at Tokyo Dome. The flag, widely associated with the Imperial Japanese Army and Navy, is viewed by many throughout Asia as a symbol of the country's militaristic colonial past, including its 35-year rule over Korea. The incident occurred during the 2026 WBC match played Saturday. Seo 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 Rising Sun flag is a symbol of Japan's militarism and imperialism," he said. "Using it while cheering denies the history of Japan's past wars of aggression and reminds many Asians

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

Korea will allow Iranians to remain here beyond their visa limits on humanitarian grounds, as the U.S.-Israeli war on Iran intensifies in the Middle East. In response to inquiries from The Korea Times regarding Iranian nationals in Korea, the Ministry of Justice said those whose visas cannot be extended under ordinary rules will be permitted to stay until war-related risks are deemed to have subsided enough to allow safe travel. As of January, 2,133 Iranian nationals were residing legally in Korea. "The Ministry of Justice plans to allow Iranians who are

currently staying in Korea legally, but can no longer extend their visas or change their status, to remain here on humanitarian grounds until the situation stabilizes,” a ministry official said. This measure comes as some other countries are moving to ease immigration rules or grant temporary protections to Iranians who would face heightened danger if forced to return. At least two countries — Canada and Japan — have so far announced special measures allowing Iranians to extend their stay rather than forcing them to return to a w

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

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

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

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

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

Recent U.S. military airlift activity at a major air base in South Korea has drawn attention to the possibility that air defense assets assigned to United States Forces Korea (USFK) have been redeployed to the Middle East. According to the real-time flight tracking website Flightradar24

Sunday, U.S. Air Force C-5 and C-17 transport aircraft that landed at Osan Air Base in Pyeongtaek, Gyeonggi Province, in late February departed in a series of flights earlier this month. Particular attention has focused on the C-5 Galaxy, which is larger than the C-17. At least two C-5 aircraft arrived at the base in late February and were seen departing on Feb. 28 and last Monday. Their final destinations were not listed, but flight records indicate journeys lasting more than 14 hours, raising the possibility that they continued on to the U.S. mainland or the Middle East. While C-17 aircraft routinely stop at Osan to transport U.S. troops and equipment, the arrival of the much larger C-5 aircraft is considered unusual. Reports earlier indicated that USFK had relocated some Patriot air defense systems from

- [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, intensifying

- [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, spicy simmered rice cakes, rice, fries, bottles of cola and extra sauce

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

Korea will import more than 6 million barrels of crude oil from the United Arab Emirates in an emergency effort to stabilize fuel prices, the presidential office said Friday, as the conflict involving Iran roils global energy markets. Presidential chief of staff Kang Hoon-sik said the decision was made following consultations directed by President Lee Jae Myung. "I would also like to share the welcome news that we will purchase crude oil from the UAE," Kang told reporters. "We discussed measures to secure additional oil imports, and as a result, emergency imports totaling more than 6 million barrels of crude have been confirmed." Kang

added that the additional supply is expected to help ease pressure on domestic fuel prices. Korea, the world's fourth-largest crude oil importer, relies almost entirely on overseas energy supplies due to a lack of domestic petroleum resources. The country imports the vast majority of its crude oil from the Middle East, particularly from major producers such as Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait. The emergency purchase comes as global

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

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

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

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

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

U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) may be or is suspected of preparing to deploy some of its Patriot batteries to the Middle East, as tensions escalate following U.S.-Israeli strikes on Iran. Korean authorities are closely monitoring the situation and have not ruled out the possibility that USFK assets could be moved to the region. According to local reports, USFK recently relocated several Patriot missile defense launchers and interceptors from other U.S. bases in Korea to Osan 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 sisterjournal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The paper was selected as the issue's cover article. Leukemia occurs when cancer-driving proteins remain continuously active, causing abnormally strong proliferation signals inside cells. While these signals induce tumor growth, excessively strong signaling can also impose severe stress on cells and potentially trigger cell death. Leukemia cells can grow continuously despite an unstable signaling environment. Most existing therapies generally aim to halt tumor growth by blocking proliferation signals, but the mechanisms that allow cancer cells to maintain growth under such conditions have yet to be fully understood. The research team said it has long studied

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

logistics subsidiary of Coupang, and his predecessor, Eom Seong-hwan, were also indi

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

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

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

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

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

A Japanese court upheld an order to dissolve the Unification Church over its controversial fundraising practices, clearing the way for liquidation proceedings against the religious group years after the assassination of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe brought its activities under renewed scrutiny. According to public broadcaster NHK, the Tokyo High Court on Tuesday upheld a lower court decision ordering the dissolution of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, more widely known as the Unification Church. The court said the group had encouraged its followers to solicit large donations through fundraising methods that

could constitute illegal acts, causing substantial financial losses and psychological distress to many people. Judges said it was difficult to expect the organization to establish measures to prevent such illegal acts, adding that dissolution was therefore inevitable. NHK reported that the ruling marks the third instance a Japanese court ordered the dissolution of a religious group of its legal status as a religious corporation, and first time such

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

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

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

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

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

The Ministry of Unification said it will use "North Korean-born citizens" as the standard English expression for people from North Korea who now live in the South. The ministry recently circulated guidance on the new term, explaining that it was chosen to better reflect both their birthplace and their legal status as citizens protected under South Korea's

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Source: The Korea Herald

- [\[Photo News\] 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, reflecting

- [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 Jakarta-based

- [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 limited

- [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 Korea 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](http://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 storie

- [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 Core 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 thre

- [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

- [\[Allison Schragger\] 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 anything

- [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 with

- [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. Kim Sung-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 mus

- [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 compan

- [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 exerc

- [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, e

- [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

- [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.” Be caus

- [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-fol

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- [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 strikes.

- [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.

- [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 others.

- [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 original theme.

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

Wonpil of Day6 is set to release his first solo EP "Unfiltered" 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," hinting at the album's themes.

- [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 been evacuated from the region.

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 servicethrough conscription, Kim chose the more demanding route of volunteering as an officer in the special forces. “I like adventures, so I was lookin

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Seoul Metropolitan Government said Monday it will expand its pool of medical tourism interpreter-coordinators to about 1,000 this year — nearly ten times the current level — to

better serve the rapidly growing number of foreign patients visiting the city. To support the initiative, the city signed a memorandum of understanding with the K-Medical Tourism Association last week. Under the agreement, interpreter-coordinators affiliated with the association will be deployed to major medical insti

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Korea Ginseng Corp. said Monday that its flagship brand JungKwanJang showcased the value of Korean red ginseng to global visitors at Natural Products Expo West, held March 4-6 in Anaheim,

California. The event, one of the world's largest natural food exhibitions, brought together about 3,000 food and beverage companies from 130 countries and more than 60,000 industry professionals. It serves as a key global platform for identifying emerging trends in the food and wellness industries. JungKwanJan

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The 2026 Korea Herald Architecture Talk will bring together Korean and French perspectives on public architecture, with renowned French architect and urbanist Dominique Perrault as the keynote speaker. The forum will be held at 3 p.m. on April 7 at the Ewha Campus Complex at Ewha Womans University in Seoul. Marking the 140th anniversary of diplomatic ties between South Korea and France, the fourth edition of the annual architecture forum will take place under the theme "Architecture Beyond 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: 폼하하다, 깔보다, 헐뜯다 [2] Those

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

individual gold medal by a South Korea

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

left Abu Dhabi and landed in South Korea

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The South Korean bats started off hot before cooling off considerably in a deflating 8-6 loss to Japan at the World Baseball Classic on Saturday. The first three South Korean batters of the game each hit a single off starter Yusei Kikuchi, with Lee Jung-hoo capping that run with an RBI knock to left. Three batters later, Moon Bo-gyeong, an offensive hero with a grand slam in the team's 11-4 win over Czechia on Thursday, delivered a two-run double to center to give South Korea a 3-0 lead. South K

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

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

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

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

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

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

visit was arranged to ease uncertainty surround

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

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

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

The Institute of East Asian Studies at the University of California, Berkeley has published an expanded edition of the English translation of "Chingbirok," the 1604 chronicle of the Japanese invasions of Korea written by Ryu Songnyong. Published in English as "The Book of Corrections" in 2002, the newly revised edition appears under the title "Reprimands and Admonitions: Reflections on the Japanese Invasions of Korea, 1592-1598." The Korea Herald spoke with translator Choi Byong-hyon about the s

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Top 100. According to YG Entertainment, the group's agency, the five-track album explores themes of confidence, growth an

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Korean Air Co., South Korea's flag carrier, said Friday it has extended its suspension of the Incheon-Dubai route by one week through March 15 due to the ongoing conflict in the Middle

East. Korean Air flights 951 and 952, which fly between South Korea's Incheon and the United Arab Emirates' Dubai, were diverted or canceled on Feb. 28 following U.S.-Israeli airstrikes on Iran. The daily flights were initially set to be suspended through Sunday. "Dubai's airport authorities informed us of a flight

- [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 facilities

- [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 war

- [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 transports

- [‘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 Sakyejul Publishing, Lee's children's book "The Story of a Brother and a Sister," published in 2020 here, received the top prize in the Fairy Tales and Fables special category. The Bologna Ragazzi Award, presented during the Bologna Children's Book Fair, honors outstanding publications in children's literature. The

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mapo Arts Center will launch its new matinee program, the “MAC Morning Concert” series, offering 10 performances from March to December as part of an initiative to make classical music more accessible in everyday life. Beginning March 25, the concerts will take place at 11 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Tickets are priced at 20,000 won. The series features commentary by concert guide and pianist Kim Yong-bae, who previously served as president of the Seoul Arts Center and led its fl

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LG Energy Solution has officially opened its first battery manufacturing plant in Canada, positioning the facility as a key hub for batteries used in energy storage systems across North America. The South Korean battery-maker said Friday it held a grand opening ceremony for the plant, run by its Canadian manufacturing subsidiary, NextStar Energy, in Windsor, Ontario, Thursday. The ceremony invited senior officials from both countries, including Ontario Premier Doug Ford, Canadian Industry Minister

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The United Arab Emirates has asked South Korea to expedite delivery of its Cheongung-II interceptor missile system, an official at Seoul's arms procurement agency confirmed Friday, as Gulf states move to strengthen air defenses following the escalating conflict involving the United States, Israel and Iran. An official at the Defense Acquisition Program Administration, requesting anonymity, confirmed to The Korea Herald that the UAE had requested earlier delivery of Cheongung-II batteries and int

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

On Friday, Aespa set fans abuzz by dropping “Attitude,” the opening theme song for Japanese TV anime “Kill Blue.” The Japanese-language digital single is about how nothing can keep the singer from being “me,” mixing upbeat thumping and a catchy melody with the voices of its members. The single precedes the group’s pending first dome shows in Japan, 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 partnershi

- [Blackpink shatters sales record for K-pop girl group with 3rd EP](#) (2026-03-06 02:11)

Blackpink set a record for first-week sales for a K-pop girl group with its third EP, "Deadline," selling more than 1.77 million copies, YG Entertainment said Friday, citing a local tally. The newest set from the group surpassed 1.46 million copies sold on the day of its release, smashing through the first-day and weeklong marks for a K-pop girl group previously held by Aespa for its third EP, "My World," released nearly three years ago in May 2023. The five-track

mini album debuted atop iTunes

- [Bill proposed to ensure support for underprivileged youth](#) (2026-03-06 01:34)

A revision to the Framework Act on Youth has been drafted to ensure support for underprivileged youth in South Korea and to shed light on the forms of marginalization young people face. People Power Party Rep. Joo Jin-woo's recent revision bill aims to clarify the definition of who would be eligible for public support under the Framework Act on Youth. Under the revision, young people with obstacles in their pursuit of employment, education and welfare would be offered greater state support. Amon

- [Antitrust regulator to inspect gas stations for price gouging](#) (2026-03-06 01:06)

The state antitrust regulator said Friday it will closely monitor possible price gouging practices of gas stations across the country and take necessary measures as fuel prices recently soared amid the military conflict in the Middle East. "We will mobilize all of our regional offices to check for possible collusion of gas stations, particularly those with high fuel prices, and will launch on-site investigations immediately, depending on the monitoring results, for a comprehensive response," the

- [FM Cho, UAE counterpart discuss Middle East conflict, S. Korean evacuation](#) (2026-03-06 00:33)

Foreign Minister Cho Hyun has spoken by phone with his counterpart from the United Arab Emirates to discuss the Middle East conflict and coordinate efforts to bring home South Korean nationals stranded in the UAE, the foreign ministry said Friday. During the phone talks Thursday with Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, UAE's foreign minister, Cho explained that some 3,000 short-term Korean travelers are seeking to return home from the UAE amid flight disruptions, calling for the UAE government's speci

- [Trump calls on Iranian diplomats to request asylum, shape 'new, better' Iran](#) (2026-03-06 00:31)

US President Donald Trump called on overseas Iranian diplomats to request asylum and help shape a "new and better" Iran as the United States and Israel continue a military campaign against the Islamic Republic. Trump made the remarks during a White House event celebrating Inter Miami's 2025 Major League Soccer Championship, while Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth stressed that it is a "really bad miscalculation" for the Iranian military to hope that America cannot sustain the ongoing war. "We also

- [S. Korea posts 5th-largest current account surplus in Jan: BOK](#) (2026-03-06 00:29)

South Korea recorded its fifth-largest monthly current account surplus in January, driven by a semiconductor upcycle and strong exports, central bank data showed Friday. The current account surplus totaled \$13.26 billion in January, down from \$18.7 billion in December, according to the Bank of Korea. Compared with the same month a year earlier, however, the

figure surged 397.4 percent, marking the fifth-largest monthly surplus on record. South Korea has recorded a current account surplus every m

- [Seoul shares open lower after strong rebound amid prolonged Iran crisis](#) (2026-03-06 00:25)

South Korean stocks started lower Friday after a 10 percent gain the previous session as a prolonged Iran crisis rekindled oil supply woes. Opening 1.66 percent lower, the benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index lost 24.51 points, or 0.44 percent, to 5,559.39 in the first 15 minutes of trading. The index has suffered an extreme rout this week in the wake of the Middle East conflict, tumbling 7.24 percent and 12.06 percent on Tuesday and Wednesday, respectively, before soaring 9.63 percent Th

- [With 1st win out of way, S. Korea looking to end winless drought vs. Japan](#) (2026-03-06 00:22)

It has been more than 10 years since South Korea last beat Japan in a best-on-best baseball game featuring professional players. It came in the semifinals of the World Baseball Softball Confederation Premier12 in November 2015, when South Korea rallied for a 4-3 win. After that, Japan went on to win 10 consecutive games. Japan nearly stretched that streak to 11 wins in an exhibition game last November before Kim Ju-won came to South Korea's rescue with a game-tying solo shot with two outs in the

- [Consumer prices rise 2% in Feb., on govt. target for 2nd straight month](#) (2026-03-06 00:13)

South Korea's consumer prices rose 2 percent from a year earlier in February, unchanged from the previous month and precisely meeting the inflation target, government data showed Friday. The reading marks the smallest on-year increase since August, when the figure stood at 1.7 percent, according to the Ministry of Data and Statistics. It also marks the second consecutive month that inflation met the Bank of Korea's 2 percent target, and the sixth straight month the growth pace remained at 2 perc

- [Movies in theaters this week](#) (2026-03-06 00:00)

"Hoppers" (US) Opened March 4 Animation/Comedy Directed by Daniel Chong An animal lover (Piper Curda) transfers her consciousness into a robotic beaver to save a wildlife glade from demolition, only to stumble into a fully functioning animal civilization. "The Bride!" (US) Opened March 4 Romance/Fantasy Directed by Maggie Gyllenhaal Set in 1930s Chicago, Frankenstein's monster (Christian Bale) enlists a scientist (Annette Bening) to bring a murdered woman (Jessie Buckley) back to life as his com

- [Salt bread, coffee and a spring view of Inwangsan](#) (2026-03-06 00:00)

Seoul weekends arrive with a quiet promise: more time, a slower pace and countless corners of the city waiting to be rediscovered. This week's picks highlight two spots that capture the simple pleasures of Seoul life. In Yeonnam-dong, a bakery known for its cult favorite salt bread

draws a steady stream of fans eager for its crisp crust and buttery center. In Buam-dong, a cafe with sweeping views of Inwangsan offers a peaceful perch to sip coffee while watching the mountain slowly awaken for spring.

- [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 stroll

- [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 tossed

- [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 thousands

- [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 aircraft

- [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 against

- [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. Thursday.

- [Galaxy Corp.'s IPO ambitions: Breakout success or hype?](#) (2026-03-05 10:26)

Bob McCooney, vice chairman and head of global capital markets at Nasdaq, visited Galaxy Corp.'s headquarters in Yeouido, Seoul, Thursday to review the company's growth strategy and assess the possibility of a US stock market listing. The visit — unusual for a senior figure from a global capital market — has raised speculation that the Korean entertainment-tech firm behind K-pop icon G-Dragon could be preparing a US debut. Yet the move has also prompted skepticism within the industry over whether

- [S. Korea imposes travel ban on Iran amid rising Middle East conflict](#) (2026-03-05 09:37)

South Korea imposed a travel ban on all of Iran amid rising security concerns linked to the escalating conflict in the Middle East, the foreign ministry said Thursday. A Level 3 travel alert, which advises nationals to leave the country, was upgraded to a travel ban effective at 6 p.m., the ministry said, amid escalating tensions in the Middle East following US and Israeli strikes on Iran. The ministry warned that Korean nationals who visit or stay in Iran without authorization may face punishment.

- [Surprise box-office hit 'King's Warden' leaves director with pledges he can't keep](#) (2026-03-05 09:08)

With "The King's Warden" on the verge of surpassing 10 million tickets sold, social media is abuzz with the bizarre pledges its director, Jang Hang-jun, made before the film's release, apparently not expecting such a major hit. When Jang appeared on the "Bae Sung-jae's Ten" radio program on SBS Power FM on Feb. 1, shortly before the film opened in theaters, he said he would "undergo plastic surgery, change his name and host a yacht party" if it crossed 10 million viewers. As of Thursday, the

- [BTS concerts to serve as model case in Korea's crackdown on ticket scalping](#) (2026-03-05 09:05)

South Korea is moving to strengthen its fight against ticket scalping, with upcoming concerts by K-pop supergroup BTS expected to serve as a model case for the government's new enforcement framework. The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism said Thursday that it has launched a public-private consultative body aimed at eradicating illegal ticket resale in the performing arts and sports sectors, ahead of new legal provisions set to take effect in August.

“Only when each institution's role — fro

- [Gold-winning short tracker Kim Gil-li models for Chanel](#) (2026-03-05 07:58)

Kim Gil-li, a two-time short track speedskating gold medalist at the 2026 Milan Cortina Winter Olympics, has participated in a fashion shoot with luxury brand Chanel. On Wednesday, Kim posted three photos from the set she worked on with the French luxury brand to her social media, along with a brief message. “At first it felt a bit unfamiliar, but discovering a new side of myself was also a fun experience,” Kim wrote. “Participating in ‘CC League by 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 l

- [K bank reaches Kospi after long, bumpy IPO journey](#) (2026-03-05 06:17)

The market has proved no easy battlefield for K bank, Korea's first online-only lender, as it finally completed a long and bumpy journey to the Kospi on Thursday, following two failed attempts to go public. The debut drew a strong reception, with the stock surging as much as 16 percent to 9,880 won (\$6.70) in the first hour of trading, well above its initial public offering price of 8,300 won. K bank sold 60 million shares in the IPO, raising about 498 billion won and valuing the lender at rough

- [Criticism mounts after Daejeon–South Chungcheong merger bill stalls](#) (2026-03-05 06:16)

Politicians are under fire from civic groups after the merger bill to integrate South Chungcheong Province and Daejeon failed to pass during the February session of the National Assembly. The February session, which ended Tuesday, had been considered the last window to complete the integration and establish a unified provincial leadership ahead of the June 3 local elections. The ruling Democratic Party of Korea is seeking one last chance to pass the law in March, despite the already tight schedu

- [Israel, Iran envoys defend positions in same-day press briefings](#) (2026-03-05 06:15)

The embassies of Israel and Iran held separate press briefings in Seoul on Thursday, with each side reiterating its position in the ongoing conflict in briefings held about an hour apart. In his briefing, Israel's Ambassador to South Korea Rafael Harpaz underscored his country's resolve to continue until its objectives are achieved, while Iranian Ambassador Saeid Koozechi condemned the Israeli and US actions. According to Harpaz, Israel concluded that immediate action was necessary after observi

- [LG CNS unveils containerized data center ‘AI Box’](#) (2026-03-05 06:00)

LG CNS said Thursday it will roll out a containerized artificial intelligence data center solution capable of housing hundreds of GPUs in a single unit, as it moves to capture rapidly growing global demand for AI infrastructure. The AI Box system is a modular micro data center designed to house up to 576 GPUs with an IT power capacity of 1.2 megawatts in a single container. By removing the need for a conventional building, LG CNS said the system can be deployed in about six months, compared with

- [SK chief to meet Nvidia CEO at GTC](#) (2026-03-05 06:00)

SK Group Chairman Chey Tae-won will attend Nvidia's annual technology conference this month, where he is expected to discuss cooperation on AI memory chips with Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang. According to industry sources on Thursday, Chey will travel to San Jose, California, to attend Nvidia GTC 2026, which begins March 16. It will mark the first time the SK chair has attended Nvidia's flagship developer conference. The anticipated meeting between the two leaders comes after their informal “chicken a

- [Kospi roars back after brutal two-day rout](#) (2026-03-05 05:59)

South Korean stocks staged a sharp rebound during trading Thursday, partially recovering from a two-day rout that rattled local markets. Buy-side sidecars were triggered on both the main and secondary bourses as a surge in buying pressure pushed prices sharply higher. The benchmark Kospi opened 3.09 percent higher at 5,250.92, compared with the previous session, according to the Korea Exchange. The index quickly extended its gains after the opening bell, touching an intraday high of 5,715.30 in

- [CJ Olive Young sets up first North American logistics hub](#) (2026-03-05 05:58)

CJ Olive Young said Thursday that it has established its first North American logistics hub, US West Center, in Bloomington, California, as it prepares to open offline stores in the United States and expand infrastructure for K-beauty brands. The facility spans about 3,600 square meters and will serve as a logistics hub for K-beauty products distributed through Olive Young across North America. With the logistics infrastructure in place, the company plans to support brands entering its local sto

- [Hana Financial teams with Circle, Crypto.com on USDC payments](#) (2026-03-05 05:57)

Hana Financial Group is stepping up its push into stablecoin payments in South Korea, launching a promotional campaign for foreign visitors using USDC through partnerships with Circle and Crypto.com. The group said Thursday that its card unit, Hana Card, will offer 5 percent cashback in CRO, a token issued by Crypto.com, to foreign users who pay at Korean merchants using Crypto.com's prepaid Visa card funded with USDC. The promotion follows a partnership signed in December between Hana Card and

- [Key liberal figures set for election](#) (2026-03-05 05:46)

The ruling Democratic Party of Korea's nominations for June 3 local elections are picking up pace, with heavyweights being named in key regions. The latest nomination to have been confirmed by the ruling Democratic Party of Korea is Kim Kyoung-soo, who led the presidential committee dedicated to balanced national development until Thursday. Kim was once considered a potential presidential contender, with ties to former presidents Moon Jae-in and Roh Moo-hyun. According to Kim Yi-su, who leads th

- [\[Photo News\] Robots join K-beauty labs](#) (2026-03-05 05:45)

Kolmar Korea said Thursday it has introduced the country's first automated system for antimicrobial effectiveness testing in cosmetics as demand for product safety verification rises amid K-beauty's global expansion. The robot-based preservative efficacy testing system, used to assess whether cosmetics remain protected from microorganisms such as bacteria and mold, has increased processing speed by about 2.5 times compared with manual operations. Facing a need for faster, more precise safety tes

- [French Embassy launches cultural season marking 140 years of diplomatic ties](#) (2026-03-05 05:44)

Marking the 140th anniversary of diplomatic relations between South Korea and France, the French Embassy in Seoul unveiled a wide range of cultural exchanges between the two countries, starting with the upcoming anniversary concert led by French conductor Adrien Perruchon. "Beyond politics, we will continue working together across all areas — including security, the economy, culture and education — to further strengthen France's relationship with Korea and ensure that the ties between our two co

- [HD Hyundai chair highlights Korea-Philippines ties during Manila visit](#) (2026-03-05 05:26)

HD Hyundai Chair Chung Ki-sun visited the Philippines this week as part of the South Korean government's economic mission, paying tribute to Korean War veterans, attending a bilateral business forum and inspecting the group's shipyard operations in Subic Bay. On Wednesday, Chung visited Libingan ng mga Bayani, the national cemetery in Manila, where he laid flowers at the Korean War Memorial Pylon. The Philippines was the first Asian country to dispatch combat troops during the Korean War, sendin

- [\[MWC\] LG Uplus bets on voice AI for global expansion](#) (2026-03-05 05:24)

LG Uplus CEO Hong Bum-shik pledged to move the company beyond its traditional telecom business and reposition it as a global software player centered on voice artificial intelligence solutions. Speaking Wednesday at a press conference on the sidelines of Mobile World Congress 2026 in Barcelona, Hong said the company aims to transform itself into “an AI-driven software company” that leads the solutionization of telecom and AI technologies. “We will pursue overseas expansion by building on capabil

- [Lee orders all available means mobilized for Koreans’ evacuation from Middle East](#) (2026-03-05 05:22)

President Lee Jae Myung ordered the mobilization of all available means, including military aircraft, for the safe evacuation of South Korean nationals from war-affected Middle Eastern countries in case of contingencies. Lee convened an extraordinary Cabinet meeting Thursday morning to discuss the government’s response measures to the ongoing war in the Middle East after returning the previous night from his four-day state visit to Singapore and the Philippines. “While minimizing damage to the e

- [Kolmar advances biotech push with Woojung Bio deal](#) (2026-03-05 05:17)

Kolmar Holdings, the holding company of Kolmar Korea, is set to acquire control of contract research organization Woojung Bio through a convertible bond deal, as part of a broader push to deepen the group’s foothold in biotechnology research. According to a regulatory filing Thursday, Woojung Bio will issue 35 billion won (\$24 million) in convertible bonds to Kolmar Holdings through a third-party allotment, with the bonds maturing on March 3, 2030. If fully converted at 2,325 won per share, the

- [Netflix unveils teaser for BTS’ comeback live at Gwanghwamun](#) (2026-03-05 05:09)

Netflix on Thursday released a trailer and poster for its upcoming comeback event, “BTS The Comeback Live Arirang,” offering fans a first glimpse of the group’s long-awaited return ahead of the release of its fifth full-length album. The teaser video opened with the roaring sound of fans cheering — echoing the atmosphere of past concerts. Reacting to the sound, the members can be heard expressing their longing for their supporters, with remarks such as “I really miss them,” conveying their antic

- [Former 'Chungju Man' nears 1m subscribers with single video](#) (2026-03-05 05:03)

Kim Seon-tae, the former official behind the Chungju city government’s wildly popular YouTube channel, is drawing explosive attention after launching his own channel following his resignation from public service. As of noon Thursday, Kim’s YouTube channel “Kim Seon-tae” had about 961,000 subscribers despite having only a single video uploaded. The number has surged rapidly, approaching the 1 million mark just three days after the channel was launched. In the video, which racked up 5.6 million vi

- [Human or mechanical error? Family challenges carmaker over accident that killed child](#) (2026-03-05 04:58)

An appellate trial on compensation for the 2022 crash that killed a 12-year-old child began Thursday at the Chuncheon branch of the Seoul High Court, with the families of both the driver and the victim claiming the crash was caused by a mechanical error in the vehicle. The family of the victim, Lee Do-hyeon, is seeking 920 million won (\$630,000) in damages from KG Mobility — formerly SsangYong Motor Co. — for what they claim was sudden unintended acceleration of the car driven by Lee’s 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 "Syncoption" 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

- [Michelangelo's works hidden in 'secret room,' researcher say](#) (2026-03-04 23:59)

ROME (AFP) -- Renaissance artist Michelangelo ordered many of his artworks to be hidden by his pupils in a secret room to protect them for posterity, an Italian researcher claimed Wednesday. According to renowned art historian Giorgio Vasari, the Italian genius burned a large number of his own drawings and sketches before his death in Rome in 1564. But researcher Valentina Salerno says she has unearthed unpublished archival documents that reveal a plot to squirrel away his works. "One of these t

- [Korea House, royal court fine-dining restaurant, reopens after renovation](#) (2026-03-04 23:30)

Korea House will reopen on March 11 following a seven-month renovation. Founded in 1957 as a guesthouse for visiting envoys and dignitaries, Korea House has since evolved into a cultural dining space for traditional Korean cuisine centered on royal court dishes. The effort has been led by Cho Hee-sook, a former Michelin one-star chef who serves as culinary adviser, and Kim Do-seop, head of its Korean cuisine research team and a certified practitioner of Joseon royal court cuisine, a nationally d

- [\[Graphic News\] South Korea aims for WBC victory](#) (2026-03-04 23:00)

South Korea heads into the World Baseball Classic running from Thursday to March 17 with its 30-man roster now set, as announced by the Korea Baseball Organization. The roster includes seven overseas-based players, headlined by San Francisco Giants outfielder Lee Jung-hoo and Los Angeles Dodgers infielder Kim Hye-seong, along with MLB and Korean American big leaguers. National team manager Ryu Ji-yun will lead the squad. Right-hander Go Woo-suk,

playing in the minors under the Detroit Tigers, al

- ['Show Me the Money' retakes place at center of Korean hip-hop](#) (2026-03-04 22:00)

Tom Cruise's iconic line from "Jerry Maguire" — "Show Me The Money" — occupies a special place in Korean culture. The phrase has become virtually synonymous with hip-hop, as the name of the country's flagship hip-hop survival program. The ultimate reward is literal, with the season's winner traditionally "shown" a 100 million won (\$68,000) cash prize. In a music market dominated by K-pop, hip-hop increasingly occupies its own niche. So the show's return for its 12th season, its first in four years

- [\[팟캐스트\] \(772\) 넷플 1위 ‘레이디 두아’ 는 실화?](#) (2026-03-04 21:00)

진행자: 박준희, Chelsea Proctor How 'The Art of Sarah' recalls real-life luxury fraud even 'Squid Game' Lee Jung-jae fell for 기사 요약: 넷플릭스 시리즈 “레이디 두아” 의 흥행을 계기로 2006년 한국 사회를 뒤흔들었던 이른바 ‘빈센트앤코’ 가짜 명품 사건이 재조명되고 있다. [1] As the show's buzz builds, it has reignited interest in an infamous, real-life fraud case from Korea a decade ago that bears striking similarities to its central premise: counterfeit luxury goods falsely marketed as elite, European-made products, which reaped astronomical profits. buzz: 화제성

- [\[Adrian Wooldridge\] AI proves 100-year prediction](#) (2026-03-04 20:30)

Great minds go off on odd tangents. In 1930, John Maynard Keynes took time out from thinking about the Great Depression, which was throwing millions out of work, to write a charming essay about the “economic possibilities for our grandchildren.” What would life be like a hundred years hence, he asked. His answer: The depression would prove to be no more than a temporary blip, economic progress would resume its benevolent course, but then the real problems would start. The combination of innovati

- [\[Wang Son-taek\] Conflicting currents in stormy waters](#) (2026-03-04 20:30)

Last week, the world was reminded that history often moves in two directions at once. The US and Israel carried out military strikes against Iran, followed by Iranian retaliation. At nearly the same time, President Lee Jae Myung of South Korea met President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of Brazil to deepen bilateral cooperation. Some weeks earlier, South American nations and the European Union moved forward with a long-negotiated agreement on economic cooperation. One set of events was marked by for

- [186 S. Korean seafarers aboard ships stranded in Strait of Hormuz: oceans ministry](#) (2026-03-04 12:43)

More than 180 South Korean seafarers remain aboard over two dozen ships stranded in the Strait of Hormuz, the oceans ministry said Wednesday, as safety concerns mount after the vital shipping route was effectively closed by the Middle East conflict. A total of 144 South Korean crew members are aboard 26 Korean vessels in the key waterway where roughly 20 percent of global oil and gas pass through, the ministry said in a release after holding a meeting to check

the situation in the region. An add

- [DP to meet business leaders over Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-04 12:43)

The main opposition Democratic Party said Wednesday it will meet with business leaders this week to discuss possible fallout from the US-Israeli strikes against Iran. The meeting, scheduled for Thursday, will bring together DP lawmakers from parliamentary committees on foreign affairs, trade and finance, along with representatives from the Federation of Korean Industries, the Korea International Trade Association and the state-run Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency. Senior executives from m

- [Head of Seongdong district steps down to join Seoul mayoral race](#) (2026-03-04 12:43)

The head of the Seongdong district, Chong Won-o, stepped down from his post Wednesday to join the race for Seoul mayor in the June 3 local elections. Chong, who has officially declared his bid for Seoul mayor, held a retirement ceremony at the Seongdong District Office earlier in the day. He plans to register as a preliminary candidate on Thursday. Chong will be competing with four other contenders in the ruling Democratic Party's primary for Seoul mayor: three-term lawmakers Rep. Park Ju-min an

- [Gov't considering chartered, military planes to bring home S. Koreans in Middle East](#) (2026-03-04 12:43)

South Korea is considering sending chartered planes or military aircraft to bring back its nationals stranded in the Middle East due to the conflict between the United States and Iran, a senior government official said Wednesday. Sending planes and additional pan-government rapid response teams to the region are among the many options the government is weighing to support their return home, Second Vice Foreign Minister Kim Jina said in a press briefing following an interagency meeting on governm

- [Samsung Electronics wage talks collapse, raising strike threat](#) (2026-03-04 11:15)

Wage negotiations between management at Samsung Electronics and its labor union have collapsed after the two sides failed to reach an agreement in mediation with the National Labor Relations Commission, raising the possibility of a walkout for the first time in two years. The commission, a quasi-judicial body tasked with mediating labor-management disputes, decided to suspend the process on Wednesday, following the second round of talks a day earlier. Samsung Electronics management and labor rep

- [Polar scientist calls for Korea to boost Arctic activities](#) (2026-03-04 09:52)

This is one of a series of interviews in which Kim Hoo-ran, editor-at-large at The Korea Herald, speaks with leaders, trailblazers, unsung heroes, and both well- and lesser-known figures who share the stories of their lives and their visions for a better world — Ed. If you felt the weather this winter was erratic — unseasonably warm days followed by deep freeze — you would not be wrong. While the average temperature in January was minus 1.6 degrees Celsius, the coldest

average January temperatur

- [Ha Ye-rin says 'Bridgerton' racial bias controversy may be learning curve for global media](#) (2026-03-04 08:56)

Netflix's flagship intellectual property "Bridgerton" has returned with a milestone season, its first to feature an East Asian lead. Fronting Season 4 is Ha Ye-rin, a 28-year-old Korean-Australian actor whose blockbuster resume includes training at the prestigious National Institute of Dramatic Art and roles in tentpole projects such as Paramount+'s "Halo" and HBO's "Dune: Prophecy." The glossy alternative-history series unveiled Part 2 of its latest season on Feb. 26, this time leaning into fai

- [Lee asks Marcos for temporary transfer of jailed Korean drug kingpin](#) (2026-03-04 08:53)

President Lee Jae Myung said he asked Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. to allow the temporary transfer of a jailed Korean drug kingpin to face investigation and prosecution in South Korea. Lee noted that “one of the difficulties faced by Koreans living abroad is the issue of public safety” during his luncheon meeting with members of the Korean community in Manila on Wednesday. Lee further explained that incidents affecting Korean residents in the Philippines appear to be rising, in cont

- [Pilot error behind midair collision of two S. Korean F-16s, Air Force says](#) (2026-03-04 08:38)

Last month's crash of a fighter jet was the result of a rare midair collision caused by human error, the Air Force said Wednesday. The collision, involving two F-16C aircraft, occurred during a night training exercise on Feb. 25 caused by a pilot' s misjudgment while wearing night vision goggles, according to the Air Force. One of the aircraft later crashed in a mountainous area in Yeongju, North Gyeongsang Province. According to the Air Force, the accident occurred when the external fuel tank mo

- [Korean happiness hits record high, despite political turmoil: report](#) (2026-03-04 08:34)

South Koreans reported their highest level of life satisfaction on record in 2025, despite deep political tensions following former President Yoon Suk Yeol's martial law declaration in December 2024. Overall life satisfaction scored 6.63 out of 10 points, the highest figure recorded in the annual Korea Social Integration Survey, according to a report by the Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs. The figure surpassed the previous high of 6.47 points recorded in 2024. The happiness index r

- [Doctor sentenced to 6 years for murder disguised as abortion](#) (2026-03-04 08:16)

A Seoul court on Wednesday sentenced an obstetrician to six years in prison for performing a cesarean on a 36-week pregnant woman and killing the baby, amid a lack of legal provisions to regulate abortions. The Seoul Central District Court found the 81-year-old hospital director, identified only by his surname Yoon, guilty of murder for killing the baby after conducting a caesarean section. The operating surgeon, identified as Shim, 62, was sentenced to four years in

prison. The mother, a 26-year

- [Brazilian woman indicted for stalking Jungkook, visiting home 20 times](#) (2026-03-04 06:59)

A Brazilian national has been indicted and detained on stalking charges after repeatedly visiting the home of BTS' Jungkook, authorities said Wednesday. According to the Seoul Western District Prosecutors' Office, the woman in her 30s was indicted Friday on charges of violating the Anti-Stalking Act and trespassing. She allegedly visited Jungkook's residence around 20 times over the course of a month starting on Dec. 7, 2025, rang his doorbell hundreds of times and left notes and other items at

- [Korean American players look to shine for Team Korea at 2026 WBC](#) (2026-03-04 06:56)

South Korea's roster for the 2026 World Baseball Classic boasts an impressive roster of six US-based players. Among them, three in particular stand out: They neither speak Korean fluently nor have ever been part of the Korean Baseball Organization. For Jahmai Jones of the Detroit Tigers, Dane Dunning of the Seattle Mariners and Shay Whitcomb of the Houston Astros, joining Team Korea is about honoring their mothers' homeland. With the trio included, this marks the largest group of foreign players

- [Seoul shares plunge over 12% on Middle East conflict fears; won tumbles](#) (2026-03-04 06:48)

Seoul shares plunged more than 12 percent Wednesday, closing below the 5,100-point mark, as mounting concerns over the economic fallout from the escalating Middle East conflict rattled investor sentiment. The Korean won also fell sharply against the US dollar. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index tumbled 698.37 points, or 12.06 percent, to close at 5,093.54, extending losses from a 7.24 percent drop in the previous session. The 12.06 percent fall marked the steepest one-day decline since

- [Lee puts energy, infrastructure, manufacturing at core of Korea-Philippines economic ties](#) (2026-03-04 06:17)

President Lee Jae Myung on Wednesday set out priorities for a new phase of economic cooperation with the Philippines centered on energy, infrastructure modernization and manufacturing, urging business leaders to invest and seize emerging opportunities. Lee delivered the remarks at the Korea-Philippines Business Forum on Wednesday, which he attended alongside Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. and about 250 business leaders and government officials from both countries. He underscored the importance of

- [고정문](#) (2026-03-04 06:04)

“고정문”이라는 표현은 한국에서 건물 입구나 상가에서 흔히 볼 수 있는 안내 문구입니다. 양쪽으로 열리는 문 가운데 한쪽을 잠금장치 등으로 고정해 두었다는 의미인데, 영어 사용자들을 위해 ‘Fixed’라는 표현을 함께 적어두는 경우도 있습니다. 한국에서는 이러한 상황이 비교적 흔하게 어색하지 않지만, 이런 방식에 익숙하지 않은 영어 사용자들에게는 fixed라는 표현이 혼동을 줄

수 있습니다. 영어에서 fixed는 보통 고장 난 것을 ‘수리했다’ 는 의미로도 자주 쓰이기 때문입니  
다. 따라서 “Locked door,” “Door closed” 라고 표현하거나, “Use other door” 처럼 방문객이  
어떻게 행동해야 하는지를 직접적으로 안내하는 것이 더 자연스럽습니다. I always see the "fixed  
door" sign and think that, seeing as the door is still not working, it has not actually been fixed

- [Iran war jitters halt Kospi, Kosdaq trading](#) (2026-03-04 05:55)

South Korean shares extended their sharp losses Wednesday, prompting the stock exchange operator to temporarily halt trading for 20 minutes on both the benchmark Kospi and the secondary Kosdaq markets. The Korea Exchange activated a circuit breaker to suspend trading on the Kospi for 20 minutes at around 11:19 a.m. The move followed a separate trading suspension on the Kosdaq, which was triggered at 11:16 a.m. A circuit breaker is activated when an index plunges more than 8 percent from the prev

- [Housing divide widens Seoul elementary enrollment gap](#) (2026-03-04 05:51)

The gap in first-grade enrollment at elementary schools has widened sharply this year, reaching a 59-fold difference between schools in the same district. As a result, some campuses face potential closure, while others contend with overcrowded classrooms. Researchers attribute the imbalance to a combination of factors, including differences in educational environments and the impact of new housing developments near certain schools. They also point to a growing tendency among parents to avoid low

- [Will Korea lower juvenile offender age for the first time in 70 years?](#) (2026-03-04 05:50)

The government has begun a formal public deliberation process on whether to lower the minimum age of criminal responsibility for “juvenile offenders,” after President Lee Jae Myung signaled support for reducing the current threshold from 14 to 13. The move reopens a decadeslong debate over how Korea should respond to rising public concern about youth crime, even as ministries and experts remain sharply divided. According to the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family on Wednesday, preparations ar

- [Canada mulls split submarine deal in Korea-Germany rivalry](#) (2026-03-04 05:49)

Canada is considering splitting its multibillion-dollar submarine procurement between South Korea and Germany, according to a media report, in a move apparently aimed at securing both advanced naval capabilities and economic investment from the two rivals. Canadian newspaper The Globe and Mail reported Tuesday, citing senior government sources, that the Canadian Patrol Submarine Project -- a planned purchase of up to 12 new diesel-powered submarines to replace the country’ s aging fleet -- could

- [LG launches AI graduate school as Koo Kwang-mo urges people-first tech](#) (2026-03-04 05:41)

LG Group opened its first in-house artificial intelligence graduate school on Wednesday, with Chairman Koo Kwang-mo stressing that advances in AI must ultimately serve people and

improve everyday life. In a congratulatory letter marking the launch of the new graduate program, Koo said technology should never exist as an end in itself but should be used to create meaningful value for people. “Technology should be a warm tool that designs people’s smiles, not a goal in itself, and it must ultimately

- [Bill for \\$350b investment in US sees progress](#) (2026-03-04 05:40)

The legislative process needed for South Korea’s \$350 billion US investment plan regained momentum Wednesday, with rival parties agreeing to move ahead and leave behind the drawn-out gridlock. A special parliamentary committee dedicated to passing the bill resumed operation Wednesday, tabling all nine related bills and conducting subcommittee-level reviews. The bills differ in detail, but each of them are designed to establish a new state-run body dedicated to US investments, outline the plan to

- [TXT to unveil first comeback stage at showcase for 8th EP](#) (2026-03-04 05:34)

Tomorrow X Together will release its eighth EP, “7th Year: When the Wind Stopped for a Moment in the Thornbush,” on April 13, marking its first comeback since contract renewal. The group first made the announcement at its “MoA Con” fan concert on Sunday, and released album details Monday through the Weverse fan platform. On Wednesday, it added that it will hold a comeback showcase at Korea University Hwajeong Gymnasium at 8 p.m. on the day of the album’s release. At the showcase, the quintet will

- [BTS unveils track list for new album with single ‘Swim’](#) (2026-03-04 05:34)

BTS on Wednesday unveiled the full track list for its fifth studio album, “Arirang,” with the lead single “Swim” anchoring the 14-song record ahead of the group’s highly anticipated comeback. The track list, released through the group’s official social media channels, also includes “Body to Body,” “Hooligan,” “Aliens,” “FYA,” “2.0,” “No. 29,” “Merry Go Round,” “Normal,” “Like Animals,” “They Don’t Know ‘ Bout Us,” “One More Night,” “Please” and “Into the Sun.” The album reflects BTS’ identity and

- [Ukraine war likely to shape North Korean drone development: report](#) (2026-03-04 05:30)

North Korean military forces are gaining unprecedented experience in uncrewed aerial warfare through the ongoing war in Ukraine, exposure that is likely to influence Pyongyang’s future drone development and production, according to a new analysis by a Washington-based research group. According to a report released by Beyond Parallel, a Center for Strategic and International Studies project that monitors North Korea, North Korean forces are learning from the conflict both as operators and targets

- [Korean Air chief calls for unity as Asiana merger nears](#) (2026-03-04 05:29)

Hanjin Group Chair Walter Cho has reiterated the historic importance of ushering a new era for Korean Air as South Korea’s largest air carrier gears up for the merger with the country’s second-largest carrier, Asiana. “As I pledged when announcing the acquisition of Asiana

Airlines, I will complete the historic task of reorganizing Korea's aviation industry and creating a stronger aviation ecosystem," Cho said in a speech during Korean Air's 57th anniversary ceremony on Tuesday. "For an integrat

- [Big Bang to launch world tour for 20th anniversary, YG confirms](#) (2026-03-04 05:28)

Big Bang will embark on a global tour this year to mark the 20th anniversary of its debut, YG Entertainment announced Wednesday. The tour will feature three members — G-Dragon, Taeyang and Daesung. The announcement was made at the end of a video posted by YG Entertainment, in which founder and executive producer Yang Hyun-suk confirmed that the group had agreed to hold a series of concerts to celebrate the milestone. "I think the reason people miss Big Bang and wait for their concerts is because

- [Search built Naver. Now AI commerce may define its future](#) (2026-03-04 05:27)

Type "sofa" into Naver's shopping app these days, and something different happens. Instead of a grid of product listings, an AI agent asks questions. Do you live alone? Do you have pets? It notices browsing patterns suggesting a dog in the household and recommends waterproof fabrics and scratch-resistant materials. Then it proposes a specific product: a three-seat Aquatex sofa from Carrem Furniture, discounted 41 percent to 347,000 won (\$235), rated 4.74 stars. Ask it to compare brands, and it i

- [CG Bio ramps up production with new regenerative medicine plant](#) (2026-03-04 05:25)

CG Bio said Wednesday that its second manufacturing facility, Novo Factory, has received final regulatory approval and begun full-scale operations, strengthening the company's production capacity for regenerative medicine. The new facility will focus on manufacturing Novosis Putty and other orthopedic surgery products, supporting the company's expansion into advanced markets such as the United States and Japan. While CG Bio's first plant, S-Campus, specializes in dermal filler production, Novo F

- [When machines learn empathy, humans grow mechanical](#) (2026-03-04 05:25)

As artificial intelligence grows more fluent in empathy -- fielding questions at 3 a.m., dispensing comfort on demand -- some artists are beginning to wonder whether humans, by contrast, are becoming mechanical. That unease animates "X," the latest work by SAL (Subverted Anatomical Landscape), the boundary-pushing contemporary dance company led by artistic director and choreographer Bae Jin-ho. Premiering March 19-22, as part of this year's ARKO Selection, the piece explores a world in which met

- [LG H&H; beverage unit posts first loss since Coca-Cola deal](#) (2026-03-04 05:14)

LG Household & Health Care reported the first quarterly operating loss in its beverage division since acquiring the local Coca-Cola bottling business nearly two decades ago, a setback that prompted the company to trim headcount in the unit. The company said its refreshment segment, which includes beverage subsidiaries such as Coca-Cola Beverage Company and Haitai

HTB, recorded an operating loss of 9.9 billion won (\$6.7 million) in the fourth quarter of 2025. It marked the first such loss since L

- [BlackRock takes 5% stake in HLB amid FDA review](#) (2026-03-04 05:14)

BlackRock, the world's largest asset manager, has become the second-largest shareholder of Korean biotechnology firm HLB, amid the US Food and Drug Administration's review of its liver cancer drug. According to HLB's regulatory filing on Wednesday, BlackRock Fund Advisors had acquired 6,664,921 shares of HLB, or a 5.01 percent stake, as of Feb. 24. The filing stated that the on-exchange stock purchase was made under a simple investment purpose. Jin Yang-gon, founder and chair of HLB, owned a 7.2

- [LS ramps up rare earth, battery materials value chain](#) (2026-03-04 05:13)

LS Group is expanding its rare earth and battery materials businesses as it seeks to strengthen South Korea's position in advanced industrial materials and supply chains. With China controlling about 90 percent of global rare earth supply, diversification has become a strategic priority. LS is working to build an integrated value chain covering rare earth oxides, metals and permanent magnets to enhance supply chain resilience. LS Cable & System is pursuing plans to establish a rare earth permane

- [Eximbank backs Philippine nuclear project with KHNP, Meralco](#) (2026-03-04 05:12)

The Export-Import Bank of Korea said Wednesday it has signed a tripartite memorandum of understanding with Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power and Manila Electric Company to support nuclear power development in the Philippines. The agreement positions Eximbank as a financial partner for potential nuclear projects led by Meralco, the Philippines' largest private power distributor, while strengthening South Korea's competitiveness in the global nuclear energy market. Minister of Trade, Industry and Resour

- [Yoon Suk Yeol's appellate trial commences for obstructing arrest](#) (2026-03-04 04:59)

Former President Yoon Suk Yeol's appellate trial for resisting arrest last year begins Tuesday, with the first hearing scheduled for 2 p.m. at the Seoul High Court. The 65-year-old former president was sentenced to five years in prison in January on multiple charges, including obstructing investigators' attempt to detain him, infringing on Cabinet members' deliberation rights, drafting a revised version of his Dec. 3, 2024 martial law declaration and destroying it after the short-lived order was

- [HD Construction hosts operator challenge at Conexpo 2026](#) (2026-03-04 04:55)

HD Construction Equipment said Wednesday it is hosting the "Operator Challenge" at Conexpo-Con/Agg 2026, North America's largest construction trade show, being held in Las Vegas this week. The event, held at the company's exhibition booth through Saturday, allows visitors to test the performance of its new mini electric excavator, the HX19E. Participants compete by using the excavator to place three balls into designated holes, with the fastest

operator each day winning a \$1,000 cash prize. The

- [YG Entertainment to debut new boy group this fall](#) (2026-03-04 04:18)

YG Entertainment said Wednesday it is preparing to debut a new boy group this fall, marking the agency's first launch of a male idol act since Treasure six years ago. The company revealed the plan through its official blog, stating that it is "preparing a new boy group, targeting fall 2026." Yang Hyun-suk, YG Entertainment founder and executive producer, hinted at the project last year, saying the agency had been closely evaluating a team of male trainees being considered for debut. "We have been

- [KNU to become first Korean public university to launch overseas franchise program](#) (2026-03-04 04:07)

Kyungpook National University and Vietnam's FPT University will sign a memorandum of agreement Thursday to operate a franchised degree program in Hanoi, the Ministry of Education said Tuesday. A franchised degree program allows a foreign partner university to deliver the curriculum of a Korean university, enabling students to earn degrees from the Korean university without studying in Korea. The initiative will mark the first time a South Korean public university has operated such a program over

- [Airline, travel industries scramble with fallout](#) (2026-03-04 03:29)

The airline and tourism industries scrambled to deal with the fallout from the escalating US and Israeli air war against Iran, while governments rushed to bring stranded travelers home from the Middle East following the cancellation of more than 20,000 flights in recent days. Major Gulf hubs including Dubai, the world's busiest international airport, remained closed or severely restricted for a fourth day, leaving tens of thousands of passengers stranded. According to Flightradar24, some 21,300

- [Trump says US Navy could escort tankers, Iran aimed to strike first](#) (2026-03-04 03:28)

US President Donald Trump said Tuesday the US Navy was ready to escort oil tankers through a crucial Gulf shipping route, as he justified his war on Iran by saying he believed Tehran was about to strike first. Trump has given often conflicting explanations for the joint US-Israeli attack on Iran, while the president who once campaigned to end to America's Middle Eastern wars has set out no firm endgame. The attacks and Iran's fiery response have engulfed the Middle East -- while also causing glo

- [Macron orders France's nuclear-powered aircraft carrier to Mediterranean](#) (2026-03-04 03:27)

PARIS (AP) — French President Emmanuel Macron on Tuesday ordered France's nuclear-powered aircraft carrier to move from the Baltic Sea to the Mediterranean to help protect allied assets during the war in the Middle East. Macron said the Charles de Gaulle carrier will be escorted by frigates and its air wing. In a prerecorded speech on French TV,

Macron added that Rafale fighter jets, air-defense systems and airborne radar systems have been deployed over the past few hours in the Middle East. “An

- [US turns up heat on Venezuela with threat to indict new leader Delcy Rodriguez](#) (2026-03-04 03:26)

The Trump administration is quietly building a legal case against Venezuelan interim president Delcy Rodriguez including readying a draft criminal indictment, one of several tools it is using to strengthen its leverage with Caracas, according to four people familiar with the matter. Federal prosecutors have put together possible corruption and money laundering charges, and have communicated to Rodriguez that she is at risk of prosecution unless she continues to comply with Trump’s demands follo

- [Syria sends thousands of troops to Lebanon](#) (2026-03-04 03:24)

Syria's Defense Ministry said it reinforced its border with Lebanon, and eight Syrian and Lebanese sources said this included rocket units and thousands of troops as conflict spread in the region including between Israel and Hezbollah in Lebanon. The sources included five Syrian military officers, a Syrian security official and two Lebanese security officials who spoke on condition of anonymity. The Syrian Defense Ministry said in a statement Wednesday that the army has reinforced its deployme

- [For Tino Sehgal, art lives in encounters between people](#) (2026-03-04 03:11)

As you approach the entrance to the Leeum Museum of Art in Seoul, a group of people standing to the side suddenly steps forward, chanting, “This is so contemporary.” Startled and baffled, you may wonder, questioning, “Is this part of the show or something else?” Once inside the museum, the performers, whom artist Tino Sehgal refers to as “interpreters,” blend naturally into the crowd, then slowly approach a visitor to share something intimate. If you stretch a hand toward them, they may touch or

- [Navy chief penalized for role in Yoon's martial law](#) (2026-03-04 03:05)

South Korea's Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Kang Dong-gil has been subjected to administrative action for his role in then-President Yoon Suk Yeol's imposition of martial law in early December 2024. According to the Ministry of National Defense, Kang was penalized for dereliction of duty. The ministry did not disclose the level of disciplinary action against Kang, but local reports have suggested that he was hit with a one-month suspension from duty. Following the ministry's announcement, Kang

- [Baby Dont Cry to unveil 1st EP](#) (2026-03-04 02:54)

Baby Dont Cry's agency P Nation announced Wednesday that the girl group will bring out its first EP “After Cry” on March 24. The agency uploaded a teaser trailer, dubbed “The Story Begins Here,” which hinted that the new album may be followed by two sets: “We Bloom” and “Beyond the Limit.” The upcoming mini album is the quartet’s first release since the

digital single “I Don’ t Care” in November. The single entered Melon’ s Hot 100 chart. The group debuted last June with the digital single “F Girl

- [Drug-laced drink killing suspect qualifies as psychopath: police](#) (2026-03-04 02:52)

A 22-year-old woman accused of drugging and killing two men in a series of motel encounters in Seoul meets the clinical criteria to be considered a psychopath, police said Wednesday, as investigators examine whether the crimes were premeditated. The Seoul Gangbuk Police Station said the suspect, identified by her surname Kim, scored above the domestic cutoff on the Psychopathy Checklist Revised, or PCL R. The test measures traits including callousness, impulsivity, lack of empathy and irresponsibility

- [Korean stocks plunge 8%, circuit breakers triggered](#) (2026-03-04 02:49)

South Korean shares plunged more than 8 percent on Wednesday, prompting the stock exchange to temporarily halt trading on the benchmark Kospi and secondary Kosdaq markets, as risk-averse sentiment intensified following US-Israel strikes on Iran. The Korea Exchange activated a circuit breaker to suspend trading on the Kospi for 20 minutes at around 11:19 a.m., after the index fell more than 8 percent for over a minute. The move followed a separate trading suspension on the Kosdaq, which was triggered

- [KEF releases English guide to Korea’ s business climate](#) (2026-03-04 02:47)

The Korea Enterprises Federation said Wednesday it has published an English-language booklet titled “2026 Business Environment and Labor Market in Korea,” aimed at enhancing global understanding of the country’ s economic and labor policies. The publication provides an overview of Korea’ s economic and labor regulations, policy direction and the latest statistical data. It was produced to support international organizations, overseas business associations and foreign-invested companies seeking a c

- [Seventeen’ s S.Coups, Mingyu reclaim Oricon chart](#) (2026-03-04 02:45)

S.Coups and Mingyu of Seventeen notched No. 1 spot on Oricon’ s Daily Album Ranking as a subunit, said agency Pledis Entertainment citing the latest chart. The duo’ s first EP “Hype Vibes” returned to the top of the chart after five months, possibly gaining momentum from the success of its ongoing tour “Double Up — Live Party.” The mini album rolled out in September last year and landed atop the daily chart, spending three days at No. 1, before scoring chart-topping debut on its Weekly and Weekly

- ['No Other Choice' just crossed \\$10m in the US. But it's not nearly Korea's top-grossing film there](#) (2026-03-04 02:44)

Park Chan-wook's "No Other Choice" has crossed the \$10 million mark in the North American box office, pushing his career record in the region even further ahead, the film's South Korean distributor CJ ENM said Tuesday. The black comedy about a laid-off paper mill worker who goes after his rival job applicants passed \$10 million in takeings on Feb. 28, according to CJ ENM. The

film opened with a limited release on Christmas Day, before expanding to 695 theaters on Jan. 16. Neon, which acquired No

- [Youngone Group tops \\$100m in World Vision donations](#) (2026-03-04 02:43)

Youngone Group said Wednesday it held a plaque unveiling ceremony at World Vision's headquarters in Yeouido, Seoul, to commemorate its cumulative donations surpassing \$100 million. To recognize the milestone, World Vision installed a commemorative plaque titled the "Global Philanthropy Wall." According to the organization, Youngone Group is the first donor to receive the honor. Youngone Group has partnered with World Vision since 1993, supporting programs for vulnerable children and communities

- [Global oil, gas prices soar as Iran crisis disrupts production](#) (2026-03-04 02:36)

LONDON (Reuters) -- Global oil and gas prices jumped Tuesday as the US-Israeli war on Iran halted energy exports from the Middle East, with Tehran attacking ships and energy facilities, closing navigation in the Gulf and forcing production stoppages from Qatar to Iraq. The benchmark Brent Crude oil contract settled up \$3.66, or up 4.7 percent, at \$81.40 a barrel, its highest settlement since January 2025. European gas prices soared as much as 40 percent before paring gains, adding to a 40 perce

- [Mamamoo's Moonbyul to drop solo single](#) (2026-03-04 02:27)

Moonbyul of Mamamoo will release a third single, "Rev," on March 25, her agency RBW Entertainment announced Wednesday. The single comes about four months after her last solo effort, the digital single "S.O.S," which was followed by her solo concert tour in Asia, "Museum: village of eternal glow." She kicked it off in Seoul in November and visited five cities in the region: Singapore, Macao, Kaohsiung, Tokyo and Taipei, concluding it in Hong Kong in February. In June, Mamamoo will release a full-

- [Student cyclist dies after high speed collision during training](#) (2026-03-04 02:19)

Five staff at a high school in Gyeonggi Province are under police investigation over the death of a student cyclist who was fatally injured during a highway training session in January. Officials at the Paju Police Station said they are questioning the school's principal, vice principal, the cycling team coach and two physical education teachers at the school in Yeoncheon-gun in connection with the accident, which occurred at around 1 p.m. on Jan. 24. The victim, a member of the school cycling t

- [Illit sets streams record in Japan with debut single](#) (2026-03-04 01:29)

Illit garnered 300 million streams in Japan with its debut song "Magnetic," according to Oricon on Wednesday. The group reached the milestone on Sunday, 101 weeks after the single entered Oricon's Weekly Streaming Ranking. The chart said it was the shortest time for an international female artist. "Magnetic" was released in March 2024 as the lead single from the group's first EP, "Super Real Me." It exceeded 100 million plays on Oricon's weekly tally

in the shortest time for a female group ever.

- [Hyundai, Kia post record Feb. sales in U.S. on strong demand for SUV, hybrid cars](#) (2026-03-04 01:19)

Hyundai Motor Co. and Kia Corp. reported record vehicle sales for February in the United States, driven by robust demand for sport utility vehicles and hybrid models, the automakers said Wednesday. The South Korean automakers sold a combined 137,412 vehicles in the U.S. last month, up 5 percent from a year earlier, according to the companies. Hyundai Motor, including its luxury brand Genesis, sold 71,407 units, up 5.7 percent on-year, while Kia's sales gained 4.3 percent on-year to 66,005 units.

- [KOSPI opens sharply lower following over 7% dip amid Middle East tension](#) (2026-03-04 00:22)

South Korean stocks opened sharply lower Wednesday, extending losses from the previous session's more than 7 percent plunge, as escalating Middle East tensions rattled investor sentiment. After opening 3.44 percent lower, the benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index traded down 212.55 points, or 3.67 percent, at 5,579.36 as of 9:15 a.m., after briefly touching an intraday low of 5,438.97. The Korea Exchange, the country's main bourse operator, activated a five-minute sell-side sidecar immedia

## Source: Yonhap

- [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 Termini...

- [Train service between Beijing, Pyongyang to resume this week for 1st time in 6 yrs](#) (2026-03-10 05:43)  
SEOUL/BEIJING, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Train service linking Pyongyang and Beijing ...

- [\(LEAD\) Antitrust watchdog fines Mercedes-Benz 11.2 bln won over misleading EV battery info](#) (2026-03-10 05:07)  
SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's antitrust regulator on Tuesday imposed...

- [BTS expands Gwanghwamun concert capacity to 22,000 with added standing zones](#) (2026-03-10 05:01)  
SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- K-pop juggernaut BTS will perform before some 22,000...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-10 05:00)

March 11

- [Antitrust watchdog fines Mercedes-Benz 11.2 bln won over misleading EV battery info](#) (2026-03-10 04:56)  
SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's antitrust regulator on Tuesday imposed...

- [PM likely to visit New York this week for talks on U.N. hub](#) (2026-03-10 04:45)  
SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok is likely to visit New Y...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-10 04:44)

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

- [DP, gov't mull buying over 6 mln barrels of crude oil from foreign refiners in S. Korea](#) (2026-03-10 03:46)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The ruling Democratic Party (DP) and the government ...

- [Number of foreign residents in S. Korea nears 1.7 mln in 2025](#) (2026-03-10 03:00)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The number of foreign nationals residing in South Ko...

- [Customs agency launches inspection into illegal distribution of fuel products](#) (2026-03-10 03:00)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Tax authorities launched Tuesday an intensive inspec...

- [Ex-President Yoon refuses to attend hearing on 2022 Itaewon disaster](#) (2026-03-10 02:49)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Former President Yoon Suk Yeol on Tuesday refused to...

- [S. Korea providing supplies to its stranded vessel in Strait of Hormuz: official](#) (2026-03-10 02:47)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is in the process of providing supplies ...

- [Lee says need for extra budget to support small business owners, firms amid Mideast crisis](#) (2026-03-10 02:46)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Tuesday that it is time...

- [Assembly speaker urges rival parties to form special committee on constitutional revision](#) (2026-03-10 02:44)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- National Assembly Speaker Woo Won-shik on Tuesday ca...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee says possible shift of USFK's military assets won't affect deterrence against N. Korea](#) (2026-03-10 02:41)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Tuesday that a potentia...

- [Seoul shares extend gains late Tues. morning as crude price stabilizes](#) (2026-03-10 02:38)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks continued to trade higher late T...

- [S. Korean troops in Lebanon report strikes near military base amid Middle East conflict](#) (2026-03-10 02:20)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korean troops dispatched to Lebanon for peacek...

- [\(2nd LD\) N. Korean leader's sister warns of 'terrible consequences' amid S. Korea-U.S. military drills](#) (2026-03-10 02:19)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong-...

- [Lee says possible shift of USFK's military assets won't affect deterrence against N. Korea](#) (2026-03-10 02:08)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Tuesday that a potentia...

- [KOTRA pledges support for 80 service firms with high export prospects](#) (2026-03-10 02:00)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA) ...

- [S. Korea's per capita income edges up 0.3 pct to stay in US\\$36,000 range amid weak won](#) (2026-03-10 01:32)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's per capita income edged up 0.3 percent...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee says possible shift of USFK's military assets won't affect deterrence against N. Korea](#) (2026-03-10 01:27)

(END)

- [BTS to launch 'Arirang' pop-ups to mark new album release](#) (2026-03-10 01:26)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- K-pop supergroup BTS will open special pop-up stores...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee says difficult to fully oppose possible shift of USFK's military assets](#) (2026-03-10 01:24)

(END)

- [N. Korea rallies voters ahead of next week's parliamentary elections](#) (2026-03-10 01:24)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- North Korea on Tuesday urged voter participation ahe...

- [\(LEAD\) N. Korean leader's sister warns of 'terrible consequences' amid S. Korea-U.S. military drills](#) (2026-03-10 01:09)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong-...

- [SK hynix develops advanced LPDDR6 for mobile devices with AI features](#) (2026-03-10 00:59)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- SK hynix Inc. said Tuesday it has developed an advan...

- [Top U.S. diplomat for East Asia to pay tribute to memorial honoring USFK soldiers this week](#) (2026-03-10 00:38)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The top U.S. diplomat for East Asia policy will pay ...

- [Korean won rebounds sharply after dropping to 17-yr low amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-10 00:33)

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

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korean economy grows 1 pct in 2025; Q4 GDP contracts 0.2 pct: BOK](#) (2026-03-10 00:31)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean economy expanded 1 percent in 2025 ...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares open nearly 5 pct higher as Trump hints Iran war nearing end](#) (2026-03-10 00:28)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started sharply higher Tuesday, ...

- [\(News Focus\) Pro-labor 'yellow envelope act' takes effect amid continued resistance](#) (2026-03-10 00:25)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- A revised labor law aimed at broadening workers' bar...

- [N. Korean leader's sister warns of 'terrible consequences' amid S. Korea-U.S. military drills](#) (2026-03-10 00:24)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong...

- [\(URGENT\) N. Korean leader's sister warns S. Korea-U.S. military drills could result in 'terrible consequences'](#) (2026-03-10 00:10)

(END)

- [\(URGENT\) KRX issues buy-side sidecar for KOSPI on sharp hike](#) (2026-03-10 00:08)

(END)

- [Seoul shares open over 5 pct higher as Trump hints Iran war nearing end](#) (2026-03-10 00:03)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started sharply higher Tuesday, ...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul shares open 5.17 pct higher as Trump hints Iran war nearing end](#) (2026-03-10 00:02)

(END)

- [S. Korean economy grows 1 pct in 2025; Q4 GDP contracts 0.2 pct: BOK](#) (2026-03-09 23:11)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean economy expanded 1 percent in 2025 ...

- [N. Korea to hold congress of largest youth organization next month](#) (2026-03-09 23:07)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- North Korea will hold a congress of the country's la...

- [\(URGENT\) S. Korea's GDP grows 1 pct in 2025, matching earlier estimate: BOK](#) (2026-03-09 23:00)

(END)

- [\(URGENT\) BOK revises Q4 GDP growth estimate up to 0.2 pct contraction](#) (2026-03-09 23:00)

(END)

- [\(WBC\) Captain clutch: Lee Jung-hoo delivers big hit, key catch to send S. Korea to quarterfinals](#) (2026-03-09 22:29)

TOKYO, March 10 (Yonhap) -- Before South Korea played a win-or-go-home game agai...

- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on March 10\)](#) (2026-03-09 21:59)

Concerns over a prolonged war in the Middle East are spreading into what economi...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on March 10\)](#) (2026-03-09 21:58)

Freedom Shield, the annual 10-day joint military exercise between South Korea an...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on March 10\)](#) (2026-03-09 21:58)

The revised Trade Union and Labor Relations Act, more commonly known as the "Yel...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-03-09 21:58)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South K...

- [N. Korea's Kim reaffirms relations with China in letter with Xi Jinping: KCNA](#) (2026-03-09 21:49)

SEOUL, March 10 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un reaffirmed his count...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) Much-maligned S. Korean pitchers come through in high-stakes game](#) (2026-03-09 14:59)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- With the team's fate hanging in the balance, South Ko...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) Bats wake up just in time for S. Korea](#) (2026-03-09 14:49)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean bats that had been dormant the previ...

- [\(WBC\) Emotional S. Korea manager calls win over Australia 'game of my life'](#) (2026-03-09 14:36)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Reduced to tears of joy after South Korea clinched a ...

- [\(2nd LD\) \(WBC\) Going to Miami: S. Korea beats Australia to reach quarterfinals](#) (2026-03-09 14:21)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korea defeated Australia 7-2 on Monday to advan...

- [\(WBC\) Much-maligned S. Korean pitchers come through in high-stakes game](#) (2026-03-09 14:20)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- With the team's fate hanging in the balance, South Ko...

- [\(WBC\) Bats wake up just in time for S. Korea](#) (2026-03-09 14:06)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean bats that had been dormant the previ...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) Going to Miami: S. Korea beats Australia to reach quarterfinals](#) (2026-03-09 14:03)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korea defeated Australia 7-2 on Monday to advan...

- [\(WBC\) Going to Miami: S. Korea beats Australia to reach quarterfinals](#) (2026-03-09 13:14)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korea defeated Australia 7-2 on Monday to advan...

- [FM Cho vows transparency on nuclear submarine project in talks with IAEA chief](#) (2026-03-09 13:13)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Foreign Minister Cho Hyun on Monday spoke by phone wi...

- [\(LEAD\) Top diplomats of S. Korea, Qatar discuss evacuations, energy supply amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-09 12:37)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Foreign Minister Cho Hyun held a phone call with his ...

- [Top diplomats of S. Korea, Qatar discuss evacuations, energy supply amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-09 12:04)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Foreign Minister Cho Hyun held a phone call with his ...

- [N. Korea cancels int'l marathon due to some reasons: tour agency](#) (2026-03-09 10:44)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- North Korea has decided to cancel the 2026 Pyongyang ...

- [PPP adopts resolution opposing ex-President Yoon's political comeback](#) (2026-03-09 10:41)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The main opposition People Power Party on Monday apol...

- [Top presidential aide voices hope 'yellow envelope act' to promote labor-management dialogue](#) (2026-03-09 08:31)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung's chief of staff said Monday ...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-09 08:01)

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

- [\(LEAD\) Gov't to take steps to implement fuel price cap this week as Mideast crisis intensifies](#) (2026-03-09 07:56)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The government plans to take steps to implement a cap...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea leadoff Kim Do-yeong ready to flush losses, focus on task at hand](#) (2026-03-09 07:46)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean star Kim Do-yeong said Monday he and his...

- [Around 300 S. Koreans to return home aboard Qatari flight amid Middle East conflict](#) (2026-03-09 07:45)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- A special flight carrying around 300 South Korean nat...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager wants players to see must-win game as 'opportunity'](#) (2026-03-09 07:37)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korea manager Ryu Ji-hyun said Monday he wants ...

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul shares sink nearly 6 pct amid Iran crisis, crude price hike; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-09 07:36)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks fell nearly 6 percent Monday, wit...

- [U.S. investment bill expected to pass Nat'l Assembly this week](#) (2026-03-09 07:18)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The National Assembly is expected to pass a special b...

- [Top U.S. diplomat for East Asia to visit S. Korea this week](#) (2026-03-09 07:17)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The top U.S. diplomat for East Asia policy will visit...

- [\(2nd LD\) Companies on alert over global oil price surge amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-09 07:11)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean companies are seeking responsive measure...

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korean currency slumps to 17-yr low against U.S. dollar amid Iran crisis](#) (2026-03-09 07:00)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won fell to a 17-year low against th...

- [8th Army participates in Freedom Shield exercise to enhance readiness posture](#) (2026-03-09 06:57)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The U.S. Army based in South Korea began taking part ...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares sink nearly 6 pct amid Iran crisis, crude price hike; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-09 06:53)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks fell nearly 6 percent Monday, wit...

- [Industry ministry to form team to manage envisioned U.S. investment projects under trade deal](#) (2026-03-09 06:51)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The industry ministry said Monday it will create a te...

- [Seoul shares sink nearly 6 pct amid Iran crisis, crude price hike; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-09 06:38)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks fell nearly 6 percent Monday, wit...

- [Prosecutors release identity of suspect accused of murdering two with laced drinks](#) (2026-03-09 06:37)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Prosecutors on Monday released the identity and mug s...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul shares end nearly 6 pct lower amid Iran crisis, crude price hike; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-09 06:36)

(END)

- [KRX experiences trading disruption amid sharp market drop](#) (2026-03-09 06:27)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Stock trades were briefly disrupted at the country's ...

- [Ruling party vows to pass tax bill this month to help stabilize foreign exchange market](#) (2026-03-09 06:19)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The ruling Democratic Party (DP) said Monday it plans...

- [Defense ministry aims to excavate some 200 remains from Korean War this year](#) (2026-03-09 06:03)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The defense ministry said Monday it aims to locate so...

- [Families of Jeju Air crash victims protest discovery of additional remains](#) (2026-03-09 05:59)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The bereaved families of the victims of the Jeju Air ...

- [No disruptions in essential goods supply to S. Korean vessels in Persian Gulf: ministry](#) (2026-03-09 05:52)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean vessels tied up in the Persian Gulf have...

- [Spy agency says providing real-time battle info to Korean firms in Middle East](#) (2026-03-09 05:52)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The national spy agency is providing real-time inform...

- [FSS holds emergency meeting amid oil price hike, won's depreciation](#) (2026-03-09 05:48)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The Financial Supervisory Service (FSS) held an emerg...

- [Police probing suspected use of ticket-buying bots for BTS comeback show](#) (2026-03-09 05:19)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Police have begun investigating suspected use of bots...

- [PM to attend Boao Forum in China this month](#) (2026-03-09 05:19)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok plans to attend the Boao ...

- [\(LEAD\) Companies seek measures as global oil prices surge amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-09 05:12)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean companies are seeking responsive measure...

- [Ejae named most-streamed K-pop artist in U.S. in 2025](#) (2026-03-09 05:09)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Korean American singer-songwriter Ejae, who performed...

- [\(LEAD\) N. Korea's Kim attends concert marking Int'l Women's Day with wife, daughter](#) (2026-03-09 05:06)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un attended a concert ma...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-09 05:00)

March 10

- [S. Korea, Switzerland agree to extend currency swap deal for 5 yrs](#) (2026-03-09 05:00)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and Switzerland have agreed to extend the...

- [Corporate lending expansion slows in Q4: BOK](#) (2026-03-09 04:43)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Loans extended to companies in South Korea grew at a ...

- [Crime action film 'The Ultimate Duo' finally opens after years of delay](#) (2026-03-09 04:33)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The crime action film "The Ultimate Duo" finally sees...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-09 04:30)

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

- [Lee says to swiftly introduce fuel price cap as Mideast crisis intensifies](#) (2026-03-09 03:04)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Monday called for authorit...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee says to swiftly introduce fuel price cap, explore ways to diversify sources of energy imports](#) (2026-03-09 02:42)

(END)

- [Gov't to refer Nonghyup chief to police over alleged embezzlement, bribery](#) (2026-03-09 02:38)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The government said Monday it plans to refer the chai...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee calls for preemptive responses with worst-case scenarios in mind as Mideast crisis intensifies](#) (2026-03-09 02:38)

(END)

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul shares down 8 pct late Mon. morning following trading suspension amid market slide](#) (2026-03-09 02:33)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks plummeted around 8 percent late M...

- [KOFIA chief to attend int'l securities body gathering in India](#) (2026-03-09 02:27)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The chief of the Korea Financial Investment Associati...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares down 8 pct late Mon. morning following trading suspension amid market slide](#) (2026-03-09 02:15)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks plummeted over 8 percent late Mon...

- [Former head of Seongdong district declares bid for Seoul mayor](#) (2026-03-09 02:00)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- A former chief of the Seongdong district in Seoul, Ch...

- [KRX eyes overseas partnerships to expand Korean derivative product trading](#) (2026-03-09 01:57)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The Korea Exchange (KRX), South Korea's main bourse o...

- [KRX issues circuit breaker on KOSPI trading over market volatility](#) (2026-03-09 01:50)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The Korea Exchange (KRX) issued a circuit breaker on ...

- [\(URGENT\) KRX activates circuit breaker on KOSPI, halting trading for 20 minutes amid market slide](#) (2026-03-09 01:37)

(END)

- [Lee to send special envoy to congratulate Chilean president on inauguration](#) (2026-03-09 01:33)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung will dispatch Rep. Chung Il-y...

- [S. Korea, U.S. kick off annual key springtime military exercise](#) (2026-03-09 01:29)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and the United States kicked off a key an...

- [Gov't to crack down on illegal foreign delivery riders](#) (2026-03-09 01:14)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The government will initiate an intensive crackdown o...

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

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won depreciated sharply against the ...

- [Lee thanks Turkmenistan, Singapore for helping evacuate S. Koreans from Middle East](#) (2026-03-09 01:04)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung has sent letters of appreciat...

- [S. Korea, S&P; to begin annual credit evaluation consultations this week](#) (2026-03-09 01:00)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will begin its annual consultation meetin...

- [Lee's approval rating rebounds to 58.2 pct: poll](#) (2026-03-09 00:34)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung's approval rating rebounded l...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares plunge nearly 6 pct; KRX issues sidecar; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-09 00:28)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks opened nearly 6 percent lower Mon...

- [\(URGENT\) KRX issues sell-side sidecar for KOSPI on sharp plunge](#) (2026-03-09 00:10)

(END)

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

YEONGJONGDO, South Korea, March 9 (Yonhap) -- More than 200 South Korean nationa...

- [Lee urges caution over reform measures to minimize side effects](#) (2026-03-09 00:07)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Monday urged caution in pu...

- [Seoul shares open sharply lower on market volatility over Iran; crude oil prices surge](#) (2026-03-09 00:06)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started sharply lower Monday amid...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea faced with number-crunching situation vs. Australia](#) (2026-03-09 00:04)

TOKYO, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Having dropped two straight games after an opening wi...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul shares open 5.72 pct lower on market volatility over Iran; crude price surge](#) (2026-03-09 00:02)

(END)

- [Gov't urges oil refiners to refrain from excessive price hikes amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-08 23:55)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan on Monday called on m...

- [Samsung SDI to unveil all-solid-state battery prototype for physical AI](#) (2026-03-08 23:46)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Samsung SDI Co. said Monday it plans to showcase a sa...

- [BLACKPINK's 'Deadline' debuts at No. 8 on Billboard 200](#) (2026-03-08 23:44)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The latest album from girl group BLACKPINK has landed...

- [LIV Golf to return to S. Korea with tournament in Busan](#) (2026-03-08 23:30)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- Saudi Arabia-backed LIV Golf announced Monday it will...

- [N. Korea's Kim attends concert marking Int'l Women's Day with wife, daughter](#) (2026-03-08 22:26)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un attended a concert ma...

- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on March 9\)](#) (2026-03-08 21:51)

As the war between the United States and Israel against Iran spreads across the ...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on March 9\)](#) (2026-03-08 21:51)

Recent developments surrounding the possible redeployment of U.S. Forces Korea (...)

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on March 9\)](#) (2026-03-08 21:51)

On Thursday, South Korea's stock market staged a dramatic rebound, a day after a...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-03-08 21:51)

SEOUL, March 9 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Ko...

- [Lee congratulates Kim Yun-ji on winning gold at Winter Paralympics](#) (2026-03-08 13:36)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Sunday congratulated para ...

- [\(WBC\) Australia to start KBO pitcher Wells in crucial game vs. S. Korea](#) (2026-03-08 13:34)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korean hitters will be up against a familiar fa...

- [Kim Yun-ji becomes 1st S. Korean female to win Winter Paralympic gold](#) (2026-03-08 13:18)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Kim Yun-ji became the first South Korean woman to win...

- [\(WBC\) Japan holds off Australia as S. Korea stays alive](#) (2026-03-08 12:57)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Japan rallied past Australia 4-3 for its third consec...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul mayor not apply for PPP's candidacy for June local elections](#) (2026-03-08 12:43)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon on Sunday did not apply for th...

- [\(LEAD\) Chartered plane departs from UAE to bring home 203 S. Koreans: ministry](#) (2026-03-08 12:18)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- A chartered plane departed from the United Arab Emira...

- [Latest LPGA winner from S. Korea 'proud' of herself for overcoming adversity](#) (2026-03-08 12:14)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- For the first time in nearly nine years, South Korean...

- [\(LEAD\) U.S. not likely to hike tariffs if special investment bill passed in parliament: industry minister](#) (2026-03-08 12:01)

YEONGJONGDO, South Korea, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan sa...

- [U.S. not likely to hike tariffs if special investment bill passed in parliament: industry minister](#) (2026-03-08 10:50)

YEONGJONGDO, South Korea, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan sa...

- [Seoul mayor not apply for PPP's candidacy for June local elections](#) (2026-03-08 10:18)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon on Sunday did not apply for th...

- [Chartered plane departs from UAE to bring home 203 S. Koreans: ministry](#) (2026-03-08 09:49)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- A chartered plane departed from the United Arab Emira...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee Mi-hyang captures 3rd career LPGA title in China](#) (2026-03-08 09:35)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Lee Mi-hyang has claimed her third career LPGA title ...

- [Lee Mi-hyang captures 3rd career LPGA title in China](#) (2026-03-08 09:02)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Lee Mi-hyang has claimed her third career LPGA title ...

- [\(2nd LD\) \(WBC\) S. Korea falls to Chinese Taipei in extra innings](#) (2026-03-08 07:28)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korea lost to Chinese Taipei 5-4 in extra innin...

- [\(WBC\) Left-hander Son Ju-young to start win-or-go-home game vs. Australia](#) (2026-03-08 07:23)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Left-hander Son Ju-young's first World Baseball Class...

- [Women's rights advocates rally in Seoul on International Women's Day](#) (2026-03-08 07:17)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Advocates for women's rights held a rally in downtown...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager clinging to fading hope](#) (2026-03-08 07:13)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korea manager Ryu Ji-hyun clung to fading hope ...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korean bats silenced in loss to Chinese Taipei](#) (2026-03-08 07:00)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Save for one player's heroics, South Korean bats were...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korean pitching undone by home runs](#) (2026-03-08 06:57)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korean pitchers surrendered three home runs in ...

- [Lee to preside over emergency economic meeting on Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-08 06:44)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung will preside over an emergenc...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean bats silenced in loss to Chinese Taipei](#) (2026-03-08 06:42)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Save for one player's heroics, South Korean bats were...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean pitching undone by home runs](#) (2026-03-08 06:29)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korean pitchers surrendered three home runs in ...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korea falls to Chinese Taipei in extra innings](#) (2026-03-08 06:27)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korea lost to Chinese Taipei 5-4 in extra innin...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea falls to Chinese Taipei in extra innings](#) (2026-03-08 06:15)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korea lost to Chinese Taipei 5-4 in extra innin...

- [Samsung Electronics unionized workers to vote on strike amid controversy over disadvantages](#) (2026-03-08 05:55)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Unionized workers at Samsung Electronics Co. are set ...

- [Lee to meet executives of large firms, SMEs this week](#) (2026-03-08 05:51)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung will meet with senior officia...

- ['The King's Warden' surpasses 11 million admissions](#) (2026-03-08 05:25)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- The Korean historical film "The King's Warden" has at...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-08 05:00)

March 9

- [Fuel price rise slows amid speculation of price cap system](#) (2026-03-08 04:37)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Gasoline and diesel prices rose moderately Sunday as ...

- [Ex-President Moon says Trump's China visit could offer momentum for Korean Peninsula peace](#) (2026-03-08 03:52)

LOS ANGELES, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Former President Moon Jae-in has said U.S. Pres...

- [\(WBC\) Shortstop ready to shake off tough loss to Japan](#) (2026-03-08 03:00)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korean shortstop Kim Ju-won said Sunday he and ...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager declares unwavering faith in team after loss to Japan](#) (2026-03-08 02:57)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- South Korea manager Ryu Ji-hyun claimed Sunday his fa...

- [Harim in legal battle with FTC over 100 bln-won price-fixing penalty](#) (2026-03-08 02:42)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- Harim Co., South Korea's largest poultry-processing c...

- [Chinese Embassy in N. Korea introduces Wonsan-Kalma tourism zone](#) (2026-03-08 02:39)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- The Chinese Embassy in North Korea has introduced the...

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

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Sunday pledged to advance ...

- [S. Korea mulls adopting oil price cap system for 1st time in 30 yrs: sources](#) (2026-03-08 02:01)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- The government is considering adopting a price cap sy...

- [U.S. transport aircraft spotted departing Osan Air Base amid Patriot relocation speculation](#) (2026-03-08 01:45)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- U.S. military transport aircraft have been spotted ar...

- [\(WBC\) Chinese Taipei manager hoping players will sustain momentum in must-win game vs. S. Korea](#) (2026-03-08 01:17)

TOKYO, March 8 (Yonhap) -- With his team fresh off a resounding first victory at...

- [FX volatility reaches highest since COVID-19 pandemic amid Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-08 00:59)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- The daily volatility of the Korean won against the U...

- [No. of drug addicts rises 49 pct from 2020 to 2024](#) (2026-03-08 00:26)

SEOUL, March 8 (Yonhap) -- The number of drug addicts receiving treatment in Sou...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korean bats start off hot, cool off later vs. Japan](#) (2026-03-07 14:26)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean bats started off hot before cooling ...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) Veteran Ryu Hyun-jin to start in crucial game vs. Chinese Taipei](#) (2026-03-07 14:24)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will turn to former major league All-Star...

- [\(WBC\) Ohtani looking to build on comeback win vs. S. Korea](#) (2026-03-07 14:24)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- After keying an early Japanese rally for an eventual ...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korean pitchers humbled by Japanese sluggers](#) (2026-03-07 14:07)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korean pitchers were taken to school by overpow...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager not accepting moral victory](#) (2026-03-07 14:06)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korea manager Ryu Ji-hyun wasn't prepared to se...

- [\(WBC\) Veteran Ryu Hyun-jin to start in crucial game vs. Chinese Taipei](#) (2026-03-07 13:49)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will turn to former major league All-Star...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean bats start off hot, cool off later vs. Japan](#) (2026-03-07 13:47)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean bats started off hot before cooling ...

- [\(LEAD\) \(WBC\) S. Korea falls to Japan for 1st loss](#) (2026-03-07 13:37)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korea blew an early lead and lost to the defend...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean pitchers humbled by Japanese sluggers](#) (2026-03-07 13:28)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korean pitchers were taken to school by overpow...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea falls to Japan for 1st loss](#) (2026-03-07 13:16)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korea blew an early lead and lost to the defend...

- [S. Korea reports 1 new bird flu case; total rises to 53](#) (2026-03-07 10:17)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has confirmed one additional case of high...

- [\(2nd LD\) Chartered plane to bring home S. Koreans from UAE on Sunday: ministry](#) (2026-03-07 09:21)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- A chartered plane to evacuate South Koreans from the ...

- [\(WBC\) Japan skipper wants to beat S. Korea playing Japanese way](#) (2026-03-07 08:46)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- Japan manager Hirokazu Ibata said he would love for h...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager tries to downplay magnitude of Japan game](#) (2026-03-07 08:36)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- Hours before the start of a marquee showdown against ...

- [\(LEAD\) Chartered plane to bring home S. Koreans from UAE on Sunday: ministry](#) (2026-03-07 08:03)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- A chartered plane to evacuate South Koreans from the ...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean infielder Kim Hye-seong determined to top Dodgers teammate Ohtani](#) (2026-03-07 08:02)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korean second baseman Kim Hye-seong has a ton o...

- [Industry minister, trade chief visit U.S. to discuss Seoul-Washington tariff issues](#) (2026-03-07 06:43)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's industry minister and trade chief visit...

- [\(WBC\) Chinese Taipei manager putting all hands on deck in game vs. S. Korea](#) (2026-03-07 06:39)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- After pounding Czechia 14-0 for its first win of the ...

- [Gender minister issues apology to former sex work victims near U.S. bases](#) (2026-03-07 06:06)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- Gender Equality Minister Won Min-kyong issued Saturda...

- [\(WBC\) Chinese Taipei hammers Czechia for 1st win, S. Korea up next](#) (2026-03-07 05:41)

TOKYO, March 7 (Yonhap) -- Chinese Taipei trounced Czechia 14-0 on Saturday for ...

- [Lee lauds 'The King's Warden' on surpassing 10 mln admissions](#) (2026-03-07 05:41)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Saturday congratulated the...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-07 05:00)

March 8

- [Chartered plane to bring home S. Koreans from UAE on Sunday: ministry](#) (2026-03-07 03:10)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- A chartered plane to evacuate South Koreans from the ...

- [SK On lays off nearly 1,000 workers at Georgia battery plant amid EV slowdown](#) (2026-03-07 03:01)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- SK On Co., a major South Korean battery manufacturer,...

- [Lawmaker at center of election nomination bribery scandal questioned by police](#) (2026-03-07 02:21)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- Rep. Kang Sun-woo, an independent formerly affiliated...

- [BLACKPINK's 'Deadline' lands at No. 11 on British Official Albums Chart](#) (2026-03-07 01:05)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- K-pop girl group BLACKPINK has entered the top 100 of...

- [S. Koreans evacuate from Qatar, Jordan with embassy assistance amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-07 00:31)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- South Korean nationals stranded across the Middle Eas...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-03-07 00:00)

SEOUL, March 7 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Ko...

- [\(LEAD\) U.S. expects it will take 4 to 6 weeks to achieve 'achievable' Iran operation objectives: White House](#) (2026-03-06 22:24)

WASHINGTON, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The United States expects it to take four to six...

- [\(2nd LD\) Trump says there'll be no deal with Iran except 'unconditional surrender'](#) (2026-03-06 22:03)

WASHINGTON, March 6 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump said Friday that the...

- [U.S. expects it will take 4 to 6 weeks to achieve 'achievable' Iran operation objectives: White House](#) (2026-03-06 19:33)

WASHINGTON, March 6 (Yonhap) -- The United States expects it to take four to six...

- [U.S. gov't agency working on new tariff refund system that could be ready in 45 days](#) (2026-03-06 18:55)

WASHINGTON, March 6 (Yonhap) -- A U.S. government agency is working on a new sys...

- [\(LEAD\) Trump says there'll be no deal with Iran except 'unconditional surrender'](#) (2026-03-06 16:39)

WASHINGTON, March 6 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump said Friday that the...

- [\(LEAD\) 372 S. Koreans return from Dubai on 1st direct flight since Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-06 14:30)

SEOUL, March 6 (Yonhap) -- More than 370 South Koreans returned home Friday aboa...

- [Trump says there'll be no deal with Iran except 'unconditional surrender'](#) (2026-03-06 14:23)

WASHINGTON, March 6 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump said Friday that the...

- [\(WBC\) Japan manager wants pitchers to minimize mistakes against 'very powerful' S. Korea](#) (2026-03-06 13:40)

TOKYO, March 6 (Yonhap) -- On the eve of his team's game against South Korea at ...

- [\(WBC\) 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)

- [Ex-President Moon set to visit U.S. for discussions on inter-Korean ties](#) (2026-03-04 23:54)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Former President Moon Jae-in was set to depart for th...

- [Samsung's Galaxy S26 Ultra wins 'Best in Show' title at MWC 2026](#) (2026-03-04 23:49)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Electronics Co. said Thursday its latest prem...

- [\(WBC\) Half-Korean outfielder Jones appreciates being welcomed with open arms](#) (2026-03-04 23:48)

TOKYO, March 5 (Yonhap) -- When Jahmai Jones, the half-Korean outfielder for the...

- [SK chief to attend Nvidia's annual tech conference amid HBM4 race](#) (2026-03-04 23:41)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- SK Group Chairman Chey Tae-won is set to take part in...

- [NIS issues joint AI supply chain guidance with global cybersecurity agencies](#) (2026-03-04 23:39)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The National Intelligence Service (NIS) said Thursday...

- [I-dle announces N. American tour on NBC's 'Today Show'](#) (2026-03-04 23:24)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- K-pop girl group i-dle has said it will return to Nor...

- [\(LEAD\) N. Korea's Kim oversees strategic cruise missile test from new destroyer](#) (2026-03-04 23:11)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has overseen a test-f...

- [Trump: 'When crazy people have nuclear weapons, bad things happen'](#) (2026-03-04 22:17)

WASHINGTON, March 4 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump said Wednesday that ...

- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on March 5\)](#) (2026-03-04 21:50)

The fallout from the war between the United States and Iran is hitting Korea's e...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on March 5\)](#) (2026-03-04 21:50)

Operation Epic Fury, launched by the United States and Israel to kill Iran's Sup...

- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea Herald on March 5\)](#) (2026-03-04 21:50)

The US-Israeli war on Iran reveals how the paradigm of modern warfare is rapidly...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-03-04 21:50)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Ko...

- [N. Korea's Kim oversees strategic cruise missile test from new destroyer](#) (2026-03-04 21:49)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has overseen a test-f...

- [\(URGENT\) N. Korea's Kim inspects new destroyer Choe Hyon this week: KCNA](#) (2026-03-04 21:20)

(END)

- [\(URGENT\) N. Korea's Kim oversees test launch of strategic cruise missile from new destroyer Wednesday: KCNA](#) (2026-03-04 21:19)

(END)

- [Foreign reserves rise for 1st time in 3 months in Feb.: BOK](#) (2026-03-04 21:00)

SEOUL, March 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's foreign reserves rose from a month earl...

- [Colby says Trump gov't is 'well aware' of N. Korean nuclear issue amid Iran operation](#) (2026-03-04 20:05)

WASHINGTON, March 4 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump's administration is ...

- [Hegseth says U.S. effort to address Iran's nuclear ambitions will send 'plenty of signals' amid N.K. criticism](#) (2026-03-04 18:00)

WASHINGTON, March 4 (Yonhap) -- U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said Wednesd...

- [Bessent says new global tariff will likely increase to 15 pct from 10 pct 'sometime this week'](#) (2026-03-04 15:25)

WASHINGTON, March 4 (Yonhap) -- U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said Wedne...

- [Pentagon chief says 'America is winning,' U.S. submarine sank Iranian warship with torpedo](#) (2026-03-04 14:51)

WASHINGTON, March 4 (Yonhap) -- U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth claimed Wedn...

- [Britain's top envoy calls for stepped-up cyber cooperation with S. Korea](#) (2026-03-04 13:25)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- British Ambassador to South Korea Colin Crooks on Wed...

- [Lee returns home from trip to Singapore, Philippines amid Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-04 13:18)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung returned home Wednesday from ...

- [\(2nd LD\) Gov't considering chartered, military planes to bring home S. Koreans in Middle East](#) (2026-03-04 13:03)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is considering sending chartered planes o...

- [\(2nd LD\) About 140 S. Koreans evacuated from Iran, Israel as Middle East conflict widens](#) (2026-03-04 13:02)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- About 140 South Koreans have been evacuated from Iran...

- [DP to meet business leaders over Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-04 12:11)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The main opposition Democratic Party (DP) said Wednes...

- [\(LEAD\) Gov't considering chartered, military planes to bring home S. Koreans in Middle East](#) (2026-03-04 11:55)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is considering sending chartered planes o...

- [Gov't considering chartered, military planes to bring home S. Koreans in Middle East](#) (2026-03-04 11:42)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is considering sending chartered planes o...

- [186 S. Korean seafarers aboard ships stranded in Strait of Hormuz: oceans ministry](#) (2026-03-04 11:18)

BUSAN, March 4 (Yonhap) -- More than 180 South Korean seafarers remain aboard ov...

- [About 40 S. Korean tourists stranded in Dubai to return home Thurs.](#) (2026-03-04 11:16)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- About 40 South Korean tourists stranded in Dubai due ...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee to preside over extraordinary Cabinet meeting on mounting Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-04 09:49)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung will preside over an extraord...

- [\(LEAD\) Appeals court begins ex-President Yoon's obstruction of justice trial](#) (2026-03-04 09:04)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- An appeals court on Wednesday opened the first hearin...

- [\(WBC\) Japan manager notes 'great lineup' of S. Korea](#) (2026-03-04 09:03)

TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- When South Korea was hitting home runs and pounding o...

- [\(WBC\) Japanese superstar Ohtani ready for title defense](#) (2026-03-04 08:55)

TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- What's good news for Japan at the World Baseball Clas...

- [Recent fighter jet crash caused by midair collision with another fighter during nighttime training](#) (2026-03-04 08:43)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- An F-16C fighter jet crashed near the southeastern ci...

- [\(WBC\) Kim Hye-seong determined to beat Dodgers' Japanese teammates in Tokyo](#) (2026-03-04 08:39)

TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The reigning World Series champions Los Angeles Dodge...

- [Head of Seongdong district steps down to join Seoul mayoral race](#) (2026-03-04 08:05)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The head of the Seongdong district, Chong Won-o, step...

- [\(News Focus\) Lee's trip to Singapore, Philippines diversifies markets for AI, nuclear energy, defense](#) (2026-03-04 08:00)

MANILA, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung used his trips to Singapore ...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-03-04 08:00)

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

- [USFK commander observes multinational Cobra Gold drills in Thailand](#) (2026-03-04 07:44)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The commander of the U.S. military stationed in South...

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul shares plunge over 12 pct on Middle East conflict fears; won tumbles](#) (2026-03-04 07:43)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Seoul shares plunged more than 12 percent Wednesday, ...

- [\(WBC\) Czechia manager expresses 'big respect' for S. Korean baseball](#) (2026-03-04 07:42)

TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- After his Czechia national baseball team played South...

- [First lady watches performances at K-pop dance contest in Manila](#) (2026-03-04 07:32)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- First lady Kim Hea Kyung attended a K-pop dance conte...

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korea signs consumer goods export deals worth US\\$16 mln with Philippines](#) (2026-03-04 07:28)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean companies signed a combined US\$16 millio...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares plunge over 12 pct on Middle East conflict fears; won tumbles](#) (2026-03-04 07:15)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Seoul shares plunged more than 12 percent Wednesday, ...

- [Gov't to mobilize state supply chain fund for firms with difficulties amid Iran crisis](#) (2026-03-04 07:00)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The government will mobilize a state supply chain sta...

- [\(LEAD\) Korean won sinks toward yearly low amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-04 06:51)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won fell markedly against the U.S. d...

- [Lee asks for Philippines' support to repatriate S. Korean drug trafficker](#) (2026-03-04 06:49)

MANILA, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Wednesday he has asked ...

- [Rival parties expected to pass U.S. investment bill on March 12](#) (2026-03-04 06:42)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The ruling Democratic Party (DP) and the main opposit...

- [Seoul shares crash over 12 pct on Middle East conflict fears; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-04 06:39)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Seoul shares plunged over 12 percent Wednesday to clo...

- [\(WBC\) S. Korean starter for opening game trying to take it one pitch at a time](#) (2026-03-04 06:37)

TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- When South Korean right-hander So Hyeong-jun was firs...

- [Seoul voices concerns over rising tensions in meeting with Gulf ambassadors](#) (2026-03-04 06:37)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- A senior foreign ministry official met Wednesday with...

- [\(URGENT\) KOSPI crashes over 12 pct on Middle East conflict fears; won sharply down](#) (2026-03-04 06:34)

(END)

- [Lee pays tribute at Korean War memorial in Manila](#) (2026-03-04 05:53)

MANILA, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Wednesday paid tribute at...

- [Industry minister to visit Canada to back Seoul's bid for submarine project](#) (2026-03-04 05:52)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan will visit Canada thi...

- ['Salmokji: Whispering Water' brings real-life paranormal hotspot to big screen](#) (2026-03-04 05:51)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The idea for the upcoming film "Salmokji: Whispering ...

- [Seoul mayor denies charges of proxy poll payment in court](#) (2026-03-04 05:44)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon denied accusations of a proxy ...

- [Lee seeks closer manufacturing, infrastructure cooperation with Philippines](#) (2026-03-04 05:38)

MANILA, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Wednesday that South Ko...

- [S. Korea signs consumer goods export deals worth US\\$16 mln with Philippines](#) (2026-03-04 05:26)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean companies signed a combined US\$16 millio...

- [Lee to preside over extraordinary Cabinet meeting on mounting Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-04 05:09)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung will preside over an extraord...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-03-04 05:00)

March 5

- [Short-selling transactions up by over 500 bln won amid Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-04 04:48)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The value of stock short selling grew by more than 50...

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

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

- [\(WBC\) Australian shortstop impressed with KBO teammate for S. Korea](#) (2026-03-04 04:29)  
TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Before they play their first regular-season game toge...
- [Gov't monitoring FX market with alertness amid won weakness: finance chief](#) (2026-03-04 04:24)  
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The government is closely monitoring the foreign exch...
- [\(WBC\) S. Korea manager praises players' mindset on eve of 1st game](#) (2026-03-04 04:20)  
TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea manager Ryu Ji-hyun has experienced both ...
- [\(WBC\) Australia manager ready to lean into pitchers' KBO experience vs. S. Korea](#) (2026-03-04 04:13)  
TOKYO, March 4 (Yonhap) -- When his Australian team takes on South Korea for the...
- [Over 200 people with criminal records worked as sports coaches from 2020-2024: audit](#) (2026-03-04 04:06)  
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- More than 200 people with criminal records worked as ...
- [Seoul shares down 8 pct late Wed. morning on Middle East tensions](#) (2026-03-04 03:00)  
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Seoul shares extended losses late Wednesday morning, ...
- [IPO proceeds in S. Korea rise 15 pct on-year in 2025: data](#) (2026-03-04 03:00)  
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Combined proceeds from initial public offerings (IPOs)...
- [Institutions' foreign securities holdings hit record high in 2025: BOK](#) (2026-03-04 03:00)  
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean institutions' investment in foreign secu...
- [\(2nd LD\) N. Korea to elect representatives to Supreme People's Assembly this month following key party congress](#) (2026-03-04 02:57)  
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- North Korea will elect representatives to its parliam...
- [KRX activates circuit breaker on KOSPI, KOSDAQ, halting trade for 20 minutes](#) (2026-03-04 02:42)  
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's stock exchange operator on Wednesday tr...
- [S. Korean, U.S. Marines to hold annual joint military drills next month](#) (2026-03-04 02:40)  
SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean and U.S. Marines will hold an annual joi...
- [NXT says it handled nearly 30 pct of country's stock trading value in 1st year](#) (2026-03-04 02:38)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Nextrade, South Korea's first alternative trading sys...

- [\(LEAD\) Navy chief offers to resign after being suspended over martial law involvement](#) (2026-03-04 02:32)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Kang Dong-gil offered ...

- [\(URGENT\) KRX activates circuit breaker on KOSPI, KOSDAQ markets, halting trading for 20 minutes](#) (2026-03-04 02:28)

(END)

- [LG Electronics tops global OLED TV market for 13th straight year](#) (2026-03-04 02:23)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- LG Electronics Inc. has topped the global market for ...

- [KEF releases annual handbook on S. Korean biz environment](#) (2026-03-04 02:20)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The Korean Enterprises Federation (KEF) said Wednesda...

- [Woman accused of drugging 2 men to death diagnosed as psychopath](#) (2026-03-04 02:05)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- A 20-something woman, who was recently arrested for k...

- [LG chief stresses importance of human-oriented AI to in-house tech school students](#) (2026-03-04 02:00)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- LG Group Chairman Koo Kwang-mo on Wednesday stressed ...

- [S. Korea, Denmark eye closer ties in AI, hydrogen, climate tech](#) (2026-03-04 02:00)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and Denmark have agreed to seek opportuni...

- [Chemical innovation alliance discusses high-value transition of industry](#) (2026-03-04 02:00)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The government and local chemical companies gathered ...

- [Trade minister asks Nat'l Assembly to pass U.S. investment bill on time](#) (2026-03-04 01:46)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Trade Minister Yeo Han-koo on Wednesday asked the Nat...

- [Navy chief suspended for 1 month over martial law involvement: sources](#) (2026-03-04 01:46)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Kang Dong-gil has been...

- [BOK warns of excessive FX volatility diverging from fundamentals](#) (2026-03-04 01:07)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The central bank said Wednesday it will closely monit...

- [Hyundai, Kia post record Feb. sales in U.S. on strong demand for SUV, hybrid cars](#) (2026-03-04 00:58)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Hyundai Motor Co. and Kia Corp. reported record vehic...

- [\(URGENT\) Navy chief given 'heavy' disciplinary action over martial law involvement: defense ministry](#) (2026-03-04 00:57)

(END)

- [\(2nd LD\) Industrial output down 1.3 pct in Jan.; consumption, investment gain ground](#) (2026-03-04 00:40)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's industrial output dipped from a month e...

- [Korean won depreciates against greenback for 3rd session amid Middle East crisis](#) (2026-03-04 00:39)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won depreciated further against the ...

- [\(LEAD\) KOSPI opens sharply lower following over 7 pct dip amid Middle East tension](#) (2026-03-04 00:37)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks opened sharply lower Wednesday, e...

- [YG Entertainment confirms BIGBANG's 20th anniv. comeback tour](#) (2026-03-04 00:20)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- BIGBANG will embark on a global tour later this year ...

- [KOSPI opens sharply lower following over 7 pct dip amid Middle East tension](#) (2026-03-04 00:15)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- Seoul shares opened sharply lower Wednesday following...

- [Finance minister vows efforts for smooth implementation of 'yellow envelope' bill](#) (2026-03-04 00:12)

SEOUL, March 4 (Yonhap) -- The government will focus all its capabilities for sm...

- [\(URGENT\) KOSPI opens 3.44 pct lower following over 7 pct plunge the previous session](#) (2026-03-04 00:02)

(END)