



SOUTH KOREA SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT

AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment

Analysis Period: June 15, 2026 - June 22, 2026

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

Executive Summary

This analysis could not be generated due to a technical issue.

Key Developments

- Unable to generate a security analysis for South Korea at this time.
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Outlook

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ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

Source: Daily NK

- [Behind Pyongyang' s showcase streets, satellite images reveal neighborhoods left behind](#) (2026-06-21 20:59)

High-resolution satellite imagery analyzed in 2026 reveals the true condition of two long-neglected neighborhoods in central Pyongyang: Tungme-dong in Sonkyo district and Worrhyang-dong in Moran Hill district. Hidden behind the capital' s gleaming main thoroughfares, both areas are defined by densely packed single-story homes, deteriorating low-rise apartment blocks, and basic infrastructure in a state of serious [...]

- [Before debating how Korea unifies, Seoul needs to decide what it wants](#) (2026-06-19 20:35)

South Korean President Lee Jae-myung recently stated that South Korea would not pursue absorption unification with North Korea. The position is being interpreted as a prioritization of peaceful coexistence and stable relationship management over inter-Korean system competition or a one-sided absorption scenario. Reactions from the political world and academia have varied. Some see it as [...]

- [North Korea police caught singing banned songs and using slang, authorities crack down](#) (2026-06-19 17:30)

North Korean authorities have launched a discipline crackdown on police officers caught singing songs of unknown or unauthorized origin and using crude slang, after finding that officers tasked with policing the public' s behavior were engaging in the very same conduct they were meant to suppress. A source in Ryanggang province said Thursday that the provincial [...]

- [Chinese language tutoring surges in North Korea as Pyongyang and Beijing restore ties](#) (2026-06-19 14:17)

A surge in demand for private Chinese-language tutoring is sweeping North Korea in 2026, driven by rising public expectations that the restoration of North Korea-China relations will open new trade and employment opportunities, Daily NK has learned from a source in North Pyongan province. “The number of people in Sinuiju trying to get private Chinese [...]

- [North Korea officials caught stealing and swapping school equipment in Sunchang township](#) (2026-06-19 11:23)

Officials and enterprise managers in North Korea' s South Pyongan province have been caught in a school corruption scheme, stealing and swapping out electronics intended for high school students and undermining the state' s education support program. A source in South Pyongan

province said on Thursday that after the annual rice-planting mobilization ended and senior middle school [...]

- [North Korea tightens watch on trade workers in China](#) (2026-06-18 20:38)

North Korean trade workers in China are facing tighter surveillance as Pyongyang and Beijing look to expand trade following a recent summit between the two countries, a source told Daily NK on Friday. The crackdown appears aimed at heading off personal profiteering and corruption before bilateral trade picks up in earnest. Chinese leader Xi Jinping [...]

- [North Korean ramen exports rise, but quality still lags](#) (2026-06-18 17:31)

North Korean ramen exports to China are growing, adding to a food trade that already includes candy and beer. But Chinese shoppers say the instant noodles still fall short of South Korean and Chinese rivals on taste and quality. A source in Ryanggang province told Daily NK on Thursday that North Korea is now sending [...]

- [North Korea train corruption scheme exposed after officer dispute](#) (2026-06-18 14:56)

A North Korea train corruption scheme came to light on June 6, 2026, after two security officers clashed over a train compartment built to carry criminals under police escort. According to a source in Ryanggang province, a mountainous region in the country's far north bordering China, the compartment had for years instead been used to [...]

- [North Korean art students ordered to glorify troops sent to Russia](#) (2026-06-18 14:12)

North Korea's leading art universities ordered graduating students in early June 2026 to create works glorifying the heroism and sacrifice of troops deployed to Russia to fight in its war against Ukraine, with many students calling the politically charged assignment a heavy burden, according to sources inside the country. According to a source who spoke [...]

- [North Korea's new mining and farm housing turns vacant within years](#) (2026-06-17 20:42)

Some newly built homes in North Korea's coal mining and farming regions are being abandoned within two years of being occupied, with the empty houses quickly becoming targets for thieves and deteriorating into eyesores, a source in South Pyongan province told Daily NK on Tuesday. "Cases of newly built homes in Kaechon city's coal mining [...]"

- [North Korea's pet boom puts new spotlight on wealth gap](#) (2026-06-17 19:34)

A growing number of North Korean people are keeping pets, fueling rising sales of specialized dog food, clothing and other supplies in 2026. Pet ownership, once condemned as a capitalist habit, has spread into a popular new lifestyle trend in recent months, but some North Korean people say it has also become a yardstick that [...]

- [North Korea demands detailed rice-planting reports from Hwanghae farms](#) (2026-06-17 17:20)

North Korea's central authorities ordered South and North Hwanghae provinces, the country's leading rice-growing region, on June 9, 2026, to compile detailed rice-transplanting reports reviewing this year's planting campaign, leaving provincial agricultural officials gripped by fear of severe punishment over inaccurate figures, according to a source inside the country. A source in South Hwanghae province [...]

- [North Korea quietly softens foreign content penalties for officials' families](#) (2026-06-17 14:23)

North Korea secretly issued a seven-point directive on May 28, 2026, setting out revised enforcement guidelines for cases involving the consumption of foreign media content — with provisions that effectively soften penalties for officials' family members and others with loyalist credentials, a source told Daily NK recently. The Anti-Reactionary Thought and Culture Law, enacted in [...]

- [Hyesan residents see hope for economic relief in Xi Jinping's visit](#) (2026-06-17 10:38)

Following Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to North Korea on June 8 and June 9, 2026, hopes are reportedly rising among the North Korean people for expanded cooperation between North Korea and China, with many seeing improved relations as a potential turning point for resolving the country's prolonged economic hardship. A source in Ryanggang province [...]

- [North Korea calls Xi Jinping's visit a "diplomatic victory"](#) (2026-06-17 02:08)

North Korean authorities have reportedly issued directives on follow-up measures after touting Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to the country as a "diplomatic victory." According to a source in Pyongyang who spoke to Daily NK, a directive issued in the name of the Workers' Party Central Committee Secretariat, the body that handles the party's day-to-day [...]

- [North Korea's provincial firms need autonomy, not new specifications](#) (2026-06-16 22:46)

North Korean authorities have been pushing provincial factories to update their product specifications to improve quality and lift flagging market demand — but updating standards alone will not solve the problem, and the Workers' Party of Korea needs to ask itself why it took this long to notice. According to a source in South Pyongan [...]

- [North Korea cracks down on moonshine as grain prices spike](#) (2026-06-16 18:42)

North Korean authorities in Hyesan city have intensified a crackdown on home-brewed liquor production during the annual lean season, arguing that using grain to make alcohol worsens already strained food supplies — but those who depend on the trade for survival are pushing back. Each year, May and June mark North Korea's harshest period for [...]

- [Pyongyang felt the heat as early as late May, satellite imagery reveals](#) (2026-06-16 13:50)

Thermal infrared satellite data collected in late May 2026 confirms that significant heat stress had already taken hold in both Pyongyang and Seoul well before the peak of summer, with

Pyongyang's power shortages leaving North Korean people with little ability to cope. With forecasters predicting an unusually hot summer across the Korean peninsula, I analyzed [...]

- [North Korea tightens grip on China trade by requiring traders to report their partners' identities](#) (2026-06-16 11:59)

North Korea has tightened controls over cross-border trade with China by requiring traders to report the identities of their Chinese business partners to state authorities, a move that is straining business relationships and driving traders toward indirect channels. A source in North Hamgyong province said recently that the authorities are now mandating that traders submit [...]

- [North Korea's practical teaching push lays bare Pyongyang-provincial education gap](#) (2026-06-16 01:32)

A North Korean Ministry of Education showcase intended to model a new hands-on teaching approach at vocational colleges ended up drawing more attention to the wide gap in facilities between Pyongyang and the provinces, a source told Daily NK on Monday. The Ministry of Education oversees the country's school and university system and has been [...]

- [Dyed dogs and goats: North Korean traders exploit summer livestock craze](#) (2026-06-15 21:32)

Scammers in North Korea are dyeing the fur of ordinary livestock black and selling the animals as premium dark-furred breeds, exploiting a widespread belief that black animals offer superior health benefits ahead of the hottest period of the summer calendar. In North Korea, the three hottest periods of the summer, known as the "sambok" days, [...]

- [North Korea's grain stores look more stable, but a good harvest deserves the credit](#) (2026-06-15 19:01)

North Korea's state-run grain stores appear to be operating more reliably than in previous years, but experts say the improvement reflects last year's bumper harvest rather than any meaningful reform of the country's food distribution system, according to reporting completed in June 2026. The grain stores, known in Korean as yanggoek panmaeso, are state retail [...]

- [North Korea charges teacher with 'destruction of state property' over scratched tablet screen](#) (2026-06-15 13:29)

A North Korean teacher in Chongjin was accused of "destroying state property" in June 2026 after inspectors found a minor scratch on a tablet computer in the classroom, according to a source in North Hamgyong province. The source told Daily NK that shortly after rice transplanting concluded in early June, the provincial education authority and [...]

Source: Hankyoreh

- [The second China shock is here — and it’s bigger, broader and more global](#) (2026-06-21 06:02)
- [\[Column\] North Korea’s economic boom](#) (2026-06-19 12:03)
- [\[Exclusive\] US Congress calls for review of CCP’s ‘malign influence’ in South Korea](#) (2026-06-19 12:03)
- [Kim Yo-jong blasts G7 as ‘inviting disaster’ for demanding N. Korea’s denuclearization](#) (2026-06-19 12:03)
- [\[Editorial\] Trump’s defeat in Iran raises stakes for Korea](#) (2026-06-19 12:03)
- [\[Column\] America declares its retreat from the Middle East](#) (2026-06-19 12:03)
- [Olympic Park protests grow increasingly extreme in rhetoric and action](#) (2026-06-19 12:03)
- [The rising tide of the semiconductor boom does not lift all boats in Korea](#) (2026-06-19 12:03)
- [\[World Cup\] Match 2 jinx strikes again: Korea loses to Mexico 0-1 on keeper error](#) (2026-06-19 12:03)
- [\[News analysis\] Emboldened after war, Iran looks to reclaim regional power status](#) (2026-06-18 12:03)
- [Trump tells Lee he’ll help advance peace on Korean Peninsula](#) (2026-06-18 12:03)
- [Trump leans on US allies to cover costs of cleaning up his war](#) (2026-06-18 12:03)
- [\[Cartoon\] Crusader or crook?](#) (2026-06-18 12:03)
- [Older Korean women earn less than half of male counterparts, study finds](#) (2026-06-18 12:03)
- [No more nuclear phase-out: Korea selects sites for new reactors](#) (2026-06-18 12:03)
- [Area by handball gym in Seoul’s Olympic Park turns into base for disorganized election denial movement](#) (2026-06-18 12:03)

- [Korean sports groups denied access to offices for nearly 2 weeks due to ballot protests \(2026-06-17 12:02\)](#)
- [Samsung to measure how many of its employees' jobs AI can replace \(2026-06-17 12:02\)](#)
- [Korea's conservative opposition leader drags party into battle for election do-over \(2026-06-17 12:02\)](#)
- [Goliath's defeat: What Iran reveals about America's future \(2026-06-17 12:02\)](#)
- [Korean firms reportedly among backers of \\$300B Iran postwar investment fund \(2026-06-17 12:02\)](#)
- [Seoul's PPP mayor blasts party leader for exploiting ballot fiasco to cling to power \(2026-06-17 12:02\)](#)
- ['Trump surrendered' : US conservatives fume over Iran deal \(2026-06-17 12:02\)](#)
- [Shinsegae chief and all Starbucks Korea employees to receive history, sensitivity training after 'Tank Day' fiasco \(2026-06-16 12:03\)](#)
- [For decades, Korea has been their home. On paper, they do not belong. \(2026-06-16 12:03\)](#)
- [PPP leadership draws fire from within party for railroading revote petition \(2026-06-16 12:03\)](#)
- [\[Q&A;\] Why Japan is angling for a military logistics pact with South Korea \(2026-06-16 12:03\)](#)
- [In private meeting, South Korea's leader reportedly suggests papal visit to North Korea \(2026-06-16 12:03\)](#)
- [After 106 days of war, US and Iran confirm MOU to end fighting has been reached \(2026-06-16 12:03\)](#)
- [The only thing growing faster than attendance at Korean baseball games? Stadium waste \(2026-06-16 12:03\)](#)
- [Lee rebukes election fraud claims as 'absurd conspiracy theories' and 'anti-social behavior' \(2026-06-15 12:02\)](#)

- [\[Editorial\] Korea must use G7 summit to band together with fellow middle powers](#) (2026-06-15 12:02)
- [With 400,000 undocumented workers in Korea, Lee administration weighs paths to legal status](#) (2026-06-15 12:02)
- [On anniversary of first inter-Korean joint declaration, Lee says peace is still within reach](#) (2026-06-15 12:02)
- [Yoon becomes first Korean president convicted of treason for sending drones to Pyongyang](#) (2026-06-15 12:02)
- [Trump says US has reached deal with Iran, set to be signed on Friday](#) (2026-06-15 12:02)
- [\[Column\] Japan and South Korea: An alliance of middle powers?](#) (2026-06-15 12:02)
- [\[Editorial\] For a traitor like Yoon, even 30 years is too lenient](#) (2026-06-15 12:02)
- [\[Interview\] Flexicurity model shows path to inclusive AI transition, argues Frey](#) (2026-06-15 06:02)

Source: Korea Times

- [AI-fabricated witch hunt against Kim Soo-hyun may be 1st of many](#) (2026-06-22 05:57)

Of the several false allegations made against actor Kim Soo-hyun, the most damaging came with the release of an audio recording purportedly featuring the voice of the late actor Kim Sae-ron, whose relationship with Kim Soo-hyun had become the focus of the controversy. “We began dating when I was in middle school and broke up after I entered college. The first time we had sex was during winter break in my second year of middle school. Looking back now, I realize I was taken advantage of.” The recording later turned out to have been generated using artificial intelligence (AI). It was among the false materials cited in the case against YouTuber Kim Se-eui, who was taken into custody on charges of spreading false information about Kim Soo-hyun. In retrospect, things might have unfolded differently had the accusation been presented in another form. Had it been made in a written statement or delivered in person by Kim Se-eui, himself already a controversial figure, the public would likely have reacted with caution and demanded verification. But it came in the form of an audio recording pu

- [Seoul's Jung District launches AI platform for Dongdaemun fashion merchants](#) (2026-06-22 05:57)

Jung District in central Seoul said Monday it has launched PROMAX, a free artificial intelligence (AI) image generation prompt platform developed specifically for merchants in the Dongdaemun fashion market, in what officials say is the first initiative of its kind by a local government in Korea. The platform, developed by the district's Dongdaemun Buyer Lounge, provides ready-made text prompts that merchants can copy and feed into generative AI tools with photos of their clothing to produce professional-quality virtual model images. Prompt writing, the process of composing detailed text instructions to guide AI image generators, had been a significant barrier for the merchants, who found trial and error too time-consuming. The Dongdaemun Buyer Lounge, a multi-purpose fashion community space on the fourth floor of Dongdaemun Design Plaza Fashion Mall, began offering one-on-one AI training to merchants in September last year. After seeing that merchants were interested in AI but struggled with actually using it, the district began platform development in May and ran a pilot before the offi

- [2 Korean-operated vessels exit Strait of Hormuz following US-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-22 05:57)

Two Korean-operated vessels have exited the Strait of Hormuz following last week's ceasefire agreement between the United States and Iran that reopened the strategic waterway, the maritime ministry said Monday. The Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries said the vessels are sailing normally after passing through the strait, but they have yet to completely leave the high-risk part of the passage. No Korean crew members are on board the vessels, and they are not bound for South, the ministry said, declining to disclose further details due to safety concerns. Under the ceasefire agreement reached with Washington, Tehran has agreed to allow vessels to transit the Strait of Hormuz without any fees for 60 days following the signing of the deal. With the departure of the two vessels, the number of Korean-linked ships remaining in the strait has fallen to 22. The ministry said 135 Korean sailors remain in the Persian Gulf, including 102 aboard Korean-operated vessels and 33 serving on foreign-flagged ships.

- [Kookmin University research team's paper accepted for presentation at international robotics conference](#) (2026-06-22 05:57)

A Kookmin University research team has developed a new technology that helps artificial intelligence (AI) better understand 3D environments when objects are hidden from view or visual information is limited. The university said Friday that a paper detailing the technology has been accepted for presentation at the 2026 IEEE/RSJ International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS) set for Sept. 27 to Oct. 1 in Pittsburgh. The team was led by Lee Seong-won, professor at the university's School of Electrical Engineering. The team included Kim Jun-ho, a senior majoring in electrical engineering. Kim is the first author of the paper titled "RayOcc: Occlusion-Agnostic Ray Occupancy Estimation via Gaussian Mixture Intensity," which proposes a robust AI-based method for estimating the occupancy of 3D spaces, helping overcome visibility limitations in complex environments. The university noted that the technology addresses challenges in 3D spatial understanding — essential for autonomous driving and robotics systems — and demonstrates the potential to overcome uncertainties

- [S. Korea slams N. Korea's expanded border fencing as armistice agreement violation](#) (2026-06-22 05:57)

The South Korean military on Monday denounced North Korea's intensified border fencing as a violation of the armistice agreement that halted the 1950-53 Korean War, following a report that the fences have been built very close to the inter-Korean border. The JoongAng Ilbo reported that the North has installed barbed wire fences just 80-90 meters from the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) separating the two Koreas, clearing land to plant mines as close as 5-10 meters to the MDL, citing military sources and a lawmaker. After the North's leader Kim Jong-un declared inter-Korean ties as those between "two states hostile to each other" in late 2023, the North has been fortifying the border since April 2024 by reinforcing barbed wire fences, planting mines and erecting anti-tank barriers along the MDL. "The North Korean military's installation of barriers along the MDL is a clear violation of the Armistice Agreement and our military will continue to respond in close cooperation with the United Nations Command (UNC)," the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said in a statement. The JCS said the military

- [Sungkyunkwan University jumps 18 spots to 108th in QS World University Rankings](#) (2026-06-22 05:57)

Sungkyunkwan University ranked 108th in the QS World University Rankings 2027, rising 18 places from 126th last year and reaffirming its global competitiveness as a leading institution. The university said Friday that the rise was driven mainly by enhanced research performance. Research-related indicators, including citations per faculty and research impact, showed significant gains, reflecting the university's sustained research achievements accumulated over many years. The institution regards the accomplishment as one of the key outcomes of its Vision 2030 initiative. In September 2021, it announced the initiative with the goal of becoming a global leader in creating value for future society through creative challenges and innovation. At the time, the university set four strategic goals: innovating university education, becoming a leading research-centered university, building mutually beneficial partnerships and enhancing the university brand. The university said the rise in the global rankings represents a tangible result of its continued efforts to achieve the goal of becoming a l

- [Investigators seek arrest warrant for Shincheonji sect leader Lee Man-hee](#) (2026-06-22 05:57)

Investigators said Monday they have filed for an arrest warrant for the founder of the Shincheonji Church of Jesus, a nonmainstream religious sect, over suspicions he forced church members to join the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) ahead of elections between 2021 and 2024. Lee Man-hee is accused of violating the Political Parties Act, which bans forcing people to join or quit political parties. He is suspected of forcing church followers to join the PPP with the intention of swaying the outcome of the party's presidential primary in 2021 and the general election primaries in 2024. A joint investigative team between the police and prosecution, charged with investigating allegedly corrupt ties between political and religious groups, has been investigating the allegations surrounding Shincheonji.

- [Korea to sharpen tobacco warnings with blunter labels](#) (2026-06-22 05:57)

Korea is doubling down on its efforts to curb smoking, announcing Monday a sweeping redesign of the graphic warnings plastered across tobacco products. Starting Dec. 23, cigarette packs will feature more visceral imagery and blunter language, a shift intended to shock consumers out of complacency after a six-month grace period for manufacturers. The overhaul marks the sixth iteration of the nation's warning system since its inception in 2016. Under Korean law, these public health alerts must be refreshed every 24 months to combat "warning fatigue" — a phenomenon where smokers become desensitized to the graphic images. This year's update, however, is less of a routine rotation and more of a strategic escalation. For traditional cigarettes, the Ministry of Health and Welfare is pivoting toward harsher realities. Out is the warning for erectile dysfunction. In is a new, stark depiction of kidney cancer. Five existing graphics have also been redesigned for maximum psychological impact. More notable than the imagery is the linguistic shift. The ministry is abandoning polite, conditional

- [Ex-defense minister booked over alleged attempt to provoke N. Korea for martial law bid](#) (2026-06-22 05:57)

A special counsel team has booked former Defense Minister Kim Yong-hyun on suspicion of attempting to use a military intelligence unit to create a pretext for former President Yoon Suk Yeol's martial law bid, legal sources said Monday. Special counsel Kwon Chang-young has been investigating allegations that the Defense Intelligence Command (DIC) attempted to push for operations against North Korea to foment inter-Korean tensions and establish a justification for Yoon to declare martial law in December 2024. It has been looking into whether anti-North Korea drills conducted by the DIC's covert agents were prepared to provoke Pyongyang for the martial law declaration. Kwon's team believes the exercise cannot be seen as regular training. The team has booked Kim and two former DIC commanders — Noh Sang-won and Moon Sang-ho — as suspects on charges of benefiting the enemy, according to the sources. It questioned former President Yoon over the allegations on June 13. Earlier this month, Kim received a 30-year prison sentence for involvement in orchestrating drone infiltrations into North Ko

- [Lee's disapproval rating exceeds approval rating for 1st time since inauguration](#) (2026-06-22 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung's disapproval rating has surpassed his approval rating for the first time since he took office in June last year, a survey showed Monday, amid the fallout of ballot shortages reported during the recent local elections. In the poll commissioned by the EKN newspaper and conducted by Realmeter, Lee's approval rating dropped 4.8 percentage points from a week earlier to 46.7 percent, marking the first time his approval rating fell below 50 percent in a Realmeter poll since his inauguration. The negative assessment climbed 5.5 percentage points to 49.7 percent. Realmeter attributed the decline to the recent controversy surrounding poor management of ballot shortages in the June 3 local elections and a deepening internal strife in the ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK). "Despite positive factors, including

the outcome of the president's trip to Europe and the benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index topping the historic 9,000-point level, concerns over widening inequality in the asset market intensified, leading to the decline in support among moderates and those

- [PM nominee apologizes for information leak from 'Startup for All' website](#) (2026-06-22 05:57)

Prime Minister nominee Han Seong-sook apologized Monday over a recent information leak from the government's website for an audition-style startup incubation program. An artificial intelligence solution firm serving as a project partner was found to have exploited a security loophole in the website for the "Startup for All" project and collected the emails, summarized startup ideas and judge reviews of 5,000 people that passed the first round of the audition. The leak came to light after the company sent promotional emails to the successful candidates. "I earnestly apologize for the concerns and inconvenience caused by the personal information leak from the Startup for All platform," Han said in her capacity as minister for medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and startups. "I feel heavy responsibility for failing to protect the trust of startup applicants ... and offer words of deep apology." The startup ministry also came under fire for reporting the leak to the Korea Internet and Security Agency (KISA) some 70 hours after learning of the incident. The ministry said it took emergency securi

- [Investigators to question election workers over ballot shortage](#) (2026-06-22 05:57)

Investigators on Monday were set to question a group of civil servants who worked at polling stations that experienced ballot shortages during the June 3 local elections, legal sources said. Eight individuals have been asked to appear before a joint police and prosecution team investigating the ballot shortages that temporarily suspended voting at 26 polling stations across the nation. The civil servants in question are said to have been mobilized to manage two polling stations in Seoul that experienced ballot paper shortages. Investigators plan to question them about the election watchdog's response measures to the shortages at the time, according to the informed sources. The move comes after the joint investigation team raided the National Election Commission (NEC) on June 11 as part of its investigation into the shortages. The shortages have sparked public backlash, leading to continued protests outside a gymnasium in southern Seoul that served as a ballot counting center, with some protesters demanding a rerun of the elections. The protests at the SK Olympic Handball Gymnasium have con

- [Impeachment petition against defense minister tops 75,000 as reform backlash mounts](#) (2026-06-22 00:02)

Defense Minister Ahn Gyu-back is facing growing opposition to his military reform agenda, with a parliamentary petition calling for his impeachment surpassing 75,000 signatures just four days after it was launched. The petition, which has already cleared the 50,000-signature threshold required for referral to a National Assembly committee, cites concerns over the dismantling of the Defense Counterintelligence Command (DCC), the government's handling of a recent reservist death during training and other defense policies pursued under Ahn. At the

same time, a separate petition opposing the proposed consolidation and relocation of Korea's service academies is also approaching the threshold for parliamentary review, highlighting broader resistance to Ahn's reform agenda. According to the National Assembly's petition website, the impeachment petition was opened on Thursday and exceeded 75,000 signatures as of Sunday. It crossed the 50,000-signature mark on Saturday, making it eligible for review by the Assembly's National Defense Committee. Petitioners argued that the defense ministry

- [All 6 THAAD launchers return to Seongju from Osan](#) (2026-06-21 11:57)

All six launchers of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) missile system deployed in the southeastern county of Seongju have returned to base following their relocation in the wake of the U.S.-Israeli war against Iran, sources said Sunday. The truck-mounted launchers were reported to have moved from Seongju to Osan Air Base in Pyeongtaek, about 60 kilometers south of Seoul, in March, fueling speculation the U.S. military was planning to transfer THAAD missile interceptors to the Middle East to support the war. The launchers and other parts of the THAAD battery, however, were believed to have remained in South Korea, as some of the trucks were later seen returning to Seongju. U.S. Forces Korea Commander Gen. Xavier Brunson told a Senate hearing in April that THAAD remained in South Korea. "Currently, we are sending munitions forward, and those are sitting right now waiting to move," he said at the time, without elaborating.

- [Protests over ballot shortage continue for 17th day](#) (2026-06-21 11:57)

Protests demanding a rerun of the June 3 local elections marred by ballot paper shortages entered the 17th day Sunday at a ballot counting site in southern Seoul. Protesters continued to chant slogans and hold pickets claiming election fraud outside SK Olympic Handball Gymnasium in Seoul's southern district of Songpa, which was used as a ballot counting site for the elections. As many as 34,000 people were gathered at the venue as of 3:30 p.m., with those in their 20s and 30s accounting for more than half of the total, according to an estimate by the Seoul city government. The protests began June 5, two days after ballot shortages temporarily suspended voting at 26 polling stations. While the National Election Commission (NEC) has apologized for the ballot shortages, it says they do not warrant a rerun under the election law. A joint team of police investigators and prosecutors has been investigating the NEC over the shortages. The government has urged people taking part in the protests to refrain from illegal acts, saying that while peaceful rallies should be protected, illegal acts of v

- [Lee appoints new top aides as approval ratings fall](#) (2026-06-21 11:57)

President Lee Jae Myung appointed five new senior aides, Sunday, in a move aimed at accelerating the implementation of his administration's policy agenda as it enters its second year, with appointments spanning communications, civil affairs, social policy and national security. Presidential chief of staff Kang Hoon-sik announced the appointments during a briefing at Cheong Wa Dae in Seoul, emphasizing that the selections were designed to help

realize Lee's vision for the second year of his administration. Seong Ghi-hong, former president and CEO of Yonhap News Agency, was named senior presidential secretary for public relations and communications. Han Chan-sik, a former senior prosecutor, was appointed senior presidential secretary for civil affairs, and is expected to play a key role in advancing the administration's prosecutorial reform agenda. Kim Kyoung-ja, former vice chairperson of the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions and a pharmacist by training, was named senior presidential secretary for social affairs. Former Army commander Kang Gun-jark was appointed first deputy national s

- [Samsung, SK hynix-linked semiconductor majors more competitive than SNU admissions](#) (2026-06-21 11:57)

University departments guaranteeing jobs at Samsung Electronics and SK hynix required more competitive admissions scores than Seoul National University's (SNU) natural sciences track this year — a notable milestone given that SNU, widely regarded as Korea's most prestigious university, has long set the benchmark for top admissions scores — reflecting surging student demand for chipmaker careers amid record bonus packages at the two companies. According to an analysis released Sunday by Jongno Academy, a private university admissions prep institution, five semiconductor departments partnered with the two semiconductor giants averaged 96.2 in admission scores based on Korea's College Scholastic Ability Test, also known as Suneung, outpacing SNU's natural science track by 0.4 points. The university-corporate partnership model, introduced in 2003, pairs companies with universities to shape curricula around industry needs. Companies support tuition costs, and most students are guaranteed jobs upon completing their degrees. SK hynix has contracts with Hanyang University, Korea University

- [Fraud against foreigners quadruples over 2 years, with K-pop scams rising](#) (2026-06-21 11:57)

As a record number of international visitors flock to Korea on the back of the popularity of Korean culture, crimes targeting foreigners have surged sharply, with K-pop merchandise scams emerging as a growing threat among a broader wave of fraud. According to latest data submitted by the National Police Agency to Rep. Kim Joon-hwan of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea, the number of foreign nationals — whether visitors or residents — who fell victim to fraud in Korea nearly quadrupled over the past two years. The number of foreign fraud victims rose from 5,307 in 2023 to 8,671 in 2024, before skyrocketing to 19,907 last year. One of the notable fraud schemes targeting foreigners are scams related to hallyu, or the Korean wave, in which fraudsters approach overseas fans claiming they can purchase and ship merchandise related to K-pop stars or other Korean celebrities. Victims are asked to send money upfront, after which the scammers disappear without delivering the goods. Such complaints have become increasingly common on social media platforms, particularly X, formerly Twitter, wh

- [Red Cross warns of rising global conflicts with 'Wars Have Limits' exhibition in Seoul](#) (2026-06-21 05:57)

Marking the 60th anniversary of Korea's accession to the Geneva Conventions, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) opened a special exhibition, "Wars Have Limits," in the lobby of the Seoul Museum of History, on May 15. Displaying the history of the Geneva Conventions and the humanitarian efforts of the Red Cross during the 1950-53 Korean War, the exhibition highlights the grave dangers posed by modern warfare technologies and examines the challenges they present to international humanitarian law, particularly with the emergence of drones, artificial intelligence (AI) and autonomous weapons. While humanitarian needs are growing as wars continue to devastate lives around the world, the resources that can help affected populations are shrinking fast. As the world grapples with rising conflicts, the exhibition invites visitors to reflect on a principle the entire world has agreed on — that even in war, there are limits. At a reception event on June 4, David Quesne, head of the ICRC mission in Seoul, said that there are currently over 130 conflicts worldwide, more than dou

- [Gov't approves sanctions against 166 child support defaulters](#) (2026-06-21 05:57)

The Ministry of Gender Equality and Family said Sunday it has approved 184 sanctions against 166 people who failed to meet their child support obligations, including travel bans and driver's license suspensions. The sanctions, approved by the 51st child support enforcement review committee earlier this month, included 120 travel bans, 41 driver's license suspensions and 23 cases of public disclosure of personal information, according to the ministry. The average amount of unpaid child support stood at about 45 million won (\$29,354), while the largest outstanding amount totaled approximately 192 million won. Under the Child Support Act, sanctions may be imposed on individuals who fail to comply with a court order requiring a lump-sum child support payment for more than 30 days, those who miss child support payments at least three times despite a court enforcement order, or those whose unpaid child support exceeds 30 million won. The number of sanctions has risen steadily, from 639 cases in 2023 to 947 in 2024 and 1,389 last year. In the first half of this year alone, 720 sanctions were ap

- [Veteran journalist of 30 years appointed presidential communication secretary](#) (2026-06-21 05:57)

Seong Ghi-hong, the new presidential secretary for public relations and communication, is a veteran newswire journalist with 30 years of experience covering politics, the economy and national news. Seong, 58, is the former CEO and president of Yonhap News Agency, who covered an array of areas after joining the company in 1992. In 2007, he visited North Korea with other reporters covering Cheong Wa Dae to report on inter-Korean talks between late former President Roh Moo-hyun and late North Korean leader Kim Jong-il, the father of incumbent North Korean leader Kim Jong-un. Following his three-day trip to Pyongyang, he co-authored a book on the historic event with other reporters and Cheong Wa Dae officials. In 2016 and 2017, he led political news coverage of allegations surrounding former President Park Geun-hye and her impeachment that eventually resulted in an early presidential election. Prior to his appointment as Yonhap News Agency CEO in 2021, he also worked as the news director of Yonhap News Television from 2019. Seong is described as being trusted from both inside and

outside the o

- [Pharmacist-turned-activist appointed presidential secretary for social affairs](#) (2026-06-21 05:57)

New presidential secretary for social affairs Kim Kyoung-ja is a pharmacist-turned labor activist who previously served as a senior leader of Korea's largest umbrella labor federation. Kim, 59, began her career as a labor activist in the healthcare sector in 1995, serving as head of the Inha University Hospital's labor union under the Korean Federation of Hospital Workers' Union (KHMU) She later led the KHMU's Gyeonggi regional chapter from 1998 to 2005 and served as the union's vice president from 2006 to 2008. Kim went on to serve as a vice president of the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions (KCTU), one of Korea's largest labor federations, in 2009, 2013, and from 2015 to 2017. She was also the federation's senior vice president from 2017 to 2020. Kim has also served as a member of the National Pension Fund Management Committee under the Ministry of Health and Welfare, and worked as a visiting professor at Woosuk University in the southwestern city of Jeonju.

- [World Refugee Day festival brings communities together in Seoul](#) (2026-06-21 05:57)

To mark World Refugee Day, people from different walks of life gathered on Saturday for the fifth "Shall We Walk?" Refugee Festival at Ttukseom Hangang Park beneath Cheongdam Bridge near Jayang Station on Seoul Metro Line 7. Despite the rainy weather, the festival featured refugee performances representing cultures from around the world, where refugees took center stage to share their lives, stories and unique talents. Attendees enjoyed traditional Burundian drumming, Ethiopian and Jumma cultural dance performances, Sudanese, Pakistani and Afghan music, Korean songs, African traditional singing and K-pop, highlighting the cultural diversity that refugees offer to Korean society and showcasing refugee communities living in Korea. Organized by Refugee pNan, a local nongovernmental organization, the festival was designed to foster natural encounters that overcome prejudice. Rather than relying on lectures or formal discussions, the open-space event encourages understanding through shared experiences, aiming to reduce the distance and misconceptions often associated with the term "refugee

- [Fraud against foreigners quadruples in 2 years, with K-pop scams rising](#) (2026-06-21 05:57)

As a record number of international visitors flock to Korea on the back of the popularity of Korean culture, crimes targeting foreigners have surged sharply, with K-pop merchandise scams emerging as a growing threat among a broader wave of fraud. According to latest data submitted by the National Police Agency to Rep. Kim Joon-hwan of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea, the number of foreign nationals — whether visitors or residents — who fell victim to fraud in Korea nearly quadrupled over the past two years. The number of foreign fraud victims rose from 5,307 in 2023 to 8,671 in 2024, before skyrocketing to 19,907 last year. One of the notable fraud schemes targeting foreigners are scams related to hallyu, or the Korean wave, in which fraudsters approach overseas fans claiming they can purchase and ship merchandise

related to K-pop stars or other Korean celebrities. Victims are asked to send money upfront, after which the scammers disappear without delivering the goods. Such complaints have become increasingly common on social media platforms, particularly X, formerly Twitter, where

- [Ex-veteran prosecutor appointed presidential secretary for civil affairs](#) (2026-06-21 05:57)

New presidential secretary for civil affairs Han Chan-sik, a former senior prosecutor and attorney, is expected to help steer the Lee Jae Myung administration's prosecutorial reform agenda, leveraging his deep knowledge of the prosecution service and legal affairs. Han, 59, previously served as director-general of the Justice Ministry's Human Rights Bureau and chief prosecutor of the Seoul Eastern District Prosecutors Office. While serving as chief prosecutor, he led the investigation into allegations of a blacklist involving senior officials under the former liberal Moon Jae-in administration. He resigned in 2019 ahead of the inauguration of Yoon Suk Yeol as prosecutor general, who later became president, and joined Kim & Chang, South Korea's largest law firm, as an attorney in August 2022. Han is expected to focus on completing the administration's prosecutorial reform agenda ahead of the planned overhaul of the prosecution system in October, including the creation of separate agencies responsible for public prosecutions and criminal investigations. Attention is also focused on whether

- [Court to deliver ruling on ex-first lady on jobs-for-gifts bribery charges](#) (2026-06-21 05:57)

A Seoul court is set to deliver its verdict this week on former first lady Kim Keon Hee, who has been indicted over receiving luxury gifts in exchange for job appointments and business favors. The Seoul Central District Court will hold the sentencing hearing for Kim, the wife of ousted former President Yoon Suk Yeol, on charges of violating a law on the acceptance of bribes for mediation, at 2 p.m. Friday, according to judicial sources Sunday. Kim was indicted in December on charges of receiving over 100 million won (\$65,231) worth of jewelry, including a Van Cleef & Arpels necklace, from the chairman of a construction company between March and May 2022, along with a request for a government position for the businessman's son-in-law. She also allegedly received a golden turtle ornament from Lee Bae-yong, former head of the National Education Commission, in April that year in exchange for her appointment to the position. In addition, Kim is suspected of receiving a Dior bag worth 5.4 million won from a pastor in 2022, as well as a Vacheron Constantin watch from an entrepreneur that year.

- [Lee appoints new senior secretaries for communication, civil affairs](#) (2026-06-21 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung has appointed new senior presidential secretaries for communications and civil affairs, along with three other aides, the presidential chief of staff said Sunday. Seong Ghi-hong, former CEO and president of Yonhap News Agency, was appointed presidential secretary for public relations and communication, while Han Chan-sik, a former senior prosecutor, was named presidential secretary for civil affairs, the official said. Kim Kyoung-ja, former vice chairperson of the country's biggest umbrella union, the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, was appointed presidential secretary for social affairs. Former Army commander

Kang Gun-jark and Song Ki-ho, a senior official at the National Security Office, were named the first and third deputy national security advisers, respectively. Presidential chief of staff Kang Hoon-sik described the new presidential secretary for communication, the second person to hold the post under the Lee administration, as a veteran journalist with 30 years of experience who is equipped with a sense of balance and sound judgment. "He will closely

- [Gyeonggi Province launches 1st survey of its 18,000 refugees](#) (2026-06-20 23:57)

Gyeonggi Province, the populous economic engine surrounding Seoul, has launched the first comprehensive provincial investigation into the living conditions of its refugee population. The initiative marks a significant shift in how Korean local governments manage forced migration, moving beyond generalized immigrant support systems to address the distinct legal and socioeconomic vulnerabilities of displaced people. At an inaugural briefing held Thursday at the Gyeonggi Migration and Integration Support Center in Uijeongbu, officials outlined an ambitious monitoring framework designed to map the structural gaps plaguing the state's refugee safety nets. The investigation comes on the heels of the province's pioneering Ordinance on the Protection of Human Rights and Guarantee of Basic Living for Refugees, enacted last year. As of late March, Gyeonggi Province was home to 18,169 refugees, representing roughly 2.5 percent of the region's long-term foreign residents. While Korea became the first East Asian country to pass a standalone refugee law in 2012, humanitarian groups have long critic

- [Mixed-race daughter Korea tried to send away is now helping adoptees return home](#) (2026-06-20 17:57)

"578 Ganeung 3-dong, Uijeongbu, Gyeonggi Province. 3-tong, 2-ban," she said in Korean. Meeky Woo Flippen, now 60, still has that address etched into her memory after more than 50 years. "My mother taught me the address when I was 5. 'I'm not going anywhere,' she told me. 'So if someone kidnaps you, make sure you come back here.'" As she recalled, there had indeed been attempts to take her away. Whenever she returned home from school, a "lady" from Holt International waited for her around the corner. "You can't live here," the woman told her. "In America, you can eat all the chocolate you want." She then seized Meeky by the hand and tried to drag her away. Meeky wrenched herself free and ran as fast as her legs could carry her. When she reached her doorstep, her mother rushed outside and roared. "I told you I'm not sending my children away. Get lost!" Meeky smiled as she recalled those memories of her childhood and her mother. She said the hurt of being jeered at as a "dirty Yankee girl" at school would fade whenever she took shelter behind her mother

- [Ex-vice Gyeonggi governor found guilty of perjury over claims of 'drinking party' during interrogation](#) (2026-06-20 05:57)

SUWON — A regional court on Saturday found a former vice governor of Gyeonggi Province guilty of perjury for falsely testifying to parliament that he was provided with alcohol and food during a prosecution interrogation. The Suwon District Court sentenced Lee Hwa-young to four

months in prison, convicting him of violating the law on testimony before the National Assembly, according to the court document. The case was tried before a seven-panel citizen jury. Lee was indicted on perjury charges after he testified during a parliamentary hearing in 2024 that he and Kim Seong-tae, former chairman of underwear maker Ssangbangwool, were treated to alcohol and raw salmon during questioning by prosecutors over their involvement in an illegal remittance to North Korea in 2019. Lee claimed that they had talked about getting their stories straight to incriminate President Lee Jae Myung, then the main opposition party leader who had served as Gyeonggi governor when the unauthorized money transfer allegedly took place. The latest court ruling extends the jail term for the former vice governor as he

- [Rain to continue nationwide through evening after heavy downpours](#) (2026-06-20 05:57)

Rain is expected to continue across South Korea through Saturday evening after heavy downpours drenched much of the country overnight, weather officials said. Between 6 p.m. Friday and 6 a.m. Saturday, accumulated precipitation reached 137.5 millimeters on Halla Mountain on Jeju Island, 94 mm in Sangju, 88 mm in Gongju and 60.6 mm in Seoul, according to the Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA). Rain is expected to continue until Sunday morning in mountainous and coastal areas of Gangwon Province. Additional rainfall of 50-120 mm is forecast for the province's mountainous and coastal areas. The Seoul metropolitan area, Gangwon's inland region, Daegu, North Gyeongsang Province and Ulleung Island are also expected to receive 30-80 mm more rain. The KMA warned of rough seas along southern and eastern waters, with waves expected to reach up to 5 meters in the East Sea through Sunday.

- [End of 4 distinct seasons in Korea? Rising temperatures strengthen subtropical climate characteristics](#) (2026-06-19 17:57)

Korea could become almost entirely subtropical by the end of the 21st century, according to a new warning from the Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA). The findings were released Tuesday through an analysis by the KMA, which looked into the current status and future outlook of subtropical climate characteristics in the country. Using observational data — including average temperatures and precipitation — from 66 weather stations nationwide between 1981 and 2025, the agency projected how Korea's climate is likely to change in the coming decades. The analysis found that temperatures in Korea have risen steadily. Over the past 53 years (1973–2025), the country's annual average temperature has increased by 0.3 degrees Celsius per decade. Last year, the national annual average temperature reached 13.7 degrees Celsius, the second-highest on record. The warming trend was especially pronounced during the transitional seasons, with February, March, September and November experiencing larger increases than other months. As temperatures continue to rise, Korea's climate is gradually sh

- [Korea's child protection paradox: Safeguarding children, sidelining teachers](#) (2026-06-19 17:57)

A South Jeolla Province elementary school teacher with two decades of experience spent four months clearing her name last summer after a parent alleged child abuse. The claim arose after the teacher tried to reconcile two fighting students, after which one child falsely told parents that the teacher scolded them unfairly. Even after police cleared her of all charges, the teacher faced continuous malicious complaints from the family, who claimed she would disadvantage the child upon returning from leave. She eventually transferred to another school. "Isn't this like putting a gun in the parents' hands?" an official from a fictional Educational Rights Protection Bureau said in episode five of Netflix' "Teach You a Lesson." Reality closely tracks the show, highlighting an institutional imbalance where parents weaponize unvetted claims while teachers face severe professional trauma. Despite authorities strengthening rights protection systems following the 2023 suicide of a teacher at Seoi Elementary School, educators say indiscriminate child abuse allegations remain rampant. Over 90 percent

- [Is hair loss a survival issue? Party leader hits insurance coverage proposal](#) (2026-06-19 17:57)

Minor conservative Reform Party leader Lee Jun-seok criticized the government' s plan to include hair-loss medication in the national health insurance coverage, arguing that limited resources should instead be prioritized for patients with severe and rare diseases. In a post on Facebook on Tuesday, Lee pushed back against the government' s description of access to hair-loss medication as "a matter of survival," stating that the drugs are neither difficult to obtain nor as costly as the government has suggested. "The Lee Jae Myung administration has described access to hair-loss medication as a matter of survival, but with patents on finasteride-based treatments having expired, a flood of generic versions has brought the monthly cost down to between 10,000 won (\$6.60) and 30,000 won," the conservative party leader wrote. He went on to argue that expanding coverage to include hair-loss medication would undermine the basic principles governing the national health insurance system. "The foremost purpose of the national health insurance system is to uphold the social promise that

- [Lee calls inflation top policy priority, urges 'extraordinary' measures to stabilize prices](#) (2026-06-19 11:57)

President Lee Jae Myung said Friday inflation is the government's most urgent policy challenge and urged officials to devise extraordinary measures to stabilize prices and ease the burden on households. Lee made the call during a meeting with senior presidential aides, noting it will take a long time before global energy supply chains return to normal and the Strait of Hormuz is fully reopened despite a ceasefire deal between the United States and Iran aimed at ending the monthslong war in the Middle East. "The high oil prices, inflation and heightened foreign exchange rate volatility triggered by the war have done significant damage to our economy," Lee said. "The most urgent task right now is prices. Both the presidential office and the government must mobilize all available means to stabilize prices and restore the people's livelihoods," he added. Though the pace of price growth has been managed through the oil price cap system and other preemptive responses, there are still many areas that require

attention, Lee said, calling for "extraordinary measures" to normalize petroleum produc

- [JoongAng Ilbo files for creditor-led workout program](#) (2026-06-19 11:57)

JoongAng Ilbo, one of Korea's leading newspapers, has filed for a creditor-led workout program, as the liquidity crisis at its parent JoongAng Group deepens to threaten the group's affiliates, including major broadcaster JTBC. According to the newspaper on Friday, it filed for a workout program with its main creditor Hana Bank, in a bid to restructure its debt and improve its financial health through negotiations with creditors. "We will continue discussions with creditors and faithfully devise effective debt restructuring measures and plans to normalize management," the newspaper said in a press release. Earlier this week, five JoongAng Group subsidiaries — JoongAng Holdings, JTBC, Contentree JoongAng, Megabox JoongAng and JoongAng P&I — filed for court receivership after JTBC defaulted on a 20.6 billion won (\$13.6 million) debt repayment. The groupwide financial crisis also affected JoongAng Ilbo. On Thursday, Hanyang Securities, which holds 22 billion won worth of commercial paper issued by the newspaper, demanded early repayment of the short-term debt, citing heightened credit ri

- [Police investigating alleged break-in at ballot-counting center](#) (2026-06-19 11:57)

Police are investigating an alleged break-in at a ballot-counting center amid weekslong protests calling for a rerun of the June 3 local elections, sports officials said Friday. According to the Korea Sports Industry Development (KSID), which manages the Olympic Park Handball Gymnasium that was used as a vote-counting center for the elections, three unidentified individuals broke into the facility on June 7 after damaging a basement door lock. The KSID reported the case to the police, along with surveillance camera footage showing the individuals entering the gym and filming the interior. After filing the complaint, the KSID welded the basement door shut on June 11. Video of the welding spread online, sparking unverified conspiracy theories that authorities intended to trap protesters inside the gym and start a fire or crowd crush. Protesters were demonstrating outside the gymnasium for the 15th consecutive day Friday after ballot shortages on election day disrupted voting at 26 polling stations. They have blockaded the site to prevent the removal of ballot boxes that were brought there f

- [Lee looks to rebuild political momentum following diplomatic trip](#) (2026-06-19 11:57)

President Lee Jae Myung appears to be trying to restore political momentum after returning from a 10-day diplomatic tour of Europe, Thursday, amid declining approval ratings and tensions within the ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK). On Friday, the president convened a press briefing on the outcome of diplomatic trip, which concluded Thursday, and also a meeting with senior presidential secretaries. The briefing was held amid speculation that the president believed the achievements of his trip had been overshadowed by domestic political issues, leading him to personally present the results instead of delegating the task to aides, as is customary. Meanwhile, Friday's meeting with senior presidential secretaries followed a previous gathering with corresponding aides in Seoul, Sunday, while Lee was in Italy for a state visit. Such a meeting was unprecedented, prompting speculation that Lee remained focused on

developments at home even while abroad amid the fallout from the June 3 local elections. TheDPK won most of the mayoral and gubernatorial races nationwide but lost the Seoul mayora

- [Defense ministry expands outreach to US Congress over OPCON transfer bill](#) (2026-06-19 11:57)

Korea's defense ministry said Friday it is expanding its outreach to the U.S. Congress in response to a Senate bill that seeks to increase Congress' power to examine the transfer process of wartime Operational Control (OPCON) from Washington to Seoul. The bill, if passed, could be a major challenge to Seoul's plan to take over the OPCON by 2028 or even as early as the end of 2027. A defense ministry official said, "(Korea and the U.S.) are in close consultations based on a shared understanding that OPCON transfer will continue to bolster the combined defense posture of the Korea-U.S. on the defense on the Korean Peninsula." While adding that it is inappropriate for the ministry to evaluate pending legislation in the U.S. Congress, the official said, "We are actively expanding outreach to Congress." The remarks came as the U.S. Senate's Committee on Armed Services passed the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2027 on June 11, which obliges the Pentagon chief to report on the transfer roadmap to Congress every 90 days. The bill reads, "Not later than Mar

- [Assembly speaker urges diplomatic efforts to ensure safe return of Korean vessels from Hormuz Strait](#) (2026-06-19 11:57)

National Assembly Speaker Cho Jeong-sik called for all-out diplomatic measures Friday to ensure the safe return of Korean vessels stranded in the Strait of Hormuz, following a ceasefire deal reached between the United States and Iran earlier this week. Cho made the call in a meeting at his office with Foreign Minister Cho Hyun, saying "the war in the Middle East has fortunately come to a halt after 106 days." "I urge you to take all possible diplomatic measures to ensure that the 24 vessels and their crew members stranded in the Strait of Hormuz can return home safely," the parliamentary speaker said. He also stressed that Korea's national interests should be fully protected during follow-up measures after a formal end to the war is declared, adding that the National Assembly will do its part to help ensure the success of the country's pragmatic diplomacy centered on national interests. A large number of vessels, including 24 Korea-linked ships, have been stranded in the vital waterway after commercial shipping was largely halted during the war amid threats of missile and drone attacks. T

- [Amputated leg discovered at Incheon recycling center prompts convalescent hospital probe](#) (2026-06-19 11:57)

Police are investigating a convalescent hospital in Incheon after an amputated leg belonging to an elderly patient turned up at a public recycling facility, raising questions about medical oversight and waste management practices at long-term care facilities. According to police Friday, the convalescent hospital in Jung District bandaged the amputated leg of a patient in their 80s and disposed of it in a medical waste container earlier this month. The following day, a volunteer cleaning a trash mistook the leg for plaster cast debris and placed it in a recyclables

bag. The leg was discovered last week by a resource recovery center employee sorting recyclables in Yeonsu District, Incheon. Unable to identify the owner, police mobilized more than 100 personnel and collected DNA from families of adult missing persons in Incheon and Gyeonggi Province. The case was resolved Wednesday when the hospital came forward voluntarily, and the National Forensic Service confirmed a match between the patient and the recovered leg. Police said they plan to consult experts, including the Korean Medical Ass

- [Ex-defense minister sentenced to 3 years in prison for leaking military secrets](#) (2026-06-19 11:57)

A Seoul court on Friday sentenced former Defense Minister Kim Yong-hyun to a three-year prison term for leaking military secrets to a civilian in the lead-up to former President Yoon Suk Yeol's failed martial law bid in December 2024. The Seoul Central District Court found Kim guilty on charges of conspiring with others to hand over a list of more than 40 military intelligence personnel to Noh Sang-won, a retired general and former head of the Defense Intelligence Command (DIC), between October and November of 2024. The court recognized special counsel Cho Eun-suk's argument Kim and Noh had planned to use the list, which included information of covert intelligence agents, to form a special investigation unit under martial law that would probe alleged election-rigging. "The defendant used the military command system to play a decisive role in allowing former commander Noh, a civilian, to get access to personal information of DIC agents," the court said. "It led to the grave result of an unconstitutional and illegal emergency martial law." The ruling fell short of the special counsel team's

- [Jeonbuk National University rises in QS World University Rankings 2027](#) (2026-06-19 11:57)

Jeonbuk National University strengthened its global standing with significant improvements across major indicators in the QS World University Rankings 2027, the university said Thursday. The university ranked 23rd in Korea and third among the country's national flagship universities, while its global ranking rose by 27 places from the previous year to 677th worldwide. It showed growth across research, education and internationalization, with scores improving in six of the nine evaluation indicators. The QS World University Rankings is a globally recognized university evaluation system that assesses institutions across nine indicators in five key areas: research quality, employability, learning environment, internationalization and sustainability. It is widely regarded as one of the key benchmarks for measuring a university's global competitiveness. In the QS evaluation, Jeonbuk National University was found to have further strengthened the quality and global impact of its research performance, with an increase in the citations per faculty indicator, which reflects research competitiv

- [Seoul pitches itself as Asia's quantum gateway to court European tech firms](#) (2026-06-19 05:57)

The Seoul Investment Promotion Agency staged a targeted investment seminar, dubbed "Seoul Forward," at Europe's largest tech conference this week, making a direct pitch to European innovators to view the Korean capital as their primary gateway into the Asian market.

The event, held as an official workshop at the Viva Technology conference in Paris, reflects Seoul's intensifying efforts to court foreign tech firms in highly specialized, high-stakes sectors like artificial intelligence and quantum computing. Rather than relying on broad bureaucratic promises, the agency anchored its pitch on a high-profile validation: Pasqal, the French neutral-atom quantum computing heavyweight. Representatives from Pasqal shared their firsthand experience establishing a footprint in Seoul, citing the city's robust tech infrastructure, engineering talent pool and strategic position for regional expansion as critical factors in their successful deployment. Following the case study, Korean investment officials conducted one-on-one intensive consultations with a curated group of European startups spec

- [PM vows to properly honor patriots, fallen heroes](#) (2026-06-19 05:57)

The government of President Lee Jae Myung will do its best to make sure that the sacrifices and dedication that patriots and fallen heroes made for the country will be properly recognized and honored, Prime Minister Kim Min-seok said Friday. Kim made the remark after awarding state decorations to patriots, their families and those credited with promoting the well-being of patriots, saying the freedom, peace and prosperity South Korea enjoys today were made possible by the "earnest dreams and sacrifices of patriotic martyrs for the country." "President Lee Jae Myung said that upholding the spirits of patriotic martyrs and fallen heroes and providing them with due respect is a historical duty that we must fulfill," Kim said, noting a series of measures that the government has taken to help patriots and bereaved families live better lives. "The government will look after the lives of state-honored patriots and their families in a more robust manner," he said. Kim also said the best way to honor the sacrifices of patriots is to build a peaceful and democratic nation where every member of soc

- [Sungkyunkwan University researchers develop technology for brain-like balanced learning](#) (2026-06-19 05:57)

A Sungkyunkwan University research team has developed a technology that can strengthen or weaken the memory of an artificial intelligence (AI) semiconductor device simply by changing the color of light. The university said Thursday that the team has devised a next-generation synapse for artificial neural networks by utilizing the "disorder" and "defect" characteristics — long regarded as inherent challenges of semiconductor materials — as a means of maintaining memory homeostasis. It added that the technology mimics the human brain by allowing important information to be retained for a long time, while weakening access to unnecessary information. The team, led by professors Jo Sae-byeok and Yang Woo-seok at the university's School of Chemical Engineering, said the technology is expected to be applied to next-generation artificial intelligence chips to consume less power, as well as "see-and-remember" artificial eyes. The findings were published May 18 in the international science journal Nature Communications under the title, "Disorder-mediated Non-equilibrium Photocu

- ['Onggi Jonggi' art exhibition features Korea-based global artists who explore beyond social media and algorithms](#) (2026-06-19 05:57)

Six global artists from diverse backgrounds are displaying their work during Insa Art Week at TOPOHAUS Gallery in central Seoul's Insa-dong neighborhood, in group exhibition titled "Onggi Jonggi." Co-curated by Ella Kaill, founder and editor of Half Local magazine, the exhibition's vision is to step outside the frame of social media. "Onggi Jonggi," a term evoking a charming, irregular gathering of people or things, presents photography, paintings, sketches, textile work and pixel art, providing an exploration of Seoul through fresh and often unconventional perspectives. "We wanted to look at Korea in a slightly different way. If you look at social media, everything about Korea is Seongsu, pop-up stores and Olive Young. Those things are fine, but they're not the only things about Korea," she told The Korea Times at an opening event on June 12. Kaill, who first moved to Korea from England in 2019, was drawn by a long-standing fascination with the country. Having studied Korean language, cinema, culture and history at SOAS University of London, she arrived with a deeper understanding of

- [Human rights body calls for detained foreigners' access to outside hospitals](#) (2026-06-19 05:57)

The state human rights watchdog recommended that foreign nationals held in immigration detention who require surgery be allowed to receive surgical treatment at outside hospitals, saying the failure to provide appropriate care amounts to a human rights violation. The National Human Rights Commission of Korea said Friday it recommended to Justice Minister Jung Sung-ho that immigration detainees needing surgery be given access to outside hospitals, following two complaints filed in January. In the first case, a petitioner acting on behalf of a detainee at an immigration detention center alleged that the center director had neglected to provide appropriate care for the detainee's toe and finger injuries, which required surgery. In the second, a detainee at the same facility filed directly with the commission, alleging the center had failed to provide appropriate medical care for a knee injury requiring surgery. The detention center told the commission that outside medical visits require strict approval based on injury severity and flight risk. It added that its medical unit had been providi

- [Election watchdog panel recommends criminal probe into ex-chief over ballot shortage](#) (2026-06-19 05:57)

The National Election Commission's (NEC) fact-finding committee investigating ballot shortages during the recent local elections called for a criminal probe into the commission's former chief Friday, saying the management of the elections was marked by a "total failure." Cho Hyun-wook, chairperson of the committee, made the announcement during a briefing at the NEC headquarters, as the panel wrapped up a weeklong investigation conducted to determine the cause of the ballot shortages. The committee recommended that former NEC Chairman Roh Tae-ak, who stepped down from his post over the debacle, be referred for criminal investigation. It also stressed that the NEC requires a sweeping overhaul tantamount to dismantling the organization. The committee, launched on June 10, consisted of six members recommended by civic organizations, media, legal and academic communities.

- [PM to travel to China next week for Summer Davos Forum](#) (2026-06-19 05:57)

Prime Minister Kim Min-seok will travel to China next week to attend a World Economic Forum (WEF) meeting and hold bilateral meetings with senior Chinese officials, his office said Friday. During the three-day trip starting Monday, Kim is scheduled to deliver a special address at the annual WEF meeting, also known as the Summer Davos Forum, to be held in the Chinese coastal city of Dalian. Kim also plans to meet with senior Chinese officials and attend economic and other events, the office said without elaborating on whom he is scheduled to meet with, including whether Kim's Chinese counterpart, Premier Li Qiang, is among them. "Prime Minister Kim's trip is expected to provide an opportunity to outline our government's innovative economic vision to the international community and strengthen international cooperation while at the same time carrying on the trend of recent high-level exchanges between Korea and China to accelerate mutually beneficial cooperation," the office said.

- [Severed leg found at recycling center was mistakenly thrown out by hospital worker: police](#) (2026-06-19 05:57)

A severed human leg found at a public recycling facility in Incheon last week was mistakenly thrown out by a hospital volunteer worker, police said Friday. The Incheon Yeonsu Police Station has been investigating the origin of the body part, which was discovered during a sorting process at the recycling center in the city west of Seoul on June 10. The leg belonged to an 80-something patient at a nursing hospital in the city, who underwent an amputation surgery two days earlier, according to the police. The leg was wrapped in bandage and placed in a container for medical waste but the volunteer worker mistook it for a cast and threw it out as recyclable waste, they said. The investigation picked up speed after the hospital reported its likely involvement to the police, helped by the head of the nursing department who had seen a news report on the discovery on Wednesday. Police took a DNA sample from the patient and sent it to the National Forensic Service, which confirmed the limb belonged to him. Police said they are looking into possible violations of the medical law related to the hospit

- [Navy holds fleet exercises in waters off western, southern coasts](#) (2026-06-19 05:57)

The Navy said Friday it conducted live fleet exercises in waters off the western and southern coasts earlier this week as part of efforts to boost combat readiness. The four-day drills that began Tuesday, involving around 20 surface ships and naval aircraft, were aimed at honing responses to various maritime contingencies and regional operational environments to ensure each fleet maintains a firm combat readiness posture, the Navy said in a release. The Second Fleet, in charge of defending the Yellow Sea, deployed the 7,600-ton Aegis-equipped ROKS Yulgok Yi I destroyer, the flagship 3,200-ton Eulji Mundeok warship, and the P-3C and P-8A patrol aircraft, as well as the AW-159 and Lynx naval combat helicopters. Also joining the drills were the KF-16 fighter of the Air Force and the AH-64E Apache attack chopper of the U.S. Forces Korea. The Third Fleet based on the southern coast mobilized the 4,400-ton Chungmugong Yi Sun-sin-class destroyer and the 2,500-ton Jeonbuk frigate, along with patrol aircraft and naval helicopters. The drills in the Yellow Sea focused on countering special operatio

- [Police refer ex-President Yoon to prosecution over his wife's luxury bag case](#) (2026-06-19 05:57)

Police have referred former President Yoon Suk Yeol to the prosecution over allegations of violating the anti-graft law in connection with his wife's alleged receipt of a luxury bag in 2022, sources said Friday. A special police investigation team is said to have sent the case to the prosecution on June 9, accusing the jailed former president of failing to report the Dior bag worth 5.4 million won (\$3,500) to the state auditor. The team believes Yoon was aware that his wife, Kim Keon Hee, accepted the bag from a pastor in June 2022. It marks the latest criminal case against Yoon, who was sentenced to life imprisonment in February on charges of leading an insurrection through his failed martial law bid in December 2024. He has appealed the ruling. Yoon's wife is currently standing trial on bribery-related charges for her alleged acceptance of the Dior bag and other valuables, including a Van Cleef & Arpels necklace. A special counsel team has sought a prison term of seven years and six months for the former first lady in the case. The sentencing hearing for that trial is scheduled for July

- [Hair-loss drug coverage sparks debate over national health insurance priorities](#) (2026-06-18 18:02)

The Korean government's plan to extend National Health Insurance Service (NHIS) coverage to hair-loss medication is drawing mounting criticism from patient groups and medical experts, who argue that it could undermine the core principles of the public health insurance system. Critics question whether subsidizing hair-loss treatment should take priority over expanding coverage for life-saving therapies for patients with severe illnesses. They also warn that approving coverage for hair-loss drugs could open the door to similar demands for weight-loss medications, growth hormone treatments and other therapies that fall somewhere between medical necessity and quality-of-life improvement. According to government officials on Thursday, the Ministry of Health and Welfare will hold a public discussion on July 4 as part of the interior ministry's "Forum for Everyone" initiative to gather public opinion on the proposal. The ministry is considering expanding insurance coverage beyond conditions such as alopecia areata to include androgenetic alopecia — the common hereditary form of hair loss kn

- [S. Korea conveys concern to China over N. Korea's silence on denuclearization](#) (2026-06-18 11:57)

The South Korean government reportedly raised concerns with China over growing speculation that Beijing is tacitly condoning North Korea's nuclear weapons, a perception fueled by China's recent silence on denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula. According to South Korea's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nam Jin, director general of its Northeast and Central Asian Affairs Bureau, met Wednesday with Director-General Liu Jinsong of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Liu was visiting Korea, and the two discussed the North Korean nuclear issue and other matters. Speculation that China is effectively tolerating North Korea's nuclear arsenal gained traction after the North Korea-China summit in Pyongyang this month did not publicly address denuclearization. The South Korean government reportedly conveyed its position that theories

suggesting China is condoning North Korea's nuclear weapons are undesirable and unhelpful to peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula. Despite these concerns, the government reportedly believes China is not condoning North Korea's nuclear weapons, citing Beijing's c

- [PM nominee's confirmation hearing set for June 25-26](#) (2026-06-18 11:57)

The ruling and opposition parties agreed Thursday to hold a confirmation hearing for Prime Minister nominee Han Seong-sook next week. A special parliamentary committee on Han's hearing passed a plan to hold a two-day confirmation hearing from next Thursday. In Korea, the appointment of a prime minister is subject to parliamentary approval following a confirmation hearing. If confirmed by the National Assembly, Han would become the first female prime minister under the Lee Jae Myung administration and the country's second female prime minister since Han Myeong-sook, who held the post from 2006-07.

- [DPK factional divide becomes more visible after local elections](#) (2026-06-18 11:57)

A simmering factional divide within the ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) has become increasingly visible nearly two weeks after the June 3 local elections, with loyalists of President Lee Jae Myung and party Chairman Jung Chung-rae exchanging mocking labels that lay bare the depth of the rift. The antagonism has proved more entrenched than many had assumed. Those aligned with the president have sought to disparage pro-Jung figures with a derogatory acronym: "Moon-Cho-Teol-Rae-Rhyu." The acronym, which references former President Moon Jae-in and four of his notable associates, including Jung, is crafted from syllables of their names and well-known personal traits of Moon and his allies — Cho Kuk, Kim Ou-joon, Jung and Rhyu Si-min. The former president remains a potent force within the DPK despite Lee having taken control of the party before being elected as president in June 2025. Cho served as Moon's justice minister, while Kim, a left-leaning journalist and broadcaster, is known for his trademark thick beard, earning him the nickname "teolbo," or bearded man, from which the

- [National Assembly launches probe into ballot shortages as NEC scandals mount](#) (2026-06-18 11:57)

The National Assembly approved a sweeping parliamentary investigation into the June 3 local election ballot paper shortage, paving the way for a broader probe into irregularities at the National Election Commission (NEC), an institution long insulated by constitutional guarantees of its independence. The special committee on the Ninth Nationwide Local Elections Ballot Paper Shortage and Election Management Reform was officially launched on Thursday after legislators adopted the investigation motion and its 45-day plan in a plenary session, with 250 of 251 lawmakers present voting in favor. The probe will run in parallel with a separate criminal investigation that has already begun calling in election workers. The 18-member committee is made up of nine lawmakers from the ruling liberal Democratic Party of Korea (DPK), seven from the People Power Party (PPP) and two from minor parties, with PPP lawmaker Yoon Sang-hyun as chair. "The committee pledges before the people that it will do its utmost to uncover the full

truth and to pursue sweeping reforms of election management, so that the

- [Ministries clash over whether to call North Korea 'principal enemy'](#) (2026-06-18 11:57)

The Ministry of Unification on Thursday challenged the defense ministry's position that North Korea remains a "principal enemy," saying the Lee Jae Myung administration's goal of peaceful coexistence cannot be reconciled with treating Pyongyang in such terms. The remarks exposed a rare policy divide within the government as the Ministry of National Defense prepares its 2026 Defense White Paper, the first to be issued under the Lee administration. "The peaceful coexistence of the two Koreas is a firm policy goal of the Lee Jae Myung government," a unification ministry official told reporters during a background briefing. "One cannot pursue peaceful coexistence with North Korea while defining it as a principal enemy." The comments came hours after the defense ministry rejected media reports suggesting it was considering dropping references to North Korea as an enemy in the upcoming white paper. "The report is not true," Lee Kyung-ho, deputy spokesperson for the defense ministry, said during a regular briefing. "Our position that the North Korean regime and the North Korean

- [First heat wave alerts of year issued for Seoul, surrounding areas](#) (2026-06-18 11:57)

The state weather agency on Thursday issued the first heat wave advisories of the year for Seoul and its surrounding areas. The Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA) put the alerts into effect at 2 p.m. for southern Seoul, parts of the surrounding Gyeonggi Province and Ganghwa County in Incheon, west of the capital. Earlier at 11 a.m., separate advisories were also issued for Gyeonggi's Hanam and Yeosu, alongside the country's southeastern regions of Gyeongsan, Yecheon and Gunwi, the KMA said. A heat wave advisory is issued when the maximum apparent temperature is expected to remain at or above 33 C for two or more consecutive days.

- [Lee to give press briefing on results of Europe trip](#) (2026-06-18 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung plans to give a press briefing this week on the results of his 10-day trip to Europe that included visits to Belgium and Italy, and his attendance at a Group of Seven (G7) summit, his office said Thursday. Lee, who returned from the trip earlier in the day, will brief reporters at Cheong Wa Dae at 2 p.m. Friday, according to his spokesperson, Kang Yu-jung. During the trip, Lee expanded his administration's diplomatic outreach to Europe and sought global support for inter-Korean peace through his meeting with Pope Leo XIV at the Vatican. At the G7 summit in Evian-les-Bains, France, he held a series of bilateral and multilateral meetings with world leaders. In a brief exchange with U.S. President Donald Trump, he discussed the Korea-U.S. alliance and issues related to the Korean Peninsula and the Middle East.

- [Why young Koreans are turning to bus-driving jobs](#) (2026-06-18 05:57)

A young man who left a job at a semiconductor company to become a bus driver is drawing attention after sharing why he believes the career switch improved his quality of life. Lee Seung-jun, a bus driver in his 20s, appeared on the popular tvN talk show "You Quiz on the Block" on Wednesday, where he spoke about his decision to leave the corporate world and take

the wheel of a city bus instead. His story has resonated with many young Koreans at a timewhen growing numbers are reconsidering traditional career paths and placing greater value onwork-life balance, job security and workplace culture. Host Yoo Jae-suk said applications frompeople in their 20s and 30s for bus driver positions have surged in recent years, citing figuresshowing a 43 percent increase over the past three years. Lee said he was the only bus driver inhis 20s when he first entered the profession, but several young drivers have since joined hiscompany. "When I became a bus driver, I was the only person in my 20s," Lee said. "Now thereare six of us, including me." Asked why the job is attracting younger workers, Lee

- [Overcharging hotels risk losing star rating under new rules](#) (2026-06-18 05:57)

Hotels found to have overcharged customers could face a 30-point deduction in their rating evaluation, a penalty steep enough to cost a hotel its star rating. The move signals a tougher stance on price gouging, penalizing such offense three times more heavily than most other violations. The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism said Thursday that it had issued advance public notice of a proposed revision to the guidelines governing hotel grading operations. Under the revised plan, tourist hotels face a new 30-point rating deduction for overcharging customers, compared with a 10-point deduction for most other violations, including hotel fires, illegal activity and administrative sanctions from sanitation or fire inspections. With up to 1,000 points given under the rating system and only a 100-point gap five-star and four-star thresholds, overcharging violations could push a hotel below its rating tier. The new criterion came after a price gouging controversy surrounding BTS' concerts in Busan, when many accommodations throughout the southern port city simultaneously raised their prices

- [Free EV safety inspections expanded to electric buses, motorcycles](#) (2026-06-18 05:57)

Amid the rapid proliferation of electric vehicles (EVs) and persistent public concerns over battery-related fires, the government announced Thursday a significant expansion of its annual EV safety inspection program. For the first time, the free initiative will cast a wider net to include electric buses and motorcycles. The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport said the expanded effort builds upon a proactive fire prevention campaign initiated in 2023, which had previously focused almost exclusively on passenger cars. By extending the inspection program to public transit and two-wheeled vehicles, officials hope to mitigate hazards across a broader swath of the country' s transportation network. Thirty-four manufacturers have committed to participating in this year's program, comprising 15 makers of passenger vehicles, six bus manufacturers and 13 motorcycle companies. The importance of the government' s safety campaign is underscored by its recent track record. In 2025, technicians inspected more than 300,000 EVs nationwide. During the routine inspections, mechanics identify

- [Trainees from overseas visit redevelopment site for field study hosted by University of Seoul](#) (2026-06-18 05:57)

Trainees from 11 countries visited a housing redevelopment project site near Hansung University Station in Seoul on June 5, as part of a field study organized by the International School of Urban Sciences at the University of Seoul. The university said Wednesday that the site visit was conducted under the Master's Program in Urban Development Smart Infrastructure Policy (MUDSIP). MUDSIP is a long-term invited master's degree training program supported by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport and the International Contractors Association of Korea. The on-site program was organized for the eighth cohort of MUDSIP trainees, who are expected to lead urban and infrastructure development in their respective countries. The university said the trainees had the opportunity to observe firsthand Korea's innovative urban regeneration and housing redevelopment models, which have helped address housing challenges caused by rapid urbanization. They also exchanged views with field professionals on the implementation processes and technical aspects of urban renewal and redevelopment pro

- [Human leg found at Incheon recycling facility likely belongs to nursing hospital patient](#) (2026-06-18 05:57)

A human body part found at a recycling facility in Incheon is highly likely to be the leg of a patient receiving treatment at a nursing hospital, police said Thursday. "The body part found at the resource recovery center is highly likely to be the left leg of a patient at a nursing hospital in Incheon," the Incheon Yeonsu Police Station said, adding that it had requested an urgent DNA analysis from the National Forensic Service to compare genetic information. Police said that if the DNA of the recovered body part matches that of the patient, they plan to investigate the hospital on suspicion of violating regulations governing the disposal of medical waste under the Waste Control Act. At around 2:00 p.m. on June 10, an employee sorting recyclable materials at the Southern Regional Resource Recovery Center in Songdo-dong in Yeonsu District discovered part of a human left leg and reported it to police. The body part was wrapped in bandages when it was found, and was partially decomposed. Officials at the center said, "Mannequins occasionally arrive here, so we initially thought it was part o

- [Co-chair of presidential commission on climate crisis to attend London Climate Action Week](#) (2026-06-18 05:57)

A co-chair of the Presidential Commission on Climate Crisis Response will travel to London next week to attend London Climate Action Week 2026, Europe's largest annual climate festival expected to draw more than 75,000 people from around the world, his office said Thursday. Lee Chang-hoon, the civilian chairperson of the commission also co-chaired by the prime minister, plans to attend key climate conferences and hold bilateral meetings with senior officials of other countries during the five-day trip starting Monday, the commission said. It will be Lee's first overseas trip since the commission was newly launched in January from the previous Presidential Commission on Carbon Neutrality and Green Growth to play the role of a control tower for the government's climate policies and plans and their implementation. Lee plans to use the trip to promote South Korea's achievements in climate governance reform while

building a foundation for cooperation with climate commissions of major countries, as the London climate week is expected to serve as an agenda-setting occasion ahead of November's

- [Lee returns home following 10-day trip to Europe](#) (2026-06-18 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung arrived in Seoul on Thursday after wrapping up his first trip to Europe aimed at expanding South Korea's diplomatic landscape beyond Asia toward Europe. The presidential plane carrying Lee landed at Seoul Air Base, just south of Seoul, following his 10-day three-nation trip. The trip, which began last week, first took the president to Belgium and then Italy, where he sought to enhance the country's relations with the European nations, as well as the European Union. In Brussels, Lee held summit talks with Belgian Prime Minister Bart De Wever, followed by a summit with Ursula von der Leyen, president of the European Commission, and Antonio Luis Santos da Costa, president of the European Council. In Italy, Lee held summit talks with Italian President Sergio Mattarella, agreeing to elevate bilateral ties to a special strategic partnership, while also meeting with Pope Leo XIV, where he confirmed the Vatican's continued support for Seoul's efforts to establish peace on the Korean Peninsula, according to the presidential office. Lee's European trip concluded in Evian-les

- [Protests over ballot shortage during local elections enter 14th day](#) (2026-06-18 05:57)

Protests demanding a rerun of the June 3 local elections marred by ballot paper shortages continued for the 14th day Thursday at a ballot counting site amid sweltering heat. Under the scorching sun, protesters chanted slogans claiming election fraud outside SK Olympic Handball Gymnasium in Seoul's southern ward of Songpa, which was used as a ballot counting center for the elections. The protests began June 5, two days after ballot shortages temporarily suspended voting at 26 polling stations. Some protesters could be seen cooling themselves off with fans while guarding the entrance of the gymnasium in a move to prevent election officials from removing ballot boxes inside. While the National Election Commission (NEC) has apologized for the ballot shortages, it says they do not warrant a rerun under the election law. A joint team of police investigators and prosecutors has been investigating the NEC over the shortages. Meanwhile, police have booked a man in his 30s who was taken into custody after brandishing and swinging a sharp weapon near the gymnasium on Wednesday. The man, who injured h

- [Korea to apply zero tariffs on LNG, LPG under quota scheme to tackle inflation](#) (2026-06-18 05:57)

Korea plans to apply zero tariff rates on liquefied natural gas (LNG) and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) within quotas in the second half of 2026 as the country seeks to tame inflation amid lingering global energy price volatility, the finance ministry said Thursday. The Ministry of Finance and Economy said tariff rates on LNG, LPG and crude oil used for the production of LPG will be lowered to zero in the second half, noting the measure is expected to help stabilize consumer prices by lowering utility and transportation costs. The government earlier planned to lower tariff rates on LNG to 2 percent in the third quarter and 1 percent in the fourth quarter

while dropping those on LPG and crude used for LPG production to 1 percent in the second half. "We conduct commissioned research every year on whether the tariff-rate quota system puts downward pressure on consumer prices, and the findings consistently show that it has had such an effect in the energy sector," a ministry official said. Korea's consumer prices rose 3.1 percent in May from a year earlier amid global energy price volatility

- [Korean universities rise in QS rankings as internationalization, graduates' reputation improve](#) (2026-06-17 23:57)

Korea's universities have climbed in world rankings, backed by improvement in internationalization and graduates' reputation with employers. But they still lag behind Asia's top performers due to weak academic reputation and research impact, a global ranking agency said. Korea saw 43 universities place in the QS World University Rankings 2027, with four in the global top 100 and seven in the top 200. Their improvement was reflected in rising numbers, with 53 percent of the universities reaching higher rankings than the previous assessment and only 18 percent falling. This marks the third-best net improvement in Asia behind Hong Kong and mainland China, where 78 percent and 72 percent of schools showed rises in the rankings. Among Korean schools, Seoul National University (SNU) topped the national rankings, placing 38th globally, followed by Yonsei University at 42nd and Korea University at 52nd. The dominance of the three universities, known in Korea as "SKY," remained intact but the gap is narrowing. While SNU held steady in the global top 50, Yonsei University and Korea University h

- [Court issues arrest warrants for ex-Shincheonji officials over suspected ties to PPP](#) (2026-06-17 17:57)

A Seoul court on Wednesday issued arrest warrants for three former senior officials of the Shincheonji Church of Jesus, a nonmainstream religious sect, over suspicions they forced followers to join the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) between 2021 and 2024. The hearings for Goh Dong-ahn, former No. 2 leader of Shincheonji, and two other former officials took place at the Seoul Central District Court earlier in the day after a joint prosecution and police team filed for their arrest warrants Friday. The court granted the warrants following the hearing, citing concerns that the suspects could destroy evidence and flee. The three are accused of violating the Political Parties Act that bans forcing people to join or quit political parties. The former officials are suspected of forcing Shincheonji members to join the PPP to influence the results of the party's primaries held between 2021 and 2024 ahead of presidential and parliamentary elections at the time. South Korea held a presidential election in 2022 and parliamentary elections in 2024. The joint investigation team believes that

- [Korea unveils plan to transform regional universities into tech hubs](#) (2026-06-17 11:57)

South Korea's push to rebalance growth beyond the capital region took a major step forward Wednesday as the government unveiled a plan to select three flagship national universities for intensive support, aiming to transform them into regional powerhouses tied directly to strategic industries and artificial intelligence (AI). The Ministry of Education said that it finalized its 2026

package support university selection plan during an interagency meeting at Government Complex Sejong. The initiative is part of the government's "10 Seoul National Universities" strategy, which seeks to strengthen flagship national universities as hubs linking industry, academia, research institutions and local governments. Under the plan, three universities will be chosen this year for concentrated support across undergraduate education, graduate programs and research institutes connected to regional growth engines and AI development. The ministry said the selected universities, together with partner institutions participating in a regional university-sharing system, are expected to receive roughly 100 billion

- [PPP urges dismissal of Seoul police chief over senior police official's alleged violence against lawmaker's aide](#) (2026-06-17 11:57)

The floor leader of the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) on Wednesday called for the immediate dismissal of the chief of the Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency (SMPA), accusing a senior police official of using physical force against a legislative aide earlier this week. "The head of the SMPA's security division committed violence by twisting the arm of a National Assembly aide and grabbed him by the neck during a lawmakers' visit," PPP floor leader Jeong Jeom-sig said at a general meeting of the party's lawmakers. "President Lee Jae Myung must immediately dismiss the SMPA chief and the head of its security division," he added. On Tuesday, an apparent scuffle broke out as PPP lawmakers visited the SMPA to protest remarks by Park Jeong-bo, the agency's chief, who warned that demonstrators protesting the ballot shortages reported during the June 3 local elections could face serious consequences if they "take part in illegal activities and are found to be accomplices." A video posted online by a PPP lawmaker showing the brief scuffle involving the senior police official and the aide d

- [Ballot shortage issue fuels PPP infighting](#) (2026-06-17 11:57)

The main opposition People Power Party (PPP) is descending into open infighting over how far to push its challenge on the local elections after ballot shortages in several key electorates caused disruptions to voting, with PPP Chairman Jang Dong-hyeok facing mounting calls to step down and accusations that he is using the controversy to prolong his own political career. At the center of the dispute is the leadership's decision to lodge election complaints seeking partial revotes in seven constituencies where ballot papers ran out during the June 3 elections, followed by Jang's move to escalate demands for a nationwide rerun. Senior party members such as Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon and floor leader Rep. Jeong Jeom-sig have dismissed Jang's remarks, saying they are his own personal stance rather than a party position. Jang made a social media post Tuesday, writing, "The goal is clear. A nationwide rerun. The petitions are only the beginning." Speaking to reporters on Wednesday, Oh — who himself scraped through to win the Seoul mayoral race by a narrow margin — said Jang's leade

- [Shinsegae official questioned over Starbucks Korea's 'Tank Day' promotion](#) (2026-06-17 11:57)

Police said Wednesday they were questioning the head of Shinsegae Group's audit team over allegations that its affiliate Starbucks Korea insulted victims of the 1980 pro-democracy movement in Gwangju with its controversial marketing campaign. The Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency called in Yang Jong-hwan to question the results of the group's weeklong internal inspection of the incident in May. Starbucks Korea, operated by E-Mart Inc., launched an online "Tank Day" promotion on May 18, the anniversary of the 1980 Gwangju pro-democracy movement. The coffee franchise launched a discount event for "Tank" tumbler sets, along with the controversial phrase, "Put it on the table with a sound of 'Tak!'" The promotional event drew criticism, as the word "tank" evoked memories of the military violently clamping down on pro-democracy protesters. The word "Tak" also sparked backlash, as it reminded people of student activist Park Jong-cheol, who died in 1987 after being tortured. Announcing the results of the internal probe last month, Shinsegae Group said it found no evidence backing allegations that

- [Defense ministry to redraw Civilian Control Line near inter-Korean border](#) (2026-06-17 11:57)

The Ministry of National Defense unveiled Wednesday a sweeping overhaul of military facility regulations, including plans to redraw the Civilian Control Line and release portions of military protection zones near border areas. The measures are expected to ease or remove restrictions across approximately 720 square kilometers, an area roughly 240 times the size of Yeouido, Seoul's main financial district. The move reflects changes in the security environment, including a shrinking pool of military conscripts and advances in weapons systems, according to the ministry. Announcing the plan, Defense Minister Ahn Gyu-back described the initiative as a major overhaul of a long-standing regulatory framework. "Today, the defense ministry seeks to present a milestone that changes the paradigm of military facility regulations maintained for decades," Ahn said. He added that regulatory reform had become "an inevitable choice" to respond to changing security conditions and allow the military to focus on its core missions. At the center of the plan is a proposed adjustment of the Civilian Con

- [18-month prison term sought for Seoul mayor on charges of accepting illegal funds](#) (2026-06-17 11:57)

A special counsel team on Wednesday sought an 18-month prison term for Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon on charges of accepting illegal political funds in connection with opinion polls he received ahead of the mayoral by-election in 2021. The team of special counsel Min Joong-ki also sought a forfeiture of 33 million won (\$21,800) at the Seoul Central District Court after indicting Oh in December on charges of violating the Political Funds Act. Oh is suspected of having his political supporter, Kim Han-jung, make payments for opinion poll results he received on 10 occasions from self-proclaimed power broker Myung Tae-kyun ahead of the by-election in April 2021, which he won. "Despite being in a position to follow the Political Funds Act more than anyone else as a prominent politician, Mayor Oh undermined the legislative purpose of ensuring transparency of political funds by making a third person pay for costs of

opinion polls closely related to political activities without following legal procedures," the teamsaid. The team also sought a one-year prison term for Kim, Oh's supporter, and former Se

- [Court holds arrest warrant hearings for ex-Shincheonji officials over suspected ties to PPP](#) (2026-06-17 11:57)

A Seoul court on Wednesday held arrest warrant hearings for three former senior officials of the Shincheonji Church of Jesus, a nonmainstream religious sect, over suspicions they forced followers to join the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) between 2021 and 2024. The hearings for Goh Dong-ahn, former No. 2 leader of Shincheonji, and two other former officials took place at the Seoul Central District Court after a joint prosecution and police team filed for their arrest warrants Friday. The court is expected to have its decision as early as later Wednesday. The three are accused of violating the Political Parties Act that bans forcing people to join or quit political parties. The former officials are suspected of forcing Shincheonji members to join the PPP to influence the results of the party's primaries held between 2021 and 2024 ahead of presidential and parliamentary elections at the time. Korea held a presidential election in 2022 and parliamentary elections in 2024. The joint investigation team believes that more than 50,000 Shincheonji followers joined the PPP as a result. Th

- [Court increases sentence for Korean husband who poured boiling water on Thai wife](#) (2026-06-17 11:57)

A Korean man who intentionally poured boiling water on his Thai wife's face, leaving her with severe burns, received a prison sentence longer than the term sought by prosecutors. Judge Kim Jun-young of the Uijeongbu District Court on Tuesday sentenced a Korean man in his 40s, identified only as "A," to three and a half years in prison on charges of special bodily injury. A was indicted on charges of pouring boiling water from an electric kettle onto the face and neck of his Thai wife, who is in her 30s, while she was asleep at their apartment in Howon-dong on Dec. 3, 2025. He initially claimed that he tripped and spilled the water accidentally, but later admitted to the charge during the trial and appealed for leniency. "Deliberately pouring boiling water onto his sleeping wife's face was a violent crime that would be difficult for an ordinary person to comprehend," Judge Kim said in the ruling, adding that the victim had suffered "considerable physical and psychological trauma." The court also pointed to the victim's vulnerable circumstances at the time of the attack.

- [Kookmin University to run master's program jointly with International University Sports Federation](#) (2026-06-17 11:57)

Kookmin University has signed an agreement with the International University Sports Federation (FISU) to jointly develop and operate a new master's degree program in sports education, the school said Tuesday. The agreement was signed by Kookmin University President Jeong Seung-ryul and FISU Secretary General and CEO Matthias Remund at the university campus in northern Seoul on Monday. Kookmin University Foundation Chairman Kim Ji-yong and FISU Master Director Delise O'Meally also attended the signing ceremony. "This

agreement marks a meaningful starting point that will expand the connection between international university sports and higher education, extending beyond a conventional institutional partnership,” Jeong said. “We expect the combination of Kookmin University’s educational capabilities and FISU’s global platform to create synergy in nurturing future leaders in the sports field.” After the ceremony, officials of the university’s College of Physical Education and the FISU held a working-level meeting to discuss how to launch and run the FISU master’s program. T

- [Korean researchers develop blood and urine test for early colorectal cancer detection](#) (2026-06-17 05:57)

A research team at the Korea Institute of Materials Science (KIMS) has developed a plasmonics-based liquid biopsy platform capable of detecting cancer-related gene mutations in the blood and urine of patients with early-stage colorectal cancer, paving the way for less invasive cancer diagnosis, KIMS said Wednesday. The research team, led by Lee Min-young, senior researcher at the Advanced Bio and Healthcare Materials Research Division, and Park Sung-kyu, director of the Global Top Research Consortium, developed a new testing platform capable of detecting KRAS mutations, a key genetic driver of colorectal cancer, with very high sensitivity. To test the technology, the researchers analyzed tumor tissue as well as matching blood and urine samples from patients with stage 0 and stage 1 colorectal cancer. The results showed more than 90 percent agreement across the different sample types, suggesting that the method could serve as a reliable alternative to conventional tissue biopsies. The study builds on KIMS’ earlier work detecting lung cancer-related gene mutations in blood samples. This t

- [University of Seoul holds youth flag football championship](#) (2026-06-17 05:57)

The University of Seoul and the Korea American Football Association (KAFA) co-hosted a flag football championship for youth and children at the university’s campus in northeastern Seoul, June 6. The university said the 2026 University of Seoul President’s Cup Youth and Children Flag Football Championship was organized to promote the development and popularization of flag football. “American football and flag football are sports that emphasize teamwork and collaboration,” said Won Yong-kul, president of the university. “I hope this championship will provide all participating young athletes with cherished memories and serve as an opportunity for them to take another step forward in their growth.” “With flag football having been adopted as an official sport for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, we expect significant growth potential for the sport in Korea as well. KAFA has set a goal of developing 1,000 flag football teams nationwide,” said KAFA Managing Director Hong Dong-hyuck. He added, “We ask the University of Seoul to continue supporting the establishment and expansion

- [Transit card upgrade promises to take guesswork out of commuting](#) (2026-06-17 05:57)

Commuters in Seoul are about to get a major upgrade to their wallets, courtesy of a bureaucratic marriage designed to eliminate transit card confusion. Starting July 1, the Seoul

Metropolitan Government is merging its wildly popular, unlimited transit pass — the ClimateCard — with the federal government's nationwide discount program, "Modu Card" (also known as the K-Pass). The result is a turbocharged hybrid dubbed the "Climate Card Plus." For the past two years, local straphangers have been forced to play an exhausting game of transit math. Commuters had to weigh whether they traveled enough to justify Seoul's fixed-rate unlimited card or if they were better off using the federal government's pay-as-you-go cashback system. The new "Plus" card solves this dilemma by introducing a touch of automated logic: It calculates your monthly journeys and automatically applies whichever billing method saves you more money. If your monthly transit bill stays below 62,000 won (\$45), the card acts like a federal K-Pass, refunding a baseline of 20 percent of your expenses — and up to 53.3 pe

- [Your soundproof car windows could trap you, new study finds](#) (2026-06-17 05:57)

Automakers have increasingly turned to laminated acoustic glass to drown out highway noise and keep modern cabins whisper-quiet. While excellent for a peaceful commute, a new study by Korea's National Institute of Fire Service reveals that this luxury upgrade poses a hidden danger during an underwater emergency. The very material designed to protect you from exterior noise could trap you inside a sinking vehicle. The classic automotive survival playbook — grabbing the seat headrest and smashing the side window with its metal prongs — is dangerously outdated. The institute's survival simulations showed that on standard tempered glass, using a headrest prong is incredibly difficult because the car's rubber molding and window frame absorb the brunt of the impact. However, if you use a dedicated emergency tool like a rescue hammer or a spring-loaded punch, tempered glass shatters relatively easily, provided you avoid the center and aim repeatedly for the corners. If your vehicle is equipped with laminated acoustic glass, you are facing a literal brick wall. Because of a tough, plastic s

- [PPP to file petitions challenging local election results](#) (2026-06-17 05:57)

The main opposition People Power Party (PPP) was set to file election petitions with the election watchdog Wednesday over a shortage of ballots reported during the June 3 local elections. The PPP is considering filing petitions in up to nine metropolitan mayoral and gubernatorial races, including in six regions where the shortage of ballots were initially reported, a party official told Yonhap News Agency. The PPP will hold a general meeting of its lawmakers at 2 p.m. to discuss details before filing the petitions. Under Article 219 of the Public Election Act, election petitions for the local elections must be filed within 14 days of the election date. If the National Election Commission accepts the petitions, a revote must be held within 30 days from the date the decision is notified. If rejected, the PPP could take the case to court. On Monday, PPP leader Jang Dong-hyeok convened an emergency supreme council meeting and decided to file election petitions in six regions — Seoul, Gyeonggi Province, Incheon, Ulsan, Busan and Gwangju-South Jeolla Province. The PPP is mulling adding three m

- [Korea joins Europe in landmark joint review of biopharmaceuticals](#) (2026-06-17 05:57)

In a milestone move toward cross-border regulatory alignment, Korea's drug safety watchdog said Wednesday that it completed its first international joint review of a biopharmaceutical product alongside European and global regulators. The breakthrough is poised to substantially ease the regulatory bottleneck for multinational pharmaceutical companies seeking multimarket approvals. The Ministry of Food and Drug Safety said that its evaluation arm, the National Institute of Food and Drug Safety Evaluation, concluded a simultaneous scientific assessment under the "Opening our Procedures at EMA to Non-EU authorities" (OPEN) framework. Spearheaded by the European Medicines Agency, the initiative brought together regulatory experts from Korea, Switzerland and the World Health Organization to jointly review a changes-to-permits application for a recombinant biological medicine. Launched initially as a pilot in 2020 to accelerate the evaluation of COVID-19 therapeutics and vaccines, the OPEN program operates by standardizing evaluation requirements across participating countries. Historically,

- [New suicide prevention chief puts responsibility on state](#) (2026-06-17 05:57)

Korea must treat suicide not as an individual failing but as a government responsibility, said Jung Yoon-soon, chairman of the state-run Korea Life Respect and Hope Foundation. In a recent interview with The Korea Times, Jung, who took office last month, pointed to the persistently high number of Korean people who take their own lives. The rate has consistently been higher than other OECD member countries since 2003, and Jung said that blaming individuals' "personal problems" is not tenable. "This is not about a few people making bad choices," Jung said. "It is a structural failure, and the government must take primary responsibility for fixing it." According to official data, the 2024 suicide rate was 29.1 per 100,000 people, with 14,872 deaths — an average of 41 lives lost every day. Although preliminary figures for 2025 suggest a modest decline of around 6.5 percent, Jung cautioned against premature optimism. Fixing it requires a whole-of-government response, he noted. The suicide rate should be read not just as a mental health statistic but as a key indicator of how K

- [Korea to deepen police ties with Thailand, Malaysia to combat transnational crime](#) (2026-06-17 05:57)

Korea is ramping up law enforcement cooperation with Thailand and Malaysia to address cross-border syndicates involved in online scams, cyber gambling and illicit drug trafficking. The Korean National Police Agency said Wednesday that Park Jun-sung, director general of the International Bureau, met with foreign affairs officers from the Royal Thai Police in Bangkok. The bilateral talks aimed to fortify joint strategies against a "balloon effect," where criminal syndicates shift locations across national borders following localized law enforcement crackdowns. Both nations formalized plans to enhance operational collaboration. Key initiatives include tracking major fugitives, exchanging data on evolving criminal methodologies, ensuring the safety of overseas nationals and broadening Official Development Assistance programs in public safety. The meeting builds on reciprocal successes in high-profile extraditions. Law enforcement officials lauded the recent arrest and extradition of a Korean drug-trafficking

suspect named Choi Byung-min, also known as the "Cheongdam CEO," from Thailand, along

- [Korean stroke expert elected to World Stroke Organization board](#) (2026-06-17 05:57)

Professor Kim Beom-joon of the department of neurology at Seoul National University Bundang Hospital has been elected to the board of directors of the World Stroke Organization (WSO), marking an achievement for Korea's stroke research community. According to Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, Kim will serve on the WSO board as a representative of the Korean Stroke Society. His four-year term is scheduled to begin in October. "Stroke remains one of the leading causes of death and disability worldwide, and reducing that burden depends on collaboration that crosses borders, disciplines, and health systems," Kim wrote on his LinkedIn posting. "I am grateful for the chance to contribute to that effort on a global stage and to help carry the voice of the Korean and Asia-Pacific stroke community into it." The WSO is the world's largest international academic organization dedicated to stroke. It plays a leading role in establishing global standards across stroke prevention, treatment, research, education and health care policy. The organization's board of directors serves as its

- [Former Marines, special forces teachers volunteer for real-life 'Teach You a Lesson' team](#) (2026-06-17 05:57)

Korea's debate over classroom disruptions is so urgent that a vigilante-style Netflix drama is shaping policy, prompting Gyeonggi Province education superintendent-elect Ahn Min-seok to cite the series and emphasize the need to protect teachers' authority and students' right to learn. Ahn appeared on Korean broadcaster CBS Radio on Tuesday to discuss the hit series "Teach You a Lesson." Noting the Netflix series' popularity, Ahn said he met the minister of education Monday. "The minister told me he watched up to the fifth episode. I think it is time for the ministry to make a decision as well," Ahn said. The series centers on the fictional Korean Educational Rights Protection Bureau, but Ahn stressed its methods cannot be replicated. "The drama's bureau cannot exist in reality, and we must never use violent punishment," Ahn said. Instead, Ahn proposed creating a teacher protection agency to protect teachers and students. Ahn said he received messages from educators volunteering to become real-life versions of Na Hwa-jin, the drama's protagonist and the fictional bureau inspector played by

- [Police to investigate woman over solo blockade of vote counting center entry](#) (2026-06-17 05:57)

Police plan to investigate a woman who staged a solo blockade of a gymnasium used as a ballot-counting center for the June 3 local elections in southern Seoul, officials said Wednesday. The woman, whose identity was not immediately known, prevented sports officials from entering the SK Olympic Handball Gymnasium on Tuesday by physically blocking the entrance after protesters, who have blocked access to the facility while demanding a re-run of the local elections, agreed to let them inside. Sports groups under the Korean Sport & Olympic Committee have been unable to access their offices inside the gymnasium since June 5, when the protesters began a blockade to prevent the removal of ballot boxes. The Seoul Songpa

Police Station said it plans to investigate the woman who stood in front of one of the gymnasium's gates and refused to move until measures were taken for the preservation of ballots and ballot boxes inside. The sports officials ultimately withdrew from the scene after the solo blockade continued for about two hours. Jang Dong-hyeok, leader of the main opposition People Power Party

- [Sejong University wins A+ rating in Seoul RISE Project evaluation](#) (2026-06-17 05:57)

Sejong University has received an A+ rating, an excellent grade, in the first-year evaluation of the Seoul Regional Innovation System and Education (RISE) Project. The university said Tuesday that its RISE Project was highly recognized in the evaluation for its strong alignment between the Seoul RISE Project's strategy and the school's own implementation strategy. In addition, the university scored high marks for exceeding most of its performance goals compared with the targets through systematic performance management. The evaluation was the first official performance assessment conducted for 28 universities participating in the Seoul RISE Project. It was aimed at comprehensively reviewing the achievement of performance goals and the implementation processes of each university, while improving participants' project management system and fostering collaborative outcomes between municipal authorities and universities. The Seoul RISE Project is a Seoul Metropolitan Government-supported program aimed at strengthening cooperation among universities, industries and communities. It seeks

- [Gov't to ease civilian-restricted inter-Korean border boundaries for wider public access](#) (2026-06-17 05:57)

The defense ministry on Wednesday rolled out a plan to ease the boundaries of the military-controlled buffer zone along the inter-Korean border to allow wider civilian access and spur regional growth. The Civilian Control Line (CCL), a buffer zone that lies within 10 kilometers south of the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) that runs through the Demilitarized Zone separating the two Koreas, will be reduced to an average of 6 km in distance, Defense Minister Ahn Gyu-back said in a briefing. "The CCL was established to restrict civilian access and guarantee military operations, but there have been growing calls for a need to complement its actual control measures," Ahn said. "We have come up with an adjustment plan for the CCL to adapt to future security environments amid shrinking military manpower, while ensuring operational conditions," he said. The CCL was established in the wake of the 1950-53 Korean War to restrict public access and protect military installations along the heavily fortified inter-Korean border. It currently extends up to 7 km south of the MDL along the western front an

- [Navy chief stresses expanding use of AI tech to lead future warfare](#) (2026-06-17 05:57)

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Kim Kyung-ryul said Wednesday the Navy is pushing to expand the use of artificial intelligence (AI) technology across its operations to prepare for future warfare and increase operational efficiency. Kim made the remarks during a seminar on the Navy's vision to accelerate its AI transformation by adopting innovative AI-related technologies

from the private sector, according to the service. "The Navy has drawn up a comprehensive AI transformation plan and is reinforcing related organizations to enable the swift and proactive adoption of AI technologies across all mission domains," Kim said in his opening speech, while vowing to develop an AI-driven manned and unmanned teaming combat systems. The seminar, which included discussions on intelligent information, cyberspace and electromagnetic capabilities, brought together some 900 personnel from the defense ministry, academia and the private sector.

- [Busan rock band Daisy Gun wants you to put down the phone](#) (2026-06-17 00:02)

When you go to a concert these days, it seems like everyone around you has their cellphone out — capturing what everyone else is recording, messaging friends or maybe just doomscrolling on social media. With the new single "Square Eyes," the Busan-based rock band Daisy Gun takes aim at this culture that is consumed through smart devices. "It's a bit of a political number, and is basically about how people spend too much time on their phones making them susceptible to a whole lot of nonsense," Louis Cilliers, the band's South African guitarist and vocalist, told The Korea Times. "After a few heated arguments about not trusting everything you read online, I started writing the lyrics with the idea of disinformation spreading through social media. People are very comfortable in their echo chambers and are naive enough to believe anyone with a strong enough rhetoric." He added that the lyrics also touch on our overreliance on phones. "There's a phrase in the chorus, 'with square eyes, and a turtleneck,' that references the posture that develops from the overuse of phones," he said. But he wa

- [Why do Korean protesters wave American flags?](#) (2026-06-16 17:57)

SEATTLE — As protests over South Korea's ballot shortage controversy continue, many foreign observers are asking an unusual question: Why are American flags being waved at a protest over a Korean election? Images from the demonstrations show participants carrying U.S. flags alongside South Korean national flags, renewing a long-running debate over the symbolism of the Stars and Stripes in Korean politics. The question has surfaced across social media platforms including Reddit, X and Threads, where expatriates and international observers have debated why a foreign flag has become a recurring feature at some Korean political rallies. "It's so bizarre seeing so many American flags," one user wrote. "It's not really about America," one commenter responded, arguing that the flag has come to symbolize anti-communism and conservative political identity in South Korea. Others pointed to the history of the U.S.-South Korea alliance and the Korean War, saying the flag has long been associated with support for the alliance and opposition to North Korea. Several commenters said the symbolism has ev

- [Lee arrives at Geneva Airport for G7 summit in France](#) (2026-06-16 11:57)

President Lee Jae Myung arrived at Geneva Airport on Tuesday en route to Evian-les-Bains, France, to attend a Group of Seven (G7) summit. France is the final leg of the president's European trip, his first visit to the region since taking office a year earlier. Lee was scheduled to attend G7 sessions in Evian later in the day and again Wednesday as the leader of an invited

partner nation. The summit is expected to address a wide range of issues, including the wars in Ukraine and Iran, global financial instability and the emergence of artificial intelligence (AI). Leewill return home Wednesday, wrapping up his 10-day Europe trip.

- [Alumni group of Army academy urges gov't to reconsider push to merge military academies](#) (2026-06-16 11:57)

An alumni association of the Army's military academy on Tuesday criticized the government for "hastily" pushing to integrate the academies of the three military branches, calling on the government to reconsider the move from scratch. The Korea Military Academy Alumni Association expressed "deep" concerns about the Lee Jae Myung administration's push to establish an integrated military school comprising the Army, Navy and Air Force, citing the possible weakening of national security. The group claimed the government was pushing to merge the three military academies and relocate them to the county of Jangseon in South Jeolla Province by 2028. "The Korea Military Academy Alumni Association expresses deep concern over the weakening of national security that the government's current hasty plans will bring," it said. "Defense Minister Ahn Gyu-back does not know what he is doing, given his lack of experience in the military," Park Pan-joon, president of the association, said, adding the group is reviewing filing damages claims for the "hasty" integration that it claimed may neglect due process.

- [State auditor considering accounting audit of election watchdog over ballot shortages](#) (2026-06-16 11:57)

The Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) is considering conducting a financial audit of the embattled National Election Commission (NEC) that has been under massive criticism over ballot shortages in the June 3 local elections, sources said Tuesday. The state auditor is cautiously weighing the accounting audit option, while monitoring the progress of joint police and prosecution investigations, as well as a parliamentary probe, the sources said. The election watchdog is an independent constitutional organization that is not subject to a full-fledged performance audit, a measure aimed at shielding the agency from political influence. But an accounting audit is deemed permissible because it carries no political implications. Should an accounting audit happen, it is expected to focus on whether the budget for printing ballot papers was appropriately allocated and executed. It could also help determine where the responsibilities lie for the shortages. "We're monitoring the situation while looking into various possibilities," a BAI official said. Calls have been mounting for the NEC's dismantle

- [Rival parties agree to launch 45-day parliamentary probe on election ballot shortage](#) (2026-06-16 11:57)

The rival parties agreed Tuesday to conduct a 45-day parliamentary investigation into the National Election Commission over ballot shortages reported during the recent local elections, party officials said. The ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) and the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) agreed to put the plan to a vote at a parliamentary plenary session on

Thursday. The special parliamentary committee will be chaired by the PPP, according to the officials from both parties. Ballot shortages were reported at more than a dozen polling stations in Seoul during the June 3 local elections, temporarily disrupting voting and prompting protests. Last week, the DPK and the PPP separately submitted requests for a parliamentary probe, though they differed over the scope of the investigation and the number of seats to be allotted to each party on the committee.

- [JTBC files for court receivership as costly World Cup, Olympics deals push JoongAng Group into crisis](#) (2026-06-16 11:57)

A court froze the assets of five JoongAng Group subsidiaries and affiliates, Monday, after they filed for court receivership amid a financial crisis driven largely by the Korean media conglomerate's costly bids for exclusive broadcasting rights to major international sporting events. The Seoul Bankruptcy Court issued preservative measures and a general prohibition order against JoongAng Holdings, the group's parent company, as well as JTBC, Contentree JoongAng, Megabox JoongAng and JoongAng P&I. The JoongAng, the group's flagship newspaper, is said to pursue a restructuring workout process following the rehabilitation filings by the parent company and its affiliates. The preservative measures bar the companies from disposing of assets or making preferential repayments before formal rehabilitation proceedings, while the general prohibition order freezes creditor claims, blocking enforcement actions, attachments or auctions until then. Last week, JTBC defaulted after failing to repay a 20.6 billion won (\$13.6 million) debt coming due, citing a sharp contraction in the television advertising

- [Lee grapples with headwinds following local elections as party rift, ballot shortage issues deepen](#) (2026-06-16 11:57)

President Lee Jae Myung is grappling with a difficult political moment at home, as a widening rift with ruling party leadership and a public backlash over ballot shortages in the June 3 local elections are pulling down his approval ratings. These political headwinds prompted Lee to remain focused on developments at home even during his diplomatic tour in Europe, leading to him convening an unprecedented virtual meeting with senior presidential aides in Seoul and commenting on political issues through social media. The unease between Cheong Wa Dae and the leadership of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) has grown following the party's less-than-satisfactory local election results. The DPK won 12 of the nation's 16 metropolitan mayoral and provincial governorship elections. However, it lost the Seoul mayoral race — widely regarded as the bellwether of national elections. The outcome, coupled with defeats in closely watched battleground districts in the parliamentary by-elections held concurrently with the local elections, fueled criticism of DPK Chairman Jung Chung-rae and triggered

- [Sungkyunkwan University research team designs crystal for artificial neuronal cell mimicking](#) (2026-06-16 11:57)

A Sungkyunkwan University research team has developed an optoelectronic synaptic device that mimics the functions of human neurons and synapses at the device level, the university said Tuesday. The team led by Kim Tae-sung, professor at the School of Mechanical Engineering, has designed a van der Waals (vdW) crystal through a single-step sulfurization process using mixed plasma. The developed device operates under optical stimuli, offering a structural solution to configure semiconductor materials for brain-inspired computing. A van der Waals crystal is a type of layered material in which atoms or molecules are held together mainly by van der Waals forces rather than strong chemical bonds such as ionic, covalent or metallic bonds. The team's research findings were published online in the international journal *Advanced Materials* on June 3, under the title, "Designable van der Waals Crystal for Artificial Neuronal Cell Mimicking." Professor Kim is the corresponding author of the study. Co-first authors include Lee Jin-hyoung, Kim Gun-hyoung, Lee Dong-ho, Son Seo-woo and Seok Hyun-ho.

- [Election protesters agree to allow sports officials to enter ballot-counting center](#) (2026-06-16 11:57)

Election protesters agreed Tuesday to allow sports officials inside a gymnasium used as a ballot-counting center for the June 3 local elections, potentially ending a 12-day standoff between the sides, the leader of the main opposition party said. Rep. Jang Dong-hyeok of the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) announced the deal after meeting with the protesters in front of the Olympic Park Handball Gymnasium in southern Seoul, where they have been demanding a rerun of the elections tainted by unprecedented ballot shortages at 26 voting stations across the nation. Officials from sports organizations under the Korean Sport & Olympic Committee have been unable to access their offices inside the gymnasium since June 5, when the protesters began the blockade to prevent the removal of ballot boxes that were brought there for vote counting. The vote count for the local elections has already been completed. Under the agreement with the organizations and the police, two members per organization will be able to enter the gym at a time to retrieve items they need for their work, Jang said. The

- [Seoul Donghaeng Store reopens after monthlong renovation](#) (2026-06-16 11:57)

Seoul Donghaeng Store, a farmers' cooperative store run by the city near Anguk Station, reopens Tuesday following a month of renovations aimed at improving visitors' shopping experience and expanding programming. The permanent store — located on the first floor of the Anguk Building annex in Jongno District — sells agricultural and regional specialty products sourced from small farms and producers across Korea, offering city residents competitively priced goods while providing producers with a reliable sales channel. For the reopening, the city has reorganized product displays, added category signage to help shoppers navigate the space faster and installed new digital signboards visible from outside the store. A companion Naver Smart Store will reopen June 29 with updated product listings. To mark the reopening, the store will hold events from Tuesday through June 19, including free rice cake giveaways for all visitors, a prize draw for purchases of 30,000 won (\$20) or more and tastings of local fruit ade

beverages. Apple, white peach and blueberry farmers will visit the store in per

- [Han River triathlon draws 893,000 as Seoul pushes inclusive sports model](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

A sprawling summer festival along the Han River has drawn nearly 900,000 visitors, transforming Seoul's waterfront into what city officials are calling a new model for inclusive public sports. The Seoul Metropolitan Government said Tuesday that the third edition of the "Relaxed Han River 3-Event Festival," held June 5 to June 7, attracted 893,272 visitors across Ttukseom and Jamsil Hangang Parks. The event blended swimming, cycling and running with large-scale cultural programming, positioning itself as one of Seoul's signature summer gatherings. City officials said 25,000 participants completed the triathlon-style course, which emphasized finishing over competition and was designed for a range of fitness levels from beginner to advanced. The festival expanded this year to include foreigner-only swimming events, a children's triathlon segment called "Iron Rookie," and a disability swimming competition, reflecting what organizers described as a broader commitment to accessibility. A foreign participant in the swimming event said the experience was more difficult than expected

- [KAIST unveils breakthrough that could slash AI data center cooling power](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

As artificial intelligence systems demand ever more computing power, a team of Korean researchers says it has found a way to tackle one of the industry's most expensive and stubborn problems: heat. Researchers at the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology said Tuesday they have developed a liquid cooling technology capable of reducing the power needed for semiconductor cooling to roughly one-tenth of current levels while delivering significantly higher efficiency. The team said the technology integrates microscopic cooling channels, thinner than a human hair, directly into semiconductor chips and combines them with a manifold structure that distributes coolant through multiple pathways. The design is intended to shorten the distance coolant must travel, reducing energy losses while improving heat removal. Researchers said previous manifold microchannel cooling systems often suffered from uneven coolant distribution, with some channels receiving more flow than others. To address that problem, the team optimized the structure so that coolant moves more evenly throughout the sy

- [Seoul taps delivery riders to spot, report danger early](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

The people who know Seoul's streets best are being asked to do more than deliver food. The Seoul Metropolitan Government said Tuesday it has launched the 2026 Seoul Citizen Safety Guardians program, enlisting 20 delivery riders to help identify hazards such as potholes, flooding risks and damaged infrastructure before they lead to accidents. The initiative, which officially began with a launch ceremony Monday at Jeon Tae-il Memorial Hall in Jongno District, will run through September and is designed to strengthen citizen-based safety monitoring across the city. City officials said the program draws on the mobility and on-the-ground

experience of delivery riders, who travel dozens or even hundreds of kilometers each day and are often among the first to encounter potential dangers in neighborhoods and along major roads. Participants will receive training on safety reporting procedures and emergency response measures before beginning field activities. While carrying out delivery work, riders will report potholes, flooding, fallen objects, damaged facilities and other hazards through Seoul

- [Korea expands multilingual lifeline for migrant women facing violence](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

Migrant women experiencing domestic abuse, sexual violence, stalking or other forms of violence in Korea will soon have easier access to help in their native languages under a new government outreach effort announced Tuesday. The Ministry of Gender Equality and Family said it has produced web posters in 11 languages to raise awareness of support services available to migrant women affected by violence, including information on eligibility, available assistance and reporting procedures. The posters are available in Vietnamese, Chinese, Filipino, Mongolian, Russian, Thai, Khmer, Uzbek, Japanese, Lao and Nepali. The ministry said the materials will be distributed through 20 immigration and foreigner offices nationwide, seven regional labor offices and local administrative welfare centers to ensure that migrant women are aware of available support regardless of language barriers or immigration status. The ministry said all migrant women who experience violence, including marriage migrants, migrant workers and undocumented migrants, are eligible for assistance. Women affected by domestic violence

- [How far back does 'Hipdang-dong' go?](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

For years, a sign above a side street next to Exit 1 of Sindang Station on Seoul Metro lines 2 and 6 announced that visitors were entering the “Seoul Central Market Furniture District.” Then, in 2023, this was replaced by a new sign reading “1946 Hwanghak Furniture Street.” The sign raises several questions, particularly as an accompanying information board outlining the history of the area's furniture and rice markets fails to explain why it bears the date 1946. It explains that in 1950s and 1960s the area was known as the “largest grain wholesale and retail market in the country” which “prospered to the extent that it distributed over 70% of the rice consumed by Seoul citizens at the time,” and also notes that it was at a rice shop there in 1938 that Hyundai founder Chung Yu-yung first honed his business skills. It also notes that the area was once known for “specializing in furniture for newlyweds,” though now it “primarily deals in commercial furniture,” particularly for the food service industry, but makes no mention of the fact that furniture stores and factor

- [Election protesters, sports officials locked in standoff over entry to ballot-counting center](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

Election protesters were locked in a tense standoff with sports officials Tuesday as their blockade of a gymnasium used for the June 3 local elections continued for the 12th straight day. Members of organizations under the Korean Sport & Olympic Committee attempted to enter the Olympic Park Handball Gymnasium in Seoul's southern Songpa Ward starting at 9 a.m. but

were blocked by protesters demanding a rerun of the elections tainted by unprecedented ballot shortages at 26 voting stations across the nation. The sports organizations have been unable to access their offices housed inside the gymnasium since June 5, when the protesters began the blockade to prevent the removal of ballot boxes that were brought there for vote counting. The vote count for the local elections has already been completed. During the standoff, some protesters initially agreed to forming a monitoring team composed of an equal number of police officers and sports organization staff to oversee activities inside the gym. The agreement later fell through due to fierce backlash from other protesters. Police officers made

- [Seoul Donghaeng Market reopens after monthlong renovation](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

Seoul Donghaeng Market, the city's regional food exchange platform near Anguk Station, reopens Tuesday following a month of renovations aimed at improving visitors' shopping experience and expanding programming. The permanent store — located on the first floor of the Anguk Building annex in Jongno District — sells agricultural and regional specialty products sourced from small farms and producers across Korea, offering city residents competitively priced goods while providing producers with a reliable sales channel. For the reopening, the city has reorganized product displays, added category signage to help shoppers navigate the space faster and installed new digital signboards visible from outside the store. A companion Naver Smart Store will reopen June 29 with updated product listings. To mark the reopening, the store will hold events from Tuesday through June 19, including free rice cake giveaways for all visitors, a prize draw for purchases of 30,000 won (\$20) or more and tastings of local fruit and beverages. Apple, white peach and blueberry farmers will visit the store in person.

- [Gov't launches anti-corruption training for Zimbabwe officials](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

The Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission (ACRC) began a four-day anti-corruption capacity-building training program for Zimbabwean government officials Tuesday, jointly organized with the Korea International Cooperation Agency. The training, running through June 19, is a follow-up to a memorandum of understanding signed in March 2025 between the commission and the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC). Twelve officials from the Zimbabwean body are taking part, ranging from a minister-level commissioner to bureau directors and working-level staff. The program is designed to share Korea's internationally recognized anti-corruption systems and build participants' capacity to design and implement anti-corruption policy from the ground up. On the sidelines, ACRC Chairperson Jeong Il-yeon is set to hold a bilateral meeting with ZACC Commissioner Patrick Tendai Mukorera to discuss deepening cooperation between the two countries. Korea has become a widely cited model for simultaneously achieving rapid economic growth and improving public sector integrity. The country's ranking on Transparency International's

- [Seoul selects 4 cities to receive urban policy transfers under ODA program](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

Seoul has selected four overseas cities to receive transfers of the capital's urban policies under its 2026 Seoul ODA Challenge, the city's official development assistance program for developing-country municipalities. The selected cities and projects are San Salvador Centro in El Salvador and Banda Aceh in Indonesia, both for an outdoor library program; Bishkek in Kyrgyzstan for a community fitness program; and Bangkok in Thailand for pedestrian crosswalk design consulting. The Seoul ODA Challenge, launched in 2024, draws on the city's policy expertise — built across fields including transportation, smart city systems and water infrastructure — to help cities in developing countries address urban challenges. Since 2006, Seoul has run 128 ODA projects with 87 cities and organizations across 49 countries. This year marks the first introduction of a "Project Track" for soft-infrastructure initiatives, expanding beyond the program's traditional hard-infrastructure consulting focus. The outdoor library and fitness programs were drawn directly from Seoul's top-rated citizen policies of 202

- [University of Seoul, Hanyang University researchers develop wearable electrical stimulation suit](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

A research team at the University of Seoul has developed a textile-based electrical stimulation suit capable of delivering both full-body tactile stimulation and therapeutic functions in collaboration with Hanyang University researchers. The findings were published in April in the international scientific journal *Nature Communications* under the title, “A lightweight durable full-body electrical stimulation suit for haptic feedback and therapeutic applications.” The University of Seoul said the study has been highly recognized as a next-generation neural interface technology that integrates electrophysiological stimulation-based tactile interfaces with therapeutic functions. The university’s team was led by Kim Sun-hong, professor at the Department of Chemical Engineering, and Park Dong-wook, professor at the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering. The Hanyang University team was led by Jung Yei-hwan, professor at the Department of Electronic Engineering. The developed suit is a wearable system designed to deliver electrical stimulation throughout the human body, enabling who

- [Next generation of climate orators head to Songdo for Green Project 2026](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

Amid deepening global concerns over climate change, up to 200 Korean students will gather in Songdo next month to pitch concrete environmental solutions — entirely in English. The Korea regional round of the Green Project Public Speaking Championship (GPPSC) 2026 will be held July 25-26 at the University of Utah Asia Campus in Songdo, Incheon. Hosted by New Era Academy, a Seoul-based debate and public speaking education firm, and sponsored by The Korea Times, the two-day tournament challenges young speakers to combine classical oratory with substantive environmental policy. Rather than simply lamenting ecological decline, this year's prepared speech division requires participants to address a specific prompt: "An Environmental Solution." Competitors must formulate, articulate and defend actionable strategies for sustainability, testing both their rhetorical skills and structural thinking on complex climate issues. The format demands that speakers survive rigorous impromptu rounds

as well, where they must synthesize arguments on tight deadlines. The competition is divided into two age

- [Appeals court upholds acquittals of former officials accused of cover-up in 2020 NK border murder case](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

An appellate court on Tuesday upheld acquittals of a former senior presidential official and a former Coast Guard chief over an alleged cover-up of the 2020 murder of a South Korean fisheries official by North Korea. The Seoul High Court found former National Security Adviser Suh Hoon and former Coast Guard Commissioner General Kim Hong-hee not guilty on charges of drafting false public documents in connection with the alleged cover-up. In September 2020, the fisheries official, Lee Dae-jun, was fatally shot by North Korean troops near the de facto maritime border in the Yellow Sea after going missing while on board a fishery inspection ship. His body was later burned by North Korean soldiers. At the time, then President Moon Jae-in's administration said Lee had sought to defect to the North, but prosecutors have argued the announcement was driven by concerns the incident could worsen inter-Korean relations. In its ruling, the appellate court said that while the Moon administration's announcement contained "rash" or "definitive" language, it could not be seen as drafting or distributing

- [Korea's KF-21 fighter jet passes gov't-led flight safety evaluation](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

Korea's first homegrown KF-21 fighter jet has received a flight safety certification from the government, the state arms procurement agency said Tuesday. The KF-21 fighter jet earned the airworthiness certification on Monday, following the completion of a series of tests from April 2021 to 2026, according to the Defense Acquisition Program Administration (DAPA). A DAPA review committee approved that the aircraft had met all 745 requirements across 14 assessment areas, including electronic systems and aircraft structure. The decision comes after the fighter jet had passed a combat readiness evaluation in May. Korea plans to deliver 120 KF-21 jets by 2032, with 40 initially produced aircraft focused on air-to-air capabilities to be delivered by 2028, followed by 80 additional jets with air-to-ground and air-to-ship capabilities. It will deliver the first batch to the Air Force in the second half of this year, with additional units to be delivered in phases.

- [Rebuilding Korea Party elects new floor leader](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

Rep. Kim Joon-hyung of the Rebuilding Korea Party was elected floor leader of the minor political party Tuesday with unanimous support from all 12 lawmakers. Kim, the party's chief policymaker, was the only candidate in the election held during a general meeting of the party's lawmakers at the National Assembly. He previously headed the foreign ministry-affiliated Korea National Diplomatic Academy during the Moon Jae-in administration, before entering politics by winning a proportional National Assembly seat in the 2024 parliamentary elections. He also serves as a member of the parliamentary Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee. The minor party is set to hold a national convention next month to pick a new leader after former Justice Minister Cho Kuk, who founded and led the party, stepped down this month following the June

3 local elections. Cho failed to secure a seat in the Pyeongtaek-B constituency in Gyeonggi Province, where he ran in a parliamentary by-election held alongside the local elections. The minor party also failed to win any of the 16 key mayoral and gubernatorial posts

- [Lee welcomes US-Iran ceasefire deal, hopes for resumption of safe Hormuz shipping](#) (2026-06-16 06:02)

SEOUL/ROME — President Lee Jae Myung on Monday welcomed a ceasefire deal reached between the United States and Iran, expressing hope it will help restore regional stability and allow vessels transiting the Strait of Hormuz to resume safe operations. In a post on X, Lee described the agreement as "an important step" toward resolving a situation the international community has long sought to address and praised U.S. President Donald Trump's leadership, as well as the diplomatic efforts of the parties involved and other relevant countries. "Through this agreement, I look forward to the swift restoration of peace and stability in the Middle East, and the establishment of a foundation for the safety and prosperity of the people of the region," Lee said in the post written while visiting Italy, part of his first European tour since taking office in June last year. He also expressed hope that global energy supplies will stabilize and that all vessels, including Korean ships and sailors affected by navigation restrictions in the Strait of Hormuz, will be able to safely resume operations as so

- [10th Korean Refugee Film Festival returns with focus on refugee-led storytelling](#) (2026-06-16 00:02)

After a year's absence, the anticipated 10th edition of the Korea Refugee Film Festival (KOREFF) is back with four major films made in Korea and Europe. The festival, founded in 2015 to bring refugee stories to the Korean public through cinema, is also part of the 75th anniversary of the 1951 Refugee Convention this year. This year's festival will feature two film premieres: "Allies in Exile" by Syrian refugee filmmaker Hasan Kattan, and "A Lighter Between Invisible Bars" by Liam Han, a refugee from Myanmar living in Korea. The program is rounded out by two European productions, "Green Border" (2023) by Agnieszka Holland, and "Souleymane's Story" (2024) by Boris Lojkine. Over the past decade, the festival has provided a platform for filmmakers, activists, refugees and members of the public to explore the realities of forced displacement through culture and storytelling. Stefan Maier, deputy representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Korea, said the festival's central theme this year is "Festival of Refugees," or the idea that refuge

- [Lee vows to ensure proper overseas voting rights of Koreans abroad](#) (2026-06-15 18:02)

ROME — President Lee Jae Myung on Monday pledged efforts to ensure proper overseas voting rights for Koreans abroad, calling administrative issues in preventing such rights a "serious problem." The president made the remarks during a meeting in Rome with South Korean residents in Italy, part of his first European tour since taking office in June last year. "South Korean voters being unable to exercise their voting rights due to administrative issues ... constitutes a serious problem," Lee said. "I will work to resolve the problem as soon as

possible." The remarks came amid ongoing protests in South Korea demanding a rerun of the June 3 local elections after ballot paper shortages at some polling stations partially disrupted voting. The president emphasized South Korea's enhanced national stature, saying the country had transformed from once an imperial colony of Japan into a democracy respected around the world, while pledging support for the protection of South Koreans overseas.

- [From wild grasses to traditional crafts, Korean gardens trace deep roots of K-culture](#) (2026-06-15 18:02)

The letter “K” seems to be used everywhere these days for nearly anything Korean. Yet long before the Latin alphabet reached the Korean Peninsula, there were mountains and flowers and people who lived alongside them. That is why gardening, bringing together traditional culture and Korea’s natural landscape, is emerging as a new language of Koreanness. The theme for this year’s competitions, held as part of the Seoul International Garden Show, was “The Wave of Seoul.” The show, which opened May 1 and runs through Oct. 17, challenged participants to capture Seoul’s identity and cultural appeal through the language of gardens. Winners were selected in three categories: international, student and citizen. Although they each presented interpretations of their own, all the participants agreed that their inspiration came from Korea’s landscapes and traditional culture. Putting overlooked wild grasses center stage Gardening is increasingly becoming less confined to landscape specialists and more accessible as a hobby for ordinary citizens. The winners of the citizen category, Cho Ki

- [Korea weighs role in postwar Hormuz security initiatives](#) (2026-06-15 12:02)

With a tentative U.S.-Iran peace deal expected to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, the Korean government's attention is likely to shift to its potential role in postwar initiatives to restore freedom of navigation in the waterway, a key global trade route. While it has remained cautious about joining separate maritime security initiatives, one led by the U.S. and the other led by the U.K. and France, Korea may now accelerate discussions over its participation as tensions in the region are expected to be eased. President Lee Jae Myung, who will attend the G7 summit in France from Tuesday to Wednesday, is expected to discuss the issue with the leaders of participating countries. The Ministry of National Defense said Monday that it is reviewing ways to contribute to efforts aimed at ensuring freedom of navigation in the strait. “The government will determine specific options after comprehensively assessing local threats, deployment requirements and operational capabilities,” ministry spokesperson Chung Binna said during a briefing. She added that nothing has been decided regarding whether t

- [Inspection launched into teachers' training program related to China's Korean War propaganda](#) (2026-06-15 12:02)

The defense ministry said Monday it has launched an internal inspection into how the operator of South Korea's war memorial museum came to include a visit to a facility in China that promotes Chinese propaganda about the 1950-53 Korean War in an overseas training program for teachers. A news report said the Korea War Memorial Organization, which operates the War

Memorial of Korea, recently listed a memorial hall in Dandong, China, as part of the itinerary for teachers featuring historic sites related to anti-Japanese movements during Japan's 1910-45 colonial rule of Korea. The memorial hall in China offers public displays centered on the view that Chinese involvement in the war was an effort to assist North Korea in fighting U.S.-led Allied forces that backed the South. "An inspection is under way regarding the program in question, and we are looking into the exact accounts," ministry spokesperson Chung Binna told a press briefing when asked if the ministry views the program as appropriate. "Regardless of the reasoning, the defense ministry deems the itinerary a grave error in the first

- ['Teach You a Lesson' inspires real-life proposal to protect Korean teachers](#) (2026-06-15 12:02)

A think tank of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea proposed a dedicated agency to protect teachers from complaints and legal proceedings that currently burden them individually, modeled on a fictional body featured in the Netflix series "Teach You a Lesson." A policy suggestion from the Institute for Democracy proposed bringing to life the Korean Educational Rights Protection Bureau, a fictional squad in the drama deployed to salvage classrooms from unruly students and toxic parents, sometimes through vigilante violence. The proposal envisions it as an education activity protection bureau within the Ministry of Education, handling protective procedures, conflict mediation and shared accountability. "The buzz around the Netflix drama 'Teach You a Lesson' reflects how popular culture is capturing the anxiety felt on school grounds ... The fictional agency in the drama is a fantasy, but teachers having to personally bear complaints, reports, investigations and lawsuits is a very real problem," said Lee Gyeong-a, a research fellow at the institute. "The core is to prevent indivi

- [Seoul showcases its drinking water in Singapore](#) (2026-06-15 06:02)

Municipal governments have long struggled with a persistent, deeply psychological public relations hurdle: convincing urban residents that the water flowing from their kitchen taps is genuinely safe to drink. Seoul is taking its domestic solution to that problem onto the global stage, using a major international exposition here to market its "Arisu" brand tap water while scouting for artificial intelligence (AI) to manage its future infrastructure. The Seoul Metropolitan Government said Monday that it will anchor a prominent "Seoul Water" promotional pavilion at the Singapore International Water Week Water Expo, which runs Tuesday through Thursday at the Marina Bay Sands convention complex. The exhibition is among the most influential industry fixtures in Southeast Asia, expected to draw more than 1,100 companies and roughly 20,000 public and private sector participants from over 100 countries. For Seoul officials, the gathering offers a high-profile forum to elevate the international prestige of Arisu. Korea has spent years aggressively upgrading its treatment facilities and running p

- [Honoring doctor who led Korea's nurses to Germany](#) (2026-06-15 06:02)

In the mid-1960s, Korea was a nation reeling from the devastation of war, short on foreign currency and desperate for economic survival. Thousands of miles away, West Germany was experiencing its postwar *Wirtschaftswunder* (economic miracle), but faced a crippling shortage of medical labor. The man who bridged that gap was Lee Su-kil, a pediatrician whose structural legacy is being reexamined six decades later. The Overseas Koreans Agency on Monday named Lee (1928-2023) its "Overseas Korean of the Month" for June, marking the 60th anniversary of the historic migration he single-handedly orchestrated. While working at Mainz University Hospital in Germany in the early 1960s, Lee recognized an opportunity to simultaneously alleviate Germany's nursing shortage and provide economic relief to his homeland. In 1965, operating largely on his own initiative, he mailed letters to roughly 10 German hospitals to gauge their willingness to hire Korean staff, subsequently coordinating the logistics with the Korean government. His efforts bore fruit in 1966, when an initial cohort of 128 Korean nurses

- [Korea's media watchdog vows bold regulatory reforms](#) (2026-06-15 06:02)

The chief of Korea's media watchdog vowed to foster a healthy media environment through bold regulatory reforms during a press conference held Monday. "We plan to foster a healthy media environment through bold improvements of old and unreasonable regulations, such as those related to broadcast advertisements and broadcast programming," Kim Jong-cheol, the chairperson of the Korea Media and Communications Commission (KMCC), said at a press conference to mark his first six months in office. The media watchdog is also planning to push forward with the establishment of a media development committee tasked with improving policies related to the media industry, Kim said. Some of the agendas to be discussed at the public-private committee include the restructuring of the funding systems for broadcasting, media and telecommunications sectors, the media watchdog chief added. Kim mentioned that his organization is keeping a close watch on the local broadcaster JTBC after two companies related to the broadcaster filed for bankruptcy later last week. Regarding the progress on the enforcement of some

- [PM promises extraordinary financial support for companies moving to regional areas](#) (2026-06-15 06:02)

Prime Minister Kim Min-seok promised extraordinary financial support Monday to help facilitate corporate investment in regional areas as part of the government's push to create economic growth engines in non-metropolitan areas for balanced development. Kim made the remark during a meeting of the committee formed to promote balanced regional development, saying the government will mobilize all possible means to support corporate investment to create growth engines in eight regions, known as "five poles and three specials." The five poles refer to the capital area, the southeastern region, North Gyeongsang Province and Daegu, the central region and the southwestern region, while three specials refer to the three special autonomous provinces -- the island of Jeju, North Jeolla Province and Gangwon Province. "We will greatly expand support for research and development led by local regions while increasing investment in industrial startups," Kim said. "In order to support this, we're going to enact a

special law on mega special regions." Kim also promised dramatic improvement in education, cu

- [Protests over ballot shortages continue for 11th day](#) (2026-06-15 06:02)

Protests demanding a rerun of the June 3 local elections marred by ballot shortages continued for the eleventh day Monday, though the number of protesters sharply declined from the weekend. About 200 protesters were rallying around SK Olympic Handball Gymnasium in Seoul's southern ward of Songpa as of 10 a.m., according to an unofficial police estimate. As many as 20,000 people had gathered in the area over the weekend. Protesters began gathering at the stadium, which served as a ballot counting site, on June 5, days after ballot shortages at some polling stations, mostly in Seoul, disrupted voting during the local elections. According to the National Election Commission (NEC), voting was temporarily suspended at 26 polling stations across the nation, and some voters reportedly returned home without casting their votes due to the lack of ballot papers. While the NEC apologized for the debacle, it said the ballot shortages do not warrant a rerun under the election law. A joint team of police investigators and prosecutors have been investigating the NEC over the shortages. The protesters at

- [Prosecutors seek warrants for HD Hyundai Oilbank employees in fuel-price collusion probe](#) (2026-06-15 06:02)

Prosecutors are seeking arrest warrants for two employees of HD Hyundai Oilbank as part of an investigation into allegations that the country's four major refiners colluded to manipulate fuel prices, according to legal sources, Monday. The sources said the Seoul Central District Prosecutors' Office requested the warrants for two employees in the company's pricing division over allegations that the four refiners — SK Energy, GS Caltex, S-Oil and HD Hyundai Oilbank — coordinated in advance to raise or freeze prices of fuel and petroleum products sold in the domestic market. Prosecutors are expected to expand the investigation to other refiners once a court decides whether to approve the arrest warrants for the HD Hyundai Oilbank employees. The investigation centers on suspicions that the companies took advantage of heightened tensions in the Middle East to keep fuel prices at inflated levels. Prosecutors already searched the headquarters of the four refiners and the Korea Petroleum Association in March. The probe comes after President Lee Jae Myung called for a crackdown on illegal mark

- [Korea to offer express bus fare discounts to foreign tourists](#) (2026-06-15 06:02)

Korea's tourism agency said Monday it will offer discounts on express and intercity bus fares to foreign visitors to encourage travel beyond the capital region. The Korea Tourism Organization will provide a 5,000 won (\$3.3) discount per person to 8,000 foreign visitors who use express or intercity buses to travel to regional destinations, for a month starting Monday. The initiative, in partnership with travel platforms Klook and Go Hanpass, aims to improve access to regional transport and ease the concentration of foreign tourists in the Seoul metropolitan area, officials said. Go Hanpass will offer additional discount coupons to bus users, while Klook will provide free eSIM services to improve convenience for travelers. "We will continue public-private

partnership promotions so that inbound visitors can experience the diverse attractions of regional areas by using local transport networks such as buses and railways," the agency said in a release.

- [Ex-JCS chief attends arrest warrant hearing over alleged martial law role](#) (2026-06-15 06:02)

A former head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff appeared before a court Monday to attend his arrest warrant hearing over his alleged involvement in former President Yoon Suk Yeol's failed martial law bid. Kim Myung-soo is accused of having played a key role in an insurrection during Yoon's martial law declaration on Dec. 3, 2024, when he served as the nation's highest-ranking military officer. Special counsel Kwon Chang-young's team has alleged Kim stood by as martial law troops were deployed to the National Assembly at the time and he took part in the establishment of a martial law command. The Seoul Central District Court will review the need to issue a warrant for Kim's arrest after hearing arguments from both sides. A decision on his arrest could be made as early as later in the day. Kwon's team believes Kim had been aware of the illegal nature of Yoon's martial law bid and the deployment of troops at the time, arguing that he did not take appropriate measures as the nation's top military officer. Kim's side has rejected the allegations, claiming then Defense Minister Kim Yong-hyun took ov

- [Korea to run promotion booth at int'l defense exhibition in Paris this week](#) (2026-06-15 06:02)

Korea will participate in a large-scale international defense and security exhibition in Paris this week to promote exports of homegrown arms products, the state arms procurement agency said Monday. Eurosatory 2026, slated to run from Tuesday to Friday in France, will be attended by the Defense Acquisition Program Administration (DAPA), its affiliate research institute and the Korea Defense Industry Association. The biennial event is the world's largest land arms exhibition, attended by some 2,000 companies and bringing together a delegation from over 90 countries and 76,000 visitors. This year, the Korean booth will showcase real-life arms products from 12 small and medium-sized companies for potential overseas buyers. Separately, 21 Korean defense firms, including Hanwha Aerospace and LIG Defense & Aerospace, along with defense component manufacturers, will display a range of weapons systems near the main booth. During the exhibition, DAPA is also expected to arrange a "Korea Day" event featuring quizzes on weapons systems to lure participation. DAPA said it will continue to support the

- [Indie music festival answers Busan's calling](#) (2026-06-15 00:02)

Five music venues across Busan will unite this weekend, hosting over 30 live music acts for the first ever Busan Calling Music Festival on Friday and Saturday. Although in its first year, this festival is actually a rebrand of last year's Debaser Fest, run by Jamie Finn, editor of Debaser Magazine. "I was never super keen on the name Debaser Fest. It was a decision made with deadlines approaching. So, to keep things simple, I named it after the mag," Finn admitted. "We've called it Busan Calling to reflect the aims of the fest, which is to build a bridge between the really underrated Busan music community with other musical places." Finn has been heavily

active for years supporting the local music scene across Korea, publishing his own magazine, running a massive English-language Kakao group chat and organizing music festivals. As well as Busan Calling and Debaser Fest, he's also been running Block Party, a similar multi-venue event in Seoul, for the last four years. Finn added that planning has already begun for Block Party's return to central Seoul's Haebangchon and Gyeongnidan in September.

- [Should chip tax bonanza be shared with workers, society?](#) (2026-06-15 00:02)

Korea's debate over how to share the spoils of a historic semiconductor boom is intensifying, with the government claiming the need for a new mechanism to share unexpected gains from chipmakers — including tax revenues and excess profits — even as business and labor clash over how far the state should reach into corporate earnings. Several top policymakers, including President Lee Jae Myung himself, have recently suggested a national-level — or even international — debate on how to use excess corporate gains, as part of efforts to narrow the pay gap between large and small firms. At the International Labour Organization conference in Geneva last Wednesday, Labor Minister Kim Young-hoon said that gains from the chip boom driven by artificial intelligence (AI) demand should serve as many as possible. “The benefits of AI should not be concentrated only in a few countries and companies, but should also translate into new opportunities for all nations and workers,” he said. Those gains are the result of a semiconductor boom that has sent profits soaring at Samsung Electronics and

Source: The Korea Herald

- ['Tail wagging the dog': FSS chief warns on leveraged ETF boom](#) (2026-06-22 06:01)

Financial Supervisory Service Gov. Lee Chan-jin signaled possible regulatory measures on single-stock leveraged exchange-traded funds Monday, saying the products have delivered limited benefits while exposing retail investors to growing risks. "The effect has been minimal, but the side effects have become too significant," Lee said during a media briefing at the FSS headquarters in Seoul. Single-stock leveraged ETFs tied to Samsung Electronics and SK hynix were introduced last month to encourage

- [South Korea turns to AI as personnel shortage strains military medical system](#) (2026-06-22 05:59)

South Korea's military has begun work on a plan to incorporate artificial intelligence into its medical system, as a sharp decline in military doctors raises concerns over the sustainability of its professional personnel-driven healthcare structure. According to military officials Monday, the Armed Forces Medical Command recently commissioned a policy research project to draw up a long-term development plan for AI-based military medicine. The move comes as the military faces growing pressure to

- [Craftsmanship, elegance of Thai masterpieces on show at National Museum of Korea](#) (2026-06-22 05:53)

A Buddha stands upon a lotus pedestal, stepping forward with the left foot while the right heel is slightly raised. His left hand is lifted near the chest with the palm facing forward. The bronze sculpture from the 14th century in Thailand is named “pang-li-la,” meaning graceful posture. " If I had to pick one work in the exhibition that captures Thailand's unique artistic identity, it is the ‘Walking Buddha.’ For Koreans, it may be comparable to the iconic Pensive Bodhisattva shown at the ‘room

- [Starbucks closes all stores early](#) (2026-06-22 05:50)

Starbucks Korea will close all of its stores early on Monday to conduct history training for employees following backlash over its "Tank Day" promotion in May. All 2,160 stores were due to close at 3 p.m., marking the first nationwide early closure since Starbucks opened its first outlet in 1999. Employees are to participate in the training by watching prerecorded lectures at their respective stores. The program is designed to strengthen historical awareness and social sensitivity. Two professor

- [Seoul says North Korea’s MDL fortification violates 1953 armistice](#) (2026-06-22 05:50)

South Korea’s Ministry of National Defense on Monday said North Korea’s recent installation of barriers near the Military Demarcation Line constitutes a violation of the armistice agreement. The remarks followed reports that North Korean troops had been installing fences close to the MDL, the de facto border that has separated the two Koreas since the 1953 armistice suspended active hostilities in the Korean War. “The North Korean military’s installation of obstacles near the MDL is a clear viol

- [Kang Min-ji ties for fifth at Meijer LPGA Classic](#) (2026-06-22 05:44)

Kang Min-ji recorded her best finish of the season at the Meijer LPGA Classic on Sunday. Kang fired a 6-under 66 in the final round of the tournament at Blythefield Country Club in Belmont, Michigan, carding one eagle, five birdies and one bogey. She finished tied for fifth at 14-under 274 alongside Cassie Porter. The result marked Kang's best performance of the 2026 LPGA Tour season. Her previous best finish was a tie for ninth at the Riviera Maya Open in April. Japan's Miyu Yamashita claimed t

- [SK hynix seeks AI premium with Nasdaq listing](#) (2026-06-22 05:32)

SK hynix could float shares on the Nasdaq as soon as August, a move that would rank among the largest US listings in years and put one of the most important names in the artificial intelligence supply chain in front of American investors for the first time. The South Korean chipmaker, the main supplier of high-bandwidth memory to Nvidia, filed confidentially with the US Securities and Exchange Commission in March and has lined up Citigroup, JPMorgan, Goldman Sachs and Bank of America to manage t

- [AI boom lifts SK hynix above Samsung in market value](#) (2026-06-22 05:26)

SK hynix briefly overtook Samsung Electronics as South Korea's most valuable listed company in intraday trading Monday, challenging Samsung's long-held dominance of the stock market for the first time in nearly 26 years. Shares of SK hynix rose as much as 6.5 percent to a record 2.95 million won (\$1,900), lifting its market capitalization to 208.1 trillion won. That surpassed Samsung Electronics' market value of 207.3 trillion won by about 8.6 trillion won at the session high. As of 1 p.m., SK h

- [Police who fled stabbing scene ordered to pay victims](#) (2026-06-22 05:23)

Two former police officers who fled the scene of a 2021 knife attack in Incheon have been ordered to pay compensation, along with the state, to the victim's family over their botched response. The Incheon District Court recently ruled partially in favor of the family of a woman injured in the attack in a civil damages suit filed against the state. The court ordered the dismissed officers and the government to pay about 350 million won (\$228,000) in compensation. The family had sought more than 2

- [Song drives in run, Lee and Kim held hitless](#) (2026-06-22 05:22)

Song Seong-mun delivered a hit and an RBI in a rare starting appearance, but fellow South Korean major leaguers Lee Jung-hoo and Kim Ha-seong were held quiet at the plate. Song went 1-for-4 with an RBI double during the San Diego Padres' road game against the Texas Rangers on Sunday at Globe Life Field in Arlington, Texas. The double marked Song's second two-base hit since reaching MLB, while his fifth RBI of the season lifted his batting average to .200 (10-for-50). Starting at second base and

- [2 South Korean-linked vessels clear Strait of Hormuz after US-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-22 05:20)

Two vessels operated by South Korean shipping companies have safely exited the Strait of Hormuz, becoming the first South Korean-linked ships to pass through since Washington and Tehran agreed to reopen it last week, Seoul said Monday. The Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries said the vessels that had been waiting near the strait successfully made their way through it and are now continuing their course. However, they have yet to fully clear the surrounding area, which is still considered high-risk.

- [Lee says politics is about responsibility, not power](#) (2026-06-22 05:09)

Politics is about taking responsibility for the nation, not about seizing power, President Lee Jae Myung wrote on his X account Monday, in an apparent continuation of his criticism of conflict within and among political parties. “The purpose of politics goes beyond merely taking power. It is to take responsibility for the fate of the nation and the lives of 50 million citizens,” Lee wrote. “The position held by a person in power is not something to take as an opportunity for happiness, but an en

- [Court backs firing of Coast Guard officer who abused infant son: report](#) (2026-06-22 05:06)

A court has rejected the request of a former Korea Coast Guard officer who was seeking to overturn his dismissal after he was convicted of child abuse. According to local daily Herald Business on Monday, an appellate court on June 6 upheld a lower court ruling that found the dismissal was justified. The plaintiff has decided not to appeal, making the ruling final. The Busan District Court last month dismissed the plaintiff's request, saying his crime and the resulting media coverage had seriousl

- [S. Korea slams N. Korea's expanded border fencing as armistice agreement violation](#) (2026-06-22 04:57)

The South Korean military on Monday denounced North Korea's intensified border fencing as a violation of the armistice agreement that halted the 1950-53 Korean War, following a report that the fences have been built very close to the inter-Korean border. The JoongAng Ilbo reported that the North has installed barbed wire fences just 80-90 meters from the Military Demarcation Line separating the two Koreas, clearing land to plant mines as close as 5-10 meters to the MDL, citing military sources a

- [Foreign shoppers increasingly planning Korea trips around Olive Young sales](#) (2026-06-22 04:54)

The number of foreign tourists who returned to Korea for Olive Young's sale season in both its March and June rounds this year was 11 times higher than three years ago, retailer CJ Olive Young said Monday. The company based the figure on an analysis of foreign customer data conducted with Global Tax Free, Korea's largest tax refund operator. Foreign visitors who come to Korea two or more times a year to coincide with the sales have grown roughly twofold annually on average since 2023, according

- [Seoul offers AI-assisted career counseling for migrant-background students](#) (2026-06-22 04:53)

Migrant-background students in Seoul will be offered customized career and college admissions counseling from the Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education starting this summer. Officials will visit schools with large migrant student populations and use artificial intelligence-based interpretation to support consultations. According to the Seoul education office, the city has seen a steady rise in the number of students with multicultural backgrounds, increasing demand for customized counseling and

- [DNA, RNA blood test may help detect Alzheimer's earlier: study](#) (2026-06-22 04:52)

A blood test that looks at both DNA and RNA information may help identify Alzheimer's disease patients more accurately, according to a study led by researchers from Seoul National University Bundang Hospital and Indiana University. The researchers sought to develop a more practical way to screen people at high risk of Alzheimer's disease, the most common cause of dementia. Current precision tests, such as positron emission tomography scans and cerebrospinal fluid tests, can be costly or invasive

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] Uzbekistan looks to Korea for airport city, data center development](#) (2026-06-22 04:49)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — Uzbekistan's Deputy Prime Minister Jamshid Khodjaev and Jung Won-ju, chairman of Herald Media Group, Jungheung Group and Daewoo Engineering & Construction, discussed potential cooperation on data centers near the planned Tashkent Airport and set up a possible project agenda ahead of the Korea-Central Asia summit in Seoul in September. During a meeting in Tashkent on June 17, Khodjaev proposed that Daewoo E&C review ways to develop data centers within the airport-linked urb

- [Seo Chae-hyun wins bronze at IFSC Innsbruck event](#) (2026-06-22 04:42)

South Korea's leading women's sport climber Seo Chae-hyun captured a bronze medal in the women's lead event at the sixth stop of the 2026 IFSC World Climbing Series. Competing in Innsbruck, Austria, on Sunday, Seo posted a score of 36+ in the women's lead final to finish third behind Janja Garnbret, who won gold with 44 points, and Annie Sanders, who claimed silver with 38+. The result marked Seo's third consecutive podium finish in lead competition this season, having reached the podium at all

- [Lovebugs are back in Seoul](#) (2026-06-22 04:33)

“A lovebug flew into my house yesterday, and I completely panicked. I guess it's that time of year again,” said Park Jin-ju, who lives in Gwangjin-gu, Seoul, on Sunday. Park is right. It's that time of year when lovebugs, also called *Plecia nearctica*, reach maturity in large numbers and start showing up all over Seoul and nearby areas. On Monday, people shared reports of lovebug sightings on social media and online communities in Seoul, Incheon and Gyeonggi Province.

“They were clinging to my cl

- [What to know before Korea' s last group stage match against South Africa](#) (2026-06-22 04:32)

South Korea will take the field against South Africa on Wednesday (Thursday morning Korean time) with hopes of advancing to the round of 32 at the World Cup. With one win and one defeat from their opening two matches, the Taegeuk Warriors need only to avoid a defeat to book their spot in the knockout stage without relying on other results. The odds appear to be in their favor. Opta Football Predictions on Monday gave Korea a 91.22 percent chance of reaching the World Cup round of 32. (see relate

- [SK hynix beats Samsung Electronics in market cap](#) (2026-06-22 04:24)

SK hynix has surpassed Samsung Electronics in terms of market capitalization for the first time, the bourse operator said Monday. The market capitalization of SK hynix reached 2,091 trillion won (\$1,358 billion) at 12:42 p.m., surpassing Samsung Electronics' 2,090 trillion won, according to the Korea Exchange. It marked the first time that Samsung Electronics has given up its throne on the benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index since steadfastly remaining at the top

since 2000. It first ran

- [Where are Seoul's most Instagrammable outdoor pools this summer?](#) (2026-06-22 04:24)

As the capital heats up, several of Seoul's luxury hotels have opened or are preparing to open their outdoor pools. Each offers its own version of a summer escape without leaving the city, and each comes with a backdrop worth a photo or two. Mondrian Seoul Itaewon The Altitude Pool & Lounge at Mondrian Seoul Itaewon, the five-star lifestyle hotel in Yongsan-gu, returns as one of the city's most photographed summer spots. Pink tiles, sky-blue sunbeds and a blue-and-white striped awning give the p

- [Defense minister faces growing backlash over military reform plans](#) (2026-06-22 04:21)

South Korea's defense minister is facing mounting criticism that his military reform plans are more focused on settling political scores than pursuing structural reform. According to the National Assembly's public petition system, a petition calling for the impeachment of Defense Minister Ahn Gyu-back had drawn more than 92,000 signatures as of Monday, just four days after it was posted on June 18. Under the Assembly's petition rules, a public petition that receives at least 50,000 signatures wi

- [Trump-backed candidate wins razor-tight Colombia presidential election](#) (2026-06-22 04:09)

A flamboyant US-backed lawyer who has never held public office narrowly won Colombia's presidential runoff Sunday, swinging the country hard right with a promise to wage war against drug-running guerrilla groups. With almost all polling centers reporting, Abelardo de la Espriella won 49.66 percent of the vote versus left-wing Sen. Ivan Cepeda's 48.70 percent. The 47-year-old's victory is set to improve strained relations with Washington and extends a wave of rightist candidates who have swept to

- [GS E&C, I Squared Capital target 1.5GW renewable energy portfolio by 2035](#) (2026-06-22 04:06)

GS E&C said Monday it signed a memorandum of understanding with global infrastructure investment firm I Squared Capital to establish a joint venture focused on renewable energy projects in South Korea. Under the agreement, the two companies aim to secure 1.5 gigawatts of energy transition assets by 2035, targeting solar power generation and battery energy storage system projects. Founded in 2012, I Squared Capital manages approximately \$60 billion in assets and has invested in renewable energy p

- [Woori chief pitches growth strategy in Japan, Taiwan](#) (2026-06-22 04:06)

Woori Financial Group said Monday that Chairman Yim Jong-yong will visit Japan and Taiwan this week for an investor-relations campaign to expand its global shareholder base and highlight the group's growth strategy and shareholder return policy. During the four-day trip through Thursday, Yim will hold one-on-one meetings with major institutional investors,

outlining Woori Financial's mid- to long-term growth plans, capital policy and efforts to enhance corporate value. The chairman is expected t

- [When G-Dragon meets 'Toy Story'](#) (2026-06-22 03:01)

The Walt Disney Company Korea is launching a collaborative collection inspired by the beloved "Toy Story" franchise in partnership with G-Dragon's fashion label, Peaceminusone. "The First Fan" collection is built around the idea that toys were the earliest companions and supporters of G-Dragon's journey toward his dreams. "The collaboration blends Peaceminusone's distinctive design language with the themes that 'Toy Story' has championed for decades — imagination, the special bond between toys a

- [Ethiopia's ruling party retains parliamentary majority in election marred by insecurity](#) (2026-06-22 02:54)

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) — Ethiopia's ruling party has maintained an overwhelming majority in parliament following the June 1 election, according to final results on Sunday. Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's Prosperity Party won 438 seats out of 501 in the House of Representatives, the National Election Board of Ethiopia said. The new parliament is expected to convene in October to reelect Abiy for another five-year term. The election was marred by a crackdown on dissent. Insecurity in the Oromia an

- [Seoul, Beijing to hold 15th round of FTA follow-up talks on services](#) (2026-06-22 02:54)

South Korea and China kicked off a new round of follow-up negotiations on services and investment under their bilateral free trade agreement, Seoul's trade ministry said Monday. Trade delegations from the two sides will hold the 15th round of follow-up negotiations throughout this week in Beijing from Monday to Friday, according to the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources. Seoul and Beijing implemented their bilateral FTA in December 2015, eliminating tariffs on a wide range of products. Th

- [Illit claims more trophies with 'It's Me'](#) (2026-06-22 02:53)

Illit came in first place yet again on a television music chart show with "It's Me," despite wrapping up promotions for the single last month, said agency Belift Lab. The group has received four music show trophies over three consecutive weeks, thanks to the single and title track from its fourth EP, "Mamihlapinatapai." The single peaked at No. 32 on Billboard's Global 200 and No. 67 on Global excl. US, while the mini album hit Billboard 200 at No. 26, a career-best for the fivesome. Illit perfo

- [Europe sweats through heat, worse to come](#) (2026-06-22 02:51)

France banned alcohol in red-alert areas Sunday, Spain and Germany canceled or postponed sports events and Britain warned of "tropical nights" as Europe sweltered through a heatwave threatening to break June temperature records. Less than a month after a May heat wave that set records in several European countries, the continent is facing a new bout of extreme

weather, with temperatures set to rise even further in coming days. Scientists have shown that recurring heat waves are a clear marker of

- [Shincheonji leader sought for arrest over alleged party sign-up pressure](#) (2026-06-22 02:46)

South Korean investigators sought an arrest warrant for Lee Man-hee, the leader of the Shincheonji Church of Jesus, in a probe into allegations that the religious group forced followers to join a political party. The request brings the investigation to the top of one of South Korea's most controversial religious groups, accused of mobilizing believers to influence internal contests of the conservative People Power Party. According to investigators, the joint team of prosecutors and police filed

- [LG Energy showcases AI data center power solutions in Europe](#) (2026-06-22 02:41)

LG Energy Solution will showcase its battery-powered solutions for AI data centers at Electrical Energy Storage Europe 2026, highlighting its European manufacturing footprint and compliance capabilities as demand for AI infrastructure accelerates. The exhibition, which runs from June 23-25 at Messe Munich in Germany, is being held under the theme "Powering the Future of AI," reflecting growing interest in stable power infrastructure to support AI-driven growth. At the event, LG Energy Solution w

- [Ex-defense minister booked over alleged attempt to provoke N. Korea for martial law bid](#) (2026-06-22 02:40)

A special counsel team has booked former Defense Minister Kim Yong-hyun on suspicion of attempting to use a military intelligence unit to create a pretext for former President Yoon Suk Yeol's martial law bid, legal sources said Monday. Special counsel Kwon Chang-young has been investigating allegations that the Defense Intelligence Command attempted to push for operations against North Korea to foment inter-Korean tensions and establish a justification for Yoon to declare martial law in December

- [LG OLEDs certified for real-world image accuracy](#) (2026-06-22 02:40)

LG Display said Monday its full lineup of large OLED panels for TVs and monitors has received Intertek certification for color and brightness accuracy under everyday lighting conditions, marking the first such recognition for OLED products. The certification, formally called Perfect Color and Brightness Accuracy up to 500 lux, measures how closely a display reproduces the color and brightness intended by content creators in a typical viewing environment. Instead of conventional picture-quality t

- [Middle school girl critically injured after rooftop jump attempt](#) (2026-06-22 02:37)

A middle school student was critically injured Sunday during an attempt to jump from the roof of a six-story residential building to a neighboring building in Siheung, Gyeonggi Province, local media reported Monday. The accident occurred at around 5:45 p.m. on Sunday in Dochang-dong, Siheung, while the student was playing with her friends. Authorities did not

disclose the distance between the buildings, though residential buildings in the area are known to stand close together with narrow gaps.

- [Budget minister discusses policy direction with experts amid sharp tax gains](#) (2026-06-22 02:29)

South Korea's budget minister on Monday discussed fiscal policy directions with experts amid the country's robust tax revenue growth driven by the artificial intelligence boom. Budget Minister Park Hong-keun met with fiscal experts from academia as the country has seen a sharp increase in tax revenue from technology companies. Tax revenue reached 164.1 trillion won (\$106 billion) in the January-April period, up 21.9 trillion won from a year earlier. "While the South Korean economy is maintaining

- [Twice's 'Cheer Up' music video garners 600m views](#) (2026-06-22 02:27)

Twice generated 600 million plays on YouTube with the music video for "Cheer Up," said label JYP Entertainment on Monday. It is the group's fifth video to exceed the mark, after "TT," "What is Love?," "Likey" and "Fancy." "Cheer Up" is a pop dance tune that fronted the nine-member act's second EP "Page Two," which was released in 2016. The mini album sold close to 180,000 copies by the end of the year, making Twice the first K-pop girl group that debuted after 2010 to sell over 100,000 units. Se

- [GS E&C; I Squared Capital to team up for renewable energy projects](#) (2026-06-22 02:05)

GS Engineering & Construction said Monday it will partner with US-based infrastructure investment firm I Squared Capital to develop renewable energy and battery energy storage systems in South Korea. The South Korean builder signed a memorandum of understanding with I Squared Capital to establish a joint venture focused on solar power and energy storage projects. Through the joint venture, the two companies aim to develop and secure a total of 1.5 gigawatts of energy-transition assets by 2035, i

- [BTS returns to top 10 on Billboard 200](#) (2026-06-22 02:04)

BTS' fifth full-length album climbed back up to No. 10 on the Billboard 200, according to the chart preview published Sunday in the US. The LP "Arirang" had fallen to No. 11 last week but inched back up a rung, charting 11 weeks among the top ten in the 13th week on the main albums ranking. Meanwhile, the group's new single "Come Over" debuted at No. 52 on the UK Official Singles Top 100, at No. 20 on Spotify's Weekly Top Songs Global, and at No. 1 on Oricon's Weekly Digital Single Ranking. BTS

- [Negative views of Lee overtake positive for first time: poll](#) (2026-06-22 02:04)

President Lee Jae Myung's approval rating dropped for the fifth consecutive week, with negative views of Lee surpassing positive views for the first time since he took office, according to a poll released Monday. The survey by local pollster Realmeter found that 46.7 percent of respondents approved of Lee's job performance, down 4.8 percentage points from the

previous week. Monday marked the first time his approval rating has fallen below the 50 percent threshold since he assumed office on June

- [S. Koreans travel to site of Group A finale](#) (2026-06-22 02:00)

South Korea arrived at the site of their final group stage match of the ongoing FIFA World Cup in northeastern Mexico on Sunday. South Korean players and their staff checked into their hotel in Monterrey, greeted by dozens of fans at the entrance. Fans yelled players' names as they entered the hotel, with captain Son Heung-min drawing the loudest cheers. The Taeguk Warriors had been training near Guadalajara, south of Monterrey, for the past two-plus weeks, as they played their first two Group

- [Dance like a K-pop trainee](#) (2026-06-22 01:55)

Seoul residents can join a free K-pop dance class at the Seoul Foreign Resident Center in Yeongdeungpo-gu. The class is open to adult Korean and foreign residents living in Seoul. It will run from July 2 to Aug. 13, with 13 sessions held every Tuesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon. Participants should bring clean-soled sneakers and a water bottle. The class will be conducted in Korean. Applications are accepted by phone inquiry, followed by an in-person visit to the center. Applicants should

- [Level up your Korean small talk](#) (2026-06-22 01:54)

Foreign residents and international students in Seoul can sign up for a free Korean conversation class at Yeonnam Global Village Center. The 10-week program will run from July 6 to Sept. 12. Classes will be held in person at the center's classroom. The program offers beginner, intermediate and advanced classes. Intermediate and advanced classes meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays, while the beginner class meets on Saturdays. Applications are open online through July 3. Selected applicants will receive

- [N. Korea blames US, West for 'revival of Nazism,' defends Russia over Ukraine war](#) (2026-06-22 01:44)

North Korea condemned the United States and other Western countries Monday, accusing them of fueling concerns over the revival of Nazism, on the anniversary of Nazi Germany's invasion of the Soviet Union. In an article carried by the Korean Central News Agency, the North claimed that "modern-day Nazi forces" have reemerged, heightening global concern over what it described as a challenge to the future of humanity. "The danger of neo-Nazism is being highlighted more seriously through the current

- [Stray Kids to drop single ahead of August return](#) (2026-06-22 01:33)

Stray Kids will release a digital single on Wednesday, giving fans a taste of the group's upcoming album, label JYP Entertainment announced Monday. "Run It" is part of "This & That" — likely the group's tenth EP — set for release on Aug. 7. The album will comprise eight tracks and follows Stray Kids' mixtape "Do It," released in November. "Do It" hit atop the Billboard

200 chart as its eighth release to do so, and sold over 2.2 million copies in the first week. The group also confirmed that it w

- [Exports up 60% in first 20 days of June on robust chip sales](#) (2026-06-22 01:28)

South Korea's exports jumped 60.4 percent from a year earlier in the first 20 days of June, data showed Monday, setting a new fresh high for the period amid robust shipments of semiconductors. Outbound shipments reached \$62 billion in the June 1-20 period, compared with \$38.6 billion tallied in the same period last year, according to the data from the Korea Customs Service. It marked the highest 20-day figure on record, surpassing the previous high of \$54.3 billion posted in March this year. Imp

- [Uzbekistan unveils six-point plan for foreign investment](#) (2026-06-22 01:26)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev unveiled a six-point investment agenda at Tashkent International Investment Forum that includes a financial center based on English common law, an international commercial court and incentives for artificial intelligence projects, as Uzbekistan seeks to attract more foreign capital. The three-day forum, regarded as Central Asia's largest investment gathering, was held from June 16, attracting more than 8,000 participants from 99 countries

- [PM nominee apologizes for information leak from 'Startup for All' website](#) (2026-06-22 01:16)

Prime Minister nominee Han Seong-sook apologized Monday over a recent information leak from the government's website for an audition-style startup incubation program. An artificial intelligence solution firm serving as a project partner was found to have exploited a security loophole in the website for the "Startup for All" project and collected the emails, summarized startup ideas and judge reviews of 5,000 people that passed the first round of the audition. The leak came to light after the com

- [Iran draw strength from adversity after holding Belgium to draw](#) (2026-06-21 23:22)

Iran's players said adversity has forged a stronger sense of unity in the squad after they held heavily favoured Belgium to a 0-0 draw in their Group G World Cup match on Sunday, giving them a chance to reach the knockout stage for the first time. The result was another display of resilience from a team whose tournament has unfolded under extraordinary circumstances. Due to measures imposed by the American government, the Team Melli squad have been forced to stay outside the US between matche

- [Trump threatens new attacks as US-Iran peace talks open in Switzerland](#) (2026-06-21 23:14)

US President Donald Trump threatened to restart war with Iran on Sunday even as Vice President JD Vance met Iranian officials for the first talks under an interim peace deal that was overshadowed by Tehran's announcement it had again closed the Strait of Hormuz. The talks in

the Qatari-owned Swiss mountaintop resort of Buergenstock were the first to be held under the terms of a memorandum of understanding reached between the two enemies last week to end their war, extending a tenuous ceasefire

- [Heo Nam-jun's breakout moment: How 'My Royal Nemesis' changed everything](#) (2026-06-21 22:00)

For years, Heo Nam-jun was a familiar face in supporting roles. Now, he finds himself at the center of one of Korea's streaming hits. The actor recently wrapped "My Royal Nemesis," a fantasy romantic comedy that climbed to No. 2 on Netflix's weekly non-English TV chart during the June 8-14 tracking period. Heo stars as Cha Se-gye, a chaebol heir whose cool exterior begins to crack after he meets a Joseon-era woman, played by Lim Ji-yeon, who has inexplicably time-slipped into modern-day Seoul. S

- [\[Yoo Choon-sik\] AI is no cure-all for Korea's economy](#) (2026-06-21 20:30)

It has been more than three years since the use of generative artificial intelligence tools such as ChatGPT became widespread in everyday life, and they have already become indispensable for many workers. Using artificial intelligence to draft reports or analyze complex data is no longer uncommon. According to a Bank of Korea report published earlier this month, 51.8 percent of workers in South Korea were using generative AI for their jobs as of 2025. While the pace of adoption is eight times as

- [\[Man-ki Kim\] Foster dual-use defense tech](#) (2026-06-21 20:30)

For much of the 20th century, defense technology was developed within a closed military-industrial system. Governments set requirements, contractors built platforms and civilian industries later benefited from spillover effects. That world is changing. Today, technologies first developed or scaled in the civilian economy — artificial intelligence, semiconductors, robotics, batteries, cloud computing, autonomous systems, synthetic-aperture radar satellites and commercial drones — are central to m

- [How AI is rewriting future of project management](#) (2026-06-21 15:00)

HanmiGlobal, South Korea's leading construction project management company, marked its 30th anniversary Friday by convening global industry leaders to discuss how artificial intelligence will transform project management and the construction sector. The 2026 Global PM Summit, held at the Posco Center Art Hall in Seoul under the theme "Rewriting the Future of Global PM in the AI Era," focused on how emerging technologies can address mounting challenges facing the industry, including stagnant prod

- [\(Uzbekistan Forum\) Uzbek textile industry presents major opportunities for Korea](#) (2026-06-21 10:50)

TASHKENT — Uzbekistan's textile and apparel industry has grown into a major pillar of the country's economy, one that presents major opportunities for Korean manufacturers and

retailers, Uzbek officials said at the Korea-Uzbekistan Business Forum on Tuesday. Ruhullo Zikrilayev, deputy director of the Agency for the Development of Light Industry of Uzbekistan, said the sector has become “one of the key pillars” of the national economy. More than 10,000 enterprises operate in Uzbekistan’s light in

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] KoCham Uzbekistan to launch at Korea-Central Asia Summit](#) (2026-06-21 10:45)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — Plans to launch a Korea Chamber of Commerce branch in Uzbekistan were unveiled Tuesday at the Uzbekistan-Korea Business Forum in Tashkent. The body, set to open during the Korea-Central Asia Summit in September, will be the first Korean Chamber of Commerce in Uzbekistan. "Economic cooperation between Korea and Uzbekistan has expanded rapidly across many sectors," said Yoo Bo-young, an executive member for KoCham Uzbekistan and executive director of Dasan D&C. The associati

- [LG executives to meet Nvidia officials in US for AI, robotics talks](#) (2026-06-21 10:44)

Senior executives from LG Group will visit Nvidia’s headquarters in California this week for talks on physical AI and robotics, in a follow-up to a recent meeting between LG Chairman Koo Kwang-mo and Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang. Industry sources said Sunday that executives from LG’s major affiliates are scheduled to meet Nvidia officials on Monday at the US chipmaker’s headquarters in Santa Clara, California. The LG delegation will include LG CNS CEO Hyun Shin-gyoon, LG Sciencepark President Chung S

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] Lee highlights Korea, Uzbekistan strengths, calls for closer cooperation](#) (2026-06-21 10:40)

South Korea and Uzbekistan can turn crisis into opportunity and achieve great advancements if the two countries cooperate and combine their strengths, President Lee Jae Myung said in congratulatory remarks for the Uzbekistan-Korea Business Forum held in Tashkent on Tuesday. “I sincerely congratulate you on the Korea-Uzbekistan Business Forum. I would like to express my deep gratitude to everyone at Herald Media Group who prepared this meaningful event, as well as to officials from the Government

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] Korea is a vital partner in modernizing Uzbek transport infrastructure: Deputy minister](#) (2026-06-21 10:32)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — Korea has become one of Uzbekistan's most important partners in modernizing transport infrastructure, Deputy Minister of Transport of Uzbekistan Ilhomjon Abdugafarov said at Tuesday’s Korea-Uzbekistan Business Forum held in Tashkent. "The Republic of Korea is one of Uzbekistan's most important and reliable partners in implementing modern infrastructure projects, introducing advanced technologies, and developing the aviation, railway transport and logistics sectors," Abduga

- [Secret bets on nostalgia, reinvention in comeback](#) (2026-06-21 10:30)

Former hit girl group Secret is embarking on a new chapter, returning with its first new music for the first time in 12 years and introducing a new member in place of two original members. The comeback has drawn attention not only because of the group's lengthy hiatus, but also because it reflects a growing trend in K-pop. As the cost of launching rookie groups continues to rise, more companies are finding value in reviving familiar brands. "Secret Flavor," released Thursday, marks Secret's first

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] Uzbekistan envisions a new future through ‘New Tashkent’ project](#) (2026-06-21 10:29)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — Uzbekistan's "New Tashkent" project presents opportunities for South Korean investors and companies through the transformation of the country's capital, Uzbek officials highlight. Speaking at the Korea-Uzbekistan Business Forum in Tashkent on Tuesday, Sharaf Radjabov, deputy director of the New Tashkent City Development Project, introduced New Tashkent as "one of the most ambitious urban development projects in the history of Uzbekistan." The project forms part of Uzbek Pre

- [It's splash o'clock along the Han River](#) (2026-06-21 09:03)

Six swimming pools and water playgrounds across Seoul's Hangang parks — Yeouido, Ttukseom, Jamsil, Gwangnaru, Nanji and Yanghwa — reopened on June 19, transforming parts of the Han River into the city's seasonal cooling zone. The facilities will operate through Aug. 30, offering everything from family-friendly pools and fountains to larger swimming areas for those looking to escape the summer heat without leaving the city. Yeouido, Ttukseom, Jamsil and Nanji operate from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., while

- [Have THAAD launchers returned to Seongju base?](#) (2026-06-21 09:01)

All six launchers of the US' Terminal High Altitude Area Defense interceptors have reportedly been returned to the South Korean military base where they were originally deployed. Photos of truck-mounted, US-made THAAD launchers positioned in the military base in the southeastern region of Seongju, North Gyeongsang Province, were released Sunday by Yonhap News Agency. Speculations have persisted as to whether the United States had been seeking to move THAAD-related defense assets in South Korea —

- [Elite student club leader convicted of drug distribution](#) (2026-06-21 08:56)

The man accused of distributing drugs to members of an elite inter-university student club has received a final 18-month prison sentence from the Supreme Court. The defendant, a 32-year-old man surnamed Yeom, was convicted of purchasing and using several types of illegal drugs, including LSD, ketamine, ecstasy and methamphetamine, and distributing drugs among club members for about a year from late 2022, local media reported Sunday. Yeom was arrested at a hotel in Seoul in December 2023 and indi

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] Korea, Uzbekistan map next phase of economic cooperation](#) (2026-06-21 08:36)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — South Korea and Uzbekistan moved to deepen their economic partnership beyond infrastructure cooperation, as some 500 government officials, lawmakers and business leaders gathered for a business forum last week. The Korea-Uzbekistan Business Forum, jointly organized by Herald Media Group — publisher of The Korea Herald and The Herald Business — and Uzbekistan's Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade, was held Tuesday as both countries seek to broaden cooperation in tran

- [Seoul reiterates call for free navigation after Trump's Hormuz toll remarks](#) (2026-06-21 08:30)

South Korea on Sunday reaffirmed its position that freedom of navigation and the safety of maritime traffic in the Strait of Hormuz must be guaranteed, after US President Donald Trump suggested Washington could impose tolls on vessels transiting the strategic waterway if negotiations with Iran fail. "Our basic position is that freedom of navigation and the safety of all vessels, including South Korean ships, in the Strait of Hormuz should be guaranteed as soon as possible," a Foreign Ministry of

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] Uzbekistan eyes tech ecosystem on global standards](#) (2026-06-21 08:18)

TASHKENT — Uzbekistan is building a tech ecosystem that will enable global corporations to expand operations, reduce costs and enter new markets, Uzbekistan IT Park Korea Office head Nodirbek Berdiqobilov said at Tuesday's Korea-Uzbekistan Business Forum held in Tashkent. According to Berdiqobilov, Uzbekistan is building an ecosystem where global companies can expand operations, reduce costs and enter new markets. "Uzbekistan is no longer simply an emerging market," Berdiqobilov said. "It is rap

- [J-pop streaming in Korea jumps 30%](#) (2026-06-21 08:15)

Streaming of J-pop on Korean music platform Genie Music rose 30 percent in the first half of the year from the same period a year earlier, according to a report released by the company Sunday. The most-streamed J-pop track was Kenshi Yonezu's "Iris Out," the theme song for the upcoming anime film "Chainsaw Man: Reze Arc." It was followed by Official Hige Dandism's "Pretender" and Yuuri's "Betelgeuse." A KT Genie Music official attributed the growth to the increasing number of ways Korean audienc

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] Korea calls Uzbekistan key partner in Central Asia push](#) (2026-06-21 08:15)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — South Korea sees Uzbekistan as its most important partner in Central Asia as Seoul seeks to deepen regional cooperation ahead of the first Korea-Central Asia Summit later this year, a South Korean Industry Ministry official said. "The year 2026 is significant for Korea and Central Asia, with the inaugural summit set to mark a new stage in our

relationship," Kim Young-man, director general for trade policy coordination at the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources, said

- [Lee aide hints at tougher taxes on homeowners amid AI boom](#) (2026-06-21 08:11)

An aide to President Lee Jae Myung has hinted at imposing more taxes on homeowners to stop the housing market from further overheating. This prompted the right-wing opposition People Power Party's call to hold the presidential aide accountable for causing confusion in the property market, as it claimed the tax hike on the wealthy would wind up hurting the poor. On Saturday, Kim Yong-beom, chief secretary for national policy for the liberal president, wrote via Facebook that it would be plausible

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] Korean lawmakers seek next phase in Uzbekistan ties through minerals, AI](#) (2026-06-21 08:08)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — Korean lawmakers pledged parliamentary support for expanding Korea-Uzbekistan economic ties beyond infrastructure and manufacturing into supply chains, advanced industries and cultural exchange, as the two countries prepare for a Seoul summit in September. At the Korea-Uzbekistan Business Forum on Tuesday, Rep. Kim Kyo-heung of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea and Rep. Yoon Jae-ok of the main opposition People Power Party said the two countries' partnership has become

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] KIND eyes airport, smart city projects in Uzbekistan](#) (2026-06-21 08:06)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan -- Korea Overseas Infrastructure and Urban Development Corp. (KIND) said it was pushing ahead with airport, bio-cluster and smart city projects in Uzbekistan, as the Korean state-backed infrastructure investor seeks to expand its role in the fast-growing Central Asian market. Speaking at the Korea-Uzbekistan Business Forum 2026 on Tuesday, KIND CEO Kim Bok-hwan said Uzbekistan's strategic location — at the heart of Central Asia and along the Silk Road — meant that infrastruc

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] Eximbank Korea eyes bigger role as Uzbekistan seeks Korean capital](#) (2026-06-21 08:05)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — South Korea's state export lender said it was ready to finance a new wave of Korea-Uzbekistan projects, as Tashkent seeks to draw more Korean capital into infrastructure, supply chains and technology-driven industries on the back of economic reforms. Speaking at the Korea-Uzbekistan Business Forum 2026 in Tashkent, Seo Jung-hwa, senior executive director of the Export-Import Bank of Korea, said Eximbank aimed to help convert government-level cooperation between the two cou

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] Incheon Airport backs Uzbekistan's aviation hub ambitions](#) (2026-06-21 08:04)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — Incheon International Airport Corp. is moving to turn Uzbekistan's rapidly growing air travel demand into its next overseas growth engine, joining major airport

development projects in Tashkent and Urgench as country seeks to make itself a regional aviation hub. Speaking at the Korea-Uzbekistan Business Forum in Tashkent, Lee Sang-yong, executive director of IIAC's new business division, said the Korean airport operator aimed to apply its experience in developing and running

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] Youngone bets on Uzbekistan's cotton strength for apparel expansion](#) (2026-06-21 08:01)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — Youngone Corporation seeks to expand its presence in Uzbekistan by building a broader textile and apparel value chain, betting on the Central Asian nation's cotton resources, export access and growing manufacturing base. Speaking at the Korea-Uzbekistan Business Forum 2026 in Tashkent, Youngone President Park Jae-yong said Uzbekistan offers both trade advantages and long-term growth potential for the Korean textile and apparel company. "Uzbekistan has strong appeal, including

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] BoMI E&C; builds Uzbekistan foothold with Tashkent business tower](#) (2026-06-21 07:58)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — BoMI Engineering & Construction is expanding its presence in Uzbekistan through both its own projects and public-private partnership opportunities, positioning its Tashkent business tower as a platform for Korean companies entering the Central Asian market. Speaking at the Korea-Uzbekistan Business Forum in Tashkent, Lee Dong-yup, head of BoMI E&C's overseas business division, said the company had been seeking to showcase Korean construction capabilities through locally run

- [\[Uzbekistan Forum\] Zyx Technology pitches AI digital twin tools for Uzbekistan's urban projects](#) (2026-06-21 07:56)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — Zyx Technology is seeking to bring its artificial intelligence-based digital twin solutions to Uzbekistan's urban development and smart construction markets, as Korean tech firms look to play a larger role in the Central Asian country's infrastructure projects. Speaking at the Korea-Uzbekistan Business Forum in Tashkent on Tuesday, Zyx Technology Chairman Choi Jong-bok introduced the company's AI-powered design and construction management tools, saying they could support future

- [On this day in Korea - June 22, 2002: S. Korea makes historic World Cup semifinal](#) (2026-06-21 07:49)

World Cup co-host South Korea defeated Spain in a penalty shootout, becoming the first Asian team to advance to the semifinals of the tournament. Massive crowds gathered in streets across Seoul and other cities to celebrate the historic achievement, with supporters dressed in red and waving national flags late into the night. Goalkeeper Lee Woon-jae became a national hero after key saves during the tense shootout. Under Dutch coach Guus Hiddink, the team's disciplined play and relentless energy

- [Advance Korean projects through reforms, new platforms: Uzbek deputy minister](#) (2026-06-21 07:38)

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — Uzbekistan's Deputy Minister of Investment, Industry and Trade on Tuesday urged South Korean companies to expand their presence in the Central Asian nation by taking advantage of economic reforms and new industrial and investment initiatives. Speaking at the Korea-Uzbekistan Business Forum, Ilzat Kasymov said the Uzbek government has eliminated more than 200 licensing and permit requirements, reduced taxes, liberalized the foreign exchange market, and simplified procedures

- [Can South Korea move from G7 guest to member?](#) (2026-06-21 06:14)

President Lee Jae Myung's appearance at this year's Group of Seven summit has revived a longstanding question in South Korean diplomacy: Can the country move beyond being a guest and become part of an expanded G7 framework? Lee returned from Europe on Thursday after attending the summit in Evian-les-Bains, France, as an invited leader, holding talks with major counterparts and meeting US President Donald Trump. The trip showed how far South Korea's diplomatic profile has risen, but also made cle

- ['Toy Story 5' leads Korean box office for fourth day](#) (2026-06-21 06:08)

Disney and Pixar's "Toy Story 5" held the No. 1 spot at the Korean box office for four straight days. The animated sequel sold 335,740 tickets on Saturday, according to the box-office tally compiled by the state-run Korean Film Council. That brought its cumulative total to 585,524 since it opened Wednesday, two days ahead of its North American release. Directed by Andrew Stanton, "Toy Story 5" finds Woody, Buzz, Jessie and the rest of Bonnie's toys facing a new kind of rival in Lilypad, a smart

- [How an indie shorts festival keeps drawing the biggest stars](#) (2026-06-21 05:37)

When the Mise-en-scene Short Film Festival opened its 22nd edition on Thursday, the jury on hand for the ceremony read like a who's who of Korean entertainment. Actors Jung Hae-in ("I, the Executioner"), Lee Min-ho ("Omniscient Reader"), Jo Jung-suk ("Exit"), Shim Eun-kyung ("Miss Granny") and Choi Sooyoung of Girls' Generation all signed on as honorary judges this year, each assigned to one of the festival's five sections. Past editions have drawn the likes of Song Kang-ho ("Parasite"), Lee Jun

- [Woori Financial boosts growth, inclusive finance funding by W10tr](#) (2026-06-21 05:36)

Woori Financial Group said Sunday it will expand funding for its "Future Shared Growth Project" by 10 trillion won (\$6.5 billion), stepping up support for strategic industries, small businesses and financially vulnerable borrowers. Of the additional funding, 9.4 trillion won will be allocated to productive financing over the next two years, including 5.7 trillion won this year and 3.7 trillion won in 2027. The funds will be used to support strategic industries, exporters and regional economies,

- [Lee names former Yonhap chief, ex-prosecutor to senior presidential posts](#) (2026-06-21 05:35)

President Lee Jae Myung's office on Sunday announced a new lineup of senior staff in a broad reshuffle, as Lee begins the second year of his five-year term. The new Cheong Wa Dae staff appointments, which are equivalent to vice ministerial-level posts, are aimed at "speedy implementation" of the Lee administration's second-year policy goals, building on the achievements made since Lee's inauguration in June 2025, Lee's chief of staff Kang Hoon-sik said at a press briefing. Lee tapped Seong Ghi-h

- ['Whale' author worries society is losing its empathy](#) (2026-06-21 05:33)

When Cheon Myeong-kwan was shortlisted for the International Booker Prize in 2023 for "Whale," judges praised the novel as "a magical and grotesque epic," highlighting its whirlwind narrative in which reality and fantasy, past and present, intertwine. His latest novel "Accordion" takes a different path. "When I wrote 'Whale,' I didn't know exactly what I was writing," Cheon said at a press conference last week. "I let my imagination run free without trying to control it. This time, I did the opp

- [LG to host descendants of Ethiopian war veterans](#) (2026-06-21 05:22)

LG Group said Sunday it will sponsor a 36-day visit to Korea by the Kagnev Choir, made up of descendants of Ethiopian veterans who fought in the 1950-53 Korean War, as part of efforts to honor their service and strengthen cultural ties. The delegation, which includes 34 choir members and 95-year-old Korean War veteran Tesfaye Asmamaw, arrives Monday. LG is covering airfare, accommodations and other travel expenses in partnership with the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs. The visit is or

- [Korea's US stock boom is only getting started: Toss strategist](#) (2026-06-21 05:18)

South Korean investors have emerged as an increasingly influential force in US equities, boosting their holdings of American stocks to nearly \$200 billion and becoming some of the world's most aggressive buyers of leading artificial intelligence companies. Yet despite their growing presence on Wall Street, the country's investors are still in the early stages of investing in US equities, according to Lee Young-gon, head of research at Toss Securities. "Korean retail investors have only been inve

- [Half of S. Korean elementary teachers feel helpless dealing with parents](#) (2026-06-21 05:04)

Nearly half of elementary school teachers in South Korea say they feel helpless in dealing with parents, a new report showed, nearly three years after the death of a young teacher in Seoul sparked nationwide debate over teachers' rights. According to an issue paper published in May by the Korea Education Development Institute, 49.4 percent of elementary school teachers surveyed in 2023 felt helpless in their relationships with parents. The figure was significantly higher than the 31.7 percent re

- [Scams targeting foreign nationals soar amid K-culture tourism boom](#) (2026-06-21 04:56)

As more fans from overseas travel to South Korea for concerts, merchandise and other cultural experiences, police data has shown a sharp rise in fraud reports filed by foreign nationals. According to data from the National Police Agency released Sunday, the number of foreign nationals who reported fraud in Korea nearly quadrupled in a year, rising from 5,307 cases in 2023 to 19,907 last year. Some cases have involved Korean cultural content, including K-pop merchandise and concert ticket purchases

- [Why Korea keeps returning to soccer every four years](#) (2026-06-21 04:45)

Every four years, something shifts — almost overnight. People who rarely follow soccer start checking kickoff times. Office chatter turns from deadlines to defensive lines. Group chats fill with lineup predictions, referee complaints and late-night watch plans. This is the pull of the FIFA World Cup. Arguably the world's biggest single-sport spectacle, it has a way of transforming South Korea every four years. Streets grow louder, emotions run higher and a shared sense of national pride takes over

- [Le Sserafim, Illit, Katseye's 'Iconic By Mistake' breaks into UK chart](#) (2026-06-21 04:26)

The collaboration single "Iconic By Mistake" by Le Sserafim, Illit and Katseye continues to gain traction globally, entering the UK Official Singles Chart and posting strong performances on Spotify's worldwide rankings. According to the latest UK Official Charts released Friday, "Iconic By Mistake" debuted at No. 22 on the Official Singles Top 100 chart for the week of June 19-25. The chart combines audio and video streaming, downloads and physical sales into a single ranking system. Songs that

- [Sung Si-kyung, Raisa release first duet ballad 'Heaven Knows'](#) (2026-06-21 04:25)

Korean ballad singer Sung Si-kyung teamed up with Indonesian singer Raisa for their first duet, "Heaven Knows," a romantic ballad released Friday. According to E2W Group, the collaboration brings together two artists from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds whose voices help convey the song's message of love and hope with sincerity. The track marks another first: Raisa performs in Korean for the first time, while Sung delivers English lyrics. The duet follows a social media collaboration

- [Samsung sharpens HBM strategy at global meeting](#) (2026-06-21 03:54)

Samsung Electronics reviewed plans to expand high-bandwidth memory shipments and secure long-term supply agreements with major AI customers at its global strategy meeting last week, as tightening memory supply and soaring AI demand boost the strategic importance of HBM, industry sources said Sunday. Samsung's Device Solutions division, which oversees its semiconductor business, held its session Thursday under Vice Chairman Jun Young-hyun. According to the sources, executives discussed supply plans

- [Investors weigh cost of Korea's inclusive finance push](#) (2026-06-21 03:46)

Korean banks are ramping up debt relief for troubled borrowers as Seoul intensifies its inclusive-finance push, prompting closer scrutiny of how far lenders will be expected to shoulder social policy objectives. According to industry estimates Sunday, the five major commercial banks carried out over 4,600 in-house debt restructuring cases in the first four months of this year, nearly quadruple the 1,180 cases recorded a year earlier. The amount more than tripled to 35.9 billion won (\$23.5 million).

- [Bolivia declares emergency to clear gridlock](#) (2026-06-21 03:40)

Tensions soared in Bolivia Saturday after President Rodrigo Paz declared a state of emergency, allowing security forces to begin clearing protesters' roadblocks that have paralyzed the economy over the past 50 days and left at least 14 people dead. In an early morning address, Paz said the anti-government blockades were no longer a social protest but an organized attempt to destabilize Bolivia's democracy. "There comes a moment when failing to act ceases to be prudence and becomes irresponsible."

- [Albanian protests against resort swell](#) (2026-06-21 03:40)

Thousands of protesters marched through Albania's capital Saturday, one of the largest demonstrations since rallies against a planned resort linked to US President Donald Trump's family began almost three weeks ago. Since late May, protesters have gathered every evening to oppose the construction of a luxury hotel linked to Trump's daughter Ivanka and her husband Jared Kushner, planned in a nature reserve on the Balkan nation's coast. Opposition to the development has become a flash point for frustration.

- [Russia frees 24 Filipinos after Marcos talks with Putin](#) (2026-06-21 03:38)

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Russia has freed 24 Filipinos who were detained for months without charges in a Siberian city, after Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. raised concern for them in a meeting with President Vladimir Putin, Philippine officials said Saturday. The 24 arrived in Manila aboard two flights early Sunday, and the first batch was welcomed by Philippine Foreign Secretary Theresa Lazaro, who accompanied Marcos in his talks with Putin Wednesday in the Russian city of Kazan,

- [Israeli strikes in Gaza kill 6, including 2 children and an Al Jazeera cameraman](#) (2026-06-21 03:35)

Israeli strikes in Gaza on Saturday killed at least six people, including two children and a cameraman with broadcaster Al Jazeera, according to Palestinian health officials. Despite an October ceasefire between Israel and the militant group Hamas, the enclave has seen near-daily Israeli attacks that have killed over 1,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. The first strike on Saturday hit an apartment in Gaza City around 2 a.m., according to the ministry. At the site, an Associated Press reporter said,

- [Ukraine's Zelenskyy says he returned state decoration to Polish president](#) (2026-06-21 03:32)

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Saturday he had returned a state decoration a day after Poland's president said he had stripped him of the award in connection with a dispute over events in World War II. Three former Ukrainian presidents said they were also returning their state awards to Poland, as did other senior officials. Polish President Karol Nawrocki said Friday he had revoked the Order of the White Eagle awarded to Zelenskyy in 2023 after the Ukrainian president renamed a m

- [Report says UK PM Starmer ready to quit, but source says he is still focused on the job](#) (2026-06-21 03:28)

Britain's Observer newspaper said Prime Minister Keir Starmer was expected to resign this week and set out a timetable for his departure, though a government source said Starmer remained focused on getting on with the job of governing. The threat to Starmer's position, which has been building for months, increased sharply Friday when his rival Andy Burnham won a seat in parliament that would allow him to launch a formal leadership challenge. The Observer report said Starmer was discussing the m

- [Lee Jung-hoo continues surge, eyes MLB batting lead](#) (2026-06-21 03:03)

Lee Jung-hoo of the San Francisco Giants continued his strong offensive form on Friday, collecting two doubles and moving within striking distance of the National League batting lead. Lee started in right field and batted fifth as San Francisco visited the Miami Marlins at LoanDepot Park, finishing 2-for-4 with two runs scored. The two-hit outing lifted Lee's season batting average to .331 (86-for-260), while his on-base plus slugging percentage rose to .823. League batting leader Otto Lopez, me

- [Chun In-gee tied for fourth place at Meijer LPGA](#) (2026-06-21 03:03)

Chun In-gee climbed into a tie for fourth place at the Meijer LPGA Classic, putting herself in contention for the title. Chun carded a 7-under-par 65 in the third round at Blythefield Country Club on Saturday, recording seven birdies and no bogeys. She moved to a 10-under total of 206 after three rounds. Chun had been tied for 36th place after the second round but surged up the leaderboard with a strong performance in the third round. Chun, who won the 2022 KPMG Women's PGA Championship, had pre

- [Korean biotech eyes deals, partnerships at BIO 2026](#) (2026-06-21 02:34)

A flock of Korean biopharmaceutical and biotechnology companies are heading to San Diego this week with their eyes on expanding global partnerships and securing contracts at the BIO International Convention, one of the world's largest exhibitions in the biotechnology industry. Samsung Biologics, which will take part in the annual event for the 14th consecutive year, said it will once again set up a large booth with a floor space of 140 square meters at the center stage. The Korean contract devel

- [Court to deliver ruling on ex-first lady on jobs-for-gifts bribery charges](#) (2026-06-21 02:29)

A Seoul court is set to deliver its verdict this week on former first lady Kim Keon Hee, who has been indicted over receiving luxury gifts in exchange for job appointments and business favors. The Seoul Central District Court will hold the sentencing hearing for Kim, the wife of ousted former President Yoon Suk Yeol, on charges of violating a law on the acceptance of bribes for mediation, at 2 p.m. Friday, according to judicial sources Sunday. Kim was indicted in December on charges of receiving

- [Can Seoul afford free bus rides for seniors?](#) (2026-06-21 02:27)

Seoul is considering free or subsidized bus rides for senior citizens aged 70 and older, expanding the decades-old system of free subway use for those aged 65 and above. The proposal cleared a Seoul Metropolitan Council committee on June 15 and is scheduled for a vote at the council's plenary session on Wednesday. The subsidy would cover city and neighborhood buses, but exclude express and intercity buses. But the plan has drawn opposition from those concerned about the financial burden on a cit

- [South Korea claims two bronze medals in Guiyang](#) (2026-06-21 02:26)

The South Korean national boxing team won two bronze medals at the semifinals of the Boxing World Cup, held in Guiyang, China, Saturday. Shin Jae-yong and Kim Min-seong were both defeated in their semifinal matches, finishing the tournament with bronze medals in their respective weight classes. Competing in the men's 55kg division, Shin defeated Japan's Yamaguchi Rui by a 5-0 unanimous decision in the quarterfinals, controlling the bout throughout to advance to the semifinals. The result drew at

- [Samsung, SK hynix chip majors top SNU in admissions](#) (2026-06-21 02:25)

Semiconductor majors run jointly with Samsung Electronics and SK hynix have overtaken Seoul National University's natural sciences programs in 2026's entrance scores. The shift puts a guaranteed chip-industry job, for the first time at this scale, in the same tier as the two destinations Korea's top science students have long prized above all others: medical school and Seoul National itself. The five contract departments posted an average entrance cutoff of 96.2 in the 2026 regular admissions cy

- [Won-dollar rate averages 1,520 through June, reaching crisis-era levels](#) (2026-06-21 02:14)

South Korea's currency has averaged above 1,520 won per US dollar in June, the highest level since February 1998, extending a period of currency weakness associated with times of crisis. According to the Bank of Korea's Economic Statistics System, the won-dollar exchange rate averaged 1,521.4 won in daytime trading through June 19. Compared with historical monthly averages, that is the highest level since February 1998, when the exchange rate averaged 1,626.7 won during the Asian financial crisi

- [McIlroy fades at the US Open with 5 bogeys late after a three-hole run of birdies](#)

(2026-06-21 01:42)

SOUTHAMPTON, New York (AP) -- When Rory McIlroy knocked in a 66-footer during a run of three straight birdies Saturday, he looked set for a big move at the US Open. The magic was quickly gone. And once his miserable back nine was over, McIlroy was, too. The Masters champion made five bogeys and shot 40 on the back, finishing with a 3-over 73 that severely damaged, if not entirely ended, his chances of winning. It was a stunning collapse after his birdies on Nos. 5-7 -- the first time he made thr

- [Samsung reviews HBM sales strategy, long-term agreements with key customers](#)

(2026-06-21 01:39)

Samsung Electronics Co. discussed ways to expand sales of high-bandwidth memory chips and reviewed long-term supply agreements with major customers at a recent global strategy meeting, industry sources said Sunday. The world's largest memory chipmaker held its semiannual global strategy meeting last week to review first-half performance and outline business strategies for the second half of the year, amid surging demand for high-performance chips used in artificial intelligence applications. Dur

- [Jing Yan maintains lead in the wind-swept Meijer LPGA Classic](#) (2026-06-21 01:27)

BELMONT, Michigan (AP) -- Jing Yan shot a 4-under 68 on Saturday to maintain a one-shot lead in the wind-swept Meijer LPGA Classic, the final event before the major KPMG Women's PGA Championship next week at Hazeltine. Yan birdied the par-5 18th to cap her second straight bogey-free round at Blythefield Country Club. Winless on the LPGA Tour, the 30-year-old American had a 14-under 202 total. "I just tried to enjoy it," Yan said. "I knew I was going to be a little bit nervous not having really b

- [Lee appoints new senior secretaries for communication, civil affairs](#) (2026-06-21 01:23)

President Lee Jae Myung has appointed new senior presidential secretaries for communications and civil affairs, along with three other aides, the presidential chief of staff said Sunday. Seong Ghi-hong, former CEO and president of Yonhap News Agency, was appointed presidential secretary for public relations and communication, while Han Chan-sik, a former senior prosecutor, was named presidential secretary for civil affairs, the official said. Kim Kyoung-ja, former vice chairperson of the country

- [Household lending at banks jumps in Q2 on leveraged investing, mortgage demand](#)

(2026-06-21 01:07)

Household loans at major South Korean banks increased in the second quarter as borrowers took out more credit for stock investments and to finance home purchases, data showed Sunday. Outstanding household loans at five major lenders -- KB Kookmin Bank, Shinhan Bank, Hana Bank, Woori Bank and NH Nonghyup Bank -- stood at 646.19 trillion won (\$421.5 billion) as of Thursday, up 824.1 billion won from the end of last year, according to data compiled by

the banks. Household loan balances had fallen b

- [Sports analytics firm gives S. Korea 90% chance of reaching knockouts](#) (2026-06-21 00:26)

With one match remaining in the group stage at the ongoing FIFA World Cup, South Korea have more than a 90 percent chance of reaching the next knockout phase, a sports analytics firm said Saturday. According to Opta Analyst, South Korea have a 91.08 percent chance to advance to the round of 32. In Group A, South Korea sit in second place with three points, after a 2-1 win over Czechia and a 1-0 loss to Mexico. With six points, Mexico have already clinched the top spot in Group A and thus a place

- [How Korean bedding became a coveted souvenir](#) (2026-06-20 07:00)

At Seoul's Gwangjang Market, a destination long associated with textiles and fabrics, a growing number of foreign visitors are shopping for something unexpected: Korean bedding. Inside one bedding store, stacks of colorful quilts and blankets lined the walls while recently purchased items were being vacuum-packed for travelers preparing to take them overseas. "About 70 percent of our customers are foreigners these days," said the owner, surnamed Kim, of the bedding store at the market. "Many for

- [5 things to look out for at Seoul Book Fair](#) (2026-06-20 07:00)

This year's Seoul International Book Fair is shaping up to be another bustling edition, with online tickets selling out ahead of its June 24 opening. At peak times, online queues reportedly reached nearly 30,000 people. The fair runs June 24-28 at Coex in Seoul and brings together about 530 publishers, literary organizations and agencies from 18 countries, including South Korea. In the international exhibition hall, around 180 publishers and organizations from 17 countries, including France, Ger

- [To the land's end, through stone and clouds: Walking Korea's southwest coast](#) (2026-06-20 07:00)

GANGJIN, HAENAM, MOKPO, SOUTH JEOLLA PROVINCE — Have you walked any of the Korea Dulle Trail, the 4,500-kilometer route that rings the country's coastline and border? The trail strings together four routes: the Haeparang Trail along the east coast, the Namparang Trail across the south, the Seohaerang Trail up the west coast and the DMZ Peace Trail near the northern border. At 5.7 times the length of Spain's Camino de Santiago, it would take about eight months to finish at a pace of 20 kilometers

- [\[Weekender\] How squishies and nostalgia revived Seoul's old markets](#) (2026-06-20 07:00)

The line outside a toy wholesaler in Seoul's Dongdaemun Stationery and Toy Street on a recent weekend looked more like one outside a trendy cafe than a decades-old market. Shoppers crowded around bins of squishies, comparing textures and squeezing them before making their choice. Nearby, others tested clicking keycap toys and cracked the wax shells of stress balls, delighting in the crisp popping sound. Most of the customers were not children.

They were adults in their 20s and 30s. Just a few su

- [Ulleungdo, Dokdo offer cliffs, history and Korea's wild eastern edge](#) (2026-06-20 07:00)

ULLEUNG, North Gyeongsang Province — After a six-hour overnight boat ride from Pohang across some of South Korea's roughest waters, the first glimpse of Ulleungdo comes quietly into view: the sun rising over a misty sea, lighting up sheer cliffs, deep-blue waters and vegetation that feels almost alien. "We don't run boats in the winter because of high waves and difficult sea conditions," said an executive at Ulleung Cruise, which operates the only multistory ship on the Pohang-Ulleung route. "It

- [Tour bus overturns near DMZ border lookout, injuring 10](#) (2026-06-20 06:01)

A tour bus overturned near a DMZ observation post in Paju, northwest of Seoul, on Saturday, injuring 10 people. The 45-seat bus was carrying 21 tourists when it tipped over around 11:27 a.m. on a road in Paju's Jangdan area, police said. It was headed to the Dora Observatory, a popular lookout where visitors can peer across the heavily fortified border into North Korea. The bus toppled onto the left side of the road just before reaching a parking lot partway up to the lookout, according to polic

- [Nurse dies after being found unresponsive at Anyang clinic](#) (2026-06-20 05:43)

A nurse who was found unresponsive Friday at a fertility clinic in Anyang, south of Seoul, has died, police said Saturday. The woman, reportedly in her 20s, was found by a co-worker around 4 p.m. Friday in a storage room at the clinic in the city's Dongan District, local authorities said. She was given CPR at the scene and was later pronounced dead at a hospital. She had no apparent injuries, police said. An investigation into the cause of death is underway.

- [Ex-vice Gyeonggi gov. found guilty of perjury over 'drinking party' claims](#) (2026-06-20 02:57)

A regional court on Saturday found a former vice governor of Gyeonggi Province guilty of perjury for falsely testifying to parliament that he was provided with alcohol and food during a prosecution interrogation. The Suwon District Court sentenced Lee Hwa-young to four months in prison, convicting him of violating the law on testimony before the National Assembly, according to the court document. The case was tried before a seven-panel citizen jury. Lee was indicted on perjury charges after he t

- [Rain to continue nationwide through evening after heavy downpours](#) (2026-06-20 02:51)

Rain is expected to continue across South Korea through Saturday evening after heavy downpours drenched much of the country overnight, weather officials said. Between 6 p.m. Friday and 6 a.m. Saturday, accumulated precipitation reached 137.5 millimeters on Halla Mountain on Jeju Island, 94 mm in Sangju, 88 mm in Gongju and 60.6 mm in Seoul, according to the Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA). Rain is expected to continue until Sunday morning in mountainous and coastal areas of Gangwon Pro

- [Who needs a nightclub?](#) (2026-06-20 02:36)

Early Saturday morning, while most of the city was still asleep, a crowd was already on its feet and dancing — stone-cold sober, no booze in sight. A social club centered on early-morning gatherings, the Seoul Morning Coffee Club has built a following by upending the city's after-hours drinking culture, swapping the first round of shots for the first sip of an Americano. Founded by Park Jae-hyun, the club draws a mixed crowd — teenagers, foreign residents, even dancers in their 60s and 70s — to

- [RM is now the face of Korea's national museum](#) (2026-06-20 02:03)

BTS leader RM has a new title to add to a growing list of art-world credits: global ambassador for the National Museum of Korea. The country's flagship museum announced the appointment Saturday, citing the singer's longtime interest in Korean traditional culture and art. It marks the first time the Seoul-based institution has named a global ambassador under its banner. A serious collector in his own right, RM has been an active supporter of Korean art and cultural heritage. The rapper, whose rea

- [How a Korean 'Turandot' traveled to Europe and came home a decade on](#) (2026-06-19 13:31)

When the 20th Daegu International Musical Festival raised its curtains on June 19, it opened with a homecoming. The festival's flagship production — a musical reimagining of Giacomo Puccini's opera "Turandot" — returned to the stage for the first time in seven years, this time refracted through the European staging it inspired abroad. DIMF first premiered "Turandot" in 2011, as the opening work of the festival's fifth edition. The reception was bruising. "When we first unveiled 'Turandot' 15 yea

- [Lee calls inflation top policy priority, urges 'extraordinary' measures to stabilize prices](#) (2026-06-19 13:19)

President Lee Jae Myung said Friday inflation is the government's most urgent policy challenge and urged officials to devise extraordinary measures to stabilize prices and ease the burden on households. Lee made the call during a meeting with senior presidential aides, noting it will take a long time before global energy supply chains return to normal and the Strait of Hormuz is fully reopened despite a ceasefire deal between the United States and Iran aimed at ending the monthslong war in the M

- [Lee says reform of election watchdog needed through constitutional amendment if necessary](#) (2026-06-19 10:36)

President Lee Jae Myung said Friday that a fundamental reform of the state election watchdog is needed through a constitutional amendment if necessary, after the institution exposed serious flaws in its handling of the recent local elections. Lee made the remark during a press briefing at Cheong Wa Dae, referring to how the National Election Commission (NEC) did not prepare

enough ballot papers for the June 3 local elections, disrupting voting at 26 polling stations. "The NEC issue is really abs

- [Unification ministry vows to find 'phased, viable' path to denuclearization](#) (2026-06-19 10:36)

South Korea's Unification ministry said Friday its stance on the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula remains unchanged, vowing to seek "phased, viable" solutions. The ministry made the remarks a day after North Korea reiterated the stance of not giving up its nuclear weapons. "The government has no change in its position to seek phased, viable solutions for denuclearization, which are mutually acceptable based on the reality," Chang Yoon-jeong, deputy spokesperson at the ministry, told a pr

- [Army to allow long-term service transition for more noncommissioned officers](#) (2026-06-19 10:36)

The Army said Friday it will allow qualified noncommissioned officers to transition to long-term service starting in 2028 in a personnel overhaul plan in an effort to help enhance their job security. The move comes as the Army has been struggling to attract noncommissioned officers, who make up the backbone of the military, amid a shrinking number of newly appointed officers and the country's population decline. The Army previously only selected the top 20 percent of noncommissioned officers who

- [Police investigating alleged break-in at ballot-counting center](#) (2026-06-19 10:36)

Police are investigating an alleged break-in at a ballot-counting center amid weekslong protests calling for a rerun of the June 3 local elections, sports officials said Friday. According to the Korea Sports Industry Development (KSID), which manages the Olympic Park Handball Gymnasium that was used as a vote-counting center for the elections, three unidentified individuals broke into the facility on June 7 after damaging a basement door lock. The KSID reported the case to the police, along with

- [Korean Air says Asiana integration costs could reach 1 tln won, offset by 2028](#) (2026-06-19 10:36)

Korean Air Co. said Friday the cost of integrating Asiana Airlines Inc. could reach as much as 1 trillion won (\$654 million), with synergies from the merger expected to offset the expense as early as the end of 2028. During an investor relations session in Seoul, the flag carrier said an analysis of its post-merger integration strategy estimated integration costs at between 900 billion won and 1 trillion won, while annual synergy effects from the merger are projected to reach around 300 billion

- [JoongAng Ilbo applies for debt workout program, pledges restructuring efforts](#) (2026-06-19 10:36)

Major newspaper JoongAng Ilbo Co. said Friday it had formally applied for a creditor-led debt workout program amid liquidity problems across its parent group. The company said it had officially filed for a debt restructuring program with its main creditor bank, Hana Bank, after failing to honor a request for the early repayment of 22 billion won (\$14.38 million) worth of commercial paper. "We will continue consultations with creditor banks, and faithfully prepare effective debt restructuring and

- ['Fail Better' explores reality, illusion, art of misalignment](#) (2026-06-19 09:28)

At first glance, artists Yee Soo-kyung and Yangachi appear to inhabit entirely different artistic worlds: One works with roses, crowns and religious iconography, while the other investigates radio frequencies, magnetic fields and invisible infrastructures. Yet "Fail Better," the exhibition at Forum and Space in Seoul held from April 30 to June 13, brought the two together in an exploration of reality, perception and the uncertain future shaped by rapidly evolving technologies. Curated by Kim Yoo

- [Margin debt hits record as retail investors pile into Samsung Electronics, SK hynix](#) (2026-06-19 09:19)

Debt-funded stock investing by South Korean retail investors is showing signs of overheating as the Kospi climbed to a record 9,000 mark, pushing outstanding margin loans to a record 38 trillion won (\$24.8 billion) and prompting some brokerages to tighten margin lending rules. According to the Korea Financial Investment Association, outstanding margin loans in the domestic stock market stood at 38 trillion won as of Thursday, up 200 billion won from a day earlier. The balance has increased by mo

- [US keeps North Korea denuclearization high on agenda, official says](#) (2026-06-19 08:52)

The Trump administration continues to place North Korea's denuclearization high on its policy agenda, a senior US State Department official said Thursday. David Wilezol, deputy assistant secretary of state for Korea, Japan and Mongolia, said at a forum in Washington that discussions on North Korea within the administration remain centered on denuclearization. He cited a recent fact sheet issued after a summit between US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping, as well as a joint

- [Seoul expects favorable EU response on steel quota concerns: Lee](#) (2026-06-19 08:50)

President Lee Jae Myung said Friday that Seoul expects a favorable outcome from the European Union over concerns about the bloc's planned steel tariff-rate quota measures, which could affect South Korea's steel industry. Lee said he raised the issue directly with EU leaders during his recent visit to Brussels. Earlier, a senior presidential official said Brussels had responded that it would take Seoul's request into full consideration. He made the remarks during a briefing at Cheong Wa Dae on th

- [Lee highlights US role in breaking North Korea deadlock](#) (2026-06-19 08:21)

President Lee Jae Myung said Friday he told US President Donald Trump that Washington needs to play a central role in reviving diplomacy with North Korea. Stressing the need to first freeze Pyongyang's nuclear and missile development, he explained that leaving the current deadlock unresolved would only allow the North to advance its weapons programs, making future talks more difficult. Lee made the remarks during a press briefing at Cheong Wa Dae in Seoul, a day after returning from his 10-day t

- [Male K-pop acts revive early-2000s dance-pop in latest wave of releases](#) (2026-06-19 08:02)

A growing number of K-pop boy groups are looking to the dance-pop's past as they shape its future. In recent years, many idol releases have been built around short-form-friendly hooks, easy-listening melodies and highly segmented song structures optimized for social media consumption. But some of K-pop's leading male acts are increasingly embracing a more traditional approach to dance-pop — one characterized by strong melodic lines, dramatic song progression and clear verse-chorus-bridge structu

- [Lee asks Pope Leo XIV to visit South Korea, DMZ for World Youth Day](#) (2026-06-19 07:53)

President Lee Jae Myung said Friday that he asked Pope Leo XIV to visit South Korea for World Youth Day 2027 and suggested that the pontiff consider visiting the Demilitarized Zone during the trip. Speaking about his visit to the Vatican, Lee said he had paid a courtesy call on the pope and pledged cooperation with the Holy See for the successful hosting of the Catholic youth event, which is scheduled to take place in Seoul from Aug. 3-8, 2027. Lee visited the Vatican on June 14 and 15, and met

- [Assembly speaker urges diplomatic efforts to ensure safe return of S. Korean vessels from Hormuz Strait](#) (2026-06-19 07:46)

National Assembly Speaker Cho Jeong-sik called for all-out diplomatic measures Friday to ensure the safe return of South Korean vessels stranded in the Strait of Hormuz, following a ceasefire deal reached between the United States and Iran earlier this week. Cho made the call in a meeting at his office with Foreign Minister Cho Hyun, saying "the war in the Middle East has fortunately come to a halt after 106 days." "I urge you to take all possible diplomatic measures to ensure that the 24 vessel

- [JoongAng Ilbo enters first default status after missing repayment](#) (2026-06-19 07:39)

South Korean newspaper publisher JoongAng Ilbo was classified as being in first default after failing to meet an early repayment demand on 22 billion won (\$14.4 million) worth of commercial paper, according to a regulatory filing Friday. According to the Financial Supervisory Service's electronic disclosure system on Friday, JoongAng Ilbo said in a filing that it failed to make payment on Thursday due to insufficient deposits in its account. "A creditor presented the note for payment on June 18,

- [Kumho Tire ramps up Europe push at Tire Cologne 2026](#) (2026-06-19 07:38)

Kumho Tire highlighted its latest premium and future mobility tire technologies at the world's largest tire exhibition in Germany, underscoring its push to expand in the European market. The South Korean tiremaker participated in The Tire Cologne 2026 from June 9-11 in Cologne, Germany, Kumho said Friday. Under this year's theme "Innovation to Build the Future," Kumho presented a comprehensive lineup of products, including the ultra high performance tires ECSTA Sport S, ECSTA Sport, and ECSTA HS

- [Canada submarine bid hopeful but remains unclear: Lee](#) (2026-06-19 07:32)

South Korea's bid for Canada's submarine project remains unclear, President Lee Jae Myung said Friday. "I met the German chancellor first, and then met the Canadian prime minister, but (I) could not get a sense about the outcome (of the bid)," Lee said during a briefing on his trip to Europe. Lee met with German Chancellor Friedrich Merz on the sidelines of the Group of Seven summit held in Evian-les-Bains, France, on Tuesday, and then with Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney later that day. "We

- [World Cup's No. 2 dribbler Lee Kang-in stands out in defeat](#) (2026-06-19 07:21)

If you watched South Korea's match against Mexico, one moment probably stood out. Young player Lee Kang-in made a feisty "yapping" hand gesture at an opponent, seemingly telling him to stop talking. South Korea came away empty-handed against Mexico in a 1-0 loss, but Lee's standout performance and fiery attitude gave Korean fans a reason for optimism ahead of the team's crucial final Group A match against South Africa next week. With the top spot in Group A potentially on the line, the two sides

- [Seoul stocks take breather after 6-day rise on profit-taking](#) (2026-06-19 07:20)

Seoul stocks took a breather Friday after enjoying a surge for the past six consecutive days, as investors cashed out their gains built on an artificial intelligence boom amid revived Iran uncertainties. After choppy trading, the benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index fell 11.42 points, or 0.13 percent, to 9,052.42 after rising as high as 9,385.59. Trade volume was heavy at 511.1 million shares worth 65.3 trillion won (\$42.7 billion). Losers outnumbered winners 115 to 784. Retail investors

- [Step into this season's styling point: Open-toe socks and leg warmers](#) (2026-06-19 07:00)

Bare feet feel too plain. Full socks feel too warm. For shoppers caught between the two this summer, retailers say the answer is open-toe socks. The cropped socks, which cover the top of the foot but leave the toes exposed, are gaining ground alongside flip-flop socks and sheer leg warmers this summer. An early heat wave has brought the season for sandals and flip-flops forward, lifting demand for the items. Summer shoes such as mules, slides, and flip-flops saw sales rise 80 percent from May 31

- [Trump expressed regret for not resolving NK nuke issue sooner: Lee](#) (2026-06-19 06:52)

US President Donald Trump expressed regret for not taking steps before North Korea became effectively a nuclear-armed state, South Korean President Lee Jae Myung said Friday. “(Trump said) it is regrettable that measures were not taken before North Korea effectively possessed nuclear weapons,” Lee said during a briefing on his trip to Europe. Lee and Trump met during the gala dinner for the G7 summit in Evian-les-Bains, France. According to Lee, Trump also told him that he had posted the photogr

- [Ex-defense minister gets 3 years for leaking military secrets tied to martial law bid](#) (2026-06-19 06:47)

Former Defense Minister Kim Yong-hyun was sentenced to three years in prison Friday for leaking a list of military intelligence personnel, in a case tied to former President Yoon Suk Yeol’s botched martial law bid in 2024. The Seoul Central District Court found Kim guilty of leaking personal information to former Defense Intelligence Command chief Noh Sang-won — who had been dishonorably discharged six years earlier — after conspiring with then-Defense Intelligence Commander Moon Sang-ho and oth

- [Gov't to seek dismissal of heads of 2 public firms following review](#) (2026-06-19 06:37)

South Korea will seek to replace the heads of two public institutions following a regular performance review while issuing warnings to those whose organizations experienced fatal workplace accidents, the finance ministry said Friday. The Ministry of Finance and Economy decided to seek the removal of the heads of the Government Employees Pension Service and the Korea International Cooperation Agency, based on the evaluations made by the Ownership Steering Committee, tasked with assessing the perf

- [For Korean singles, cleanliness matters most in a future spouse](#) (2026-06-19 06:21)

When it comes to choosing a future spouse, cleanliness may matter more than a stable job or a healthy bank account for many young South Koreans, a survey indicated Friday. Some 32.5 percent of the respondents said cleanliness is the most important lifestyle factor they consider in a potential marriage partner, according to a recent survey by marriage agency Gayeon. The survey was conducted on 163 unmarried adults, 72 men and 91 women. Attitudes toward sharing household chores came next at 26.4 p

- [ETF trading tops 30% of market turnover on strong retail demand](#) (2026-06-19 06:19)

Exchange-traded funds now account for 30 percent of trading value on the Korean stock market, driven by surging demand from retail investors, according to a report by the Korea Investment Securities on Friday. Retail investors were net buyers of 64.3 trillion won (\$41.9 billion) worth of listed shares and 55.3 trillion won worth of ETFs so far this year. By contrast, foreign investors were net sellers of about 111 trillion won worth of listed shares and ETFs combined. The scale of retail investo

- [L'Oreal, OpenAI team up to advance AI-powered beauty](#) (2026-06-19 06:05)

L'Oreal Group said Friday it had unveiled a strategic collaboration with OpenAI at Europe's Viva Technology conference on Thursday, aiming to use artificial intelligence across beauty shopping, research and marketing. According to the French beauty giant, the collaboration will center on two areas: AI-powered consumer experiences and accelerating innovation across research, product development and content creation. Consumers will be able to discover and interact with beauty products more natural

- [Intel hires former SK hynix chief Lee Seok-hee to lead advanced packaging](#) (2026-06-19 06:04)

Intel has appointed former CEO of SK hynix and SK On Lee Seok-hee as a senior vice president in its foundry business, amid the US chipmaker's push into advanced semiconductor packaging. Intel announced Thursday that Lee will oversee advanced packaging, system integration, back-end technology development and back-end manufacturing at Intel Foundry. He will report directly to CEO Lip-Bu Tan. Intel Foundry is establishing advanced packaging as a focused business with dedicated leadership, a directi

- [Not over yet. South Korea's route to round of 32 explained](#) (2026-06-19 05:52)

South Korea's 1-0 defeat to Mexico on Thursday may have ended their perfect start to the World Cup, but it has done little to dent the team's chances of reaching the knockout stage. With only one group-stage match left against South Africa on Wednesday at 7 p.m., the Taeguk Warriors have three points from two games after opening their campaign with a 2-1 victory over Czechia, leaving them in contention for a place in the round of 32. Mexico's second straight win sealed first place in Group A, I

- [Lee asks Pope Leo XIV to visit N. Korea](#) (2026-06-19 05:47)

President Lee Jae Myung said Friday that he asked Pope Leo XIV to visit North Korea and the Demilitarized Zone, a buffer area between the two Koreas, when he met with the pope this week at the Vatican. Lee unveiled the request at a press briefing on the results of his 10-day trip to Europe that ended Thursday. Lee met with the pope Monday at the Vatican. The president said that Pope Leo XIV responded that he would actively pursue the proposal. (Yonhap)

- [S. Korean goalkeeper shoulders blame for costly miscue](#) (2026-06-19 05:42)

South Korean goalkeeper Kim Seung-gyu pointed a finger at himself for a miscue that cost his team in a 1-0 loss to Mexico in Group A action at the FIFA World Cup on Thursday. The match's lone goal, scored by Luis Romo in the 50th minute at Estadio Guadalajara in Zapopan, came off a preventable misplay inside the South Korean box. Kim jumped to grab an innocuous header by Raul Jimenez but then crashed into the back of his own defender Lee Gi-hyuk on his way down. The ball was poked loose toward R

- [Police confirm human leg found in Incheon was mistakenly discarded by hospital](#) (2026-06-19 05:34)

Incheon police officials said Friday that a leg found last week at a recycling center had been mistakenly disposed of as recyclable waste by a local hospital, confirming a report submitted by hospital staff two days earlier. Officials at the Incheon Yeonsu Police Station told reporters that the leg had been amputated from a female patient in her 80s at a nursing hospital in Jung-gu, Incheon. The leg was initially categorized as medical waste, but a member of the cleaning staff in their 60s disca

- [Riize earns 4th million-seller with 2nd EP ‘II’](#) (2026-06-19 05:09)

Riize has added another million-selling album to its growing catalog, as the group’s second EP, “II,” surpassed 1 million copies sold within four days of its release. According to SM Entertainment on Friday, Hanteo Chart revealed the day before that the six-member group’s latest release exceeded 1 million cumulative sales, marking the fourth million-selling album of Riize’s career. The achievement follows Riize’s 2023 debut single, “Get A Guitar,” their first 2024 EP “Riizing” and the group’s fi

- [North Korea says treaty with Russia ‘essential legal weapon’ for stability](#) (2026-06-19 04:57)

North Korea has reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening cooperation with Russia, describing their treaty on a “comprehensive strategic partnership” as an “essential legal weapon” for securing strategic stability, as the two countries marked the second anniversary of the pact. In an article titled “The power of the DPRK-Russia alliance is being demonstrated more strongly,” Rodong Sinmun on Friday said that their ties have strengthened through the treaty that provides “a powerful legal framewor

- [Otoki expands export capacity with Ulsan logistics hub](#) (2026-06-19 04:48)

South Korean food company Otoki said Friday it has completed a new automated logistics center in southeastern Korea that is designed to strengthen its supply chain as international demand for its products grows. The five-story facility in Ulsan can store nearly 10,000 pallets and is built to handle the full logistics process — inbound and outbound handling, labeling and order picking — with warehouse management and control systems intended to reduce processing times and improve operational accur

- [Navy drills near NLL, major ports to bolster combat readiness](#) (2026-06-19 04:36)

South Korea’s Navy concluded a four-day fleet combat drill Friday in the Yellow Sea and southern waters, involving about 20 surface vessels and air assets. The drills are aimed at sharpening combat readiness near the Northern Limit Line and around major ports. The Yellow Sea, which borders North Korea and China, has long been a sensitive maritime theater for South Korea, as it includes the de facto inter-Korean sea border repeatedly challenged by Pyongyang: the Northern Limit Line. The area has

- ['The Legend of Kitchen Soldier' director denies alleged comments on dating rumors involving main cast, including Park Ji-hoon](#) (2026-06-19 04:17)

Jo Nam-hyung, the director behind hit drama "The Legend of Kitchen Soldier," has publicly denied rumors that he made comments about alleged romances between cast members Park Ji-hoon and Jeon So-young, and Lee Sang-yi and Han Dong-hee. Jo addressed the controversy on social media, writing, "Stop fabricating things. I have never sent a DM (direct message)." His statement came after a social media user on Thursday shared what they said was a screenshot of a private conversation with the director.

- [Can a hotel bring you good fortune? Some Koreans think this one can.](#) (2026-06-19 04:08)

People preparing for a crucial job interview, launching a business or planning a wedding have been visiting one hotel in particular. Grand Hyatt Seoul has drawn attention on social media as a spot said to bring good fortune, with some posts drawing hundreds of thousands of views. One post went much further. A user who visited after hearing that a cup of tea in the hotel lounge brings luck with work posted a video saying four work offers came in afterward. The post drew more than 3 million views

- [When AI remakes images, photographers turn back to reality at Kukje Gallery](#) (2026-06-19 04:08)

What can photography still do in the age of artificial intelligence? Two exhibitions at Kukje Gallery offer a chance to contemplate the question, bringing together nine Korean photographers and the late American photographer Robert Mapplethorpe in a broad exploration of photography's enduring relationship with form, observation and material reality. The centerpiece is "Objects in Oscillation," a group exhibition curated by acclaimed Korean photographer Koo Bohn-chang, featuring works by nine con

- [Hyundai Rotem secures electric train maintenance project in Morocco](#) (2026-06-19 04:06)

Hyundai Rotem signed an agreement with Moroccan national railway operator ONCF on electric train maintenance on Thursday. Hyundai Rotem CEO Lee Yong-bae and ONCF Director General Mohamed Rabie Khlie participated in a signing ceremony held on the same day in Rabat, Morocco. Prior to the agreement, Hyundai Rotem had secured a 2 trillion won (\$1.3 billion) electric car supply project from ONCF in February. The cars supplied by Hyundai will connect key areas in Morocco to Casablanca ahead of the 203

- [Doosan, LG CNS link up for data centers, robotics and AI](#) (2026-06-19 04:06)

Doosan Corp. said Friday it has signed a memorandum of understanding with LG CNS to secure global competitiveness in data centers, hydrogen drone logistics and the artificial intelligence and robot transformation sectors. Doosan Corp. President Yoo Seung-woo and LG CNS President Hyun Shin-gyoon participated in a signing ceremony held at LG Science Park in western Seoul, Thursday. Under the agreement, the two companies will partner on data center and cloud businesses. They are to establish a busi

- [Korea expands insurance coverage for treatment of severe hair loss](#) (2026-06-19 03:26)

The state insurance program will start covering prescriptions for Olumiant tablets, used to treat spot baldness (alopecia areata), for specific severe cases next month, the South Korean government said Friday. The Ministry of Health and Welfare said the revision for the National Health Insurance benefits will be effective on July 1, regarding the medication baricitinib, acting as an inhibitor of janus kinase. Patients using this specific product for hair loss treatment can now be covered by thei

- [Le Sserafim's Chaewon to resume activities](#) (2026-06-19 03:26)

Kim Chaewon of Le Sserafim will rejoin her bandmates from next week, Source Music said Friday. The artist has taken a month off to treat neck pains, and has recovered enough to resume activities, according to the agency. The leader of the group has been absent from promoting “Boompala,” the focus track from the group's second studio album “Pureflow Pt. 1.” The LP has been on the Billboard 200 for three weeks, having entered at No. 10. The single ranked No. 176 and No. 108 on the Global 200 and G

- [Monsta X's Minhyuk releases 1st solo music](#) (2026-06-19 03:22)

Minhyuk of Monsta X will put out the solo digital single “Reaching” on Friday, Starship Entertainment has announced. This marks the first official solo music he is publishing, although he dropped mixtape “Ongshimi,” produced by bandmate Jooheon, in 2019. The performer portrays taking one step at a time to reach his fans through the modern rock tune. Singer and songwriter Ha Hyunsang participated in the lyrics and melody of the song. Meanwhile, Monsta X concluded the Latin American leg of “The X:

- [TXT Yeonjun's 2nd solo EP to serve up 'Ice Cream'](#) (2026-06-19 03:19)

Yeonjun of Tomorrow X Together disclosed the title of the main track from his second solo set through a short video clip via Big Hit Music on Friday. He appeared with an ice cream truck and gazed into the camera before the song title filled the screen in the 16-second video, titled “Ice Cream Is Coming.” The singer is bringing out the EP “No Labels: Part 02” on July 10, with the lead single dubbed “Ice Cream,” hinting at an ambition for a summer anthem. The upcoming extended play is expected to

- [S. Korea falls to host Mexico 1-0 in World Cup group stage](#) (2026-06-19 03:15)

South Korea lost to Mexico 1-0 in its second Group A match at the 2026 FIFA World Cup on Thursday (local time), falling to second place behind the host nation in the race for the knockout stage. Luis Romo of Mexico eluded Korean defenders to net the match's first and only goal five minutes into the second half at the game held in Zapopan, near Guadalajara in western Mexico. After a scoreless first half, South Korean goalkeeper Kim Seung-gyu collided with his teammate Lee Gi-hyuk and lost the bal

- [Taeguk Warriors don purple mugunghwa jerseys for Mexico clash](#) (2026-06-19 03:02)

The Taeguk Warriors brought a touch of Korea to the World Cup stage, taking the field against Mexico on Thursday night in purple uniforms adorned with the country's national flower, known as the mugunghwa, or rose of Sharon. The game, which was widely expected to be the de facto Group A decider, kicked off Thursday night — or 10 a.m. Friday in Korea time — at Estadio Guadalajara in Zapopan, western Mexico. Mexico was leading the group on goal difference after beating South Africa 2-0 in its ope

- [From public squares to pubs, Korea cheers as one](#) (2026-06-19 02:53)

National flags fluttered and chants rang out, from city squares to pubs and parks across South Korea on Friday, as fans rallied behind the Taeguk Warriors against Mexico. With the top spot in Group A up for grabs, Thursday night's match being played in Zapopan, western Mexico, kicked off locally at 10 a.m. on Friday. Seoul's Gwanghwamun Square was awash in red on Friday, as nearly 20,000 supporters gathered to cheer on the national team, waving national flags and chanting “Daehan Minguk,” a pop

- [S. Korea, Mexico goalless at halftime](#) (2026-06-19 02:25)

South Korea and co-host Mexico went scoreless in the first half of their Group A battle at the FIFA World Cup in western Mexico on Thursday. The teams traded some jabs without either side landing a big blow in the opening 45 minutes at Estadio Guadalajara in Zapopan. The winner of this match will win Group A with one match to spare and book a ticket to the knockout stage. South Korea head coach Hong Myung-bo made one lineup change from the previous match, with wingback Kim Moon-hwan drawing in f

- [Crunchyroll launch could reshape Korea's anime market](#) (2026-06-19 02:02)

Crunchyroll, one of the world's leading anime streaming platforms, is set to launch in South Korea later this year, a move industry observers say could reshape the country's anime distribution landscape. The expansion was revealed by Crunchyroll President Rahul Purini during a keynote conversation at the APOS entertainment and technology summit in Bali, Indonesia. Purini said the service will officially launch in Taiwan this summer, followed by Korea later in the year, although a specific launch

- [SK hynix tops W2,000tr market cap as Kospi hits record](#) (2026-06-19 02:00)

SK hynix's market capitalization surpassed 2,000 trillion won (\$1.32 trillion) for the first time Friday, becoming the second South Korean company after Samsung Electronics to reach the milestone, as a semiconductor-led rally pushed the benchmark Kospi to another record high. Shares of SK hynix opened trading at 2.77 million won, up 3.17 percent from the previous session, before rising as much as the stock's new high of 2,858,000 won, lifting its market value to about 2,038 trillion won. Samsung

- [TWS teases 2nd single in Japan](#) (2026-06-19 01:46)

TWS released a series of teaser visuals for its second single in Japan, "Soda Soda," set to drop Aug. 4, via agency Pledis Entertainment on Friday. The three-track single album comes after its fifth EP, "No Tragedy," claimed the No. 1 spot on Oricon's Daily Album Ranking in Japan. The mini album logged 250,000 shipments and was certified platinum by the Recording Industry Association of Japan. It ranked No. 10 in the midyear top album sales ranking compiled by Billboard Japan. "Soda Soda" marks

- [Rain expected across nationwide; won't be start of monsoon season](#) (2026-06-19 01:24)

South Korea is expecting rain in the southern region that will spread across the country later Friday, with showers anticipated for much of the weekend, according to the weather authorities. The Korea Meteorological Administration forecast cloudy day across the country, with rainfall that starts at Jeju Island expanding to the North and South Jeolla provinces. By nightfall, most of the country is expecting rain. Around 50 to 150 milliliters of accumulated precipitation is expected for Friday and

- [Seoul launches Korea's first map for local school swimmers](#) (2026-06-19 00:49)

The Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education has launched a comprehensive online map providing information on school swimming pools across the city, including their locations, ownership and operating entities. On Thursday, the office said the new service is intended to help people easily access information on school swimming pools and is the first platform of its kind launched by a local education office in Korea. The information is expected to help users make informed choices and identify the res

- [From veterans to newcomers, Taeguk Warriors pass the torch at 2026 World Cup](#) (2026-06-19 00:44)

When Park Ji-sung handed his captain's armband to Ki Sung-yeung and bid farewell to the South Korean men's national soccer team in 2011, soccer fans saw a symbolic passing of the torch from one generation to the next. Now at the 2026 World Cup, fans may be witnessing a similar moment. Perhaps one that could shape Korean soccer for the next decade. This year's World Cup has brought together two generations of Korean soccer talent. On one side of the field are the veterans who have defined Korean

- [US-Iran MOU poses new opportunities, challenges for S. Korea: finance minister](#) (2026-06-19 00:32)

The recent memorandum of understanding between Washington and Tehran aimed at ending their conflict presents both opportunities and challenges for South Korea, the finance minister said Friday, noting the government will implement post-conflict economic policies. Finance Minister Koo Yun-cheol made the remark during a ministerial meeting on international economic affairs, saying the government will seek to create long-term opportunities while strengthening its economic security and enhancing sup

- [Seoul stocks open at fresh record high on continued chip rally](#) (2026-06-19 00:32)

Seoul stocks opened at a fresh record high Friday after surging past a new milestone of above 9,000, boosted by a continued chip rally amid a boom in artificial intelligence. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index opened up 225.05 points, or 2.48 percent, at 9,288.89. The market got a boost from overnight gains on Wall Street, led by major chipmakers, such as Intel, Nvidia and Micron Technology. US President Donald Trump said that Intel had agreed to a deal with Apple to design and build

- [Movies in theaters this week](#) (2026-06-19 00:00)

"Toy Story 5" (US) Opened June 17 Animation/Comedy Directed by Andrew Stanton Jessie (Joan Cusack) fights to keep Bonnie's attention as a new frog-shaped tablet pulls the child away from her toys for good, in this fifth installment of Pixar's franchise. "Disclosure Day" (US) Opened June 10 Sci-fi/Thriller Directed by Steven Spielberg A TV meteorologist (Emily Blunt) and a whistleblower (Josh O'Connor) go on the run after uncovering evidence of decadeslong government contact with extraterrestrial

- [Festivals, sights across Korea](#) (2026-06-19 00:00)

The Muan Lotus Festival, South Jeolla Province's signature summer event, runs June 26 to 28 at Muan Hoesan White Lotus Pond. Launched in 1997, it is the country's largest festival devoted to a single flower, the white lotus. The festival is set against the backdrop of one of Asia's largest stretches of lotus beds, roughly 330,000 square meters, and invites visitors to walk among white blooms rising from green leaves and take in the summer scenery. The lineup includes an opening concert and a res

- [Packages and promotions](#) (2026-06-19 00:00)

Four Seasons Hotel Seoul presents one-night Cantonese collaboration dinner Four Seasons Hotel Seoul presents a one-night Four Hands Collaboration dinner with Four Seasons Hotel Macao on Friday, uniting two Michelin-starred Cantonese kitchens. The dinner brings together chef To Kwok Wai of Zi Yat Heen in Macao and chef Anthony Ho of Yu Yuan in Seoul. The seven-course menu connects Macao's Cantonese heritage with Seoul's contemporary fine-dining approach, drawing on premium seafood and seasonal pr

- [SK's social value creation hits W32.2tr, double 2018 level](#) (2026-06-18 23:00)

SK Group said Friday it created 32.2 trillion won (\$21 billion) in social value last year, a figure that has roughly doubled since 2018 when the company first began measuring its social impact in monetary terms. Quantifying social impact in monetary terms lets SK track contributions that companies typically report only in qualitative terms. SK has done so annually for eight years under what it calls "double bottom line" management, an approach that treats economic value and social value as paral

- [Joseon-era street dance gets a hip makeover](#) (2026-06-18 22:30)

The dancers begin with the familiar rhythms and movements of Korean mask dance, swaying their shoulders in the playful spirit of traditional talchum. They bow low, toss their heads and stare into the distance. The eyes behind the masks are never seen, yet their invisible gaze feels all the more penetrating. Then the atmosphere shifts. As the pounding beat of the geomungo, a traditional Korean zither, blends with electronic dance music, the dancers reappear wearing LED masks. With each sharp turn

- [\[Lee Byung-jong\] We need leaders like Jensen Huang](#) (2026-06-18 20:30)

Jensen Huang's four-day visit to Seoul earlier this month was as colorful and thrilling as that of a rock superstar. Wearing his trademark black leather jacket, the founder and CEO of NVIDIA — the darling of the ongoing AI revolution — appeared on a popular TV reality show, threw the first pitch at a professional baseball game and visited a PC cafe to meet pro e-gamers. The 63-year-old tech tycoon also met Korean business leaders, casually sharing beer and soju over chicken and grilled pork bell

- [No formal request made to S. Korea for participation in Iran reconstruction fund: sources](#) (2026-06-18 12:21)

South Korea has not formally received any request from the United States or other parties regarding participation in a proposed post-war reconstruction fund for Iran, sources familiar with the matter said Thursday. On Wednesday, US President Donald Trump unveiled the text of a 14-point memorandum of understanding under which Washington and Tehran agreed to negotiate a final agreement within 60 days to end their monthslong war. The document also included Iran's reaffirmation that it will neither

- [PM nominee's confirmation hearing set for June 25-26](#) (2026-06-18 12:21)

The ruling and opposition parties agreed Thursday to hold a confirmation hearing for Prime Minister nominee Han Seong-sook next week. A special parliamentary committee on Han's hearing passed a plan to hold a two-day confirmation hearing from next Thursday. In South Korea, the appointment of a prime minister is subject to parliamentary approval following a confirmation hearing. If confirmed by the National Assembly, Han would become the first female prime minister under the Lee Jae Myung adminis

- [Kim Yo-jong slams G7's denuclearization call, says North Korea's nuclear status is irreversible](#) (2026-06-18 11:06)

North Korea on Thursday denounced the Group of Seven's renewed call for its complete denuclearization, with Kim Yo-jong, the #influential# sister of leader Kim Jong-un, insisting that the country's nuclear status is irreversible and beyond negotiation. In a statement carried by the state-run Korean Central News Agency, Kim, vice department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, criticized the G7 leaders for once again advocating North Korea's denuclearization during th

- [Lawmaker calls for fixes amid overcrowding in off-post military exchanges](#) (2026-06-18 08:45)

A South Korean lawmaker called for improvements in military post exchanges located outside military bases, as the increase in the number of people authorized to shop there has triggered overcrowding in such installations. According to People Power Party Rep. Yu Yong-weon's office, the number of those authorized to enter the military exchanges — which sells everyday products like dairy goods and alcohol at a discount exclusively for military personnel — amounted to 7.85 million this year, while t

- [More aspiring K-pop idols are retiring in their 20s](#) (2026-06-18 08:32)

More aspiring K-pop idols are retiring in their 20s as unstable incomes, uncertain career prospects and mounting mental strain push many lesser-known artists to leave the industry early. CLC member Kwon Eun-bin made her retirement official Tuesday, announcing that the girl group's concert in Taipei in July, marking the 11th anniversary of its debut, will be her final activity as a singer. The 26-year-old first gained public recognition through the survival audition program "Produce 101" before d

- [As gender boundaries blur, K-pop experiments beyond traditional boy-girl group formulas](#) (2026-06-18 08:05)

For years, K-pop's image-building playbook relied heavily on gendered archetypes. Boy groups were often associated with powerful, masculine concepts, while girl groups were expected to emphasize beauty, elegance, femininity or cuteness. That formula, however, appears to be evolving. As audiences become increasingly receptive to gender-fluid fashion and self-expression, a growing number of K-pop acts are challenging traditional expectations surrounding gender presentation. Boy groups such as NCT

- [Louis Vuitton stars Jung Ho-yeon in final chapter of Na Hong-jin film series](#) (2026-06-18 07:49)

Louis Vuitton has released "Destiny is a Journey," the third and final episode of its "Spirit of Travel" film series directed by Na Hong-jin to mark the 130th anniversary of the house's Monogram. The chapter stars actor and Louis Vuitton house ambassador Jung Ho-yeon, who plays a traveler making her way through a snow-covered forest toward an unfamiliar world. Set against still snowfields and dense woodland, the film follows her as she searches for a path across unknown terrain. Louis Vuitton fr

- [Korea rises to 21st in IMD competitiveness ranking](#) (2026-06-18 07:35)

South Korea ranked 21st among 70 economies in the Institute for Management Development's World Competitiveness Ranking, rising six rungs on the ladder and marking its second-highest position since it was first included in 1997, the Ministry of Economy and Finance said Thursday. The latest results put South Korea behind only the United States among the "30-50 club" of economies with per capita income of more than \$30,000 and a population of over 50 million.

The US ranked 10th overall, followed by

- [Trump signals renewed interest in North Korea, but Tehran playbook may not apply: experts](#) (2026-06-18 06:55)

There is growing concern that US President Donald Trump could turn his attention to North Korea following the ceasefire deal with Iran, but experts say that Pyongyang presents a different set of challenges in comparison. Speculation has intensified following Trump's social media post last week featuring a photograph from his 2018 summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un and his exchange with President Lee Jae Myung at the G7 summit in France this week. According to the presidential office in

- [First heat wave alerts of year issued for Seoul, surrounding areas](#) (2026-06-18 06:31)

The state weather agency on Thursday issued the first heat wave advisories of the year for Seoul and its surrounding areas. The Korea Meteorological Administration put the alerts into effect at 2 p.m. for southern Seoul, parts of the surrounding Gyeonggi Province and Ganghwa County in Incheon, west of the capital. Earlier at 11 a.m., separate advisories were also issued for Gyeonggi's Hanam and Yeosu, alongside the country's southeastern regions of Gyeongsan, Yecheon and Gunwi, the KMA said. A h

- [Korea's summer beach season kicks off](#) (2026-06-18 06:31)

Beaches across Korea are opening in waves this summer, from early June through mid-July, as regional governments finalize their schedules. The first beach to open this year was Ayajin Beach on the east coast in Gangwon Province, which welcomed swimmers on June 12. Jeju Island is opening its 12 beaches on June 24. They include Geumneung, Hyeopjae, Gwakji and Hamdeok. In South Gyeongsang Province, 26 beaches will open on a staggered schedule. Geoje and Changwon go first on July 4, when 17 beaches

- [Korea bets on regional universities as student pool shrinks 40%](#) (2026-06-18 06:20)

An old joke in Korea says colleges will close in the order the cherry blossoms bloom, starting with those farthest from Seoul. For more than a decade, the saying has illustrated the growing anxiety over South Korea's shrinking college-age population and the widening gap between universities in the capital region and those elsewhere. Many regional universities face mounting financial pressure and the risk of closure as student numbers continue to decline. The concern is not only that some schools

- [CSOP launches Hong Kong's first Kospi 200 ETF](#) (2026-06-18 06:05)

CSOP Asset Management, Hong Kong's largest issuer of exchange-traded funds, on Thursday launched the city's first ETF tracking Korea's benchmark Kospi 200 Index, betting on growing global demand for Korean equities. The CSOP Kospi 200 ETF began trading on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, becoming the only ETF listed in Hong Kong and the Asia-Pacific region outside Korea that tracks the Kospi 200. Investor demand appeared strong from the outset. According

to CSOP, trading volume exceeded 30 billion

- [Kospi breaks 9,000 milestone](#) (2026-06-18 06:05)

South Korea's benchmark Kospi breached the 9,000-point threshold for the first time on Thursday, driven by a rally in chip heavyweights as foreign investors shrugged off the US Federal Reserve's hawkish stance and snapped up more than 1 trillion won (\$650 million) in local shares on the main board. The index closed at 9,063.84, 2.25 percent higher than the previous session. After opening at a 0.23 percent gain on-session, it extended its gains to break above the 9,000-point mark for the first ti

- [Gaon Cable rides US AI infrastructure boom](#) (2026-06-18 06:05)

Gaon Cable, a subsidiary of LS Cable & System, said Thursday it has supplied transmission cables worth millions of dollars for a solar power grid project in the US, as surging artificial intelligence-driven electricity demand fuels investment in power infrastructure. The rapid expansion of AI data centers has intensified concerns over power shortages in the US, driving demand for new power generation facilities and grid upgrades. Industry observers expect investment in US energy infrastructure t

- [US Fed's hawkish shift pressures BOK](#) (2026-06-18 06:05)

The US Federal Reserve signaled a higher interest-rate path as it kept its benchmark rate unchanged Wednesday, increasing pressure on the Bank of Korea to move toward monetary tightening. In his debut Federal Open Market Committee meeting, Fed Chair Kevin Warsh kept the target federal funds rate unchanged at 3.5-3.75 percent, but struck a notably hawkish tone, citing continued price pressures. While the Bank of Korea had already been widely expected to raise its benchmark rate soon, the Fed's ha

- [K-food's hottest new export is ice cold](#) (2026-06-18 06:02)

The Korean food craze has been red-hot. Now it's cooling palates with frozen treats. Korean ice cream is turning up in summers around the world as the latest beneficiaries of the K-food boom, with exports surpassing the \$100 million threshold for the first time last year. Frozen dessert exports continue that climb this year, rising 14.1 percent on-year to \$49.8 million in the first four months, according to Korea Customs Service data. The US remained the dominant market, taking more than 40 perc

- [Korea's hair-loss insurance proposal sparks backlash](#) (2026-06-18 05:58)

South Korea is weighing whether to extend national health insurance coverage to common hair-loss treatments, a proposal that has sparked growing backlash from doctors and patient advocacy groups. The debate centers on whether male-pattern hair loss, a common form of androgenetic alopecia, should be covered by the country's public health insurance system, which is designed to prioritize medically necessary treatment. Health and Welfare Minister Jung Eun-kyeong recently named expanded insurance co

- [Assembly probe launches as S. Korea reels from June election fiasco](#) (2026-06-18 05:53)

A special parliamentary probe into the National Election Commission and its regional branches has begun, with the rival parties having agreed to pass a proposal to execute a 45-day investigation on Thursday. The motion to launch the probe won 250-1 votes in the plenary session Thursday. The probe is expected to last until Aug. 1, but the investigation can be extended if the Assembly grants approval at a future plenary session. This follows a special committee meeting Thursday morning that greenl

- [Lee returns from Europe with Trump rapport, trade and defense deals in focus](#) (2026-06-18 05:52)

President Lee Jae Myung returned home Thursday from his first European tour since taking office, during which he renewed momentum in diplomacy with the United States, managed trade pressure from Europe, and supported Korean defense firms pursuing a major Canadian submarine contract. Lee arrived in Seoul from Geneva, Switzerland, after attending the Group of Seven summit in Evian-les-Bains, France. The trip — which also took him to Belgium, Italy and the Vatican — was part of the Lee administrati

- [Military moves to harden key facilities against drone swarms](#) (2026-06-18 05:52)

South Korea's military is moving to strengthen protection against large-scale, simultaneous drone attacks as officials assess that existing radar- and missile-based air defense systems may not be enough to block such threats. According to the Joint Chiefs of Staff on Thursday, the military recently commissioned a study to improve counter-drone protection for major military facilities, including ammunition depots, fuel storage sites, air bases and command-and-control facilities. The study reflect

- [Don't call Shin Min-a a rom-com queen](#) (2026-06-18 05:47)

There is hardly anything about "The Eyes," the upcoming Korean remake of Spain's 2011 chiller "Julia's Eyes," that will catch you off guard. The twists can be seen from a mile off, while the last act serves up no shortage of histrionics and knock-down, drag-out brawls. There's so much you can see coming — which is ironic, given that this is a movie about a woman who cannot see much of anything. What blindsides you is how much the lead, Shin Min-a, has to offer. Pulling double duty as twin sister

- [Matthias Goerne, Sunwoo Yekwon, to bring Schubert's 'Winterreise' to Seoul stage](#) (2026-06-18 05:32)

German baritone Matthias Goerne and Korean pianist Sunwoo Yekwon join forces Sunday for a piece they each fell in love with: Schubert's "Winterreise." The two will perform the song cycle at Lotte Concert Hall in a concert organized by the Hansae Yes24 Foundation as its second classical music performance. After presenting its inaugural "Winterreise in Summer" in September 2024, the foundation chose to offer the same program again because of the

significance the work carries, according to Baek Soo

- [Enhypen to return in August: report](#) (2026-06-18 05:30)

Enhypen will bring out a new album in August, according to a local media report on Thursday. Agency Belift Lab confirmed the timeline but did not provide any details. The upcoming endeavor comes about seven months after the seventh EP “The Sin: Vanish,” which spent ten weeks straight on Billboard 200, peaking at No. 2. The extended play sold over 2 million copies, making it the group's fourth consecutive set to do so. It will also mark the first new music since Evan, formerly known as Heeseung,

- [Samsung leans on AI, cost cutting to revive consumer business](#) (2026-06-18 05:23)

Samsung Electronics used its twice-yearly strategy meetings this week to map out a turnaround for its consumer products business, betting on artificial intelligence and a retreat from low-margin markets to revive a division dwarfed by its booming chip operation. The meetings ran on Tuesday and Wednesday at Samsung's Suwon, Gyeonggi Province, campus under co-CEO Roh Tae-moon, who heads the Device eXperience division that includes the smartphone and TV business, working through the mobile, visual

- [Gwangju officials rig system to get ‘golden’ license plates](#) (2026-06-18 05:13)

A supposedly random license plate system in Gwangju was manipulated hundreds of times by district office employees to secure coveted “golden numbers” such as 7777 and 5555, an internal audit found. Gwangju’s Seo-gu Office said Thursday that it would seek disciplinary action against employees who improperly reserved and assigned highly sought-after license plate numbers between 2023 and February 2026. The audit, conducted between February and last month, examined 16 employees in the district’s tr

- [Posco International expands palm business with PT.PAR launch](#) (2026-06-18 05:08)

Posco International, the trading and energy arm of Posco Group, said Thursday that it had completed the integration of Indonesian palm oil producer Sampoerna Agro and launched a new corporate identity under the name PT Prime Agri Resources, or PT.PAR. The company held a ceremony at the Raffles Hotel in Jakarta, Indonesia, on Wednesday to mark the completion of the post-merger integration process and officially unveil PT.PAR's corporate identity. PT. PAR finalized its legal name change in January

- [Senate confirms Michelle Steel as next US ambassador to South Korea](#) (2026-06-18 04:53)

The US Senate on Thursday confirmed former Congresswoman Michelle Steel as the next US ambassador to South Korea, filling the post that has been vacant since early last year amid a period of significant alliance coordination between Seoul and Washington. Steel, a Korean American Republican who represented a California district for two terms in the House of Representatives, was approved in a 55-39 vote. US President Donald Trump nominated her for the position in April. Her confirmation comes as t

- [Ex-Busan mayoral candidate investigated over alleged campaign attack hoax](#) (2026-06-18 04:43)

Reform Party leader Lee Jun-seok apologized Thursday after it emerged that a former Busan mayoral candidate from his party was under police investigation over allegations that he staged an attack during the local election campaign. In a Facebook post, Lee said he felt “infinite responsibility” for the investigation involving Jung Yi-han, who ran as the minor centrist party’s candidate, and pledged full cooperation with authorities. He also addressed the case during the party’s leadership meeting

- [World Cup puts Korean defender on Europe’s radar](#) (2026-06-18 04:38)

A new generation of players often makes their names shine at the World Cup. And South Korea may soon see the rise of a new global icon. Interest in Lee Han-beom, who plays center back for Danish club Midtjylland, is growing across Europe, with clubs in England’s Premier League and Germany’s Bundesliga reportedly keeping tabs on him ahead of the summer transfer market, according to reports on Thursday. Ben Jacobs, a renowned Premier League commentator for Talksport, reported that clubs in England

- [LG Chem partners with UK's LabGenius on AI cancer drugs](#) (2026-06-18 04:19)

LG Chem said Thursday it signed a joint research and license option agreement with UK-based biotechnology company LabGenius Therapeutics to develop next-generation multispecific antibody therapies for cancer using artificial intelligence. LabGenius has developed EVA, an AI-powered drug discovery platform that combines machine learning with automated high-throughput experimentation to design and optimize therapeutic antibodies. Under the agreement, LG Chem will provide an upfront payment and rese

- [Pulmuone's US tofu sales jump 17% on rising demand](#) (2026-06-18 04:19)

Pulmuone said Thursday that cumulative tofu sales at its US subsidiary had reached 107.8 billion won (\$70.6 million) through May, up 16.8 percent from a year earlier, as rising consumer interest in plant-based protein has boosted demand across its product lineup. The company attributed the growth to products tailored to US consumer preferences and expanded production capacity, which helped support rising sales through major retail channels. Pulmuone's tofu products are sold at about 15,000 store

- [Why K-pop companies are betting on India](#) (2026-06-18 04:15)

As K-pop companies expand into India in search of their next growth engine, veteran songwriter Alex Karlsson believes the country could become one of the world's five largest music markets within a decade — a development that could reshape the trajectory of the Korean music industry. The Swedish American producer, whose songwriting credits include BTS' "We Are Bulletproof: The Eternal," SuperM's "Tiger Inside," Enhypen's "Fever" and Ateez's "Bouncy (K-Hot Chilli Peppers)," said India represents

- [Korean hospitals dominate Newsweek' s Asia-Pacific specialty rankings](#) (2026-06-18 04:06)

South Korean hospitals topped nine of the 10 specialties evaluated in Newsweek' s latest Asia-Pacific hospital rankings, with Asan Medical Center, Samsung Medical Center and Seoul National University Hospital leading multiple categories. According to Newsweek' s “Best Specialized Hospitals Asia-Pacific 2026” rankings released Wednesday, Asan Medical Center ranked first in five specialties: cardiology, cardiac surgery, neurology, endocrinology and orthopedics. Among the hospitals included in the ev

- [Ronaldo's Portugal falls short in Congo draw](#) (2026-06-18 04:03)

HOUSTON (AP) -- Cristiano Ronaldo delivered a pretty forgettable performance in the first match of his sixth World Cup. After Lionel Messi, Kylian Mbappé and Erling Haaland all scored in their opening matches, the 41-year-old Ronaldo couldn't find the net Wednesday in Portugal's 1-1 draw with Congo. With players like Vinícius Júnior, Christian Pulisic, Viktor Gyökeres and Harry Kane also all scoring early in this year's World Cup, Ronaldo being held scoreless stands out even more. However, the P

- [\[팟캐스트\] \(802\) MZ세대 사로잡은 효소찜질](#) (2026-06-18 03:42)

진행자: 홍유, Tannith Kriel Enzyme baths heat up as latest wellness trend 기사요약: 중장년층의 건강 요법으로 인식되던 효소찜질이 최근 붓기 완화와 피로 회복, 정신적 휴식을 찾는 20~30대 사이에서 인기를 얻으며 새로운 웰니스 트렌드로 자리 잡고 있다. [1] Buried up to the neck in warm, fermented rice bran, a new generation of Koreans is sweating out the stress of daily life. fermented: 발효된 [2] Enzyme baths, a heat therapy long associated with middle-aged and older Koreans, are drawing customers in their 20s and 30s, who see the treatment as a way to reduce puffiness, flush o

- [A Korean media empire is unraveling. The movie business is paying the price](#) (2026-06-18 03:37)

When five subsidiaries of JoongAng Group — the media empire behind streaming sensations like the Netflix cooking-competition hit "Culinary Class Wars" — filed for court-supervised restructuring this week, the damage was expected to spill into the country's film business right away. Two of the units seeking protection sit at the center of an industry that's been on its back foot since the pandemic emptied theaters: the multiplex chain Megabox and its distribution arm, Plus M Entertainment. Indust

- [Heat-related ER visits rise sharply as Korea braces for hotter summer](#) (2026-06-18 03:16)

South Korea has already seen 300 people visit emergency rooms for heat-related illnesses this summer, a sharp increase from the same period last year, as weather authorities project hotter-than-usual conditions in the months ahead. The Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency said Thursday that it had recorded 300 heat-related illness patients as of Tuesday through its monitoring system covering 516 emergency rooms nationwide. The figure is up from 192 during the same period in 2025. On Tuesd

- [Medical costs push low-income households deeper into poverty: study](#) (2026-06-18 03:03)

Low-income households are far more likely to be pushed into poverty by medical expenses because they have limited access to private insurance and other health-related financial protections, a study showed Thursday. A low income was identified as a major risk factor that can drive households into chronic poverty due to long-term medical expenses, according to the study conducted by researchers from the National Health Insurance Service and Kyung Hee University. Other risk factors included chronic

- [Hospital says amputated leg found in recycling waste was discarded by mistake](#) (2026-06-18 02:47)

A nursing hospital in Incheon told police that a human leg recently found at a recycling center may have come from the hospital, investigators said Thursday. According to police, the hospital reported that the leg found at a public recycling facility in Songdo, Incheon, appeared to be waste discharged from the hospital. The leg is believed to have been amputated from a woman in her 80s who was being treated at the hospital after necrosis developed in her left leg. The hospital reportedly said th

- [TWS supports missing children campaign](#) (2026-06-18 02:43)

TWS is pitching in to support a campaign to find missing children, agency Pledis Entertainment said Thursday. The group will use its show, “TWS: Club,” to raise awareness. The show will carry information about children who are missing as well as messages from the group members. The campaign was launched by the National Center for the Rights of the Child. The idea came from Shinyu, who recently appeared on a program about searching for missing children. He said he wanted to find a way to contribu

- [Kia set to exit large bus business after 55 years](#) (2026-06-18 02:35)

Kia is preparing to exit the large bus business, a move that would bring to an end more than five decades of production dating back to its predecessor, Asia Motors. According to Kia's labor union on Wednesday, the company informed workers at a labor-management employment stability committee meeting that it plans to discontinue production of the Granbird large bus within the next one to two years. If implemented, production of large buses within Hyundai Motor Group would be consolidated under Hyu

- [Nongshim's Shin Ramyun heats up Mexico City](#) (2026-06-18 02:22)

Nongshim is bringing Shin Ramyun to global consumers through a promotional campaign at Campo Marte 26, a monthlong cultural festival in Mexico City that began June 11 and runs to July 19. The festival combines food, cultural experiences, art exhibitions, concerts and public viewing events, attracting large crowds throughout the event period. Nongshim opened its first promotional booth on June 11, drawing about 4,000 visitors, and planned to launch a second booth Thursday to further boost awarene

- [\[ANN\] From the zoo to the mountains: A Singaporean's quest to rescue bears in Laos](#) (2026-06-18 02:16)

SINGAPORE (Straits Times/ANN) -- Barely six months after trading his uniform at Mandai Wildlife Group for a job at conservation charity Free the Bears, Singaporean Karthirish Chandra found himself coordinating its most ambitious rescue yet, the extraction of 27 bears from an illegal bile farm in Laos. Rescued in May, the moon bears were freed from a foreigner-run facility operating under the guise of a zoo. Such farms feed the regional demand for bear bile, an ingredient used in traditional med

- [Cortis' s latest single logs 100m Spotify streams](#) (2026-06-18 02:02)

Cortis garnered 100 million plays on Spotify with “Redred” on Tuesday, according to label Big Hit Music on Thursday. The rookie boy group achieved the feat in 57 days, the fastest time for a song from a boy group that debuted in the past five years, the company said. The quintet has not even been around for a year, but has already amassed 800 million streams on the platform with 13 tracks. “Redred” fronted its second EP “Greengreen,” and the single ranked at No. 94 on Spotify’ s Weekly Top Songs

- [Castro gives crucial backing to Cuba reforms](#) (2026-06-18 01:58)

Cuba's powerful ex-president Raul Castro on Wednesday threw his weight behind liberal reforms aimed at reviving the collapsing economy in the face of a crippling US blockade. The Cuban government has announced a series of fast-track reforms to open more sectors to private investment, attract more capital from Cubans living abroad and shrink the state. President Miguel Diaz-Canel has presented the measures -- some of which are set to be approved by the National Assembly on Thursday, just a week a

- [Brazil's Lula warns Trump not to meddle in Brazilian elections](#) (2026-06-18 01:53)

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva warned US President Donald Trump on Wednesday not to meddle in Brazil's October presidential election after Trump made his latest criticism of Brazil over judicial moves against Lula's political rivals. The remarks show the escalating tensions between Brazil and the US after the Trump administration proposed further tariffs against the South American country and recently classified two drug-trafficking groups as foreign terrorist organizations — move

- [Popular TV analyst sees Son Heung-min as key player vs. Mexico](#) (2026-06-18 01:50)

Lee Young-pyo, a FIFA World Cup hero turned analyst, predicted Wednesday that South Korea captain Son Heung-min will play a crucial role in the Taeguk Warriors' upcoming match against Mexico. Lee, who provides commentary for KBS, used data from South Korea's 2-1 win over Czechia in their Group A opener last week to build his case. "Son Heung-min had 40 percent of South Korea's shot attempts against Czechia," Lee told reporters at Chivas Verde Valle in Zapopan, western Mexico, where the national

- ['I'm the boss,' Trump says at G7, as he warms to Ukraine's war aims](#) (2026-06-18 01:46)

US President Donald Trump on Wednesday told a roomful of global leaders "I'm the boss," as he and other G7 heads acknowledged Ukraine's improved battlefield fortunes with a unified pledge of support and fresh sanctions against Russia. Trump's comment -- a tongue-in-cheek acknowledgment of an unspoken truth hanging over the June 15 to 17 summit of the Group of Seven Western powers in the French resort of Evian-les-Bains -- followed a joint leaders' statement that could bolster Kyiv's growing lev

- [Netanyahu set to face voter fury over Iran deal](#) (2026-06-18 01:43)

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's hopes of clinging to power in an election this autumn have long been shaky, but the interim US deal with Iran has added yet another complication. US President Donald Trump has opted to end the wars in Iran and Lebanon long before Israel's goals were accomplished, and Netanyahu's boast in March that "we are changing the face of the Middle East" looks increasingly empty. Already facing corruption allegations, domestic political controversies and critics

- [What do Iran and US stand to gain from deal?](#) (2026-06-18 01:42)

CAIRO (AP) — The interim deal reached by the US and Iran to end their war will reopen the Strait of Hormuz and bring the two adversaries back to the negotiating table over Tehran's nuclear program. It will also give Iran an immediate benefit, allowing it to sell its oil freely again, according to a text of the accord read by US officials. Besides the new oil revenue for Iran, the two sides are more or less back where they were 3 1/2 months ago — before Israel and the US on Feb. 28 launched their

- [BTS adds shows to world tour itinerary](#) (2026-06-18 01:39)

BTS is adding one show each to planned stops in Jakarta and Bulacan, Philippines, as part of its ongoing "Arirang" world tour, its label Big Hit Music announced Wednesday. This expands the list of shows to 88, further solidifying the tour as the largest ever for a K-pop group. The Indonesia concert is set for Dec. 26, 27 and 29, and the Bulacan show is slated for March 13, 14 and 16, 2027. BTS starts the European leg of the tour with shows in Madrid on June 26 and 27. The group will next make st

- [S. Korea asks Azerbaijan to support Korean firms' participation in development projects](#) (2026-06-18 01:28)

South Korea has asked Azerbaijan to support greater participation by Korean companies in infrastructure and development projects in the Caucasus nation, Seoul's foreign ministry said Thursday. Vice Foreign Minister Chung Eui-hae made the request during the fifth Korea-Azerbaijan policy consultation meeting, held the previous day in Baku and attended by Azerbaijani Deputy Foreign Minister Elnur Mammadov, according to the ministry. Wednesday's meeting marked the first of its kind in four years. Du

- [N. Korea holds commemorative event marking observance for people with disabilities](#) (2026-06-18 01:23)

North Korea has held a commemorative event to mark an annual observance dedicated to people with disabilities, state media reported Thursday. North Korea held its annual Day of Persons with Disabilities observance event at the Sci-Tech Complex in Pyongyang on Wednesday, according to the Korean Central News Agency. Attended by public welfare officials and families of disabled people, various support programs were introduced at the event, with awards handed down to those who have participated in v

- [US may shift toward tighter monetary policy: financial authorities](#) (2026-06-18 00:51)

Washington may shift toward a tighter monetary policy as the US Federal Reserve underscored its commitment to taming inflation, South Korea's financial authorities said Thursday. Finance Minister Koo Yun-cheol made the assessment alongside Bank of Korea Gov. Shin Hyun-song, Financial Services Commission Chairman Lee Eog-weon and Financial Supervisory Service Gov. Lee Chan-jin as they discussed the outcome of the overnight Federal Open Market Committee meeting. The US Federal Reserve on Wednesday

- [SF Giants' Lee Jung-hoo ends homer drought after suspended game resumes](#) (2026-06-18 00:45)

Lee Jung-hoo of the San Francisco Giants has gone deep for the first time in more than a month. Lee belted his fourth home run of the season to help the Giants defeat the Atlanta Braves 7-2 at Truist Park in Atlanta on Wednesday. The game had been suspended due to rain Tuesday and resumed the following day in the bottom of the second inning, with the Giants up 3-2. The South Korean outfielder had driven in the game's first run with a sacrifice fly in the top of the first Tuesday. Then in his sec

- [Seoul stocks open at fresh record high despite hawkish Fed, Iran uncertainty](#) (2026-06-18 00:40)

Seoul stocks opened at a fresh record high Thursday, despite overnight losses on Wall Street caused by the US Federal Reserve's signal of a rate hike this year and uncertainty over a US-Iran peace deal. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index was up 32.74 points, or 0.37 percent, to 8,896.98, as of 9:18 a.m. Overnight, major stock indexes closed lower as Fed Chair Kevin Warsh hinted that there could be a rate hike this year to stabilize inflation, after freezing the rate for the fourth s

- [Lee posts Trump selfie, reveals golf invitation](#) (2026-06-18 00:24)

President Lee Jae Myung said Thursday that US President Donald Trump proposed playing golf together and gave him his signing pen during their meetings at the Group of Seven summit in France. Posting on X while returning from his trip to Europe, Lee shared a selfie with Trump and a photo of the pen, saying the two leaders discussed South Korea-US relations and peace on the Korean Peninsula. “I had a deep conversation with President Trump for 90 minutes about

peace on the Korean Peninsula and Sout

- [SK hynix ships HBM4E samples, joining Samsung in next-gen memory race](#) (2026-06-18 00:16)

SK hynix said Thursday it has shipped samples of its 12-layer HBM4E, the next generation of high-bandwidth memory for artificial intelligence, to major customers, moving the company into the customer-qualification stage roughly three weeks after rival Samsung Electronics claimed the industry's first such shipment. The announcement moves the HBM4E contest toward the more decisive phase in which AI chipmakers verify the memory inside their actual accelerator platforms. In high-bandwidth memory, wh

- [S. Korean midfielder happy to draw attention from opponents](#) (2026-06-18 00:16)

After being named the Player of the Match in a 2-1 victory over Czechia last week by recording a goal and an assist, South Korean midfielder Hwang In-beom is expected to draw plenty of attention from Mexico in their upcoming match. And it suits Hwang just fine. "I hope they pay a lot of attention to me," Hwang said Wednesday at the prematch press conference at Estadio Guadalajara in Zapopan, western Mexico, the site of the Group A match showdown between the two countries at 7 p.m. Thursday, or 1

- [S. Korea to apply zero tariffs on LNG, LPG under quota scheme to tackle inflation](#) (2026-06-18 00:10)

South Korea plans to apply zero tariff rates on liquefied natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas within quotas in the second half of 2026 as the country seeks to tame inflation amid lingering global energy price volatility, the finance ministry said Thursday. The Ministry of Finance and Economy said tariff rates on LNG, LPG and crude oil used for the production of LPG will be lowered to zero in the second half, noting the measure is expected to help stabilize consumer prices by lowering utility

- [S. Korea coach voices regret over drone incident](#) (2026-06-18 00:01)

South Korea head coach Hong Myung-bo on Wednesday voiced his regret over a recent appearance of a drone at his team's FIFA World Cup training site during a session being held behind closed doors. Hong ran a 90-minute session without any media at Chivas Verde Valle in Zapopan, western Mexico, on Tuesday, two days before South Korea's Group A match against Mexico. During the World Cup, teams are typically afforded one day to train behind closed doors, and Hong picked Tuesday to work on his tactics

- [Senate confirms Michelle Steel as US ambassador to S. Korea](#) (2026-06-17 23:45)

The US Senate on Wednesday confirmed Michelle Steel, a former two-term Korean American congresswoman, as the United States' ambassador to South Korea. The upper chamber approved Steel in a 55-39 vote, clearing the way for her to take the ambassadorial post as Seoul and Washington face a series of joint tasks, including "modernizing" their alliance and

implementing bilateral security and trade agreements. In April, US President Donald Trump nominated her for the ambassador post, which has been le

- [Trump, Iran's president sign deal to end Mideast war](#) (2026-06-17 23:22)

US President Donald Trump and Iran's president signed a deal Wednesday meant to end the Middle East war, with Tehran agreeing to dilute its enriched uranium in return for large-scale economic relief. Trump put his signature to the memorandum of understanding during dinner with French President Emmanuel Macron at the Palace of Versailles following a G7 summit, a US official told AFP. Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei, quoted by the state news agency IRNA, said the document "was fi

- [Pentagon renames Indo-Pacific Command back to Pacific Command](#) (2026-06-17 23:11)

The US Defense Department has renamed US Indo-Pacific Command back to US Pacific Command (USPACOM), saying that restoring the legacy USPACOM designation honors the Hawaii-headquartered command's deep historical roots. In a release posted on the command's website on Tuesday, the Pentagon announced the name change, a little over eight years after the command was renamed the Indo-Pacific Command -- a change that came as Washington recognized the growing strategic importance of both the Indian and P

- [\[Graphic News\] Seoul tops global ranking of most walkable cities](#) (2026-06-17 23:00)

Seoul has been named the world's most walkable city for 2026, surpassing major tourist destinations such as New York City and Edinburgh. British travel and culture magazine Time Out released the ranking based on a survey of about 24,000 residents across major cities worldwide. The survey assessed various aspects of urban life, including nightlife, street food, dating, public transportation and pedestrian accessibility. Seoul earned high scores for its compact urban structure, which allows visito

- [From teammates to rivals, old ties renewed in Korea-Mexico clash](#) (2026-06-17 23:00)

Fresh off a dramatic victory over Czech Republic, the Taeguk Warriors now face Group A favorite Mexico in what is widely viewed as the group's de facto decider. The two sides will meet Friday at 10 a.m. (Korea time) at Estadio Guadalajara in Zapopan, western Mexico, for their second group stage match. Mexico currently leads the group on goal difference after beating South Africa 2-0 in its opening match. All eyes are on whether Korea, at 24th in the FIFA rankings to Mexico's 14th, can defy the

- [Korea, Yonsei universities hit record highs as gap narrows in QS global rankings](#) (2026-06-17 23:00)

The gap between South Korea's top three universities narrowed in the latest QS World University Rankings, with Yonsei University and Korea University reaching their highest-ever positions, according to the 2027 report released by Quacquarelli Symonds. Seoul National University, the country's highest-ranked institution, retained its global position at No. 38,

remaining within the top 50, according to the global higher education analytics firm. Yonsei University climbed from No. 50 last year to No

- [\[Wang Son-taek\] Protests pose new test for Korean democracy](#) (2026-06-17 20:30)

South Korea's democracy appears to be recovering from one of the gravest crises in its recent history. The turmoil triggered by former President Yoon Suk Yeol's failed insurrection in December 2024 shook public confidence and raised concerns both at home and abroad about the resilience of the country's democratic institutions. Yet just as that chapter seemed to be closing, another challenge has emerged. During the local elections held on June 3, shortages of ballot papers were reported at scores

- [\[Lee Jae-min\] Lost in the regulatory jungle](#) (2026-06-17 20:30)

From the perspective of regulators, one common way of ensuring compliance with the law is to stipulate severe punishment in case of a violation, and to make provisions broad enough to encompass as many offenses as possible. Apparently, this approach has shaped the Korean legal and regulatory regime for several decades. The result is a proliferation of statutes carrying criminal penalties, many of which are vaguely and broadly defined — a systemic phenomenon now widely called "overcriminalization

- [\[Song Jong-hwan\] What the US–Iran peace means for South Korea](#) (2026-06-17 20:30)

In January this year, the World Economic Forum released the results of a survey of 1,300 experts worldwide. Half of the respondents described the current international situation as “extremely dangerous,” while another 40 percent regarded it as “dangerous.” Commenting on the findings, professor Kim Jung-ho of Sogang University observed that although we may not call it World War III, localized wars with global implications are already unfolding across different regions of the world. The evidence i

- [2 Koreas, not external actors, should lead peninsular issues: unification minister](#) (2026-06-17 12:41)

Unification Minister Chung Dong-young said Wednesday that South and North Korea, not outside powers, should lead in resolving security issues on the Korean Peninsula. "The leading players on Korean Peninsula issues are South and North Korea. That is the constant," Chung said at the fourth meeting of the ministry's peace advisory council held at the Office of Inter-Korean Dialogue. "Other countries are only variables," Chung said, "But they have come to override the constant. That is a tragedy."

- [Trump vows to play role in advancing Korean Peninsula issues: Seoul official](#) (2026-06-17 12:36)

US President Donald Trump expressed his commitment to playing a role in advancing Korean Peninsula issues while speaking with South Korean President Lee Jae Myung at the Group of Seven (G7) summit, a senior presidential official said Wednesday. Trump made such a pledge

while exchanging remarks with Lee, who sat next to him during an official G7 dinner the previous day, according to Oh Hyun-joo, third deputy national security adviser. "President Trump expressed a strong will to play a necessary r

- [KHNP picks Yeongdeok, Gijang for new nuclear projects](#) (2026-06-17 11:19)

Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power announced Wednesday that the sites selected for two new large-scale nuclear reactors and one small modular reactor are Yeongdeok in North Gyeongsang Province and Gijang in Busan, respectively. The decision was made following a comprehensive review by a site selection committee composed of external experts. The committee evaluated candidate locations in Yeongdeok and Ulju, Ulsan, which had bid to host the large-scale reactors, as well as Gyeongju, North Gyeongsang Prov

- [Heo Nam-jun sets next project with period romance 'Whale Star'](#) (2026-06-17 11:05)

After his breakout performance in hit drama "My Royal Nemesis," Heo Nam-jun is set to headline tvN's period romance "Whale Star" (tentative title) alongside K-drama heavyweights Choi Woo-shik and Moon Ga-young. Set to premiere in 2027, "Whale Star" is set in colonial-era Seoul in 1926 and follows a generation of young people against the backdrop of the country's independence movement. Heo stars as Song Hae-su, a resolute independence fighter who has lost his family. A fateful incident leaves him

- [BYD to launch first plug-in hybrid in Korea later this month](#) (2026-06-17 09:21)

Chinese electric vehicle giant BYD is set to launch its first plug-in hybrid electric vehicle in South Korea later this month, broadening its lineup beyond battery-powered vehicles as it enters the country's hybrid market. BYD Korea on Wednesday unveiled its Dual Mode Intelligent technology, or DM-i, at a briefing in Seoul ahead of the debut of its first DM-i-equipped model for the Korean market at the 2026 Busan Mobility Show, scheduled for June 26 to July 5 in Busan. Industry sources expect th

- [Seoul mayor faces 18-month prison request over campaign polls](#) (2026-06-17 09:01)

Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon faced a request for an 18-month prison sentence Wednesday over allegations that he illegally arranged for a supporter to pay for opinion polls during his 2021 mayoral campaign. The request was made by a special counsel team led by Min Joong-ki during Oh's final hearing at the Seoul Central District Court. The team also sought forfeiture of 33 million won (\$22,000). Oh is accused of instructing Kim Han-jung, a supporter, to pay for opinion polls conducted by political broke

- [Ballet star Jeon Min-chul returns to Korean stage in 'Swan Lake'](#) (2026-06-17 08:47)

Mariinsky Ballet first soloist Jeon Min-chul will return to the Korean stage this summer as a guest principal with Universal Ballet. The 21-year-old ballet sensation will perform the role of Prince Siegfried in "Swan Lake," which runs at the Seoul Arts Center from Aug. 14 to 23. The guest appearance carries added significance as Universal Ballet's production follows the

Mariinsky Ballet's choreographic tradition. Jeon will be partnered by Universal Ballet principal Hong Hyang-gee, who will dance

- [Seoul to host official Oktoberfest celebration in September](#) (2026-06-17 08:36)

A large-scale Oktoberfest celebration modeled on Munich's world-famous beer festival will be held in Seoul this September, bringing Bavarian culture, food and music to the Korean capital. Deutsche Oktoberfest Korea said Wednesday that the city of Munich recently granted the usage of the name "Oktoberfest Seoul," marking a significant step in establishing the event as an officially recognized cultural festival inspired by Germany's iconic tradition. According to the organizers, Oktoberfest Seoul

- [Foreign shoppers fuel Musinsa Seongsu's early success](#) (2026-06-17 08:19)

The Musinsa Megastore Seongsu, which opened in April, surpassed 7 billion won (\$4.6 million) in cumulative sales within its first 50 days. Purchases by foreign customers accounted for more than 3 billion won, or over 40 percent of total sales. The share of foreign shoppers has continued to rise. Between June 7 and June 13, overseas customers accounted for an average of 56 percent of purchases, peaking at 66 percent on June 9, underscoring the store's growing appeal among international visitors.

- [Hyundai Steel partners with LSU on US mill project](#) (2026-06-17 08:03)

Hyundai Steel said Wednesday it has signed a master research agreement with Louisiana State University to accelerate technology development and workforce training, as it builds a \$5.8 billion steel mill in the US. The agreement establishes a framework for joint research across areas including steelmaking, materials science, energy, robotics, automation and environmental engineering, allowing projects to move forward without negotiating separate terms each time. Hyundai Steel is currently constru

- [Posco boosts green steel, chip supply chain](#) (2026-06-17 07:34)

Posco on Wednesday completed South Korea's largest electric arc furnace and launched a high-purity rare gas production plant, advancing its push into low-carbon steelmaking and strategic semiconductor materials. The company held a completion ceremony for its new electric arc furnace in Gwangyang, South Jeolla Province, attended by Prime Minister Kim Min-seok, Posco Group Chairman Chang In-hwa and other government and company officials. Built with an investment of about 600 billion won (\$400 mill

- [Seoul stocks extend winning streak to 5th day on chip rally](#) (2026-06-17 07:07)

South Korean stocks extended their winning streak for the fifth consecutive session on semiconductors, while investors remained cautious of the US Federal Reserve's rate-setting meeting later this week. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index rose 137.64 points, or 1.58 percent, to 8,864.24, inching closer to the 9,000-point mark. After opening lower, the index entered positive territory in the afternoon, boosted by buying pressure from retail and

institutional investors. The two groups

- [Daewoo E&C; to launch 1,032 homes in Jangwi New Town](#) (2026-06-17 07:00)

Daewoo Engineering & Construction said Wednesday it will begin sales this month for Jangwi Prugio Mark One, a large redevelopment project in northern Seoul that will offer more than 1,000 homes to the public. The project, located in Jangwi-dong, Seongbuk-gu, is part of the broader Jangwi New Town redevelopment district. The complex will consist of 23 residential buildings ranging from five basement levels to 35 stories above ground, with a total of 1,931 units. Of those, 1,032 units will be available

- [Springtime in Pyongyang: Inside the DPRK's post-pandemic reality](#) (2026-06-17 07:00)

While much of the world focuses on the conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East, the Korean War — which began in 1950 — remains quietly unresolved. Held in check only by a fragile 73-year-old armistice, millions on both sides of the Demilitarized Zone continue to live under a perpetual state of war. As a bilingual, Korean-born North American photojournalist, I have spent decades documenting this divided peninsula. After more than three years of negotiations following the publication of my book,

- [Canada's \\$43b submarine choice: Korean readiness or German innovation?](#) (2026-06-17 06:30)

South Korea's naval ambitions are facing their most significant overseas test yet as Hanwha Ocean vies for a deal that could be worth up to 60 billion Canadian dollars (\$42.88 billion). The Canadian Patrol Submarine Project, or CPSP, aims to acquire up to 12 diesel-electric submarines for the Royal Canadian Navy, operating across the Arctic, Atlantic and Pacific oceans. South Korea's Hanwha Ocean-led consortium is up against Germany's Thyssenkrupp Marine Systems as finalists, with industry officials

- [New Grammy category could boost BTS' chances of first win](#) (2026-06-17 06:27)

BTS may be closer than ever to winning its first Grammy Award after the Recording Academy on Tuesday announced the introduction of five new categories beginning with the 2027 ceremony, including a category dedicated to Asian pop music. Among the additions is best Asian pop music performance, a category created to recognize outstanding performances in Asian pop music by artists from Asia or those recognized within Asian music markets. The new award immediately positions BTS as a leading contender

- [JoongAng heads to court in fight to weather debt crisis](#) (2026-06-17 06:24)

JoongAng Group's battle for survival enters court next week, with the Seoul Bankruptcy Court set to question representatives of five affiliates that sought rehabilitation after broadcaster JTBC defaulted on short-term debt. Legal sources said Wednesday that the court would question representatives of JTBC, JoongAng Holdings, Contentree JoongAng, Megabox JoongAng and JoongAng P&I on Tuesday. It is expected to examine the scale of their liabilities, liquidity

conditions and possible debt restructu

- [\[Photo News\] Shinhan's super app](#) (2026-06-17 06:23)

Shinhan Financial Group Chairman Jin Ok-dong introduces Super SOL, the group's new all-in-one financial platform, at its headquarters in Seoul on Wednesday. The app consolidates services across Shinhan affiliates and includes an AI agent that recommends and manages financial products through conversation. (Shinhan Financial Group)

- [US-Iran cease-fire raises new questions for Seoul](#) (2026-06-17 06:15)

The US-Iran ceasefire agreement is set to ease economic pressure on South Korea, but observers say the deal could present Seoul with a new set of challenges ranging from military contributions to pressure to participate in a multibillion-dollar reconstruction initiative. US President Donald Trump said this week that the Strait of Hormuz would be "completely open" from Friday, as Washington and Tehran prepared to formally sign a ceasefire memorandum of understanding in Geneva. US officials have d

- [Court presses FTC on Coupang founder designation](#) (2026-06-17 06:12)

A Seoul court has demanded that the Fair Trade Commission clarify the reason behind its decision to designate Coupang founder Bom Kim as the firm's controlling figure, or "same person." The Seoul High Court questioned the basis of the FTC's changed stance on Kim after its on-site inspection of Coupang during a hearing on Tuesday, asking the FTC to provide clear grounds on how the antitrust regulators confirmed that Kim's younger brother, Kim Yoo-seok, a Coupang vice president, took part in Coupa

- [Lee pitches Korea's role in bolstering Canada's security](#) (2026-06-17 06:12)

President Lee Jae Myung pledged South Korea's readiness to help strengthen Canada's security capabilities during talks with Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney, Seoul's presidential office said Wednesday. Lee met Carney on Tuesday on the sidelines of the Group of Seven summit in Evian, France, where the two leaders agreed to strengthen strategic cooperation in defense, security, energy and critical minerals, according to the presidential office. "Amid a reshaping of the global order, South Korea

- [Eximbank backs Doosan's Thai AI plant](#) (2026-06-17 06:09)

The Export-Import Bank of Korea will provide \$110 million in financing for Doosan's planned copper clad laminate production facility in Thailand, the policy lender said Wednesday, as it seeks to support the expansion of AI-related supply chains beyond China. The plant, which will manufacture high-end CCL used in AI networking equipment, is scheduled to begin construction this year at the Araya Industrial Park in Thailand. The funding follows a memorandum of understanding signed between Korea Exi

- [Unlike in France, Korea's unions back higher retirement age. Why?](#) (2026-06-17 06:05)

In many advanced economies, efforts to raise the retirement age have triggered fierce opposition from labor unions, as seen in France in recent years. In South Korea, the opposite is happening. The country's two largest labor federations have joined forces to demand a higher retirement age, arguing that workers face a growing income cliff between retirement and pension eligibility. The debate reflects the pressure facing the world's fastest-aging society: People are being pushed out of work before

- [Kim Jae-joong, between many worlds](#) (2026-06-17 06:05)

"When you sign onto a cross-border project like this, that's bait you can't resist," Kim Jae-joong says of "The Shrine: Whispers of the Evil Spirit." "I figured something would come out of it that you couldn't get any other way." The man across the table at a cafe in central Seoul on Tuesday has been a fixture of the Korean entertainment landscape for so long, it's easy to forget how many lives he's lived inside it. He broke through in 2003 with TVXQ, broke away to form JYJ, then went solo across

- [Korean investors snap up W1.2tr of SpaceX shares on debut](#) (2026-06-17 05:54)

South Korean retail investors snapped up more than 1 trillion won (\$661 million) worth of SpaceX shares on the company's stock market debut, underscoring the intense local appetite for the Elon Musk-led space firm. It is rare for a single US-listed stock to attract more than 1 trillion won in net buying from Korean retail investors in a single session, making SpaceX one of the biggest overseas stock purchases by Korean retail investors in recent years. According to financial industry sources Wednesday

- ['Buldak' now officially belongs to Samyang](#) (2026-06-17 05:49)

Samyang Foods has won domestic trademark rights to "Buldak," the name of its flagship noodle brand once considered too generic for exclusive ownership, handing the firm a stronger legal footing as it fights an expanding field of copycat products overseas. The Ministry of Intellectual Property approved registrations on Tuesday for the English-language "Buldak" and its Korean-language equivalent after a 30-day objection period passed without challenge. The registration covers "Buldak" in English and

- [Hyosung opens first AI data center in Seoul with Singapore's STT GDC](#) (2026-06-17 05:48)

Hyosung Group said Wednesday it has launched its first AI data center in Seoul with Singapore-based ST Telemedia Global Data Centres, targeting Korea's rapidly growing data center market — projected to reach 20 trillion won (\$13.2 billion) by 2030. Hyosung-STT GDC, a joint venture between Hyosung Heavy Industries and STT GDC, on Tuesday opened STT Seoul 1, a hyperscale data center designed to support cloud computing and AI workloads, in Geumcheon-gu, southwestern Seoul. The opening ceremony was

- [Seoul to ease military restrictions near inter-Korean border](#) (2026-06-17 05:41)

South Korea's land-use restrictions near the inter-Korean border are to be eased, opening up as much as 260 square kilometers for civilian use and development, the Ministry of National Defense said Wednesday. The move, which will ease restrictions in an area just under half the size of Seoul, is part of the Lee Jae Myung administration's push for civil-military coexistence. Seoul is about 605 square kilometers. Under the plans, the Defense Ministry will ease military land-use restrictions near t

- ['Teach You a Lesson' tops Netflix's global chart for second week](#) (2026-06-17 05:33)

Netflix Korean original "Teach You a Lesson" continues to dominate the streamer's global charts. According to Netflix's Tudum top 10 rankings, the series generated 21 million views during the June 8-14 tracking period, securing the No. 1 spot on Netflix's weekly list of most-watched non-English TV series for a second consecutive week. The drama premiered June 5. The title also demonstrated significant international reach, ranking in the top 10 across 91 countries, including Australia, Brazil, Fr

- ['I don't make coins': Korean YouTuber Kwak Tube dragged into crypto debacle](#) (2026-06-17 05:26)

South Korean YouTuber Kwak Tube suffered collateral damage in the fallout from a cryptocurrency crash after a Hong Kong-based project founder replaced his social media profile photo with an image of the creator. The confusion followed a hack targeting Humanity Protocol, a cryptocurrency project whose token recently lost more than 80 percent of its value, leaving investors facing heavy losses. As criticism mounted online, Humanity Protocol founder Terrence Kwok changed his profile picture to a ph

- [More than a meal: Temple food feeds students in body and mind](#) (2026-06-17 05:17)

Cheongnyeong Bapsim, run by the Korean Buddhist Foundation for Social Welfare, offers university students free lunches of healthy temple food, meant to nourish the body and mind as much as to ease their meal costs. The name joins the word for youth with "bapsim," the energy a person draws from a bowl of rice. Before the 100 students ate at Yeonhwasa on Tuesday, Ven. Seonjae put the idea to them herself. "A grain of rice endures a cold spring, a hot summer and the cold winds of autumn before passi

- [Three 12-year-old boys sent to juvenile facility under rare emergency order](#) (2026-06-17 05:16)

Three 12-year-old boys, who are exempt from criminal punishment because of their age, have been placed in a juvenile classification review center under rare emergency measures taken by law enforcement. Officials at Cheonan Dongnam Police Station said Wednesday that the boys are being held at the facility, which temporarily houses and assesses underage offenders before a court makes a decision on their case. The assessment can significantly affect the court's decision. The three elementary school

- [Lee asks Trump to lead peaceful resolution of North Korea issue during brief G7 meet](#) (2026-06-17 05:11)

President Lee Jae Myung held a brief exchange with US President Donald Trump on the sidelines of the Group of Seven summit Tuesday, during which Lee asked Trump to help lead efforts toward a peaceful resolution of North Korean issues, according to the presidential office here. The two leaders spoke for about 30 seconds during a group photo session for participating leaders at the G7 summit in Evian-les-Bains, France. According to a written briefing by Lee's spokesperson Kang Yu-jung, Trump initi

- [Stock bonuses triple at Korea' s top companies](#) (2026-06-17 05:06)

Stock-based compensation at Korea' s top listed companies more than tripled year-on-year in the first five months of the year, driven largely by major chipmakers and the growing use of restricted stock units, a report showed Wednesday. Executives and employees at Korea' s 100 largest companies by market capitalization received a combined 2.3 trillion won (\$1.5 billion) in stock-based compensation between January and May, according to corporate tracker CEO Score. The amount was 3.3 times higher tha

- [Korean-born Danish adoptee turns silence into language](#) (2026-06-17 05:02)

In one scene from "The Interpreter," a Danish Korean adoptee sits with an interpreter and her birth family. As questions and answers pass around the table, Korean reaches her only as silence — an absence she can hear but not understand. The interpreter and I look at each other and smile. My father says ____? My interpreter says, "He asks if you're still writing." I say, "Tell him yes, I am." My interpreter says _____. My father says _____. My interpreter says, "He hopes you'll become a famou

- [\[Treasures from National Museum of Korea\] White Porcelain Jar with an Openwork Peony and Scroll Design](#) (2026-06-17 04:55)

Period: Joseon Materials: Ceramics, white porcelain Category: Flower vase Dimensions: 26.5 cm tall This 18th-century white porcelain vase is a rare example of elaborate craftsmanship in Joseon ceramics. The vessel consists of two parts, with an openwork outer layer encasing a cylindrical inner jar. A vine motif encircles the neck, while a relief design of a ceremonial scepter (yeoudumun) appears near the foot. The body is densely decorated with an intricate openwork peony pattern. Covered with

- [BHC chicken cooking class open to foreigners](#) (2026-06-17 04:48)

Cook your own batch of BHC' s iconic sweet and salty Purinkle chicken. Seoul Gangdong Foreign Resident Center is inviting 25 people to join a cooking class with BHC, one of Korea' s most popular chicken franchises with more than 2,000 stores nationwide. Foreign residents of all ages who are interested in cooking Korean chicken are eligible to apply. Both children and adults can join. The class will be conducted in Korean, so participants are expected to understand the instructor' s directions. In t

- [From 'Guardian' to 'Love in the Moonlight,' K-drama reunions are having a moment](#) (2026-06-17 04:38)

A growing number of beloved K-dramas are reuniting their original casts a decade after their initial broadcasts, underscoring Korean entertainment's increasing reliance on nostalgia-fueled programming anchored by recognizable franchises. "Love in the Moonlight," the breakout KBS historical romance led by Park Bo-gum and Kim You-jung, is the latest title set for a cast reunion. The 2016 series follows Ra-on (Kim), who enters the royal palace disguised as a eunuch and becomes entangled in a romanc

- [BTS' 'Swim' extends Billboard Hot 100 run to 12 weeks](#) (2026-06-17 04:38)

BTS continued its strong run on the US charts this week as the lead track from its fifth album "Arirang" entered its 12th consecutive week on Billboard's Hot 100. According to Billboard's latest chart dated June 20, "Swim" ranked No. 43 on the Hot 100. "Arirang" placed No. 11 on the Billboard 200 albums chart. The song also continued to perform strongly on Billboard's Global Excl. US chart, where it ranked No. 2. Over the past 12 weeks, "Swim" has alternated between No. 1 and No. 2 on the chart,

- [Registration for free summer concert opens in Seoul](#) (2026-06-17 04:35)

A mini summer concert is coming to Seoul for a dazzling summer night. "Dear Summer, Seoul" invites people to make unforgettable memories with friends, family and loved ones. The concert will be held July 3 at Assa Art Hall, near Magongnaru Station on Line No. 9. Registration is open to everyone who wants to enjoy performances ranging from NANTA to K-pop, hip-hop and rock. Tickets are free, but registration is required. Up to two tickets are available per registration, and seats will be offered o

- [Lionel Messi ties Klose's World Cup goals record with his first hat trick as Argentina tops Algeria](#) (2026-06-17 04:30)

KANSAS CITY, Missouri (AP) -- Lionel Messi delivered his first World Cup hat trick while matching Miroslav Klose's career tournament scoring record Tuesday night, giving thousands of Argentina fans packed inside of Arrowhead Stadium for a match against Algeria a moment they will never forget. Messi scored his first goal in the opening minutes off a nifty feed from Inter Miami teammate Rodrigo De Paul, the second off an opportunistic rebound early in the second half, and the third on a crisp stri

- [Dead fish washing up on Korea's east coast may be linked to tuna surge, warming seas](#) (2026-06-17 04:29)

An unusual sequence of fish die-offs along South Korea's east coast is raising questions about whether one of the region's most productive fishing grounds is undergoing a significant ecological shift. Officials and local media said Wednesday that hundreds of fish, including mackerel and herring, were found dead along Yeongok Beach in Gangwon Province. Some

carcasses were seen floating offshore before being pushed onto the sand by waves, leaving behind a strong odor and prompting complaints from

- [Mirae Asset tops \\$1 trillion in client assets](#) (2026-06-17 04:20)

Mirae Asset Financial Group said Wednesday that client assets under management had surpassed \$1 trillion as of the end of May, reaching approximately \$757.1 billion in domestic assets and \$259 billion overseas. By affiliate, Mirae Asset Securities accounted for about \$531.3 billion in client assets, while Mirae Asset Global Investments managed roughly \$451.6 billion. Mirae Asset Life Insurance and other affiliates held around \$33.2 billion as of the end of April. The milestone caps several years

- [Young dancers seek freedom in Korea's growing street dance scene](#) (2026-06-17 04:17)

As music blasted across the Han River on a recent breezy Saturday afternoon, a crowd formed a circle beneath the open sky. Dancers took turns stepping into the center, testing their skills in battles in front of peers and spectators. The atmosphere was unmistakably competitive. Cheers erupted after particularly creative exchanges. Participants hyped each other up from the sidelines. Passersby stopped to watch. Yet unlike many formal dance competitions, the boundary between dancer and audience fe

- [Is it okay to click-clack keycap keychains in public?](#) (2026-06-17 04:16)

What began as a popular stress-relief accessory is quickly becoming a source of frustration in subways, offices and other shared spaces. As keycap keychains gain popularity among younger people, complaints about their constant clicking and clacking are also growing. Keycap keychains are small keyboard-inspired gadgets that click when pressed. They come in various designs and provide tactile feedback and audible clicks, making them popular as stress-relief and fidget items. However, many people s

- [Fifa invites Korean YouTuber targeted by racist gesture to match against Mexico](#) (2026-06-17 04:16)

A Korean YouTuber who was targeted by a racist gesture during a recent World Cup match has been invited by FIFA to attend South Korea's group-stage match against Mexico. In a statement released Wednesday, the football governing body said Yoon Su-jin, known as YouTuber Inocat, had accepted its invitation to attend the match between Korea and Mexico in Guadalajara. Though kickoff is on Friday morning in Korea, it is June 18 in Mexico, the International Day for Countering Hate Speech. FIFA said it

- [LG Innotek hopes AI boom can power W1tr chip substrate profit by 2031](#) (2026-06-17 03:06)

LG Innotek, the South Korean components-maker best known for camera modules used in premium smartphones, wants its semiconductor substrate business to generate more operating profit by 2031 than the company as a whole earned last year. The unit, called package solutions,

aims to raise its operating profit to 1 trillion won (\$662 million) by 2031, from 128.9 billion won last year, with revenue rising past 3 trillion won by 2030, nearly double the 1.72 trillion won it booked in 2025. The profit ta

- [Ateez floats teaser for 14th EP](#) (2026-06-17 02:57)

Ateez unveiled the final batch of teaser photographs for the release of its upcoming EP, “Golden Hour: Part 5,” via agency KQ Entertainment on Wednesday. Both in individual and group shots, the eight members exude playful energy tinged with mischievous vibes, hinting at the ambience of lead single “Bad,” a Brazilian punk tune with groovy beats. The octet demonstrates its ever-expanding music spectrum on four more tracks, from Latin number “Mamacita” to electronic dance track “Fallin’ .” The EP, t

- [Netflix’ s ‘Teach You a Lesson’ turns teachers’ rights into real policy debate](#) (2026-06-17 02:47)

Newly elected Gyeonggi Provincial Education Superintendent Ahn Min-seok on Sunday called for a public debate on creating a teachers’ rights protection bureau, turning a fictional agency from Netflix’ s hit drama “Teach You a Lesson” into a real-life policy proposal. The proposal has pushed the drama’ s central question into the real world: whether schools need stronger institutional protection for teachers, or whether a punishment-centered approach risks further damaging the trust among teachers,

- [K-beauty's 2nd boom: How indie brands, manufacturing powerhouses are rewriting the industry](#) (2026-06-17 02:46)

South Korea's cosmetics industry is in the midst of a second global boom, powered not by legal conglomerates but by fast-moving indie brands, sophisticated manufacturers and the growing influence of social media. Once dominated by legacy giants such as Amorepacific Co. and LG Household & Healthcare Co. and driven by demand in China, the K-beauty industry is now expanding its foothold in the United States and Europe on the back of a new generation of players. As a result, South Korea has become t

- [Degrees no longer required at SK hynix as AI hiring race intensifies](#) (2026-06-17 02:46)

SK hynix is removing all academic qualification requirements from its recruitment process, starting with a new round of open hiring that opened Wednesday. The world's leading maker of high bandwidth memory, the chips that feed Nvidia's artificial intelligence accelerators, says it will judge applicants on job skills and growth potential rather than degrees. Lines such as "open to applicants with a four-year bachelor's degree or higher" have been deleted from postings. Anyone whose experience, co

- [Auto exports down nearly 6% on auto parts supply disruptions](#) (2026-06-17 02:43)

South Korea's auto exports decreased nearly 6 percent in May from a year earlier, data showed Wednesday, amid disruptions in the supply of auto parts following a fire at a local factory. The

combined value of automobile exports came to \$5.83 billion last month, down 5.9 percent from the same month last year, according to data from the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources. Outbound shipments to North America, Latin America and the European Union fell 1 percent, 3.6 percent and 6.5 percent, respectively.

- [G7 leaders express optimism for peace after Trump's 'very good' Zelenskyy meeting](#) (2026-06-17 02:28)

US President Donald Trump said Russia should make peace with Ukraine after a "very good" meeting with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy Tuesday, in comments that sparked cautious optimism among G7 leaders that a peace deal could be struck. The upbeat mood over the Ukraine war, now deep into its fifth year, stands in stark contrast to Zelenskyy's meeting with Trump in the Oval Office last year, when he was told he had no leverage in potential peace talks with Russia. Zelenskyy and his European allies

- [Illegal strike controversy clouds Gane's UFC title win](#) (2026-06-17 02:27)

Fresh controversy has followed newly crowned UFC heavyweight champion Ciryl Gane after he reclaimed the belt at UFC's "Freedom 250" event celebrating the 250th anniversary of the United States, with accusations of illegal strikes overshadowing an otherwise dominant victory. Despite reestablishing himself as the sport's top heavyweight, Ciryl Gane continues to face criticism over his conduct inside the cage. Gane defeated Alex Pereira via second-round TKO in the co-main event on June 15 at the White House

- [Is Korean office life really like K-dramas?](#) (2026-06-17 02:26)

Have you ever wondered whether Korean workplaces are really like those shown in Korean TV dramas? Seoul Global Center is holding a free live webinar on Saturday to share the realities of Korean office culture. The Zoom lecture will walk participants through the complex positions and titles used in Korean companies, the formal and casual language native speakers use at work and the realities behind overtime and company dinners in Korea. Participants will also learn how to give a one-minute self-introduction

- [Cortis clocks up 800m Spotify streams](#) (2026-06-17 02:17)

Cortis stormed past 800 million streams mark on Spotify as of Monday, according to label Big Hit Music on Wednesday. Having debuted only in August last year, the rookie boy group reached the threshold in the fastest time for a K-pop boy group, and did so with 13 tracks: five from the first EP "Color Outside the Lines" and six from second EP "Greengreen" as well as "Mention Me," which is part of original soundtrack for Sony Pictures animation "GOAT." The focus track from its second mini album, "R

- [ABL Bio secures FDA Fast Track for gastric cancer therapy](#) (2026-06-17 02:17)

ABL Bio said Wednesday that the US Food and Drug Administration granted Fast Track designation to Givastomig (ABL111), its gastric cancer treatment candidate being jointly

developed with NovaBridge Biosciences. The FDA's Fast Track program is designed to speed up the development and review of drugs that treat serious conditions and address unmet medical needs. Givastomig is a bispecific antibody that targets Claudin 18.2, a protein commonly overexpressed in gastric and pancreatic cancers, and 4-

- [Stray Kids' Felix joins global hanbok campaign](#) (2026-06-17 02:16)

Felix of Stray Kids will join a global campaign to promote hanbok, or Korean traditional attire, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism announced Wednesday. “Hanbok Wave,” now in its seventh year, invites five small and medium-sized hanbok makers to design clothing for celebrities to showcase the aesthetics of hanbok across the world. The images will be carried by billboards in major cities worldwide, from Seoul and New York to Paris and Milan. When he joins the campaign, Felix will be foll

- [Behind Korea's soaring C-section rates: Risk-averse mothers, doctors in a strained system](#) (2026-06-17 02:03)

Childbirth by surgery is more than twice as common as childbirth through labor in South Korea today. Of the 236,919 babies born in the country in 2024, 67 percent were delivered by cesarean section — up from 51 percent in 2019, when surgical births first surpassed vaginal deliveries, according to data from the National Health Insurance Service. For Hong Hanna, who gave birth to daughters in 2022 and 2024 through surgery, the decision was shaped more by personal preference than medical necessity.

- [Matica Biotechnology launches open-access manufacturing platform](#) (2026-06-17 01:58)

Matica Biotechnology, the US subsidiary of CHA Biotech, said Wednesday it had launched its Matica Open Access Platform, with biotechnology firm Cirsium Biosciences becoming its first customer. The platform is designed to give drug developers greater control over manufacturing and development processes, challenging the traditional contract development and manufacturing organization model that often relies on proprietary platforms and long-term customer lock-in. According to Matica, customers reta

- [Foreign tourist spending in S. Korea tops 2 tr won for 1st time in May](#) (2026-06-17 01:43)

Monthly spending by foreign tourists in South Korea exceeded 2 trillion won (\$1.32 billion) for the first time in May, data showed Wednesday. Credit card spending by inbound travelers reached 2.12 trillion won in May, up 67.1 percent from a year earlier, according to the data from the Korea Tourism Organization. The increase marks the fastest growth rate since 2023. Spending by Chinese tourists more than tripled, compared with the same month last year, the data showed. By sector, shopping record

- [US combats pool algae with bubbles](#) (2026-06-17 01:39)

US President Donald Trump's remodeled Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool with its “American flag blue” bottom has turned chartreuse from an algal bloom that park service workers

struggled to address Tuesday just days after its more than \$14 million renovation. The Washington Monument is once again visible in the refilled pool, but Trump's vision of an azure expanse between the DC landmarks has been complicated by the harsh realities of chemistry and biology known to any backyard pool owner. The wo

- [Trump goes after Netanyahu as he pursues deal with Iran](#) (2026-06-17 01:37)

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told US President Donald Trump last year that he was the “greatest friend Israel ever had in the White House.” Now, as Trump tries to finalize a deal to end the war with Iran, he's unloading on Netanyahu with rhetoric that no other American leader has dared to use publicly. He claimed credit for Israel's existence — “without me, there would be no Israel” — and cursed his judgment in interviews. He even described him as “crazy.” Netanyahu's tenure as prim

- [UN secretary-general visits Haiti amid violence](#) (2026-06-17 01:36)

US Secretary-General Antonio Guterres visited Haiti Tuesday, where surging gang violence has left more than 1 in 10 people homeless. New statistics released by the UN reveal that 2,300 people have been killed across Haiti so far this year, with another 100 kidnapped, while 1.5 million have been displaced. Among those abducted is James Boyard, Cabinet director of the Defense Ministry, who was kidnapped last week in one of the few relatively safe areas of the capital. Guterres' one-day visit to Po

- [Congo Ebola outbreak may be 'worst ever'](#) (2026-06-17 01:36)

The head of Africa's Centres for Disease Control and Prevention warned that the Ebola outbreak in Congo could be the worst ever, saying Tuesday that it could cost billions of dollars to contain later if critical weaknesses in the response are not addressed quickly. More than 800 cases of the rare Bundibugyo strain, for which there is no proven treatment or vaccine, have been reported in Congo, 192 of them fatal. The disease, transmitted through body fluids even after death, is spreading fast ac

- [Le Sserafim stays on Billboard 200 for 3rd straight week](#) (2026-06-17 01:35)

Le Sserafim kept a spot on the Billboard 200 for the third week in a row with its second studio album, according to the chart published on Tuesday in the US. “Pureflow pt. 1” ranked at No. 177 on the Billboard 200 after entering the chart at No. 10 at the end of May. It is the group's fifth album in a row to be listed in the top 10. The group's latest song "Boompala" came in at No. 176 and No. 108 on the Global 200 and Global (excluding the US) charts, respectively. Meanwhile, the quintet's coll

- [Russian warship fires 'warning shots' in Channel](#) (2026-06-17 01:35)

Russia said one of its warships fired warning shots Tuesday near a yacht making a "dangerous approach" in the English Channel, though Britain evaluated that the shots were "not aimed at the vessel." The incident involved the Russian frigate Admiral Grigorovich and a UK-registered

yacht around 37 kilometers south of the Isle of Wight, just outside British waters, a UK defense source told Agence France-Presse. The latest at-sea tension between London and Moscow came after UK commandos intercepted

- [Paris Hilton returns to Utah 'troubled teen' facility to support others who allege mistreatment](#) (2026-06-17 01:17)

SPRINGVILLE, Utah (AP) -- Paris Hilton returned Monday to the Utah boarding school where she said she was abused as a teenager, the latest stop in her yearslong campaign calling for reforms to what is commonly known as the troubled teen industry. This time Hilton was speaking in support of two families who filed lawsuits Monday alleging that their children were mistreated at Provo Canyon School, the same facility where Hilton spent almost a year in the late 1990s. The hotel heiress and media per

- [Govt. to review tax incentives for young workers at SMEs: finance minister](#) (2026-06-17 01:05)

South Korea will review measures to offer income tax cuts for young workers at small and medium-sized enterprises in line with efforts to revitalize regional economies, the finance minister said. "We will review applying differentiated income tax reduction rates and benefit periods for workers at SMEs," Finance Minister Koo Yun-cheol told reporters during a press event held in the southwestern city of Gwangju on Tuesday. "In order to achieve economic growth led by regional areas, we will review

- [Navy chief stresses expanding use of AI tech to lead future warfare](#) (2026-06-17 00:59)

Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Kim Kyung-ryul said Wednesday the Navy is pushing to expand the use of artificial intelligence technology across its operations to prepare for future warfare and increase operational efficiency. Kim made the remarks during a seminar on the Navy's vision to accelerate its AI transformation by adopting innovative AI-related technologies from the private sector, according to the service. "The Navy has drawn up a comprehensive AI transformation plan and is reinforcing

- [Diamondbacks sign two-way Korean prospect Jun-Sang Eom to deal with \\$1.5 million signing bonus](#) (2026-06-17 00:58)

A South Korean two-way prospect has signed with the Arizona Diamondbacks, forgoing a domestic league draft where he was projected as a top-three pick. The Diamondbacks announced Tuesday that they have landed the 18-year-old player Eom Jun-sang during their international signing period. MLB.com reported that Eom agreed to a signing bonus of around US\$1.5 million. Eom's Seoul-based agency, Leeco Sports Agency, also confirmed the teenager's signing. "I'm really honored to have a chance to pursue my

- [Seoul stocks opens lower following tech declines on Wall Street](#) (2026-06-17 00:35)

Seoul stocks opened lower Wednesday, partly driven by investors pulling out of stocks related to artificial intelligence in the US market. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index was down 75.79 points, or 0.87 percent, to 8,650.81, as of 9:15 a.m. The index followed declines on Wall Street overnight, where a tech sell-off knocked down the S&P500 by some 0.5 percent and the Nasdaq by 1.15 percent. Nvidia surprised investors with a plan to issue \$25 billion worth of bonds, which marked the

- [S. Korea taking on co-host Mexico in pursuit of 2nd straight win](#) (2026-06-17 00:10)

South Korea will try to win consecutive group stage matches for the first time in their FIFA World Cup history when they face Mexico this week. The kickoff between world No. 25 South Korea and 14th-ranked Mexico will be at 7 p.m. Thursday at Estadio Guadalajara in Zapopan, western Mexico, or 10 a.m. Friday. Both teams won their first matches in Group A last week, with Mexico, one of the three co-hosts of the tournament, shutting down South Africa 2-0 and South Korea coming from behind to beat Cz

- [In photos: S. Korea returns to G7 on second straight invite](#) (2026-06-17 00:00)

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung attended the Group of Seven summit in Evian-les-Bains, France, on Tuesday as an invited guest, marking South Korea's second consecutive participation in the gathering despite not being a G7 member. Ahead of the summit, Lee said in a post on X that the back-to-back invitations reflected the international community's trust and expectations for South Korea and pledged to showcase the country's strengthened capabilities and confidence on the global stage. "Buildi

- [\[Contribution\] Forests of tomorrow begin with today's trees](#) (2026-06-17 00:00)

By Park Eun-sik Minister of Korea Forest Service June 17 is World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought, designated by the United Nations. Established to mark the adoption of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in 1994, this day calls on the global community to recognize the severity of desertification, land degradation and drought, and to reaffirm our collective commitment to action. This year's theme — "Rangeland: Recognize, Respect, Restore" — serves as a sober

- [Brief Lee-Trump encounter at G7 touches on North Korea](#) (2026-06-16 23:25)

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung attended the Group of Seven summit in Evian-les-Bains, France, on Tuesday and had a brief encounter with US President Donald Trump during a photo session. Emmanuel Macron, president of host France, welcomed Lee to the summit venue. The South Korean president responded, "I am so happy," after Macron asked, "How are you?" During a subsequent group photo session for leaders of participating countries, Lee had a brief encounter with Trump for about 30 seconds, a

- [Lee calls for efforts to advance S. Korea-Germany ties to 'new level'](#) (2026-06-16 23:15)

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung held bilateral talks with German Chancellor Friedrich Merz in France on Tuesday, calling for efforts to advance their countries' bilateral relations to an unprecedented level. The two leaders met on the sidelines of a Group of Seven summit in Evian-les-Bains, France, as Lee attended the event for the second consecutive year as the leader of an invited country. "I think South Korea and Germany are countries that could cooperate in many fields and create synerg

- [Lee says ties with Canada advancing quickly in mutually beneficial manner](#) (2026-06-16 23:14)

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung held talks with Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney on Tuesday, saying bilateral ties are advancing briskly in a mutually beneficial manner. The meeting came on the sidelines of a Group of Seven summit in Evian-les-Bains, which Lee is attending for the second consecutive year as the head of an invited country. The two leaders met ahead of Canada's expected selection of a preferred bidder for its submarine acquisition project, worth 60 trillion-won (\$39.8 bill

- [\[Graphic News\] Population movement up 6% on property market boom](#) (2026-06-16 23:00)

The number of South Koreans relocating to new regions moved up 6.3 percent in April from a year earlier amid the growing number of houses traded in the country, data showed. Around 506,000 people changed residences in April, up 30,000 from a year earlier, according to the data from the Ministry of Data and Statistics. The rising number of people changing residences came amid the recent rebound in the country's housing market. The number of homes bought and sold in March came to 71,975, up 7 perc

- [\[Cathy O'Neil\] AI 'siege pricing' must be stopped](#) (2026-06-16 20:30)

My great uncle Fred, a former World War II prisoner living in the Cascade Mountains of Oregon, had little to his name but a four-wheel-drive truck. When the treacherous winter storms came, he would drive around, offering to help poor souls who had gotten stuck in the snow. But he was no good Samaritan: He charged exorbitant prices, sussing them out to determine the maximum he could extract. He had all the power and he knew how to use it. Call it siege pricing. Today' s online markets, with the he

- [\[Kim Seong-kon\] Time Travelers to the past and the future](#) (2026-06-16 20:30)

Since the release of "The Time Machine" in 1960, Hollywood has produced a plethora of films about time travel. Among them, "The Terminator," "Back to the Future" and "12 Monkeys" immediately come to mind. "The Butterfly Effect," "The Time Traveler' s Wife" and, more recently, "The Adam Project" also deal with time travel and its merits and problems. These movies open our eyes to both the past and the future of human civilization. The themes of time-travel movies revolve around our desire to fix p

- [S. Korea, UAE discuss energy supply ties amid supply chain uncertainties](#) (2026-06-16 11:40)

South Korea and the United Arab Emirates discussed strategic cooperation in the energy sector, including joint oil reserves and nuclear power plants, the industry ministry said Tuesday. Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan met with Musabbeh Al Kaabi, chief executive officer of upstream at Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, to discuss the stable supply of crude oil, according to the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources. During the meeting, South Korea was briefed that imports of the 24 million barre

- [High school student under probe for leaving semen and urine in teacher's classroom](#) (2026-06-16 11:39)

A high school student on Jeju Island is being investigated for allegedly entering an elementary school teacher's classroom on multiple occasions and leaving behind semen and urine, police said Tuesday. According to Seogwipo Police Station and the Jeju Teachers' Union, the student allegedly sneaked into an elementary school near his high school in April and left semen in a teacher's personal tumbler kept in a classroom. On June 4, the student came back to the same classroom, where he urinated on

- [Airport identity check controversy over Ive's Jang Won-young prompts stronger guidance](#) (2026-06-16 11:22)

A recent controversy involving IVE's Jang Won-young during an airport identity verification check has prompted Korea Airports Corporation to strengthen guidance on passenger screening procedures. Korea Airports Corporation said Monday it will step up efforts to inform travelers about identity verification procedures, including by posting related information on its website. The K-pop star drew criticism online after a video showed her lowering her mask only briefly while undergoing an identity ch

- [Police probe Gunpo obstetrics clinic over newborn's death](#) (2026-06-16 10:59)

Police have launched an investigation into possible medical negligence at an obstetrics and gynecology clinic in Gunpo, Gyeonggi Province, where a newborn who suffered respiratory distress shortly after birth died nearly two months later. According to the Gunpo Police Station Tuesday, the infant was born at the clinic on April 15 and was transferred to a university hospital after developing breathing difficulties of unknown cause. The baby was later diagnosed with hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy

- [Architect Byoung Cho debuts as artist](#) (2026-06-16 10:17)

Architect Byoung Cho, known in Korea as Cho Byoung-soo, has long been celebrated for his earthbound architecture, earning him the nickname “the architect of the earth.” “My parents always told me that I should know where I came from,” Cho said Wednesday during an interview at BB&M Gallery in Seoul. “Every school vacation, they would send me to our family’ s rural hometown in Sangju. Although I grew up in Seoul, there was a period when I

preferred the countryside.” “I especially loved the smells a

- [Injured Dutch hiker rescued from Seoraksan by helicopter](#) (2026-06-16 10:08)

A Dutch hiker was rescued by helicopter from Seoraksan on Monday after an ankle injury left her stranded in the mountain. Local fire authorities said the 24-year-old hiker called emergency authorities at 7:14 a.m. after injuring her ankle near the Heeungak Shelter on Seoraksan in Inje, Gangwon Province. Unable to access the area by vehicle or land a helicopter, the Gangwon 119 Special Rescue Team carried out an aerial rescue, lowering rescuers from a firefighting helicopter to reach the hiker. S

- [In Lim Yunchan's Mozart, the left hand carries the feeling](#) (2026-06-16 09:46)

Pianist Lim Yunchan closed a five-concert, all-Mozart tour of Japan and Korea at Lotte Concert Hall on Monday, alongside Camerata Salzburg under Masato Suzuki. The collaboration was Lim's own idea. The 22-year-old, who in 2022 became the youngest winner of the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, proposed the series to Camerata Salzburg, the ensemble long resident at the Salzburg Festival and Mozart Week, on a single condition: that the music be all Mozart. The program paired two concert

- [SpaceX allocation fallout draws FSS probe](#) (2026-06-16 09:10)

South Korea's Financial Supervisory Service is examining Mirae Asset Securities and several asset managers, including Korea Investment Management, over SpaceX-related investment products after they failed to secure IPO allocations despite marketing them as vehicles for gaining exposure to the highly anticipated listing. According to industry sources Tuesday, the FSS initially launched an on-site inspection of Mirae Asset Securities before escalating it into a formal examination. The probe also c

- [Hanwha raises KAI stake to 9%, becomes No. 2 shareholder](#) (2026-06-16 09:04)

Hanwha Group affiliates have raised the group's stake in Korea Aerospace Industries to 9.04 percent, becoming the second-largest shareholder after the state-run Export-Import Bank of Korea and further solidifying Hanwha's ambitions in the aerospace and defense sectors. Hanwha Aerospace, the group's key defense unit, said Tuesday it acquired 3.02 million shares of KAI for 499.9 billion won (\$332 million), bringing its total holdings to 6.33 million shares, or a 6.5 percent stake. Another affiliat

- [Upstage bets on full home-grown AI stack as Korea pushes 'sovereign AI'](#) (2026-06-16 08:59)

South Korean firm Upstage said Tuesday it will pull its model, its workplace AI tools and a web portal into a single operation. The bet is that a home-grown AI system built end-to-end can compete without leaning on American or Chinese technology, a pitch the company is making as it prepares to go public. The ambition is not Upstage's alone. It is one of five firms the government picked last year to develop Korea's own AI models rather than rely on foreign ones,

a push officials call "sovereign A

- [National Assembly to launch probe into ballot shortages, NEC reform](#) (2026-06-16 08:53)

South Korea's National Assembly is set to launch a parliamentary probe into ballot shortages reported during the June 3 local elections, after the rival parties agreed to pass an investigation plan at a plenary session set for Thursday. Rep. Cheon Jun-ho of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea and Rep. Kim Seung-su of the main opposition People Power Party, the senior deputy floor leaders in charge of parliamentary operations, reached the agreement Tuesday. The bipartisan move comes amid growing

- [Labor, businesses clash over industry-specific minimum wages](#) (2026-06-16 08:52)

South Korean labor and business groups clashed Tuesday as the state wage-setting panel opened talks on a variable minimum wage, a proposal backed by employers and fiercely opposed by unions. The talks came a day after labor groups proposed raising the 2027 minimum wage by 16.3 percent to 12,000 won (\$7.93) an hour. The sixth plenary meeting of the Minimum Wage Commission in Sejong focused on proposals to have different minimum wages depending on industry, one of the most divisive issues in this

- [Riize exudes confidence on 'Do Your Dance' comeback](#) (2026-06-16 08:45)

Riize released its second EP, "II," featuring the lead single "Do Your Dance," on Monday. The album highlights the group's free-spirited energy and confidence in six songs that include "Soar," "D-D-Done," "Overdrive," "Like a Bomb" and "In a Loop." According to SM Entertainment, "II" sold more than 910,000 copies within a day of its release, debuting at No. 1 on Hanteo Chart's daily album chart. It also topped the digital album sales chart on China's QQ Music and earned a Triple Gold certificati

- [Doctors referred to prosecutors over fatal Daegu ER refusal](#) (2026-06-16 08:45)

Two doctors have been referred to prosecutors over allegations that they refused to treat an emergency patient without proper justification, leading to the patient's death in Daegu three years ago, police said. Police sent the case to prosecutors in April after a three-year investigation into the March 2023 incident, in which several hospitals allegedly refused to accept the patient or provide first aid. The patient, a 15-year-old girl, had fallen from a four-story building in Daegu and suffered

- [Libyan crypto broker faces removal after losing suit over W94b scheme](#) (2026-06-16 08:38)

A Libyan national who led an illegal cryptocurrency transfer scheme worth 94 billion won (\$62 million) faces removal from Korea after a court upheld an order requiring him to leave the country. According to legal sources Tuesday, the Daejeon District Court recently ruled against the man, who had filed an administrative lawsuit against immigration authorities over the order issued last year in connection with crypto-related financial crimes. The court rejected his claim that he should be allowed

- [Affinity revives sale of Burger King Korea operator](#) (2026-06-16 08:11)

Hong Kong-based Affinity Equity Partners has launched a sale process for BKR, the Korean operator of Burger King and Tim Hortons, reviving a divestment plan that was shelved four years ago, industry sources said Tuesday. According to the sources, the private equity firm has hired Deutsche Bank to explore a sale of its entire stake in BKR, which operates about 550 Burger King stores and 25 Tim Hortons locations in Korea. "The firm is considering a sale and evaluating various options, but no decis

- [Sneaking a look at World Cup? Koreans find ways to watch on duty \(or don't\)](#) (2026-06-16 07:47)

For years, South Korean soccer fans were used to pulling all-nighters to watch World Cup games after work. But this year is different. With all three of Korea's Group A matches kicking off at 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. on weekdays, people are finding themselves juggling work or school, while trying to follow the sport's biggest spectacle. As the Taeguk Warriors are set to face co-host Mexico, the favorite to top Group A, at 10 a.m. Friday, fans are once again trying to find ways to squeeze the "Brunch

- [Jeju culinary travel show airs in Japan](#) (2026-06-16 07:41)

A travel program set in Jeju Island and featuring actor Yutaka Matsushige is set to air in Japan today as the island steps up efforts to draw more Japanese tourists. The hour-long program features Matsushige, who plays the lead in the popular Japanese food drama "Solitary Gourmet" and is widely recognized in Japan, alongside Hiroe Igeta, who appeared in "If You Like What You Hear," a Japanese TV series about chain-restaurant fare. Jeju Special Self-Governing Province, the Jeju Tourism Organizati

- [Lee to meet G7 leaders as hopes grow for end to Iran conflict](#) (2026-06-16 07:26)

President Lee Jae Myung began the final leg of his trip to Europe on Tuesday, bound for Evian-les-Bains, France for the Group of Seven Summit, held just as the anticipation grows for an end to the war in the Middle East. Lee's trip there from Tuesday to Wednesday comes as South Korea seeks to expand its role on the international stage and amid rising speculation about US President Donald Trump's intentions regarding North Korea. Lee will kick off his official activities at the G7 meeting upon hi

- [Seoul stocks up for 4th day to finish above 8,700 on US-Iran deal optimism](#) (2026-06-16 07:12)

Seoul stocks shot up by more than 2 percent Tuesday, extending their winning streak to a fourth day on optimism over a US-Iran deal to end the conflict and reopen the Strait of Hormuz. The local currency weakened against the US dollar. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index added 180.62 points, or 2.11 percent, to close at 8,726.6. Overnight, US stocks rallied after US President Donald Trump said a preliminary agreement to end the conflict with Iran had

already been signed and the Strai

- [Hyundai Motor ruling expands bargaining rights for subcontracted workers](#) (2026-06-16 06:23)

South Korea's labor authorities have ruled that Hyundai Motor and Hanwha Ocean are legally responsible as employers for some subcontracted workers for collective bargaining purposes, a move that could significantly expand labor-management negotiations across the country's manufacturing sector. The Ulsan Regional Labor Relations Commission ruled Monday in favor of 10 subcontractor labor unions seeking direct collective bargaining with Hyundai Motor, recognizing the automaker's "employer status" i

- [Can Korea afford a 12,000 won minimum wage?](#) (2026-06-16 06:22)

South Korean labor and business groups clashed Tuesday as the state wage-setting panel opened talks on industry-specific pay floors, a contentious proposal backed by employers and fiercely opposed by unions. The talks came a day after labor groups proposed raising the 2027 minimum wage by 16.3 percent to 12,000 won (\$7.93) an hour. The sixth plenary meeting of the Minimum Wage Commission in Sejong focused on differentiated rates, one of the most divisive issues in this year's negotiations. Labor

- [Eyes set on DP chair's future](#) (2026-06-16 06:21)

Public attention is turning to Rep. Jung Chung-rae's future ahead of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea's national convention set for August, as competition for power within the party intensifies. The four-term lawmaker is facing mounting pressure to resign from his post. Jung has chaired the party since August 2025, filling in for Lee Jae Myung, who stepped down after winning the presidential election in June 2025. Calls for his resignation intensified after June 10, when, in response to Lee's

- [BTS shows shine light on flaws in Busan's event management](#) (2026-06-16 06:21)

BTS played two sold-out concerts at Busan Asiad Main Stadium on Friday and Saturday, drawing approximately 220,000 fans over two days as part of its ongoing "Arirang" world tour. While the concerts concluded without major safety incidents, they brought long-standing issues surrounding major K-pop concerts into the fore, including crowd management, accommodation pricing and illegal ticket resales. The most immediate controversy emerged on opening night, when the concert began approximately 75 min

- [Jeju Uprising drama 'Hallan' heads to New York Asian Film Festival](#) (2026-06-16 06:08)

Ha Myung-mi's "Hallan," a mother-daughter survival tale set during one of the darkest chapters of modern Korean history, will screen at the 25th New York Asian Film Festival, local distributor Whenever Studio confirmed Tuesday. Director Ha and lead actor Kim Hyang-gi will both attend the festival for talks with the audience, the studio said. The invitation comes paired with an off-screen tie-in: in partnership with the Jeju 4.3 Peace Foundation, the festival will host an

exhibition in New York s

- [Department stores' hottest item this year: Their own shares](#) (2026-06-16 06:06)

South Korea's department store operators have become some of the market's standout performers, as luxury shoppers and foreign tourists return in force, turning the once-stagnant sector into an investor favorite. Over the past six months, shares of Shinsegae, Lotte Shopping and Hyundai Department Store have surged 166.5 percent, 146.1 percent and 97.2 percent, respectively, as of Monday's close. Shinsegae stands apart, up more than 300 percent over the past year, far outpacing its peers. Industry

- [Why Korea's chip boom is stirring hopes far from Seoul](#) (2026-06-16 06:03)

Across Korea's southwest, politicians have spent the last week hinting that the country's two chip giants may be preparing investments there. Samsung Electronics and SK hynix say they know nothing about it. The promise was put most plainly on June 6, when Min Hyung-bae, the incoming leader of the new unified Gwangju region, told a forum that the prime minister had leaned in and told him, quietly, that "something is coming." That something, he indicated, was a share of the semiconductor boom that

- [After detention reform, migrants still face locked doors and long waits](#) (2026-06-16 05:56)

At the National Human Rights Commission of Korea headquarters in Seoul, a former detainee at Hwaseong Immigration Detention Center recalled the day he was taken into custody.

"Immigration officers stormed into my company cafeteria, stopped our meal, threw away our food, handcuffed all the undocumented workers and took us by bus to the detention center," he said during a press conference Tuesday. The testimony added to rights groups' broader criticism that Korea's immigration detention system rem

- [After IPO setback, Korean ETF managers rush into SpaceX](#) (2026-06-16 05:55)

South Korean asset managers are rushing to increase exposure to SpaceX through exchange-traded funds, as investor demand for the newly listed aerospace company remains strong. Leading the pack is Ace US Space Tech Active ETF, managed by Korea Investment Management, with SpaceX accounting for 26.41 percent of its portfolio as of Tuesday. The fund had initially sought to secure initial public offering allocations through Mirae Asset Securities but pivoted quickly to open-market purchases after the

- [Kim Hye-seong, Kim Ha-seong rank high in MLB All-Star voting](#) (2026-06-16 05:52)

In the fan voting for the Major League Baseball All-Star Game, two Korean players -- Kim Hye-seong, who is currently playing in the minors, and Kim Ha-seong, who has been struggling badly at the plate -- have ranked surprisingly high. According to the interim results of the American League and National League All-Star fan voting released by MLB headquarters on Monday, Kim Hye-seong of the Los Angeles Dodgers has received 345,924 votes, placing fourth among National League second basemen. Kim Ha-

- [Lotte pushes AI agents across workplace](#) (2026-06-16 05:41)

Lotte Group Chairman Shin Dong-bin took part in the group's "CEO AI Academy" earlier this month, building AI-powered services and developing an AI agent himself as the conglomerate accelerates its artificial intelligence transformation. The two-day program, held June 5-6, brought together the CEOs of 50 Lotte affiliates to review the group's AI transformation strategy and discuss future business applications of AI. During the training, Shin created AI services using vibe coding and developed an

- [North Korea slams Japan's live-fire drill as rehearsal for reinvasion](#) (2026-06-16 05:39)

North Korea on Tuesday slammed the recent large-scale live-fire drill carried out by Japan's Ground Self-Defense Force, claiming the drill was part of plans to complete what it called Japan's capability for reinvasion. Nodong Sinmun, the North's main Rodong Workers' Party newspaper, said in an article published Tuesday that Japan's "counterstrike" capability is "in essence, a preemptive attack capability." The paper took issue with the drills conducted by Japan's Ground Self-Defense Force on Jun

- [Travel Korea market lands at Paris museum](#) (2026-06-16 05:25)

The Korea Tourism Organization staged the 2026 France B2B Travel Mart in Paris and Lyon over two days from June 10, courting about 130 French travel industry figures as Korea and France mark the 140th anniversary of diplomatic relations. The opening day in Paris unfolded at the Guimet Museum, where the agency tied its sales pitch to two Korean exhibitions on view there, "K-Beauty. Korean Beauty, Story of a Phenomenon" and "Silla : Gold and the Sacred. Royal Treasures of Korea." Juliette Morillot

- [Nexon CEO says context will define gaming winners in AI era](#) (2026-06-16 05:22)

Artificial intelligence may be lowering barriers to game development, but Nexon Korea co-CEO Kang Dae-hyun believes the industry's most valuable asset remains difficult to automate: context. In a keynote speech at the 2026 Nexon Developers Conference on Tuesday, Kang identified "context" and "compound interest" as the two critical factors that will determine success in the AI era. "Now, games must compete through the depth of context, not based on how well they're made," he said. Kang presented

- [For Cha Jin-yeob, dance begins with conversation and ends with care](#) (2026-06-16 05:19)

A group of travelers traverses an endless range of mountains with bundles slung over their backs. They sweep across the floor on their knees, shifting from side to side, and stooping under invisible burdens as they labor forward one step at a time. Then, as if momentarily released from gravity itself, they burst into free, weightless runs. At times, they move hand in hand. Moments later, they scatter across the stage, each tracing a different path. As bodies overlap and intertwine, they merge wi

- [MapleStory enters cinemas with 'Dear My Hero'](#) (2026-06-16 05:19)

South Korea's hit massively multiplayer online role-playing game MapleStory is making the leap to the big screen with the release of its first animated film. "Dear My Hero" follows Aidan, a new recruit in the Cygnus Knights who joins the order out of admiration for the legendary Adversary. The story traces Aidan's journey as he confronts his limitations and forges his own path. The 32-minute film is rated PG-12. Tickets are available through Lotte Cinema's website and mobile app, and priced at 5

- [Park Ji-hoon isn't worried about hitting pause with military enlistment](#) (2026-06-16 05:15)

The first half of 2026 marked a distinct shift in scale for Park Ji-hoon. Coming off his performance as the tragic young king Danjong in the historical epic "The King's Warden" — which broke box-office records to become the second-highest-grossing Korean film of all time — the actor has found himself at the center of Korea's entertainment landscape. But rather than cash in on that momentum with another heavy dramatic vehicle, Park made a creative pivot with his follow-up project. In the comedy s

- [Nearly half world's children exposed to climate risks: UNICEF](#) (2026-06-16 05:12)

More than one billion children face at least three overlapping climate hazards, UNICEF warned Monday, while highlighting the disproportionate impact in some regions of the world. For the report, the UN agency cross-referenced data showing where the roughly 2.4 billion children on the planet live with the geographic distribution of the eight most common climate impacts. They are coastal flooding, river flooding, drought, tropical storms, heat waves -- at least three days above a high temperature

- [Internet banks join household debt clampdown](#) (2026-06-16 05:07)

South Korean lenders are tightening access to unsecured borrowing as concern grows over surging household debt, with internet-only banks joining a pullback that started with major commercial lenders. K Bank went furthest among online lenders, suspending all new overdraft accounts through July 31, the company said Tuesday. It has also capped daily credit loan applications and plans to lower limits for high-income borrowers. Kakao Bank, the country's largest internet-only bank, said it will cut th

- [Medical care out of reach on 60% of inhabited islands](#) (2026-06-16 05:03)

Six in 10 inhabited islands in South Korea have no medical facilities, leaving residents in many areas dependent on medical service vessels, government data showed Tuesday. Only 192 of the 480 islands with permanent populations had either public or private facilities providing medical care in 2024, according to a report compiled by the National Assembly Research Service based on data from the Korea Island Development Institute. Medical facilities as defined by the report do not include pharmacie

- [Indian star Anushka Sen wraps filming on Jeju-set romance](#) (2026-06-16 04:33)

Indian actor and social media personality Anushka Sen has wrapped production on "Jeju Olle" (working English title), a Jeju Island-set romance set for release across India, Southeast Asia and the Middle East. Producers Lucifer Productions and Storyworks said Monday that filming is nearly complete, with the 30th and final day of shooting slated for Tuesday. Sen has reportedly been based on the island since mid-April. "Jeju Olle" follows Alisha, a singer who comes to the island grieving the loss o

- [NH NongHyup Bank deepens ties with City of London](#) (2026-06-16 04:14)

NH NongHyup Bank CEO Kang Tae-young met with Lady Mayor of the City of London Susan Langley and British Ambassador to South Korea Colin Crooks on Monday to discuss financial cooperation, digital assets and the bank's expansion in Europe. The meeting, held at NH NongHyup Bank's headquarters in Seoul, focused on ways to strengthen ties between Korean and British financial institutions, explore joint investment opportunities with the City of London and expand cooperation in emerging areas such as t

- [Cape Verde holds Spain to a surprising 0-0 draw in the country's World Cup debut](#) (2026-06-16 03:45)

ATLANTA (AP) -- Tiny Cape Verde, making its debut at the World Cup, pulled off a stunner, holding heavily favored Spain scoreless in a 0-0 draw on Monday. "This means everything for our country," Cape Verde coach Pedro Leitão Brito said. "We have always said that we wanted everybody to see our country, our team and we have shown organization and braveness and this is proof of what our country is about -- resilience and to try to overcome hardships." European champion Spain is one of the favorite

- [Bolivia roadblocks ease but shortages of basics persist](#) (2026-06-16 03:35)

Roadblocks choking entry into Bolivia's main cities eased Monday but shortages of fuel, food and other basics remained after more than a month of protests against center-right President Rodrigo Paz. The protesters are calling for an end to US-backed Paz's economic reforms, designed to sweep away 20 years of socialist government, and are demanding his resignation. Over the past two weeks roadblocks denying delivery of essentials to cities like La Paz have fallen from more than 100 to 50 on Monday

- [Ecuadorean candidate to head UN calls for body to be shrunk responsibly](#) (2026-06-16 03:33)

An Ecuadorean candidate for the United Nations secretary-general said on Monday that the world body remains essential but must be shrunk responsibly. Maria Fernanda Espinosa, a former foreign affairs minister and defense minister of Ecuador, is among six candidates to succeed Antonio Guterres as UN chief after his term expires at the end of the year. Guterres' successor will face an enormous task of revitalizing an organization in crisis with declining stature. "I am under no illusion about the

- [‘Feel Thailand’ s creative heartbeat’ in Korea: envoy](#) (2026-06-16 03:32)

From sizzling street food and Thai tea to T-Pop, K-Pop and traditional massage, Thailand will bring the Sawasdee Thai Festival back to Seoul's Cheonggyecheon this weekend. Thai Ambassador Tanee Sangrat said the festival would give visitors the chance to experience Thailand without boarding a plane, and feel its "creative life and heartbeat." Marking its 11th anniversary this year, the festival runs Saturday and Sunday and is open to the public free of charge. Sangrat told The Korea Herald that t

- [Cuba quantifies impact of US oil blockade on children's health and daily life](#) (2026-06-16 03:32)

Some of Cuba’ s sickest people are feeling the effects of the US energy blockade, with surgeries delayed, kidney dialysis treatments disrupted and children with cancer facing a higher risk of death, according to a report published Monday by Cuban state-run media. The survival rate for children with cancer has fallen to 65 percent from 85 percent before the energy restrictions began in January, according to the report released by Cubadebate. It also said 100,000 children younger than 7 are no long

- [Iranian rulers must face demands of population](#) (2026-06-16 03:16)

Iran's theocratic rulers have seen off a US military campaign but their real problems may be about to begin: managing the competing demands of hardliners buoyed by surviving the onslaught and those of an impoverished, angry people. Iran's powerful hardliners are energized by a three-month confrontation they feel Iran has won. They want the leadership to take a tough stance in coming talks with the US and prioritise rearming, confident they can halt any internal dissent with force. Ordinary Iran

- [Netanyahu and Trump on collision course as US, Iran agree to halt war](#) (2026-06-16 03:15)

Benjamin Netanyahu bet that his joint war alongside Donald Trump would topple Iran's clerical rulers and bolster himself ahead of elections at home, as the architect of a US-Israeli alliance that would reshape the Middle East. Instead, Israel's longest-serving prime minister is on a collision course with Trump as the US president seeks to extricate himself from the war, with both men's goals unmet and Israeli military operations tied down in Lebanon. For now, Israeli officials have been cautiou

- [Stateless child in Korea granted legal status to stay](#) (2026-06-16 03:13)

A 10-year-old child born in Korea who was stateless for two years after losing her citizenship will be granted a visa to stay in the country, the Ulsan Immigration Office said Tuesday. The child was a Korean citizen at birth. But the family registry was legally closed due to parental circumstances and she lost her citizenship. She was not registered under another nationality because by that point she had become estranged from her mother, a Vietnamese national. The Ulsan Immigration Office has de

- [SNUH eyes tech-driven revenue to keep public care afloat](#) (2026-06-16 03:00)

Seoul National University Hospital Group plans to pursue technology-driven businesses and artificial intelligence-powered management innovation to bolster the sustainability of its public health mission. As the only public institution among Korea's largest hospital networks, the group says new revenue streams will help sustain essential medical services regardless of region or socioeconomic status. The strategy comes as Korea's healthcare system faces growing strain from mounting hospital defici

- [Seventeen's Joshua to speak at UNESCO](#) (2026-06-16 02:49)

Joshua of Seventeen is set to make a speech at a youth event hosted by UNESCO on June 25, according to agency Pledis Entertainment on Tuesday. He will address the audience on behalf of the group at the event held at the organization's headquarters in Paris to promote global youth support program "Going Together -- For Youth Creativity & Well-being," a joint initiative from Seventeen and UNESCO. The 13-member act was appointed to be youth goodwill ambassadors for the organization in 2024 and dona

- [Tencent Cloud sees Korea as benchmark for AI, gaming](#) (2026-06-16 02:45)

Tencent Cloud is stepping up its push in South Korea, betting on the country's strengths in gaming, media and enterprise technology as local companies increasingly use artificial intelligence and cloud infrastructure to expand overseas. "Korea is one of the benchmark markets for Tencent Cloud in Asia-Pacific," Nucky Fang, general manager of Tencent Cloud International, told The Korea Herald in Seoul on Monday. "I see it less as one side serving a role for the other and more as a partnership wher

- [Alumni group of Army academy urges govt. to reconsider push to merge military academies](#) (2026-06-16 02:41)

An alumni association of the Army's military academy on Tuesday criticized the government for "hastily" pushing to integrate the academies of the three military branches and called on it to reconsider the move from scratch. The Korea Military Academy Alumni Association expressed "deep" concerns about the Lee Jae Myung administration's push to establish an integrated military school comprising the Army, Navy and Air Force, citing the potential weakening of national security. The alumni group said

- [Mutilated body part found at Incheon recycling center likely from adult: forensics](#) (2026-06-16 02:40)

A human leg found at a recycling facility in Incheon last week is likely to have belonged to an adult, not a child as previously speculated, South Korea's state forensic agency said, prompting police to shift their focus to identifying adult missing persons. The National Forensic Service notified police Tuesday that the body part appears to have belonged to an adult who was between 161 and 165 centimeters tall, according to the Incheon Yeonsu Police Station. The left leg was found June 10 at the

- [Ex-Le Sserafim Kim Garam to tackle acting](#) (2026-06-16 02:34)

Kim Garam, formerly of Le Sserafim, has found a new agency and hopes to debut as an actor, Management Koo said Tuesday. The agency said that it has been keeping an eye on her YouTube activities and was impressed with her potential and her devotion to improve herself to realize her dreams. Kim debuted as a member of the girl group in 2022 when she was accused of bullying classmates while in middle school. Mired in the controversy, Kim suspended her activities before ultimately leaving the group a

- [Paris Baguette launches 'Annyeong' campaign across Southeast Asia](#) (2026-06-16 02:24)

Paris Baguette said Tuesday it is launching an "Annyeong" campaign across Southeast Asia, rolling out Korean-inspired bakery products and promotional events as it seeks to strengthen its K-bakery identity in overseas markets. The campaign will run at all 88 Paris Baguette stores across six Southeast Asian markets — Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Vietnam and the Philippines. Named for the Korean greeting meaning "hello," the campaign is designed to introduce local consumers to Korean c

- [Appeals court upholds acquittals of former officials accused of cover-up in 2020 NK border murder case](#) (2026-06-16 02:19)

An appellate court on Tuesday upheld acquittals of a former senior presidential official and a former Coast Guard chief over an alleged cover-up of the 2020 murder of a South Korean fisheries official by North Korea. The Seoul High Court found former National Security Adviser Suh Hoon and former Coast Guard Commissioner General Kim Hong-hee not guilty on charges of drafting false public documents in connection with the alleged cover-up. In September 2020, the fisheries official, Lee Dae-jun, was

- [Korea to back smaller K-pop agencies' global expansion](#) (2026-06-16 02:18)

The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism and the Korea Creative Content Agency have launched a new initiative aimed at helping K-pop agencies expand into overseas markets, the organizations announced Tuesday. The support program for small and mid-sized agencies to globally launch their artists is being introduced for the first time this year as part of efforts to promote the sustainable growth of the K-pop industry. Ten groups were selected as the inaugural beneficiaries of the program: Resce

- [Singer Lim Young-woong donates W2m to help low-income patients](#) (2026-06-16 02:11)

Singer Lim Young-woong donated 200 million won (\$132,200) to Korea University Medicine on his birthday Tuesday to help low-income patients, the hospital said. Lim and his agency, Mulgogi Music, each contributed 100 million won and made the donation in the name of his fanbase, known as "Hero Generation." The singer has marked his birthday each year with donations to support the vulnerable, disaster relief efforts and programs for children and adolescents. The hospital said the money will be used

- [Kakao Bank eyes bigger role in Mongolia's digital banking push](#) (2026-06-16 02:11)

Kakao Bank said Tuesday it had held talks with the governor of Mongolia's central bank and executives from MCS Group on expanding cooperation in digital banking and financial innovation in the country. The meeting was held during the Korea visit of Narantsogt Sanjaa, governor of the Bank of Mongolia, and was attended by Kakao Bank CEO Yun Ho-young and representatives from Mongolia's MCS Group. Kakao Bank introduced its digital banking platform, customer-focused user experience and interface capa

- [Govt. to make all-out efforts to address new EU steel import policy](#) (2026-06-16 02:08)

South Korea will make all necessary efforts to protect the interests of its steel companies ahead of the implementation of a new European Union steel policy aimed at addressing global overcapacity, the trade ministry said Tuesday. "The new EU steel policy is a crucial matter that could have a direct impact on the steel industry's exports, investment and employment," Trade Minister Yeo Han-koo said during a meeting with representatives of Korean steel companies. The remarks came as the EU plans t

- [Trade minister discusses measures addressing US forced labor-linked tariffs](#) (2026-06-16 02:05)

South Korea's trade minister on Tuesday discussed countermeasures against Washington's proposed tariffs on dozens of countries, including Asia's fourth-largest economy, over their alleged failure to enforce import bans on products made through forced labor. Trade Minister Yeo Han-koo met with officials from related ministries to discuss the progress of Seoul's talks with Washington regarding the issue, as well as follow-up measures, according to the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources, wit

- [S. Korea, Uzbekistan discuss bilateral ties, energy cooperation at policy consultation meeting](#) (2026-06-16 01:59)

Senior diplomats from South Korea and Uzbekistan have held a bilateral policy consultation meeting and discussed ways to enhance cooperation in energy, critical minerals and other areas of mutual interest, Seoul's foreign ministry said Tuesday. Deputy Foreign Minister Chung Eui-hae and her Uzbek counterpart, Mirvohid Azimov, convened the 18th Korea-Uzbekistan policy consultation meeting in Tashkent on Monday, according to the ministry. Both sides discussed ways to enhance practical cooperation i

- [TXT' s Yeonjun sets date for solo comeback](#) (2026-06-16 01:51)

Yeonjun of Tomorrow X Together will release his second solo EP on July 10, label Big Hit Music announced Tuesday. A short video clip titled after his full name was uploaded as well, following him through a day while the snippet of music from his previous music video played in the background. EP "No Labels: Part 02" comes approximately eight months since his first mini album, "No Labels: Part 01," which landed on Billboard 200 at No. 10. The extended play also topped the iTunes Top Albums Chart i

- [Former S. Korean council candidate debuts as Japanese idol KO1Keyz](#) (2026-06-16 01:44)

A former South Korean local election candidate, who ran in 2022 as the youngest contender for a local council seat in Muan, South Jeolla Province, is set to debut as a member of a Japanese idol group through a local survival competition show. Oh Shin-haeng, 22, finished fourth among the contestants on the Japanese audition program "Produce 101 Japan Shinsekai" on June 9 by earning 481,415 votes on the live finale. He will debut as party of J-pop idol group KO1Keyz. Oh will be one of the two Kore

- [Seventeen's Joshua to speak at UNESCO headquarters in Paris next week](#) (2026-06-16 01:41)

Joshua of K-pop boy group Seventeen will deliver a speech at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris next week as a youth goodwill ambassador of the organization, his agency said Tuesday. The appearance on Thursday will be part of the "Going Together -- For Youth Creativity & Well-Being" program, a global youth initiative launched jointly by Seventeen and UNESCO, according to Pledis Entertainment. The Korean American will speak on behalf of the group to deliver a message of support to young people worl

- [S. Korea's KF-21 fighter jet passes govt.-led flight safety evaluation](#) (2026-06-16 01:33)

South Korea's first homegrown KF-21 fighter jet has received a flight safety certification from the government, the state arms procurement agency said Tuesday. The KF-21 fighter jet earned the airworthiness certification on Monday, following the completion of a series of tests from April 2021 to 2026, according to the Defense Acquisition Program Administration. A DAPA review committee approved that the aircraft had met all 745 requirements across 14 assessment areas, including electronic systems

- [NCT Dream to mark 10th year with fan meetup](#) (2026-06-16 01:29)

NCT Dream will have a fan meeting in Incheon later this summer to celebrate its 10th anniversary, its label SM Entertainment announced Monday. At the event, titled "The Sweet Dream Hotel" and slated for Aug. 22-23, the six members of the NCT subunit will take on the role of hoteliers and greet their fans. The two-day fan meetup will be the group's first outing since Mark left the team. Mark struck out on his own in early April, after his exclusive contract expired. The event comes after the grou

- [Rebuilding Korea Party elects new floor leader](#) (2026-06-16 01:04)

Rep. Kim Joon-hyung of the Rebuilding Korea Party was elected floor leader of the minor political party Tuesday with unanimous support from all 12 lawmakers. Kim, the party's chief policymaker, was the only candidate in the election held during a general meeting of the party's lawmakers at the National Assembly. He previously headed the foreign ministry-affiliated Korea National Diplomatic Academy during the Moon Jae-in administration, before entering politics by winning a proportional National

- [Seoul stocks open higher on Wall Street gains following US-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-16 00:31)

South Korean stocks opened more than 1.5 percent higher Tuesday, tracking overnight gains on Wall Street after the United States and Iran reached an agreement to reopen the Strait of Hormuz, boosting investor sentiment. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index rose 149.68 points, or 1.75 percent, to 8,695.66, as of 9:25 a.m. Overnight, US stocks rallied after US President Donald Trump said a preliminary agreement to end the conflict with Iran had already been signed and the Strait of Horm

- [Body discovered at abandoned Chungju resort by 'haunted-site' explorers](#) (2026-06-16 00:20)

Four college students exploring an abandoned resort known online for haunted-tour videos discovered a body in the dilapidated property in Chungju, North Chungcheong Province, police said Monday. According to police, the body was found in the attic of the 20-story building at around 3 p.m. Sunday. The site has gained attention through haunted-tour videos on YouTube, with some using drones to capture close-up views of its unusual cylindrical structure. Investigators identified the deceased as a pe

- [Leg found at recycling facility believed to be from an adult](#) (2026-06-16 00:16)

The human leg found at a waste recycling facility in Songdo, Incheon, is believed to belong to an adult rather than a child, according to an analysis by the National Forensic Service, prompting police to shift the focus of their investigation. Police said Tuesday that forensic examiners estimated the individual's height at between 161 and 165 centimeters and concluded that the remains most likely belonged to an adult. Investigators had initially proceeded on the assumption that the remains belong

- [Sports body weighs legal action as election protest disrupts operations](#) (2026-06-16 00:16)

South Korea's sports governing body said it is considering legal action over protesters blocking access to offices inside Seoul's Olympic Park Handball Gymnasium, disrupting preparations for international competitions, delaying payroll and paralyzing administrative operations. The protest at the sports complex began June 5 after ballot boxes were transferred from polling stations to the venue for counting following disruptions caused by ballot shortages at some polling stations during the June 3

- ['Citizen dividend' '국민 배당금'](#) (2026-06-16 00:12)

Kim Yong-beom, the presidential chief of staff for policy, on Tuesday proposed a "citizen dividend" scheme that would return part of the windfall tax revenue generated by the semiconductor boom to the public. 김용범 청와대 정책실장은 화요일 "국민 배당금"제를 제안했다. 반도체 호조로 거두어진 초과 세수 일부를 국민에게 되돌려주자는 구상이다. After the proposal triggered controversy, the presidential office brushed it off as Kim's personal opinion that had not been discussed internally. Nevertheless, the abrupt and radical suggestion from the government's

- [N. Korea's Kim congratulates Xi's 73rd birthday with message, flowers](#) (2026-06-16 00:07)

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has sent a congratulatory message and flower basket to Chinese President Xi Jinping on his 73rd birthday, Pyongyang's state media said Tuesday. Kim wished Xi "good health and greater success in leading the cause of socialist construction in China" in the message delivered the previous day through North Korea's ambassador to China, the Korean Central News Agency reported. A ribbon on the flower basket read, "I warmly congratulate Comrade General Secretary Xi Jinping

- [S. Korea team psychologist says players in 'stable' spot](#) (2026-06-16 00:01)

A veteran of a quarter century in his field, Han Doug-hyun, serving as the South Korean team's psychologist at the FIFA World Cup, believes he is working with a "special" group of athletes. Han, a professor in the department of neuropsychiatry at Chung-Ang University Hospital, has worked with baseball players and athletes in other sports, but the level of preparation for this World Cup squad has impressed him the most. "This team is special. This team will do something," Han told reporters at So

- [Injured players return to training for S. Korea ahead of Mexico match](#) (2026-06-15 23:27)

With a couple of injured players back on the field Monday, South Korea trained as a full squad for the first time since arriving in their World Cup base camp in western Mexico. Defender Kim Tae-hyeon and midfielder Bae Jun-ho were both full participants in the training session at Chivas Verde Valle in Zapopan, near Guadalajara, with the Taeguk Warriors gearing up for their second Group A match against Mexico. The kickoff is at 7 p.m. Thursday (local time) at Estadio Guadalajara, or 10 a.m. Frid

- [Trump says Iran deal is 'all signed', details remain unclear](#) (2026-06-15 23:17)

US President Donald Trump said on Monday a preliminary agreement to end the war in the Gulf has already been signed by the United States and Iran, though details have yet to be made public. "The deal's all signed," Trump said after he arrived in France for a summit of the G7 group of big economies, adding that Vice President JD Vance would attend a formal signing ceremony in Geneva on Friday. The agreement would reopen the blockaded Strait of Hormuz and extend a ceasefire for 60 days, allowing

- [Lee set to attend G7 summit in Evian to discuss global challenges](#) (2026-06-15 23:11)

President Lee Jae Myung was set to attend a Group of Seven summit in Evian-les-Bains, France, on Tuesday as an invited partner country, joining discussions on wars in Ukraine and Iran and other pending global challenges. This marks the second consecutive year South Korea has been invited to the G7 summit, and Lee was scheduled to attend G7 summit sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday. France has invited non-G7 nations to help shape coordinated responses to global challenges, including wars in Ukrain

- [US says Hormuz to be toll-free under Iran deal](#) (2026-06-15 23:07)

The United States said Monday that ships will move toll-free through the Strait of Hormuz under an Iran peace deal signed by President Donald Trump, and insisted Tehran would have to fulfill its commitments before getting any economic benefits. They included a possible \$300 billion reconstruction fund for the war-battered country, but the release of funds will be "tied to performance," a senior Trump administration official said in a call with reporters. Trump, US Vice President JD Vance and Ira

- [Trump arrives at G7 summit looking for momentum after announcing Iran deal](#) (2026-06-15 23:04)

US President Donald Trump started his visit to the G7 summit of leading industrialized nations on Monday by declaring his agreement aimed at ending the US war with Iran is a potential breakthrough for global security and a chance for the US to finally turn the page in its relationship with longtime adversary Iran. The Republican US president sought to make clear that he arrived in Evian-les-Bains with the wind at his back for talks with G7 leaders, including some who have been sharply critical o

- [\[Graphic News\] Hangang Bus sets monthly ridership record](#) (2026-06-15 23:00)

The Hangang Bus, which began regular service in September 2025, recorded a monthly ridership high of 91,126 passengers in May, according to the Seoul Metropolitan Government. Ridership has risen steadily since full-route operations resumed in March, increasing from 62,491 passengers in March to 76,488 in April and 91,126 in May. Average daily ridership also grew from about 2,000 to 2,900 passengers, with a single-day record of 5,584 passengers on May 1. Cumulative ridership has surpassed 330,000

- [\[Grace Kao\] Path of a Chinese Swedish K-pop songwriter](#) (2026-06-15 20:30)

When we think of K-pop, we might first imagine Korean performers and songwriters. But if we pay attention to the songwriting credits, we can see many songwriters from the West. Of course, even exploring what the West refers to overlooks the complexities of migration and the existence of the diasporic population. America is seen as a land of immigrants. Currently, about 15 percent of the US population is foreign-born and 25 percent of children have at least one foreign-born parent. While we may n

- [S. Korea welcomes U.S.-Iran peace deal, voices hope for safe Hormuz vessel passage](#) (2026-06-15 12:36)

South Korea on Monday welcomed a ceasefire agreement between the United States and Iran aimed at ending their monthslong war, while voicing hope for the safe passage of vessels through the Strait of Hormuz. "Our government welcomes the agreement reached between the U.S. and Iran, and the significant progress made toward restoring stability and peace in the region," foreign ministry spokesperson Park Il said in a statement. "We highly appreciate President Donald Trump's leadership that helped bri

- [Pope Leo XIV's visit to N. Korea depends on Pyongyang's determination: cardinal](#)

(2026-06-15 11:41)

Whether Pope Leo XIV would visit North Korea depends on how Pyongyang handles the matter, as the pope is willing to play a role in promoting peace on the Korean Peninsula, a South Korean cardinal has said. South Korea-born Cardinal Lazzaro You Heung-sik made the remarks to reporters Sunday as he celebrated a special Mass at the Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls in Rome, attended by President Lee Jae Myung. The remarks came as Seoul seeks to leverage the Vatican's attention in its efforts

- [Lee invites Pope Leo XIV to visit S. Korea for World Youth Day 2027](#) (2026-06-15 10:58)

President Lee Jae Myung on Monday invited Pope Leo XIV to visit South Korea next year on the occasion of the country's hosting of World Youth Day 2027, a presidential office said. Lee offered the invitation during his meeting with the pope at the Vatican, held during the president's visit to the Holy See as part of his broader trip to Europe. The two leaders agreed to cooperate closely to ensure a successful hosting of World Youth Day 2027, and Lee "officially invited Pope Leo XIV to visit South

- [Lee received by pope at Vatican](#) (2026-06-15 09:49)

President Lee Jae Myung on Monday met with Pope Leo XIV at the Vatican, on the second leg of his Europe visit. He was scheduled to depart for France later in the day, where he will attend the G7 meeting. After his audience with the pope, Lee was to subsequently meet Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Pietro Parolin. Lee held his first talks with the pope since his inauguration in June 2025. The last meeting between a South Korean president and the pope was when President Moon Jae-in met later P

- [Lee vows dialogue with North Korea on June 15 declaration anniversary](#) (2026-06-15 09:01)

President Lee Jae Myung on Monday pledged continued efforts to engage North Korea, saying peaceful coexistence is the only path to mutual prosperity for the two Koreas. Lee, who is currently on a state visit to Europe, made the remarks in a written congratulatory message sent to a ceremony marking the 26th anniversary of the first inter-Korean summit, held at the Kim Dae-jung Library at Yonsei University in Seoul. The message was read by Presidential Chief of Staff Kang Hoon-sik. "The government

- [Parties move to file election petitions](#) (2026-06-15 08:53)

South Korea's political parties are moving to file petitions with the election authorities to hold an election do-over before the Wednesday deadline. On Monday, floor leader Rep. Chun Ha-ram and supreme council member Kim Jung-chul of the minor conservative Reform Party filed election petitions challenging the local election results of 18 jurisdictions, including those for Seoul and Busan mayor, and the Gyeonggi Province gubernatorial election. Though many have reportedly filed related complaint

- [JTBC, key JoongAng Group affiliates file for court rehabilitation](#) (2026-06-15 08:40)

JoongAng Group's flagship broadcaster JTBC has filed for court-supervised corporate rehabilitation, following four other affiliates of the Korean media conglomerate that have sought the same protection. The filings come after the group made a costly bet in 2019 on exclusive FIFA World Cup and Olympic Games broadcasting rights. The Seoul Bankruptcy Court will review whether the five companies — JTBC, JoongAng Holdings, JoongAng P&I, Megabox JoongAng and ContentreeJoongAng — have sufficient prospe

- [Labor Ministry seeks foreign human rights leaders](#) (2026-06-15 08:34)

The Ministry of Employment and Labor is recruiting “Foreign Resident Human Rights Leaders” to help prevent basic human rights violations in workplaces and build a standing system to better protect foreign workers. Foreign residents with a strong understanding of living and working in Korea will be selected as human rights leaders. They will help identify possible human rights violations, provide guidance on remedy procedures and support foreign workers in seeking help. The human rights leaders w

- [Your favorite webtoon could finally win big](#) (2026-06-15 08:20)

If you've ever rage-scrolled the comments under your favorite web comic series wishing it would get the recognition it deserves, now's your chance to have your say. The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism and the Korea Creative Content Agency opened nominations for the 2026 World Webtoon Awards on Monday, and they've reworked how it all starts. There's no separate submission process this year; instead, the entire shortlist will be built from readers' picks. Anyone, anywhere can nominate up t

- [\[Gianluca Benigno\] The chair who can't cut](#) (2026-06-15 07:53)

On June 16 and 17, Kevin Warsh will lead his first meeting as Chairman of the Federal Reserve. President Trump finally has the central banker he spent the better part of a year pursuing, confirmed in May by the narrowest Senate vote any Fed chair has ever received, 54 to 45. And the first thing the new chair will almost certainly do is disappoint the man who appointed him. He will not cut interest rates. That is not defiance. It is what the data now require. When Trump chose Warsh in January, th

- ['Zombies' and 'alien language': main opposition infighting continues](#) (2026-06-15 07:40)

Internal friction in the main opposition People Power Party continues to escalate as more calls for a leadership overhaul are met with pointed fingers. Former lawmaker Yang Hyang-ja — who now sits on the People Power Party’ s supreme council — called for the party’ s leadership to take responsibility for the local election results and to resign. “The majority of the public and (party’ s) supporters likely expected all leadership to step down after the election results,” Yang said at a People Power

- [Seoul stocks up for 3rd day to land above 8,500 on U.S.-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-15 07:06)

Seoul stocks closed sharply higher Monday to extend their winning streak to a third day, landing above the 8,500-point mark on the back of an agreement between the United States and Iran to end their monthslong war. The Korean won rose sharply. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index closed up 422.36 points, or 5.2 percent, to 8,545.98, after rising as high as 8,603.48. "The KOSPI broke the 8,500-point mark as the breakthrough in peace talks opened a risk-on rally," said Lee Kyong-min,

- [Politically active youth find community at Seoul protests](#) (2026-06-15 06:33)

As demonstrations over ballot shortages in the June 3 local elections entered their second week, the rallies in Jamsil in southern Seoul began drawing attention for another reason: the growing presence of young participants who say they are finding a rare sense of community among people with similar concerns. The gatherings, held near a vote-counting center, began after ballot paper shortages at polling stations triggered accusations that voters' rights had been infringed. Election authorities h

- [Summer skin care is all about managing temperature, oil and sun](#) (2026-06-15 06:32)

Summer has arrived, and skin starts to behave differently. Makeup that once lasted all day fades by the afternoon, and familiar products can suddenly feel heavy. Hot, humid weather raises skin temperature and pushes sebum production higher, which makes the season especially difficult for oily and combination skin. The core of summer skin care is managing heat rather than simply adding moisture. A rise in skin temperature increases sebum output and activates collagen-degrading enzymes, so even th

- [Foreign tourists to get cheaper bus trips beyond Seoul](#) (2026-06-15 06:31)

South Korea is launching a monthlong discount program for overseas tourists using intercity and express buses, as the government seeks to make regional travel easier and reduce the concentration of tourism in Seoul. The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism and the Korea Tourism Organization said Monday that they will offer discounts on long-distance bus tickets for international visitors from June 15 through July 14, in partnership with global travel platform Klook and cross-border payment se

- [When safety speaks 20 languages: Day in the life of foreign workers at building site with AI as their assistant](#) (2026-06-15 06:27)

Yun Seung-uk, a safety team leader at Lotte E&C, stood at the podium as some 600 workers were getting ready for their morning meeting at a construction site in Seoul on Thursday. As he prepared to read the rundown of the day's workload, large screens to his right and left, as well as 16 additional monitors, displayed images, action plans, and a window titled "AI translator." Once he began speaking, the window filled with three languages — Korean, Chinese and Vietnamese — almost in real time. For

- [Watching World Cup in class? Schools beset by clashes over priorities](#) (2026-06-15 06:24)

The classroom television was once part of the magic. For many Koreans, watching a World Cup match or one of Kim Yu-na's Olympic figure skating performances with classmates remains a vivid school memory — students gathered around a screen, cheering, shouting and sometimes crying together. That tradition has returned with the World Cup. South Korea's opening match against the Czech Republic kicked off at 11 a.m. Friday, Korea time, and the team's remaining group-stage matches are also scheduled du

- [Interim Iran deal eases key risk for Korea's export-driven economy](#) (2026-06-15 06:18)

The US and Iran's agreement to end their war and reopen the Strait of Hormuz has raised hopes in export-dependent South Korea of a normalization of global energy supplies and a resumption in shipments by vessels stranded for months in the Persian Gulf. But industry officials remain cautious, as uncertainties remain ahead of the formal signing of the agreement, and it will take time for maritime traffic to return to prewar levels. US President Donald Trump announced Sunday that a peace deal had b

- [Kim Moo-yul asks what 'true education' really means](#) (2026-06-15 06:08)

When a social media post from retired wrestling star John Cena unexpectedly crossed paths with the success of Netflix's "Teach You a Lesson," actor Kim Moo-yul found himself unsure how to respond. The moment stemmed from a viral online joke comparing Kim to Cena, a resemblance that gained traction as the series soared in popularity. The joke reached a new peak on June 10, when Cena shared a photo of Kim on his Instagram account. "I spent a long time wondering whether I should post something and

- [SpaceX miss exposes Korea's weak hand in global IPO race](#) (2026-06-15 06:05)

Mirae Asset Securities' failure to secure any SpaceX initial public offering shares for its clients has reignited concerns that Korean brokerages remain at a disadvantage in the global IPO market, just as a new wave of blockbuster artificial intelligence listings, led by OpenAI and Anthropic, loom on the horizon. Industry officials said Monday the episode highlighted the limited influence Korean firms wield in the final allocation process of highly sought-after global offerings, potentially leav

- [Sogang Univ. to offer full scholarships to refugee-background students](#) (2026-06-15 06:02)

Two refugee-background students will receive full scholarships to attend Sogang University each year starting from the 2027 spring semester, under a new agreement signed Monday between the university and the Justice Ministry. The ministry said it marks the first time a Korean university has partnered with the government to provide higher education support specifically for refugee-background students. The term refers to foreign students who have received humanitarian stay permits or have been rec

- [Kospi surges as US-Iran deal to end war lifts energy fears](#) (2026-06-15 06:00)

The South Korean benchmark Kospi soared Monday after the US and Iran announced an interim deal to end the war, easing concerns over disruptions to global energy supplies. Following the announcement, which included provisions for reopening the Strait of Hormuz, the Kospi opened 4.95 percent higher at 8,526.12 and extended its gains in early trading. The rally even briefly pushed the index above the 8,600-point threshold to 8,603.48 during trading. As of 2 p.m., the Kospi stood at 8,560.55, climbi

- [Air Force says no plans to purchase presidential plane, Air Force One lease likely to be extended](#) (2026-06-15 05:59)

South Korea is expected to extend the lease for its presidential jet for another five years after the current contract expires, according to a document shared Monday. The document submitted by the Air Force to Rep. Kang Sun-young of the People Power Party states the Air Force plans to extend the lease of the presidential aircraft, known as Air Force One. The government also has no plan to purchase a presidential aircraft under the current administration, the Air Force added. South Korea's govern

- [Lee calls for restraint in election protests, rejects rigging claims](#) (2026-06-15 05:59)

President Lee Jae Myung on Monday called on protesters rallying over the June 3 local election ballot shortages to avoid infringing on the rights of others. “Protesters should be careful not to let their expressions of opinion go so far as to infringe on the rights of others,” Lee wrote on X. Lee made the remarks while sharing a local news report that said sports organizations with offices inside Olympic Park in southern Seoul had suffered work disruptions because of protesters blocking access t

- [The 'Extreme Job' duo is back — and Netflix is betting their dumb fun goes global](#) (2026-06-15 05:49)

The whacky cop comedy is the stuff of Korea's most reliable crowd-pleasers, a playbook run into the ground by everything from "Veteran" to the "Roundup" franchise. Upcoming Netflix original "Husbands in Action" locks right into that groove, then leans on the warm-fuzzies by reuniting the two leads from that genre's high-water mark: "Extreme Job." The 2019 smash hit — about a narcotics squad that runs a fried chicken joint as a stakeout front — drew more than 16 million admissions and still ranks

- [Hamilton earns 106th career victory at Spanish GP](#) (2026-06-15 05:46)

Seven-time Formula One champion Lewis Hamilton captured his first win of the 2026 season Sunday, winning the Spanish Grand Prix at Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya for the 106th victory of his career. The 41-year-old Ferrari driver crossed the finish line in 1:32:28.105 after completing the 66-lap race, ending a nearly two-year wait since his last victory at the Belgian Grand Prix in July 2024. It was also Hamilton's first win since joining Scuderia Ferrari following his move from Mercedes-AMG Pet

- [SK chief's divorce payout hinges on quadrupled chip stock](#) (2026-06-15 05:40)

SK Group Chairman Chey Tae-won and his former wife, Roh Soh-yeong, returned to a Seoul courtroom on Monday for a property dispute whose size now turns on a contested question: To what date should the stock price be pegged? Since the couple last argued the case in April 2024, shares in SK Inc., the holding company at the top of South Korea's second-largest conglomerate, have roughly quadrupled, lifted by SK hynix and global demand for memory chips for artificial intelligence. The divorce itself i

- [Daichi Kamada's late goal gives Japan a 2-2 draw with the Netherlands in World Cup opener for both](#) (2026-06-15 05:37)

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) -- Daichi Kamada and his Japanese teammates were minutes away from a World Cup -opening loss that wouldn't have been unexpected considering the opponent. His tying goal will be remembered for a long time in his homeland, especially if the country with some soccer momentum reaches the round of 16 again. Kamada scored when a header by teammate Koki Ogawa deflected off his head into the Dutch goal in the 88th minute, sending the Samurai Blue fans into a frenzy and giving Japan

- [Michael Sanderling finds a common 'soul' in Sibelius, Tchaikovsky](#) (2026-06-15 05:31)

When Michael Sanderling returns to South Korea this month with the Lucerne Symphony Orchestra, he will lead the Swiss ensemble from a podium he reached via an unlikely route: nearly two decades as a principal cellist and not a single conducting lesson. The 59-year-old German conductor spent nearly 20 years as a principal cellist with the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra and the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra before he turned to conducting full time. Those years in the orchestra, he says, allow him

- [Why was Seoul chosen as part of Pompidou's expansion abroad?](#) (2026-06-15 05:25)

Centre Pompidou is undergoing a major transformation ahead of its 2030 reopening. In the meantime, the renowned French institution has increasingly looked beyond France for international partners, with Seoul emerging as one of the most significant. “The choice of Seoul as a partner city is no coincidence,” Centre Pompidou President Laurent Le Bon said in a recent written interview with The Korea Herald, citing the rapid growth of Korea’s cultural landscape and its increasing global influence. As

- [Main opposition edges past ruling party in favorability poll for 1st time during Lee tenure](#) (2026-06-15 05:18)

The conservative main opposition People Power Party's approval rating has overtaken that of the ruling party for the first time since President Lee Jae Myung took office last year, buoyed in part by the discontent over June 3 local election ballot shortage. According to a poll by Realmeter released Monday, the People Power Party's favorability came to 44.3 percent, up 3.2 percentage points from the previous week. Monday's figure was the highest since the fourth week of January in 2025, when form

- [Kim, Choi fall short at Dow Championship](#) (2026-06-15 05:13)

Kim Hyo-joo and Choi Hye-jin narrowly missed out on the title at the Dow Championship after surrendering the lead in the final round of the LPGA Tour event on Sunday. Kim and Choi carded a 5-under 65 in the fourth and final round at Midland Country Club in Midland, recording five birdies in the tournament, which carries a purse of \$3.3 million. The South Korean duo had held the outright lead through the third round, but finished at 15-under 265 overall after being overtaken on the final day by t

- [LG Energy Solution hunts global talent in AI, next-gen batteries](#) (2026-06-15 05:08)

LG Energy Solution said Monday it held its Battery Tech Conference in Chicago, stepping up efforts to recruit top global research talent in next-generation battery technologies, energy storage systems and artificial intelligence. As the company's key platform for recruitment, the BTC was attended by more than 40 graduate students, doctoral candidates and researchers from leading North American universities and research institutions, including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford U

- [Trump seeks Iran exit, but risks loom](#) (2026-06-15 05:08)

WASHINGTON (Reuters) -- With an agreement on a framework for a peace deal with Iran, US President Donald Trump may have found a way to begin extricating himself from an unpopular war while setting global markets on a path toward easing energy prices that have spiked during the crisis. But he has settled for a deal that appears short of many of the goals he outlined in the early days of the conflict, potentially opening himself up to attacks from hawks in his own party and leaving the US looking

- [G-Dragon dresses Korea for the World Cup](#) (2026-06-15 04:55)

Soccer kits have long spilled over from the field to the streets, with big names in fashion having an increasing role in what players wear. For this World Cup, labels have rolled out national-team gear, collaboration collections and boots reworked for the street. One of the biggest collaborations unites Nike, G-Dragon's PeaceMinusOne and the Korea Football Association. Called "Tigers of Asia," the capsule pairs the KFA's signature design elements with PeaceMinusOne's daisy motif, framing the ide

- [Alcohol flush may not raise kidney disease risk, study finds](#) (2026-06-15 04:51)

People who flush easily after drinking carry a genetic trait that makes them more vulnerable to higher risks of certain alcohol-related diseases, but a long-term Korean study suggests that the trait might not increase the risk of chronic kidney disease. The study found that people carrying the ALDH2 rs671 variant, which reduces the body's ability to break down acetaldehyde, were not at a higher risk of developing chronic kidney disease. Acetaldehyde is a toxic byproduct of alcohol metabolism and

- [Shinsegae rolls out history education after 'Tank Day' controversy](#) (2026-06-15 04:47)

Shinsegae Group said Monday it is launching groupwide education on Korean history and awareness of social issues for employees of Starbucks Korea and other Emart affiliates — including Chairman Chung Yong-jin — in an effort to rebuild trust following a marketing controversy. The move follows the backlash over Starbucks Korea's "Tank Day" campaign, which critics say referenced language associated with the May 18 Gwangju Democratic Uprising, a pivotal moment in South Korea's pro-democracy movement

- [SK Plasma breaks ground on Turkey plasma plant](#) (2026-06-15 04:45)

SK Plasma said Monday it has begun construction of a plasma fractionation plant in Turkey, as the Korean biopharmaceutical company accelerates efforts to build a global manufacturing network. The facility, to be operated through a joint venture with the Turkish Red Crescent, will process up to 600,000 liters of plasma annually and produce key plasma-derived medicines including albumin, immunoglobulin and Factor VIII concentrate. The groundbreaking ceremony was held at the project site in Cubuk,

- [Atlas moves closer to real-world autonomy, KB says](#) (2026-06-15 04:44)

Hyundai Motor Group's humanoid robot ambitions are accelerating as Boston Dynamics' Atlas nears the level of autonomy needed for industrial deployment, according to KB Securities. In a report released Monday, KB Securities analyst Kang Sung-jin said recent videos from Boston Dynamics, Hyundai Motor Group's US robotics subsidiary, suggest the company has made significant progress toward developing "general intelligence" for humanoid robots. General intelligence refers to the ability to adapt to u

- [Deoksugung's Seokjojeon to host annual concert](#) (2026-06-15 04:35)

A guitar and harp concert will be held on June 24 at Seokjojeon in Deoksugung, the palace's management office said Monday. Seokjojeon, the first Western-style stone building commissioned by King Gojong during the Korean Empire, was completed in 1910. Records show that Korea's first pianist, Kim Young-hwan, performed before the emperor there during a royal birthday banquet. The annual Seokjojeon Concert, launched in 2015 in partnership with the Kumho Cultural Foundation, draws on that musical leg

- [Innocean, SBVA launch startup growth platform](#) (2026-06-15 04:33)

Innocean, the advertising and marketing arm of Hyundai Motor Group, said Monday it is partnering with venture capital firm SBVA to launch UP 2026, a growth platform designed to foster collaboration with high-growth startups and identify new business opportunities. SBVA, formerly known as SoftBank Ventures Asia, is a global venture capital firm affiliated with SoftBank Group. The firm invests in more than 100 startups across sectors including artificial intelligence, internet of things, and robot

- [BTS gift bags hit resale sites, angering fans](#) (2026-06-15 04:30)

Gift bags handed out to those attending BTS' Busan concerts have quickly appeared on secondhand trading platforms, prompting anger among fans after some concertgoers failed to receive them. Posts offering the bags for resale on platforms such as Karrot and Bungaejangter, as well as on social media, appeared soon after the BTS "World Tour Arirang" concerts at Busan Asiad Main Stadium held Friday and Saturday. The bags were given to fans as welcome gifts during the concerts. Packaged in a transpar

- [Police struggle for clues as Incheon mutilated body probe enters sixth day](#) (2026-06-15 04:28)

An investigation into a mutilated body part discovered at a public recycling facility in Incheon entered its sixth day on Monday, with police yet to identify the victim or determine where the remains were originally discarded. Officials have obtained dashboard camera footage and vehicle operation records from eight waste collection companies that delivered recyclables to the facility and are reviewing them to determine the initial disposal site, according to the Incheon Metropolitan Police and t

- [S. Korea, UAE discuss AI, digital education cooperation](#) (2026-06-15 04:04)

Education Vice Minister Choi Eun-ok met with United Arab Emirates Education Ministry Undersecretary Mohammed Al-Qassim in Seoul on Monday to discuss ways to expand bilateral cooperation in education, the Education Ministry said. The meeting, held at Lotte Hotel Seoul in Jung-gu, central Seoul, focused on follow-up measures to education-related plans included in a joint declaration adopted by the two countries' leaders in November 2025, during President Lee Jae Myung' s state visit to Abu Dhabi. D

- [China's strike capacity over Australia set to expand, think tank says](#) (2026-06-15 04:04)

China's ability to militarily strike Australia will grow markedly over the next decade, though the most immediate threats will come through cyberattacks and the cutting of undersea communications cables, a report from the Lowy Institute think tank said Monday. A new long-range stealth bomber currently under development and the possible deployment of missiles and aircraft to bases closer to Australia could "quickly and dramatically" increase the long-term threat, the Sydney-based non-partisan

- [Colombians face stark choice on economy as runoff vote nears](#) (2026-06-15 03:48)

BOGOTA, Colombia (AFP) -- Colombians eyeing a runoff election face two starkly different economic models against a backdrop of messy government finances. Right-wing candidate Abelardo de la Espriella wants a leaner state with pro-business policy while leftist Ivan Cepeda is pushing for greater government spending on social programs in the runup to the June 21 election. Outgoing leftist President Gustavo Petro is finishing his four-year term with high approval ratings among low income people beca

- [Trump turns 80 and celebrates with UFC cage fighting](#) (2026-06-15 03:46)

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fueled by a dose of high-octane patriotism, US President Donald Trump and UFC boss Dana White walked out from the Oval Office to the Blue Room Balcony to chants of “USA!” “USA!” as fighter jets streaked overhead — before they settled in for a night of cage fighting on the White House lawn. A long-time fight fan with a 25-year professional relationship with White, Trump turned 80 on Sunday and military members and political dignitaries gathered on a blustery night on the South L

- [BoyNextDoor sells 1m copies of 1st LP](#) (2026-06-15 02:48)

BoyNextDoor’s first studio album, “Home,” sold over 1 million copies in the first week, its agency KOZ Entertainment announced on Monday. The LP is the group's fourth back-to-back million-selling set, after its third, fourth and fifth EPs “19.99,” “No Genre” and “The Action.” All six members participated in writing the songs, a first for the group, adding layers of personal experiences and feelings to four of the songs on the album. The LP debuted atop Oricon’s Daily Album Ranking upon its relea

- [Samsung's Rainbow Robotics pilots warehouse robot at Coupang](#) (2026-06-15 02:43)

Rainbow Robotics, the robot maker controlled by Samsung Electronics, has placed its mobile dual-arm robot RB-Y1 inside a Coupang fulfillment center, where the e-commerce company is running a trial to see whether the machine can handle warehouse work, according to a report Sunday by ETNews. The test checks how reliably the robot runs and how efficiently it sorts and moves goods, ETNews said, citing industry sources. A large order is expected to follow if the robot passes. None of the three compan

- [Man gets suspended sentence for throwing puppy from 15th floor because 'owner was late'](#) (2026-06-15 02:42)

A man in his 20s received a suspended prison sentence for killing an acquaintance’s puppy by throwing it from the 15th floor of an apartment building after the dog’s owner was late for an appointment. According to the Cheongju District Court on Monday it has sentenced the man to eight months in prison, suspended for two years, on charges of violating the Animal Protection Act. The man was indicted for throwing a 2-month-old puppy owned by a younger acquaintance out of a 15th floor window in an a

- ['Dark factory' pioneer Xiangrui Zeng to speak at FAMS 2026](#) (2026-06-15 02:32)

Xiangrui Zeng, a leading Chinese expert in AI-powered autonomous manufacturing and robotics, will speak at the Future AI Mobility Summit 2026 in Seoul later this month, the organizing committee said Monday. Zeng, a professor in the School of Mechanical Science and Engineering at Huazhong University of Science and Technology, is widely recognized for his work in smart manufacturing, autonomous systems and robotics. He is expected to share his vision for embodied AI and fully autonomous factories

- [U.S.-Iran deal offers relief to S. Korean economy, but lower energy prices may take time](#) (2026-06-15 02:31)

A ceasefire agreement between the United States and Iran and plans to reopen the Strait of Hormuz have eased one of the biggest external risks facing South Korea's economy, but oil prices could take time to stabilize and return to pre-war levels, experts said Monday. US President Donald Trump announced Sunday that Washington and Tehran have reached a peace deal aimed at ending their monthslong conflict, saying that the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz will reopen once the agreement is formal

- [Riize shares excitement about second EP](#) (2026-06-15 02:20)

Riize members shared their thoughts on the group's second EP "II," released Monday, via a statement released through their label SM Entertainment. The six-track EP led by "Do Your Dance" arrives seven months after the group's last release in November 2025. "We think this new set is a great album since all the songs are good," Wonbin said. "And we just want to showcase them all right away." Sohee said the group thoroughly enjoyed putting the album together from the moment they heard the songs. "I

- [World Cup referee Omar Artan will receive full fee from FIFA despite being denied entry to the US](#) (2026-06-15 02:19)

ATLANTA (AP) -- The Somali referee who was denied entry to the United States for the World Cup will still be paid his full tournament fee. A person with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press that Omar Artan will still be entitled to payment despite not officiating any games at the near six-week long event. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly. They said the fee would be determined after the tournament concludes next month. A

- [CJ CheilJedang takes seaweed farming onshore](#) (2026-06-15 02:17)

CJ CheilJedang said Monday it will break ground in August on a commercial-scale land-based seaweed farming facility in Cheonan, South Chungcheong Province. Scheduled for completion in the first half of next year, the facility will consist of multiple cultivation tanks and production systems, with output to be used in Bibigo seaweed products. CJ CheilJedang said the project will support the commercialization of its land-based seaweed cultivation technology while fostering cooperation with local g

- [Russian attack sets fire to centuries-old religious site in Kyiv and kills 5 in Kharkiv](#) (2026-06-15 02:15)

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — A large-scale Russian attack on Ukraine killed five rescuers in Kharkiv and wounded at least 13 people in the capital Kyiv on Monday as strikes set apartment buildings ablaze and sparked a fire at one of the country's most significant religious landmarks. The rescuers were killed in Kharkiv by a second Russian strike as they fought a blaze caused by an earlier attack, Interior Minister Ihor Klymenko said. At least five other emergency workers were

wounded. A series of powerf

- [S. Korea to offer express bus fare discounts to foreign tourists](#) (2026-06-15 02:10)

South Korea's tourism agency said Monday it will offer discounts on express and intercity bus fares to foreign visitors to encourage travel beyond the capital region. The Korea Tourism Organization will provide a 5,000 won (\$3.3) discount per person to 8,000 foreign visitors who use express or intercity buses to travel to regional destinations, for a month starting Monday. The initiative, in partnership with travel platforms Klook and Go Hanpass, aims to improve access to regional transport and

- [Labor groups demand minimum wage of 12,000 won in 16.3% increase](#) (2026-06-15 02:04)

Labor groups on Monday demanded a legal minimum wage of 12,000 won (\$7.90) next year in what would be a 16.3 percent increase from this year's rate. The country's two umbrella labor unions -- the Federation of Korean Trade Unions and the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions -- disclosed their first minimum wage proposal during a press conference, saying the average increase of the past three years was less than the average inflation rate over the same period. The minimum wage is set each year by

- [Korea's AI ambitions run into power problem](#) (2026-06-15 02:02)

South Korea's bid to stay competitive in artificial intelligence is running into a constraint that cannot be solved by chips alone: electricity. As the US and China pour hundreds of billions of dollars into AI infrastructure, experts say Korea's biggest challenge is no longer securing Nvidia GPUs but ensuring it has enough power, grid capacity and suitable sites to run the data centers those chips require. The pressure is mounting as the world's largest economies accelerate investment in AI infr

- [Palestinian death toll in Gaza tops 73,000](#) (2026-06-15 01:59)

The Palestinian death toll from the Israel-Hamas war has surpassed 73,000, Gaza's Health Ministry said Sunday, as Israeli military operations continued despite a stalled and fragile ceasefire in place since October. Israel says it is targeting Hamas and other militants who pose a threat, and in response to ceasefire violations, including occasional attacks. Nearly 1,000 people have been killed in Gaza since the start of the ceasefire, according to the Health Ministry. Five Israeli soldiers have

- [Protesters in Geneva clash with police ahead of the G7 summit in nearby France](#) (2026-06-15 01:59)

GENEVA (AP) — Riot police fired tear gas and water cannons in clashes with stone-throwing youths during a protest on Sunday in Geneva against the G7 group of wealthy nations, a day before its leaders including US President Donald Trump hold a summit in nearby France. A violent standoff extended into the evening after a series of incidents — including a car set ablaze and a bank's windows smashed — along the route of an afternoon march that drew an

estimated 20,000 people, including some 600 so-c

- [Seventeen's Hoshi drops single on his birthday](#) (2026-06-15 01:59)

Hoshi of Seventeen released the single “Snapback” on Monday to celebrate his birthday, his agency Pledis Entertainment said. He participated in writing the lyrics and melody for the song, mixing old-school guitar sounds and rhythms to express the feeling of an irresistible attraction. The singer is in the midst of serving his mandatory military service as a full-time active member of the Army. He will be discharged in March next year. Meanwhile, Seventeen will host its 10th fan meetup in Incheon

- [Energy supplies could take months to recover after Iran deal: experts](#) (2026-06-15 01:55)

NEW YORK (AP) — High oil and gasoline prices and energy supply problems won't be solved overnight, despite an agreement to end the Iran war and open the Strait of Hormuz announced Sunday. It will likely take months before energy companies can resume operations to the point of meeting the world's demand, according to energy experts. The slow pace of the process of shipping and refining crude oil, and doubts about the security of traveling through the strait mean the effect won't be seen immediate

- [Shinsegae to provide historical awareness training after Starbucks promotion backlash](#) (2026-06-15 01:45)

Shinsegae Group Chairman Chung Yong-jin, along with executives and employees of Starbucks Korea, will undergo training aimed at improving historical awareness and social sensitivity following a controversial promotion linked to the 1980 pro-democracy uprising in Gwangju, the company said Monday. Starbucks Korea, operated by E-Mart Inc., a Shinsegae affiliate, launched an online "Tank Day" promotion on May 18, the anniversary of the Gwangju democratic uprising. The event was suspended within hour

- [Treasure logs 100m views with 'If I' music video](#) (2026-06-15 01:44)

Treasure garnered 100 million views on YouTube with the music video for “If I” as of Saturday, its label YG Entertainment said the following day. The views reached the milestone in less than 12 days, the fastest time for the group. “If I” is the main track from the group's fourth EP “New Wav,” which came out on June 1. The four-track mini album sold more than 1 million copies in the first week, and topped the iTunes Top Albums Chart in 13 regions, as well as Oricon's Weekly Album Ranking in Japa

- [Havertz sparks Germany's 7-1 rout of Curacao after underdogs' historic 1st goal in World Cup](#) (2026-06-15 01:40)

HOUSTON (AP) -- Germany's seven-goal rout of Curacao in its World Cup opener on Sunday was the perfect outcome to overshadow a close first half and boost the team after consecutive group-stage exits for the four-time champions. Kai Havertz scored two goals as Germany pulled away from World Cup first-timer Curacao and piled it on in a 7-1 win in group play. The smallest

country to ever appear in the tournament hung tight at 1-1 until the 38th minute. "We really needed this convincing win," coach

- [Container shipping costs to Middle East rise for 3rd straight month in May amid lingering tensions](#) (2026-06-15 01:37)

Container shipping costs from South Korea to the Middle East extended their gains to the third consecutive month in May, the customs agency said Monday, amid tensions involving Iran. The average shipping charge for a 40-foot container from South Korea to the Middle East rose 4.9 percent from a month earlier to 6.81 million won (\$4,520) in May, according to data from the Korea Customs Service. It marked the third consecutive monthly increase since the figure stood at 3.72 million won in February.

- [S. Korea back at work with Mexico on horizon](#) (2026-06-15 01:06)

After enjoying a day off, South Korea returned to training Sunday to prepare for their next group stage match of the FIFA World Cup against Mexico. Both South Korea and Mexico won their first matches of Group A last week, with the former beating the Czech Republic 2-1 and the latter blanking South Africa 2-0. South Korea and Mexico will square off at 7 p.m. Thursday at Estadio Guadalajara in Zapopan, western Mexico, or 10 a.m. Friday. The winner will be in a prime position to progress to the knock-out stage.

- [S. Korea, EU strike deal on sharing passenger data](#) (2026-06-15 01:03)

South Korea has signed an initial agreement on sharing passenger name record data with the European Union, marking the first deal of its kind by an Asian nation, the customs agency said Monday. The Korea Customs Service said PNR data includes the date of ticket issuance, flight itineraries, accompanying travelers and baggage information, which are essential for screening high-risk travelers at the border. The agency said the sharing of such information with EU authorities had previously been limited.

- [S. Korea to host Korean culture expo in France](#) (2026-06-15 01:00)

South Korea will hold a Korean culture expo in Paris this week to promote exports of Korean cultural content, food, beauty products, fashion and tourism, officials said Monday. The "K-Expo France 2026" will run from Tuesday to Friday in the French capital as part of South Korea-hosted events to mark the 140th anniversary of diplomatic ties with France. The Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, in collaboration with several other ministries, has held the K-Expo in various countries since 2022.

- [Seoul stocks open sharply higher on US-Iran peace deal](#) (2026-06-15 00:26)

South Korean stocks opened sharply higher Monday as the United States and Iran reached an agreement to end their monthslong war in the Middle East, which includes a reopening of the Hormuz Strait. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index rose 407.79 points, or 5.02 percent, to 8,531.41, as of 9:15 a.m. Such a steep rise triggered Seoul's bourse operator to issue a trading halt.

a buy-side sidecar shortly after the market open, halting program trading for five minutes. On Sunday (local time), Pakistan sai

- [S. Korea gears up for Mexico clash](#) (2026-06-15 00:05)

South Korea's national football team trains at Chivas Valle Verde in Zapopan, near Guadalajara, Mexico, on Sunday, ahead of its second Group A match against Mexico at the 2026 FIFA World Cup. The match is scheduled to kick off at 9 p.m. Thursday local time (10 a.m. Friday in South Korea). South Korea resumed training after opening its campaign with a 2-1 victory over Czechia and will aim to build momentum in a crucial clash against Mexico, one of the tournament's three host nations.

Source: Yonhap

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korea identifying country-specific post-war reconstruction needs in Middle East: FM](#) (2026-06-22 05:29)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean government has established a task fo...

- [\(LEAD\) Investigators to question election workers over ballot shortage](#) (2026-06-22 05:15)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- Investigators on Monday were set to question a group ...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-06-22 05:00)

June 23

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-06-22 04:30)

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

- [SK hynix beats Samsung Electronics in market cap](#) (2026-06-22 04:11)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- SK hynix Inc. has surpassed Samsung Electronics Co. i...

- [\(URGENT\) SK hynix beats Samsung Electronics in market cap](#) (2026-06-22 03:46)

(END)

- [S. Korea identifying country-specific post-war reconstruction needs in Middle East: FM](#) (2026-06-22 03:19)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- The Seoul government has established a task force to ...

- [\(LEAD\) Investigators seek arrest warrant for Shincheonji sect leader Lee Man-hee](#) (2026-06-22 03:01)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- Investigators said Monday they have filed for an arre...

- [\(Movie Review\) 'The Eyes' paints obsession, fear of fading sight with classical touch](#) (2026-06-22 02:56)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- Losing one's sight may be one of the most unbearable ...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee's disapproval rating exceeds approval rating for 1st time since inauguration](#) (2026-06-22 02:47)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung's disapproval rating has surp...

- [2 S. Korean-operated vessels exit Strait of Hormuz following U.S.-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-22 02:31)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- Two South Korean-operated vessels have exited the Str...

- [Seoul shares sharply up late Mon. morning amid uncertainty over U.S.-Iran talks](#) (2026-06-22 02:27)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks traded higher late Monday morning...

- [Investigators seek arrest warrant for Shincheonji sect leader Lee Man-hee](#) (2026-06-22 02:24)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- Investigators said Monday they have filed for an arre...

- [S. Korea slams N. Korea's expanded border fencing as armistice agreement violation](#) (2026-06-22 02:23)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean military on Monday denounced North K...

- [Outgoing PM says ruling party should 'perfectly align' with gov't](#) (2026-06-22 02:22)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- The ruling Democratic Party (DP) should "perfectly al...

- [Man sentenced to 4 yrs in prison for defrauding existing fraud victims](#) (2026-06-22 02:16)

INCHEON, June 22 (Yonhap) -- A court on Monday sentenced a 30-year-old man to fo...

- [\(URGENT\) Investigators seek arrest warrant for Shincheonji sect leader Lee Man-hee](#) (2026-06-22 02:08)

(END)

- [Kakao Games says no decision made on merger with Line Games](#) (2026-06-22 02:01)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- Kakao Games Corp. said no decision has been made rega...

- [Seoul, Beijing to hold 15th round of FTA follow-up talks on services](#) (2026-06-22 02:00)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and China kicked off a new round of follo...

- [Budget minister discusses policy direction with experts amid sharp tax gains](#) (2026-06-22 02:00)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's budget minister on Monday discussed fis...

- [Ex-defense minister booked over alleged attempt to provoke N. Korea for martial law bid](#) (2026-06-22 01:29)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- A special counsel team has booked former Defense Mini...

- [GS E&C, I Squared Capital to team up for renewable energy projects](#) (2026-06-22 01:20)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- GS Engineering & Construction (E&C) Corp. sai...

- [Man City, Atletico Madrid to play summer exhibitions in Seoul](#) (2026-06-22 01:13)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- The Premier League giants Manchester City and the 11-...

- [\(World Cup\) S. Koreans travel to site of Group A finale](#) (2026-06-22 01:05)

MONTERREY, Mexico, June 21 (Yonhap) -- South Korea arrived at the site of their ...

- [Stray Kids to drop new album in Aug., announces new world tour](#) (2026-06-22 00:58)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- Popular boy group Stray Kids will release a new album...

- [\(LEAD\) PM nominee apologizes for information leak from 'Startup for All' website](#) (2026-06-22 00:43)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister nominee Han Seong-sook apologized Mond...

- [Lee's disapproval rating exceeds approval rating for 1st time since inauguration](#) (2026-06-22 00:43)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung's disapproval rating has surp...

- [N. Korea blames U.S., West for 'revival of Nazism,' defends Russia over Ukraine war](#) (2026-06-22 00:39)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- North Korea condemned the United States and other Wes...

- [Former Enhypen member Heeseung re-debuts as Evan](#) (2026-06-22 00:37)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- Heeseung, a former member of K-pop boy group Enhypen,...

- [\(LEAD\) Exports up 60 pct in first 20 days of June on robust chip sales](#) (2026-06-22 00:28)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's exports jumped 60.4 percent from a year...

- [PM nominee apologizes for information leak from 'Startup for All' website](#) (2026-06-22 00:27)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister nominee Han Seong-sook apologized Mond...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul shares open lower amid Iran peace talks uncertainty](#) (2026-06-22 00:23)
SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks opened lower Monday as uncertaint...
- [Investigators to question election workers over ballot shortage](#) (2026-06-22 00:23)
SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- Investigators on Monday were set to question a group ...
- [BTS' 'Arirang' returns to top 10 on Billboard 200](#) (2026-06-22 00:14)
SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- "Arirang," the fifth studio album of K-pop supergroup...
- [Exports up 60 pct in first 20 days of June](#) (2026-06-22 00:11)
SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's exports jumped 60.4 percent from a year...
- [Seoul shares open lower amid Iran peace talks uncertainty](#) (2026-06-22 00:02)
SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks opened lower Monday as uncertaint...
- [\(URGENT\) Seoul shares open 1.08 pct lower amid Iran peace talks uncertainty](#) (2026-06-22 00:01)
(END)
- [\(LEAD\) KEPCO to keep electricity rates frozen for Q3 amid financial troubles](#) (2026-06-21 23:59)
SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- The state-run Korea Electric Power Corp. (KEPCO) said...
- [Starbucks Korea to close all stores early to carry out history training after 'Tank Day' promotion backlash](#) (2026-06-21 23:56)
SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- Starbucks Korea will close all of its stores nationwi...
- ['Toy Story 5' tops weekend box office, dethroning 'Colony'](#) (2026-06-21 23:35)
SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- The Hollywood animation "Toy Story 5" debuted atop th...
- [KEPCO to keep electricity rates frozen for Q3](#) (2026-06-21 23:34)
SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- The state-run Korea Electric Power Corp. (KEPCO) said...
- [Tom Kim finishes 3rd at U.S. Open](#) (2026-06-21 23:07)
SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- Tom Kim celebrated his birthday with his third career...
- [Asset managers' Q1 net nearly doubles on commission income gains](#) (2026-06-21 22:07)
SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- Asset management firms in South Korea saw their combi...
- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on June 22\)](#) (2026-06-21 22:06)

Former Gyeonggi Province Vice Gov. Lee Hwa-young, who was indicted on charges in...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on June 22\)](#) (2026-06-21 22:05)

The decision by the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee to tighten congressiona...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on June 22\)](#) (2026-06-21 22:05)

Democracies are accustomed to worrying about interference. South Korea's problem...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-06-21 22:05)

SEOUL, June 22 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Ko...

- [All 6 THAAD launchers return to Seongju from Osan](#) (2026-06-21 08:53)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- All six launchers of the Terminal High Altitude Area ...

- [Protests over ballot shortage continue for 17th day](#) (2026-06-21 07:47)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- Protests demanding a rerun of the June 3 local electi...

- [\(2nd LD\) Lee appoints new senior secretaries for communication, civil affairs](#) (2026-06-21 05:43)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung has appointed new senior pres...

- [\(World Cup\) N. Korea skips reports on World Cup matches involving S. Korea, U.S., Japan](#) (2026-06-21 05:14)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- North Korea's state media excluded games involving So...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-06-21 05:00)

June 22

- [Gov't approves sanctions against 166 child support defaulters](#) (2026-06-21 04:59)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- The Ministry of Gender Equality and Family said Sunda...

- [\(profile\) Veteran journalist of 30 yrs appointed presidential communication secretary](#) (2026-06-21 04:36)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- Seong Ghi-hong, the new presidential secretary for pu...

- [\(profile\) Pharmacist-turned-activist appointed presidential secretary for social affairs](#) (2026-06-21 04:14)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- New presidential secretary for social affairs Kim Kyo...

- [\(profile\) Ex-veteran prosecutor appointed presidential secretary for civil affairs](#) (2026-06-21 02:51)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- New presidential secretary for civil affairs Han Chan...

- [Court to deliver ruling on ex-first lady on jobs-for-gifts bribery charges](#) (2026-06-21 02:17)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- A Seoul court is set to deliver its verdict this week...

- [Hyundai Motor, Kia post solid growth in India through May on strong SUV sales](#) (2026-06-21 01:56)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- Hyundai Motor Co. and Kia Corp. posted robust sales g...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee appoints new senior secretaries for communication, civil affairs](#) (2026-06-21 01:47)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung has appointed new senior pres...

- [Samsung reviews HBM sales strategy, long-term agreements with key customers](#) (2026-06-21 01:29)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Electronics Co. discussed ways to expand sale...

- [Lee appoints new senior secretaries for communication, civil affairs](#) (2026-06-21 01:17)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung has appointed new senior pres...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee appoints new senior secretaries for communication, civil affairs](#) (2026-06-21 01:05)

(END)

- [Household lending at banks jumps in Q2 on leveraged investing, mortgage demand](#) (2026-06-21 01:01)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- Household loans at major South Korean banks increased...

- [Scams targeting foreigners rise nearly 4-fold over 2 yrs: lawmaker](#) (2026-06-21 00:57)

SEOUL, June 21 (Yonhap) -- The number of foreigners who fell victim to fraud in ...

- [\(World Cup\) Sports analytics firm gives S. Korea 90 pct chance of reaching knockouts](#) (2026-06-21 00:17)

GUADALAJARA, Mexico, June 20 (Yonhap) -- With one match remaining in the group s...

- [\(2nd LD\) Heavy rain soaks Gangwon Province, southern regions](#) (2026-06-20 13:35)

SEOUL/GANGNEUNG, South Korea, June 20 (Yonhap) -- Heavy rain hit Gangwon Provinc...

- [\(LEAD\) Heavy rain soaks Gangwon Province; access to Mt. Seorak restricted](#) (2026-06-20 11:28)

SEOUL/GANGNEUNG, South Korea, June 20 (Yonhap) -- Heavy rain fell in Gangwon Pro...

- [\(LEAD\) Ex-vice Gyeonggi gov. found guilty of perjury over claims of 'drinking party' during interrogation \(2026-06-20 07:56\)](#)

SUWON, South Korea, June 20 (Yonhap) -- A regional court on Saturday found a for...

- [Today in Korean history \(2026-06-20 05:00\)](#)

June 21

- [Ex-vice Gyeonggi gov. found guilty of perjury over claims of 'drinking party' during interrogation \(2026-06-20 02:36\)](#)

SUWON, South Korea, June 20 (Yonhap) -- A regional court on Saturday found a for...

- [Rain to continue nationwide through evening after heavy downpours \(2026-06-20 01:56\)](#)

SEOUL, June 20 (Yonhap) -- Rain is expected to continue across South Korea throu...

- [BTS' RM named global ambassador of Nat'l Museum of Korea \(2026-06-20 00:49\)](#)

SEOUL, June 20 (Yonhap) -- RM, the leader of K-pop supergroup BTS, has been name...

- [\(World Cup\) Midfielder blames S. Korean loss on bad luck \(2026-06-20 00:20\)](#)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 19 (Yonhap) -- For a fleeting moment during the late stage...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers \(2026-06-20 00:03\)](#)

SEOUL, June 20 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Ko...

- [Lee calls inflation top policy priority, urges 'extraordinary' measures to stabilize prices \(2026-06-19 11:29\)](#)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Friday inflation is the ...

- [JoongAng Ilbo applies for debt workout program, pledges restructuring efforts \(2026-06-19 09:22\)](#)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- Major newspaper JoongAng Ilbo Co. said Friday it had ...

- [Korean Air says Asiana integration costs could reach 1 tln won, offset by 2028 \(2026-06-19 08:54\)](#)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- Korean Air Co. said Friday the cost of integrating As...

- [\(LEAD\) Army to allow long-term service transition for more noncommissioned officers \(2026-06-19 08:42\)](#)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- The Army said Friday it will allow qualified noncommi...

- [Police investigating alleged break-in at ballot-counting center \(2026-06-19 08:24\)](#)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- Police are investigating an alleged break-in at a bal...

- [Army to allow long-term service transition for more noncommissioned officers](#) (2026-06-19 08:23)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- The Army said Friday it will allow qualified noncommi...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee says reform of election watchdog needed through constitutional amendment if necessary](#) (2026-06-19 08:18)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Friday that a fundamenta...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-06-19 08:01)

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

- [\(LEAD\) Unification ministry vows to find 'phased, viable' path to denuclearization](#) (2026-06-19 07:59)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- The unification ministry said Friday its stance on th...

- [\(3rd LD\) Lee says told Trump cannot deal with N. Korean nuclear issue the same way as others](#) (2026-06-19 07:41)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Friday he told U.S. Pres...

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul stocks take breather after 6-day rise on profit-taking](#) (2026-06-19 07:32)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks took a breather Friday after enjoying a ...

- [\(2nd LD\) Lee says told Trump cannot deal with N. Korean nuclear issue the same way as others](#) (2026-06-19 07:24)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Friday he told U.S. Pres...

- [Lee says reform of election watchdog needed through constitutional amendment if necessary](#) (2026-06-19 07:24)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Friday that a fundamenta...

- [Assembly speaker urges diplomatic efforts to ensure safe return of S. Korean vessels from Hormuz Strait](#) (2026-06-19 07:03)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- National Assembly Speaker Cho Jeong-sik called for al...

- [S. Korea says in close talks with U.S. after Senate bill signals tougher OPCON transfer oversight](#) (2026-06-19 07:02)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- South Korea remains in close talks with the United St...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul stocks take breather after 6-day rise on profit-taking](#) (2026-06-19 07:01)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks took a breather Friday after enjoying a ...

- [\(LEAD\) Ex-defense minister sentenced to 3 yrs in prison for leaking military secrets](#) (2026-06-19 06:50)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- A Seoul court on Friday sentenced former Defense Mini...

- [Seoul stocks take breather after 6-day rise on profit-taking](#) (2026-06-19 06:41)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks took a breather Friday after enjoying a ...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul stocks snap 6-day winning streak on profit-taking, Iran uncertainty](#) (2026-06-19 06:33)

fairydust@yna.co.kr (END)

- [\(URGENT\) Lee voices need for constitutional amendment to reform election watchdog following ballot shortage](#) (2026-06-19 06:20)

(END)

- [\(LEAD\) Gov't to seek dismissal of heads of 2 public firms following review](#) (2026-06-19 06:12)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will seek to replace the heads of two pub...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee says told Trump cannot deal with N. Korean nuclear issue the same way as others](#) (2026-06-19 06:10)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Friday he told U.S. Pres...

- [Ex-defense minister sentenced to 3 yrs in prison for leaking military secrets](#) (2026-06-19 05:59)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- A Seoul court on Friday sentenced former Defense Mini...

- [Gov't to seek dismissal of heads of 2 public firms following review](#) (2026-06-19 05:53)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will seek to replace the heads of two pub...

- [\(URGENT\) Court sentences ex-Defense Minister Kim Yong-hyun to 3 yrs in prison for leaking military secrets](#) (2026-06-19 05:53)

(END)

- [\(LEAD\) \(World Cup\) Unlucky S. Korea lack precision in loss to Mexico](#) (2026-06-19 05:40)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's 1-0 loss to Mexico in their G...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee says Trump expressed regret over failing to address N. Korea's nuclear ambitions prior to development](#) (2026-06-19 05:39)

(END)

- [\(URGENT\) Lee says told Trump cannot deal with N. Korea the same way as others](#) (2026-06-19 05:35)

(END)

- [\(World Cup\) S. Korea in good position to reach knockouts despite loss to Mexico](#) (2026-06-19 05:33)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will not win Group A of the ong...

- [Lee asks Pope Leo XIV to visit N. Korea; Pope says will 'actively' try](#) (2026-06-19 05:32)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Friday that he asked Pop...

- [New 3,600-ton frigate delivered to Navy after sea trials](#) (2026-06-19 05:30)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- A new 3,600-ton frigate was delivered to the Navy fol...

- [\(World Cup\) S. Korean goalkeeper shoulders blame for costly miscue](#) (2026-06-19 05:20)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korean goalkeeper Kim Seung-gyu point...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee says asked Pope Leo XIV to visit N. Korea, Demilitarized Zone during meeting this week](#) (2026-06-19 05:15)

(END)

- [\(URGENT\) Lee says he and Trump shared importance of cooperation in shipbuilding at G7 summit](#) (2026-06-19 05:13)

(END)

- [PM vows to properly honor patriots, fallen heroes](#) (2026-06-19 05:03)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- The government of President Lee Jae Myung will do its...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-06-19 05:00)

June 20

- [Global memory chip market to quadruple in 2026: data](#) (2026-06-19 04:40)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- The global memory chip market is expected to more tha...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-06-19 04:30)

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

- [\(World Cup\) S. Korea coach implores players to hold heads high after loss to Mexico](#) (2026-06-19 04:21)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea head coach Hong Myung-bo praise...

- [\(2nd LD\) \(World Cup\) S. Korea fall to Mexico for 1st loss in Group A](#) (2026-06-19 03:57)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea fell to co-host Mexico 1-0 on T...

- [\(World Cup\) Unlucky S. Korea lack precision in loss to Mexico](#) (2026-06-19 03:56)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's 1-0 loss to Mexico in their G...

- [Unification ministry vows to find 'phased, viable' path to denuclearization](#) (2026-06-19 03:32)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- The unification ministry said Friday its stance on th...

- [\(LEAD\) Election watchdog panel recommends criminal probe into ex-chief over ballot shortage](#) (2026-06-19 03:27)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- The National Election Commission's (NEC) fact-finding...

- [\(LEAD\) \(World Cup\) S. Korea fall to Mexico for 1st loss in Group A](#) (2026-06-19 03:16)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea fell to co-host Mexico 1-0 on T...

- [\(World Cup\) S. Korea fall to Mexico for 1st loss in Group A](#) (2026-06-19 03:02)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea fell to co-host Mexico 1-0 on T...

- [S. Korea's current account surplus with U.S. slips in 2025: data](#) (2026-06-19 03:00)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- South Korea posted a drop in its current account surp...

- [\(World Cup\) South Korea 0-1 Mexico](#) (2026-06-19 02:58)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Result of Group A match on Thursday between...

- [Election watchdog panel recommends criminal probe into ex-chief over ballot shortage](#) (2026-06-19 02:37)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- The National Election Commission's (NEC) fact-finding...

- [Seoul stocks sharply up late Fri. morning on chip rally](#) (2026-06-19 02:32)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks traded sharply higher late Friday mornin...

- [PM to travel to China next week for Summer Davos Forum](#) (2026-06-19 02:18)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhpa) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok will travel to China next...

- [\(World Cup\) Romo scores for Mexico vs. S. Korea](#) (2026-06-19 02:12)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea 0, Mexico 1 (Luis Romo 50) (END...

- [Gov't to expand supply of imported eggs amid price hikes](#) (2026-06-19 02:00)
SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will supply around 4.48 million imported ...
- [\(World Cup\) S. Korea, Mexico goalless at halftime](#) (2026-06-19 01:58)
ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and co-host Mexico went scorele...
- [\(World Cup\) Fans gather at Gwanghwamun to root for S. Korea in World Cup match against Mexico](#) (2026-06-19 01:37)
SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- Thousands of fans were gathered in Seoul's Gwanghwamu...
- [Severed leg found at recycling center was mistakenly thrown out by hospital worker: police](#) (2026-06-19 01:20)
INCHEON, June 19 (Yonhap) -- A severed human leg found at a public recycling fac...
- [Yonhap to host forum on security strategy next week](#) (2026-06-19 01:18)
SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- Yonhap News Agency, South Korea's key newswire, will ...
- [Hyundai Rotem secures 748.2 bln-won railway maintenance project in Morocco](#) (2026-06-19 00:46)
SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- Hyundai Rotem Co. said Friday it has secured a railwa...
- [Police refer ex-President Yoon to prosecution over his wife's luxury bag case](#) (2026-06-19 00:41)
SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- Police have referred former President Yoon Suk Yeol t...
- [Navy holds fleet exercises in waters off western, southern coasts](#) (2026-06-19 00:41)
SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- The Navy said Friday it conducted live fleet exercise...
- [\(LEAD\) Seoul stocks open at fresh record high on continued chip rally](#) (2026-06-19 00:30)
SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks opened at a fresh record high Friday aft...
- [Seoul stocks open at fresh record high on continued chip rally](#) (2026-06-19 00:05)
SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks opened at a fresh record high Friday aft...
- [U.S.-Iran MOU poses new opportunities, challenges for S. Korea: finance minister](#) (2026-06-19 00:04)
SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- The recent memorandum of understanding (MOU) between ...
- [\(URGENT\) Seoul stocks open 2.48 pct higher on continued chip rally](#) (2026-06-19 00:01)
fairydust@yna.co.kr (END)

- [S. Korea's underlying accessibility issues still unsolved: MSCI](#) (2026-06-18 23:57)
SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has taken a series of measures to improve...
- [\(World Cup\) Son Heung-min eyes history vs. Mexico](#) (2026-06-18 23:55)
ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korean captain Son Heung-min is in th...
- [N. Korea vows deeper ties with Russia on 2nd anniv. of signing key treaty](#) (2026-06-18 23:17)
SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- North Korea on Friday marked the second anniversary o...
- [SK Group creates 32.2 tln won in social value in 2025](#) (2026-06-18 23:15)
SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- SK Group said Friday it generated 32.2 trillion won (...)
- [Senate defense bill includes provision calling for quarterly Pentagon report on OPCON transfer](#) (2026-06-18 23:01)
WASHINGTON, June 18 (Yonhap) -- A Senate version of an annual U.S. defense bill ...
- [Gov't vows to help consumers manage subscription services, curb dark patterns](#) (2026-06-18 23:00)
SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- South Korea on Friday unveiled a set of measures aime...
- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on June 19\)](#) (2026-06-18 21:58)
Evidence continues to emerge of serious mismanagement at polling stations during...
- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on June 19\)](#) (2026-06-18 21:57)
Reports that a postwar memorandum of understanding between the United States and...
- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on June 19\)](#) (2026-06-18 21:57)
Every summer, South Korea performs a ritual as predictable as the monsoon. Labor...
- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-06-18 21:57)
SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Ko...
- [U.S. diplomat says N. Korea's denuclearization 'very high up' on U.S. priority list](#) (2026-06-18 21:37)
WASHINGTON, June 18 (Yonhap) -- A U.S. diplomat said Thursday that North Korea's...
- [Insurers' capital adequacy ratio up in Q1](#) (2026-06-18 21:00)
SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- The capital adequacy ratio of insurance companies in ...
- [Producer prices rise for 9th consecutive month in May](#) (2026-06-18 21:00)

SEOUL, June 19 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's producer prices increased for the ninth...

- [Vance reiterates Strait of Hormuz should be 'free of tolls' as 60-day Iran negotiation period begins](#) (2026-06-18 17:37)

WASHINGTON, June 18 (Yonhap) -- U.S. Vice President JD Vance reiterated Thursday...

- [\(LEAD\) N.K. leader's sister slams G7 call for denuclearization, defends nuclear arms as 'means of self-defense'](#) (2026-06-18 10:10)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong-u...

- [N.K. leader's sister calls nuclear arsenal 'core interests,' denuclearization 'line of no retreat': KCNA](#) (2026-06-18 09:41)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong-u...

- [\(URGENT\) Sister of N. Korean leader calls nuclear arsenal 'core interests,' denuclearization 'line of no retreat': KCNA](#) (2026-06-18 09:19)

(END)

- [PM nominee's confirmation hearing set for June 25-26](#) (2026-06-18 08:13)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The ruling and opposition parties agreed Thursday to ...

- [No formal request made to S. Korea for participation in Iran reconstruction fund: sources](#) (2026-06-18 08:10)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has not formally received any request fro...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-06-18 08:07)

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

- [Defense ministry pushes to establish housing complexes for service members](#) (2026-06-18 08:01)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The defense ministry said Thursday it will push to es...

- [Vice defense chief visits Army's 2nd Corps to inspect readiness ahead of summer season](#) (2026-06-18 08:00)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Vice Defense Minister Lee Doo-hee on Thursday visited...

- [Court cancels regulator's fine on Kakao over music streaming service notices](#) (2026-06-18 07:57)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The Seoul High Court on Thursday canceled a 98 millio...

- [\(LEAD\) Senate confirms Michelle Steel as U.S. ambassador to S. Korea](#) (2026-06-18 07:47)

SEOUL/WASHINGTON, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The Senate has confirmed Michelle Steel, a...

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul stocks end at record peak of above 9,000 on extended chip rally](#) (2026-06-18 07:32)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks surged by more than 2 percent past anothe...

- [Trade watchdog imposes antidumping tariffs on Thai seamless copper pipes](#) (2026-06-18 07:30)

SEJONG, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's trade watchdog on Thursday decided to ...

- [\(LEAD\) New entity tasked with implementing Seoul's investment pledge to U.S. sets sail](#) (2026-06-18 07:17)

SEJONG, June 18 (Yonhap) -- State-run Korea-U.S. Strategic Investment Corp. (KUI...

- [\(News Focus\) AI-driven chip rally, U.S.-Iran deal drive KOSPI to unprecedented new heights](#) (2026-06-18 07:13)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price I...

- [\(2nd LD\) KOSPI tops another historic milestone 9,000 on chip rally](#) (2026-06-18 07:10)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks crossed another round-number milestone o...

- [S. Korea's global competitiveness up 6 notches in 2026: report](#) (2026-06-18 07:00)

SEJONG, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's global competitiveness rose six notche...

- [New entity tasked with implementing Seoul's investment pledge to U.S. sets sail](#) (2026-06-18 07:00)

SEJONG, June 18 (Yonhap) -- State-run Korea-U.S. Strategic Investment Corp. (KUI...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul stocks end at record peak of above 9,000 on extended chip rally](#) (2026-06-18 06:59)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks surged by more than 2 percent past anothe...

- [Lee to host luncheon with foreign ambassadors next week at Cheong Wa Dae](#) (2026-06-18 06:48)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung will host a luncheon with for...

- [Seoul stocks end at record peak of above 9,000 on extended chip rally](#) (2026-06-18 06:36)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks surged by more than 2 percent past anothe...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul stocks end at new peak of above 9,000 on chip rally](#) (2026-06-18 06:33)

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- [First heat wave alerts of year issued for Seoul, surrounding areas](#) (2026-06-18 06:27)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The state weather agency on Thursday issued the first...

- [\(LEAD\) Nat'l Assembly approves parliamentary probe into election ballot shortage](#) (2026-06-18 06:22)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The National Assembly on Thursday approved a parliame...

- [S. Korea, Czech Republic vow to forge closer ties in cutting-edge sectors](#) (2026-06-18 06:00)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has agreed with the Czech Republic to bro...

- [Korean War volunteer veterans from Japan to be honored in Busan ceremony](#) (2026-06-18 05:54)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- A veterans group representing past ethnic Korean stud...

- [S. Korea-ASEAN partnership launches supercomputer in Indonesia](#) (2026-06-18 05:48)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- A supercomputer built under a partnership between Sou...

- [Lotte Giants sign Japanese pitcher Iimura as new Asian quota player](#) (2026-06-18 05:36)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The Lotte Giants announced Thursday they have signed ...

- [Lee to give press briefing on results of Europe trip](#) (2026-06-18 05:30)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung plans to give a press briefin...

- [OpenAI's Sam Altman postpones visit to S. Korea due to daughter's birth: sources](#) (2026-06-18 05:12)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- OpenAI CEO Sam Altman's visit to South Korea, origina...

- [Vice N. Korean FM vows deeper cultural cooperation with China at Chinese Embassy event](#) (2026-06-18 05:10)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- A senior North Korean diplomat has pledged to deepen ...

- [\(LEAD\) KOSPI tops another historic milestone 9,000 on chip rally](#) (2026-06-18 05:04)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks crossed another round-number milestone o...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-06-18 05:00)

June 19

- [Senate committee supports S. Korea-U.S. cooperation on sub manufacturing in report](#) (2026-06-18 04:47)

WASHINGTON, June 18 (Yonhap) -- A Senate committee has expressed support for Sou...

- [\(World Cup\) S. Korea can win Group A with win over Mexico, help from others](#) (2026-06-18 04:47)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korea can become the first team to wi...

- [Hyundai Motor to build green hydrogen power system at Antarctic research station](#) (2026-06-18 04:34)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Hyundai Motor Group said Thursday it will introduce a...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-06-18 04:32)

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

- [Severed leg found at recycling center likely medical waste: police](#) (2026-06-18 04:29)

INCHEON, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Police said Thursday that a severed human leg found...

- [KOSPI crosses over historic milestone of 9,000 on chip rally](#) (2026-06-18 03:55)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks crossed over another round-number milest...

- [\(URGENT\) KOSPI tops another milestone 9,000 on chips, despite hawkish Fed, Iran uncertainty](#) (2026-06-18 03:53)

fairydust@yna.co.kr (END)

- [Watchdog warns of overheated single-stock leveraged ETF trading](#) (2026-06-18 03:00)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The country's financial watchdog warned Thursday that...

- [Pension savings grow nearly 11 pct in 2025 amid stock rally](#) (2026-06-18 03:00)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's personal pension savings grew almost 11...

- [Watchdog rejects voluntary corrective measures proposed by food delivery apps](#) (2026-06-18 03:00)

SEJONG, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's fair trade watchdog on Thursday reject...

- [Namkoong Min, Jin A-reum expecting 1st child](#) (2026-06-18 02:48)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Celebrity couple Namkoong Min and Jin A-reum are expe...

- [Lee returns home following 10-day trip to Europe](#) (2026-06-18 02:47)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung arrived in Seoul on Thursday ...

- [Protests over ballot shortage during local elections enter 14th day](#) (2026-06-18 02:45)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Protests demanding a rerun of the June 3 local electi...

- [Rival parties set to kick off parliamentary probe into election ballot shortage](#) (2026-06-18 02:43)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The National Assembly was set to launch a parlamenta...

- [\(LEAD\) LS. Korea remains unchanged on stance regarding N. Korea as enemy: defense ministry](#) (2026-06-18 02:42)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The defense ministry on Thursday reaffirmed its posit...

- [\(News Focus\) 'Teach You a Lesson' hits home globally with cathartic take on school justice](#) (2026-06-18 02:39)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- At first glance, the Netflix Korean series "Teach You...

- [Seoul stocks up late Thurs. morning on extended chip rally](#) (2026-06-18 02:29)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks were trading higher late Thursday mornin...

- [S. Korea remains unchanged on stance regarding N. Korea as enemy: defense ministry](#) (2026-06-18 02:28)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The defense ministry on Thursday reaffirmed its posit...

- [Co-chair of presidential commission on climate crisis to attend London Climate Action Week](#) (2026-06-18 02:16)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- A co-chair of the Presidential Commission on Climate ...

- [\(LEAD\) SF Giants' Lee Jung-hoo ends homer drought after suspended game resumes](#) (2026-06-18 02:12)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Lee Jung-hoo of the San Francisco Giants has gone dee...

- [Boy group Cortis' 'RedRed' tops 100 mln Spotify streams](#) (2026-06-18 01:49)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Rising rookie boy group Cortis has surpassed 100 mill...

- [\(World Cup\) Popular TV analyst sees Son Heung-min as key player vs. Mexico](#) (2026-06-18 01:46)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 17 (Yonhap) -- Lee Young-pyo, a FIFA World Cup hero turned...

- [S. Korea asks Azerbaijan to support Korean firms' participation in development projects](#) (2026-06-18 01:05)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has asked Azerbaijan to support greater p...

- [N. Korea holds commemorative event marking observance for people with disabilities](#) (2026-06-18 00:48)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- North Korea has held a commemorative event to mark an...

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korea to apply zero tariffs on LNG, LPG under quota scheme to tackle inflation](#) (2026-06-18 00:48)

SEJONG, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea plans to apply zero tariff rates on liqu...

- [U.S. may shift toward tighter monetary policy: financial authorities](#) (2026-06-18 00:44)

SEJONG, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Washington may shift toward a tighter monetary polic...

- [SF Giants' Lee Jung-hoo ends homer drought after suspended game resumes](#) (2026-06-18 00:32)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Lee Jung-hoo of the San Francisco Giants has gone dee...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul stocks open at fresh record high despite hawkish Fed, Iran uncertainty](#) (2026-06-18 00:28)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks opened at a fresh record high Thursday, ...

- [SK hynix ships HBM4E chip samples to global customers](#) (2026-06-18 00:21)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- SK hynix Inc. said Thursday it has begun shipping sam...

- [\(World Cup\) S. Korean midfielder happy to draw attention from opponents](#) (2026-06-18 00:13)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 17 (Yonhap) -- After being named the Player of the Match i...

- [Seoul stocks open at fresh record high despite hawkish Fed, Iran uncertainty](#) (2026-06-18 00:07)

SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks opened at a fresh record high Thursday, ...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul stocks open at fresh record high despite hawkish Fed, Iran uncertainty](#) (2026-06-18 00:01)

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- [S. Korea to apply zero tariffs on LNG, LPG under quota scheme to tackle inflation](#) (2026-06-18 00:00)

SEJONG, June 18 (Yonhap) -- South Korea plans to apply zero tariff rates on liqu...

- [\(World Cup\) S. Korea coach voices regret over drone incident](#) (2026-06-17 23:54)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korea head coach Hong Myung-bo on Wed...

- [Senate confirms Michelle Steel as U.S. ambassador to S. Korea](#) (2026-06-17 23:38)

WASHINGTON, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The Senate on Wednesday confirmed Michelle Steel...

- [\(World Cup\) S. Korea coach hoping team will go beyond semifinals](#) (2026-06-17 22:52)
ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 17 (Yonhap) -- During his illustrious playing career, Sout...
- [Anthropic launches Seoul office amid Washington's AI export controls](#) (2026-06-17 22:06)
SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- Anthropic PBC reaffirmed its plan to scale its enterp...
- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on June 18\)](#) (2026-06-17 21:57)
Protesters blocked officials from entering the Handball Gymnasium at Olympic Par...
- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on June 18\)](#) (2026-06-17 21:57)
Politics and elections in Korea can often be dynamic. The ruling Democratic Part...
- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on June 18\)](#) (2026-06-17 21:56)
Jeonse is a unique South Korean rental system under which tenants make a large l...
- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-06-17 21:56)
SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Ko...
- [U.S. releases Iran MOU text, including 60 days of no-charge Hormuz transit](#) (2026-06-17 21:15)
WASHINGTON, June 17 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump's administration on ...
- [Delinquency ratio on bank loans up in April](#) (2026-06-17 21:00)
SEOUL, June 18 (Yonhap) -- The delinquency ratio on loans extended by banks rose...
- [\(2nd LD\) Fed holds key rate steady under new Chair Warsh; policymakers project rate increase this year](#) (2026-06-17 19:32)
WASHINGTON, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The U.S. Federal Reserve on Wednesday held its b...
- [\(LEAD\) Fed holds key interest rate steady under new Chair Warsh, projects higher rate this year](#) (2026-06-17 18:29)
WASHINGTON, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The U.S. Federal Reserve on Wednesday held its b...
- [Fed holds key interest rate steady for 4th straight time under new Chair Warsh](#) (2026-06-17 18:02)
WASHINGTON, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The U.S. Federal Reserve on Wednesday held its b...
- [\(URGENT\) Fed holds key interest rate steady for 4th straight time under new Chair Warsh](#) (2026-06-17 18:01)

(END)

- [Pentagon renames Indo-Pacific Command back to Pacific Command](#) (2026-06-17 17:27)

WASHINGTON, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The U.S. Defense Department has renamed U.S. Ind...

- [G7 leaders reaffirm commitment to 'complete denuclearization' of N. Korea in joint statement](#) (2026-06-17 16:27)

WASHINGTON, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The leaders from the Group of Seven (G7) countri...

- [Lee heads home after wrapping up trip to Europe](#) (2026-06-17 15:32)

GENEVA, June 17 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung headed home Wednesday, wrapp...

- [\(LEAD\) Court issues arrest warrants for ex-Shincheonji officials over suspected ties to PPP](#) (2026-06-17 14:22)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- A Seoul court on Wednesday issued arrest warrants for...

- [\(News Focus\) Lee broadens diplomatic outreach to Europe in 1st trip to region](#) (2026-06-17 14:00)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 17 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung took a majo...

- [Leaders of S. Korea, Kenya hold talks on cooperation in economy, development](#) (2026-06-17 13:57)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myun...

- [KBO surpasses 6 mln fans in record-breaking fashion](#) (2026-06-17 13:49)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean baseball league topped 6 million fan...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee calls for int'l cooperation to strengthen resilience of energy supply chains at G7 summit](#) (2026-06-17 13:17)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myun...

- [\(LEAD\) Trump vows to play role in advancing Korean Peninsula issues: Seoul official](#) (2026-06-17 12:26)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 17 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump express...

- [Trump vows to play role in advancing Korean Peninsula issues: Seoul official](#) (2026-06-17 11:54)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 16 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump express...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee, Trump share importance of 3-way cooperation with Japan: Seoul presidential office](#) (2026-06-17 11:38)

(END)

- [\(URGENT\) Trump vows to play role in advancing Korean Peninsula issues in talks with Lee at G7 summit: official](#) (2026-06-17 11:38)

(END)

- [KHNP selects candidate sites for new nuclear reactors](#) (2026-06-17 11:02)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The state-run Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power Co. (KH...

- [Gov't, ruling party vow stern response against illegal acts by ballot protesters](#) (2026-06-17 10:20)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The government and the ruling party on Wednesday reaf...

- [2 Koreas, not external actors, should lead peninsular issues: unification minister](#) (2026-06-17 08:47)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- Unification Minister Chung Dong-young said Wednesday ...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-06-17 07:59)

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

- [PPP urges dismissal of Seoul police chief over senior police official's alleged violence against lawmaker's aide](#) (2026-06-17 07:53)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The floor leader of the main opposition People Power ...

- [\(2nd LD\) 18-month prison term sought for Seoul mayor on charges of accepting illegal funds](#) (2026-06-17 07:49)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- A special counsel team on Wednesday sought an 18-mont...

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul stocks land at new high on chip rally](#) (2026-06-17 07:42)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks extended their winning streak for...

- [Shinsegae official questioned over Starbucks Korea's 'Tank Day' promotion](#) (2026-06-17 07:16)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- Police said Wednesday they were questioning the head ...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul stocks extend winning streak to 5th day on chip rally](#) (2026-06-17 07:01)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks extended their winning streak for...

- [\(2nd LD\) BOK chief vows proactive efforts to tame inflation](#) (2026-06-17 07:00)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The Bank of Korea (BOK) will make proactive efforts t...

- [\(LEAD\) POSCO completes S. Korea's largest electric arc furnace to cut carbon emissions](#) (2026-06-17 06:55)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korean steelmaker POSCO Co. said Wednesday it h...

- [\(LEAD\) 18-month prison term sought for Seoul mayor on charges of accepting illegal funds](#) (2026-06-17 06:55)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- A special counsel team on Wednesday sought an 18-mont...

- [Lee to attend G7 summit sessions on global economic imbalances, AI emergence](#) (2026-06-17 06:49)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myun...

- [Seoul stocks extend winning streak to 5th day on chip rally](#) (2026-06-17 06:38)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks extended their winning streak for...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul stocks rebound to close up 1.58 pct on chip rally](#) (2026-06-17 06:34)

fairydust@yna.co.kr (END)

- [18-month prison term sought for Seoul mayor on charges of accepting illegal funds](#) (2026-06-17 06:25)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- A special counsel team on Wednesday sought an 18-mont...

- [\(URGENT\) Special counsel seeks 18-month prison term for Seoul mayor over alleged proxy payment for opinion polls](#) (2026-06-17 06:14)

(END)

- [POSCO completes S. Korea's largest electric arc furnace to cut carbon emissions](#) (2026-06-17 06:07)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korean steelmaker POSCO Co. said Wednesday it h...

- [Court holds arrest warrant hearings for ex-Shincheonji officials over suspected ties to PPP](#) (2026-06-17 06:07)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- A Seoul court on Wednesday held arrest warrant hearin...

- [Lee says agreed with Indian PM Modi to advance bilateral ties to new level](#) (2026-06-17 05:54)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myun...

- [\(LEAD\) BOK chief vows proactive efforts to tame inflation](#) (2026-06-17 05:35)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The Bank of Korea (BOK) will make proactive efforts t...

- [\(LEAD\) Police to investigate woman over solo blockade of vote counting center entry](#) (2026-06-17 05:09)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- Police plan to investigate a woman who staged a solo ...

- [Inflation expected to linger despite end of Middle East war: BOK](#) (2026-06-17 05:00)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is expected to continue facing elevated c...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-06-17 05:00)

June 18

- [Samsung Electronics' largest union to hold confidence vote on leader after wage deal](#) (2026-06-17 04:40)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Electronics Co.'s largest labor union said We...

- [Ex-trade official tapped to lead new S. Korea-U.S. investment firm](#) (2026-06-17 04:38)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- A former trade official has been tapped as the inaugu...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-06-17 04:30)

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

- [PPP to file petitions challenging local election results](#) (2026-06-17 03:00)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The main opposition People Power Party (PPP) was set ...

- [S. Korea removes cap on rewards for unfair trade tip-offs](#) (2026-06-17 03:00)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will remove the ceiling on the amount of ...

- [Air Force enforcing sobriety rules loosely: state auditor](#) (2026-06-17 03:00)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The Air Force has enforced its sobriety rules loosely...

- [S. Korea becomes 4th country to forge AI security alliance with OpenAI](#) (2026-06-17 02:49)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korea became the fourth country to forge a secu...

- [Seoul stocks rebound late Wed. morning despite tech slide](#) (2026-06-17 02:34)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks gained ground late Wednesday morn...

- [\(LEAD\) Gov't to ease civilian-restricted inter-Korean border boundaries for wider public access](#) (2026-06-17 02:29)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The defense ministry on Wednesday rolled out a plan t...

- [\(News Focus\) K-beauty's 2nd boom: How indie brands, manufacturing powerhouses are rewriting the industry](#) (2026-06-17 02:13)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's cosmetics industry is in the midst of a...

- [Police to investigate woman over solo blockade of vote counting center entry](#) (2026-06-17 02:10)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- Police plan to investigate a woman who staged a solo ...

- [Bond market sentiment slightly improves for July: poll](#) (2026-06-17 02:08)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korean bond market sentiment slightly improved ...

- [Hyosung opens data center in Seoul in partnership with STT GDC](#) (2026-06-17 02:06)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- Hyosung Group said Wednesday it has opened a hypersca...

- [Auto exports down nearly 6 pct on auto parts supply disruptions](#) (2026-06-17 02:00)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's auto exports decreased nearly 6 percent...

- [S. Korea, Mongolia discuss ways to accelerate economic ties, trade talks](#) (2026-06-17 02:00)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and Mongolia discussed ways to accelerate...

- [BLACKPINK's Jennie maintains No. 10 on Billboard Hot 100 with 'Dracula'](#) (2026-06-17 01:57)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- Jennie of K-pop girl group BLACKPINK stayed at No. 10...

- [Foreign tourist spending in S. Korea tops 2 tln won for 1st time in May](#) (2026-06-17 01:37)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- Monthly spending by foreign tourists in South Korea e...

- [Gov't to ease civilian-restricted inter-Korean border boundaries for wider public access](#) (2026-06-17 01:30)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The defense ministry on Wednesday rolled out a plan t...

- [Gov't to review tax incentives for young workers at SMEs: finance minister](#) (2026-06-17 01:00)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will review measures to offer income tax ...

- [Navy chief stresses expanding use of AI tech to lead future warfare](#) (2026-06-17 00:54)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Kim Kyung-ryul said We...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul stocks opens lower following tech declines on Wall Street](#) (2026-06-17 00:31)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks opened lower Wednesday, partly driven by...

- [S. Korean 2-way prospect signs with Diamondbacks](#) (2026-06-17 00:09)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- A South Korean two-way prospect has signed with the A...

- [Seoul stocks opens lower following tech declines on Wall Street](#) (2026-06-17 00:05)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks opened lower Wednesday, partly driven by...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul stocks open 1.2 pct lower after surging for four consecutive sessions](#) (2026-06-17 00:02)

(END)

- [S. Korea vows tailored job support measures for individual sectors](#) (2026-06-17 00:00)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- South Korea plans to roll out tailored job support me...

- [\(World Cup\) S. Korea taking on co-host Mexico in pursuit of 2nd straight win](#) (2026-06-16 23:34)

GUADALAJARA, Mexico, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will try to win consecutive...

- ['Teach You a Lesson' tops Netflix's weekly non-English chart for 2nd week](#) (2026-06-16 23:31)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The Korean school drama "Teach You a Lesson" retained...

- [LG Innotek eyes 1 tln-won operating profit in package solutions business by 2031](#) (2026-06-16 23:00)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- LG Innotek Co., the electronic components arm of LG G...

- [\(World Cup\) S. Koreans train behind closed doors with Mexico looming](#) (2026-06-16 22:27)

GUADALAJARA, Mexico, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korean players trained behind clo...

- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on June 17\)](#) (2026-06-16 22:01)

Election petitions are being filed with the National Election Commission (NEC) f...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on June 17\)](#) (2026-06-16 22:01)

President Lee Jae Myung's meeting with Pope Leo XIV at the Vatican last week may...

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-06-16 22:01)

SEOUL, June 17 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Ko...

- [\(2nd LD\) Lee says ties with Canada advancing quickly in mutually beneficial manner](#) (2026-06-16 20:46)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myun...

- [\(2nd LD\) Lee calls for efforts to advance S. Korea-Germany ties to 'new level'](#) (2026-06-16 20:06)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myun...

- [\(3rd LD\) Lee attends G7 summit in Evian, has brief encounter with Trump](#) (2026-06-16 17:44)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myun...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee says ties with Canada advancing quickly in mutually beneficial manner](#) (2026-06-16 17:14)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myun...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee calls for efforts to advance S. Korea-Germany ties to 'new level'](#) (2026-06-16 16:37)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myun...

- [Lee, Canadian PM Carney hold talks on sidelines of G7 summit in France](#) (2026-06-16 16:04)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myun...

- [Lee, German leader Merz hold talks on sidelines of G7 summit in Evian](#) (2026-06-16 15:52)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myun...

- [\(2nd LD\) Lee attends G7 summit in Evian, has brief encounter with Trump](#) (2026-06-16 14:33)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myun...

- [\(LEAD\) Wiz slugger embracing injury layoff as learning experience](#) (2026-06-16 13:20)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Set for a return to action Tuesday evening after spen...

- [Wiz starter pleased with result, not so with process after victory](#) (2026-06-16 13:20)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- In many ways, this was a prototypical start for KT Wi...

- [Wiz come from behind to beat Bears in KBO](#) (2026-06-16 12:55)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Ahn Hyun-min marked his return from a two-month injur...

- [Lee says dialogue, encounter essential paths toward peace: report](#) (2026-06-16 12:16)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 16 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Tuesday ...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee arrives in France for G7 summit](#) (2026-06-16 12:14)

EVIAN-LES-BAINS, France, June 16 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung arrived in ...

- [\(2nd LD\) PM vows to deal sternly with illegal acts by ballot protesters](#) (2026-06-16 12:10)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok vowed Tuesday to deal ste...

- [\(3rd LD\) Sports officials fail to enter ballot-counting center amid resistance](#) (2026-06-16 11:42)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Sports officials failed to enter a gymnasium used as ...

- [Kim Si-woo seeking major success at U.S. Open in midst of best PGA Tour season](#) (2026-06-16 09:45)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Enjoying the best season of his career on the PGA Tou...

- [S. Korea, UAE discuss energy supply ties amid supply chain uncertainties](#) (2026-06-16 09:30)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) discus...

- [\(2nd LD\) Sports officials fail to enter ballot-counting center amid resistance](#) (2026-06-16 09:23)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Sports officials failed to enter a gymnasium used as ...

- [Lee arrives at Geneva Airport for G7 summit in France](#) (2026-06-16 09:14)

GENEVA, June 16 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung arrived at Geneva Airport on...

- [Wiz slugger embracing injury layoff as learning experience](#) (2026-06-16 09:09)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Set for a return to action Tuesday evening after spen...

- [Manager for KBO's best team in June trying to stay in present](#) (2026-06-16 08:41)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Trying to return to the postseason in South Korean ba...

- [Hanwha Aerospace to acquire additional KAI shares for 500 bln won](#) (2026-06-16 08:30)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korean defense firm Hanwha Aerospace Co. said T...

- [\(LEAD\) Value of SK Group's listed firms exceeds 2,000 tln won](#) (2026-06-16 08:05)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- The combined market value of SK Group's listed firms ...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-06-16 08:03)

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

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul stocks up for 4th day to finish above 8,700 on U.S.-Iran deal optimism](#) (2026-06-16 07:52)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks shot up by more than 2 percent Tuesday, ...

- [S. Korea in consultations with U.S., Iran on Hormuz transit following peace deal](#) (2026-06-16 07:29)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has begun consultations with the United S...

- [\(LEAD\) Election protesters agree to allow sports officials to enter ballot-counting center](#) (2026-06-16 07:29)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Election protesters agreed Tuesday to allow sports of...

- [Lee wraps up visit to Italy, heads to France to attend G7 summit](#) (2026-06-16 07:26)

ROME, June 16 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung left Italy on Tuesday en route...

- [\(LEAD\) Rival parties agree to launch parliamentary probe on election ballot shortage](#) (2026-06-16 07:25)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- The rival parties agreed Tuesday to conduct a 45-day ...

- [Seventeen's The8, Vernon to launch new unit V8 with debut EP](#) (2026-06-16 07:25)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- The8 and Vernon, both members of K-pop boy group Seve...

- [\(LEAD\) Alumni group of Army academy urges gov't to reconsider push to merge military academies](#) (2026-06-16 07:18)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- An alumni association of the Army's military academy ...

- [State auditor considering accounting audit of election watchdog over ballot shortages](#) (2026-06-16 07:02)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- The Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) is considerin...

- [\(LEAD\) PM vows to deal sternly with illegal acts by ballot protesters](#) (2026-06-16 06:54)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok vowed Tuesday to deal ste...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul stocks up for 4th day to finish above 8,700 on U.S.-Iran deal optimism](#) (2026-06-16 06:50)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks shot up by more than 2 percent Tuesday, ...

- [Seoul stocks up for 4th day to finish above 8,700 on U.S.-Iran deal optimism](#) (2026-06-16 06:34)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks shot up by more than 2 percent Tuesday, ...

- [Jin Ki-joo says 'Teach You a Lesson' resonates by consoling victims, confronting bullies](#) (2026-06-16 06:33)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Jin Ki-joo, who takes on the role of a no-nonsense in...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul stocks up for 4th day to finish above 8,700 on U.S.-Iran deal optimism](#) (2026-06-16 06:31)

(END)

- [\(LEAD\) Lee set to attend G7 summit in Evian to discuss global challenges](#) (2026-06-16 06:23)

ROME, June 16 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung was set to attend a Group of S...

- [Value of SK Group's listed firms exceeds 2,000 tln won](#) (2026-06-16 06:22)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- The combined market value of SK Group's listed firms ...

- [Rival parties agree to launch parliamentary probe on election ballot shortage](#) (2026-06-16 06:00)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- The rival parties agreed Tuesday to conduct a 45-day ...

- [\(LEAD\) Jeju Forum seeks online participation of N. Korea education expert at UNESCO](#) (2026-06-16 05:33)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Jeju Island's local government and the foreign minist...

- [Jeju Forum seeks online participation of N. Korea education expert at UNESCO](#) (2026-06-16 05:16)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Jeju Island's local government and the foreign minist...

- [Samsung Electronics to hold executive meeting to discuss business plans for H2](#) (2026-06-16 05:05)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Electronics Co. will kick off a global strate...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-06-16 05:00)

June 17

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-06-16 04:30)

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

- [Election protesters, sports officials locked in standoff over entry to ballot-counting center](#) (2026-06-16 03:43)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Election protesters were locked in a tense standoff w...

- [Money supply continues to rise in April on gains in deposits](#) (2026-06-16 03:00)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's money supply continued to rise in April...

- [Upstage to combine AI models, portal and agent services to broaden reach](#) (2026-06-16 03:00)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korean artificial intelligence (AI) startup Ups...

- [PM vows to deal sternly with illegal acts by ballot protesters](#) (2026-06-16 02:43)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok vowed Tuesday to deal ste...

- [Alumni group of Army academy urges gov't to reconsider push to merge military academies](#) (2026-06-16 02:38)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- An alumni association of the Army's military academy ...

- [\(LEAD\) Appeals court upholds acquittals of former officials accused of cover-up in 2020 N.K. border murder case](#) (2026-06-16 02:34)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- An appellate court on Tuesday upheld acquittals of a ...

- [Seoul stocks trade higher late Tue. morning on U.S.-Iran deal optimism](#) (2026-06-16 02:28)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks were trading higher late Tuesday morning...

- [N. Korea touts economic achievements ahead of key party meeting](#) (2026-06-16 02:22)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- North Korea's state media outlets on Tuesday highligh...

- [Appeals court upholds acquittals of former officials accused of cover-up in 2020 N.K. border murder case](#) (2026-06-16 02:12)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- An appellate court on Tuesday upheld acquittals of a ...

- [Singer Lim Young-woong donates 2 mln won to help low-income patients](#) (2026-06-16 02:03)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Singer Lim Young-woong donated 200 million won (US\$13...

- [Gov't to make all-out efforts to address new EU steel import policy](#) (2026-06-16 02:00)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will make all necessary efforts to protec...

- [Trade minister discusses measures addressing U.S. forced labor-linked tariffs](#) (2026-06-16 02:00)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's trade minister on Tuesday discussed cou...

- [S. Korea, Uzbekistan discuss bilateral ties, energy cooperation at policy consultation meeting](#) (2026-06-16 01:52)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Senior diplomats from South Korea and Uzbekistan have...

- [LIG D&A; Rheinmetall team up to supply air defense systems to Europe](#) (2026-06-16 01:46)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korean defense firm LIG Defense & Aerospace...

- ['Colony' sweeps box office charts across Asia](#) (2026-06-16 01:46)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Director Yeon Sang-ho's zombie thriller "Colony" has ...

- [Seventeen's Joshua to speak at UNESCO headquarters in Paris next week](#) (2026-06-16 01:25)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Joshua of K-pop boy group Seventeen will deliver a sp...

- [S. Korea's KF-21 fighter jet passes gov't-led flight safety evaluation](#) (2026-06-16 01:20)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's first homegrown KF-21 fighter jet has r...

- [Rebuilding Korea Party elects new floor leader](#) (2026-06-16 01:00)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Rep. Kim Joon-hyung of the Rebuilding Korea Party was...

- [TXT's Yeonjun to release 2nd solo album in July](#) (2026-06-16 00:59)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Yeonjun of boy band Tomorrow X Together (TXT) will re...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul stocks open higher on Wall Street gains following U.S.-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-16 00:26)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks opened more than 1.5 percent high...

- [Seoul stocks open higher on Wall Street gains following U.S.-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-16 00:03)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks opened by more than 1.5 percent h...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul stocks open 1.76 pct higher on Wall Street gains following U.S.-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-16 00:01)

(END)

- [\(World Cup\) S. Korea team psychologist says players in 'stable' spot](#) (2026-06-15 23:48)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 15 (Yonhap) -- A veteran of a quarter century in his field...

- [\(World Cup\) Injured players return to training for S. Korea ahead of Mexico match](#) (2026-06-15 22:29)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 15 (Yonhap) -- With a couple of injured players back on th...

- [N. Korea's Kim congratulates Xi's 73rd birthday with message, flowers](#) (2026-06-15 22:17)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has sent a congratula...

- [\(3rd LD\) U.S. says Iran deal signed, expects toll-free Strait of Hormuz transit as part of final pact](#) (2026-06-15 22:14)

WASHINGTON, June 15 (Yonhap) -- The United States and Iran have already signed a...

- [Import prices down for 2nd month in May on decline in oil prices](#) (2026-06-15 22:10)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- Import prices fell for the second month in a row in M...

- [\(EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on June 16\)](#) (2026-06-15 22:09)

The United States and Iran agreed on Monday to sign a memorandum of understandin...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on June 16\)](#) (2026-06-15 22:09)

It is a relief that the war in Iran, which began with joint U.S.-Israeli air str...

- [\(EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on June 16\)](#) (2026-06-15 22:09)

Statistics confirm the grim reality facing the younger generation.

- [Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers](#) (2026-06-15 22:09)

SEOUL, June 16 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Ko...

- [Lee set to attend G7 summit in Evian to discuss global challenges](#) (2026-06-15 20:12)

ROME, June 16 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung was set to attend a Group of S...

- [\(2nd LD\) U.S. says Iran deal signed, expects toll-free Strait of Hormuz transit as part of final pact](#) (2026-06-15 19:23)

WASHINGTON, June 15 (Yonhap) -- The United States and Iran have already signed a...

- [\(LEAD\) U.S. says Iran deal signed, expects toll-free Strait of Hormuz transit as part of final pact](#) (2026-06-15 18:46)

WASHINGTON, June 15 (Yonhap) -- The United States and Iran have already signed a...

- [U.S. says Iran deal signed, expects toll-free Strait of Hormuz transit as part of final pact](#) (2026-06-15 18:15)

WASHINGTON, June 15 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump, Vice President JD V...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee welcomes U.S.-Iran ceasefire deal, hopes for resumption of safe Hormuz shipping](#) (2026-06-15 14:41)

SEOUL/ROME, June 15 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Monday welcomed a cea...

- [\(LEAD\) Court rejects arrest warrant for ex-JCS chief in martial law involvement case](#) (2026-06-15 14:23)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- A Seoul court on Monday denied an arrest warrant for ...

- [Trump says ships starting to move out of Strait of Hormuz following Iran deal](#) (2026-06-15 13:45)

WASHINGTON, June 15 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump said Monday ships wa...

- [Lee vows to ensure proper overseas voting rights of Koreans abroad](#) (2026-06-15 12:49)

ROME, June 15 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Monday pledged efforts to e...

- [S. Korea welcomes U.S.-Iran peace deal, voices hope for safe Hormuz vessel passage](#) (2026-06-15 12:21)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- South Korea on Monday welcomed a ceasefire agreement ...

- [S. Korean presidential office expresses cautious optimism on U.S.-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-15 11:49)

ROME, June 15 (Yonhap) -- The presidential office on Monday welcomed a ceasefire...

- [22 police officers disciplined over alleged involvement in martial law bid](#) (2026-06-15 11:24)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Twenty-two police officers were slapped with discipli...

- [\(3rd LD\) Lee invites Pope Leo XIV to visit S. Korea for World Youth Day 2027](#) (2026-06-15 11:11)

VATICAN, June 15 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Monday invited Pope Leo ...

- [Pope Leo XIV's visit to N. Korea depends on Pyongyang's determination: cardinal](#) (2026-06-15 10:35)

ROME, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Whether Pope Leo XIV would visit North Korea depends o...

- [\(2nd LD\) Lee invites Pope Leo XIV to visit S. Korea for World Youth Day 2027](#) (2026-06-15 10:09)

VATICAN, June 15 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Monday invited Pope Leo ...

- [\(URGENT\) Lee invites Pope Leo XIV to visit S. Korea for World Youth Day 2027](#) (2026-06-15 09:53)

(END)

- [Doosan Enerbility wins 530 bln-won power plant contract in Oman](#) (2026-06-15 09:35)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Doosan Enerbility Co., a major South Korean plant bui...

- [S. Korea, Qatar discuss energy cooperation amid supply disruptions](#) (2026-06-15 09:30)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and Qatar have discussed cooperation in e...

- [Defense chief visits Air Force academy amid talks over establishing integrated military academy](#) (2026-06-15 08:16)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Defense Minister Ahn Gyu-back on Monday visited the A...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-06-15 08:00)

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

- [\(LEAD\) SK Group chief, ex-wife fail to reach agreement in court mediation for asset division](#) (2026-06-15 07:59)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- SK Group Chairman Chey Tae-won and his former wife, R...

- [Olympic committee demands gov't action on election protesters blocking entry to sports offices](#) (2026-06-15 07:51)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- The national Olympic body on Monday demanded governme...

- [\(LEAD\) S. Korea's currency hits 2-week high after U.S., Iran agree on preliminary peace deal](#) (2026-06-15 07:38)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won advanced to a nearly two-week hi...

- [\(2nd LD\) Seoul stocks up for 3rd day to land above 8,500 on U.S.-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-15 07:33)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks closed sharply higher Monday to extend t...

- [JTBC files for corporate rehabilitation amid liquidity crisis](#) (2026-06-15 07:32)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Local broadcaster JTBC filed for court-led rehabilita...

- [\(LEAD\) Lee meets Pope Leo XIV at Vatican](#) (2026-06-15 07:31)

VATICAN, June 15 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung met with Pope Leo XIV at th...

- [Inspection launched into teachers' training program related to China's Korean War propaganda](#) (2026-06-15 07:12)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- The defense ministry said Monday it has launched an i...

- [Lee vows ceaseless efforts for inter-Korean peace](#) (2026-06-15 07:10)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung vowed Monday to make ceaseles...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul stocks up for 3rd day to land above 8,500 on U.S.-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-15 07:00)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks closed sharply higher Monday to extend t...

- [Seoul stocks up for 3rd day to land above 8,500 on U.S.-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-15 06:35)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks closed sharply higher Monday to extend t...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul stocks up for 3rd day to settle above 8,500 on U.S.-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-15 06:33)

fairydust@yna.co.kr (END)

- [SK Group chief, ex-wife attend court mediation session for asset division](#) (2026-06-15 06:28)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- SK Group Chairman Chey Tae-won and his former wife, R...

- [Benchmark rate for banks' mortgage loans up for 2nd month in May](#) (2026-06-15 06:22)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- The benchmark rate for banks' mortgage rates increase...

- [Unification ministry vows to press on with peace drive despite Pyongyang's rebuffs](#) (2026-06-15 06:10)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- The unification ministry said Monday it remains commi...

- [U.S.-Iran deal raises hope for exit of 24 S. Korean vessels stranded inside the Strait of Hormuz](#) (2026-06-15 05:28)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- The agreement between the United States and Iran to r...

- [S. Korea to explore 'concrete' ways to contribute to Hormuz stability after U.S.-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-15 05:20)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will consider "concrete" ways to help sta...

- [\(LEAD\) Protests over ballot shortages continue for 11th day](#) (2026-06-15 05:08)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Protests demanding a rerun of the June 3 local electi...

- [Today in Korean history](#) (2026-06-15 05:00)

June 16

- [Gov't launches joint inspection at workplaces handling military explosives](#) (2026-06-15 05:00)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- The government launched a joint inspection Monday of ...

- [Boy group Riize to drop 2nd EP 'II'](#) (2026-06-15 04:43)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- K-pop boy group Riize will return Monday with its sec...

- [Lee set to meet Pope Leo XIV at Vatican](#) (2026-06-15 04:36)

VATICAN, June 15 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung was scheduled to meet with ...

- [Yonhap News Summary](#) (2026-06-15 04:30)

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

- [S. Korea's media watchdog vows bold regulatory reforms](#) (2026-06-15 04:23)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- The chief of South Korea's media watchdog vowed to fo...

- [Foreigners sell record amount of Korean stocks in May](#) (2026-06-15 03:00)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Foreign investors continued their selling binge of Ko...

- [PM promises extraordinary financial support for companies moving to regional areas](#) (2026-06-15 02:59)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Kim Min-seok promised extraordinary fi...

- [Protests over ballot shortages continue for 11th day](#) (2026-06-15 02:38)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Protests demanding a rerun of the June 3 local electi...

- [S. Korea eyes safe exit for 24 ships in Hormuz, weighs role in securing waterway](#) (2026-06-15 02:38)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- As the United States and Iran have reached a peace de...

- [Seoul stocks sharply higher late Mon. morning on U.S.-Iran deal](#) (2026-06-15 02:27)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks were trading sharply higher late Monday ...

- [\(News Focus\) U.S.-Iran deal offers relief to S. Korean economy, but lower energy prices may take time](#) (2026-06-15 02:16)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- A ceasefire agreement between the United States and I...

- [S. Korea, Cambodia vow to expand economic ties building on FTA](#) (2026-06-15 02:00)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and Cambodia discussed ways to expand bil...

- [S. Korea to offer express bus fare discounts to foreign tourists](#) (2026-06-15 01:49)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's tourism agency said Monday it will offe...

- [Labor groups demand minimum wage of 12,000 won in 16.3 pct increase](#) (2026-06-15 01:42)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Labor groups on Monday demanded a legal minimum wage ...

- [Ex-JCS chief attends arrest warrant hearing over alleged martial law role](#) (2026-06-15 01:39)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- A former head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff appeared b...

- [Shinsegae to provide historical awareness training after Starbucks promotion backlash](#) (2026-06-15 01:33)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Shinsegae Group Chairman Chung Yong-jin, along with e...

- [Actor-singer Lee Jun-young to begin military service next month](#) (2026-06-15 01:29)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Actor-singer Lee Jun-young, who appeared in the hit N...

- [Container shipping costs to Middle East rise for 3rd straight month in May amid lingering tensions](#) (2026-06-15 01:24)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Container shipping costs from South Korea to the Midd...

- [S. Korea to run promotion booth at int'l defense exhibition in Paris this week](#) (2026-06-15 01:07)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will participate in a large-scale interna...

- [S. Korea's currency strengthens on U.S.-Iran peace deal](#) (2026-06-15 01:02)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won rose to a nearly two-week high M...

- [\(World Cup\) S. Korea back at work with Mexico on horizon](#) (2026-06-15 00:57)

ZAPOPAN, Mexico, June 14 (Yonhap) -- After enjoying a day off, South Korea retur...

- [S. Korea, EU strike deal on sharing passenger data](#) (2026-06-15 00:47)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has signed an initial agreement on sharin...

- [KBO's best team in June set for duels against title contenders](#) (2026-06-15 00:40)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- Having been the best team in South Korean baseball in...

- [Seventeen's Hoshi to drop new digital single during military service](#) (2026-06-15 00:35)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- K-pop boy group Seventeen's Hoshi, currently serving ...

- [S. Korea to host Korean culture expo in France](#) (2026-06-15 00:35)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will hold a Korean culture expo in Paris ...

- [\(LEAD\) Seoul stocks open sharply higher on U.S.-Iran peace deal](#) (2026-06-15 00:24)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks opened sharply higher Monday as t...

- [KRX issues buy-side sidecar for KOSPI on sharp rise](#) (2026-06-15 00:10)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's bourse operator Monday activated a buy-...

- [\(URGENT\) Bourse operator issues buy-side sidecar on KOSPI's sharp rise.](#) (2026-06-15 00:07)

fairydust@yna.co.kr (END)

- [Seoul stocks open sharply higher on U.S.-Iran peace deal](#) (2026-06-15 00:06)

SEOUL, June 15 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks opened sharply higher Monday as t...

- [\(URGENT\) Seoul stocks open nearly 5 pct higher on U.S.-Iran deal agreement](#) (2026-06-15 00:02)

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