

SOUTH KOREA SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT

AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment

Analysis Period: October 31, 2026 - November 07, 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

South Korea's security posture during the period of October 31 to November 07, 2026, was primarily shaped by escalating North Korean military provocations and ongoing efforts to modernize its own defense capabilities. North Korea conducted a series of advanced missile and drone exercises, showcasing diversified weapons technology, while simultaneously engaging in significant cryptocurrency cyber heists to fund its illicit programs. Key diplomatic and defense discussions with the United States saw the postponement of the annual Security Consultative Meeting (SCM) due to disagreements over the pace of wartime operational control (OPCON) transfer, even as South Korea advanced its nuclear-powered submarine program and expanded its anti-piracy naval operations. Tensions on the inter-Korean border remained high, exacerbated by North Korean fortification efforts and a lack of direct communication channels, increasing the risk of miscalculation. Regionally, South Korea, the US, and Japan reaffirmed their commitment to North Korean denuclearization and strengthened trilateral cooperation, while domestic economic concerns arose from the impact of US midterm elections on AI investment and potential tariffs.

Key Security Developments

- North Korea's Advanced Missile and Drone Exercises

On October 29, North Korea conducted a large-scale missile and drone exercise, demonstrating an evolving strike complex. This included fixed-wing unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) potentially firing anti-radiation missiles, dozens of smaller UAVs targeting mock South Korean guard posts and armored equipment, and launches of 600 mm multiple launch rocket systems (MLRS) and tactical cruise missiles. These exercises indicate North Korea's intent to develop asymmetric capabilities to counter US and South Korean conventional superiority, integrating lessons from its experience in Ukraine regarding large-scale drone deployment.

- Diversification of North Korean Weapons Technology

Pyongyang continued to accelerate its missile development, focusing on diversifying its weapons technology. Recent tests included a 600-mm multiple rocket launcher on October 30, a cluster-bomb warhead for tactical ballistic missiles on October 31, a dispersal warhead for a strategic cruise missile on November 3, and a new air-defense missile system alongside a long-range cruise-missile exercise on November 4. This diversification, including experimentation with hypersonic systems (like the

Hwasong-11 Ma series), AI-assisted guidance, and sea-based platforms, suggests an effort to transform its arsenal into an interconnected military system capable of disrupting US-South Korea alliance military superiority.

- Major North Korean Cryptocurrency Cyber Heists

North Korean threat actors were responsible for 89% of all cryptocurrency value stolen globally through October 2026, amounting to approximately $13.24 billion since 2021. A significant incident occurred on October 29, when North Korea's TraderTraitor unit stole roughly $6.36 billion from the Binance exchange, making it the largest cryptocurrency heist on record. These illicit financial activities are a primary means for Pyongyang to generate revenue and import banned goods, sustaining its nuclear development and domestic economic policies despite international sanctions.

- Postponement of US-South Korea Security Consultative Meeting (SCM)

The annual Security Consultative Meeting (SCM) between South Korea and the United States, typically held in November, was postponed to early 2027. This delay, the first since 1998, stems from "unresolved differences" regarding the standards and pace of the wartime operational control (OPCON) transfer from the US to South Korea. While South Korea aims to complete the transfer by 2028, the US assesses that Seoul still needs to improve capabilities in surveillance, reconnaissance, communication, air defense, counter-fire, and wartime ammunition.

- South Korea Advances Nuclear-Powered Submarine Program

On November 6, South Korea approved plans to develop nuclear-powered attack submarines, known as the Jang Bogo-N project, equipped with conventional weapons. The official launch of the project is set for 2027, with the first submarine expected to be launched in the mid-2030s and enter operational service after 2039. This initiative, agreed upon with the United States, will utilize small modular reactors (SMRs) and low-enriched uranium fuel, aiming to strengthen deterrence against North Korea's expanding nuclear and missile capabilities by allowing for extended submerged operations.

- Launch of Second KSS-III Batch-II Submarine

The Republic of Korea Navy and the Defense Acquisition Program Administration (DAPA) announced the launch of the second Seo Hui (SS-088) diesel-electric submarine of the KSS-III Batch-II project on November 3. The ceremony took place at the Hanwha Ocean shipbuilder in Okpo, Geoje City. This launch signifies a continued effort in South Korea's naval modernization and its commitment to enhancing its underwater warfare capabilities.

- Expansion of South Korean Anti-Piracy Patrols

South Korea plans to extend its anti-piracy naval patrols from the Gulf of Aden to waters near Oman, closer to the Strait of Hormuz, following a rise in piracy off Somalia's coast (36 incidents in 2026, up from 11 in 2025). The plan, which requires parliamentary approval, involves deploying a P-8A Poseidon patrol aircraft, a bomb disposal team, and uncrewed craft, and increasing personnel from 320 to 395. This move aims to protect South Korean citizens, merchant ships, and oil shipments, as 70% of its oil imports from the Middle East passed through the Strait of Hormuz in 2025.

- Trilateral Cooperation on North Korean Denuclearization and Indo-Pacific Security

On October 31, the United States, South Korea, and Japan reaffirmed their commitment to the "complete denuclearization" of North Korea during a trilateral meeting on the sidelines of a G20 meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. The three foreign ministers also signed a memorandum of cooperation launching the Trilateral Partnership for the Indo-Pacific and the Arctic (TAPP), aimed at strengthening security and economic cooperation, including exploring maritime and economic collaboration in the region.

- North Korean Border Fortification and Inter-Korean Tensions

North Korea is actively extending its "Southern border fortification" campaign along the entire frontline adjacent to South Korea, including constructing and widening tactical roads and advancing barriers. This follows a September 21 landmine explosion incident in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), which injured three South Korean soldiers and was attributed to North Korean mines by a joint probe with the UN Command. The absence of functioning inter-Korean military communication channels significantly increases the risk of miscalculation and accidental escalation.

- South Korea's "Peaceful Coexistence" Policy Amidst Provocations

Despite North Korea's escalating military activities, the Lee Jae Myung administration is continuing to promote its "peaceful coexistence policy" as a solution for inter-Korean military tension. South Korean National Security Advisor Wi Sung-lac stated on October 30 that Seoul would pursue this policy to de-escalate frontline tensions, while also affirming a resolute response to North Korean military provocations.

- Acquisition of New Presidential Helicopters

South Korea has selected four Sikorsky S-92A+ helicopters to replace its presidential transport fleet, continuing its use of the S-92 type since 2007. The Presidential Helicopter II program is valued at approximately ₩873 billion (US$610 million), with the replacement of the current fleet expected to begin in 2031. This acquisition increases the presidential fleet from three to four helicopters and includes special mission equipment and critical spare parts.

Geopolitical Impact and Regional Dynamics

The recent security developments in South Korea and on the Korean Peninsula have significant geopolitical implications, particularly for regional stability and relations with major powers. North Korea's accelerated and diversified weapons development, including missile and drone exercises, directly challenges the security of South Korea and the credibility of the US-South Korea alliance. Pyongyang's continued reliance on illicit cyber activities to fund its programs, as evidenced by the massive Binance heist, underscores a persistent and evolving threat that requires a coordinated international response beyond traditional sanctions. The tacit condonation of sanctions evasion by China, particularly through the New Yalu Bridge, complicates international efforts to curb North Korea's nuclear ambitions and highlights the complex interplay of regional interests.

The postponement of the US-South Korea SCM over OPCON transfer discrepancies signals potential friction within the alliance, even as both sides acknowledge the need for South Korea to enhance its self-defense capabilities. This dynamic is set against the backdrop of US President Donald Trump's overtures for renewed dialogue with Kim Jong Un and a de-emphasis on "denuclearization" in US public statements, which could embolden North Korea and create uncertainty for Seoul. South Korea's commitment to purchasing over $25 billion in US military equipment and increasing defense spending aligns with new alliance demands under the Trump administration, which advocates for allies to take greater responsibility for their own defense.

Trilateral cooperation between the US, South Korea, and Japan, as demonstrated by their reaffirmed commitment to North Korean denuclearization and the launch of the Trilateral Partnership for the Indo-Pacific and the Arctic (TAPP), is a crucial element in regional stability. This collaboration aims to counter North Korean threats and address broader security and economic challenges in the Indo-Pacific. However, the ongoing tensions between the two Koreas, exacerbated by border fortification and the lack of communication channels, present a constant risk of miscalculation that could rapidly escalate into a wider conflict, drawing in regional and global powers. South Korea's proactive stance in expanding its anti-piracy patrols closer to the Strait of Hormuz also reflects its growing commitment to safeguarding its economic interests and contributing to maritime security in critical global waterways, potentially navigating complex geopolitical dynamics in the Middle East.

Military and Defense Analysis

South Korea's military and defense posture is undergoing significant modernization and strategic adjustments in response to the evolving threat landscape, particularly from North Korea. The approval of the Jang Bogo-N nuclear-powered attack submarine program marks a pivotal shift, aiming to provide extended underwater operational capabilities and bolster deterrence against North Korea's expanding nuclear and missile arsenal. This program, set to launch officially in 2027 with the first submarine by the mid-2030s, signifies a long-term commitment to advanced naval power. Complementing this, the recent launch of the Seo Hui (SS-088) diesel-electric submarine, the second in the KSS-III Batch-II series, further enhances South Korea's conventional submarine fleet.

Defense spending trends indicate a clear upward trajectory, with President Lee Jae Myung committing to raise South Korea's defense spending to 3.5% of its GDP by 2035 and to purchase over $25 billion in US military equipment. These investments are crucial for acquiring advanced weapons and improving counterforce capabilities against North Korea's increasingly sophisticated strike systems, which now include diversified missile technologies, hypersonic weapons, and drone swarms. However, the postponement of the OPCON transfer highlights existing capability gaps, particularly in surveillance, reconnaissance, communication, air defense, counter-fire, and wartime ammunition, which South Korea must address to assume full command of combined defense operations. The ongoing North Korean border fortification efforts also necessitate a review of South Korea's frontline force posture and readiness to respond to conventional incursions or provocations along the Military Demarcation Line (MDL).

Outlook and Forecast

Short-term trends (1-3 months): In the immediate future, North Korea is highly likely to continue its pattern of military provocations, including further missile and drone tests, to refine its diversified weapons capabilities and exert pressure on South Korea and the United States. Speculation surrounding a potential US-North Korea summit at the upcoming APEC meeting in China could lead to a temporary lull in overt provocations, but Pyongyang will likely maintain its hostile rhetoric and fortification efforts along the inter-Korean border. South Korea will continue its diplomatic efforts to de-escalate tensions through its "peaceful coexistence policy," while simultaneously strengthening its defense posture and pursuing military modernization. The US-South Korea defense ministerial meeting in December will be critical for addressing the OPCON transfer discrepancies and setting a roadmap for future alliance cooperation.

Critical flashpoints and risk areas: The Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and the Northern Limit Line (NLL) remain critical flashpoints due to North Korea's ongoing border

fortification and the absence of reliable inter-Korean military communication channels. Any accidental crossing of the MDL or NLL, or a misinterpretation of military activities, could rapidly escalate. North Korea's continued development of asymmetric capabilities, particularly drone swarms and precision-guided munitions targeting South Korean airfields, poses a significant threat that could overwhelm existing defenses. Furthermore, North Korea's persistent cyberattacks, especially against financial institutions, represent a non-kinetic but highly destabilizing threat that could impact South Korea's economic stability and international financial systems.

Indicators to monitor: Key indicators to monitor include the frequency and nature of North Korean missile and drone tests, particularly any demonstrations of new technologies like hypersonic weapons or AI-assisted guidance. The progress and outcomes of the upcoming US-South Korea defense ministerial meeting in December regarding OPCON transfer will be crucial. Any shifts in rhetoric or actions from North Korea regarding potential dialogue with the US, especially around the APEC summit, should be closely watched. Additionally, monitoring satellite imagery of the New Yalu Bridge for continued sanctions evasion activities and observing North Korean troop movements and construction along the DMZ will provide insights into inter-Korean tensions.

Strategic recommendations: South Korea should prioritize accelerating its counter-missile and anti-drone defense capabilities, including investments in advanced air and missile defense systems, electronic warfare, and early warning systems, to mitigate North Korea's evolving strike complex. Continued diplomatic engagement with the US and Japan, including through the Trilateral Partnership for the Indo-Pacific and the Arctic, is essential to present a united front against North Korean threats and enhance regional security cooperation. Efforts to re-establish and maintain reliable inter-Korean military communication channels are paramount to reduce the risk of miscalculation and accidental escalation. Furthermore, South Korea should bolster its cybersecurity defenses, particularly for critical infrastructure and financial institutions, and actively participate in international efforts to counter North Korean cyber-enabled illicit financing. Finally, while pursuing OPCON transfer, South Korea must ensure that its military modernization addresses identified capability gaps to maintain a credible self-defense posture.

Structured Assessment

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ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

Source: Daily NK

• Firewood and coal prices double in Ryanggang province (2026-11-06 17:25)

Firewood and coal prices have doubled in North Korea's Ryanggang province after a sudden cold snap, a local source said. Low-income families in Hyesan, Samjiyon and other highland areas now cannot afford to prepare for the 2026 winter. "Temperatures in the Ryanggang highlands have plunged below freezing since late October," the source told Daily NK [⋯]

• Top grades, top class: Hyesan schools rank students (2026-11-06 14:58)

Some junior and senior middle schools in Hyesan, a North Korean border city, began sorting students into ranked classes by grades in 2026. The shift has set off fierce academic competition at Hyesan schools across Ryanggang province. Parents now pay for private tutors and even slip cash to teachers to win their children a place [⋯]

• Fearing a slip, North Koreans avoid saying "unification" (2026-11-06 13:16)

North Koreans still think of South Koreans as members of the same nation, but many now fear those words could slip out at the wrong moment. That fear has grown as Kim Jong Un's "two hostile states" doctrine moved from party lecture halls into the country's revised constitution in 2026. "People still see them as [⋯]

• North Koreans fed up with folk remedies as colds spread (2026-11-06 12:08)

A wave of respiratory illness is sweeping parts of North Korea as the seasons change this fall, with adults and children alike battling colds that drag on for weeks. Health authorities, however, offer little beyond advice to wash hands and gargle with salt water, and frustrated North Koreans want a real response. Cold cases have [⋯]

• Listening to how North Koreans talk (2026-11-05 14:58)

A film I watched recently added Korean subtitles to a conversation between North Korean characters, as though they were speaking a foreign language. Eight decades after the peninsula was divided, that scene in 2026 showed how far North and South Korean dialects have drifted apart, and also raised harder question about how well South Koreans [⋯]

• Empty-handed farmers drive up rice prices (2026-11-05 13:31)

Farm workers in South Hwanghae province are flooding local markets to buy rice in November 2026, with tighter state grain procurement leaving them with almost nothing from this year's

harvest. The rush has pushed market rice prices past 50,000 North Korean won per kilogram, and some areas have hit 60,000 won. “Forced state grain procurement [⋯]

• North Korea taps young AI talent to stoke division in the South (2026-11-05 01:08)

North Korea’s top think tank on South Korea is now producing AI propaganda videos and online content, suggesting the Institute of Enemy State Studies has moved beyond research into online information warfare aimed at deepening divisions in South Korean society. The institute, a ruling party think tank, was formerly called the National Reunification Institute. It [⋯]

• South Korean goods shut out of Hyesan customs trade (2026-11-05 00:02)

Chinese goods are pouring into North Korea through the customs office in Hyesan this November 2026, yet traders who built their businesses on South Korean goods have little to celebrate. Tough inspections now keep South Korean products out of official shipments, and these traders are waiting for smuggling routes to reopen while demand stays strong. [⋯]

• Farmer tells party official to change first (2026-11-04 13:48)

A Workers’ Party official in North Hamgyong province was left red-faced after a middle-aged farmer openly rebuffed his call to emulate the heroes of a state propaganda drama, in a confrontation at a threshing ground in Hwadae county. The official from the Hwadae County Party Committee used the farmers’ rest break to hold an on-site [⋯]

• Farm workers drop rice bundles to steal grain (2026-11-04 10:53)

North Korean farm workers are siphoning off grain during the 2026 fall harvest by secretly dropping rice bundles on the way to threshing grounds. Accomplices then collect the fallen bundles later, a scheme that reflects deepening food insecurity on the country’s collective farms. On Oct. 24, a cart driver hauling rice at a farm in [⋯]

• Nightly check-in calls rattle North Korean traders in China (2026-11-04 08:04)

North Korean consulates in China are calling regime trade officials every night around 9 p.m. to demand details on their whereabouts, meetings, and purposes—a sign of Pyongyang’s tightening control ahead of an anticipated surge in North Korea-China trade in late 2026. Consular officials are also collecting personal information on the Chinese partners of these trade [⋯]

• Young North Korean women stop hiding sexual assault (2026-11-03 17:47)

A young woman in North Hamgyong province reported being raped at knifepoint to police immediately after the attack, leading to the arrest of two men in their 30s, in a case that a source said reflects a growing willingness among young North Korean women to come forward about sexual violence. The woman had gone to [⋯]

• Pyongyang professors banished over bribes, abuse (2026-11-03 14:43)

North Korean authorities have banished two Pyongyang professors to a remote mountain region over years of bribe-taking and sexual harassment of female students, but their decision to spare the men criminal charges has angered many at the university. Both men taught at the Pyongyang Kim Won Gyun University of Music and Dance, a Daily NK […]

• Kimchi shortage exposes farm policy flaws (2026-11-03 00:37)

A poor 2026 harvest of radishes and napa cabbage is set to cause a kimchi shortage in parts of North Korea this winter. The shortfall threatens a staple that families depend on to get through the long, cold months. For a country grappling with a prolonged economic crisis and chronic food shortages, kimchi is far […]

• North Korea courts Chinese money for Sinuiju hotels (2026-11-02 19:11)

North Korea is courting Chinese investors to build hotels and shopping complexes in Sinuiju as ties with Beijing warm in 2026. The new bridge to Dandong and Kim Jong Un's visit there have revived Chinese interest, but many doubt the deals will close. North Korean officials are pitching lodging and commercial projects in Sinuiju to […]

• Elite unit's villa repairs spill into local markets (2026-11-02 17:04)

High-end building materials and fixtures torn out of Kim family villas and state guesthouses are turning up in North Korean markets in 2026. Many North Koreans living near those sites read the trend as a sign of sweeping renovations at the leadership's private retreats. Ordinary shoppers are snapping up the castoffs, since goods of that […]

• Kim Jong Un's luxury yacht ends its summer off Wonsan (2026-11-02 14:35)

Kim Jong Un's 80-meter luxury yacht, complete with a swimming pool and waterslides, spent about three months of summer 2026 anchored off the Kim family's seaside villa in Wonsan, according to my analysis of satellite imagery. The vessel, reserved for the exclusive use of the North Korean leader's family, left those waters in mid-October and […]

Source: Hankyoreh

• [Interview] When the world looked away from atrocities in Sudan, two journalists listened to survivors (2026-11-06 12:02)

• Chip-centered Korean market reels after AI-skeptical Democrats sweep US midterms (2026-11-06 12:02)

• After midterms, Trump floats 300% tariffs, says US may have to 'destroy rest of' Iran (2026-11-06 12:02)

• After a day of panic, KOSPI narrowly holds above 5,000 amid AI sell-off (2026-11-06 12:02)

• [Cartoon] You sure about that plan? (2026-11-06 06:02)

• Plan to move naval unit closer to Hormuz draws criticism from Korea’s progressives (2026-11-06 06:02)

• [News analysis] Is Korea’s roundabout response to US pressure over Iran a lose-lose? (2026-11-06 06:02)

• Korean conglomerates shift overseas operations from China to US (2026-11-05 12:02)

• A new balance of power in Washington spells uncertainty for Korea’s pending deals with US (2026-11-05 12:02)

• [Editorial] Americans rebuked Trump. Korea should still be prepared to deal with him. (2026-11-05 12:02)

• 1 in 3 multicultural couples in Korea have husbands 10+ years older than wives (2026-11-05 12:02)

• Is this the end of MAGA as we know it? (2026-11-05 12:02)

• KOSPI falls 5% as Democrats sweep Congress, rattling chip stocks (2026-11-05 12:02)

• Seoul to expand anti-piracy naval unit’s area of operation closer to Hormuz (2026-11-05 06:02)

• Dan Koh’s election to US Congress celebrated by ancestral Koh clan in Jeju (2026-11-05 06:02)

• Blue wave breaks through Republican strongholds, handing Democrats the Senate and House (2026-11-04 12:02)

• Appeals court upholds conviction for Yoon that could put PPP on hook for 39.7B won in campaign expenses (2026-11-04 12:02)

• Blue House tells migrant groups that Lee’s remarks weren’t hate speech (2026-11-04 12:02)

• Foreign Ministry employee likely behind presidential jet passenger data leak (2026-11-04 12:02)

• No tears, only smiles: In Korea, a 96-year-old says goodbye at her own ‘living funeral’ (2026-11-04 12:02)

• [Column] Gen Z protests: Why Europe erupts while Korea stays silent (2026-11-04 12:02)

• North Korea says it has ‘no need to sit face to face with’ US (2026-11-04 06:02)

• File containing personal info of presidential jet passengers was in Foreign Ministry format (2026-11-04 06:02)

• Lee lays out vision of ‘growth for all,’ not the few, in budget speech (2026-11-03 12:02)

• North Korea slams US for ‘trite provocation,’ denies responsibility for Binance hack (2026-11-03 12:02)

• Difficulty fitting in at school cited by 36% of migrant-background dropouts in Korea (2026-11-03 12:02)

• [Interview] Turkey’s new ambassador on what Seoul and Ankara can accomplish together (2026-11-03 12:02)

• [Column] The South Korea-US security meeting can wait (2026-11-03 12:02)

• Haenyo diver recognized as ‘woman hero’ by UN’s Food and Agriculture Organization (2026-11-03 12:02)

• Passport numbers of Lee, 167 others leaked in presidential jet data breach (2026-11-03 12:02)

• [Guest essay] Extreme inequality is not a given. It is a political choice, and we can unmake it. (2026-11-03 12:02)

• [Photo] Migrant rights groups condemn Lee’s remarks as discriminatory, demand an apology (2026-11-03 12:02)

• Job insecurity is the norm for young workers from migrant backgrounds in Korea, study finds (2026-11-03 12:02)

• US consumer advocacy group slams Coupang's 'weaponization' of US trade policy against Korean regulation (2026-11-02 12:02)

• [Editorial] Coupang's lobbying tactics are finally drawing global scrutiny (2026-11-02 12:02)

• It's time for Korea to let go of the myth that America's defense spending makes it invincible (2026-11-02 12:02)

• [Column] Is the far-right wave receding? (2026-11-02 12:02)

• Justice Ministry seeks nationwide review of multicultural family support policies (2026-11-02 12:02)

• International student numbers in Korea top 300,000 as share from China shrinks (2026-11-02 12:02)

• FBI identifies North Korean hackers as responsible for unprecedented Binance breach (2026-11-02 12:02)

• [Editorial] Binance heist should be South Korea's wake-up call about crypto security (2026-11-02 12:02)

• [Korea travels] Walking the path to success in Ulsan's Tongdo Temple (2026-11-01 06:02)

Source: Korea Times

• Park Han-byul says changing shampoo helped her hair loss — but does it really work? (2026-11-07 05:57)

Click here for more articles by Kormedi.com. Actress Park Han-byul, 42, recently shared her concerns about thinning hair, saying that changing her shampoo made a noticeable difference after other remedies failed to deliver results. But can switching shampoos really prevent or reduce hair loss? In a video posted to her YouTube channel on Wednesday, Park said she had noticed her hair becoming thinner as she got older. "I used to have incredibly thick hair. I really had so much of it, but as I've gotten older, I've felt like I've been losing quite a bit," she said. "I tried eating black beans, which are supposed to be good for hair loss, and using hair masks, but I didn't see much improvement." Park said she believes consistent daily care is the key to managing hair and scalp health. "I'm someone who truly believes that taking care of yourself consistently every day is the answer," she said. "So I thought, why not try changing the

shampoo I use every day? I switched shampoos, and for me, that worked better than anythingelse." Can shampoo really help with hair loss? Whether shampoo can effecti

• Hechyeomoyeo opens 18th mass exhibition at KOTE featuring over 500 artists (2026-11-07 05:57)

The Hechyeomoyeo (HCMY) opened its 18th mass exhibition at KOTE in central Seoul's Insa-dong on Wednesday. The opening party featured music, live drawing, face painting, clowns and flash tattoos, as art lovers from Korea and all around the world crowded into all five floors plus the roof and basement of the aging building that houses KOTE. “My approach is straightforward: If someone tells me they have a creative skill to share, I try to find a place for them in the event,” Neil Wheelock Deforest Smith, the American artist who started HCMY, told The Korea Times. HCMY is an independent art initiative that began in Korea as an effort to make exhibition opportunities more accessible to Korea-based artists. It has grown into an international community, connecting hundreds of creators across continents. Despite its global reach, HCMY maintains a strong connection to its Korean roots. Smith estimates that approximately 65 percent of the participants at HCMY's Korean exhibitions are Korean nationals, while around 20 to 30 percent are foreign residents, and the rest are international artists

• [COVER STORY] Ruling party leader's credibility put on line as Shincheonji claims backfire (2026-11-06 23:57)

Kim Min-seok, chairman of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) and former prime minister, is facing a test of his credibility after an internal investigation failed to substantiate his claims of a “secret alliance” involving his leadership rival and the nonmainstream religious sect Shincheonji. On Friday, Kim apologized again during the party’s Supreme Council meeting. It was his third apology over the controversy, following remarks at Tuesday’s closed-door meeting of party lawmakers and on the party’s YouTube channel on Thursday. “I once again offer my apologies to everyone who was hurt as I raised serious concerns and warned about religious interference in politics during the party’s leadership election,” Kim said. He was referring to his allegation in the run-up to the Aug. 17 party leadership election that the anti-President Lee Jae Myung faction within the party and Shincheonji had formed a secret alliance. The claim targeted the camp of his leadership rival, former Chairman Rep. Jung Chung-rae. After raising the allegation and winning the leadership race, Kim

• National Assembly passes special counsel bill on alleged fabricated indictments (2026-11-06 12:02)

The National Assembly, led by the ruling Democratic Party (DP), passed a bill Friday calling for a special counsel probe into allegations of fabricated indictments targeting President Lee Jae Myung and others amid protests from the main opposition party. The special counsel bill passed a plenary session in a 167-1 vote, after a filibuster by the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) ended. Lawmakers of the PPP boycotted the vote. The bill, first introduced by the DP

in April, calls for an independent counsel to investigate allegations the prosecution underformer President Yoon Suk Yeol had fabricated evidence or induced false testimonies to buildcases against then opposition leader Lee and others. The PPP has fiercely opposed the bill,accusing it of being aimed at canceling all indictments against Lee. Opposition lawmakersprotested outside the National Assembly before the vote, and plan to stage an outdoor rally incentral Seoul on Saturday. "This is a bill that would allow one's crimes to disappear as long asthey are the president," PPP leader Jang Dong-hyeok said during the rall

- [FRIENDS OF KOREA] Korea found me (2026-11-06 12:02)

I got the call in the summer of 1977, after applying to the U.S. Peace Corps to serve overseas as a volunteer. The application form allowed us to cite three countries in which we thought we might like to serve. I listed Nepal, Kenya and (a throwaway choice for fun in the sun) the Caribbean. Peace Corps headquarters told me that no openings were available in those places; would Afghanistan do instead? I hit my mental pause button, went camping for a weekend and checked back in with Peace Corps HQ. Afghanistan was no longer available; how about Korea? Thinking it was now or never, I took the plunge. Apart from the TV series “M*A*S*H” and the thought that my favorite baseball player, Ted Williams of the Boston Red Sox, had flown several combat missions during the 1950-53 Korean War, I knew virtually nothing about Korea. The only image of the country I could recall was the elation of the Korean women’s volleyball team after they defeated the Japanese women in the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games. And so it was that I packed a backpack and a duffel bag, and hopped on a flight to San Francisc

- President's new YouTube show unlikely to get message across as intended (2026-11-06 12:02)

Political analysts expressed skepticism about President Lee Jae Myung’s new YouTube talk show, intended to strengthen communication with the public, saying it is unlikely to attract broader interest or win greater public support. The program, President’s Y, debuted Thursday evening as a prerecorded one-on-one interview. The show aimed to offer more room to explain Lee’s views than posts on X, excerpts in news reports or YouTube channels run by Cheong Wa Dae. Analysts said the first episode drew relatively few views despite the curiosity surrounding its debut, and that the key to better communication and higher approval ratings is not the platform or format, but rather more measured language. “Considering the curiosity that comes with a launch, it is difficult to call that particularly high,” a political pundit said on condition of anonymity, referring to the episode’s roughly 300,000 views in the 12 hours after its 9 p.m. release on Thursday. The count remained in the 350,000 range as of 3:30 p.m. Friday. “It does not appear to have been especially successful in attracting a

- Inside look at 4-year mission behind Captain Q's unexpected resurgence (2026-11-06 12:02)

Behind the unexpected resurgence of Captain Q, which returned to the liquor market after an 11-year hiatus, was one man's four-year mission to reinvent the brand. His goal was to make

the inexpensive rum-based spirit — once notorious for hangovers so severe that drinkers jokedit took two days to recover — appealing to younger consumers without the baggage of its past.Priced at less than 10,000 won ($7.20), Captain Q has returned to public notice with a viraladvertising campaign featuring comedian Lee Sun-min that paid homage to 1980s commercials.The limited-edition release of 12,000 sets sold out completely within a day of shipment. Eventhe Scottish supplier of the rum base was reportedly surprised, remarking, " Korea is such adynamic market." Kim Dong-jun, a spirits manager on Lotte Chilsung Beverage's soju and spiritsbrand management team, had been preparing for Captain Q's revival since 2022. He can finallybreathe a sigh of relief, knowing that four years of work had not gone to waste. At thecompany's headquarters in Songpa District in Seoul on Tuesday, Kim looked as flu

• Young entrepreneurs test ideas in Seoul neighborhoods (2026-11-06 12:02)

"Come in, try it out and leave us some feedback." At a pop-up store in Ikseon-dong, Jongno District, Seoul, on Oct. 30, prototypes showcasing the ideas of 19 young startup teams caught visitors' attention. Each team had set up an interactive space to present its products and services, ranging from Korean-style pork cutlets served with green onion kimchi and soybean paste stew to lightweight hiking and camping backpacks made with functional fabrics, artificial intelligence-powered fortune-telling services and art studios. Visitors tried out the offerings, listened to explanations from the entrepreneurs and suggested areas for improvement. About 850 people visited the event that day. The pop-up store served as a real-world testing ground for a Seoul Metropolitan Government initiative linking youth entrepreneurship with the revitalization of neighborhood commercial districts. A total of 150 teams applied for the fifth edition of the Local Entrepreneur Development Program, known as "Local in Seoul," this year, with 24 ultimately selected. Since June, the teams have been preparing to launch

• Arms review committee approves plan for nuclear-powered submarine project (2026-11-06 12:02)

A review committee of the state arms agency on Friday passed the basic plan for South Korea's nuclear-powered submarine program, officials said, moving forward with efforts to build the core naval asset under an agreement with the United States. The decision-making body under the Defense Acquisition Program Administration (DAPA) approved the plan for the Jang Bogo N project during a regular meeting earlier in the day, DAPA said in a release. The project will formally be launched in 2027. Seoul unveiled the Jang Bogo N project in May, aiming to domestically develop and build nuclear-propelled, conventionally armed attack submarines, with the first vessel to be launched in the mid-2030s and fielded after the late 2030s. The project has been exempted from a preliminary feasibility study usually required for arms acquisitions, allowing the government to accelerate its push for the construction. Under procurement regulations, the defense minister or DAPA chief can request an exemption from the feasibility study for highly classified projects. The exemption for the Jang Bogo N program was grant

• Court suspends $147.74 mil. fine imposed on Coupang for unauthorized user data collection (2026-11-06 12:02)

A court on Friday temporarily suspended a 201.1 billion-won ($147.74 million) fine imposed on e-commerce giant Coupang Corp. over unauthorized collection of user data, officials said. Coupang had earlier filed a lawsuit seeking to cancel the penalty surcharges levied by the Personal Information Protection Commission for collecting the online activity records of about 11.17 million users and storing them in its database without consent. At the same time, Coupang also filed for an injunction against the fine. The Seoul Administrative Court granted Coupang's injunction request Friday and suspended the execution of the fine until 30 days after the first verdict in the main lawsuit seeking the cancellation of the surcharges is made, citing concern the penalty could cause irrecoverable damage to the company. Separately, the commission had fined Coupang 423.6 billion won over a data breach affecting more than 37 million users — the largest fine ever handed down by the privacy regulator to a single firm. Coupang filed an injunction request to suspend the fine, but a different panel of the court

• President nominates arms procurement chief as justice minister (2026-11-06 12:02)

President Lee Jae Myung nominated Defense Acquisition Program Administration chief Lee Yong-cheol as justice minister, Cheong Wa Dae said, Friday, after the post has remained vacant for more than two months. Lee, who heads Korea’s arms procurement agency, is a lawyer formerly affiliated with Lawyers for a Democratic Society, known as Minbyun, and has worked to protect human rights and promote democratic values, the presidential office said. He served as a presidential secretary for civil affairs and legal affairs during the Roh Moo-hyun administration, helping lead reforms of anti-corruption systems. Cheong Wa Dae cited Lee's legal background as well as his administrative experience in areas including structural reform as key qualifications for the justice minister post. “We expect him to swiftly establish the new criminal justice system and deliver fair justice administration so that no one is left behind or suffers injustice,” the office said. The president also nominated Seoul Regional Tax Office chief Ahn Duk-su as National Tax Service commissioner. The post has remained vacant s

• Lee vows efforts to restore honor of civilians killed in state violence during Korean War (2026-11-06 12:02)

President Lee Jae Myung on Friday pledged efforts to restore the honor of civilians killed in state violence around the 1950-53 Korean War, saying it is the state's duty to redress past wrongs. Lee made the pledge in his message to this year's joint memorial service for civilian victims of state violence before, during and after the Korean War, held at Seoul City Hall. The message was read by Lee's secretary for social cohesion Jeon Seong-hwan. In the early stage of the war in 1950, U.S. troops opened fire on approaching South Korean refugees at Nogeun-ri, a village in North Chungcheong Province, believing that North Korean soldiers were hiding among them. The incident reportedly left hundreds of innocent civilians dead. After the revelation about the incident, South Korea launched the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in 2005 to investigate similar cases, as well as other incidents of state violence. "It is a duty that today's state is

obliged to fulfill: to shed light on the truth covered up by the state in the past and redress thewrongs of history," Lee said. He vowed to step up eff

• Nearly half of Koreans say they do not trust courts: survey (2026-11-06 12:02)

Nearly 50 percent of Koreans said they do not trust the judiciary, a poll showed Friday, while less than 30 percent expressed trust in two new agencies launched after abolishing the prosecution's investigative right last month. A Gallup Korea poll, conducted on 1,001 adults from Tuesday to Thursday, showed that 47 percent of the respondents expressed distrust of the courts, up 3 percentage points from the previous survey conducted in April last year. Forty-one percent said they trusted the courts, down 5 percentage points. The survey also showed that public trust in the Constitutional Court had declined after the court upheld the impeachment of former President Yoon Suk Yeol in April last year over his martial law bid. Compared with last year's survey, 49 percent said they trusted the Constitutional Court, down 12 percentage points, while distrust rose 5 percentage points to 36 percent. In the same poll, 29 percent said they trusted the Serious Crime Investigation Agency (SCIA), tasked with handling major crimes, compared with 49 percent who did not. Twenty-five percent expressed trust in

• KNPA deputy chief nominated as new police chief (2026-11-06 12:02)

Kim Jong-chul, deputy commissioner general of the Korean National Police Agency (KNPA), was nominated Friday to serve as the agency's new commissioner general, filling a post that has remained vacant for nearly two years since former President Yoon Suk Yeol's declaration of martial law. Kim said he felt a heavy sense of responsibility over his nomination as KNPA commissioner general at a critical time, ahead of a meeting of the National Police Commission convened to deliberate on his appointment. "I am well aware that public expectations for the police are higher than ever and that concerns about the police are also growing," Kim said, adding he would participate in the commission meeting with a sense of responsibility and the utmost sincerity. The selection process for the KNPA commissioner general involves several steps: nomination by the presidential office, approval by the National Police Commission, a formal recommendation by the interior minister, a confirmation hearing at the National Assembly and, finally, appointment by the president. The KNPA commissioner general nominee can be

• Google Cloud says it deleted leaked presidential info at Korean gov't request (2026-11-06 12:02)

Google Cloud told The Korea Times that it deleted the Korean first couple’s personal information, exposed for about five months on its VirusTotal platform, immediately after Korean authorities requested its cooperation. The response follows a finding that the malware analysis platform, owned by Google Cloud, had hosted sensitive personal information of 168 people aboard the presidential jet during President Lee Jae Myung’s trip to Europe in June. " Google Cloud removed the relevant data from VirusTotal immediately after confirming government authorities' request," the company said in a statement sent to The Korea Times on

Friday. VirusTotal scans uploaded files and URLs simultaneously using more than 70 antivirusengines and security tools. Files submitted through its public interface are shared withparticipating security vendors and can be accessed by organizations that subscribe toVirusTotal’s enterprise datasets — meaning a document uploaded for a routine malwarecheck can become available to outside parties. It was found through a media report on Mondaythat a file containin

• Presidential secretary for political affairs offers to resign (2026-11-06 12:02)

President Lee Jae Myung's chief secretary for political affairs, Hong Ik-pyo, has offered to resign, according to sources Friday. The former three-term lawmaker, who took office in January, was expected to leave the presidential office after Sunday, the sources said. Cheong Wa Dae is widely expected to name Hong's successor around Sunday, with Choi In-ho, currently president of Korea Housing & Urban Guarantee Corp., reportedly being considered as a candidate.

• Korea grants temporary stay and work permits to foreign children seeking paternal recognition (2026-11-06 05:57)

Foreign children seeking legal recognition from Korean parents can now secure long-term stay rights and legal employment during court proceedings, eliminating a regulatory loophole that often forced vulnerable families into financial hardship or overstaying their visas. Under updated immigration guidelines revealed Friday by the Ministry of Justice, children without citizenship and their custodial parents involved in paternity suits will be eligible for a G-1 visa, a long-term humanitarian status granted in six-month increments for the duration of legal disputes. Crucially, the policy opens a pathway to temporary work permits for parents and guardians following review by an internal human rights committee, allowing them to support themselves legally while navigating the court system. "The measures are designed to fulfill the state's minimum humanitarian obligation by preventing hardship for children of Korean lineage and their guardians during trial proceedings," acting Justice Minister Lee Jin-soo said. Until now, foreign mothers or fathers entering Korea on short-term C-3 tourist visas

• Nat'l conference of judges to be held this month amid calls for judicial independence (2026-11-06 05:57)

A key conference of representative judges from courts nationwide will take place later this month, officials said Friday, amid calls to uphold judicial independence in response to the ruling party's criticism of the judiciary. The conference had been initially set for Dec. 7 but will take place one week earlier than scheduled on Nov. 30 following a vote by its members. No agenda has been set, but it is expected to include discussions on the judiciary's independence. The ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) has been pushing for a parliamentary probe into Supreme Court Chief Justice Cho Hee-dae, accusing him of interfering in politics. The DPK has accused Cho of meddling in last year's presidential election after the Supreme Court overturned a not-guilty verdict in President Lee Jae Myung's election law violation case and sent it back to a lower court for retrial just ahead of the June 3 presidential election. The party also took issue

with Cho's refusal to recommend a new candidate for Supreme Court justice as requested bythe presidential office, as well as allegations of improper use o

• Kookmin University to launch interdisciplinary master's program in AI, arts management (2026-11-06 05:57)

Kookmin University's Graduate School of Total Arts will launch an interdisciplinary master's degree program in artificial intelligence (AI) and arts management for the spring 2027 semester. The university said Wednesday that the new program aims to nurture professionals who can apply AI expertise to the arts and culture sectors. The "AI+Arts Management" program will integrate AI into all aspects of arts management, from performance and exhibition planning to arts organization management, audience development and fundraising. The program will focus on helping students understand how technological advances are transforming the arts and arts management and develop new planning and operational models using AI. Beyond improving work efficiency through AI, the program will emphasize expanding access to arts and culture and generating broader social benefits. It will also support the development of startups that use AI to address social challenges. The curriculum consists of core and elective courses. Core courses provide students with a foundation in AI applications and the fundamentals

• Subzero cold to grip Korea this weekend (2026-11-06 05:57)

Temperatures in Seoul will drop below zero this weekend as early winter sets in, with strong winds sweeping much of the country Saturday and rain forecast for central regions Sunday. Saturday's morning lows nationwide will range from minus 5 degrees to 5 degrees Celsius, with daytime highs of 8 to 14 degrees, according to the Korea Meteorological Administration, Friday. Both are below the seasonal norms of 2 to 11 degrees and 13 to 20 degrees, respectively. Cold air moving in from the northwest is expected to bring subzero temperatures, mainly to the central region, eastern North Jeolla Province and inland Gyeongsang areas. The weather agency issued cold alerts for these regions. Seoul's morning lows are forecast to be minus 1 degree, but chilly winds will drive Seoul's wind chill to around minus 5 degrees. Daytime highes are expected to rise to 9 degrees. Incheon will have temperatures ranging from minus 1 degrees to 8 degrees and Suwon in Gyeonggi Province from minus 1 to 9 degrees. Inland areas of Gangwon Province will see lows of minus 5 to minus 3 degrees and highs of 8 to 10 de

• Korea to see warm, wet winter due to powerful El Nino (2026-11-06 05:57)

Korea is expected to experience a warmer and wetter winter this year due to the influence of a climate phenomenon known as El Nino, the national weather agency said Friday. The Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA) said an El Nino — a naturally recurring phenomenon of warming of waters in parts of the tropical Pacific Ocean — has been forming since May and is expected to peak in December. The latest phenomenon is forecast to develop into the strongest on record and bring warm, humid air into Korea this winter, it said, citing record sea surface temperatures of the El Nino monitoring zone. The moving average sea surface temperature for

August to October measured 2.4 C above the long-term average, marking the highest for theperiod since records began in 1950, according to the KMA. Due to the influence of El Nino,Korea's average temperatures in November, December and January are projected to be higherthan the long-term averages, with more rainfall than usual in the first two months, it said. LeeMi-seon, head of the KMA, said in a release the public should still be prepared for po

• Veterans ministry to invite foreign Korean War veterans, families on UN memorial day (2026-11-06 05:57)

The veterans ministry said Friday it will invite foreign veterans who fought in the 1950-53 Korean War to the country, along with their family members, to commemorate their service on an annual memorial day. A total of 36 people from six countries and their family members will arrive Sunday for a six-day visit, according to the ministry. The International U.N. Veterans Memorial Day is held annually Nov. 11. The visit is part of the Turn Toward Busan program, which aims to commemorate the service of foreign Korean War veterans. Among the invited veterans is William Walsh, 97, who served as a British Army soldier and trained foreign troops to be deployed to the war at a military battle school, from 1953 to 1955. This year, Canadian veteran Vincent Courtenay, who first proposed the visit program in 2007, along with Kelly McKeague, director of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, will also travel to South Korea next week to pay their respects to the U.N. forces, according to the veterans ministry. The program includes a visit to the U.N. Memorial Cemetery in Busan, some 330 kilometers southe

• DPK leader makes public apology over Shincheonji claim amid backlash from lawmakers (2026-11-06 05:57)

Ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) leader Kim Min-seok issued a public apology Friday over allegations he had raised that members of a religious sect had joined the party en masse to influence the party's leadership race. The renewed apology came after Kim apologized at a closed-door meeting earlier this week, acknowledging that an internal party investigation had found no evidence to support his earlier claim that followers of the Shincheonji Church of Jesus, a nonmainstream religious sect, had colluded with party lawmakers to join the DPK to sway the outcome of the Aug. 17 leadership election. "I once again offer my apologies to party members and to all those who were hurt, as I raised strong concerns over the interference of religion in politics during the last party convention," Rep. Kim said during a meeting of the party's supreme council. Kim vowed to focus on uniting the party and improving people's livelihoods while addressing the issue through the party's internal efforts. The main opposition People Power Party (PPP) has called for a joint prosecution-police probe into the c

• Gov't probing 'all possibilities' in leak of personal data of President Lee, Europe trip entourage (2026-11-06 05:57)

Authorities are investigating all possibilities surrounding the leak of personal information of President Lee Jae Myung and 167 members of his delegation for a trip to Europe in June, including whether an outside contractor was involved, officials said Friday. The presidential

office and the foreign ministry said Tuesday that they had discovered the exposure of personalinformation after a file containing details of 168 people aboard the presidential aircraft wasuploaded to VirusTotal, a website used to scan files for malware. The file contained the names,affiliations, positions, dates of birth and passport details of Lee, first lady Kim Hea Kyung and166 others, including senior officials, presidential security personnel and journalists coveringthe presidential office. "We are thoroughly investigating the circumstances from multipleangles, keeping all possibilities open," the ministry said in a statement. "We take the possibilityof leaks involving diplomatic materials very seriously and are conducting an investigation incooperation with the police and other relevant agencies," it

• Busan shark remains unsighted for 11 days after monthlong stay in canal (2026-11-06 05:57)

BUSAN — Bukang-i the shark, which drew more than a million viewers while staying in a coastal canal in the southeastern city of Busan for over a month, has not been seen for 11 consecutive days, raising the possibility that it has finally headed out to the open sea. According to the National Institute of Fisheries Science and relevant agencies, no sightings of Bukang-i have been reported since Oct. 27 near the exit of the canal leading out to Busan's North Port, located about 330 kilometers southeast of Seoul. Experts speculate dropping water temperatures near the canal's exit could have played a role in the shark's disappearance. The optimal water temperature for sharks is between 18 and 26 C, but surface water temperatures off the North Port have fallen to 18-19 C. The shark — affectionately named Bukang-i after Bukhang, Korean for North Port — was first spotted in the canal Sept. 18. Since then, the canal park has turned into a major tourist attraction, drawing nearly 1.7 million visitors as of Oct. 29. Local authorities made three attempts to guide the shark out of the canal in

• Poor living conditions, stress plague elephants in Korean zoos (2026-11-06 05:57)

Only one of 10 elephants that died at Korean zoos and other captive facilities from known causes was recorded as having died of natural causes related to old age, a new report has found. Most facilities kept indoor enclosures — spaces where animals can stay out of public view — closed during visiting hours, with keepers explaining that they did so because visitors complained when elephants went inside and could no longer be seen. According to a report titled “Survey on the Welfare of Captive Elephants in Korea,” released Monday by the animal rights group Animal Liberation Wave, only one of the 10 elephants whose causes of death were identified died naturally of old age. Their average age at death was 32.1. The leading causes of death included cardiovascular and circulatory diseases, as well as foot and joint disorders. The group said these conditions were closely linked to captive environments, including confined spaces, hard flooring and insufficient exercise. The survey was conducted from March to June this year at nine facilities that keep elephants in Korea. Researchers visit

• Labor rallies, marathons to cause congestion in Seoul this weekend (2026-11-06 05:57)

Traffic congestion is expected in central Seoul this weekend due to labor rallies and marathon events, police said Friday. The Korean Confederation of Trade Unions (KCTU), a major umbrella labor union, plans to hold a preliminary rally near the Seoul Regional Employment and Labor Office in downtown Seoul at 1 p.m. on Saturday, according to the Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency. KCTU members will then march through downtown Seoul before holding their main rally for about an hour on the road between Sungnyemun Intersection and Taepyeong Intersection. They are scheduled to march back to the labor office from 4 p.m. In the Yeouido area, the "Save Race Marathon," sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will take place from 8 a.m. on Saturday, police said. The course starts at Yeouido Park, crosses the Sogang Grand Bridge, and reaches a turnaround point at the Gwangheungchang Station intersection. As a result, vehicle traffic on the Han River bridge will be restricted from 7:50 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. Traffic in Yeouido is expected to become congested again from 2 p.m., when another major umbrel

- Lee's approval rating tops 40% for 1st time since late August: poll (2026-11-06 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung's approval rating rose slightly to 41 percent, a poll showed Friday, marking the first time in over two months that the figure exceeded 40 percent. The survey, conducted by Gallup Korea from Tuesday through Thursday on 1,001 people aged 18 and older, showed that positive assessments of Lee's performance rose 2 percentage points from a week earlier. Negative assessments also rose 1 percentage point to 50 percent. Lee's approval rating last exceeded 40 percent in the last week of August, when it stood at 42 percent. After weeks of decline, the figure returned to 40 percent in the fourth week of October before slipping to 39 percent last week. Gallup assessed that Lee's approval rating has remained "largely unchanged" over the past three weeks despite the latest increase. Among those who positively assessed Lee's performance, 18 percent cited diplomacy, followed by economic and livelihood issues at 15 percent, and communication at 10 percent. Real estate policies and economic concerns were among the main reasons cited by those who disapproved of Lee's performance at 19

- [FRIENDS OF KOREA] An American teenager in Seoul in 1967 (2026-11-06 00:02)

I was 13 when our family of 10 (mom, dad and eight kids ranging in age from 1 to 15) arrived at Kimpo Airport in August 1966. We arrived a bit prior to the first volunteers of the Peace Corps K-1, because our school started in early September. The older kids attended Seoul Foreign School (SFS) in Yeonhui-dong, behind Yonsei University. In fact, the founders of our school were some of the same missionaries who founded Yonsei, such as the Underwoods, the Allens and the Avisons. Today, there is a statue to Horace Grant Underwood in front of one of the Yonsei buildings. Being born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, and at our young ages, none of us kids were very familiar with the outside world, so when Dad (Kevin O'Donnell, the first Peace Corps country director for Korea) told us he got a new job and we were going to move to Korea, we thought he said Berea, a Cleveland suburb near the airport, and wondered why in the world would anyone want to move there. He said, "Not Berea — Korea. It's a foreign country over by China and Japan." This got most of us quite excited, but my older sister wa

• [FRIENDS OF KOREA] How one Peace Corps Volunteer helped deaf Koreans find their voice (2026-11-06 00:02)

As I trudged across Sinchon Rotary and up the steep walkway to Severance Hospital, I kept repeating to myself a phrase from a childhood story about a train engine: “I think I can, I think I can.” It was a bitter cold winter morning in 1969. Today was the day that I was to come to the hospital and show the doctors in the ear, nose and throat section of the hospital that I could, indeed, get a deaf child to speak. Only days earlier, I had arrived in Korea to volunteer for the Peace Corps at age 23. Once it got around that I had training as a speech therapist for the deaf, Peace Corps Korea Director Kevin O'Donnell urged me to pursue it. At the time, Korea had no speech pathology center. George Worth, an American missionary in Korea, introduced me to staff at both Seoul National University (SNU) Hospital and Severance Hospital. Both hospitals were interested in starting a program but wanted to see how it could work, so they told me to come back the next day, when they could bring me a patient. That's how I found myself " auditioning" for a speech and hearing center. I was confident tha

• [FRIENDS OF KOREA] Two Peace Corps Volunteers' brush with cinematic fame in 1960s Myeong-dong (2026-11-06 00:02)

One evening in Seoul, having nothing better to do, I decided to go out on the town in Myeong-dong with my friend Ron Rezac, a fellow Peace Corps Volunteer. Back in the 1960s, Myeong-dong was a trendy spot for Korean youth, filled with bars, cafes and music venues. After a few hours and a few beers (maybe more than a few), I let it be known that I, strangely, wanted to cap off the evening with some tea. The two of us hightailed it to a nearby "dabang" cafe, walked up some stairs to get in and were met at the door by a man who told us the place was closed and we couldn't come in. "What do you mean we can't come in!" we protested. "We have our rights!" we demanded in our excellent Korean, no doubt causing him to nearly keel over from the fumes of our beer breath. Seemingly at a loss, he let us in, pointing to a table where he wanted us to sit. Once inside, we learned that the reason they didn't want to let us in was that a movie company had taken possession of the dabang for the night to shoot a feature film. They decided on the spot that the scene in the dabang would now include two drunk

• Children bear cost of adoption delays, advocate says (2026-11-06 00:02)

Children awaiting adoption in Korea are losing precious time to form bonds with permanent families as lengthy reviews and unclear screening standards delay placements, the head of an adoptive families’ advocacy group said. In an interview with The Korea Times after a press conference Tuesday outside the Board of Audit and Inspection in central Seoul, Oh Chang-hwa, head of the National Adoptive Family Federation, called for faster adoption matching and transparent assessment standards. “Children are there and parents are there. But they cannot meet,” he said. His organizations and six other civic groups submitted a petition asking the state auditor to inspect the screening and matching procedures under the new adoption system, which took effect on July 19, 2025, shifting responsibility for adoption procedures from private agencies to the central and local governments. Their complaints center on

administrative delays, allegedly inconsistent screening and excessive collection of sensitivefamily information. According to figures submitted to the National Assembly and cited by thefede

• Documentary spotlights Peace Corps Volunteer's role in Gwangju Uprising (2026-11-06 00:02)

The 1980 Gwangju Uprising produced a great many memorable photos, not least of which was one of a young man with blonde hair helping carry a man on a stretcher through the streets. The identity of this foreigner remained a mystery for decades, but as U.S. Peace Corps Volunteers (PCV) who were there began publishing their memoirs, his identity and role in the uprising gradually came into focus. The person in the photo was a PCV named Tim Warnberg, who had arrived in Korea in 1978 to work as a health volunteer at Gwangju Christian Hospital. Those who knew him before his arrival in Korea remember him as someone whose character and concern for others help explain his actions in 1980. Warnberg was from Brainerd, Minnesota, where his father was the town’s longest-serving sheriff. His mother was, as his sister Roxanne Wilson remembers, “devoted to caring for others” and creating “a home that was warm and inviting to neighbors, friends and persons in need.” As his closest childhood friend, Keevie Fairbanks, put it, “Tim was the best of both of his parents.” Robert Grotjohn, who at

• Remembering Peace Corps' 15 years in Korea (2026-11-06 00:02)

It may come as a shock to many these days that the Peace Corps once had a mission in Korea. The U.S. volunteer agency sent more than 2,000 young volunteers to Korea between 1966 and 1981 in 51 waves, from K-1 to K-51. The country they arrived in was very different from the advanced nation Korea has grown to become. Coming out of the 1910-45 Japanese occupation and 1950-53 Korean War, Korea was for decades one of the poorest nations in the world. In the mid-1960s, when Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) began arriving, Korea's hills were barren, and the gutters were filled with human waste. The authoritarian government maintained a strict curfew, barring people from the streets from midnight to 4 a.m. “My first impression was ‘My god, what have I got myself into?’” Ed Klein (K-1) said in 2016. “It was the way it was,” David McCann (K-1) said in 2019, “and that didn't strike me as strange.” U.S. President John F. Kennedy established the Peace Corps in 1961 with an executive order. It was designed to serve three main goals: helping various countries meet their need for trained me

• Foreign residents' first hurdle is housing. Enkostay says it can clear it. (2026-11-06 00:02)

For many foreign residents, the first few weeks in Seoul can feel almost effortless. The subway works. Convenience stores are everywhere, and there is always another café, restaurant or corner of the city to discover. Then the paperwork begins. An appointment for a residence card. A landlord asking for a deposit that can run into the tens of millions of won. Almost overnight, the experience shifts from exploring Korea to deciphering it. For years, newcomers have leaned on Facebook groups for answers, and learned to sift through thousands of unverified listings

and contradictory advice. Now they’ re asking a blunter question, often on Reddit: Is thiswebsite legit? That was the question Huy Kim Nguyen, better known online as Kim Ninja, keptseeing about Enkostay, a rental platform for foreign residents. Nguyen came to Korea five yearsago and began documenting the realities of living in Korea while working as a softwaredeveloper. His YouTube videos explaining how Enkostay works went viral, drawing more than amillion views. "You can't always trust the internet with a pretty website these

• Appeals court to rule on ex-President Yoon's martial law case on Jan. 26 (2026-11-05 11:57)

An appeals court said Thursday it will deliver its verdict in January next year on former President Yoon Suk Yeol's insurrection charges stemming from his failed attempt to impose martial law. The sentencing hearing will be held Jan. 26, the bench overseeing his appeal at the Seoul High Court said. A district court sentenced Yoon to life in prison in February, after finding him guilty of leading an insurrection through the martial law bid on Dec. 3, 2024, with the stated aim of eradicating anti-state forces. Earlier, special counsel Cho Eun-suk's team again sought the death penalty for Yoon. The team also sought life imprisonment for former Defense Minister Kim Yong-hyun and a 30-year prison term for former Defense Intelligence Commander Noh Sang-won for their roles in the martial law bid. In his final statement Thursday, Yoon reiterated that his declaration of martial law itself does not constitute an insurrection, arguing that it was intended to warn the opposition party against what he described as its abuse of legislative power.

• Special counsel seeks 1-yr prison term for CIO chief for dereliction of duty (2026-11-05 11:57)

A special counsel team on Thursday sought a one-year prison term for the head of the anti-graft agency on charges of dereliction of duty over a criminal complaint filed against one of his subordinates. Special counsel Lee Myeong-hyeon's team requested the sentence for Oh Dong-woon, chief prosecutor of the Corruption Investigation Office for High-ranking Officials (CIO), during his trial's final hearing at the Seoul Central District Court. Oh is accused of attempting to bury an investigation into Song Chang-jin, a former senior CIO prosecutor, who had become subject to a criminal complaint filed by then opposition Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) lawmakers in August 2024. Oh allegedly failed to transfer the complaint to the Supreme Prosecutors Office, as required by law, for 11 months. The special counsel team believes Oh knowingly tried to obstruct an investigation into Song. DPK lawmakers had filed the complaint against Song, accusing him of perjuring himself at the National Assembly over remarks about a high-profile investigation into the death of a young Marine in 2023.

• Special counsel bill on alleged fabricated indictments introduced at plenary session (2026-11-05 11:57)

A bill calling for a special counsel probe into allegations of fabricated indictments targeting President Lee Jae Myung and others was brought before a plenary session of the National Assembly on Thursday. The bill was introduced by Assembly Speaker Cho Jeong-sik over

objections from the main opposition People Power Party (PPP), setting the stage for a vote ledby the ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK), which holds a majority in the Assembly. The PPPimmediately launched a filibuster, but the DPK said it will end the tactic after 24 hours inaccordance with relevant rules and put the bill to a vote Friday. The bill, which was firstintroduced by the DPK in April, calls for an independent counsel to investigate allegations theprosecution under former President Yoon Suk Yeol fabricated evidence or induced falsetestimonies to build cases against then opposition leader Lee and others. Under the bill's finalversion, the special prosecutor would be tasked with investigating the prosecution's indictmentsin 12 cases. Six of them involve the president, with the charges stemming from his ti

- 3-year prison term finalized for ex-PSS chief for obstructing Yoon's arrest (2026-11-05 11:57)

A three-year prison term was finalized Thursday for a former chief of the Presidential Security Service (PSS) for blocking investigators from executing a warrant to detain former President Yoon Suk Yeol last year, according to legal sources. Last week, the Seoul High Court handed down the verdict. Both Park and prosecutors had seven days to appeal the decision to the Supreme Court, but neither side filed an appeal by the Wednesday deadline, resulting in the finalization of the sentence, the sources said. Park and other former PSS officials were indicted for obstructing investigators' attempts to execute an arrest warrant for Yoon at the presidential residence in January 2025 over his imposition of martial law. A lower court had sentenced Park to four years in prison in July. The appellate court reduced his term to three years last week, noting he did not actively participate in physical confrontations with investigators and that his resignation on Jan. 7, 2025, reflected a sense of accountability for the resulting confusion and conflict. Also finalized were a two-year prison term for Lee

- Lee calls for virtuous cycle to translate exports growth into domestic demand recovery (2026-11-05 11:57)

President Lee Jae Myung on Thursday instructed officials to help build an economic virtuous cycle in which Korea's recent export growth can translate into a recovery in domestic demand, leading to the development of both large conglomerates and smaller firms. Lee issued the instruction at a meeting with his key aides amid strong economic indicators driven by brisk exports. His remarks came shortly after the Bank of Korea reported that the country posted an all-time high current account surplus of over $60 billion in September, buoyed by strong semiconductor exports. Earlier data also showed that Korea's exports jumped 93.7 percent from a year earlier to $115.3 billion in October, the second-highest monthly figure in the country's history following the $121.1 billion posted just a month before. "In order for the Korean economy to go beyond quantitative expansion into a qualitative leap forward, we need a major change in the manner of growth," the president said. "We need to build a national economic virtuous cycle in which export increases can lead to a recovery in domestic demand, and th

• Korea reassesses trade, security ties after Democrats sweep US Congress (2026-11-05 11:57)

Seoul is assessing the fallout from the Democrats' sweeping victory in the U.S. midterm elections, Tuesday, preparing for possible changes in trade, security and nuclear cooperation while seeking to keep existing agreements with Washington on track. "The government will analyze changes in the U.S. political landscape following the midterm elections and continue to communicate and cooperate closely with the U.S. administration and Congress," presidential chief spokesperson Kang Yu-jung said during a press briefing, Thursday. She also said the government "does not expect the outcome of any particular election to affect the Korea-U.S. alliance," noting the alliance has developed over more than 70 years with bipartisan support in the U.S. A separate Cheong Wa Dae official said the presidential office "has been continuously reviewing how to respond to shifts in the balance of power in the U.S. Senate and House." "Given the complexities of Korea-U.S. relations, Cheong Wa Dae and relevant ministries are closely monitoring developments," the official said. Presidential chief of staff Lim Kw

• [COVER STORY] Seoul to send anti-piracy unit closer to Hormuz, add mine-clearing team (2026-11-05 11:57)

The government decided Thursday to expand the mission of its anti-piracy Cheonghae Unit closer to the Strait of Hormuz, extending its operating area from the Gulf of Aden to waters south of Oman and adding military assets to protect shipping routes. The move is sparking concerns that it could draw Korea into the war between Iran and the United States. The expansion proposal passed a vice ministerial meeting Thursday morning. After Cabinet and presidential approval, the motion will go to the National Assembly for final authorization. Under the proposal, the unit's personnel ceiling would rise from 320 to 395, with the addition of a P-8 maritime patrol aircraft, an explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) team and unmanned mine-clearing equipment. The additional 75 personnel would include 45 assigned to the P-8 aircraft and 30 to the EOD team. The new equipment would include unmanned surface and underwater vehicles and remotely operated underwater robots. The revised mandate would also add support for restoring freedom of navigation along international shipping routes to the unit's existing an

• Most gov't agencies deny using VirusTotal, deepening questions over presidential data leak (2026-11-05 05:57)

Most government agencies told The Korea Times they do not use VirusTotal, the malware analysis platform where the personal information of the first couple was exposed for about five months, deepening questions over how the leak occurred. The paid platform had hosted sensitive personal information of 168 people aboard the presidential jet during President Lee Jae Myung's trip to Europe in June. Those affected included not only the president and first lady but also high-ranking officials, including then-chief of staff for policy Kim Yong-beom, National Security Adviser Wi Sung-lac, current Prime Minister Han Seong-sook and several Cabinet members, as well as senior officials from Cheong Wa Dae and the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs, security personnel and reporters traveling with the presidential delegation. VirusTotal, aweb service owned by Google, scans uploaded files and URLs simultaneously using more than70 antivirus engines and security tools. Files submitted through its public interface are sharedwith participating security vendors and can be accessed by organizations that subscri

• 3 in 4 Seoul residents drink tap water: survey (2026-11-05 05:57)

Three in four Seoul residents now drink the city's tap water, which is sold under the brand name Arisu, and more of them are drinking it away from home, a city survey showed Thursday. In the Seoul Metropolitan Government's annual survey, 75.5 percent of residents said they drank tap water this year. That was up from 75 percent last year and 69.6 percent in 2024, when the city started using its own measure. The figure adds the 53.9 percent who drink tap water at home to the 21.6 percent who drink it only outside the home. The city created the measure because standards for calculating tap water drinking rates vary by country and institution. Under the American Water Works Association's criteria, Seoul's rate was 78.2 percent, 13.2 percentage points above the U.S. figure of 65 percent in 2024. Paris counts people who drink tap water either alone or along with other water. By that method, Seoul's rate was 82.5 percent, compared with 81 percent for the French capital in 2025. The city said the rise came mainly from more people drinking tap water outdoors. The share of residents who

• Multicultural marriages in Korea edge down in 2025 (2026-11-05 05:57)

The number of multicultural marriages in Korea edged down in 2025 from a year earlier, data showed Thursday, taking up 8.9 percent of all marriages. The country recorded 21,399 multicultural marriages last year, down 0.2 percent, or 51, from 21,450 in 2024, according to data from the Ministry of Data and Statistics. Marriages involving foreign wives accounted for 71.4 percent of multicultural marriages, followed by those with foreign husbands at 18.9 percent and those with naturalized citizens at 9.7 percent. The average age for first marriages was 37.1 years for husbands and 29.7 years for wives. Husbands were older than their wives in 75.2 percent of multicultural marriages. In 36.1 percent of all multicultural marriages, the husband was at least 10 years older than his wife. Vietnamese wives accounted for 25.3 percent of all multicultural marriages, followed by Chinese wives at 15.1 percent and Thai wives at 9.2 percent. The corresponding figures for husbands from the United States, China and Vietnam were 6.8 percent, 5.6 percent and 3.6 percent, respectively. Meanwhile, the number of di

• Foreign ministry fails to take steps even after learning of job scam crimes in Cambodia: audit agency (2026-11-05 05:57)

The foreign ministry failed to raise the travel alert for Cambodia or take other necessary measures in a timely manner, even though it had been aware that job scams targeting South Koreans were worsening in the Southeast Asian nation, the state audit agency said Thursday. Such crimes sparked public outrage last year after a South Korean college student was tortured to death by a Chinese scam ring in Cambodia, shedding light on a series of similar cases where young South Koreans were lured into the country with promises of high-paying jobs only to end

up being kidnapped. According to the Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI), the foreign ministrylearned after December 2023 through information from overseas diplomatic missions andprivate firms that South Koreans were falling victim to job scams and kidnapping in Cambodia,with the nature of the crimes becoming increasingly brutal. South Korea's Embassy in Cambodiarepeatedly suggested to the ministry in April and July 2024 that the travel alert for the countrybe raised, but the ministry did not do so, citing that the situation fell short

• SCIA, police to form joint team to investigate Yoon's martial law bid (2026-11-05 05:57)

The Serious Crime Investigation Agency (SCIA) and the police will form a special joint investigation team to look into remaining issues related to former President Yoon Suk Yeol's failed martial law bid in December 2024, officials of the agencies said Thursday. The two agencies are currently working out the details, such as staffing and office location, to launch the special investigation unit, according to their officials. The unit will handle all remaining cases related to the martial law bid, including those handed over by now-expired special prosecutor teams. The idea of creating a joint investigation body was first proposed in August by Kwon Chang-young, who led a broad special counsel investigation on allegations related to the martial law declaration. At that time, Kwon had stressed that a long-term joint investigation team would be necessary "as long as the capabilities and will of the insurrection forces remain as they were." Earlier investigations into the short-lived martial law declaration failed to cover all related issues. South Korea previously ran two rounds of special c

• Over 470,000 pieces of personal data leaked from 37 financial firms: FSC (2026-11-05 05:57)

More than 470,000 personal data records have been leaked from 37 companies across the financial sector over the past month, with the amount of funds stolen estimated at 1 billion won ($745,000), the financial regulator said Thursday. The Financial Services Commission (FSC) held a meeting with officials from financial trade associations and government agencies, including the Financial Supervisory Service and the Financial Security Institute, to review data protection systems and artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities in the financial sector. Since Sept. 30, when the first data leak was detected, a total of 40 data leak incidents have been reported at 37 companies, including four commercial banks, five financial investment firms, three insurance firms and five savings banks, according to the FSC. The regulator said the leaked data did not include sensitive personal information that could be used for illegal financial transactions, such as customers' names, national identification numbers or bank account numbers. Funds held by some smaller brokerages, insurers and online financial busine

• [COVER STORY] Seoul to send anti-piracy unit closer to Hormuz, adding mine-clearing team (2026-11-05 05:57)

The government decided Thursday to expand the mission of its anti-piracy Cheonghae Unit closer to the Strait of Hormuz, extending its operating area from the Gulf of Aden to waters south of Oman and adding military assets to protect shipping routes. The move sparks concerns

it could draw Korea into the war between Iran and the United States. The expansion proposalpassed a vice ministerial meeting Thursday morning. After Cabinet and presidential approval,the motion will go to the National Assembly for final authorization. Under the proposal, theunit’s personnel ceiling would rise from 320 to 395, with the addition of a P-8 maritime patrolaircraft, an explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) team and unmanned mine-clearing equipment.The additional 75 personnel would include 45 assigned to the P-8 aircraft and 30 to the EODteam. The new equipment would include unmanned surface and underwater vehicles andremotely operated underwater robots. The revised mandate would also add support forrestoring freedom of navigation along international shipping routes to the unit’s existinganti-piracy

- Doctor injured in stabbing attack at hospital in western Seoul (2026-11-04 12:02)

A man stabbed and injured a doctor at a major hospital in western Seoul, police said Wednesday, adding that they are investigating the motive for the attack. The Seodaemun Police Station said it apprehended the man presumed to be in his 50s on suspicion of aggravated assault after he allegedly stabbed a psychiatry professor with a knife at Severance Hospital at around 4:30 p.m. The doctor sustained a wound measuring 5 centimeters and was taken to an emergency room for treatment. According to sources, the suspect was not a patient waiting for medical treatment at the hospital. Police are investigating the exact motive behind the suspect's attack.

- From T-shirts to padded jackets: Why Korea's October weather swung so wildly (2026-11-04 12:02)

Koreans went from wearing short sleeves to pulling out padded winter jackets last month as temperatures swung dramatically between summer-like heat and early winter chills. The reason, meteorologists say, was a massive high-pressure system thousands of kilometers away over Russia's Ural Mountains. The atmospheric phenomenon, known as "Ural blocking," disrupted the usual flow of weather systems, allowing cold Arctic air to surge south toward the Korean Peninsula. Scientists say rapid warming in the Arctic may have helped intensify the disruption by weakening the jet stream that normally helps contain frigid air in northern latitudes. The Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA) released its analysis of October's climate conditions on Wednesday, identifying extreme temperature variability as the month's defining characteristic. The difference between the warmest and coldest daily average temperatures nationwide reached 14 degrees Celsius, the fourth-largest October fluctuation on record. The average temperature stood at 22.1 degrees on Oct. 12 before plunging to 8.1 degrees on Oct. 28. Se

- Lee voices need to revise outdated Constitution, says assembly should take lead (2026-11-04 12:02)

President Lee Jae Myung on Wednesday voiced the need to revise what he described as the outdated Constitution, but said the revision should be led by the National Assembly through

bipartisan efforts. Lee made the remarks at a lunch meeting at Cheong Wa Dae with theleadership of the Parliamentarian's Society, an association of former lawmakers, presidentialspokesperson Kang Yu-jung said. "Given the contemporary environment, the currentConstitution is somehow like a cloth that does not fit contemporary society," the president wasquoted as saying. He voiced the need to revise the Constitution but noted a constitutionalrevision led by the president may not be welcomed by the public, according to Kang. Thepresident also highlighted the "high barrier" posed by the required consent of two-thirds oflawmakers to revise the Constitution, stressing that the most desirable way would be for theNational Assembly to revise the Constitution through a bipartisan agreement. The KoreanConstitution has remained unchanged since its last revision in 1987. Lee has called for a shiftfrom the current si

- Korea experiences 5th warmest Oct. this year (2026-11-04 12:02)

Korea's average temperature reached 15.8 C last month, 1.5 C higher than the average for October, marking the fifth warmest October since 1973, the state weather agency said Wednesday. Korea saw unusually high temperatures from Oct. 10-13 as warm air moved in from the south, with Seoul's daily high reaching 30.1 C on Oct. 12, the highest October temperature since modern weather observation began in 1907, according to the Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA). Such high temperatures pushed the month's average up to 15.8 C, compared with the average temperature of 14.3 C from 1991 to 2022. This marks the fifth-highest nationwide mean temperature recorded for October since 1973 when weather observation networks were expanded to the entire nation. Temperatures also fluctuated sharply throughout the month as cold and warm air masses alternately flowed over the peninsula, driven by smooth atmospheric flows moving from west to east in the mid-latitudes. The nationwide daily mean temperature dropped from 19.8 C on Oct. 18 to 9.8 C on Oct. 22. It rebounded to 16.9 C three days later before dr

- 'They just need a chance': Mother of twins with autism calls for more inclusive schools (2026-11-04 12:02)

ULSAN — “Chae-a, do you like drawing?” “Yes!” “You won an award for your drawing. What did you do with your picture at school?” “I showed it off.” “How did you feel when you showed it to everyone?” “Happy. Excited.” The eight-year-old's answers were brief, but her drawings were filled with endless stories. Jang Chae-a, 8, a second-grader at Samdong Elementary School in Ulsan, won the gold prize in the 8-10 age category at the 2026 International Youth Art Contest (IYAC), a global competition for children and teenagers. She met with the Hankook Ilbo on Oct. 29 in Ulsan. Chae-a, who is on the autism spectrum, has difficulty expressing her thoughts spontaneously through speech. But her mother, Lee Kyung-geum, 43, said this does not mean her daughter lacks the desire to communicate or the determination to do things well. “It's as though all the stories she cannot fully put into words pour onto the drawing paper,” Lee said with a smile. Chae-a's award-winning work, titled “My Wonderful World of Stories,” is filled with images of children in traditional Korean clothi

• Regulator finalizes $276 mil. penalties on banks, securities firms over mis-selling of HK-tied derivatives (2026-11-04 12:02)

Seven banks and six securities firms were slapped with a combined 370 billion won ($276 million) in penalties by the financial regulator Wednesday over their mis-selling of equity-linked securities (ELS) products tracking Hong Kong's H Index. The amount is a sharp cut from the initial 1.4 trillion-won fine on the five lenders — KB Kookmin Bank, Shinhan Bank, Hana Bank, NH Nonghyup and SC Korea — which had already suffered massive losses as they had compensated customers over the mishap, according to the Financial Services Commission (FSC). Seoul's financial regulator finalized the penalty after ordering the Financial Supervisory Service (FSS), the country's financial watchdog, to further review some legal issues. Earlier, the FSS had proposed a 600 billion-won penalty on the banks. The regulator imposed 361 billion won in penalties on the seven lenders. Banks and brokerages had sold a combined 19.3 trillion won worth of ELS products, tracking Hong Kong's H index since 2021, according to earlier data from the watchdog. KB Kookmin Bank sold the largest amount of HK-tied ELS products wort

• Korea will not be affected by NASA's Swift telescope crashing back to earth: KASA (2026-11-04 12:02)

A defunct NASA telescope is expected to fall back to Earth on Wednesday evening, but it is highly unlikely the observatory will crash near the Korean Peninsula, Korea's space agency said. The Neil Gehrels Swift Observatory, also known as the Swift telescope, is projected to reenter the Earth's atmosphere at around 8:46 p.m., the Korea AeroSpace Administration (KASA) said, citing an analysis from the Korea Astronomy and Space Science Institute (KASI). The margin of error is two hours, it added. Launched in 2004, the 1.5-ton telescope had been operating for the past 22 years on its mission to observe high-energy gamma-ray bursts. The observatory, however, had been slowly falling out of orbit, and NASA in July attempted to send a private satellite to bump the telescope so it can regain some altitude, but the plan failed. Eventually, the telescope had reached the point of no return and was shut down on Oct. 20. KASA said it plans to continue monitoring the Swift telescope's movements with the KASI, adding that most of the telescope's body is expected to burn up in the atmosphere, but some co

• Subcommittee passes special counsel bill on alleged fabricated indictments involving Lee (2026-11-04 12:02)

A parliamentary subcommittee on Wednesday approved a bill calling for a special counsel to investigate allegations of fabricated indictments under the previous administration, including those involving President Lee Jae Myung. The subcommittee of the National Assembly's legislation and judiciary committee, led by the ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK), passed the bill seeking an independent probe into allegations that prosecutors under the previous Yoon Suk Yeol administration had fabricated evidence to indict then opposition leader Lee. The proposed investigation covers multiple cases involving Lee, including alleged illegal remittances to North Korea and a development corruption scandal. Lawmakers from the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) walked out of the subcommittee meeting in protest, arguing that the

bill was intended to cancel criminal indictments against Lee. "All clauses related to thecancellation of the indictments have been deleted," DPK Rep. Kim Eui-kyeom told reporters. Thebill originally included provisions that would effectively allow the special counsel to c

• Decisive Democratic victory could bring tougher OPCON transfer conditions: experts (2026-11-04 12:02)

The Democratic Party’s victory in the U.S. midterm elections could complicate Seoul’s push to regain wartime operational control (OPCON) from Washington, with experts warning that the new congressional majority may seek tougher conditions for the transfer. Democrats secured control of both the House and Senate, putting Congress in a stronger position to scrutinize U.S. President Donald Trump’s security policies, including U.S. troop deployments and defense cooperation with Seoul. Shin Beom-chul, a senior research fellow at the Sejong Institute and former vice defense minister, warned that the Democratic victory could create new hurdles for Seoul’s OPCON ambitions. “If Democrats take control of Congress, they could impose tougher conditions on the OPCON transfer through the National Defense Authorization Act,” Shin said. Seoul seeks to retake OPCON by 2028, with the allies set to decide on the timeline at a security consultative meeting slated for early next year. The election outcome gives Democrats greater leverage over defense legislation. Any new restrictions on OPCON trans

• DPK leader's reversal on Shincheonji claim sparks backlash from lawmakers (2026-11-04 12:02)

Ruling party leader Kim Min-seok's decision to reverse his claim of collusion between party lawmakers and a religious sect has fueled internal divisions and backlash among the main opposition. The ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) had planned to announce the results of an internal investigation into allegations that followers of the Shincheonji Church of Jesus, a nonmainstream religious sect, joined the party to sway the outcome of the party leadership race, but a briefing planned for Tuesday to make such an announcement was canceled at the last minute. The party leader, Rep. Kim, instead apologized at a closed-door meeting of party lawmakers, saying the party found no evidence to support his earlier claim that the registration of the members were orchestrated between the church and lawmakers who were not aligned with President Lee Jae Myung. Kim first raised the allegations in July ahead of the party's Aug. 17 leadership election, claiming that an anti-Lee faction had secretly colluded with Shincheonji in a remark widely seen as targeting former leader Jung Chung-rae. The issue res

• Lee set to launch new YouTube program to communicate with public (2026-11-04 12:02)

President Lee Jae Myung will launch a YouTube program aimed at explaining his state administration to the public and answering people's questions, a presidential official said Wednesday. The first 30-minute episode of the new program, "President's Y," will be aired Thursday night on the president's YouTube channel, and new episodes will be released every two to three weeks, according to Lee's press secretary, Seong Ghi-hong. During the pre-filmed program, Lee plans to "voice his frank opinions in the language of the people in a comfortable

atmosphere and answer questions from the public," Seong told a press briefing. The newprogram is part of Lee's efforts to communicate better with the public and provide moresufficient explanations of his thoughts and policies, the presidential official added.

• Imported vehicle sales jump 29.3% in Oct. on strong EV demand (2026-11-04 12:02)

Sales of imported vehicles in Korea rose a sharp 29.3 percent in October from a year earlier, driven by robust demand for electric vehicles (EVs), industry data showed Wednesday. New registrations increased to 31,117 units last month from 24,064 a year earlier, according to the Korea Automobile Importers & Distributors Association (KAIDA). The three top-selling imported cars were the Tesla Model Y Premium, Mercedes-Benz E200 and Tesla Model 3. The two Tesla models are manufactured in China for the Korean market, allowing the company to offer them at competitive prices. Tesla's sales more than doubled to 9,165 units last month from 4,350 a year earlier. However, its sales fell 25.9 percent from the previous month due to supply shortages, KAIDA said. The U.S. EV maker remained the best-selling imported passenger car brand in Korea for the ninth consecutive month, extending its run since February. Sales by BYD Korea, the local unit of China's BYD, surged 93.4 percent to 1,594 units from 824 a year earlier. The company began local operations in January last year, with sales first reported in

• Police arrest 80 high-risk offenders in relationship-based crime review (2026-11-04 12:02)

Police said Wednesday they have conducted a comprehensive review of about 44,000 cases involving relationship-based crime, such as stalking and domestic violence, and placed under custody 80 individuals identified as high-risk offenders. The 12-day review, which began Oct. 19, covered 44,540 cases, according to the Korean National Police Agency. They included 43,712 existing cases, such as those currently under investigation, individuals subject to high-risk monitoring, stalking reports that had previously been closed at the scene and cases involving ongoing safety measures. The police classified 5,068, or 32 percent, of the 15,840 cases currently under investigation as high-risk. Regarding high-risk offenders, police requested 376 arrest warrants, of which 80, or 21.3 percent, were issued by courts. They also requested 321 orders for the attachment of electronic monitoring devices, of which 104, or 32.4 percent, were approved by courts. In southeastern North Gyeongsang Province, police confirmed an additional offense after a man visited his wife in violation of a restraining order and

• More productive, attractive regions outside Seoul key to sustaining growth: OECD officials (2026-11-04 12:02)

Korea needs to boost productivity in regions outside the capital area and make them more attractive places to live as it seeks to sustain economic growth and address demographic challenges, officials at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said Wednesday. Lamia Kamal-Chaoui, director of the Center for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities at the Paris-based institution, said in an interview with Yonhap News Agency that the OECD has seen "something very interesting" in Korea. Despite the concentration of people and economic activity in the capital region, the country's regional gaps in GDP per capita

are among the smallest in the OECD, she said. "Indeed, you have the largest concentration ofthe capital region across the OECD," Kamal-Chaoui said. "(But the economic growth of Koreacame with) a level of regional disparities in terms of GDP per capita that is the lowest among thelowest in the OECD." Kamal-Chaoui said the debate over regional disparities goes beyondeconomic growth to the question of whether such concentration in the capital region is " susta

• PM pledges to root out price-fixing practices (2026-11-04 12:02)

Prime Minister Han Seong-sook pledged Wednesday to root out price-fixing practices, saying the government has imposed more than 1.8 trillion won ($1.3 billion) in administrative fines this year alone on companies involved in collusion. Han made the remark in a post on X, saying stabilizing prices is an important responsibility of the government. "We will firmly safeguard the people's dining tables from price-fixing," she said. Noting the amount of administrative fines imposed this year for price-fixing of sugar, eggs, flour and starch sugars, Han said the penalties led to price drops of up to 26.5 percent for those items. "This means that companies had been placing a heavy burden on the people's dining tables," she said, promising to root out such collusion. "We will strengthen economic sanctions to ensure that no further profit can be gained through collusion."

• Jeonbuk National University alumna appointed assistant professor at University of Central Florida (2026-11-04 12:02)

Song Seong-mi, an alumna of Jeonbuk National University’s Division of Biomedical Engineering, has been appointed assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at the University of Central Florida. Song enrolled in Jeonbuk National University in 2007, where she developed a strong foundation in engineering. In 2014, she began graduate studies in the university’s Department of Healthcare Engineering, gaining research experience in biomedical and rehabilitation engineering. She later earned a Ph.D. in motor neuroscience from Texas A&M University, further expanding her expertise. Jeonbuk National University said the appointment is significant as it marks an alumna’s transition from studying at the university at both undergraduate and graduate levels to pursuing an academic career at a U.S. university. It also demonstrates how interdisciplinary experience in engineering and health care can open up new career opportunities, serving as an inspiring example for students aspiring to become researchers in related fields. The university’s Division of Biomedical

• Yoon loses appeal in election law case, putting PPP campaign reimbursement at risk (2026-11-04 12:02)

An appellate court on Wednesday upheld a lower court's conviction of former President Yoon Suk Yeol for making false statements during his 2022 presidential campaign. If the ruling becomes final, it could require the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) to repay 39.7 billion won ($30 million) in campaign reimbursements. The Seoul High Court upheld the lower court’s sentence of 18 months in prison, suspended for three years, over statements Yoon

made before his election in March 2022. “By making false statements during the campaign, heinfringed on voters’ right to make an informed decision and undermined the fairness of theelection and the integrity of the electoral process,” judge Baek Seung-yeop said. The verdictleaves the party facing a substantial financial liability, although the repayment obligationdepends on the conviction becoming final. Under the election law, presidential candidates whowin or receive at least 15 percent of the vote qualify for full reimbursement of eligible campaignexpenses. But the funds must be returned if a candidate receives a prison senten

• Appeals court upholds Yoon's election law conviction, putting PPP funds at risk (2026-11-04 05:57)

An appellate court on Wednesday upheld the conviction of former President Yoon Suk Yeol for making false statements during his 2022 presidential campaign, a ruling that, if finalized, would require the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) to repay 39.7 billion won ($30 million) in campaign reimbursements. The Seoul High Court upheld a lower court’s sentence of 18 months in prison, suspended for three years, over statements Yoon made before his election in March 2022. The decision leaves the PPP facing a substantial financial liability, although the repayment obligation depends on the conviction becoming final at the Supreme Court. Under the election law, the government fully reimburses campaign expenses for political parties whose presidential candidates receive at least 15 percent of the vote. But the funds must be returned if a candidate receives a final prison sentence or a fine of at least 1 million won for election law violations. Such a penalty also invalidates the candidate’s election.

• Gov't announces successful candidates to host two new regional medical schools (2026-11-04 05:57)

SEJONG — Two new medical schools will be established at Sunchon National University in the southwestern city of Suncheon and Gyeongkuk National University in the southeastern city of Andong, the education ministry announced Wednesday. Starting in 2030, Sunchon and Gyeongkuk universities will admit 60 and 40 medical students annually, respectively. The decision came as part of a key government initiative to establish new medical colleges in regions without medical schools in an effort to improve access to medical services in provincial areas, strengthen public healthcare and address shortages of doctors in essential fields, such as pediatrics and surgery. A government task force comprising officials from the education and health ministries first selected North Gyeongsang and South Jeolla provinces as sites for the new medical schools after finding they suffer from poor access to medical services and need a foundation for training and retaining physicians. The government then requested the provincial governments to propose suitable universities to host the schools. While the North Gyeongs

• Hotel manager accused of tricking BTS fan into canceling booking, reselling rooms at 7 times the price (2026-11-04 05:57)

A hotel manager in Busan has been referred to prosecutors on fraud charges after allegedly tricking a guest into canceling a reservation for a BTS concert weekend, then reselling rooms at up to seven times their normal rates. The Busan Metropolitan Police Agency's Anti-Corruption and Economic Crime Investigation Unit said Wednesday that it had referred the manager, a person in their 50s, to prosecutors without detention. According to police, the manager allegedly contacted a guest in mid-May who had booked a hotel room at the regular rate in mid-January to attend BTS concerts scheduled for June 12 and 13 in Busan. The manager, who was responsible for handling reservations and cancellations, allegedly falsely told the guest that the hotel had been overbooked. "We have dozens of overbooked reservations right now, so there's nothing we can do. Please cancel your reservation through the booking website," the manager allegedly told the guest. However, a police investigation, including a search and seizure operation and interviews with people involved, found that rooms were still available for

• Seoul to curb downtown marathons after road closures disrupt 190 bus routes (2026-11-04 05:57)

Seoul plans to tighten oversight of downtown marathons through a joint consultative body with police and other government agencies, responding to mounting complaints about road closures, traffic congestion, noise and litter. The Seoul Metropolitan Government said Wednesday it will work with city police authorities to review race schedules, routes, traffic diversions and safety management plans for 2027. Detailed arrangements will be announced in December. Organizers preparing next year’s events were asked to refrain from recruiting participants until consultations on safety plans and traffic restrictions are complete. “While we recognize the contribution marathons make to the health of many residents, the disruption caused by downtown races has recently become a growing concern for others,” said Cho Sung-ho, director general of the city’s tourism and sports bureau. “We ask event organizers to take the initiative and work with us to address the issue.” The latest such disruption occurred on Sunday, when marathons prompted extensive road closures from Gwanghwamun to Olympic Par

• Sejong University professor explores conditions for scientific development on exoplanets (2026-11-04 05:57)

A Sejong University professor has published a study in an international astronomy journal exploring how the astronomical environments of exoplanets could influence the scientific development of potential intelligent life. The study by Zee Woong-bae, a professor at the university’s School of Liberal Studies, was published last month in Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society under the title “Alien Skies: Visibility of Planetary Retrograde Motion from Rocky Habitable-Zone Worlds.” The university said the study goes beyond existing research into conditions that could support extraterrestrial life, focusing instead on astronomical environments that could enable intelligent life on exoplanets to develop science and technology. Until now, the search for extraterrestrial life has concentrated on environmental conditions that could support life, such as planetary temperatures and the

possibility of liquid water. In astronomy, this concept is known as “habitability.” Zeeproposed a new concept called “developmentability,” expanding on the established conceptof habitabilit

• Navy stages maritime maneuver drills to hone operability (2026-11-04 05:57)

The Navy has launched maritime maneuver drills in waters off the country's eastern, western and southern coasts in a bid to hone its operational capabilities against various maritime threats, the armed service said Wednesday. The Republic of Korea Navy Task Fleet Command is taking part in the drills, which kicked off Sunday for a six-day run, involving nearly a dozen warships and other aircraft, according to the Navy. Deployed assets include the Navy's 8,200-ton Jeongjo the Great destroyer, the ROKS Yulgok Yi I destroyer, auxiliary ships, frigates, and patrol aircraft. During the drills, the Navy will train under simulated attack scenarios involving air defense combat, antisubmarine warfare and antisurface warfare, and conduct drills to detect and track ballistic missile launches. The command also took part in maritime drills in southern waters off Jeju Island early Wednesday, involving the Marado amphibious assault ship and other amphibious ships deployed as part of a joint training mission the previous day. The command is a core unit of the military's three-pronged deterrence structure

• IES Global eyes expansion of study abroad, internship programs in Korea (2026-11-04 05:57)

As Korea emerges as a popular destination for international students, global education organization Institute for the International Education of Students (IES) Global is looking to expand two-way student exchanges and internship opportunities, connecting more international students with Korea while opening new pathways for Korean students to gain experience abroad. In an interview with The Korea Times in September, IES Global President and CEO Gregory Hess emphasized that Korea is rapidly gaining ground as a study abroad destination for American students, attracting growing interest not only for its cultural appeal but also for its technological prowess and world-class universities. "Korea is one of the hot countries," he said. "Students are attracted not only to its culture, its entrepreneurial culture, the prominence of its products, but also the great universities that are here." While K-pop and Korean dramas often serve as an entry point for international students, Hess said Korea's appeal extends well beyond popular culture to its strengths in advanced technology and higher educati

• Ruling party proposes gov't delay planned taxation of cryptocurrency (2026-11-04 05:57)

The ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) on Wednesday formally proposed that the government postpone the implementation of taxation on cryptocurrencies, set to take effect next year. The party's supreme council decided to make such a proposal in a meeting, considering the need to give businesses and investors time to adjust to the new taxation scheme, according to DPK leader Kim Min-seok. "We agreed that it would be better to first enact the Digital Asset Basic Act to build an overall framework and allow time for companies and

investors to adapt after a comprehensive review of taxation principles, domestic industryconditions and fairness among users," Rep. Kim said. Korea first introduced a taxation schemeon cryptocurrencies in 2020, but its implementation has been repeatedly postponed, with thetaxation now set to take effect Jan. 1. If the latest proposal is accepted, it would mark the fourthdelay. Under the scheme, annual cryptocurrency gains exceeding 2.5 million won ($1,880) willbe subject to a 22 percent tax, including the local income tax.

• Special counsel raids NEC headquarters over alleged bid rigging (2026-11-04 05:57)

Investigators raided the National Election Commission (NEC) headquarters Wednesday over allegations of preferential treatment in choosing a ballot printer maker, a special counsel team said. Thirty-two personnel, including two prosecutors, were mobilized to search a division of the NEC at its headquarters in Gwacheon, just south of Seoul, and the office and factory of the company in question, according to the team led by special counsel Lee Tae-han. The team said it found evidence suggesting the election watchdog gave preferential treatment to the unnamed company by providing advance information on a bid to select a maker of early voting ballot issuing machines. The NEC is also suspected of revising its internal guidelines to require all local election commissions to purchase ink and other supplies from the chosen company. As a result, the company supplied around 17,000 ballot issuing machines to the commissions in a 32.1 billion-won ($24 million) project, the biggest commissioned by the NEC in the past five years, according to the independent counsel team. The company also supplied 13.8

• Appeals court to rule on ex-President Yoon's high-stakes election law case (2026-11-04 05:57)

An appeals court was set to rule Wednesday on former President Yoon Suk Yeol's election law violation case in a ruling that could force the main opposition party to cough up nearly $30 million in election expenses, if finalized. The Seoul High Court was scheduled to hold the hearing at 2 p.m., which will be televised live, over allegations that Yoon made false statements during his presidential campaign as a candidate for the PPP before his March 2022 election. A district court sentenced Yoon to an 18-month prison term, suspended for three years, in July after finding him guilty of the charges. If the sentence is finalized through appeals, Yoon's election will be nullified and the People Power Party will be forced to return its reimbursed election expenses of 39.7 billion won ($29.5 million). Under the election law, the state fully reimburses political parties for campaign spending if their candidate wins at least 15 percent of the vote. Parties, however, must return all reimbursed funds if the candidate receives a finalized prison sentence or a fine of at least 1 million won for election

• JCS chief pays visit to console soldiers injured in DMZ blast (2026-11-03 12:02)

Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) Chairman Gen. Jin Yong-sung on Tuesday visited the soldiers injured in an explosion caused by land mines planted by North Korea inside the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and offered his sympathy, officials said. Jin met with the soldiers wounded from the Sept. 21 mine blast and their family members at the Armed Forces Capital Hospital in Seongnam,

Gyeonggi Province, according to the JCS. During the visit, he pledged to ensure that the soldierscan focus solely on their recovery, saying he would never forget their sacrifices for the nation.Last month, the South Korean military concluded that the mine blast was caused by resinantipersonnel mines deliberately planted south of the Military Demarcation Line by Pyongyang.The blast injured three South Korean soldiers, two of them seriously. Jin also visited the ArmyAviation Command in Icheon, Gyeonggi Province, where he inspected the operational readinessof a KUH-1M military medical evacuation helicopter that was deployed at the time of the DMZmine blast. The JCS chief urged troops to maintain a high level of readines

• Court cancels bail granted to Unification Church leader (2026-11-03 12:02)

A court on Tuesday canceled a bail granted to Unification Church leader Han Hak-ja after she left a designated hospital without permission, legal sources said. The Seoul High Court decided to revoke the bail of 83-year-old Han, who was sentenced to a two-year prison term for bribing the wife of former President Yoon Suk Yeol and other corruption charges, as she was found to have visited a Unification Church compound, according to the sources. Han was found guilty of giving a luxury necklace and a Chanel bag to Yoon's wife, former first lady Kim Keon Hee, while requesting favors for the church through an intermediary in July 2022. Han was also convicted of colluding with former church officials to give 100 million won ($74,500) to Rep. Kweon Seong-dong of the People Power Party in January 2022.

• Ruling party to push for passage of special counsel bill on alleged fabricated indictments this week (2026-11-03 12:02)

The ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) said Tuesday it will seek the parliamentary passage of a special counsel bill this week to investigate allegations of "fabricated indictments", including those involving President Lee Jae Myung, after adopting the measure as its official party line. The proposed bill seeks an independent probe into allegations that the prosecution under the previous Yoon Suk Yeol administration had fabricated evidence to indict then opposition leader Lee in multiple cases, including those involving alleged illegal remittances to North Korea and a development corruption scandal. "We adopted the special counsel bill on fabricated indictments as our official party line," DPK floor spokesperson Kim Sung-hoi told reporters after a general meeting of its lawmakers. "We plan to hold consultations to introduce the bill at a plenary session on Nov. 5." The bill, combined with Lee's prosecution reform, had fueled opposition accusations that Lee was trying to have his own indictments cancelled after a number of trials he faced were suspended following his election and ina

• 100 AI, chip, biotech firms to recruit young talent at Seoul Job Fair (2026-11-03 12:02)

Around 100 high-tech companies in artificial intelligence, biotechnology, semiconductors and robotics will gather in Seoul next week to recruit young job seekers, the Seoul Metropolitan Government said Tuesday. The 2026 Seoul Job Fair will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Nov. 9 at Dongdaemun Design Plaza in central Seoul. The city is hosting the event together with the Korea Industrial Technology Association and the Korea Student Aid Foundation. Sixty companies,

including pharmaceutical firm Huons and surgical robot maker Meere Company, plan to hireabout 400 people. Another 40 or so companies are taking part in a youth AI talent festival heldalongside the fair. Job seekers can have one-on-one interviews and consultations with companyrecruiters on site. A QR code-based system lets them check their place in line and browse othercompanies' openings while they wait. AI-based services will recommend companies thatmatch applicants' preferred jobs and working conditions. An AI "culture fit" test will helpthem find workplaces suited to their personalities and values. Visitors can als

- AI-built virtual Buddhist temple draws 1 mil. visitors in less than a week (2026-11-03 12:02)

"I don't have the energy to actually go to a temple. So I just sit here for a little while before leaving." A virtual Buddhist temple created with artificial intelligence (AI) by a 26-year-old Korean job seeker has become an unexpected online hit, drawing more than 1 million visitors less than a week after its launch. Called "Sansa," the digital space lets users control a child-monk avatar that can put its palms together in prayer or perform Buddhist bows. Visitors can also use their mouse to roll prayer beads or strike a moktak, a wooden percussion instrument used in Korean Buddhist rituals. Sansa was launched on Oct. 26 by Park Jin-won, 26, who is looking for a job after graduating from university with a degree in English literature. " There are days when I feel like it would be nice to go to a temple, but actually going requires you to make an effort," Park said. That thought inspired the creation of an AI-powered Buddhist temple that people could enter through their phones. Since the launch, Park has been sharing Sansa's visitor numbers and updates to the virtual temple on social media.

- DPK lawmaker acquitted of leaking military secrets (2026-11-03 12:02)

A military court on Tuesday acquitted Rep. Boo Seung-chan of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) of charges of leaking military secrets while he served as the defense ministry's spokesperson. The Central District Military Court handed down the acquittal for Rep. Boo, who was indicted in July 2023 on charges of violating the Military Secret Protection Act. Boo is accused of exposing details of an undisclosed dialogue in his book that former Defense Minister Seo Wook and then U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin had during their annual security talks in December 2021. At that time, he was serving as spokesperson of Seoul's defense ministry under the administration of former liberal President Moon Jae-in. On Tuesday, the court said there was not enough evidence to prove that if the military secrets linked to this case were leaked, it would pose an "evident" threat to national security. The military prosecution earlier requested that the court sentence him to five years in prison. Boo has claimed he did not leak military secrets in his book, arguing that his indictment was retaliation fo

- Lee questions multicultural benefits: Centrist outreach or political misstep? (2026-11-03 12:02)

President Lee Jae Myung's repeated questioning of benefits for multicultural families has raised a question beyond policy fairness: Is he trying to broaden his appeal by challenging his own liberal base? Political analysts and other experts contacted by The Korea Times offered

differing interpretations. Some viewed his remarks at official meetings and on social media as adeliberate effort to reclaim the political center. Others were less certain there was any coherentstrategy. In the latest such remarks at a Cabinet meeting Tuesday, Lee said the government hada duty to support socially and economically disadvantaged people, but stressed that suchassistance must also reflect the principles of fairness and reasonableness. “Even benefits thatseem small or trivial can undermine public trust in the system if they continue without areasonable basis,” he said. “This could not only undermine the foundations of sustainablepolicy but also give those seeking to incite hatred against vulnerable people a pretext for doingso.” Political commentator Lee Jong-hoon interpreted the remar

- Special counsel raids NEC headquarters for 2nd day over improper stipends (2026-11-03 12:02)

Investigators raided the National Election Commission (NEC) headquarters for the second day Tuesday over suspicions that the election watchdog illegally paid commissioners monthly allowances even after the state auditor noted that such payments lacked a legal basis. Sixty-five personnel, including four prosecutors, have been mobilized to search 18 NEC offices, including the offices of the chairperson and the secretary general, in Gwacheon, just south of Seoul, since Monday, according to the independent counsel team led by special prosecutor Lee Tae-han. The home of a former secretary general was also searched, officials said. The independent counsel team has been investigating suspicions of irregularities involving the NEC after the team was launched in early September to look mainly into what led to the unprecedented ballot shortages in June's nationwide local elections and who is responsible. Among the suspicions are allegations that the NEC illegally handed out monthly allowances to commissioners under the label of supporting their "fair election promotion activity," The amount paid t

- Seoul selects 10 hidden night spots to revive local businesses (2026-11-03 12:02)

Seoul is looking beyond its famous landmarks to brighten overlooked corners of the city, betting that better nighttime attractions can draw visitors into neighborhood streets and give local businesses a boost. The Seoul Metropolitan Government has selected 10 locations for its 2026 Seoul Starlight Attractions project, which will transform underused parks, streams, walking paths and historic districts into destinations for evening recreation and sightseeing. The initiative aims to do more than install decorative lighting, encouraging visitors to stay longer, enjoy cultural activities and spend money at nearby restaurants, cafes and traditional markets. Among the selected sites is Heukseok Waterfront Trail in Dongjak District, where the area beneath an Olympic Expressway bridge will be redesigned with media art, landscape lighting, accessible walking paths, a running track and riverside seating overlooking the Han River and Nodeul Island. In western Seoul’s Seodaemun District, the local government will transform the Baramsan hill area of Changcheon Neighborhood Park into a night-view gar

- Korea mulls creation of cross-gov't cybersecurity command (2026-11-03 12:02)

President Lee Jae Myung on Tuesday ordered a review of plans to establish a government-wide cybersecurity agency to coordinate responses to increasingly sophisticated cyberattacks, as intelligence authorities conducted security checks across public institutions. Lee told a Cabinet meeting that cyberattacks now pose serious risks not only to people’s daily lives but also to the economy and national security. “We need to discuss establishing a government-wide response body covering both the public and private sectors,” Lee said. He urged officials to consider a powerful “cybersecurity czar” body capable of coordinating security functions now spread across different agencies. The president said advances in artificial intelligence (AI) were making cyberattacks more sophisticated and widespread, exposing the limits of a system focused on routine inspections and responding only after breaches occur. Citing a recent attack on cryptocurrency exchange Binance, Lee urged authorities to detect signs of cyberattacks early, share warnings and respond before damage spreads. He also called fo

- Seoul's policy think tank guides global megacities on AI, sustainable urban policy (2026-11-03 12:02)

The Seoul Institute — the official municipal policy think tank affiliated with the Seoul Metropolitan Government — and 19 other major urban research bodies from around the world adopted a joint initiative to address pressing global city challenges. The initiative was finalized during the 10th general assembly of the Megacity Think Tank Alliance (MeTTA), held Oct. 22–23 in Beijing. The Seoul Institute, which serves as the permanent secretariat for MeTTA, co-organized the assembly alongside the Beijing Municipal Institute of City Planning and Design (BMICPD). The meeting culminated in the adoption of the Beijing Initiative, a framework defining the alliance’s future role and vision across six strategic priorities: preparing for future urban challenges through joint research, building climate resilience and a just transition, creating people-centered cities, leveraging data and artificial intelligence (AI) for the public good, bridging science with policy and strengthening alliance ties. Following the assembly, participants presented 20 policy and research case studies across three

- Gov't to add 9 types of behavior to legal definition of stalking (2026-11-03 12:02)

The government is pushing to expand the definition of stalking to include tracking victims' locations and monitoring their social media activity, among other actions, as part of efforts to swiftly separate perpetrators from victims, the justice ministry said Tuesday. The ministry said an amendment to the Act on Punishment of Crime of Stalking was proposed Oct. 26 to make nine types of controlling behavior within a relationship criminal offenses. The nine types of behavior are forcing victims to maintain a relationship, tracking their whereabouts, notifying them that they are being monitored, exercising digital control over them, interfering with their social relationships, controlling their access to or use of private information, creating threats or instilling fear, threatening their pets and isolating them from others. Under current law, these acts are not recognized as distinct forms of stalking, limiting law enforcement's ability to intervene unless they involve physical assault or bodily injury. If the amendment takes effect, authorities will be able to protect victims before situat

• Drug ring busted for making meth with cold medicine (2026-11-03 12:02)

Police said Tuesday they have busted a criminal ring suspected of manufacturing billions of won worth of methamphetamine using cold medicine. The group allegedly bought large quantities of cold medicine to extract pseudoephedrine, a chemical used to illegally make methamphetamine, and produced 1.36 kilograms of the drug between April 2025 and June this year, according to the Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency. The amount is estimated to be worth 4.2 billion won ($3.1 million) and can be taken simultaneously by 40,000 people. Police have referred 13 suspects involved in the scheme, including the group's five members, to the prosecution on drug-related charges. The group had used an abandoned apartment to begin producing the drug in April last year before investigators were tipped off about the scheme in December. Police began apprehending the suspects in June after an undercover investigation. Investigators found that a traditional Korean medicine pharmacist and five other suspects helped the group manufacture the drugs. The pharmacist was found to have sold the group 10,610 bottles of cold m

• [COVER STORY] President, first lady to get new passports after personal data exposure (2026-11-03 12:02)

President Lee Jae Myung and first lady Kim Hea Kyung are having new passports issued after their passport and other personal information were leaked, the foreign ministry said, Tuesday. The government and the police are investigating how the data was exposed, although they believe it was a leak, not an external cyberattack. “The foreign ministry is swiftly taking measures to ensure the smooth reissuance of passports for all affected individuals, including the president and first lady,” ministry spokesperson Park Doo-soon said during a briefing. The measures came after it was known that sensitive personal information of 168 people who were aboard the presidential jet for Lee’s trip to Europe in June had been uploaded on a security-related paid website. The leak affected not only the presidential couple but also ranking officials, including then-chief of staff for policy Kim Yong-beom, National Security Adviser Wi Sung-lac, current Prime Minister Han Seong-sook and several Cabinet members, as well as senior officials from Cheong Wa Dae and the foreign ministry, security personnel and

• NIS asks 2,100 public institutions to conduct emergency cybersecurity checks (2026-11-03 05:57)

Korea's spy agency has asked 2,100 public institutions to conduct emergency cybersecurity inspections following a series of cyberattacks on financial firms that resulted in customer data breaches, government sources said Tuesday. The National Intelligence Service (NIS) has called on the central government agencies and local governments to carry out their own security checks based on a checklist, the sources said. Separately, the NIS plans to conduct its own vulnerability assessments of critical information and communications infrastructure in the public sector under its jurisdiction, the sources said. The assessments are expected to be completed by mid-November. Local financial institutions, including banks, savings banks and insurance companies, were hit by a series of cyberattacks last month, exposing about 100,000

cases of personal information across the industry, including email addresses, names and phonenumbers. The NIS has called for particular attention to be paid to the management of potentialcyberattack entry points, the operation of security monitoring systems and the applica

• Congolese diaspora elects new leadership in Korea (2026-11-03 05:57)

Congolese professionals and academics in Korea have elected a new leadership team, seeking to strengthen ties within their diaspora community and expand cooperation with Korean institutions. The Dynamic of the Congolese Elite in Korea, known in French as Dynamique de l'Élite Congolaise en Corée du Sud, held an extraordinary and elective general assembly, bringing together members of the Congolese academic and professional community. The meeting opened under the leadership of Eloi Fataki, vice president of the General Assembly, followed by a presentation by professor Merlec Mpyana, who reviewed the organization's history and its mission to unite and empower Congolese intellectuals and professionals in Korea. Reagan Ingoma, the outgoing president of the Executive Bureau, presented the organization's 2025-2026 activity report, outlining achievements, challenges and key developments during his tenure. Members also welcomed new participants before proceeding to the election of the next executive committee. Frigeant Bahuma was elected president, with Tyno Bashizim named vice president. Chon M

• Kwangwoon University sets sights on becoming AI, robotics powerhouse (2026-11-03 05:57)

Kwangwoon University unveiled plans to establish itself as a leading institution in artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics by nurturing talent and expanding access to education in the two fields as the era of physical AI takes shape. The university held a ceremony on Thursday to unveil its AI and robotics education strategy, drawing some 400 attendees, including lawmakers, local government officials, university presidents, education and research representatives, students and local residents. The event also aimed to strengthen partnerships ahead of the 2027 World Robofest Championship, an international youth robotics competition the university is set to host next year. "We aim to nurture talent who will drive advances in robotics worldwide and build a future where robots serve people," Kwangwoon University President Yoon Do-young said. The event featured congratulatory remarks from former National Assembly Speaker Woo Won-shik, Reps. Kim Yong-tae and Kim Nam-joon, Nowon District Mayor Seo Joon-oh, Korea Military Academy Superintendent Park Hoo-sung, Genesis BBQ Group Chairman Yoon Hong

• Korea launches 3,600-ton submarine, boosting naval deterrence, defense export capacity (2026-11-03 05:57)

Korea’s Navy and Defense Acquisition Program Administration (DAPA) launched the Seo Hui (SS-088), the nation’s second 3,600-ton Dosan Ahn Changho-class Batch-II diesel-electric attack submarine, during a ceremony at Hanwha Ocean’s Geoje Okpo Shipyard on Tuesday. The vessel is named after Seo Hui (942–998), a prominent diplomat and statesman of the Goryeo Dynasty renowned for using strategic negotiation to fend off a massive invasion by the

Khitan-led Liao Empire in 993, securing vital territory along the northwestern border withoutshedding blood. Navigating regional security threats around the peninsula, Korea designated hisname to symbolize military foresight, national crisis resolution and maritime sovereigntydefense. The ceremony was attended by around 200 officials, including National AssemblySpeaker Cho Jeong-sik. Following naval tradition, Cho's wife, Cho Mi-seon, cut the launchingribbon attached to the vessel, symbolizing new life breathed into the newly built warship,followed by a ceremonial champagne bottle break against the hull. Measuring 89 meters inlength,

• Kookmin University professor recognized among World's Top 2% Scientists (2026-11-03 05:57)

Kim Dae-hwan, a professor at Kookmin University's School of Electrical Engineering, has been included in the 2026 World's Top 2% Scientists list compiled by Stanford University and Elsevier. The list recognizes the top 2 percent of researchers in their respective fields based on a comprehensive analysis of research impact, including citation metrics and publication output, drawing on data from Elsevier's Scopus database. Kookmin University said Kim has focused on the physical characterization of semiconductor devices based on indium gallium zinc oxide, a material used in next-generation memory and display technologies. He has published 484 papers in international journals and major academic conferences proceedings, garnering 7,926 citations, according to Scopus data as of October. "I am honored to be recognized among the World's Top 2% of Scientists, and I owe this achievement to the faculty members and students, research collaborators and industry partners who have worked alongside me," Kim said. He added, "I believe that research into the fundamental principles of semicond

• Lee, first lady to get new passports after personal data exposure (2026-11-03 05:57)

The foreign ministry said Tuesday it is taking steps to reissue passports for all 168 people affected by an online leak of sensitive personal information, including President Lee Jae Myung and first lady Kim Hea Kyung, as police investigate how the data was exposed. "The foreign ministry is swiftly taking measures to ensure the smooth reissuance of passports for all affected individuals, including the president and first lady," ministry spokesperson Park Doo-soon said during a briefing. Police have opened a preliminary investigation into the leak, which involved personal information belonging to the presidential couple, Cabinet members, senior officials from Cheong Wa Dae and the foreign ministry, security personnel and reporters traveling with the presidential delegation. The National Police Agency launched the investigation after passenger information and sensitive personal data related to the presidential aircraft were found posted online. The foreign ministry said it requested an investigation by relevant authorities immediately after discovering the leak and is working with poli

• Police release identity of suspect in Seoul building arson (2026-11-03 05:57)

Police on Tuesday released the identity and mug shots of a suspect accused of setting fires at two patent firms in southern Seoul last month and leaving 26 people injured. The Seoul

Metropolitan Police Agency posted the photos of Lee Myung-soo, 77, on its website following adecision by a review committee. Lee is suspected of committing arson in two buildings inSeoul's southern ward of Gangnam on Oct. 20, He was taken into custody shortly after the firesand was referred to the prosecution last week on charges of arson and attempted murder.Investigators believe the suspect planned the arson and was likely aware of people inside theoffices. Lee has claimed that he was scammed by the patent firms and only wanted to scarepeople, not hurt them. Korea releases the identities and mug shots of those suspected ofcommitting serious crimes when there is substantial evidence that they committed the offenses.

• Consumer prices up 2.8% in October, remain in 2% range for 2nd month (2026-11-03 00:02)

Korea's consumer prices rose 2.8 percent in October from a year earlier, data showed Tuesday, as agricultural product prices continued to decline despite energy costs remaining elevated. According to data from the Ministry of Data and Statistics, consumer price growth eased to 2.8 percent in October from 2.9 percent in September and 3.1 percent in August. The data ministry said petroleum products' prices advanced 14.9 percent year-on-year in October, contributing 0.56 percentage point to the month's year-on-year inflation rate. It was the sharpest growth since 15.5 percent posted in July. In detail, diesel prices jumped 19.7 percent year-on-year in October, while gasoline prices increased a sharp 11.6 percent. Korea relies heavily on imports to meet its energy needs. The report showed that prices of industrial products overall rose 4.4 percent year-on-year in October due to higher global energy prices, with those of mobile phones and computers climbing 10.8 percent and 26.2 percent, respectively. Prices of imported automobiles, on the other hand, fell 3.9 percent over the same period. In ad

• Korea prepares launch of new SMR review system this month: nuclear watchdog chief (2026-11-03 00:02)

Small modular reactors (SMRs) have emerged as an important, carbon-free energy source in the era of artificial intelligence (AI), where the explosive growth of data centers requires an unprecedented amount of stable power. In response to such shifts in energy demands, Korea is set to introduce a preliminary review system designed to streamline the commercial development and deployment of SMRs starting later this month. The system will allow SMR developers to undergo safety and design verifications before formal licensing. It has already been adopted in countries such as the United States and Canada. With less than a month to go ahead of the system's launch, around ten companies — both from home and abroad — have expressed their intent to apply, with some considering making a submission immediately after the system takes effect, the head of the country's nuclear watchdog said. "There are a few SMR developers saying they will apply as soon as the preliminary review system is launched," Choi Won-ho, the head of the Nuclear Safety and Security Commission (NSSC), said in an interview wit

• THE summit to explore turning university research into business in Seoul (2026-11-03 00:02)

The Times Higher Education (THE) Innovation & Impact Summit 2026 will take place at Korea University in Seoul from Nov. 17 to 19, bringing together global university leaders and industry experts to explore ways to turn academic research into commercially viable technologies and businesses. Under the theme "Universities, industry and investors: Connecting research with commercialisation," the three-day summit will examine strategies for strengthening cooperation between academia and industry, attracting investment and fostering innovation. The event comes as universities worldwide face growing pressure to demonstrate the economic and social impact of their research amid rapid advances in artificial intelligence (AI) and intensifying global competition for technological leadership. The event is expected to draw more than 300 participants from over 150 institutions and organizations worldwide, including university leaders, researchers, investors and industry experts. More than 80 speakers will take part in keynote speeches, panel discussions and workshops focused on translating academic bre

• A year after streamer crackdown, Bucheon's chaos eased but not gone (2026-11-03 00:02)

BUCHEON, Gyeonggi Province — Park Hye-ran, 47, a mother of a 6-year-old son, often finds it unsettling to walk around her neighborhood in Bucheon, Gyeonggi Province, a city known for its many online streaming creators airing outlandish broadcasts. “I’m worried about being filmed, and the broadcasting makes me uncomfortable. As early as the afternoon, many people are streaming around the food alley near Bucheon Station,” Park said, adding that it can’t be good for children to see. Last year, Bucheon made headlines for streamers who vied for viewer donations with attention-grabbing stunts such as dancing shirtless, singing loudly in public and mocking police officers called to the scene. Things turned violent when a YouTuber in her 30s was arrested on suspicion of attempted murder after stabbing a man in his 30s with a weapon during his livestream. In response, the city announced a crackdown on streamers in September 2025, citing broadcasts that seriously damaged its brand image and harmed merchants and residents. It applied crime prevention strategies using environmental design

• Traditional music teachers exploited authority to sexually abuse students: Court records (2026-11-03 00:02)

Sex crimes in the traditional Korean music community persist, fueled by the enormous influence teachers wield over students’ future careers and the close-knit, insular nature of the industry. Following the Hankook Ilbo’s in-depth coverage of sexual exploitation in the traditional music scene, victims continued to come forward with accounts of widespread sexual harassment and assault. Court rulings also revealed disturbing details of the crimes. An analysis by the Hankook Ilbo of court rulings from 2010 to 2026 involving sexual offenses committed by traditional music instructors who abused their positions of authority over students found that seven of the 11 cases involved underage victims. In four of those cases, the victims were younger than 13. Cases involving adult victims also revealed how perpetrators exploited their control over students’ future careers to subject them to repeated abuse. Even as they suffered, victims found it difficult to speak out, and some eventually left the traditional music community altogether. The crimes typically took place in lesson rooms or class

• Seoul names 19 'medical-friendly' hotels for foreign patients (2026-11-02 12:02)

Seoul has designated 19 hotels and accommodations as “medical-friendly” lodgings tailored for international patients and their families, part of an effort to capture a growing global market traveling to Korea for health care, the city government said Monday. According to the Korea Health Industry Development Institute, about 1.76 million foreign patients were treated at medical institutions in Seoul in 2025, a record high. That is 3.7 times the roughly 470,000 in 2023. Seoul accounted for 87.2 percent of the roughly 2.01 million foreign patients treated nationwide last year. The Seoul Metropolitan Government and the Seoul Tourism Organization chose the 19 facilities from 40 applicants in the program’s first year. The selection involved document reviews, on-site inspections and expert evaluations. Unlike regular tourists, foreign patients often need long stays that follow their treatment schedules, rooms for family members or caregivers, and places to recover after surgery or other procedures. Some have trouble getting around after treatment. The facilities were judged on how easy i

• S. Korea officially recognizes 3 fishing crewmen abducted by N. Korea in 1973 (2026-11-02 12:02)

South Korea has officially recognized three fishing crewmen abducted by North Korea decades ago, Seoul's unification ministry said Monday, bringing the total number of government-recognized abductees since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War to 519. The ministry added Jo Gi-won, Kim Yang-hun and Kim Dong-ho, who were forcibly taken to the North while aboard their fishing boat, the Daeyeong, near the South Korean border island of Yeonpyeong in 1973, to the list of post-war abductees eligible for "consolation" payments under a relevant law. It decided to provide 81 million won ($60,290) in consolation money to Jo's family members, while it is seeking to find the family members of the other abductees. The Daeyeong had not been counted among the boats whose sailors were abducted by the North until Kim Byeong-do, one of its crewmembers, returned to South Korea in 2003, according to an association of post-war abductees' family members. After the Armistice Agreement was signed to halt the Korean War in 1953, 3,838 South Koreans were taken to the North against their will. Of them, 3,319 have retur

• Multicultural family benefits face review over 'fairness' concerns (2026-11-02 12:02)

The government and local authorities nationwide are launching a formal review of benefits for multicultural families after President Lee Jae Myung raised concerns that some programs unfairly disadvantage other households. The Ministry of Justice sent an official request to local governments late last month, asking them to provide details of their support policies for such families. Based on the findings, the government is expected to review whether any of the programs amount to what the president described as “reverse discrimination” against other households. According to city officials, the Seoul Metropolitan Government has begun examining all 26 of its multicultural family support programs for potential fairness concerns. “The mayor spoke about this, and we first need to establish which programs the relevant departments are running and how exactly they operate,” an official told The Korea Times on

Monday. “That is where things stand at the moment.” Among the programs under review isthe city’s subsidized postpartum care initiative, which places mothers from multicultural

• DPK welcomes Lee's budget speech; PPP slams failure to address N. Korea, economic woes (2026-11-02 12:02)

The ruling Democratic Party of Korea (DPK) on Monday welcomed President Lee Jae Myung's budget speech, while the main opposition People Power Party (PPP) criticized him for failing to address North Korea's threats and economic concerns. PPP lawmakers also staged a rally at the National Assembly ahead of Lee's speech on next year's budget proposal, condemning what they called a budget that disregards national debt and destroys the country's future. "President Lee came, said only what he wanted to say and left," PPP leader Jang Dong-hyeok wrote on Facebook. "He made no mention of real estate, the stock market or farmland, nor did he mention North Korea, the South Korea-U.S. alliance, public safety or judicial issues," Rep. Jang said. While Lee pledged to secure key military capabilities needed for the early transfer of wartime operational control (OPCON) from the United States, he did not directly mention the alliance or inter-Korean ties in his speech. PPP chief spokesperson Park Sung-hoon also called the speech "the height of fiscal recklessness" and a declaration seeking to "drain the na

• Retrial to begin next week for Uzbek national convicted of murder, robbery 16 years ago (2026-11-02 12:02)

A court will open a retrial next week for an Uzbek national who was sentenced to life in prison 16 years ago for killing and robbing a taxi driver in 2009, legal sources said Monday. According to the sources, the first hearing of the retrial for Bozorov Akmal, 37, will begin at 11 a.m. on Nov. 12 at the Changwon District Court in Changwon, about 300 kilometers southeast of Seoul. The Supreme Court finalized Akmal's life imprisonment in 2010 on charges of robbing and killing a 50-something taxi driver in Changwon in March 2009. After his first request for a retrial was rejected in 2015, he filed a second petition in January last year through Park Jun-young, a defense attorney known for handling retrial cases. Park pointed out numerous flaws in the original investigation, including forensic opinions on the victim's neck wounds, taxi routes, records from the National Forensic Service, phone logs and testimony regarding the weapon. He also raised allegations of physical assault and coercion by investigators. On Oct. 15, the court decided to reopen Akmal's case and suspended his prison senten

• Korea swaps drone command for smaller agency focused on development, procurement (2026-11-02 12:02)

South Korea has replaced its military drone operations command with a smaller agency focused on developing drone capabilities and speeding up procurement, shifting operational responsibilities to individual service branches. The Ministry of National Defense held a ceremony Monday in Pocheon, Gyeonggi Province, to mark the launch of the Defense Drone Agency, which officially began operations Sunday. The restructuring reduces the staff from about 280 at the former headquarters to 100 at the new agency, while increasing the

proportion of personnel at the field-grade officer level or above from 17 percent to more than50 percent. The new organization will focus on planning drone requirements, testing technologyand helping the military acquire equipment more quickly. Unlike the former Drone OperationsCommand, which conducted missions using its own units, the new agency will not commandcombat operations. Its operational units and assets are being transferred to the Army, Air Forceand Marine Corps. Under the previous arrangement, the services primarily used drones forsurveillance and recon

• Lee pitches future-oriented fund as he seeks parliamentary support for record-high budget (2026-11-02 12:02)

President Lee Jae Myung highlighted the need for a proposed 162 trillion won ($120.5 billion) fund to be created to secure momentum for growth and ensure stable fiscal management, during his speech at the National Assembly on Monday. The "future-oriented fund," backed by windfall tax revenue from the semiconductor boom, is part of next year’s record-high 820.9 trillion won budget, for which he sought parliamentary approval. Lee said the new fund would focus on four priorities — support for young people, future growth engines, regional economies, and education and skills development. He outlined related spending plans, including 21.3 trillion won for artificial intelligence (AI) and three megaprojects, along with 13.8 trillion won for 10 next-generation strategic technology fields, while pledging expanded welfare support to ensure the benefits of growth reach more people. “The new fund to respond to future challenges will provide a platform for strategic investment to boost the economy’s growth potential, and also a mechanism to keep public finances stable as tax revenue fluctuate

• Korea unveils $276 mil. 'Hangang' supercomputer (2026-11-02 05:57)

Korea has officially launched its sixth national supercomputer, named "Hangang" after the iconic Han River flowing through Seoul, to propel cutting-edge artificial intelligence (AI) and scientific research. The Ministry of Science and ICT and the state-run Korea Institute of Science and Technology Information (KISTI) marked the launch Monday at KISTI headquarters in Daejeon, the nation’s primary scientific and research hub located about 140 kilometers south of Seoul. The ceremony brought together roughly 200 leaders from across industry, academia and government research institutions. Constructed at a cost of 382.5 billion won ($276 million), Hangang replaces Nurion, the fifth-generation supercomputer deployed in 2018. Nurion ranked 11th globally at launch and supported 1,730 research projects over its eight-year lifespan. Those efforts produced 1,520 peer-reviewed papers, including 70 published in top-tier international journals such as Nature, Science and Cell. While Hangang continues running the same heavy computational simulations handled by its predecessor, such as vehicle crash t

• Retrial to begin next week for Uzbek national convicted of murder, robbery 16 yrs ago (2026-11-02 05:57)

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• Korea, Japan seek closer customs cooperation on drugs, counterfeits (2026-11-02 05:57)

Korea and Japan are seeking to tighten customs cooperation on drug smuggling, counterfeit products and cross-border online shopping, as officials look to protect businesses and strengthen border security. Korea Customs Service Commissioner Lee Jong-wook met with Mitsuhiro Teraoka, director-general of Japan's Customs and Tariff Bureau, in Tokyo last week to discuss three areas of cooperation, the customs agency said Monday. The meeting followed the 34th Korea-Japan Customs Chiefs' Meeting in Seoul in April and was arranged separately to address pressing bilateral issues following Lee's appointment. One priority is protecting Korean and Japanese brands, including K-beauty products, from counterfeit goods. Korea proposed closer enforcement cooperation between the two countries' customs authorities and asked Japan to help Korean companies use its system for requesting customs authorities to block imports and exports of goods suspected of infringing intellectual property rights. The officials also discussed establishing a system to exchange intelligence on drug seizures and smuggling attempts,

• Overseas Koreans can renew Class 1 driver's licenses at diplomatic missions (2026-11-02 05:57)

Koreans living abroad will no longer need to fly back to Korea to update their driving credentials, as overseas embassies and consulates begin processing Class 1 driver’s license renewals and issuing international driving permits, the government said Monday. The service begins Monday at 188 diplomatic missions, according to the Overseas Koreans Agency, the Korean National Police Agency and the Korea Road Traffic Authority (KoROAD). Korea has two ordinary license classes. A Class 1 license covers larger vehicles, such as trucks of up to 12 tons. A Class 2 license is mainly for passenger cars. Diplomatic missions have handled driver’s license paperwork since 2013. Until now, they could only renew Class 2 licenses and reissue lost or damaged ones, because Class 1 renewals require an aptitude test that includes an eye exam. Under the new system, Class 1 licenses will be renewed in Korea if the applicant has a domestic health checkup or physical exam on record from the past two years. The license is then sent to the mission for pickup. Applicants with no such record cannot get a license t

• Seoul launches English texting service on city helpline (2026-11-02 05:57)

Foreign residents and tourists in Seoul can now text their questions in English to the capital’s central municipal helpline, city officials announced Monday. The 120 Dasan Call Foundation, an agency operated by the Seoul Metropolitan Government, will launch the English mobile messaging service at 9 a.m. Tuesday, expanding on its existing foreign-language telephone hotlines. The text-based consultation service operates on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Users can text inquiries directly to 02-120 from a mobile phone to receive real-time guidance on daily life and city infrastructure, ranging from public transit routes to municipal water service updates. While the helpline service itself is free, standard text-messaging fees apply according to the user’s mobile plan provider. Outside regular operating hours, foreign residents can access alternative support networks, such as the government-backed Danuri Call Center, which assists multicultural families and international residents. Established in September 2007 during Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon’s first term in office, the 120 Dasan Call Cen

- About 80% of Korean judges encounter AI-generated fake legal precedents: survey (2026-11-02 05:57)

Eight in 10 Korean judges have experienced court cases in which false or nonexistent legal precedents generated by artificial intelligence (AI) were cited, a recent survey by the Supreme Court released Monday showed. The top court published the outcome of the survey conducted on 360 judges from Oct. 6-16 as it sought to examine increasingly worrisome cases of "AI hallucination" — a term referring to a situation where AI models present false information as if they were true. In the survey, about 80 percent of the judges in charge of civil, family and administrative cases said that they had experienced cases in which nonexistent or false precedents were cited. Of those, 196 judges, or 80.7 percent, said they had seen the citations of nonexistent legal precedents in court cases, while 159 judges, or 65.4 percent, said have they encountered cases involving the citations of false precedents. The survey also showed that 41 judges, or 16.9 percent, encountered cases in which false or non-existent laws and regulations were cited, while 10 judges, or 4.1 percent, said they have seen citations o

- [COVER STORY] Migrant communities push back against Lee's 'reverse discrimination' framing (2026-11-02 05:57)

People from multicultural families and migrant rights advocates are pushing back against President Lee Jae Myung’s recent suggestion that certain support policies could amount to “reverse discrimination,” warning that his remarks risk deepening social divisions and reinforcing prejudice. While acknowledging that Lee may have intended to address fairness in welfare provisions and labor shortages in rural areas, they say his language risks portraying migrants as undeserving beneficiaries. Speaking to The Korea Times, they urged the president to exercise greater care, adding that his words carry particular weight in shaping public attitudes toward migrant communities. At a Cabinet meeting on Oct. 27, Lee said bringing in foreign workers “does not greatly benefit the national economy,” arguing that they “send all their wages back to their home countries.” In subsequent social media posts, he questioned whether government policies should “go beyond” protecting multicultural families from

disadvantages to granting them better treatment, citing priority access to public postp

• dbBOOKS warehouse sale brings English-language readers together (2026-11-02 05:57)

Twice a year, a cavernous basement warehouse in Seoul’s Seongsu-dong opens its doors to bibliophiles looking for something beyond the usual bookstore experience. Its shelves are packed with English-language books at discount prices, and visitors are invited not only to browse and buy, but also to exchange books and meet fellow readers. The Welcome to Our Warehouse (WOW) Family Sale, organized by English-language book distributor dbBOOKS, returns this Saturday and Sunday with its familiar mix of warehouse bargains and community events. This year's program includes a book talk with award-winning Korean novelist You-jeong Jeong, author of "Bonobo," which was recently published in English translation, as well as a book swap. For dbBOOKS, the sale has turned into something more than just a way to move books off warehouse shelves. The company operates as a wholesaler, importer, distributor and retailer, supplying books to major Korean online and physical retailers. Its catalogue ranges from popular fiction to children's books, encyclopedias and nonfiction. With around 35 employees, it maint

• Special counsel raids NEC headquarters over improper stipends (2026-11-02 05:57)

A special counsel team said Monday it raided the National Election Commission (NEC) over allegations its commissioners were paid 905.8 million won ($677,000) in improper stipends. Special counsel Lee Tae-han's team said a 65-member team, including four prosecutors, were sent to the NEC headquarters in Gwacheon, just south of Seoul, to search the offices of the NEC chair and secretary general. The election watchdog is suspected of having unlawfully paid monthly stipends to its nine commissioners in the name of assisting "free and fair elections." The allowances were given even after the Board of Audit and Inspection and the National Assembly pointed out the absence of grounds for their payment, including by diverting funds allocated for other purposes, according to the special counsel team. In total, the stipends amounted to 905.8 million won, starting at 171.5 million won in 2020. The annual total exceeded the threshold of 100 million won per year set under a law for punishing acts causing losses to the state treasury. Lee's team was launched in September to investigate ballot shortages o

• 1 Army staff sergeant dies after being found unconscious at front-line unit (2026-11-02 05:57)

An Army staff sergeant was found unconscious with an unspecified injury at a front-line unit in the eastern border county of Cheorwon on Monday and later pronounced dead, military officials said. Authorities were looking into the exact cause of the incident.

• Korea replaces drone command with smaller, specialized headquarters (2026-11-02 05:57)

South Korea has replaced its military drone operations command with a smaller headquarters focused on developing drone capabilities and speeding up procurement, shifting operational

responsibilities to individual service branches. The Ministry of National Defense held aceremony Monday in Pocheon, Gyeonggi Province, to mark the launch of the Defense DroneHeadquarters, which officially began operations Sunday. The restructuring reduces theheadquarters' staff from about 280 to 100, while increasing the proportion of personnel at thefield-grade officer level or above from 17 percent to more than 50 percent. The neworganization will focus on planning drone requirements, testing technology and helping themilitary acquire equipment more quickly. Unlike the former Drone Operations Command,which conducted missions using its own units, the new headquarters will not command combatoperations. Its operational units and assets are being transferred to the Army, Air Force andMarine Corps. Under the previous arrangement, the services primarily used drones forsurveillance and reconnaissance,

• Korea's Air Force to participate in US-led space war game for 1st time (2026-11-02 05:57)

The Korean Air Force will take part in a U.S.-led multinational space war game for the first time this week, a tabletop exercise designed to strengthen joint operational capabilities in the space domain, officials said Monday. The Air Force is scheduled to participate in the war game, dubbed Partner to Win, from Monday through Friday (local time) in Florida, alongside the Netherlands, Sweden, Poland, Brazil and the United States, according to the armed service. Partner to Win, newly launched by the U.S. Space Force this year, aims to enhance operational readiness in joint space missions and strengthen coordination with partner countries in relevant policy and strategy-setting. The war game will proceed in the form of a tabletop exercise, where each delegation from participating nations will discuss cooperation and response measures to handle simulated, complex crises in space. Through the participation, the Korean Air Force will seek to expand the extent of cooperation in the space sector with allies and gain a foothold in leading multinational joint space missions in the future.

• Gov't to exempt CCTV monitoring requirement for non-walk-in ESS units (2026-11-02 05:57)

The government will seek to exempt the mandatory CCTV monitoring requirement for non-walk-in energy storage systems (ESS) equipped with enhanced safety measures, as part of deregulation aimed at reducing unnecessary burdens on companies, officials said Monday. It was one of the measures that the Regulatory Rationalization Committee announced it will pursue in coming months in an effort to improve the competitiveness of the local secondary battery industry amid intensifying market competition driven by low-cost Chinese lithium iron phosphate (LFP) batteries. The committee plans to complete the review of the proposed deregulation by the end of this year and revise related regulations next year so that non-walk-in ESS units are exempt from internal CCTV installation requirements if they are equipped with enhanced safety features, such as advanced battery management systems (BMS). Other deregulation measures for secondary battery firms include allowing power conversion systems (PCS) to be installed in the same container as batteries following safety verification, and waiving repeated permit

• Lee highlights tech fund for future growth as he seeks parliamentary support for record budget (2026-11-02 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung highlighted the need for a proposed 162 trillion won ($120.5 billion) fund to be created to secure momentum for growth and ensure stable fiscal management, during his speech at the National Assembly, Monday. The so-called "future-oriented fund," backed by windfall tax revenue from the semiconductor boom, is part of next year’s record 820.9 trillion won budget which he sought parliamentary approval. Lee said the new fund would focus on four priorities — young people, future growth engines, regional economies, as well as education and talent development. He outlined related spending plans, including 21.3 trillion won for artificial intelligence (AI) and three megaprojects, along with 13.8 trillion won for 10 next-generation strategic technology fields, while pledging expanded welfare support to ensure the benefits of growth reach more people. “The new fund to respond to future challenges will provide a platform for strategic investment to boost the economy’s growth potential, and also a mechanism to keep public finances stable as tax revenue fluctuates more

• Lee's approval rating rises on summit achievements, economic policies: poll (2026-11-02 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung's approval rating came to 36.9 percent last week, a poll showed Monday, rising slightly from a week earlier on the back of diplomatic achievements and economic policies but remaining below 40 percent for the 10th consecutive week. In the poll conducted on 2,515 adults nationwide from last Monday to Friday by Realmeter, positive assessments of Lee's job performance rose 1.6 percentage points from the previous week. His disapproval rating fell 2.2 percentage points to 60.1 percent in the latest survey. Realmeter said the increase appears to have been driven by diplomatic achievements from the recent Korea-Germany summit and positive economic indicators, including a current account surplus and the government's plans to expand the housing supply in the greater Seoul area. Lee's approval rating has stayed below 40 percent in Realmeter surveys since slipping to 38.9 percent from 40.2 percent in the fourth week of August. In a separate survey of 1,005 adults conducted Thursday and Friday, support for the ruling Democratic Party of Korea rose 2.3 percentage points to 38.3

• Lee to address National Assembly on next year's gov't budget (2026-11-01 23:57)

President Lee Jae Myung was set to address the National Assembly on Monday, a rare event where he is widely expected to call for bipartisan support for the passage of the 2027 budget bill. The government submitted the budget bill to the National Assembly in September, proposing 820.9 trillion won ($614.5 billion) in total government spending next year, up more than 10 percent from this year, amid expectations of increased tax revenue stemming from a semiconductor boom. During the speech, the president is expected to highlight the need for aggressive spending on stabilizing people's livelihoods, nurturing future growth engine industries and promoting balanced regional development while calling for parliamentary support for the budget's passage. Under the largest-ever budget bill, the government plans to

establish the 160 trillion-won Future Fund aimed at supporting younger generations, promotingeconomic growth engines and boosting regional development.

• Gov't tightens grip on illegal foreign delivery riders amid nearly 17-fold surge in cases (2026-11-01 23:57)

The government is moving to tighten enforcement against foreign delivery riders working illegally and the delivery company systems that let them slip through, amid a nearly 17-fold surge in the number of violators caught. Last week, the Ministry of Justice said it held talks with the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, the Ministry of Employment and Labor, the National Police Agency and the Korea Coast Guard on a joint government response to illegal delivery work by foreign nationals. To root out the practice, the justice ministry plans to step up joint crackdowns with the police agency and expand cooperation in investigating related offenses, such as organized illegal hiring and brokering by delivery agencies, unlicensed driving and the unauthorized use of accounts registered under other people’ s names. The justice ministry also plans to work with relevant agencies to build an identity verification system for riders, improve systems for managing and inspecting delivery agencies and encourage the industry to prevent illegal practices. The transport ministry is set to receiv

• Ji So-yun brings wisdom, experience and winning spirit to Korean women's football (2026-11-01 18:02)

“I am thinking about retiring after reaching 200 appearances for the national team.” Ji So-yun, a living legend of Korean women's football, has set a clear target for the final chapter of her international career: reaching 200 games before hanging up her cleats. The 35-year-old Suwon FC Women midfielder won a bronze medal at the 2026 Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games and is now in her 20th year as a member of the national team. She first donned the Taegeuk mark in 2006 at the age of 15. Since making her Asian Games debut in Doha, Qatar, that year, she has competed in six games, including Guangzhou, China, in 2010, Incheon in 2014, Jakarta-Palembang, Indonesia, in 2018, Hangzhou, China, in 2022 and this year's tournament. In a recent interview with Hankook Ilbo at the Suwon Athletes' Tillage, Ji spoke candidly about her retirement plans. “I think I could reach 200 appearances sometime next year or the year after,” she said. Ji holds the Korean record for most appearances and goals in international matches, with 182 caps and 76 goals. On the men's side, Son Heung-min (151 caps, 59 goals) sur

• Relatives from family separated by Korean War meet for 1st time in 3rd country (2026-11-01 11:57)

Two relatives from a family separated by the 1950-53 Korean War met for the first time in a third country in September, marking a rare reunion amid frozen inter-Korean relations. Tensions remain high on the divided Korean Peninsula as North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has ruled out talks with South Korea and defined inter-Korean ties as those between "two states hostile to each other." The meeting came five months after South Korea's Unification Ministry received a request from a North Korean member of a separated family seeking help to find a

maternal uncle in South Korea. The request was relayed to the ministry by a North Koreandefector living in the South. The ministry, which handles inter-Korean affairs, located the unclein its database of separated families, only to learn that he had died 30 years earlier. After tryingto contact the uncle's adult children using information in the database, a ministry official madecontact with a 65-year-old cousin living in Gyeonggi Province near Seoul. The South Koreancousin readily agreed to contact the North Korean relative, saying the cousin's

• Overseas trips add to debate over Korea's shifting political standards (2026-11-01 11:57)

President Lee Jae Myung’s overseas trips have again drawn attention to Korea’s shifting political standards, adding to a familiar cycle of disputes over presidential golf and the presidential plane whenever power passes between conservative and liberal administrations. The controversies center on taxpayer money and the public's attitudes toward presidential privilege, with governing parties defending certain activities as necessary for diplomacy or official duties and the opposition calling them wasteful or excessive — arguments that often switch sides under successive administrations. In the latest controversy, National Security Adviser Wi Sung-lac on Friday defended the frequency of Lee’s overseas trips accompanied by first lady Kim Hea Kyung. “Korea’s international standing requires its president to attend regular multilateral gatherings and bilateral visits,” Wi said. “Spouses also accompany leaders as an established diplomatic practice.” Wi’s defense followed an Oct. 1 analysis by Rep. Lee Jin-sook of the main opposition People Power Party (PPP). It counted 14 tri

• Gov't tightens grip on illegal foreign delivery riders amid nearly 17-fold surge in cases (2026-11-01 05:57)

The government is moving to tighten enforcement against foreign delivery riders working illegally and the delivery company systems that let them slip through, amid a nearly 17-fold surge in the number of violators caught. Last week, the Ministry of Justice said it held talks with the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, the Ministry of Employment and Labor, the National Police Agency and the Korea Coast Guard on a joint government response to illegal delivery work by foreign nationals. To root out the practice, the justice ministry plans to step up joint crackdowns with the police agency and expand cooperation in investigating related offenses, such as organized illegal hiring and brokering by delivery agencies, unlicensed driving and the unauthorized use of accounts registered under other people’s names. The justice ministry also plans to work with relevant agencies to build an identity verification system for riders, improve systems for managing and inspecting delivery agencies and encourage the industry to prevent illegal practices. The transport ministry is set to receiv

• Sejong University team finds link between retail investor attention, lower stock returns (2026-11-01 05:57)

A research team at Sejong University has found that stocks attracting greater attention from retail investors tend to generate lower returns in subsequent periods. The university said the findings were published last month in the prestigious Journal of International Financial Markets,

Institutions & Money. The team was led by Lee Eun-mi, a professor at the university's College of Business and Economics, and included doctoral students Yang Pujian and Yang Liu. The paper, titled "The Retreat of Arbitrage Capital: Attention Level and Nonlinear Order Flow Dynamics," lists Yang Pujian as the first author, Lee as the corresponding author and Yang Liu as a co-author. The research team examined how retail investor attention affects institutional trading behavior and stock market returns. The researchers analyzed data from China's A-share market spanning 2012 to 2024 and measured investor attention using the Search Volume Index (SVI) provided by Baidu, China's leading search engine. The analysis found that stocks attracting greater investor attention tend to generate relatively lower retu

• Love hotteok? Here's how the sugary, oil-fried snack can affect your diet (2026-10-31 17:57)

Click here for more articles by Kormedi.com. Comedian Shin Bong-sun, who has drawn attention for her slimmer figure, turned down even a tempting snack to stay on track with her diet. Shin recently posted a photo of a black plastic bag on social media, writing, "Hotteok my older sister bought me from Namdaemun. I won't eat it." She also shared a full-body photo taken at a gym, saying she was playing tennis and attending a personal training session. Shin previously revealed that she had lost 11 kilograms in just 100 days. She has since continued to exercise regularly and manage her diet. Hotteok: A calorie bomb with sugar and oil Hotteok is a snack made by filling wheat flour dough with a sweet filling and cooking it in oil. The carbohydrates in the dough, combined with sugar and oil, make the snack high in calories. Its calorie content varies depending on its size, filling ingredients and the amount of oil used during cooking. According to the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety's food nutrition database, hotteok containing nuts has 314 kilocalories per 100 grams. Eating a 150-gram hotteok

• Foreign arrivals at regional airports surge 37.4 percent (2026-10-31 12:02)

The number of foreign nationals entering Korea through regional airports rose by more than 37 percent in the first nine months of this year, with arrivals from Taiwan surging by 60.4 percent, according to data released by the Korea Airports Corporation (KAC). An analysis of airport-by-airport arrival figures for January through September, released by KAC on Thursday, showed that 3.24 million foreign nationals entered the country through Gimhae, Jeju, Cheongju and Daegu airports, up 37.4 percent from the same period last year. By airport, arrivals increased 59.5 percent at Cheongju International Airport, 47.9 percent at Gimhae International Airport, 27.9 percent at Jeju International Airport and 0.8 percent at Daegu International Airport. By comparison, the number of foreign arrivals through Incheon and Gimpo international airports in the Seoul metropolitan area rose by just 17.2 percent over the same period. The Korea Airports Corporation attributed the trend to a growing number of foreign tourists entering Korea directly through regional airports, bypassing the capital region. Among fore

• Lee visits southeastern province to inspect pilot basic income scheme (2026-10-31 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung visited a southeastern province Saturday to inspect a government pilot program providing a monthly basic income to residents in depopulated rural towns. Lee shared details of his unannounced trip to North Gyeongsang Province in a social media post, extending greetings to residents in Yeongyang and Cheongsong counties, located in the same province. The Lee government has introduced the basic income scheme to provide local residents with 150,000 won ($112) per month in gift vouchers. A total of 69 counties nationwide have been designated as population-declining regions, 17 of which are currently running the pilot program.

• Lee says multicultural family support resulting in 'reverse discrimination' cannot be justified (2026-10-31 05:57)

President Lee Jae Myung renewed his call Saturday for a review of multicultural family support programs, saying any preferential policy that can create reverse discrimination cannot be justified. Lee posted the comments on social media amid criticism after he suggested the need to revise the support programs for multicultural families in South Korea, such as priority access to low-cost public postpartum care centers. In an earlier posting on his X account, Lee questioned whether mothers from multicultural families and mothers recognized as persons of national merit deserve to be placed in the same category for reservations at government-funded postpartum care centers. The issue, which the liberal president brought forward after citing a post from a conservative online community site, has drawn backlash from the liberal bloc voicing concern that such a move amounts to inciting hatred in society. "While it is true that support for multicultural families is necessary, that cannot justify specific policies that are unreasonable or may result in reverse discrimination," Lee wrote on X. "Just b

• In super-aged Korea, social isolation leaves seniors searching for connection (2026-10-31 05:57)

Tucked away near the rear entrance of Seoul Station is a building bustling with older adults coming and going. Inside, dozens of white-haired visitors fill the space, some drinking cheap coffee while others watch television. Farther inside, two barbers cut the hair of older visitors. A narrow staircase leads down to a basement, where a small PC cafe with a row of computers and tables for "baduk" (go) and "janggi" (Korean chess) is located. Nearly every seat is occupied by an older person. “The door is always open and we don’t ask them to do anything, including pray,” said Woo Yeon-shik, a pastor who runs the center, Dream City, which also doubles as a church. Operating near Seoul Station since 2011, Dream City draws more than 300 older people each day from across the capital. For Woo, the space increasingly serves a purpose that goes beyond its original mission of helping homeless people: giving older people somewhere to go and someone to be around. That role has become more urgent as Korea, one of the world’s fastest-aging societies, grapples with high suicide rates and social i

• Fishing boat catches fire off west coast, all 22 rescued (2026-10-31 05:57)

INCHEON — A fishing boat caught fire off the West Sea island of Yeongheung on Saturday and all 22 people aboard were rescued, with two of them taken to a hospital for inhaling smoke,

officials said. The fire broke out on the 9.77-ton charter fishing boat in waters 0.9 nautical milesouth of the island at 6:51 a.m. After receiving a distress call from the boat, the Coast Guardsent patrol and rescue boats to the scene, put out the fire and rescued all aboard. Two of them,including the boat's skipper, were taken to a hospital for inhaling smoke. Two Coast Guardofficers also inhaled smoke and planned to receive medical treatment. The Coast Guard plans toinvestigate the exact cause of the fire and the extent of damage based on witness statementsthat sparks and smoke came from the boat's passenger cabin.

- No drug-related violations found in special crackdown on eve of Halloween (2026-10-31 05:57)

Police said Saturday they have found no drug-related violations during a joint crackdown the previous night on nightlife districts in Seoul on the eve of Halloween. Police carried out inspections at eight clubs in nightlife districts in Gangnam, Seocho and Yongsan on Friday night as part of a special drug crackdown that has been under way since August in cooperation with fire and municipality authorities. "Ahead of Halloween, we conducted crackdowns focusing on clubs, entertainment venues, and areas with high concentrations of foreigners, where large crowds are expected," a police official said. "We will continue to strengthen inspections and crackdown activities in vulnerable areas." Police urged the public to actively report drug-related crimes, saying they will guarantee the anonymity of informants and rewards will be provided.

- Ruling party lawmaker issued US visa, days after refusal (2026-10-31 05:57)

Rep. Jin Sung-joon of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea said Saturday he has been issued a U.S. visa for a trip to the U.S. Pacific Command, days after he said his application was rejected. Jin, who serves as chairman of the parliamentary defense committee, said in a Facebook post that he received the visa from the U.S. Embassy in Seoul and that it was fortunate the U.S. State Department has issued the official A-2 visa, albeit belatedly. The lawmaker said he will depart Sunday afternoon and hold discussions with the U.S Pacific commander and other U.S. military leaders about strengthening bilateral security cooperation and developing a future-oriented alliance. On Wednesday, Jin had said his U.S. visa application was rejected and shared on Facebook what appeared to be a document that showed his application was refused. Jin expressed strong regret, saying the rejection was difficult to understand, given that he had visited the U.S. command in 2014 as a member of the parliamentary committee. The exact reason for the denial was unclear, but some observers note that Jin's past conviction

Source: The Korea Herald

- Musk celebrates Tesla’s top market spot in Korea (2026-11-06 12:02)

Tesla CEO Elon Musk celebrated the automaker’s continued dominance in South Korea’s fiercely competitive imported car market. On Friday, Musk reposted an image of the Korean national flag Taegeukgi modified to feature Tesla’s “T” logo. Writing “Tesla Korea” above

the shared post, Musk highlighted data showing the US EV maker maintained its top spotamong imported car brands for the ninth consecutive month. The original post noted that Teslaregistered 9,165 vehicles in October -- a 110.7 percent

• Kia to invest W3tr to build new EV facility in Gwangju (2026-11-06 11:49)

Kia said Friday that it would invest 3 trillion won ($2.21 billion) in a new electric-vehicle production facility at AutoLand Gwangju, transforming the plant into a strategic mobility base. Running through 2029, the investment is part of Hyundai Motor Group's broader commitment announced in November 2025 to inject 125.2 trillion won into domestic operations over five years. The new funding will expand the Gwangju plant's manufacturing line beyond internal combustion engine models into a primary

• China's Chery to recall 53,882 cars over rear-axle welding defect (2026-11-06 10:41)

Chery will recall 53,882 vehicles starting later this month over a manufacturing defect in the rear axle, China's market regulator said on Friday. The recall, covering Tiggo 5x and Omoda models produced between June 2022 and December 2023, stems from a rear-axle welding defect that could, in extreme cases, lead to loss of wheel control and increase crash risks, according to a company filing with the market regulator. Chery's Chair Yin Tongyue has publicly apologised over quality

• GOPAX suspends withdrawals following hacking threats (2026-11-06 10:32)

South Korean cryptocurrency exchange GOPAX said Friday it had suspended withdrawals as an emergency measure following hacking threats. The exchange said it halted withdrawals at 2:55 p.m. and was transferring most of the assets held in its so-called hot wallets to cold wallets, which are not connected to the internet. The precautionary measure was taken in response to hacking threats, and no actual loss of assets had been reported, GOPAX said. The South Korean financial sector has recently been

• Veteran tax investigator named new head of S. Korea's tax agency (2026-11-06 10:18)

Ahn Duk-su, tapped to lead South Korea's National Tax Service (NTS) on Friday, is widely regarded as a veteran tax investigator with extensive experience in tax administration and protecting taxpayers' rights. Ahn, 55, began his career in public service after passing the national civil service examination in 1996 and has since built a decadeslong career in tax administration, according to the presidential office. He has headed the NTS' Seoul Regional Office since July. Until June 2021, he oversa

• Assembly passes bill to probe alleged fabricated indictments by prosecutors under Yoon (2026-11-06 09:20)

A contested bill passed Friday that will allow investigations into alleged politically motivated actions by prosecutors under former President Yoon Suk Yeol against President Lee Jae Myung, former President Moon Jae-in and other figures. The bill, pushed by the ruling Democratic Party

of Korea, passed with 167 votes in favor and one against. Of the 300 members of the NationalAssembly, 168 lawmakers were present, as the main opposition People Power Party boycottedthe vote. The investigation wil

• Temu survey finds 9 in 10 Korean sellers report growth (2026-11-06 08:32)

More than nine in 10 Korean sellers on Temu say their businesses have improved since joining the online marketplace, according to a recent company survey. Of the more than 100 local sellers Temu polled in August, 91 percent reported gains, led by higher sales at 58 percent and new customer groups at 47 percent. Respondents also cited reduced excess inventory, better cash flow management and lower operating costs. Most respondents were small operators, with 85 percent employing fewer than 50 peop

• Incheon Airport steps up security amid bomb threats in Europe (2026-11-06 08:18)

Police at the Incheon Airport said Friday that they have stepped up security in light of the series of bomb threats targeting over a dozen flights in Europe. Officials said there had been no threat of terrorism, but they are staying vigilant by monitoring overseas cases and maintaining security protocols. "We are on constant guard all year, regardless of bomb threats targeting planes, for the safety of the passengers," an official of the airport police was quoted as saying. Airport police are tr

• Samyang Foods on track to hit W3tr in revenue as Buldak fires up US, China growth (2026-11-06 08:10)

Samyang Foods' quarterly operating profit hit a record high in the July-September period, jumping nearly 50 percent on-year on robust Buldak sales in the US and China and putting the company within reach of 3 trillion won ($2.2 billion) in annual revenue. In a regulatory filing Friday, the company reported preliminary third-quarter revenue of a record 791.8 billion won, up 25.3 percent from a year earlier. Operating profit jumped 49.9 percent to 196.2 billion won. With cumulative revenue of 2.28

• Former West Point cadet sued for drugging girlfriend, forcing abortion (2026-11-06 07:53)

A former West Point cadet of Korean descent who pleaded guilty to secretly drugging his pregnant girlfriend before forcing abortion pills into her body without her consent in 2022 was sued last week over the incident, news reports said Friday. The woman, identified as "Jane Doe" in court filings, filed a civil lawsuit against Caleb T. Suh in New York Supreme Court on Oct. 28, alleging assault and battery and seeking damages. Suh is the son of Dr. Ryung Suh, chief of staff at the Washington, D.C.

• Korean YouTuber 'Jin's Travel' dies in hit-and-run during Bolivia cycling trip (2026-11-06 07:49)

South Korean travel YouTuber Cho Jin-woo, known as "Jin's Travel," died Wednesday in a hit-and-run accident in Bolivia. He was 33. Cho was riding his bicycle in El Alto early that

morning when he was struck by a large cargo truck, according to news reports. The truck driver reportedly fled the scene but was arrested by police several hours later. He told police he had not seen Cho on his bicycle. A breath alcohol test showed no alcohol in his system. Since launching his YouTube channel in 2020,

• 25-ton truck crashes into overpass sound barrier (2026-11-06 07:49)

Three people were injured Thursday evening after a 25-metric-ton cargo truck crashed into a sound barrier on an overpass in Anyang, Gyeonggi Province, according to news reports Friday. Police said the accident occurred around 7 p.m. when the truck, traveling in the rightmost lane of a four-lane road, struck a guardrail near the entrance to Pyeongchon Interchange before colliding with a passenger car entering the expressway. The truck then veered to the right and crashed into a sound barrier. The

• Kospi plunges 6% amid brutal AI sell-off (2026-11-06 07:48)

Fears of tighter regulation on AI data center investments after the US midterm elections have rattled markets, sending South Korea’ s benchmark Kospi below the 5,000 mark at one point during intraday trading Friday. According to the Korea Exchange, the index closed at 5,059.69, down 6.02 percent from the previous session. It plunged 8.78 percent to an intraday low of 4,911.28 shortly after the opening bell, triggering a circuit breaker and a sell-sidecar in quick succession before recovering slig

• Hybe defends NewJeans' contracts amid scrutiny over leaked agreements (2026-11-06 07:24)

Ador and its parent company Hybe defended NewJeans' exclusive contracts on Friday following a US media investigation that raised questions about protections for minors, financial penalties and restrictions imposed on the members. The response came after The New York Times published an investigation Thursday examining contracts signed in 2022, when all five NewJeans members were minors. The report raised concerns about termination penalties, surveillance, the use of artists' voices and likenesses

• DAPA chief tapped as justice minister (2026-11-06 07:14)

Lee Yong-cheol, the current head of South Korea's Defense Acquisition Program Administration, was nominated as justice minister Friday, marking his second appointment to a senior government post under President Lee Jae Myung. Born in June 1960 in Sunchang, North Jeolla Province, the 66-year-old nominee graduated from Yonsei University with a law degree in 1982 and passed the national bar examination in 1989. Lee's ties to the presidential office date back to the Roh Moo-hyun administration, a pr

• Seoul stocks crash for 2nd day on AI rout after US midterms (2026-11-06 07:07)

Seoul stocks sank for the second consecutive session on Friday amid fears that a Democratic Congress could decelerate the pace of data center construction for artificial intelligence. The

Korean won was trading sharply lower against the US dollar. The benchmark Korea CompositeStock Price Index closed down 324.11 points, or 6.02 percent, at 5,059.69, falling as low as4,911.28. On Thursday, the index plunged over 5 percent. The index had plummeted over 8percent right after the opening bell, tri

• US data center backlash clouds outlook for Korean power makers (2026-11-06 06:43)

Growing voter opposition to data center construction across the US, reflected in the midterm election results, is putting pressure on South Korean power equipment makers that have been counting on the region's AI infrastructure boom. Of 41 local ballot measures related to data center construction across 10 US states, 28 proposed restrictions ranging from construction bans to temporary moratoriums and stricter regulations, according to Ballotpedia. Locals have raised concerns over electricity cos

• K-beauty shines globally, but big players face growing pains (2026-11-06 06:13)

Korean beauty's export boom shows no signs of slowing, with shipments through September nearly matching last year's total. But third-quarter earnings at the industry's biggest players paint a less rosy picture. APR, Korea's most valuable beauty company worth roughly 10 trillion won ($7.35 billion), led the pack. It doubled its third-quarter sales to a record 773.1 billion won and lifted operating profit 69 percent to 160.6 billion won, with overseas markets supplying 94 percent of revenue. Despi

• Coupang granted suspension for W201b penalty related to collecting user information (2026-11-06 06:12)

The Seoul Administrative Court on Friday granted Coupang a stay of execution for the 201.16 billion won penalty surcharge levied for the unauthorized collection of online user activities. It denied the suspension requested for the much larger penalty imposed directly for the massive data breach last year. The court accepted the e-commerce giant's request to temporarily suspend the penalty imposed by the Personal Information Protection Commission, allowing a 30-day suspension from the day the rul

• S. Korea, Timor-Leste agree to deepen ties (2026-11-06 05:52)

President Lee Jae Myung met with Timor-Leste President Jose Ramos-Horta in Seoul on Friday, with the two leaders agreeing to deepen bilateral cooperation in economic development, security and other areas. The summit at Cheong Wa Dae marked the first official visit by a Timor-Leste president since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 2002. Welcoming Ramos-Horta, Lee highlighted the two countries' shared experiences of overcoming historical adversity and defending peace and democr

• Mingles, Onjium climb World's 50 Best ranks as Korean dining gains ground (2026-11-06 05:44)

Korean fine dining climbed further up the global rankings this year. Two Seoul restaurants and a Korean tasting counter in New York all rose on The 50 Best Restaurants 2026 list. Mingles, the three-Michelin-starred restaurant led by chef Kang Min-goo, ranked No. 17, up from No. 29 last year. It is the highest-ranked restaurant in Korea. Onjium, a Korean fine dining restaurant in Jongno-gu, central Seoul, entered the top 50 at No. 41 after ranking No. 57 last year. The ranking was announced Wedne

- Social media buzzes about stocking up survival kits, but how much preparation is necessary? (2026-11-06 05:43)

Posts showing people stocking up on bottled water, food and survival supplies amid fears of war are gaining traction on social media, prompting others to wonder whether they should do the same. One user shared a shopping list that included 72 liters of bottled water, 80 packs of instant rice and 40 packets of instant noodles, along with a portable gas stove, emergency radio and power banks. Others reported purchasing gas masks, water purification tablets, protective helmets and portable toilets.

- 9 out of 10 suspects of public weapon possession not arrested: report (2026-11-06 05:41)

Only 10.3 percent of the individuals investigated for possessing illegal weapons in public areas have been placed under detention, National Police Agency data showed Friday, raising concerns over law enforcement's capacity to prevent incidents like last month's stabbing spree in Incheon. Since the Criminal Act clause was implemented on April 8, 2025, the number of people accused of possessing illegal weapons in public has reached 1,164 as of August. Of these cases, only 120 were formally arreste

- 7 out of 10 'multicultural' marriages in Korea involve foreign wives (2026-11-06 05:32)

More than 70 percent of multicultural marriages in South Korea last year involved foreign wives and Korean husbands, and husbands in over one-third of such unions were at least a decade older than their wives, government data showed Friday. According to the Ministry of Data and Statistics, marriages between Korean men and foreign women accounted for 71.4 percent of the country's 21,399 multicultural marriages in 2025, while marriages between Korean women and foreign men made up 18.9 percent. The

- Woori, MSCI chiefs discuss climate and AI (2026-11-06 05:20)

Woori Financial Group Chairman Yim Jong-yong met Henry Fernandez, chairman and chief executive of global index provider MSCI, in Seoul on Thursday to discuss climate change and artificial intelligence's impact on finance. The meeting at Woori's headquarters covered financial firms' responses to both trends, as the Korean banking group expands financing for companies' low-carbon transition and adopts AI to streamline lending assessments. Woori targets 100 trillion won ($73.7 billion) in environme

- World Bank taps 2nd Korean vice president (2026-11-06 05:20)

The World Bank Group named former Asian Development Bank executive Um Woo-chong to lead its new accountability body, making him the second South Korean appointed to a vice-presidential post at the group. Um will take office Jan. 18 as vice president and director general of the Independent Accountability Mechanism, South Korea's Finance and Economy Ministry said Friday. The group announced his appointment Wednesday. The new body will handle complaints from communities affected by World Bank Group

• Hana Financial holds first meeting with mom-and-pop investors (2026-11-06 05:11)

Hana Financial Group held its first-ever meeting with individual shareholders to discuss its plans to enhance corporate value and expand shareholder returns. The meeting took place Thursday at Place1 in Samseong-dong, southern Seoul, with around 30 individual shareholders in attendance. The event marked an expansion of the group's investor relations activities, which had previously focused mainly on overseas and institutional investors. Park Jong-moo, Hana Financial's executive vice president an

• Record-breaking El Nino raises prospect of warmer, wetter winter in Korea (2026-11-06 04:36)

The strongest El Nino on record is expected to affect the Korean Peninsula throughout winter, bringing milder and wetter conditions, the Korea Meteorological Administration said Friday. The El Nino, which started in May, is expected to strengthen the flow of warm and humid air toward Korea, potentially bringing higher temperatures and more precipitation through December. However, weather conditions could change sharply as cold air temporarily moves into the country in January, the KMA said. El N

• Gen.G, T1 keep Korea's Worlds title hopes alive (2026-11-06 04:34)

South Korea's hopes of winning the 2026 League of Legends World Championship rest on Gen.G and T1 as the tournament enters its final stages in the US. Gen.G advanced to the semifinals Thursday after defeating North America's Lyon 3-0 in the quarterfinals in Allen, Texas, extending its unbeaten run at this year's tournament. The team had advanced through the Swiss Stage without losing a series. The stage features 16 teams matched against opponents with similar win-loss records. Three victories ar

• Jennie’s latest hot springs getaway is closer to home than it looks (2026-11-06 04:30)

A khaki bikini and a private garden framed by dark stone and trees. The recent photos that Jennie of Blackpink shared on Instagram could pass for a resort far from Korea. They were actually taken in Suanbo, a quiet spa town in Chungju, North Chungcheong Province. The setting is Youonejae, a hot spring hotel where a night in the largest suite can cost more than 2 million won ($1,474). In September, it earned its first Michelin Key in the 2026 Michelin Guide Hotel Selection, one of nine Korean hot

• Firefighter saved by son, who used CPR he learned from his father (2026-11-06 04:16)

A 58-year-old firefighter suffered sudden heart problems while running, but was saved by his son, who calmly applied the emergency procedures that he had learned from his father. According to the Jeonbuk Fire Headquarters, Gimje Fire Station chief Lee Jong-ok fell into cardiac arrest while running with his son Lee Gang-hyeon at a park in Iksan, North Jeolla Province, at around 9 p.m. on Oct. 11. The younger Lee immediately called the 119 emergency service and proceeded to perform CPR on his fath

• Korea eases visa rules for foreign-born children seeking recognition of Korean parentage (2026-11-06 03:15)

Foreign nationals seeking legal recognition of their Korean parentage will be allowed to stay in South Korea for longer periods than before, and potentially obtain work permits while their lawsuits are pending, the Justice Ministry said Friday. The measure applies to foreign nationals born out of wedlock who have filed lawsuits against their Korean father or mother to establish legal parentage with them. Their caregivers would also be eligible for the new measure. Previously, those who entered K

• Illit’s ‘jellyous’ music video reaches 100m on YouTube (2026-11-06 02:41)

Illit’s music video for “jellyous” passed 100 million views on YouTube on Thursday, Belift Lab announced Friday. The music video, released in June last year, is the group's third to accomplish the feat, after “Magnetic” and “It’s Me.” Single “jellyous” is a B-side track from its third EP “bomb,” which plays on the word jelly to compare the mix of emotions felt towards a crush. The single has been associated with “You’re Under Arrest,” which the quintet dropped last month as the lead track of its

• DP leader makes public apology over Shincheonji claim amid backlash from lawmakers (2026-11-06 02:39)

Ruling Democratic Party leader Kim Min-seok issued a public apology Friday over allegations he had raised that members of a religious sect had joined the party en masse to influence the party's leadership race. The renewed apology came after Kim apologized at a closed-door meeting earlier this week, acknowledging that an internal party investigation had found no evidence to support his earlier claim that followers of the Shincheonji Church of Jesus, a nonmainstream religious sect, had colluded w

• Pyongyang accuses US of political manipulation over anti-money laundering blacklist (2026-11-06 02:37)

North Korea on Friday again accused the US and the international community of pursuing a political agenda against Pyongyang, denouncing a decision by the global anti-money laundering watchdog to keep the country on its blacklist. A spokesperson for North Korea’s Foreign Ministry said the Financial Action Task Force had become a “highly politicized” body serving what Pyongyang described as Washington’s hostile policy toward North Korea, according to the state-run Korean Central News Agency. The r

• NCT Dream to unveil new tracks in advance at listening session (2026-11-06 02:36)

NCT Dream will host a listening party in Seoul on Saturday, where it will present all tracks on its upcoming album, SM Entertainment announced Friday. The six-piece subunit is set to bring out it sixth studio album, “Dream After Dream,” on Nov. 9. All ten songs from the LP will be played and discussed at Saturday's event. On release day, the six members will host a livestream to introduce the genre-spanning set fronted by “Boogie Woogie,” which Jaemin helped write. The 10-year-old team will hold

• Mercedes-Benz overtakes BMW to rank second in imported car sales (2026-11-06 02:36)

Mercedes-Benz overtook BMW to become South Korea's second-best-selling imported car brand, marking a shift in the two leading German premium automakers' rankings. According to the Korea Automobile Importers and Distributors Association, imported passenger car registrations totaled 31,117 units in October, up 29.3 percent from a year earlier but down 10.8 percent from the previous month. January-October registrations reached 310,846 units, exceeding the 2025 full-year total of 307,377. Tesla regi

• Blackpink’s Jennie, Jisoo sing animation soundtracks (2026-11-06 02:27)

Jennie and Jisoo of Blackpink are participating in soundtracks for feature-length animated films. Jennie will sing “Someone to Hold” for the Netflix animation “Steps,” a first for the artist, according to her agency OA Entertainment on Friday. “I had so much fun working on a track for an animated film for the first time,” she told via the agency, “I loved the warm hearts and personalities of each character, and was happy to be a small part of their world.” The film, which twists the plot of Cind

• Busan shark remains unsighted for 11 days after monthlong stay in canal (2026-11-06 02:18)

Bukang-i the shark, which drew more than a million viewers while staying in a coastal canal in the southeastern city of Busan for over a month, has not been seen for 11 consecutive days, raising the possibility that it has finally headed out to the open sea. According to the National Institute of Fisheries Science and relevant agencies, no sightings of Bukang-i have been reported since Oct. 27 near the exit of the canal leading out to Busan's North Port, located about 330 kilometers southeast of

• Labor rallies, marathons to cause congestion in Seoul this weekend (2026-11-06 02:14)

Traffic congestion is expected in central Seoul this weekend due to labor rallies and marathon events, police said Friday. The Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, a major umbrella labor union, plans to hold a preliminary rally near the Seoul Regional Employment and Labor Office in downtown Seoul at 1 p.m. on Saturday, according to the Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency. KCTU members will then march through downtown Seoul before holding their main rally for about an hour on the road between Sungn

• Incheon Airport puts Korean airport technology on global stage (2026-11-06 02:08)

Incheon International Airport Corp. said Friday it showcased its smart airport technologies at Asia’s largest airport trade show this week, in a bid to win new markets and grow its business abroad. The state-run operator joined Super Terminal Expo 2026, held in Hong Kong from Tuesday through Thursday, where some 120 global brands from about 60 countries and around 6,000 aviation industry professionals gathered. At a joint booth with partner companies, themed around artificial intelligence and ad

• Shin Ramyun takes to the streets of India (2026-11-06 02:04)

Nongshim is boosting brand awareness and expanding its market presence by bringing its signature spicy ramyeon closer to Indian consumers. From Oct. 30 to Nov. 22, a Shin Ramyun food truck will tour four northeastern cities, including Guwahati, Shillong, Aizawl and Agartala, visiting 20 locations such as university campuses and major commercial districts. India's monsoon season, which brings rainy weather and cooler conditions, makes warm, brothy noodle dishes particularly appealing, giving Shin

• Lions holding edge in Korean Series bullpen battle despite missing star closer (2026-11-06 02:01)

Before the Korean Series started this week, it appeared as though the KT Wiz would have an advantage in the battle of the bullpens over the Samsung Lions. After all, the Wiz boasted their All-Star closer Park Yeong-hyun, who finished third in the Korea Baseball Organization with 30 saves in the regular season. The Lions, on the other hand, were without their own All-Star closer Kim Jae-yoon, who led the league with 35 saves but was ruled out of the postseason in October due to an upper body inju

• Lee's approval rating tops 40% for 1st time since late Aug.: poll (2026-11-06 01:57)

President Lee Jae Myung's approval rating rose slightly to 41 percent, a poll showed Friday, marking the first time in over two months that the figure exceeded 40 percent. The survey, conducted by Gallup Korea from Tuesday through Thursday on 1,001 people aged 18 and older, showed that positive assessments of Lee's performance rose 2 percentage points from a week earlier. Negative assessments also rose 1 percentage point to 50 percent. Lee's approval rating last exceeded 40 percent in the last w

• Korea designates 2 'urgently-needed medical devices' for dialysis of babies (2026-11-06 01:48)

South Korean government on Friday designated two devices developed by US-based companies as crucial medical supplies, as it seeks to improve dialysis treatment for newborns and young children. According to the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety, two medical devices have been designated as scarce or in urgent need of introduction: PD Catheter from Merit Medical and Dialy-Nate Set & Dialy-Nate Catheter from Utah Medical Products. Officials stressed that treating kidney failure is especially crucial

• This viral Santa recruitment notice can only be deciphered by Korean adults (2026-11-06 01:43)

This viral Santa recruitment notice can only be deciphered by Korean adults null Keeping the magic of Santa Claus alive takes some effort and creativity, especially when children are old enough to read. This is why, at an apartment complex in Goyang, Gyeonggi Province, residents are once again being again being recruited to play Santa through a deliberately coded notice.

• Stray Kids' LeeKnow to enlist early next year. (2026-11-06 01:31)

LeeKnow of Stray Kids will likely begin his mandatory military service by March at the latest, label JYP Entertainment announced on Thursday. Though he may not be able to attend activities scheduled for the first quarter of 2027, he will stay in touch with his fans through a range of content and individual activities, the company added, seeking understanding for the surprise announcement. The 28-year-old performer is the eldest of the group's eight members and will be the first to enlist. He deb

• Stalking suspect murders woman; arrest warrant turned down due to poor health (2026-11-06 01:18)

A man in his 60s murdered his former girlfriend on Thursday, months after the prosecution turned down suggestions to have him arrested for stalking. The victim, a woman in her 70s, was reported to the police as missing at around 6:40 a.m. on Thursday. Police tracked her mobile phone and found the victim's body inside the home of the suspect, who was unconscious. It was found that the victim reported the suspect multiple times for stalking. She reported him in June for waiting outside her workpla

• N. Korea says Japan's push to raise defense spending will only burden its people (2026-11-06 01:00)

North Korea on Friday criticized Japan's push to increase defense spending, saying it will darken prospects of Japan's economic recovery and impose "heavy hardships" on its people. In an article carried by the official Korean Central News Agency, a researcher at the Institute for Japan Studies under the North's foreign ministry, issued the criticism, following reports that Tokyo is considering nearly doubling its defense expenditures over the next five years. The North has long responded sensiti

• Seoul stocks open sharply lower on AI fears after US midterms (2026-11-06 00:55)

Seoul stocks opened sharply lower Friday, tracking an overnight rout on Wall Street as investors feared a Democratic sweep in Congress could decelerate the data center build-out. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index was down 460.33 points, or 8.55 percent, to 4,923.47 as of 9:25 a.m. After opening over 2 percent lower, Seoul's bourse operator had issued a circuit breaker soon after the opening bell, suspending trading for 20 minutes, as the benchmark index came under heavy selling pre

• Deputy FM meets British lawmakers for talks on N. Korea, Ukraine (2026-11-06 00:52)

Deputy Foreign Minister Chung Eui-hae has met with a delegation of British lawmakers to discuss bilateral relations and major regional issues, including the Korean Peninsula and the war in Ukraine, Seoul's foreign ministry said Friday. Chung met with a six-member delegation, led by Alicia Kearns of the House of Commons and including two members of the House of Lords, Godfrey Bewicke-Copley and Tessa Blackstone, in Seoul the previous day, according to the ministry. The two sides exchanged views o

• Lee set for summit with East Timor President Horta on strengthening ties (2026-11-06 00:47)

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung was set to hold a summit with East Timorese President Jose Ramos-Horta on Friday to discuss ways to strengthen cooperation between their countries. Horta, the 1996 recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, arrived in South Korea the previous day for a three-day trip at Lee's invitation, marking the first visit to South Korea by an East Timorese leader since the two countries established diplomatic relations in 2002. During Friday's summit, the two leaders are expec

• Melania Trump calls for lasting peace after brokering local Russia-Ukraine ceasefire (2026-11-06 00:44)

US first lady Melania Trump on Thursday called for continued cooperation between Russia and Ukraine toward lasting peace after helping broker a local ceasefire in southern Ukraine last month. Speaking at the White House with representatives from both countries in attendance, the first lady highlighted the humanitarian achievements of the recent ceasefire in Oleshky in Ukraine's southern Kherson region. The ceasefire, which began Oct. 27, lasted six days, according to foreign media reports. "Ever

• USFK chief, Japanese defense minister discuss regional defense cooperation (2026-11-06 00:35)

The commander of US Forces Korea has met with Japan's defense minister to discuss defense cooperation among allies and like-minded countries in the Indo-Pacific region, according to Japan's defense ministry. Gen. Xavier Brunson, who also leads the United Nations Command and South Korea-US Combined Forces Command, paid a courtesy call on Japanese Defense Minister Shinjiro Koizumi in Tokyo, according to a post on the ministry's official X account. The post showed that US Ambassador to Japan George

• Trading of KOSPI stocks suspended amid tech sell-off (2026-11-06 00:29)

South Korea's bourse operator on Friday activated a circuit breaker for the benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index on an extended sell-off in tech shares. Trading of KOSPI-listed shares was halted for 20 minutes from 9:03, as the index plunged more than 8 percent from the previous session's close. The benchmark index came under heavy selling pressure following a tech rout on Wall Street, triggered by concerns that Democrats' sweeping victory in the US

midterms could slow down the pace of th

• Samsung, SK hynix slide 10% as AI data center fears spread (2026-11-06 00:28)

Blue-chip semiconductor stocks plunged around 10 percent during intraday trading Friday, dragging the benchmark Kospi below the 5,000-point mark as investor sentiment was rattled by a sharp overnight sell-off in major technology stocks on Wall Street following the US midterm elections. The benchmark Kospi opened at 5,263.63, down 2.2 percent from its previous close. Losses deepened, triggering a 20-minute trading halt just three minutes into the regular session. The first-stage circuit breaker k

• Movies in theaters this week (2026-11-06 00:00)

“Wild Horse Nine” (UK/US) Opened Nov. 4 Comedy/Thriller Directed by Martin McDonagh Shortly before the 1973 coup in Chile, two CIA officers (John Malkovich and Sam Rockwell) head to Easter Island on a classified assignment. “Final Interview” (South Korea) Opened Nov. 4 Mystery/Thriller Directed by Kim Jung-hoon Six candidates reach the final interview at a top tech company, where a mysterious envelope reveals a secret about each of them. Based on Akinari Asakura’s novel. “Heart of the Beast” (US

• [Graphic News] Seoul ranks third globally in AI cities index, tops AI adoption (2026-11-05 23:00)

Seoul ranked third overall and first in artificial intelligence adoption and use in the 2026 AI Cities Index released by The Observer, according to the Seoul Metropolitan Government. The San Francisco Bay Area topped the ranking, followed by New York, while Seoul placed ahead of Beijing, Paris and London. The index evaluated 57 cities across 36 countries in three AI categories: investment, innovation, and adoption and use. It drew on 50 indicators, combining quantitative data with qualitative fi

• [Lee Byung-jong] Korea needs to join CPTPP (2026-11-05 20:30)

Can an extremely trade-dependent country afford to remain outside the most important free trade agreement in its region? Unfortunately, that is what South Korea appears to be trying to do. President Lee Jae Myung recently announced that his government is unlikely to join the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership during his term, which ends in 2030. Citing concerns about the agreement's harmful effects on agriculture and other sectors, he said Korea would not apply

• Lee floats going live from his office at ‘The President’s Y’ premiere (2026-11-05 12:25)

President Lee Jae Myung said he was considering an unconventional way to bring the public closer to the presidency: going live from his office, without warning. “I'm thinking of occasionally going live without warning, even from my office,” Lee said in the debut episode of a new presidential YouTube program, “The President's Y,” which premiered Thursday at 9 p.m. “I'm thinking I might go live occasionally, even from my office, without announcing it in

advance.” Son Jeong-eun, a former television

• Sewol ferry sinking archive, ancient cookbooks added to regional UNESCO list (2026-11-05 11:34)

An archive documenting the 2014 Sewol ferry sinking and ancient Korean cookbooks have been added to a regional list of the UNESCO Memory of the World program Thursday. The "Danwon High School 4.16 Archive: Records of Citizens' Memory and Healing Movements" was granted inscription at a general meeting of the UNESCO Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific held in Jakarta. The "Suunjapbang and Eumsikdimibang: Community Archives of Traditional Korean Culinary Knowledge," another submi

• N. Korean fishing boat found in waters off Ulleungdo (2026-11-05 11:27)

South Korean military said Thursday that a fishing boat from North Korea has been found in the East Sea and is currently under investigation. The Korea Coast Guard and the military discovered the boat drifting in international waters north of Ulleungdo on Tuesday, according to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The military identified the boat and conducted a search and inspection with the coast guard. The JCS said related agencies are now conducting a joint investigation on the boat. It did not reveal

• Appellate ruling for Yoon Suk Yeol's insurrection to be made on Jan. 26 (2026-11-05 10:49)

The Seoul High Court said Thursday that the ruling for former President Yoon Suk Yeol's insurrection charge will be made at 2:30 p.m. on Jan. 26, at the final hearing for the appellate trial. Wrapping up the high-profile trial, final statements were made by both the prosecution and the defendants. The defense included Yoon, former Defense Minister Kim Yong-hyun, retired military intelligence commander Noh Sang-won, former National Police Agency chief Cho Ji-ho, and former Seoul Metropolitan Poli

• Korean galleries expand presence at Art Taipei (2026-11-05 10:45)

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Art Taipei concluded its 33rd edition Monday, bringing together international galleries and emerging Taiwanese artists while highlighting growing connections among art markets across Asia. Organized by the Taiwan Art Gallery Association, the four-day event drew 127 galleries to the Taipei World Trade Center. Under the theme "Symbiosis," the fair explored the relationship between art, technology and contemporary life through works ranging from traditional painting and sculpture t

• Court rejects Coupang's request to suspend execution of breach-related penalty (2026-11-05 10:29)

A South Korean court on Thursday shot down Coupang's request for a stay of execution for the 423.58 billion won ($315.72 million) penalty surcharge imposed for a massive data breach last year. The Seoul Administrative Court partially accepted the e-commerce giant's request to suspend measures levied by the Personal Information Protection Commission: the penalty and

orders to implement corrective measures regarding the protection of customer information. The court granted a 30-day suspension of t

• Bae, Kim & Lee bolsters antitrust practice with 3 new lawyers, expanded data analytics center (2026-11-05 10:19)

South Korean law firm Bae, Kim & Lee (BKL) has strengthened its antitrust and competition practice by hiring three lawyers and expanding its economic analysis center to incorporate data science capabilities, the firm said Thursday. The firm has reorganized its Center for Law and Economics, established in 2021, into the Center for Economics and Data Analytics (CEDA), bringing together lawyers, economists and data scientists to handle increasingly complex competition cases. The expanded center wil

• Doctors demand protective measures after knife attack on psychiatrist (2026-11-05 09:54)

South Korea's largest association of doctors on Thursday called for effective measures to protect the safety of medical staff, in light of the recent knife attack against a psychiatrist. "The government and the National Assembly must diverge from the current method of ‘patching things’ up, focusing on punishment after the crime. They must set up safety measures so that medical circles will not be intimidated (by threats)," the Korean Medical Association said in a media briefing Thursday. The gro

• Uncollected duty-free goods amount to W307b since 2022 (2026-11-05 09:00)

Duty-free goods worth about 307.6 billion won ($229 million) went uncollected at pickup counters in South Korean airports and ports from 2022 through September 2026, according to Korea Customs Service data obtained by Rep. Hwang Hee of the Democratic Party of Korea. The customs agency recorded 1.13 million cases over the period. Incheon Airport accounted for 82.8 percent of the cases and 83.7 percent of the total value. Travelers who buy goods online or at downtown duty-free shops can collect th

• Seoul’s most architectural cafes are made for more than coffee (2026-11-05 08:58)

A cup of coffee in Seoul can come with a sweeping view of Namsan, a shortcut up a 15-meter cliff or a seat inside a former oil depot. A handful of the city’s cafes are drawing visitors for their architecture as much as their menus, each recognized by the Seoul Architecture Awards. The awards were first held in 1979 and are now in their 44th edition. They honor buildings and spaces that serve the public and improve residents’ quality of life. The Seoul Metropolitan Government describes them as th

• New website lets Koreans rate police investigations like restaurants (2026-11-05 08:53)

A new website lets people rate and review police units after their cases are handled. Police Map went live Wednesday and lists nearly 2,900 units at 263 police stations across South Korea. It describes itself as a platform for people with firsthand experience of police investigations, including complainants, witnesses and defense attorneys. Users can score units on a five-point

scale across five categories, including whether officers followed procedures, how theyconducted questioning and how qu

• US midterm outcome won't affect alliance, Cheong Wa Dae says (2026-11-05 08:46)

South Korea's presidential office said Thursday that the US midterm election results would not affect the bilateral alliance, pledging close cooperation with the US administration and Congress. “The Korea-US alliance is a relationship that has developed into a strong and steadfast partnership over more than 70 years, with bipartisan support from the US,” senior presidential spokesperson Kang Yu-jung said during a press briefing. “We do not believe the outcome of any particular election will affe

• Katseye’s first arena tour tested by repeated health absences (2026-11-05 08:40)

Katseye’s first arena tour has hit another health-related setback, adding to a months-long string of illnesses, injuries and absences that has repeatedly left the six-member group performing with a reduced lineup. The group postponed its Detroit concert at Little Caesars Arena on Tuesday after Megan became ill and was unable to perform. The announcement came just 30 minutes before the show's scheduled start, and many concertgoers had already entered the arena and taken their seats. Little Caesar

• KT&G; on track for W7tr revenue after record quarterly earnings (2026-11-05 08:34)

KT&G posted record quarterly revenue of more than 1.9 trillion won ($1.4 billion) amid robust overseas cigarette sales and a thriving heated tobacco business, while pledging bigger shareholder returns over the next four years. The South Korean tobacco maker said Thursday that in the July-September period, consolidated revenue rose 4.3 percent from a year earlier to 1.91 trillion won, while operating profit climbed 13.9 percent to 530.1 billion won, both all-time quarterly highs. For the full yea

• Handball gymnasium protests face deadline to leave (2026-11-05 08:32)

Several tents and other makeshift structures remained outside the Handball Gymnasium at Olympic Park in Songpa-gu, Seoul, on Thursday, the deadline for demonstrators to leave voluntarily. Some tents had been dismantled, and the number of protesters had dwindled considerably. The gymnasium, which served as a ballot-counting center during the June 3 local elections, became the focus of months-long protests over ballot shortages at several polling stations, including those in Seoul's Songpa-gu dist

• 'The Devil’s Plan' Season 3 reunites champions, controversial winners (2026-11-05 08:16)

Forget rookies, the masters are back. Netflix Korea's entertainment show franchise "The Devil’s Plan" took global Netflix charts by storm in 2023 with a simple, unique premise: Throw lawyers, gamers, science YouTubers, and K-pop idols into an intellectual war zone and see who survives. Previous seasons pitted prominent figures — including Go legend Lee Se-dol — against one another in complex board and memory challenges. Now, star producer Jung

Jong-yeon ("The Genius," "The Great Escape") returns

• Kakao delays split, speeds up W150b share buyback (2026-11-05 08:16)

Kakao has pushed back its planned corporate split by one month to February 2027, as a preliminary relisting review by the Korea Exchange takes longer than expected, while accelerating a 150 billion won ($112 million) share buyback and cancellation plan to bolster shareholder confidence ahead of the restructuring. The company said Thursday that its board had approved the revised schedule, delaying the separation into Kakao AI and Kakao X from Jan. 1 to Feb. 1. An extraordinary shareholders meetin

• Korean traditions find new expressions at K-Lifestyle Platform Preview (2026-11-05 08:14)

Traditions meet contemporary sensibilities at the K-Lifestyle Platform Preview, where modern designs and ideas reinterpret traditional Korean culture. Organized by the Korea Craft and Design Foundation and hosted by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, the exhibition brings together 69 traditional culture businesses presenting products inspired by Korean traditions. Collections span crafts, lifestyle products, fashion, food and beverages. Participating businesses include Mujagi, Somoksob

• Korea seeks another delay to crypto tax until 2029 (2026-11-05 07:36)

South Korea plans to push back cryptocurrency income taxation by another two years to 2029, the government said Thursday, responding to calls for more time to prepare time and proposing to let investors carry losses forward for up to three years. Finance and Economy Minister Lee Hyeong-il said the government would work with the National Assembly to postpone the introduction of the tax, which is due to take effect in January. If approved, the move would mark the fourth delay since the tax was leg

• Seoul shares plunge over 5% on AI regulation concerns after US midterms (2026-11-05 07:30)

South Korean stocks plunged more than 5 percent Thursday as the Democratic Party's landslide in the US midterm elections sparked concerns over tighter regulations on artificial intelligence investments. The local currency fell against the US dollar. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index fell 300 points, or 5.28 percent, to close at 5,383.80. After opening 1.82 percent lower, the index extended losses in the morning, and the bourse operator activated a sell-side sidecar at 10:16 a.m. to

• In Myeong-dong, street vendors take your trash (2026-11-05 07:18)

In Seoul’s Myeong-dong shopping district, visitors looking for somewhere to toss a coffee cup or snack wrapper can hand it to a street vendor, even if they didn't buy anything at the stall. A total 364 vendors participating in a local cleanup campaign have agreed to accept trash from food and drinks bought elsewhere. The Seoul Metropolitan Government has distributed signs in English, Japanese and Chinese to help visitors identify participating stalls, and the Seoul Tourism

Organization is promot

• [단독] 軍, 작년부터 동해 이지스함 상시배치 중단…北 미사일 정보수집 영향 우려 (2026-11-05 07:06)

우리 군이 지난해 9월부터 동해상 이지스구축함의 상시 배치를 중단한 것으로 확인됐다. 북한이 다양한 종류의 미사일 시험을 이어가는 가운데, 미사일의 세부 제원을 파악하기 위한 추가적인 비행정보 수집에 제약이 생길 수 있다는 우려가 나온다. 군 당국은 기존 감시자산만으로도 미사일 탐지·추적과 방어태세를 충분히 유지할 수 있다는 입장이다. 다만 군 내부 일각에서는 미사일 방어에 필요한 정보 확보와 북한 미사일의 성능을 분석하기 위한 정보 수집은 구분해서 봐야 한다는 지적이 제기된다. 복수의 군 관계자에 따르면 해군은 2025년 9월 인력 부족과 함정의 장기간 해상 운용에 따른 부담 등을 이유로 합동참모본부에 동해상 이지스함 상시 배치 중단을 요청했고, 합참은 이를 승인했다. 당시 합참의장은 해군 출신인 김명수 대장이었으며, 같은 해 9월 30일 진영승 공군 대장이 후임 합참의장으로 취임했다. 우리 해군은 현재 이지스구축함 4척을 운용하고 있다. 이지스함은 장거리에서 탄도미사일을 탐지·추

• FM Cho to attend G7 foreign ministers' meeting in Paris next week (2026-11-05 06:59)

Foreign Minister Cho Hyun will visit Paris next week to attend the Group of Seven (G7) foreign ministers' meeting, the foreign ministry said Thursday. This year's second G7 ministerial meeting, scheduled for Monday to Tuesday in Marseille, is expected to address key global challenges, including artificial intelligence (AI) and developments in the Middle East, following the G7 leaders' summit in June, according to the ministry. South Korea will attend the meeting at the invitation of France, whic

• Shin Sug-ok is always ready for a fight (2026-11-05 06:57)

Lately, Shin Sug-ok has found herself to be something of a social media star in Korea. In the short clip that has now drawn over 10 million views, a right-wing pundit on a late-’90s Japanese talk show argues that the “comfort women,” the women forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese military during World War II, are only after money when they demand an apology. The woman across from him never raises her voice, but she wastes no time putting him in his place. In the even, courteous tone of a d

• DP seeks probe into prosecutors who targeted Lee, Moon (2026-11-05 06:56)

The ruling Democratic Party of Korea is stepping up its push for a new special counsel probe into prosecutors' alleged power abuse concerning cases of President Lee Jae Myung and former President Moon Jae-in. The ruling party submitted the bill for a vote Thursday despite conservative opposition and will likely push the bill through with its majority in parliament on Friday. The liberal ruling party has claimed the bill seeks to rectify politically motivated prosecutions against Lee and Moon. Th

• Samsung Electronics faces push for sixth labor union amid alleged internal rifts (2026-11-05 06:50)

A sixth labor union is being formed at Samsung Electronics Co., labor officials said Thursday, following reported internal divisions among existing union members. According to the tech giant's largest labor union, which has a membership largely comprising employees in the company's lucrative semiconductor division, an application to establish a union was filed with the labor ministry the previous day. The largest union said the proposed union is being pursued by former and current leaders of the

- S. Korea joins as co-sponsor of UN resolution on N. Korean human rights (2026-11-05 06:38)

South Korea has decided to co-sponsor this year's UN General Assembly resolution on North Korean human rights, which calls for an end to human rights violations in the reclusive country while stressing the importance of dialogue with Pyongyang, the foreign ministry said Thursday. The resolution, proposed by the European Union (EU), is currently under review by the Third Committee of the UN General Assembly in New York and is expected to be adopted by the committee around Nov. 18-19. "As it is cr

- Financial firms weigh tougher cyber controls for executives (2026-11-05 06:35)

South Korean financial firms are considering tighter cybersecurity oversight for senior executives next year, including more detailed security responsibilities and compliance checks, as a wave of data breaches puts pressure on corporate leadership to strengthen internal controls. The proposed measures would go beyond assigning cybersecurity tasks on paper, placing greater emphasis on how executives monitor security risks, to demonstrate that they are fulfilling their obligations under the countr

- [Exclusive] S. Korea scales back Aegis patrols in East Sea, raising concerns over North Korean missile analysis (2026-11-05 06:30)

South Korea suspended the continuous deployment of Aegis destroyers in the East Sea in September last year, raising concerns that the decision could limit the military's ability to gather detailed flight data on North Korean missiles as Pyongyang continues to test an increasingly diverse range of weapons. The military says its existing surveillance assets are sufficient to sustain missile detection, tracking and defense readiness. But some officials have raised concerns about reduced opportuniti

- BOK chief to attend BIS governors' meeting in Switzerland (2026-11-05 06:22)

Bank of Korea (BOK) Gov. Shin Hyun-song will depart for the Swiss city of Basel this week to attend meetings with central bank governors from member nations of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS), his office said Thursday. During his six-day visit starting Friday, Shin is scheduled to join fellow central bank chiefs from BIS members in discussions on recent developments in the global economy and financial markets through the Global Economy Meeting, the Meeting of Governors from Major Em

• Multicultural marriages in S. Korea edge down in 2025 (2026-11-05 06:18)

The number of multicultural marriages in South Korea edged down in 2025 from a year earlier, data showed Thursday, taking up 8.9 percent of all marriages. The country recorded 21,399 multicultural marriages last year, down 0.2 percent, or 51, from 21,450 in 2024, according to data from the Ministry of Data and Statistics. Marriages involving foreign wives accounted for 71.4 percent of multicultural marriages, followed by those with foreign husbands at 18.9 percent and those with naturalized citi

• Weakened at home, ambitious abroad: Could Trump revive diplomacy with Kim Jong-un? (2026-11-05 06:16)

The heavy Republican defeat in the midterm elections could prompt opposing reactions from US President Donald Trump and North Korea, fanning eagerness from the former and reluctance in the latter to seek a breakthrough in top-level diplomacy, experts say. With Democrats having wrested control of both chambers of the US Congress in Tuesday's midterm elections — securing at least 54 Senate seats and surpassing the 218-seat threshold needed for a House majority — Trump faces a difficult final two y

• Korean traditional paper moves closer to UNESCO heritage recognition (2026-11-05 06:13)

South Korea's centuries-old papermaking tradition, known as hanji, is closer to UNESCO recognition after an evaluation body recommended its inscription on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity on Thursday. The recommendation covers " Traditional knowledge and skills associated with the production of hanji and related cultural practices in the Republic of Korea." The final decision will be made by the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangi

• One taekwondo, two Koreas: The irony of a heritage divided by politics (2026-11-05 06:13)

South Korea's efforts to secure a UNESCO inscription of taekwondo with North Korea appear to have effectively stalled, as Pyongyang moves closer to having the traditional martial art recognized under its name alone. North Korea is expected to have taekwondo inscribed on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list this year after an evaluation body in Paris recommended approval of its nomination on Wednesday. The episode exposes another facet of Korea's division: A martial art rooted in a shared h

• TirTir's Seongsu flagship wins Red Dot Design Award (2026-11-05 06:04)

K-beauty brand TirTir's flagship store in Seongsu-dong, eastern Seoul, won in the Brands & Communication Design category of the Red Dot Design Award 2026. The Germany-based Red Dot is often grouped with Germany's iF Design Award and the US' Idea as one of the world's three major design awards. It honors work ranging from product design to brand identity and communication design. The store was developed under the concept "Shade Valley," which the brand describes as a space for defining beauty on

• Korea prepares to host half a million young pilgrims in Seoul for World Youth Day (2026-11-05 06:04)

South Korea is preparing to welcome half a million young Catholics from around the world for World Youth Day Seoul 2027, a landmark gathering that will bring the global Catholic community to a non-Christian-majority country for the first time, along with an expected visit by the pope. The organizing committee, headed by Archbishop Peter Chung Soon-taick, presented its plans for the six-day event slated for next August at a press conference on Thursday at Myeongdong Cathedral in central Seoul. Th

• No talks yet on sanctions over N. Korea's alleged Binance theft (2026-11-05 06:04)

The government has not begun discussing sanctions on North Korea over its alleged theft of a massive amount of cryptocurrency, a unification ministry official said Thursday. "As of now, the government has not fully grasped the exact circumstances of the hacking case, so a discussion on how to respond to it has not even begun," the official told reporters at the government complex in Seoul. "Internal sharing and discussion inside the government are needed, but we have not reached that stage," the

• Hanroro releases new single 'Question Mark' (2026-11-05 06:00)

Singer-songwriter Hanroro released her new single "Question Mark" on Thursday. The song deals with conflicting emotions in personal relationships, including affection, resentment and regret, continuing Hanroro's exploration of the difficulties and uncertainties of young adulthood. Ahead of the release, Hanroro shared a synopsis on social media last month, outlining a story involving two childhood friends who meet at a swimming school and grow up sharing their dreams. Their friendship deteriorate

• Lee commends Korean team's No. 2 finish at world skills event, vows support (2026-11-05 05:58)

President Lee Jae Myung on Thursday commended the South Korean team's No. 2 finish at this year's WorldSkills Competition, calling human skills a matter of national competitiveness and pledging support to nurture the field. The president made the remarks at a lunch meeting with the Korean team, which finished second at the 48th WorldSkills Competition, held in Shanghai in September. The biennial competition is regarded as the world's largest vocational skills event. " If skills are a matter of So

• Financial policymakers to monitor US AI, trade policies following election (2026-11-05 05:53)

South Korea's key financial policymakers on Thursday vowed to closely monitor potential changes in US policies on artificial intelligence (AI) and trade and their implications for the South Korean economy. Finance Minister Lee Hyoung-il discussed the issues with Bank of Korea (BOK) Gov. Shin Hyun-song, Financial Services Commission Chairman Lee Eog-weon and Financial Supervisory Service Gov. Lee Chan-jin after the US Democratic Party secured a huge

win in the midterm elections this week. During

• US copyright lawsuit over BTS song 'Swim' dropped (2026-11-05 05:49)

American songwriters who earlier claimed that South Korean superband BTS' chart-topping song "Swim" was copied from their own demo have withdrawn their claims in a US lawsuit, a report showed Thursday. The attorneys for the accusers, who are three little-known songwriters, requested the judge to dismiss the lawsuit in its entirety in a court filing dated Wednesday, according to the Billboard. The move comes about four months after the songwriters -- Steve Cooper, Jon Sandler and Greylyn Johnson

• Lee calls for crackdown on smart glasses cheating ahead of college entrance exam (2026-11-05 05:48)

President Lee Jae Myung has called for tougher measures to prevent cheating with smart glasses and other advanced electronic devices ahead of South Korea's annual college entrance exam. Lee stressed the need to ensure a fair testing environment for students preparing for the 2027 College Scholastic Ability Test, or Suneung, scheduled for Nov. 19. “The government must make every effort to manage examination sites so that all test-takers can demonstrate their abilities in a safe and fair environme

• Korean battery-makers gain ground in North American ESS market (2026-11-05 05:47)

South Korean battery-makers are gaining ground in North America's fast-growing energy storage system market, as tighter trade restrictions on Chinese products create new opportunities for Korean suppliers. LG Energy Solution and Samsung SDI captured a combined 20.9 percent of the North American ESS battery market in the first nine months of this year, up from 13.4 percent a year earlier, according to market tracker SNE Research. LG Energy Solution led the gains, with shipments surging 71 percent

• Ban Hyo-jin, Park Ha-jun win bronze in 10m air rifle mixed team at world championships (2026-11-05 05:43)

South Korean shooters Ban Hyo-jin and Park Ha-jun won bronze in the 10-meter air rifle mixed team event at the 2026 International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Championships in Doha, Qatar. Ban, who secured a quota place for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics by winning gold in the women's individual 10-meter air rifle event, added another medal in the mixed team competition. Ban of Daegu Public Facilities Management Corp. and Park of KT each scored 317.2 points in Wednesday's qualification

• Record 51 red cards issued after brawl at Brazilian youth soccer match (2026-11-05 05:42)

A record 51 red cards were issued following a mass brawl during a youth soccer match in Brazil. According to the BBC and other media outlets Wednesday, a fight broke out during the first leg of the semifinals of the Minas Gerais Under-20 Championship between Uberlandia and Mamore, resulting in the dismissal of 43 players and eight coaching staff members. The incident

broke the previous record of 36 dismissals in a single match, set in 2011 during an Argentinefifth-division game between Club Atl

• Hwang In-beom assists within two minutes of coming on as Porto earns first Champions League win (2026-11-05 05:42)

FC Porto secured its first victory in the 2026-27 UEFA Champions League league phase with a 4-1 win over Napoli, aided by an assist from South Korean national team midfielder Hwang In-beom. Porto defeated the Italian club at Estadio do Dragao in Porto, Portugal, on Wednesday. It was the first time Porto had scored at least three goals in a Champions League match since its 5-3 victory over Shakhtar Donetsk of Ukraine in December 2023. After losing its first three league-phase matches, Porto impro

• Son Heung-min ranks second behind Messi in MLS jersey sales for second straight year (2026-11-05 05:42)

South Korean soccer star Son Heung-min, 34, of Los Angeles FC (LAFC) ranked second in Major League Soccer (MLS) jersey sales in 2026, finishing behind Lionel Messi for the second consecutive year. MLS announced its top 10 best-selling jerseys for 2026 on its official website Wednesday, saying that Messi of Inter Miami and Son led the league in sales. The rankings were based on sales recorded through MLSstore.com from Jan. 1 to Oct. 30. However, the league did not disclose exact sales figures. Me

• Samsung honors top researchers in W1.2tr science funding program (2026-11-05 05:42)

Samsung Electronics on Thursday named 10 outstanding researchers from its long-running research funding program, marking the first time the company has presented such honors since launching the 1.2 trillion-won ($893 million) initiative in 2013. The awards were announced at Samsung's annual research forum at The Westin Seoul Parnas in southern Seoul, where some 450 researchers, industry experts and policymakers gathered to discuss breakthroughs in basic science, next-generation batteries and art

• Basic pension recipients with multiple citizenships more than double (2026-11-05 05:40)

The number of recipients of South Korea’s basic pension who also hold foreign citizenship more than doubled in four years, topping 8,000 in 2025, according to a National Assembly Budget Office report. The budget office warned that gaps in verifying overseas income and assets could lead to unequal treatment. Under a law promulgated in October, people applying for the basic pension from April 21, 2027, will generally need to have lived in South Korea for at least five years after turning 19. The n

• Korean iPhone Duo owners recount screen failures, delayed replacements (2026-11-05 05:38)

Apple’s first foldable iPhone is facing fresh durability concerns after two South Korean customers reported that their devices’ inner screens cracked while being unfolded, just days

after purchase. Both customers received free replacements, but only after delays at Apple-authorized service centers. Neither was given an explanation for the failures, according to interviews and service records obtained by The Korea Herald. Since the Duo's Oct. 23 launch, buyers in several countries have reported h

• Posco, Korea University cut voltage loss in next-gen battery cathodes (2026-11-05 05:37)

Posco Holdings and Korea University have developed a new manufacturing method that could improve the performance and lifespan of next-generation lithium-ion batteries by adjusting heat-treatment temperatures without changing the materials' chemical composition. The research, conducted by a team led by Korea University materials science and engineering professor Park Hyuk-jun and Posco Holdings' N.EX.T Hub research institute, focuses on lithium-manganese-rich cathodes, a promising alternative for

• Samsung Biologics union to launch second strike despite court injunction (2026-11-05 05:32)

Samsung Biologics' labor union is set to launch a second strike Friday, with about 400 workers expected to walk out despite a court injunction restricting industrial action at the company's production facilities. The strike, scheduled to run through Nov. 27, marks a fresh escalation in a monthslong wage dispute that has already cost the drug manufacturer an estimated 150 billion won ($112 million) in losses. The walkout will initially involve employees in quality control, quality assurance and l

• Merck bets on Asia growth with $338m Korea investment (2026-11-05 05:31)

German science and technology giant Merck is betting big on Korea as a manufacturing hub for Asia's booming biopharmaceutical industry, investing 300 million euros ($337 million) in a new production center in Daejeon. The facility, Merck's largest life science investment in Asia-Pacific to date, is central to its "in-region, for-region" strategy, aimed at reducing reliance on manufacturing sites in the US and Europe while tapping Asia's rapidly expanding biotech market. "Asia, including Korea an

• SK hynix puts Chey Tae-won at helm of $10b US AI investment arm (2026-11-05 05:15)

SK hynix has named its US-based artificial intelligence investment arm Hyaico Corp., with SK Group Chairman Chey Tae-won taking the board chairmanship to oversee investments of up to $10 billion in the US AI industry. The chipmaker disclosed the name and leadership lineup in a filing with the US Securities and Exchange Commission on Tuesday, formalizing plans announced in January under the provisional name AI Co. SK hynix President Song Hyun-jong will serve as Hyaico's CEO. The board will also i

• K-water promotes Korean water tech at Asia Water Council (2026-11-05 05:11)

Korea Water Resources Corporation, also known as K-water, is stepping up efforts to bring Korean water management technologies to overseas markets as the Asia Water Council, which it

chairs, marks its 10th anniversary. The state-run utility said Thursday that it is holding a seriesof council meetings in Bangkok, Thailand, from Nov. 4 to 6 to strengthen regional watercooperation and explore new business opportunities for Korean companies. Established in2016, AWC brings together 187 organizatio

• Seoul moves to expand Cheonghae Unit mission despite fears of being drawn into Iran war (2026-11-05 05:08)

South Korea announced Thursday plans to expand the operational area of its Cheonghae naval unit to include waters near the Strait of Hormuz, raising concerns that Seoul could become entangled in the US-Iran war. The Defense Ministry insisted the move would not constitute involvement in the conflict. A revised motion to extend the unit's deployment and expand its mission was approved at a vice-ministerial meeting Thursday, according to the Defense Ministry, and would be submitted to the National

• Has Bukang-i returned to sea? Busan shark unseen for over a week (2026-11-05 05:04)

Bukang-i, the shark that spent more than a month in an artificial canal at Busan’s North Port Waterfront Park, hasn’t been spotted for more than a week, fueling hopes that she has returned to the open sea. The National Institute of Fisheries Science said Thursday that Bukang-i had not been seen around the area since Oct. 27, with no sightings reported by the public either. Authorities had said they would need at least a week of monitoring without a sighting to assess whether the shark had return

• Foreign ministry looking to contractor over presidential personal info leak (2026-11-05 05:01)

South Korea’s Foreign Ministry is investigating whether an outside cybersecurity contractor may have been behind the leak of a presidential delegation passenger list, as additional files believed to be ministry documents were found uploaded to the same overseas malware-scanning platform. The ministry said Thursday it was examining “all possibilities” after reports that the passenger list, which contained personal information on President Lee Jae Myung, the first lady and other members of his Jun

• Foreign ministry fails to take steps even after learning of job scam crimes in Cambodia: audit agency (2026-11-05 04:54)

The foreign ministry failed to raise the travel alert for Cambodia or take other necessary measures in a timely manner, even though it had been aware that job scams targeting South Koreans were worsening in the Southeast Asian nation, the state audit agency said Thursday. Such crimes sparked public outrage last year after a South Korean college student was tortured to death by a Chinese scam ring in Cambodia, shedding light on a series of similar cases where young South Koreans were lured into t

• PM says sees no big change in alliance with US after Trump's election defeat (2026-11-05 04:49)

Prime Minister Han Seong-sook said Thursday she anticipates no big changes in relations with the United States after US President Donald Trump's Republican Party suffered a crushing defeat in this week's midterm elections, adding the US Democratic Party also considers the Korea-US alliance important. "As both the Democratic and Republican parties have considered the alliance between the two countries important, I think there will not be very big changes in relations with South Korea," Han said d

• Thiel-backed Crescendo raises $350m for $1b tech fund (2026-11-05 04:48)

Crescendo Equity Partners, a technology-focused private equity firm backed by PayPal co-founder Peter Thiel, has secured more than $350 million from overseas investors in the first closing of its fourth buyout fund, targeting $1 billion to acquire controlling stakes in Korean technology companies. The firm said Thursday that it had raised more than 70 percent of its $500 million overseas fundraising target since launching the fund earlier this year. It aims to raise another $500 million from Kor

• Soldiers on the runway? South Korean Army event sparks backlash (2026-11-05 04:47)

Soldiers in South Korea's elite special forces are expected to master combat tactics and high-risk missions. But in one unit, they found themselves practicing an unlikely skill: how to walk and pose like fashion models. The Republic of Korea Army's 1st Airborne Special Forces Brigade has recently come under fire for hosting an event dubbed the K-Walking Performance Military Festival, where soldiers followed female models down a runway at a gymnasium on the military base a week earlier. Video foo

• Ssangyong E&C; eyes W3.6tr in Dubai projects with Wasl (2026-11-05 04:29)

Ssangyong Engineering & Construction has signed a memorandum of understanding with Dubai-based property developer Wasl Group to pursue construction and development projects worth 3.6 trillion won ($2.7 billion) over the next three years. The agreement builds on a partnership dating back to 2017 and expands cooperation in Dubai's hotel and mixed-use development sectors. Ssangyong E&C has completed projects worth more than 1 trillion won for Wasl Group, including the Hyatt Centric hotel and One Re

• Race for 2028 heats up after US midterms firestorm (2026-11-05 04:25)

US President Donald Trump's stunning midterms defeat by the Democrats has upended another US election -- the race to replace him in the White House in 2028. The crushing defeat for the Republicans is particularly stinging for US Vice President JD Vance, who had been the frontrunner but now risks being seen as tied to his lame-duck boss. But the midterms are a potential launchpad for rising Democratic stars like Georgia senator Jon Ossoff, whose youthful vibe has already drawn comparisons to form

• Beaten at home, Trump faces stark choice on Iran: deal or escalation (2026-11-05 04:23)

US President Donald Trump went to war seeking regime change in Iran. Instead, it was his own grip on Washington that gave way, as voters weary of the war and hit by soaring fuel prices handed Democrats control of Congress. That leaves a weakened president facing a choice between a negotiated exit and a riskier escalation. In Tehran and among its allies, the result was swiftly cast as a verdict on the conflict. Across the Gulf, officials were left wondering which way Trump would turn. "Iran succ

• Korea to fix manual that classifies homosexuality as 'juvenile delinquency' (2026-11-05 04:08)

The South Korean government said it would immediately revise a youth counseling manual that classified homosexuality as a form of juvenile delinquency. The manual, published by the Korea Youth Counseling & Welfare Institute, listed homosexuality alongside sexual violence, theft and drug-related problems in a category for delinquency-related issues. The Ministry of Gender Equality and Family expressed regret over the classification in a statement announcing the revision late Wednesday. “We regret

• Cyberattack hits French blood bank site but no blood products are compromised (2026-11-05 03:57)

PARIS (AP) — A cyberattack on several blood banks tried to raise temperatures to extremely high levels but was thwarted before it could do any damage to blood products or samples, French authorities said. The incident comes after supermarkets in a number of European countries reported this week that their fridges and freezers warmed up after they were remotely taken over, resulting in tons of spoiled food at a total cost of millions of dollars. The French Blood Establishment, or EFS, said, “temp

• Hong Kong activist Joshua Wong sentenced to 10 years in prison in 2nd national security case (2026-11-05 03:46)

HONG KONG (AP) — Prominent Hong Kong activist Joshua Wong was sentenced to 10 years in prison Thursday for his second conviction under a Beijing-imposed national security law, in a case that critics say reflects the crackdown on the city’s once-thriving pro-democracy movement. Wong was charged in 2025 with conspiracy to collude with foreign forces to endanger national security under the law. In September, he pleaded guilty to the offense, a move that can typically reduce the sentence. The 30-yea

• BTS’ Jungkook renews Asian record on Spotify (2026-11-05 03:11)

Jungkook of BTS secured a 155th frame on Spotify’s global weekly albums chart with his first solo set, extending his own record of longest run on the chart for an Asian solo artist, according to label Big Hit Music on Thursday. With the LP, “Golden,” he sat at No. 199 on the chart after hitting as high as No. 2 nearly three years earlier. The 11-track album also became the first-ever set from an Asian artist to bank 1 billion annual streams on Spotify across four years,

surpassing the three-year

• NCT Dream to go disco at album showcase (2026-11-05 03:08)

NCT Dream is unveiling “Boogie Woogie,” the focus track from its sixth full-length album, in a showcase for the set in Seoul on Nov. 12, SM Entertainment announced Thursday. The six-member subunit is bringing out LP “Dream After Dream” on Monday. The 10-track set fronted by a disco-inspire upbeat dance tune celebrates the group's 10th year. Jaemin participated in writing the lyrics of the song and choreographer Lee Jung co-created the dance. The group will also run a pop-up store in Seoul from S

• Fans in liquor company jackets under fire for leaving stadium trash at Korean Series opener (2026-11-05 03:03)

A group of spectators wearing liquor company jackets have come under fire after photos showed tables littered with beer cans and food waste they apparently left behind after the Korean Series opener. In a Threads post on Wednesday, Song Min-gu, a baseball commentator for Daegu MBC radio, shared the pictures and criticized the fans for leaving their trash behind. The company was not named. It was unclear whether all those spectators were employees.

• El-Sayed tells AP Michigan rejected ‘hateful, spiteful campaign’ after months of Republican attacks (2026-11-05 03:02)

WASHINGTON (AP) — US Sen.-elect Abdul El-Sayed told The Associated Press on Wednesday that Michigan voters had rejected “a hateful, spiteful campaign” after months of Republican attacks on his Muslim identity in one of the nation’s most closely watched Senate races. El-Sayed said he was “running on adrenaline and caffeine” after his race with Republican Mike Rogers was called early Wednesday, giving Democrats another significant victory in a premier swing state as they won a substantial majority

• Republicans call for Trump to change course after midterm drubbing (2026-11-05 03:02)

WASHINGTON (Reuters) -- US President Donald Trump faced pressure from Republicans on Wednesday to change course after a midterm election rout handed Democrats control of Congress and voters rejected his handpicked candidates in key races. Republican allies and strategists called for Trump to shake up his White House personnel, restore discipline and scrap policies they blamed for the losses, including the Iran war and tariffs, as his presidency enters its final years. Veteran Republican strate

• Lions pitcher Yang Chang-seop eager for 1st Korean Series start: 'I will be so honored' (2026-11-05 02:47)

Seeking a turnaround amid his second-half swoon in the Korea Baseball Organization, Samsung Lions pitcher Yang Chang-seop changed his walk-up song to "Crazy Train," the first solo single by Ozzy Osbourne in 1980 following his departure from the heavy metal pioneers Black Sabbath. Yang said he had not always been a fan of heavy metal but he fell in love with the

iconic opening riff of the song that remains a staple across sports stadiums in North America. " It just sounds perfect for a walk-up son

• Korea Eximbank commits $170m to Tanzania's first EDCF AI project (2026-11-05 02:43)

The Export-Import Bank of Korea will provide a $170 million loan to build an artificial intelligence education center in Tanzania, marking the first AI project financed through South Korea's Economic Development Cooperation Fund. The state-run lender said Thursday that its Senior Executive Vice President Lee Dong-hoon and Tanzanian Deputy Finance Minister Natu E. Mwamba signed the loan agreement with the Tanzanian government in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. The project is also the first under Seou

• Lee welcomes East Timor President Horta's visit to S. Korea ahead of summit (2026-11-05 02:30)

President Lee Jae Myung on Thursday welcomed East Timorese President Jose Ramos-Horta's first visit to South Korea, expressing hope for a stronger partnership between the two countries on the occasion of next year's 25th anniversary of diplomatic relations. Lee wrote the message on his X account, as Horta was scheduled to make an official visit to South Korea from Thursday through Saturday, marking the first trip to South Korea by an East Timorese leader since the two countries established diplo

• [Bae Su-kyeong] What our spaces reveal (2026-11-05 02:29)

No life is exempt from scars. Across cultures, people have long sought ways to live with them. In Japan, the art of “kintsugi” adorns a fractured vessel with gold, transforming the damage into conspicuous beauty and allowing it to continue its life. In contrast, Korea's tradition of repairing “onggi,” traditional earthenware vessels, restores them to everyday use while usually leaving their scars visible. Years ago, I encountered this same question not in a piece of pottery, but in a city. One e

• Israel's president takes first steps on building new government after accepting election results (2026-11-05 02:27)

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli President Isaac Herzog on Wednesday accepted the certified results of last week’s parliamentary elections as legally binding and began consultations with party representatives on forming a new government. The move dealt a blow to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s efforts to discredit the vote, in which he and his allies lost their majority in parliament, known as the Knesset, while Arab-led parties made historic gains. “The elections are over. Now is the time to face r

• GI Innovation begins prostate cancer trial with J&J; drug (2026-11-05 02:19)

South Korean biotech firm GI Innovation has administered the first dose in a global clinical trial combining its experimental immunotherapy GI-102 with Johnson & Johnson's prostate cancer drug candidate pasritamig, marking a new step in its efforts to develop treatments for advanced

cancer. The company said Thursday that the first patient was dosed Monday in the Phase 1b/2 JET trial, which is evaluating the combination in patients with metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer, an advanced

• TWS hits Oricon chart at No. 2 with new single (2026-11-05 02:17)

TWS' latest single landed at No. 2 on Oricon’s Daily Single Ranking, its agency Pledis Entertainment said Thursday. The second physical single “To Us” joins the rest of the group's albums — five mini albums and a single in Korea, two single albums in Japan — in claiming the highest spots on Oricon charts. “To Us” consists of three tracks. The lead track “Call My Name” leapt to No. 14 on Melon’s Top 100 on its release day, hitting its career-best on the first day on the chart, while both B-side t

• Hoban overtakes Walter Cho as Hanjin KAL's top shareholder (2026-11-05 02:11)

Hoban Construction has overtaken Hanjin Group Chairman Walter Cho, who also serves as CEO of Korean Air, as the largest shareholder of Hanjin KAL, the group's holding company, setting the stage for a renewed stake battle as Cho prepares to reclaim the top spot next month. Hanjin KAL said Wednesday that Hoban Construction and its affiliates hold a combined 20.69 percent stake, narrowly exceeding the 20.58 percent held by Cho and related parties. But Hoban's lead may be short-lived. Cho plans to a

• Hanwha Aerospace breaks ground on Chunmoo rocket plant in Poland (2026-11-05 02:03)

Hanwha Aerospace Co. said Thursday it has broken ground on a guided rocket manufacturing plant in Poland as part of efforts to expand its defense production capabilities in Europe. The South Korean defense company held a groundbreaking ceremony Wednesday in Gorzow Wielkopolski, western Poland, alongside Hanwha WB Advanced Systems, its joint venture with Poland's WB Group. The plant, scheduled for completion in 2028, will mark Hanwha Aerospace's first guided weapons production facility in Europe.

• Kakao profit rises 7% on ad growth, unveils W150b buyback (2026-11-05 02:02)

Kakao reported a 7 percent rise in quarterly operating profit Thursday, with advertising sales on the ascent. The company behind South Korea's nearly ubiquitous messaging app unveiled plans to expand AI-powered advertising and buy back 150 billion won ($112 million) of shares for cancellation. Operating profit reached 240.3 billion won, up from a year earlier but down 13 percent from the previous quarter's record high. Revenue increased 6 percent to 2.09 trillion won. KakaoTalk had 49.7 million

• S. Korea posts record high current account surplus of over $60b in Sept. on chip supercycle (2026-11-05 02:00)

South Korea posted an all-time high current account surplus of over $60 billion in September on strong exports of semiconductors, central bank data showed Thursday. The current account surplus totaled $61.46 billion in September, up from $46.11 billion the previous month,

according to the data from the Bank of Korea. It marked the largest monthly current accountsurplus ever, renewing the previous record of $49.73 billion set in June. Compared with thesame month a year earlier, the figure surge

• N. Korea says test-fired new air defense missile system, long-range cruise missile (2026-11-05 01:58)

North Korea has test-fired a new air defense missile system and conducted a strike drill with a long-range strategic cruise missile, state media reported Thursday, marking Pyongyang's fourth weapons test in a week. The North's report came after South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff detected the North firing multiple missiles toward the East Sea from the Sondok area in South Hamgyong Province early Wednesday. The Missile Administration's test of a new air defense missile system was aimed at confirm

• LG Twins sign ex-MLB pitcher Tristan Beck (2026-11-05 01:55)

The LG Twins announced their signing of former major league pitcher Tristan Beck on Thursday. The 2025 Korean Series champions said Beck, 30, agreed to a one-year deal worth US$878,000, with $578,000 in salary and $300,000 in signing bonus. Beck was a fourth-round pick by the Atlanta Braves in the 2018 Major League Baseball draft but was traded to the San Francisco Giants in 2019. He made his MLB debut with the Giants in 2023. In 85 outings, including five starts, for the Giants, Beck went 5-3 w

• Hyundai chief meets Erdogan to discuss EV cooperation (2026-11-05 01:52)

Hyundai Motor Group Executive Chair Chung Euisun met Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Wednesday to discuss electric vehicle cooperation, as the South Korean automaker seeks to strengthen its manufacturing foothold in Turkey and expand its presence in the European market. The meeting, confirmed by the Turkish Presidency, comes as Hyundai steps up EV production and sales in Turkey, a strategic manufacturing hub linking Europe and the Middle East. According to media reports, Hyundai Motor

• True crime (17) The girl who wasn't her mother's (2026-11-05 00:00)

Few cases unravel so completely that even the most basic questions — who was the victim and what was their relation to the perpetrator — become mysteries. In 2021, a 3-year-old girl was found dead inside a home in Gumi, North Gyeongsang Province. She had been dead for so long that her body was described as “mummified.” At first, investigators thought they knew what happened: The child had been left alone for months after her mother moved away to remarry. The mother reportedly told investigators

• S. Korea's current account surplus tops $60b for 1st time on chip boom (2026-11-04 23:57)

South Korea posted an all-time high current account surplus of over $60 billion won in September on strong exports of semiconductors, central bank data showed Thursday. The current account surplus totaled $61.46 billion in September, up from $46.11 billion the previous

month, according to the data from the Bank of Korea. It marked the largest monthly currentaccount surplus ever, renewing the previous record of $49.73 billion set in June. Compared withthe same month a year earlier, the figure s

• Korea's Hanji-making nears UNESCO intangible cultural heritage list (2026-11-04 23:27)

Traditional Korean paper, known as hanji, is set to be inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The evaluation body of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage on Wednesday (local time) recommended that South Korea's nomination, titled "Traditional knowledge and skills associated with the production of hanji and related cultural practices in the Republic of Korea," be inscribed on the list. Hanji is

• Taekwondo set for UNESCO listing through North Korea alone (2026-11-04 23:10)

North Korea is expected to secure inclusiong of Korean martial art taekwondo on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list this year. The Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage's evaluation body has recommended Thursday that North Korea's nomination be inscribed on the list. Huh Min, head of the Korea Heritage Service, had also hinted at the announcement on Monday in a post on his social media channel. The committee, which makes the final decision on

• [Graphic News] Wallets top Seoul subway lost-item reports (2026-11-04 23:00)

Wallets were the most commonly reported lost items on the Seoul subway from 2021 through September 2026, accounting for 191,223 of 820,106 cases, according to Seoul Metro data. The number of lost-item reports rose from 101,618 in 2021 to 167,738 in 2025, before reaching 123,879 in the first nine months of this year. Cash was reported lost in 52,859 cases, totaling approximately $2.26 million, of which 74.4 percent was returned to its owners. The direct return rate for all lost items fell from 65

• [Anne O. Krueger] Tariff fiasco may save free trade (2026-11-04 20:30)

In the nearly two years since he returned to the White House, US President Donald Trump has picked up where he left off in his first term, shredding the open multilateral trading system that has served the world so well since the end of World War II. He has imposed sweeping tariffs on dozens of countries, repeatedly raising and lowering them and changing rates on individual goods and countries, seemingly on a whim. As a result, US tariff rates are now higher than at any time since the Great Depr

• [Wang Son-taek] Presidential communication and balance (2026-11-04 20:30)

President Lee Jae Myung has made clear his determination to communicate more frequently with the public through social media. He recently dismissed criticism that frequent social media posts undermine presidential dignity or authority, emphasizing his commitment to remaining close to ordinary citizens. His determination deserves recognition. The question is not whether

a president should use social media, but how frequently, for what purposes and in whatmanner. Direct communication offers consi

• Seo Ye-ji to return to big screen after six-year hiatus with occult horror film (2026-11-04 11:58)

Actress Seo Ye-ji is set to return to the big screen after an approximately six-year hiatus with the upcoming film "Geumwoldo" (translated), her agency, B. Wave Entertainment, announced Wednesday. In the horror occult film, Seo will play Kim Ji-hoo, who travels to the remote island of Geumwoldo after receiving a message from her mother and becomes embroiled in a series of mysterious events. Her character sets out to uncover the truth behind the strange occurrences on the island. Filming is sched

• Former 4minute member Jeon Ji-yoon to marry on Nov. 22 (2026-11-04 11:20)

Former 4minute member Jeon Ji-yoon, 36, who has since pursued a solo music career and become a web novel author, is set to marry. Jeon personally shared the news on social media on Wednesday, posting, "I'm getting married in November. Now that the day has come when I can actually say the word 'marriage' in relation to my own life, I feel a little shy, but also excited." Her prospective husband is reportedly not a celebrity, and the couple will tie the knot on Nov. 22 in Seoul. The private ceremo

• Actress Cha Ye-ryun denies school bullying allegations, vows legal action (2026-11-04 11:09)

Actress Cha Ye-ryun denied allegations that she was involved in school bullying, with her agency issuing a statement Wednesday to reiterate that the claims were groundless. In a statement, HB Entertainment said it had previously made clear that allegations concerning the actress's past circulating online were "entirely untrue." "Unverified claims and speculation made anonymously continue to spread repeatedly," the agency said, adding that it would take strong legal action to prevent further dama

• DaouKiwoom-CJ consortium to sign deal to acquire JoongAng Ilbo this week (2026-11-04 10:44)

A consortium comprising CJ, Shinsegae and two other companies will sign a deal Thursday to acquire debt-laden South Korean newspaper publisher JoongAng Ilbo Co., the company said Wednesday. Under the deal, the DaouKiwoom-CJ consortium will purchase 520 billion won ($388 million) worth of new shares in JoongAng Ilbo, with Daou Technology Inc., CJ Corp., Shinsegae Inc. and Saramin Co. contributing 36.5 percent, 35.7 percent, 14.1 percent and 13.7 percent, respectively. The agreement, set to be sig

• Police arrest woman for stabbing doctor at hospital (2026-11-04 10:44)

Police arrested a woman for allegedly stabbing and injuring a doctor at a major hospital in western Seoul on Wednesday, with officers investigating the motive behind the attack. The

Seodaemun Police Station said it apprehended the woman in her 50s on suspicion ofaggravated assault after he allegedly stabbed a psychiatry professor with a knife at SeveranceHospital at around 4:35 p.m. The doctor sustained a wound measuring 5 centimeters and wastaken to an emergency room for treatment. According

- Hyundai Motor to showcase hydrogen technologies at local expo (2026-11-04 10:44)

Hyundai Motor Group said Wednesday it will showcase its hydrogen technologies at a local industry expo this week as it seeks to expand cooperation with global companies. The group will present technologies for hydrogen production, hydrogen-powered mobility solutions for passenger and commercial vehicles and rail transport, as well as plans for developing a hydrogen ecosystem at the World Hydrogen Expo 2026, which runs through Friday in Goyang, northwest of Seoul, it said in a statement. The exhi

- US service members accused of smuggling synthetic cannabinoids into Korea (2026-11-04 09:02)

Two US service members stationed in Korea have been referred to prosecutors on suspicion of smuggling liquid synthetic cannabinoids through the US military postal system, the Pyeongtaek Customs Office said Wednesday. One suspect was referred in custody and the other without detention. The suspects allegedly smuggled the substances into Korea in March, hiding small containers of the liquid inside bottles of protein supplements. Synthetic cannabinoids are artificial substances that mimic the effec

- S. Korea has an award for beautiful restrooms. And this one just won the Presidential Award. (2026-11-04 08:58)

If you've ever been impressed by the restrooms at Incheon International Airport, you're not alone. One of them just won the Presidential Award at South Korea's 28th Beautiful Restroom Awards. The winning restroom, located near Gate 225 in Terminal 2's duty-free area, stands out for its floor-to-ceiling windows offering views of planes taking off and landing. Organizers say the restrooms are evaluated based on cleanliness, convenience, safety, design and maintenance, in which this particular rest

- Banks, brokerages face record W374.6b penalties over Hong Kong ELS (2026-11-04 08:54)

South Korea's financial regulator on Wednesday imposed a record 374.6 billion won ($280 million) in penalties on seven banks and six securities firms for misselling Hong Kong-linked investment products, sharply reducing the fines from earlier proposals after considering investor compensation and legal factors. The Financial Services Commission finalized the sanctions over violations of the Financial Consumer Protection Act involving equity-linked securities, or ELS, tied to the Hang Seng China E

- SK Inc. scraps SK ecoplant IPO plan, seeks full ownership (2026-11-04 08:49)

SK Inc., the holding company of SK Group, said Wednesday it would launch a tender offer for 16.43 million shares in SK ecoplant, moving to make the affiliate a wholly owned subsidiary and bring its long-running initial public offering plan to an end. The company's board of directors approved the tender offer to address concerns that a separate listing of SK ecoplant could weigh on the parent company's valuation and erode shareholder value. The offer will run from Thursday through Nov. 24, with p

• Year-end folk theater recasts resourceful wife and reckless husband (2026-11-04 08:45)

A new production of a Korean literary classic is shifting the spotlight from a reckless husband to the resourceful wife who saves their family, bringing a centuries-old tale of marital folly and female ingenuity into the present day. Based on the late-Joseon-era novel "The Tale of Lee Chun-pung," the National Theater of Korea's new production, "Chunpung's Wife," reimagines the story from the perspective of Madam Kim, Lee's wife. The production will run from Nov. 27 through Jan. 24, 2027, at Hane

• Seoul, Basel explore partnership for 2027 architecture biennale in Seoul (2026-11-04 08:37)

Seoul and the Swiss canton of Basel-Stadt discussed possible collaboration on the 2027 Seoul Biennale of Architecture and Urbanism as architects from Seoul and Basel gathered this week to exchange ideas on public space and housing. Seoul Vice Mayor Kim Sung-bo met with Conradin Cramer, president of the Basel-Stadt Executive Council, on Tuesday to discuss cooperation on the biennale’s sixth edition, the Seoul Metropolitan Government said Wednesday. The meeting also reviewed progress on an exchang

• Can Rescene sustain its breakout success with ‘Pulse?' (2026-11-04 08:31)

After spending the second half of 2026 climbing music charts with older releases, girl group Rescene is now finding success with a new release. Rescene’s fourth EP “Pulse,” released Tuesday, made an immediate impact, with its main track “With” reaching No. 1 on Melon’s Top 100 chart just two hours after release, according to The Muze Entertainment. All five tracks from the EP, along with the group's earlier releases, also ranked high on the chart, indicating Rescene's recent popularity may have

• Lee to launch YouTube show ‘The President’s Y’ (2026-11-04 08:22)

President Lee Jae Myung is launching a new YouTube show to communicate directly with the public, answering citizens’ questions and explaining government policies in a more informal setting, Cheong Wa Dae said Wednesday. The program, titled “The President’s Y,” will debut Thursday at 9 p.m. on two YouTube channels: Lee+Imagine, operated by state-run broadcaster KTV, and Lee Jae Myung TV, the president’s official YouTube channel. Since taking office, Lee has held 23 news conferences or informal me

• Food Week Korea opens in Seoul with focus on exports, food technology (2026-11-04 08:03)

Food Week Korea 2026 opened Wednesday in Seoul, bringing together about 1,000 food companies and 252 international buyers, as organizers seek to turn the consumer-oriented exhibition into a global business platform for Korean food exports. The four-day event runs through Saturday at Coex in southern Seoul. Organizers described this year’ s exhibition, featuring 1,800 booths and participation from 46 countries, as its largest edition yet. The expanded business program reflects a shift toward conne

• PM pledges to root out price-fixing practices (2026-11-04 07:54)

Prime Minister Han Seong-sook pledged Wednesday to root out price-fixing practices, saying the government has imposed more than 1.8 trillion won ($1.3 billion) in administrative fines this year alone on companies involved in collusion. Han made the remark in a post on X, saying stabilizing prices is an important responsibility of the government. "We will firmly safeguard the people's dining tables from price-fixing," she said. Noting the amount of administrative fines imposed this year for price

• Police arrest 80 high-risk offenders in relationship-based crime review (2026-11-04 07:29)

Police said Wednesday they have conducted a comprehensive review of about 44,000 cases involving relationship-based crime, such as stalking and domestic violence, and placed under custody 80 individuals identified as high-risk offenders. The 12-day review, which began Oct. 19, covered 44,540 cases, according to the Korean National Police Agency. They included 43,712 existing cases, such as those currently under investigation, individuals subject to high-risk monitoring, stalking reports that had

• Imported vehicle sales jump 29.3% in Oct. on strong EV demand (2026-11-04 07:19)

Sales of imported vehicles in South Korea rose a sharp 29.3 percent in October from a year earlier, driven by robust demand for electric vehicles (EVs), industry data showed Wednesday. New registrations increased to 31,117 units last month from 24,064 a year earlier, according to the Korea Automobile Importers & Distributors Association (KAIDA). The three top-selling imported cars were the Tesla Model Y Premium, Mercedes-Benz E200 and Tesla Model 3. The two Tesla models are manufactured in China

• Lee calls for 'cybersecurity czar' amid wave of cyberattacks (2026-11-04 07:15)

President Lee Jae Myung has called for a powerful national cybersecurity coordinator following a wave of cyberattacks on major companies and financial institutions, raising questions about what a new authority could accomplish beyond South Korea's existing security agencies. At a Cabinet meeting Tuesday, Lee said existing security systems focused on inspections and responses after attacks had shown "clear limitations" as hacking techniques grow more sophisticated. He instructed officials to cons

• Seoul shares close higher on early US midterm election outcome (2026-11-04 07:10)

South Korean stocks closed slightly higher Wednesday as early results from the US midterm elections pointed to Democratic victories in both chambers of Congress. The local currency was trading lower against the US dollar. Swinging between gains and losses, the benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index finished at 5,683.80, up 35.01 points, or 0.62 percent. After starting 2.43 percent higher, the KOSPI turned lower around 10:11 a.m. and fell as low as 5,421.72 at 12:45 p.m. as vote counting in

• Lee set to launch new YouTube program to communicate with public (2026-11-04 07:01)

President Lee Jae Myung will launch a YouTube program aimed at explaining his state administration to the public and answering people's questions, a presidential official said Wednesday. The first 30-minute episode of the new program, "President's Y," will be aired Thursday night on the president's YouTube channel, and new episodes will be released every two to three weeks, according to Lee's press secretary, Seong Ghi-hong. During the pre-filmed program, Lee plans to "voice his frank opinions i

• Democratic gains unlikely to derail Korea-US investment deal (2026-11-04 06:58)

Democratic gains in Tuesday's US midterm elections could bring tougher congressional scrutiny of US President Donald Trump's trade and industrial policies, adding uncertainty for South Korean companies investing billions of dollars in American manufacturing. According to US media outlets, Democrats had secured control of the Senate and were closing in on a House majority as of press time in Seoul on Wednesday, with several races still undecided as vote counting continued. The emerging results po

• Gibbeum Hospital’s hernia expertise reaching beyond Korea -- and the surgeon behind it (2026-11-04 06:58)

At Gibbeum Hospital in southern Seoul, surgeon Yoon-Sik Kang’s days revolve around the operating room. On his busiest days, he performs up to 15 operations, each lasting about 20 to 30 minutes. “The simpler and quicker the operation, the better, as surgery causes trauma to the patient’s body,” Kang said in an interview with The Korea Herald on Oct. 28. The hospital’s president has spent much of his career treating conditions ranging from colorectal and anal diseases to hernias. His focus on the

• Seoul’s housing relief depends on where you look (2026-11-04 06:41)

President Lee Jae Myung’s remarks Tuesday about falling home prices in parts of Seoul drew skepticism, reflecting a gap between his assessment and what many buyers and renters are seeing in the market. Lee told a Cabinet meeting that transaction prices in key areas were falling “to a surprising degree” and said South Korea must “shed the stigma of being a republic of real estate speculation.” He later wrote on X that the government was considering buying homes in bulk for public rental housing i

• Ruling party proposes govt. delay planned taxation of cryptocurrency (2026-11-04 06:39)

The ruling Democratic Party (DP) on Wednesday formally proposed that the government postpone the implementation of taxation on cryptocurrencies, set to take effect next year. The party's supreme council decided to make such a proposal in a meeting, considering the need to give businesses and investors time to adjust to the new taxation scheme, according to DP leader Kim Min-seok. "We agreed that it would be better to first enact the Digital Asset Basic Act to build an overall framework and allow

• Yoon's election law conviction upheld on appeal (2026-11-04 06:27)

The Seoul High Court on Wednesday upheld former President Yoon Suk Yeol's conviction for making false statements during his campaign for the 2022 presidential election, maintaining the lower court's 18-month prison sentence suspended for three years. If the conviction and sentence become final, the main opposition People Power Party will have to return about 39.7 billion won ($29.7 million) in reimbursed campaign expenses and a refunded election deposit to the National Election Commission. The c

• Parties clash over 2027 budget, 'future fund' from chip tax windfall (2026-11-04 06:22)

Rival parties on Wednesday clashed over the proposed 820.9 trillion won ($613 billion) 2027 annual budget and a 162.3 trillion won fund drawn from the tax surplus from the chip industry boom. At the plenary session of the National Assembly's Special Committee on Budget and Accounts, the government defended the need to spur investment to keep South Korea ahead in the race for artificial intelligence supremacy, and achieve shared growth to tackle economic bipolarization. Prime Minister Han Seong-s

• Behind Korea's drama boom lies a harsh production reality (2026-11-04 06:17)

South Korean television, driven by its idiosyncratic, nuanced portrayals of human relationships and bold storytelling, is dominating international charts. But beneath the industry's high-production gloss lies a less flattering reality: working conditions that fail to keep pace with its growing global stature. Despite its standing as a major force in the global entertainment industry, Korea's drama sector continues to grapple with precarious employment arrangements, unfair contracts and excessive

• Opposition grows to Cheonghae Unit expansion (2026-11-04 06:16)

Opposition is mounting against South Korea's potential expansion of naval operations near the Strait of Hormuz, as the government weighs strengthening the Cheonghae Unit's mission amid pressure from Washington to contribute to maritime security in the region. Rep. Kim Joon-hyung, floor leader of the minor left-leaning Rebuilding Korea Party, on Wednesday denounced the proposal, calling it an effective military deployment that could draw South Korea into the ongoing conflict involving the United

• Korea secures record $2b investment pledges (2026-11-04 06:13)

South Korea secured $2 billion in investment pledges from seven global companies at the Invest Korea Summit 2026 on Wednesday, the largest commitments in the event's 22-year history. The nation's largest government-led investor relations event, hosted by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources and organized by Kotra, kicked off in Seoul on Wednesday. The three-day event drew more than 2,000 participants, including investors from 267 overseas companies and business and government officials.

• Yonsei steps up quantum computing research with latest IBM processor (2026-11-04 06:08)

Yonsei University has upgraded its quantum computer with IBM's latest processor, increasing its quantum circuit throughput 25-fold compared with its previous Eagle processor, according to IBM, as the university seeks to strengthen its leading position in quantum computing research in Korea. Installed at Yonsei University's International Campus in Songdo, Incheon, the Nighthawk r2 processor makes Yonsei the first IBM Quantum Network participant to operate Nighthawk at its own facility, according

• Court upholds Yoon's sentence that could cost opposition party W39.7b (2026-11-04 06:04)

The Seoul High Court on Wednesday upheld a sentence that would invalidate former President Yoon Suk Yeol's 2022 election victory, putting the main opposition People Power Party at risk of having to return 39.7 billion won ($27 million) in state-reimbursed campaign expenses. The court sentenced Yoon to a suspended prison term for making false statements during his presidential campaign. Under the Public Official Election Act, a prison sentence, even if suspended, invalidates a candidate's electio

• 2 sunken ships from 13th century offer glimpse into Medieval Korea (2026-11-04 06:04)

Remains of two shipwrecks believed to date to the Goryeo Kingdom (918-1392) have been identified off the coast of Mado in Taean, South Chungcheong Province, offering new clues as to how goods were transported to the kingdom's capital. The National Research Institute of Maritime Heritage announced Wednesday that underwater excavations near the island this year confirmed the remains of a vessel designated Mado No. 5 and uncovered evidence of another shipwreck, provisionally identified as Mado No.

• Korean brokerages sit out Anthropic IPO after SpaceX setback (2026-11-04 05:51)

South Korean brokerages are sitting out Anthropic's blockbuster US initial public offering, potentially leaving Korean retail investors without access to shares before the AI company's Nasdaq debut. Their reluctance comes after Mirae Asset Securities failed to secure any share allocations for its clients despite participating in SpaceX's IPO underwriting syndicate. The US artificial intelligence company filed its Form S-1 registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission on Oct.

• Korea Investment & Securities, Neuberger eye global investment products (2026-11-04 05:51)

Korea Investment & Securities seeks to deepen its partnership with US asset manager Neuberger Berman to bring Korean investors more global investment opportunities, particularly in high-growth sectors such as aerospace, semiconductors and private companies preparing to go public. KIS said Wednesday that its President and CEO Miller Kim met with Neuberger Berman Chairman and CEO George Walker and other senior executives at its headquarters in Yeouido, Seoul, to discuss expanding their cooperation

• Jobplanet, LinkedIn leadership discuss AI-driven future of hiring (2026-11-04 05:27)

Jobplanet, an online recruitment platform operated by Worxphere, exchanged views with LinkedIn executives on Korea’s hiring market and the role of artificial intelligence in recruitment, the company announced Wednesday. At its Seoul headquarters on Oct. 19, where LinkedIn Ecosystem Chief Product Officer Hari Srinivasan led a delegation of vice presidents, Jobplanet explained what sets the Korean market apart. Companies juggle open, rolling and performance-based hiring at once, and an aging workf

• Kakao Bank defies lending curbs with 25% profit growth (2026-11-04 05:21)

Kakao Bank posted a 25.2 percent rise in net profit for the first nine months of the year, as the South Korean internet-only lender expanded loans to individual business owners and grew its platform business. Net profit reached 469.8 billion won ($351.8 million) in the January-September period, the bank said Wednesday. Third-quarter profit rose 27.2 percent from a year earlier to 141.7 billion won, while revenue for the nine-month period increased 8.7 percent to 2.53 trillion won. The bank kept

• Samsung's Galaxy Buds get green light for hearing aid functions (2026-11-04 05:18)

Samsung Electronics has secured Korean medical-device approval from the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety for the "Hearing Test" and "Hearing Aid" functions on its Galaxy Buds4 Pro and Buds3 Pro. The features are set to launch early next year through software updates, bringing Samsung into closer competition with Apple's AirPods. The Hearing Test feature uses pure-tone air-conduction audiometry to measure hearing in each ear and generate an audiogram. Results are classified into seven levels, fro

• From fuel cells to AI hubs: Hyundai unveils hydrogen value chain at WHE 2026 (2026-11-04 05:07)

Hyundai Motor Group has unveiled an end-to-end hydrogen value chain vision at the World Hydrogen Expo 2026, showcasing how hydrogen can expand beyond traditional mobility to power AI data centers, manufacturing and advanced robotics in a zero-emission ecosystem. The group presents integrated solutions spanning hydrogen production infrastructure, hydrogen fuel cell mobility and industrial ecosystem models at the Korea International Exhibition Center in Goyang, Gyeonggi Province, on Wednesday. Lev

• Local municipalities vie to host correctional facilities amid regional extinction concerns (2026-11-04 05:06)

Seven municipalities have applied to host new correctional facilities, officials said Wednesday, a surprise turnout for the once-shunned sites that apparently comes amid growing concerns of regional extinction due to declining populations. The southeastern counties of Yeongdeok, Yeongyang, Uiseong and Cheongsong, the central city of Jecheon and Boeun County, and the eastern county of Jeongseon have submitted bids for the government's plans to create four new prisons by 2034. While correctional f

• Celltrion unveils promising results for four-target obesity drug (2026-11-04 05:06)

Celltrion has unveiled promising preclinical results for its next-generation obesity drug candidate, CT-G32/SCO-940, which outperformed a leading experimental weight-loss treatment in animal testing and showed potential to better preserve lean body mass. The South Korean biopharmaceutical company presented the findings alongside Japanese partner SCOHIA PHARMA at TIDES Europe, a conference on next-generation therapeutics held in Amsterdam from Tuesday to Thursday. CT-G32/SCO-940 is a quadruple ag

• Shinhan Bank wins government award for FDI support (2026-11-04 05:06)

Shinhan Bank has received a government commendation for its efforts to attract foreign investment to South Korea, supported by dedicated consulting services and digital banking solutions for foreign companies. The bank said Wednesday it received a ministerial commendation at the 2026 Foreign Company Day ceremony, hosted by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy at Grand InterContinental Seoul Parnas on Tuesday. The annual event recognizes companies and institutions that contribute to the Kor

• Daewoo E&C; wins W350b fertilizer plant project in Nigeria (2026-11-04 05:06)

Daewoo Engineering & Construction has secured a 350 billion won ($261 million) fertilizer plant project in Nigeria, extending its decades-long presence in Africa's largest economy and its partnership with global petrochemical group Indorama. The South Korean builder said Wednesday it received a letter of award from IF FZE, Indorama's Nigerian subsidiary, for the construction of a fourth fertilizer production line in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. Under the project, Daewoo E&C will serve as the pri

• SK Telecom's Q3 profit rebounds higher than before 2025 hacking incident (2026-11-04 05:05)

SK Telecom's third-quarter operating profit surged more than 11-fold from a year earlier, exceeding prehack levels, as South Korea's largest mobile carrier has seemingly recovered from the financial fallout of its massive 2025 data breach. The company said Wednesday that operating profit jumped 1,040.3 percent on-year to 552.3 billion won ($412.7 million) in the July-September period, up from 48.4 billion won a year earlier. The figure surpassed the 533.3

billion won recorded in the third quarte

• Korea to establish 2 new regional medical schools by 2030 (2026-11-04 04:59)

South Korea has selected Sunchon National University and Gyeongkuk National University to establish new medical schools, aiming to admit their first students in 2030 with a combined annual intake of 100, the government said Wednesday. The Education Ministry and the Ministry of Health and Welfare said Sunchon National University in Jeonnam-Gwangju, formed by the merger of South Jeolla Province and Gwangju, will have an annual enrollment quota of 60 students. Gyeongkuk National University in North

• Samsung TVs top Consumer Reports rankings across screen sizes (2026-11-04 04:50)

Samsung Electronics Co. ranked first across all TV screen-size categories, from models measuring 70 inches or larger to compact 32-inch sets, in Consumer Reports' rankings, industry sources said Wednesday. The US consumer testing organization evaluated 358 television models in its 2026 report, released last month, assessing key features such as resolution, support for streaming services and voice recognition, they said. Samsung's QD-OLED TV, the QN65S95H, topped the overall best-TV category with

• US to halt $4 billion in aid to Israel as Mideast ally reduces dependence on Washington (2026-11-04 04:38)

WASHINGTON (AP) -- The United States will stop providing $4 billion in aid each year to Israel in 2027 but will continue selling arms to its closest ally in the Middle East, US President Donald Trump said Tuesday. The Republican president told Fox News Channel during a phone call on midterm Election Day that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had approached him about the idea and that they had been discussing it for a couple of years. Trump said Israel did not need the aid and that it was

• Iran, US still far apart on deal to end war as Qatar pushes mediation (2026-11-04 04:03)

DUBAI (Reuters) -- Iran and the United States are still far from a deal to end their war, a senior Iranian official told Reuters on Tuesday, while mediator Qatar stepped up efforts to bridge differences and avert a renewed escalation after the US midterm elections. Overnight, the United States carried out "defensive" strikes on Iran's Qeshm Island, targeting surface-to-air missiles used against US assets, a US official said. Another official said the strikes appeared limited and did not signal a

• North Korea rejects Binance hack accusation, warns against US talks (2026-11-04 04:01)

Kim Yo-jong, a ranking Workers' Party of Korea official and the sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong-un, on Wednesday again rejected US allegations that Pyongyang was behind a cryptocurrency theft from Binance, warning that North Korea sees no reason to resume dialogue with Washington unless it abandons its hostile policy. "The so-called 'cryptocurrency hacking case by the DPRK' is no more than a tip of (an) iceberg that shows the essence of the US

hostile policy toward the DPRK," Kim said, re

• 3 men get eight months in prison for shooting dogs with BB guns (2026-11-04 03:46)

Three men in their 20s were each sentenced to eight months in prison Tuesday for repeatedly shooting two pet dogs with illegally modified BB guns in Geoje, South Gyeongsang Province, killing one and leaving the other in need of surgery to remove an eye. The men were convicted of charges including aggravated property damage for the attack, which took place outside a restaurant on June 8 last year. Two were serving in the Marines at the time. The Busan District Court Eastern Branch considered the

• Thyssenkrupp CEO says Canada submarine contest with Hanwha was 'very close' (2026-11-04 03:17)

Thyssenkrupp CEO Miguel Lopez acknowledged the fierce competition between its naval shipbuilding arm TKMS and South Korea’s Hanwha Ocean in Canada’s recent submarine procurement contest, while expressing optimism about broader industrial cooperation between Germany and Korea. “Canada has been very, very close competition. I don’t think that there was a lot of delta between the two companies,” Lopez told The Korea Herald in an interview on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Conference of German Bu

• Russia bombards Ukraine power grid before Abu Dhabi talks; Merz urges Moscow to engage (2026-11-04 03:03)

KYIV, Ukraine (Reuters) -- Russia bombarded Ukraine ‘s energy infrastructure in waves on Tuesday, knocking out power to large parts of the country with dozens of missiles and hundreds of drones, a week before US-brokered peace talks were due to resume. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said at least 33 people had been killed on Monday when Russia twice bombed a school being used for aid distribution in the village of Komyshuvakha, near the front line in Ukraine’s Zaporizhzhia region. About 50 people

• Korea identifies protein that helps spread Alzheimer’s-linked tau (2026-11-04 03:03)

South Korean researchers have identified a protein that helps a substance linked to Alzheimer’s disease spread between brain cells, a finding that could open a path for research into potential treatments. The National Institute of Health said Wednesday that its researchers had established the role of a protein called FAM84B in promoting the transfer of tau between cells. The institute, part of the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency, described the finding as a world first. Tau helps main

• Sejong teachers’ union urges action over kindergarten abuse dispute (2026-11-04 03:02)

A teachers’ union in Sejong on Wednesday called for stronger protection and support for a kindergarten teacher facing a second child abuse complaint from a parent, saying earlier measures had failed to resolve safety concerns in the classroom. The Sejong branch of the Korean Teachers and Education Workers’ Union said the parent of a child receiving special

education at the school had recently filed a complaint accusing the teacher of physical abuse,citing a red mark on the child’s neck. The tea

• Coupang logs third straight loss in Q3 despite record paid membership (2026-11-04 02:50)

E-commerce giant Coupang posted its third consecutive quarterly operating loss, weighed down by a recent warehouse fire and lingering fallout from its data breach despite double-digit revenue growth and record paid membership. The company said Wednesday that revenue for the July-September period rose 11 percent on-year on a constant currency basis to $10 billion and swung to an operating loss of $450 million from an operating profit of $162 million a year earlier. The deficit marks Coupang’s sec

• Customer claims dead cockroach found in Mega Coffee vanilla latte (2026-11-04 02:46)

Mega MGC Coffee, Korea's largest budget coffee chain, is facing criticism after a customer reported finding a dead cockroach in an iced vanilla latte purchased at one of its stores, according to news reports Wednesday. The customer posted photos of the drink and what appeared to be a cockroach on Threads, recounting the unpleasant experience. "I was almost done with my drink when I felt something strange in my mouth. At first, I thought it was a piece of lemon, but that didn't make sense in a va

• Korea's Botox boom fuels battle over technology restrictions (2026-11-04 02:35)

A growing rift is emerging in South Korea's booming botulinum toxin industry over whether to lift government protections on its manufacturing technology, pitting companies seeking faster overseas expansion against those warning that deregulation could expose valuable industrial know-how. The dispute comes as Korean botulinum toxin exports continue to surge, rising from $223 million in 2022 to $420 million in 2025. Exports are projected to exceed $500 million for the first time this year. Botulin

• Cortis’ 2nd EP resurfaces on Billboard 200 (2026-11-04 02:34)

Cortis returned to the Billboard 200 after seven weeks with its second EP “GreenGreen” ranking No. 90, according to the latest chart published Tuesday in the US. This extends the mini album’s stay on the main albums chart to 19 total weeks. The extended play debuted at No. 3, landing a spot within the top three in the shortest time since debut for a K-pop group. The EP logged 18 consecutive frames before reentering the chart this week. The six–track set was released in May and sold over 2.3 mill

• N. Korea's Kim inspects Nampho shipyard, calls for rapid naval buildup (2026-11-04 02:20)

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has visited the Nampho Shipyard and called for a rapid buildup of naval combat power to counter "hostile acts of the enemies," state media said Wednesday. Kim made the remarks during an on-site inspection at the shipyard Monday, where he was briefed on the shipyard's ongoing upgrades and inspected a new warship under construction, the Korean Central News Agency reported. "It is vital and important requirement

of the times to rapidly bolster up the surface and unde

• [Contribution] What the Nankai Trough megaquake threat means for South Korea (2026-11-04 02:16)

By Lee Mi-seon, administrator of the Korea Meteorological Administration Could an earthquake in Japan cause high-rise buildings in South Korea, hundreds of kilometers away, to sway? When an earthquake occurs, we first check its epicenter and magnitude. However, in modern society, where high-rise buildings are common, assessing our safety requires us to ask another question: How will the building I am in respond to the ground motion? Even within the same area, levels of shaking can vary depending

• Ateez hits new chart milestone with prerelease single 'Drip' (2026-11-04 02:14)

Ateez has entered Billboard's Global 200 chart with its prerelease single "Drip," marking the first time one of its songs has debuted on the chart in its opening week. Released on Oct. 23, the song debuted at No. 190 on the Global 200 chart dated Nov. 7, ahead of the group's 15th EP, " Golden Hour: Part 6," due out Nov. 13. The Global 200 ranks songs based on streaming and digital sales from more than 200 countries and territories worldwide, including the US. Ateez has previously topped Billboard

• NewJeans hits 500m Spotify streams with ‘ETA’ (2026-11-04 02:10)

NewJeans accumulated 500 million plays on Spotify with “ETA” as of Monday, their agency Ador said Wednesday. This is the group’s seventh song to achieve the feat, following “Ditto,” “OMG,” “Super Shy,” “Hype Boy,” “New Jeans” and “Attention.” “ETA” was one of the three tracks that fronted its second EP “Get Up,” which rolled out in July 2023. Blending elements of hip-hop and Jersey club, the performance-heavy number swept all major music charts at home along with prerelease and main track, “Supe

• Pope invites youth to bring 'questions and wounds' to 2027 World Youth Day in Seoul (2026-11-04 02:06)

Pope Leo XIV has encouraged young Catholics to bring their "questions and wounds" to World Youth Day 2027, saying he looks forward to meeting them at the international gathering set to be held in Seoul next year. "Bring to Christ your questions and your wounds but also the wounds that tear apart your societies and set your countries against one another," the pope said in a message released by the Holy See on Tuesday (Vatican time), which was also published in Korean. "Do not wait until you are p

• Babymonster tops 100m views with ‘Deserve’ music video (2026-11-04 01:58)

Babymonster’s music video for “Deserve” surpassed 100 million views on YouTube in 11 days, according to label YG Entertainment on Wednesday. It is the group’s 19th music video to reach the milestone and the fastest music video to do so this year. The two-year-old team has over 13.5 million followers on its YouTube channel. “Deserve” is a pop ballad released as a

digital single on Oct. 23, featuring six of its seven members. Main vocalist Rami has suspendedactivities since May 2025 due to health

• Lions ace Paddack says ready to sacrifice body for Korean Series start (2026-11-04 01:45)

In his professional career that began 11 years ago, Chris Paddack had never made a start on three days' rest until last week, when he pitched in Game 4 of the second round in the Korea Baseball Organization postseason for the Samsung Lions last Friday. He had tossed 94 pitches in a 5-1 loss against the Kia Tigers four days earlier. But with the Lions short on starting pitchers and sitting a win away from winning that round to book a ticket to the Korean Series, manager Park Jin-man turned to Pad

• N. Korea says dialogue with US an option but not a must for national interest (2026-11-04 01:36)

North Korea said Wednesday that dialogue with the United States remains an option for peace, but that it would not be necessary for its own interest while again stressing the US' accusation of its involvement in a major cryptocurrency theft as a sign of Washington's hostility toward Pyongyang. Kim Yo-jong, the powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong-un, made the remarks, saying the continued "hostile signal" by Washington was compelling the regime to reconsider the "true nature" of the U

• 'Arirang' becomes first K-pop album to go platinum in Italy (2026-11-04 01:33)

BTS's fifth studio album, “Arirang,” was awarded platinum status by Federation of the Italian Music Industry on Monday, its label Big Hit Music said Tuesday. This is the first time ever a K-pop album received the certification in the country. The septet has five albums that earned “gold” in Italy: “Love Yourself ‘Answer,’” “Map of the Soul: Persona,” “Map of the Soul: 7,” “Be,” and “Proof.” The fifth LP has spent 32 weeks on the Billboard 200, ranking No. 57 on the chart dated Nov. 7, after debu

• [Treasures From National Museum of Korea] Rubbed Copy of the Epitaph on the Monument for King Gwanggaeto (2026-11-04 01:29)

Nationality: Korea Materials: Paper Dimensions: First panel: 541.0 × 145.5 cm, second panel: 543.0 × 137.0 cm, third panel: 541.0 × 180.0 cm, fourth panel: 543.0 × 126.0 cm This is a rubbed copy of the epitaph on the monument to King Gwanggaeto, which his son King Jangsu erected in 414 (the 3rd year of his reign) to honor his father’s accomplishments and designate the keeper of his father’s tomb. The epitaph contains information on the origins of King Gwanggaeto’s family and the regulations for

• Senior officials of S. Korea, Switzerland discuss N. Korea situation after Swiss FM's Pyongyang trip (2026-11-04 01:21)

Senior officials of South Korea and Switzerland have discussed bilateral cooperation and the situation on the Korean Peninsula following the Swiss foreign minister's recent visit to North

Korea, Seoul's foreign ministry said Wednesday. Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Chung Eui-hae held the seventh round of bilateral policy consultations with Markus Leitner, Switzerland's assistant state secretary, in Seoul on Tuesday and exchanged views on major regional issues, including the situa

- Binance says fake job interviews, AI tool used in $6 bln theft blamed on N. Korea (2026-11-04 01:20)

Binance, the world's largest cryptocurrency exchange, said Tuesday that hackers used fake job interviews and an internal artificial intelligence tool in a cyberattack that resulted in the theft of more than $6 billion in digital assets last week. The US Federal Bureau of Investigation's has attributed the theft to North Korea, identifying the incident to a North Korean hacking group it calls TraderTraitor, a name previously tied to other cryptocurrency thefts. In its latest findings, Binance sai

- N. Korea fires unidentified projectile toward East Sea: JCS (2026-11-04 01:16)

North Korea fired an unidentified projectile toward the East Sea on Wednesday, the South Korean military said. The Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said it detected the launch, without elaborating. The latest launch came after the North fired around a dozen short-range ballistic missiles toward the East Sea from the Wonsan area Thursday, less than a week after the South Korean military proposed military talks with Pyongyang over the inter-Korean border. North Korean state media has reported that Pyon

- Melania Trump to meet Ukrainian, Russian representatives at White House this week (2026-11-04 01:09)

US First Lady Melania Trump will bring representatives of Ukraine and Russia together at the White House later this week, following a ceasefire in southern Ukraine that her office says she helped secure, the White House said Tuesday. The first lady will meet representatives of the two countries, which have been at war since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, at the White House on Thursday, according to a statement from the Office of the First Lady. "First Lady Melania Trump will pe

- Hanwha names new president of US shipyard in Philadelphia amid expansion (2026-11-04 01:02)

South Korea's Hanwha Group has appointed a new president of its Philadelphia shipyard in the United States, as the conglomerate seeks to expand its US naval shipbuilding operations, according to the company. Kim Hyuk has been named president of Hanwha Philly Shipyard, effective Monday, succeeding David Kim, who helped oversee Hanwha's acquisition of the facility in 2024 and a near doubling of its workforce since then, the shipyard said in a press release. The new president brings more than 25 ye

- North Korea fires missiles toward East Sea (2026-11-04 00:59)

North Korea launched several missiles toward the East Sea on Wednesday, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said. The JCS did not immediately disclose the exact number of missiles launched, their flight distances or other specifications. If confirmed to be ballistic missiles, Wednesday's launch would mark North Korea's 19th ballistic missile launch of the year, following its firing of more than 10 short-range ballistic missiles from the Wonsan area on Oct. 29. "South Korean and US authorities ar

- Seoul shares open sharply higher on tech gains ahead of US midterm election results (2026-11-04 00:42)

South Korean stocks started sharply higher Wednesday, driven by gains in tech shares as investors awaited results from the U.S. midterm elections. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index rose 124.21 points, or 2.2 percent, to 5,773 as of 9:15 a.m. Overnight on Wall Street, the tech-heavy Nasdaq gained 0.83 percent on strong chip shares and the S&P 500 climbed 0.36 percent. The PHLX chip index climbed 2.63 percent. Voting in the US midterm elections started Tuesday, which could reshape th

- [Graphic News] Korean children exposed to English books at younger age (2026-11-03 23:00)

The average age at which Korean children are first exposed to English-language books has fallen to 4.8 years, according to a survey by Yoons English School, an education company specializing in children’s English education. The survey of 696 parents with children in high school or earlier found that the average age of first exposure was 4.8 years, or 58 months. That was 1.5 years younger than the average of 6.3 years recorded in 2016. The survey also found that 72.8 percent of children currently

- Rotary's fight against polio informs broader humanitarian efforts (2026-11-03 22:00)

Founded in 1905, Rotary International has grown into one of the most prominent organizations behind global humanitarian efforts, particularly the decadeslong campaign to eradicate polio. In an interview with The Korea Herald, Olayinka H. Babalola, president of Rotary International, said decades of work with global and local partners had yielded lessons that could serve as a lasting legacy in addressing global challenges, from public health to broader humanitarian efforts. Babalola encouraged mor

- [Kim Seong-kon] What does getting old mean? (2026-11-03 20:30)

We all grow old as time goes on. In T. S. Eliot’s poem, “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock,” the narrator laments, “I grow old … I grow old … /I shall wear the bottoms of my trousers rolled.” It may never occur to young people that they will become old and wrinkled someday. Surely, however, they too will age, and their bodies will eventually decline. Indeed, growing old is an inevitable course of human life. What, then, does “getting old” mean? When objects age, they become dysfunctional or br

• [Nicole Huyer] Freedom isn't automatic (2026-11-03 20:30)

US President Ronald Reagan’s famous warning that “freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction; it has to be fought for and defended by each generation” is even more relevant today than when he first said it. He correctly identified that prosperity is not a predetermined outcome. It is created and sustained by culture, institutions and economic freedom, and it must therefore be the responsibility of every generation to protect and preserve it. The comforting but misguided belie

• Lee, Erdogan reaffirm ‘blood alliance’ at Seoul state banquet (2026-11-03 12:01)

President Lee Jae Myung hosted Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan at a state banquet at the Cheong Wa Dae in Seoul on Tuesday, as the Turkish leader made a state visit to South Korea. “I hope this visit will give us an opportunity to look back on our longstanding friendship and take a vigorous step toward another 70 years together,” Lee said during the banquet, noting that the two countries will mark the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations next year. “Today, our two countries drew up a

• Half of Korean universities fall in QS Asia rankings; regional schools hardest hit (2026-11-03 12:00)

More than half of South Korean universities fell in the latest QS Asian university rankings, with institutions outside the Seoul metropolitan area accounting for most of the declines. Five of the six Korean universities in the top 20 are based in Seoul, underscoring the growing disparity between higher education institutes in the capital region and those in other areas of the country. According to the 2027 QS World University Rankings: Asia, released Tuesday by global higher education analyst Qu

• Nat'l Olympic body, sports ministry vow support for S. Korean Summer Games bid (2026-11-03 11:57)

The national Olympic committee and the sports ministry both vowed their all-out support for the country's bid to host the 2036 Summer Games on Tuesday. Earlier in the day, the International Olympic Committee finalized seven countries as potential hosts of the 2036 Summer Olympics, with South Korea up against Germany, Hungary, India, Qatar, South Africa and Turkey. For South Korea, North Jeolla Province beat out Seoul to become the country's candidate in February 2025, but has since shifted towar

• Son saves father with CPR learned at school (2026-11-03 10:57)

A middle schooler in Jeonju, North Jeolla Province, saved his father's life by performing CPR he had learned at school, highlighting the importance of emergency response training for students. The Jeonbuk Fire Headquarters said Tuesday that a man in his 40s collapsed at a local supermarket at around 7:51 p.m. on Oct. 18 after experiencing shortness of breath. The man's son, who witnessed the incident, immediately called emergency services but was too panicked to provide the exact address. Fire a

• Court revokes bail of Unification Church leader after unauthorized hospital departure (2026-11-03 10:25)

A Seoul court on Tuesday revoked the bail of Unification Church leader Han Hak-ja after she was found to have left the hospital where she was required to stay under the conditions of her release. The Seoul High Court revoked the bail of the 83-year-old religious leader, who was sentenced to two years in prison on corruption charges including bribing former first lady Kim Keon Hee, citing concerns over possible evidence tampering and violations of her bail conditions. Han was convicted in August

• Hybe posts record quarterly results as BTS tour lifts revenue (2026-11-03 10:02)

K-pop giant Hybe reported record third-quarter revenue and operating profit Tuesday, propelled by BTS' ongoing world tour, putting it on track to become the first K-pop agency to surpass 4 trillion won ($2.98 billion) in annual revenue. According to its regulatory filing, the company's preliminary revenue for the July–September period jumped 109.8 percent year-on-year to 1.53 trillion won on a consolidated basis. Operating profit swung to 188.5 billion won from an operating loss of 42.2 billion

• JCS chief pays visit to console soldiers injured in DMZ blast (2026-11-03 10:02)

Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Jin Yong-sung on Tuesday visited the soldiers injured in an explosion caused by land mines planted by North Korea inside the Demilitarized Zone and offered his condolences, officials said. Jin met with the soldiers wounded from the Sept. 21 mine blast and their family members at the Armed Forces Capital Hospital in Seongnam, just south of Seoul, according to the JCS. During the visit, he pledged to ensure that the soldiers can focus solely on their recovery, s

• Asian Cup football tournament postponed due to attacks on Saudi Arabia (2026-11-03 10:01)

Asia's top men's football tournament scheduled to take place in Saudi Arabia in January next year has been postponed to December, amid continued attacks on the host country by Yemen's Houthi rebels. The Asian Football Confederation announced Tuesday that the Asian Cup, originally set for Jan. 7 to Feb. 5, 2027, will instead take place from Dec. 23, 2027, to Jan. 21, 2028. "The organizing committee for AFC Asian Cup approved to reschedule the flagship national team tournament in light of the curr

• DP vows to pass bill concerning Lee's criminal cases; PPP warns of filibusters (2026-11-03 09:49)

South Korea's ruling and main opposition parties are headed for another clash over a bill proposing a new special counsel to look into indictments filed against President Lee Jae Myung before he took office. The ruling Democratic Party of Korea's Tuesday decision to push the bill was met with immediate backlash from the main opposition People Power Party. Rep. Jeong

Jeom-sig, floor leader of the People Power Party, said his party will hold a filibuster for every bill tabled at Thursday's plenary

• After Gatsby, ‘Wuthering Heights’ marks Shin Chun-soo’s next global play (2026-11-03 09:22)

Producer Shin Chun-soo took “The Great Gatsby” from its 2024 Broadway premiere to London and Seoul. His next musical, another classic novel adaptation developed alongside “Gatsby,” carries the same global ambition but reverses the route. “Wuthering Heights,” based on Emily Bronte’s 1847 novel, will have its world premiere in Seoul in January, rather than in London, as Shin had once considered. The 58-year-old veteran producer told reporters Tuesday that he decided to bet on a Korean writer and c

• Korea, Turkey pledge deeper cooperation on nuclear energy, defense (2026-11-03 09:15)

The leaders of South Korea and Turkey agreed Tuesday to deepen cooperation in nuclear energy and the defense industry while strengthening coordination on peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and in conflict-hit regions, including Ukraine and the Middle East. The agreements followed a summit between President Lee Jae Myung and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan at Cheong Wa Dae in Seoul, during Erdogan's first state visit to South Korea in eight years. Speaking at a joint news conferen

• DP chair drops Shincheonji covert infiltration claims (2026-11-03 09:14)

Rep. Kim Min-seok, chair of the ruling Democratic Party of Korea, reversed his claims that a religious sect had colluded with his rival's supporters and attempted to influence the party's primary. Instead, Kim extended an apology to party members who were offended by the allegations he had raised during the party's leadership race. "Our investigation found no evidence of (party members' collusion with Shincheonji members). I would like to offer my deepest apologies to anyone whose feelings I may

• Another K-pop song finds new life on social media (2026-11-03 08:58)

A K-pop girl group that disbanded eight years ago is enjoying an unexpected revival after one of its 13-year-old songs went viral on social media, climbing music charts and introducing the group to a new generation of listeners. Bestie, a four-member group that debuted in 2013, has seen its second digital single "Love Options" gain renewed popularity after fans began pairing it with dance performances by younger K-pop idols. As of Tuesday afternoon, the song had peaked at No. 14 on Melon's Top 1

• Korea pushes to define threat against pets, digital spying as stalking (2026-11-03 08:45)

Forcing a romantic relationship, spying on someone's social media accounts and threatening another person's pet are to be newly defined as acts of stalking, upon passage of a law revision propelled by the South Korean government. The Ministry of Justice said Tuesday a revision of the Act on Punishment of Crime of Stalking had been proposed on Oct. 26. It aims to cover

blind spots in the current version of the law, enacted in 2021, defining nine types of offenses as stalking. Such blind spots inc

• [Key Points] Kim Yo-jong rejects crypto theft claims, keeps diplomatic door ajar (2026-11-03 08:40)

Cyber dispute escalates: Kim Yo-jong rejected US allegations tying North Korea to a $6.3 billion Binance cryptocurrency theft, calling the FBI findings a “grave political provocation.” Rare personal response: Seoul says Kim’s direct intervention in a cybersecurity dispute is unprecedented, suggesting Pyongyang views the allegations as unusually damaging to its international standing. Diplomatic signals: Analysts say Kim’s swift but restrained statement may be aimed at preventing the hacking alle

• [Key Points] Presidential data leak triggers security review in South Korea (2026-11-03 08:38)

Presidential data breach: Personal information belonging to President Lee Jae Myung, first lady Kim Hea Kyung and 166 others on presidential flights was exposed online for months, including passport details and dates of birth. Security detail exposed: The leak included presidential bodyguards whose identities are normally confidential, escalating the incident from a privacy breach to a potential presidential security threat. Five-month exposure: A presidential aircraft passenger list was upload

• Seoul shares dip over 3% amid escalating AI woes (2026-11-03 08:37)

South Korean stocks plunged more than 3 percent Tuesday, driven by heavy tech sell-offs amid escalating woes about massive artificial intelligence (AI) spending. The Korean won was trading higher against the US dollar. After opening 2.46 percent lower, the benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index extended losses to close at 5,648.79, down 210.29 points, or 3.59 percent. Trade volume was light at 192.4 million shares worth 14.1 trillion won ($10.5 billion), with decliners beating gainers 656 t

• Big Bang becomes first K-pop group to headline Sydney’s Accor Stadium (2026-11-03 06:29)

Big Bang has become the first K-pop group to hold a standalone concert at Sydney’s Accor Stadium, returning to the city for its first solo concert there in 11 years. The group performed at the stadium on Saturday as part of its “XX : Cosmos” world tour. Accor Stadium is the largest stadium in Sydney and one of the largest in all of Australia, previously hosting major international acts including Taylor Swift and Coldplay. Big Bang’s appearance marked the first time a K-pop group has headlined th

• Lee again stresses fairness amid backlash over multicultural family remarks (2026-11-03 06:08)

President Lee Jae Myung on Tuesday stressed fairness in government support programs amid growing criticism over his recent remarks questioning preferential benefits for multicultural families in some public services. “The state has a responsibility to look after the difficulties faced by socially and economically vulnerable people and carefully devise measures to support them,” Lee said during a Cabinet meeting at Cheong Wa Dae. “But in that process, the principles of fairness and reasonableness

• LG Energy Solution Q3 profit climbs 26% on strong ESS demand (2026-11-03 06:01)

LG Energy Solution reported a 25.7 percent increase in third-quarter operating profit Tuesday, boosted by strong demand for energy storage systems in North America and recovering electric-vehicle battery sales, as the South Korean battery-maker raised its full-year revenue outlook. The company posted an operating profit of 756 billion won ($564 million) for the July-September period, up 25.7 percent from a year earlier, according to its earnings release. Excluding 416.9 billion won in US manufac

• Hyundai mulls W100b stake in Posco Future M's Vietnam plant (2026-11-03 06:00)

Posco Future M has signed a letter of intent with Hyundai Motor Group to explore a 100 billion won ($74.4 million) equity investment in its synthetic graphite anode materials project in Vietnam, the South Korean battery materials maker said Tuesday. Under the agreement, Hyundai Motor Group will consider taking a stake in the project and seek priority purchasing rights for its synthetic graphite anode materials. The companies also agreed to collaborate on early-stage product development and quali

• Migrant advocates accuse Lee of spreading hate (2026-11-03 05:59)

Immigrant advocates and migrants living in Korea criticized President Lee Jae Myung on Tuesday for what they described as a series of comments targeting immigrants and fueling anti-immigrant sentiment. They made the remarks at a press conference in front of Cheong Wa Dae in central Seoul. Questioning whether Lee's comments reflect the realities migrants face in Korea, the participants called on the president to address shortcomings in the country's immigration and welfare systems that contribute

• Hanwha brings Korean defense, manufacturing ETFs to Abu Dhabi (2026-11-03 05:54)

Hanwha Asset Management's two US-listed exchange-traded funds tracking South Korea's defense and manufacturing sectors have been cross-listed on the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange in the United Arab Emirates, the asset manager announced Tuesday. The Plus Korea Defense Industry Index ETF and the Plus Korea Manufacturing Core Alliance Index ETF began trading on the ADX on Monday. Plus is Hanwha Asset's ETF brand. The cross-listing was made possible under a framework established by a memorandum of u

• Shinee's Minho's first marathon sparks debate over possible rule violation (2026-11-03 05:53)

Shinee member Choi Minho's first full marathon run has sparked debate after footage appeared to show another runner touching his back during the race. Minho completed the 2026 JTBC Seoul Marathon on Sunday, finishing in 3 hours and 18 seconds. He announced his finish on social media later that day. "Missed sub-3 by 18 seconds. Still, it was such a valuable experience. Life is a marathon," he wrote. Sub-3 refers to finishing a full marathon under 3 hours, a widely recognized goal among amateur ru

• Furniture becomes marker of wealth (2026-11-03 05:53)

In Seoul, where apartment prices continue to soar, the home remains a significant marker of wealth. For affluent homeowners, owning a desirable property is only part of creating a living space. Carefully curated furniture offers another way to express personal taste and a lifestyle that not everybody can afford. Homes have taken on a more important role beyond a living space as spaces for work, rest and socializing. In the high-end market, furniture is valued not only for its function, but also

• Pyeongtaek apartment turned into meth lab using cold medicine (2026-11-03 05:50)

Police have caught 13 people allegedly involved in an operation that produced methamphetamine from cold medicine at an apartment in Pyeongtaek, Gyeonggi Province, including pharmacy workers accused of supplying the medicine. The Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency said Tuesday that four of the suspects had been referred to prosecutors and remained in custody. The suspects are accused of violating drug control and pharmaceutical laws. Five members of the alleged drug ring, including the leader, are

• From webtoon hit to lavish fantasy drama: Disney+ rolls dice on 'Remarried Empress' (2026-11-03 05:43)

Can an all-Korean cast make European court intrigue feel real? That's the multimillion-dollar question facing Disney+'s "The Remarried Empress" -- potentially the platform's biggest gambit of the year. Adapted from a hit web novel and webtoon phenomenon that has amassed 2.97 billion views worldwide, the romance fantasy follows Empress Navier (Shin Min-a) after her husband, Emperor Sovieshu (Ju Ji-hoon), demands a divorce to elevate Rashta (Lee Se-young), a runaway slave. The story is set in a di

• Labor dispute halts Hyundai Motor's Genesis production for second day (2026-11-03 05:41)

Production of Hyundai Motor’s Genesis luxury vehicle at its Ulsan plant remained suspended for a second day Tuesday, as a labor standoff over staffing requirements for new models showed no sign of a breakthrough. The assembly line for Genesis models at Hyundai Motor’s Plant 5 in Ulsan, southeastern South Korea, remained idle Tuesday, following a shutdown that began Monday, according to industry sources. The line normally begins operations at 6:45 a.m. but production had yet to resume as of Tuesd

• Seoul to turn overlooked neighborhood spots into nighttime attractions (2026-11-03 05:38)

Seoul plans to transform dim riverside paths, neighborhood parks and hilltop viewpoints into nighttime attractions, offering up to 1 billion won ($746,658) per site to encourage evening visits and spending at nearby businesses. The Seoul Metropolitan Government said Tuesday it had selected 10 locations for its "Seoul Starlight Attractions" project. The initiative aims to connect nighttime sightseeing with dining, performances and other activities in surrounding neighborhoods. Among the selected

• Hanjin chair raises stake in Korean Air parent amid Hoban buildup (2026-11-03 05:36)

Hanjin Group Chair Walter Cho is tightening his grip on Hanjin KAL, the holding company of Korean Air, with fresh share purchases just as its second-largest shareholder, Hoban Group, has notified regulators that it may now hold the top stake. In a regulatory filing Monday, Hanjin KAL disclosed that Cho had agreed to buy 325,000 of its shares for 37 billion won ($28 million) via block trade between Dec. 3 and Jan. 1, citing a goal to strengthen responsible management. Once complete, the deal will

• Hyundai Motor Group takes third, BYD breaks into global top five in Q3 sales (2026-11-03 05:32)

Global automotive rankings have been reshuffled for the first time in seven years as Chinese automakers expand their presence overseas. Hyundai Motor Group rose to third place, while China's BYD entered the top five for the first time. Toyota Group ranked first with 2.74 million vehicles sold in the third quarter, followed by Volkswagen Group with 1.89 million and Hyundai Motor Group with 1.76 million. BYD sold 1.32 million vehicles, overtaking the Renault-Nissan Alliance, which fell out of the

• Korea selects 43 regions for education reform drive amid population decline (2026-11-03 05:30)

South Korea has selected 43 regions for a new education reform initiative to improve small schools, narrow educational disparities and strengthen cooperation between schools, universities and local industries, the Education Ministry announced Tuesday. The selected regions will receive government funding, administrative support and special regulatory exemptions for up to five years starting in 2027, as authorities seek to improve educational opportunities in communities facing declining student p

• [Contribution] Encountering Korea at the British Museum (2026-11-03 05:25)

By You Min-jung Eighteen pounds. Quite a sum for a museum where the permanent collections are free to visit. Yet people were queuing for tickets to the British Museum's exhibition on Korea. Inside, visitors young and old were moving slowly through the galleries. I hadn't expected so many people to turn out for Korea's historical treasures. Even more surprising was that most appeared to be Westerners rather than Koreans. Nor were they simply passing through. They leaned in to read the labels and

• AI server capacitor shortage set to peak in 2027, boosting Samsung Electro-Mechanics (2026-11-03 05:18)

A widening shortage of high-performance capacitors used in AI servers is expected to intensify in early 2027, as surging demand for processors and memory drives new supply contracts at Samsung Electro-Mechanics and a major capacity expansion by Japanese rival Murata Manufacturing. Market researcher TrendForce said Thursday that shortages of high-end multilayer ceramic capacitors, or MLCCs, would likely be most severe in the first two quarters of 2027, as AI infrastructure demand spreads beyond g

• Samsung's Galaxy Z Fold8 sales jump over 20% in Korea after iPhone Duo launch (2026-11-03 05:17)

Samsung Electronics' Galaxy Z Fold8 sales in South Korea rose more than 20 percent following the launch of Apple's first foldable iPhone, industry sources said Tuesday, as the US tech giant's entry to the category appears to be drawing fresh consumer interest. Domestic sales of the Fold8 increased by more than 20 percent during the week of Oct. 23-29 compared with the preceding week, according to local telecom industry figures. Absolute sales figures were not disclosed. The increase follows a ro

• Kim Yo-jong's rare denial of $6.3b crypto heist raises questions over US-N. Korea dialogue (2026-11-03 04:57)

Kim Yo-jong on Tuesday rejected US allegations linking Pyongyang to a $6.3 billion cryptocurrency theft, just three days after the US findings were announced. Experts say the unusually swift and high-profile nature of the statement from Kim — a department director of the Workers' Party of Korea's Central Committee and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un's sister — may reflect Pyongyang's concerns for its international reputation and an attempt to prevent the issue from complicating potential diploma

• S. Korea’s defenses may fall short against low-cost drone swarms: report (2026-11-03 04:56)

South Korea’s military may be ill-equipped to defend against swarms of low-cost attack drones designed to exhaust conventional air defenses, a state-run defense research institute said Tuesday. The Korea Research Institute for Defense Technology Planning and Advancement said existing counter-drone systems have clear limitations against large numbers of medium-sized attack drones, particularly if cheap uncrewed aircraft force defenders to expend far more costly interceptors. “Existing fielded sys

• Gangseo courts Mongolian patients as medical tourism rebounds (2026-11-03 04:54)

Seoul’s Gangseo-gu is seeking to attract more patients from Mongolia for fertility, dental and serious illness treatments as its medical tourism sector recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic. The district office said Tuesday that its delegation representing the public and medical sector has signed five memorandums of understanding, secured treatment reservations for two

patients, and recorded 156 consultations, Gangseo-gu sent a delegation representing ninemedical and support institutions to Mongo

• Social media's latest obsession is a scarf seller at Namdaemun Market (2026-11-03 04:52)

If you're active on social media, there is a good chance you have come across this man. In recent weeks, the Namdaemun scarf seller has become an unlikely online sensation, drawing attention for his witty exchanges with customers. Known online as "Namdaemun scarf man," he runs a shop called Hanyangsa at Namdaemun Market, South Korea's oldest and largest traditional market. He sells scarves from an outdoor display, where shoppers can pick any six for 10,000 won ($7.50). His quick wit and an uncon

• Seoul races to contain data leak exposing Lee, his aides and bodyguards (2026-11-03 04:49)

South Korea is scrambling to contain an unprecedented leak that exposed the personal information of President Lee Jae Myung and first lady Kim Hea Kyung, as well as senior aides, bodyguards and journalists accompanying them overseas. The exposure of the first couple's personal information was alarming enough. But the breach also revealed the identities of presidential security officers assigned to protect the president at close range, raising deeper concerns about presidential security. The gove

• Widow reunited with W30m hidden in late husband's medicine box (2026-11-03 04:42)

A woman in Jeju was reunited with 30 million won ($22,000) in cash that her late husband had secretly stashed in a medicine box, thanks to a pharmacy worker who discovered the money and alerted police. Jeju police said Tuesday that the woman visited a pharmacy in Jeju City on Oct. 26, asking staff to dispose of medication left behind by her husband, who had died after a prolonged illness. While sorting through the medicine box, a pharmacy worker discovered bundles of cash totaling 30 million won

• APR's Medicube draws 15,000 on US-Europe pop-up tour (2026-11-03 04:36)

South Korean beauty company APR said Tuesday that its flagship brand Medicube had attracted about 15,000 visitors during a pop-up tour across four major cities in the US and Europe, as it steps up efforts to expand its global retail presence. The Medicube Wellness Club X2 tour kicked off in New York in September, followed by stops in Los Angeles, London and Paris through October, marking the brand's first pop-up campaign spanning both continents. The events showcased Medicube's new Booster Pro X

• What makes an ideal orchestra? Teodor Currentzis has his answer (2026-11-03 04:35)

In a world increasingly driven by pragmatism, conductor Teodor Currentzis believes an orchestra should be built on something less tangible: idealism. His Utopia Orchestra brings together around 200 musicians from across the world, not as a permanent ensemble but as a community of artists united by a shared passion for music and a desire to explore its

possibilities. Asked what an ideal orchestra looks like, the 54-year-old Greek conductoranswered in a single word: “Utopia.” Seoul audiences will

• Ukraine says Russian strikes dash peace hopes after 26 killed (2026-11-03 04:19)

KYIV, Ukraine (AFP) -- Ukraine said Monday that Russian strikes on a school distributing humanitarian aid killed at least 26 people, dashing fragile hopes of "progress toward peace" after a localized ceasefire in the south expired without violations. Russia resumed strikes on the southern Kherson region after the ceasefire ended, marking the conclusion of the longest truce between the neighbors since Russia's full-scale invasion in 2022, Kyiv said. The rare pause in fighting, brokered by US firs

• US strikes Iranian targets in Strait of Hormuz (2026-11-03 03:47)

The United States conducted defensive strikes on Iranian targets in the Strait of Hormuz on Monday, a US official said, as diplomatic efforts continued to avert another major escalation between Washington and Tehran. The official, who was not authorized to comment publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity, said Iranian forces using surface-to-air missiles against US assets were targeted. Iranian state television reported explosions on Qeshm Island. The strikes appeared limited rather than a f

• Wave of cyber breaches exposes growing risks to S. Korea's digital economy (2026-11-03 02:54)

A relentless wave of cyberattacks on South Korean banks, telecom operators, businesses and government agencies has exposed growing risks to the country's digital economy, highlighting the need for stronger cybersecurity. The scale and frequency of the breaches have raised concerns that cyber threats could extend beyond personal data theft to disrupt financial services, business operations and industrial supply chains. The latest series of security breaches has brought those concerns to the highe

• N. Korean leader's sister blasts FBI's crypto theft probe as 'political provocation' (2026-11-03 02:48)

North Korea on Tuesday flatly dismissed the outcome of a US investigation that blamed Pyongyang for a massive cryptocurrency theft from Binance, the world's largest cryptocurrency exchange, calling it a "grave political provocation" against the North. Kim Yo-jong, the powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong-un, made the remarks, referring to the US Federal Bureau of Investigation's announcement Saturday that the regime is responsible for the theft of more than $6 billion in cryptocurrenc

• And2ble’s 2nd EP logs 800,000 in first-week sales (2026-11-03 02:44)

And2ble sold more than 800,000 copies of its second EP in the first week of sales, YH Entertainment announced Tuesday, citing a local tally. Mini album “Sequence 02: Attraction” exceeded half a million sold on the day of release, and went on to surpass the first-week sales

of its debut set, “Sequence 01: Curiosity,” at over 730,000. On iTunes albums charts, thesecond EP landed among the top 10 in 15 regions, while all five tracks, including lead single“French Kissing,” entered Melon’s Hot 100

• Illit returns to Japan's FNS Music Festival for third year (2026-11-03 02:40)

Girl group Illit will perform at Japan's FNS Music Festival for the third consecutive year, its agency Belift Lab announced Tuesday. The five-member group will appear on the first night of Fuji TV's 2026 FNS Music Festival, scheduled to air Dec. 2. First held in 1974, the FNS Music Festival is one of Japan's major year-end music programs, bringing together prominent Japanese and international artists. Illit made its first appearance on the show in 2024, before releasing its first Japanese album,

• Over one-third of immigrant students leave high school because they 'don't fit in' (2026-11-03 02:36)

Nearly 1 out of 20 students in South Korean schools have a migrant background, but a report Tuesday indicated that a significant number of such high school students drop out because they are unable to adapt to school life. According to local media outlet Hankyoreh, Ministry of Education data showed 594 migrant background students dropped out of high school in 2024. This accounted for 2.15 percent of such students across the country. Of those, 35.7 percent cited "not being able to adapt to school

• Mark to express happiness on upcoming single (2026-11-03 02:36)

Mark, formerly of NCT, will put out the single “Happiest” on Nov. 6, according to Upper Room on Tuesday. He unveiled a preview clip for the single on Monday before showing himself grooving to the music amid a group of dancers, giving a sample of the soon-to-be-released single in a snippet. “Happiest” is an alternative pop R&B tune. The performer sings of finding true happiness inside, rather than measuring against other people’s standards. The new song comes about two months since Mark dropped t

• Man caught roaming naked at Korea Univ. arrested (2026-11-03 02:33)

A man in his 20s was arrested Monday for walking naked on Korea University’s Anam campus in Seoul. Seoul Seongbuk Police Station said officers responding to a report arrested the man on campus at around 2:30 p.m. on charges of public indecency. Police said he had no affiliation with the university. The arrest comes after several incidents involving naked men in Seoul in recent months, including an alleged sexual assault on a university campus. In August, a naked man wearing a black mask allegedl

• Boehringer Ingelheim looks to Korean biotech for next drug breakthroughs (2026-11-03 02:32)

Korea is moving beyond its traditional role as a market for medicines to become a source of pharmaceutical innovation, with local biotech partnerships and clinical research expected to

play a larger role in global drug development, Boehringer Ingelheim CEO Shashank Deshpandesays. “We do not anymore see Korea just from a sales and marketing perspective,” Deshpande said in an interview with The Korea Herald on the sidelines of the 19th Asia-PacificConference of German Business in Seoul on Friday

• Youngone, FKI host Bangladesh delegation to boost business ties (2026-11-03 02:23)

Youngone Group and the Federation of Korean Industries hosted a high-level Bangladeshi delegation Monday in Seoul to explore new trade and investment opportunities/ The meeting, held at FKI Tower in Yeouido, brought together Bangladesh Finance and Planning Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury and senior Korean business leaders to discuss expanding bilateral economic ties. Discussions spanned manufacturing, advanced technology and industrial cooperation. The Bangladeshi delegation included Rehan

• UAE boosts oil exports after leaving OPEC (2026-11-03 02:21)

LONDON (Reuters) -- Six months after leaving OPEC, the United Arab Emirates on Monday began hosting ADIPEC, one of the world's largest energy conferences, where it told an audience of industry executives it had increased oil exports in spite of the Iran war. The UAE was for 59 years a pivotal member of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries. It said in April it would leave the group, weeks into the US-Israeli war with Iran. The war, which began at the end of February, has led to

• Apple beats forecasts as AI costs weigh on margins (2026-11-03 02:20)

SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) -- Apple exceeded analysts' expectations for its latest results on Monday when the iPhone-maker said it notched a "revenue record" for the July-September quarter, driven by iPhone sales and services revenue, but increased costs related to AI will drag down margins. "We’re closing the year with our most ambitious lineup yet," CEO John Ternus, who took over from Tim Cook in September, said in a statement before speaking on a call with analysts Monday afternoon. Ternus hinted at

• US manufacturing strengthens in October, input prices stay high (2026-11-03 02:20)

WASHINGTON (Reuters) -- US manufacturing activity picked up in October amid strong domestic demand, keeping inflation at the factory gate elevated. Despite the unexpected improvement reported by the Institute for Supply Management on Monday, sentiment among manufacturers remained overwhelmingly downbeat, with some complaining that "economic policies coming out of Washington continue to weigh on business conditions," and others saying the situation was "making it impossible to make sound long-te

• Seventeen’s Dino drops surprise single (2026-11-03 01:55)

Seventeen's Dino will drop a solo digital single on Tuesday, a surprise hello from the enlisted musician, his agency Pledis Entertainment said. He wrote both the lyrics and melody of “Automatic,” which conveys the fluttering feelings of falling in love. He gave his fans an early

listen in August, during his solo show in Seoul, “Dino X Picheolin Board Show.” Dino has been expanding his musical horizons through solo music, starting with the mixtape “Wait” in 2021. In August, he released his first

• N. Korea slams Japan's missile reinforcement, joint drills with US (2026-11-03 01:47)

North Korea on Tuesday criticized Japan's push to acquire "preemptive attack" capabilities and last month's regular military drills between Washington and Tokyo, warning that such moves would invite a "vicious cycle" of escalating regional tensions. In an article carried by the official Korean Central News Agency, a military commentator took issue with Tokyo's deployment of a Type 25 longer-range anti-ship missile launcher during the bilateral Keen Sword exercise that took place across Japan fro

• Woman 21 weeks pregnant gives birth inside ambulance (2026-11-03 01:33)

Rescue authorities in Daejeon said Tuesday that a woman who was 21 weeks pregnant ended up giving birth inside an ambulance Monday afternoon, as no hospitals in the vicinity were equipped to handle the case. The Daejeon Fire Headquarters received a report at around 7:15 p.m. Monday that a woman in her 30s had had her water break. Giving birth earlier than 28 weeks is considered an extreme case, and the hospital in question was unable to provide the necessary care. Rescue workers contacted other

• Police launch investigation into leak of presidential plane passenger information (2026-11-03 01:27)

Police said Tuesday they have launched a preliminary investigation into the online leak of personal information belonging to 168 individuals, including President Lee Jae Myung, his wife and Cabinet ministers. Earlier in June, a file titled "Passenger list (South Korea-Belgium)" was posted on a paid, security-related website, according to the Korean National Police Agency. The file reportedly contained the personal information of 168 individuals, including Lee and his wife, key government officia

• Sales of Galaxy Z Fold 8 increase following launch of Apple's 1st foldable smartphone (2026-11-03 01:24)

Domestic sales of Samsung Electronics Co.'s latest Galaxy Z foldable smartphone have increased following the launch of Apple Inc.'s first foldable iPhone, industry sources said Tuesday. Sales of the Galaxy Z Fold 8 in South Korea rose about 20 percent in the week after the iPhone Duo's launch from the previous week, according to telecommunications industry sources. The increase is believed to reflect consumer recognition of Samsung's hinge technology and product durability, as well as the user e

• Blackpink’s Jisoo tops iTunes charts in 28 regions with solo single (2026-11-03 01:23)

Jisoo of Blackpink saw her solo single “Addicted” rise to the top of iTunes songs charts in 28 regions, according to Blissoo on Tuesday. The music video for the prerelease from her first solo

studio album claimed the No. 1 spot on YouTube’ s trending music video worldwide ranking.She participated in writing the lyrics of the song, which dropped Friday, highlighting her vocalcapabilities and demonstrating rapping skills. The artist is set to perform the new song on atelevision music chart show

- Presidential office holds emergency meeting over leak of personal data of president, trip entourage (2026-11-03 01:23)

The presidential office held an emergency meeting Tuesday to address the leak of personal information of President Lee Jae Myung and members of an entourage that accompanied him on his overseas trip in June. The meeting, presided over by presidential chief of staff Lim Kwang-hyun, followed news reports that a computer file containing personal data of Lee's entourage for his June overseas trip had been uploaded to a publicly accessible website that same month. Those affected also included the fir

- BOK sees consumer inflation remaining near 3% in Nov. (2026-11-03 01:21)

Consumer prices are expected to rise into the high 2 percent range in November due to an upward trend in core inflation, the central bank said Tuesday. "Consumer prices rose at a slower pace in October as shipments of agricultural products improved, but prices of private services and durable goods remained elevated," Deputy Gov. Lee Ji-ho said during a meeting to review inflation trends. "In November, inflation is expected to remain in the high 2 percent range, affected by global oil prices and

- Cheong Wa Dae orders probes into data leak of Lee, aides, security guards (2026-11-03 01:17)

Cheong Wa Dae on Tuesday ordered a thorough investigation into a personal data leak involving President Lee Jae Myung, presidential aides, security personnel and journalists accompanying his overseas trip. The move came after KBS reported Monday that passport details and other personal information of 168 people aboard the presidential aircraft had been exposed online for about five months. Presidential chief of staff Lim Kwang-hyun convened an emergency meeting Tuesday morning to discuss the inc

- Launch ceremony set for latest indigenously-built attack submarine (2026-11-03 01:17)

The Navy was set to hold a launching ceremony Tuesday for its latest indigenously-built attack submarine, a key asset in boosting its undersea deterrence against maritime threats around the Korean Peninsula, the armed force said. The 3,600-ton Seo Hui attack submarine was to be moved into the water for the first time during the ceremony at Hanwha Ocean Co.'s shipyard in Geoje, some 330 kilometers southeast of Seoul, the Navy said in a statement jointly released by the Defense Acquisition Program

- Police release identity of suspect in Seoul building arson (2026-11-03 00:54)

Police on Tuesday released the identity and mug shots of a suspect accused of setting fires at two patent firms in southern Seoul last month and leaving 26 people injured. The Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency posted the photos of Lee Myung-soo, 77, on its website following a decision by a review committee. Lee is suspected of committing arson in two buildings in Seoul's southern ward of Gangnam on Oct. 20, He was taken into custody shortly after the fires and was referred to the prosecution last

- S. Korea, Bulgaria reaffirm economic ties, nuclear cooperation (2026-11-03 00:49)

South Korea and Bulgaria have reaffirmed their commitment to cooperation on a new nuclear power plant project in Bulgaria and discussed ways to expand bilateral economic ties at a joint committee meeting, Seoul's foreign ministry said Tuesday. The third meeting of the South Korea-Bulgaria Joint Economic Committee was held in Sofia on Monday, co-chaired by Park Jong-han, deputy minister for economic affairs, and Krasimir Yakimov, the Bulgarian deputy economic minister, according to the ministry.

- Foreigners' card spending in Seoul jumps nearly 58% to W8.84tr (2026-11-03 00:34)

Foreign visitors' card spending in Seoul jumped nearly 58 percent from a year earlier in the first nine months of 2026, driven by a record number of visitors, city government data showed Tuesday. Foreigners spent 8.84 trillion won ($6.57 billion) using credit and debit cards in Seoul from January to September, up 57.7 percent from the same period last year, according to the data. The figure has already surpassed the annual total of 7.94 trillion won for 2025. By sector, shopping accounted for th

- White House cites S. Korean trade deal, Alaska gas project among Trump's fulfilled pledges (2026-11-03 00:01)

The White House on Monday highlighted US President Donald Trump's trade agreement with South Korea and a Alaska natural gas project involving Seoul among his fulfilled campaign promises, as it touted his achievements on the eve of the U.S. midterm elections. In a press release highlighting policies promised and delivered during Trump's second term, the White House listed 127 campaign pledges it said the president had fulfilled. Among them, the administration cited South Korea as one of the major

- N. Korea tests 'dispersal warhead' for cruise missiles following cluster bomb test (2026-11-02 23:59)

North Korea has tested a "dispersal warhead" for a strategic cruise missile, state media reported Tuesday, following its recent test of a cluster bomb for ballistic missiles. Full Gen. Kim Jong-sik, a member of the Workers' Party of Korea's Central Military Commission and first vice department director of the Central Committee, oversaw Monday's tests, according to the Korean Central News Agency. "The Warhead Institute of the Missile Administration said it confirmed that the middle-sized dispersa

• BTS concerts in Taiwan, Indonesia to be screened at movie theaters in over 80 countries (2026-11-02 23:55)

Two shows from K-pop supergroup BTS' upcoming tour in Taiwan and Jakarta will be livestreamed at movie theaters in more than 80 countries and regions, the group's agency said Tuesday. The live viewings will feature the group's second-day show in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, on Nov. 21 and its third-day show in Jakarta, Indonesia, on Dec. 29, BigHit Music said in a notice posted on K-pop fan community platform Weverse. The Kaohsiung and Jakarta concerts will be shown on about 3,300 and 2,800 large screens

• N. Korean leader's sister blasts FBI's crypto theft probe as 'political provocation' (2026-11-02 23:53)

North Korea on Tuesday flatly dismissed the outcome of a US investigation that blamed Pyongyang for a massive cryptocurrency theft from Binance, the world's largest cryptocurrency exchange, calling it a "grave political provocation" against the North. Kim Yo-jong, the powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong-un, made the remarks, referring to the US Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) announcement Saturday that the regime is responsible for the theft of more than $6 billion in cryptoc

• [Graphic News] Korean fried chicken tops global ranking of fried dishes (2026-11-02 23:00)

Korean fried chicken has been named the world’s highest-rated fried dish, according to food guide TasteAtlas. The dish ranked first on TasteAtlas’ list of the world’s 100 best fried dishes, scoring 4.4 out of 5. Indonesia’s batagor, fried fish dumplings served with sauce, came in second, followed by Peru’s jalea, a platter of fried seafood. TasteAtlas credited the dish’s crispy texture and variety of sauces for its popularity. Korean fried chicken is typically fried twice, first at a relatively

• [Lee Moon-won] Prevention needs reliable records (2026-11-02 20:30)

“When did it start to change?” It is the first thing I ask at a first consultation. The answers differ from country to country. Among women who come from the Middle East, many tell me their hair changed after several childbirths. Young patients from highly competitive countries tell me it began to fall after nights of study or nights of work. Hair speaks the same language across borders. The reasons differ from country to country. Ask a patient, “How was it this time last year?” and most will sm

• [Ana Palacio] A future for Europe's youth (2026-11-02 20:30)

At first glance, the wave of student-led protests that has swept across France might resemble the events of May 1968. Both featured surging crowds of demonstrators calling for education reform, criticizing the government, erecting blockades and being confronted by riot police. Both also attracted casseurs, who turned protest into destruction. But whereas the students of 1968 were seeking to overturn the established order, today’s protesters want the established order to deliver for them. To unde

• [Vitit Muntarbhorn] Preparing for Thailand’ s fourth periodic rights review (2026-11-02 20:30)

In 2005, with major United Nations reforms, the UN Human Rights Council was set up. With the new body came a new monitoring mechanism of a more universal kind: the Universal Periodic Review. For once, the UN would have a way of covering every country consensually, with a gentler touch than that of many other human rights mechanisms. The UPR is basically an interactive dialogue of a modulated kind between states, avoiding vocal naming-and-shaming. It is a peer review exercise whereby the country

• Korea's top court upholds W18.6b fine on Broadcom for pressuring Samsung into unfair deal (2026-11-02 11:02)

South Korea's Supreme Court has upheld an 18.6 billion won ($13.9 million) antitrust fine against US chipmaker Broadcom for abusing its bargaining power to force Samsung Electronics into an unfavorable long-term component supply agreement. The court dismissed an appeal filed by Broadcom's US headquarters and affiliated companies on Oct. 27, finalizing a lower court ruling that upheld the penalty imposed by the Korea Fair Trade Commission, legal sources said Monday. The dispute dates to March 202

• Hyundai's Genesis production halted amid dispute over new models (2026-11-02 10:26)

Hyundai Motor's Genesis production line at its Ulsan plant was shut down Monday after union representatives blocked the introduction of test vehicles for upcoming models amid a dispute over staffing levels. The disruption began at around 9 a.m. at Plant 5, where union representatives prevented the company from putting a test vehicle for the Genesis G80 hybrid sedan onto the assembly line, according to industry sources. Production remained suspended despite efforts by management to persuade worke

• Finance minister, Hyundai Motor chief discuss EV policies: sources (2026-11-02 10:15)

South Korea's finance minister met with the head of Hyundai Motor Group to discuss ways to develop the country's electric vehicle industry, along with government tax incentives for the sector, sources said Monday. Finance Minister Lee Hyoung-il met with Hyundai Motor Group Executive Chair Euisun Chung for around 20 minutes ahead of a roundtable held on the day at the company's research center in Hwaseong, south of Seoul, according to the sources. During the meeting, the two also exchanged views

• S. Korea seeks to finalize agreement with US on joint air base relocations by year-end (2026-11-02 08:43)

South Korea is seeking to finalize a comprehensive agreement with the United States by the end of this year on plans to relocate jointly used air bases across the country, including the facilities in the southwestern city of Gwangju, a source familiar with the matter said Monday. The move comes amid Seoul's push to relocate the shared air base and military airport in Gwangju under

an initiative to build a mega semiconductor cluster in the city and the broader surrounding region. Seoul and Washin

• Posco Holdings Q3 profit surges 48% as steel rebounds (2026-11-02 08:36)

Posco Holdings reported a 48 percent on-year jump in third-quarter operating profit Monday, extending its earnings recovery for a third consecutive quarter as improving steel margins and stable energy operations helped offset weakness in battery materials. The steelmaker posted consolidated revenue of 19.14 trillion won ($14.2 billion), operating profit of 945 billion won and net income of 380 billion won. The results reflected progress in its "Triple Core" strategy, which focuses on steel, batt

• KAI delivers first 2 FA-50 fighter jets to Malaysia (2026-11-02 08:36)

Korea Aerospace Industries Ltd. said Monday it has delivered the first two FA-50 light combat aircraft to Malaysia under a 2023 contract to supply 18 jets to the Southeast Asian country. The two FA-50M aircraft departed from KAI's headquarters in Sacheon, about 300 kilometers southeast of Seoul, on Thursday and arrived at Malaysia's Kuantan Air Base on Sunday. The aircraft will be formally handed over to the Royal Malaysian Air Force after completing final acceptance tests. The delivery marks th

• S. Korean won sharply weakens against US dollar (2026-11-02 08:34)

The South Korean won sharply weakened against the U.S. dollar Monday, as institutional traders appeared to have locked in gains after the won's recent advance. The won was quoted at 1,343.8 won per dollar at 3:30 p.m., down 9.5 won from the close of the previous stock trading session. It marked the first time since Oct. 15 that the Korean currency hovered around 1,340 won to the greenback. Traders have also kept a watchful eye on the US midterm elections that are expected to affect Washington's

• 넥스록, JYP 인수 제안 연기…자금력 의문 확산 (2026-11-02 08:29)

일본계 투자회사 넥스록(Nexroc)이 JYP엔터테인먼트에 대한 인수 제안 일정을 연기한 가운데, 새롭게 제시한 기한인 2일에도 제안서 제출 여부가 확인되지 않으면서 실제 인수 추진 가능성에 의문이 커지고 있다. 넥스록은 코리아헤럴드의 단독 서면 질의에 당초 지난달 26일로 예정했던 JYP 인수 제안 시점을 이달 2일로 연기했다고 밝혔다. 이후 약 2개월간 비공개 협상을 거쳐 내년 1월께 공개매수를 추진한다는 계획이다. 그러나 2일 오후 5시 현재 넥스록과 JYP 양측 모두 정식 인수 제안서의 제출 및 접수 여부를 확인하지 않고 있다. 공식 협상 개시 여부도 불분명하다. 넥스록은 JYP 지분 25~50%를 시가에 약 30%의 프리미엄을 얹어 인수하겠다고 밝혔지만, 구체적인 자금 조달 계획이나 금융기관의 대출 확약은 공개하지 않았다. 넥스록은 지난달 26일 인수 의사를 공개하며 약 30일간 협상을 진행하겠다고 밝혔다. 그러나 사흘 뒤 투자자 서한에서는 JYP와 일본 에이벡스 등 14개

• K-pop's growing alliance with streaming giants (2026-11-02 08:13)

For years, K-pop agencies turned to domestic broadcasters, particularly cable music channels such as CJ ENM's Mnet, to discover aspiring idols and document their journey to debut.

Televised competitions eventually expanded to major terrestrial networks, helping agencies introduce new acts to Korean audiences. Now, the search for the next big K-pop act is increasingly reaching beyond Korean television, with global streaming platforms emerging as important partners. The latest example came on Oct.

• T.O.P apologizes after longtime fan site shuts down over communication dispute (2026-11-02 07:40)

Former Big Bang member T.O.P apologized to the operators and users of his longtime fan site Choidot, about three weeks after the site ended its 20-year run. T.O.P posted a lengthy message on his Instagram on Sunday, thanking the fan site’s operators and fans who had supported him since his debut. “I want to sincerely convey my feelings to the operators of Choidot, who have been with me for the past 20 years,” he wrote. “Even during moments when I found it difficult to believe in myself, you beli

• 'Doctor X' domestic ratings drop amid controversy (2026-11-02 07:37)

“Doctor X: Mafia in White,” considered one of the breakout K-dramas of the second half, has seen a decline in domestic viewership amid lingering controversy over its medical accuracy and portrayal of history. According to Nielsen Korea, the series’ eighth episode, which aired Saturday, recorded a nationwide household rating of 15.6 percent. That marked a drop from 16.5 percent for Friday’s episode and a 3.9 percentage-point decline from its sixth episode, which posted a series high of 19.5 perce

• Nexroc delays JYP takeover proposal as funding doubts grow (2026-11-02 07:32)

Japanese investment firm Nexroc has postponed its planned acquisition proposal for JYP Entertainment, it confirmed in an exclusive response to The Korea Herald, raising questions about its ability to finance a potential takeover of the K-pop powerhouse. Nexroc pushed its original Oct. 26 proposal deadline to Monday, with a tender offer tentatively scheduled for January 2027. "We initially planned to submit an acquisition proposal to JYP on Oct. 26, but the schedule has been pushed back to Nov. 2

• Seoul stocks rebound over 2% on bargain hunting (2026-11-02 07:24)

Seoul stocks rebounded to end over 2 pct higher Monday as investors went bargain hunting for tech heavyweights despite concerns over artificial intelligence spending. The Korean won fell against the US dollar. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index closed up 128.34 points, or 2.24 percent, to 5,859.08 after rising as high as 5,910.83. On Friday, the index had plunged over 3 percent. Trade volume was light at 186.4 million shares worth 14.9 trillion won ($11.1 billion). Winners outnumber

• US criticism of China in Yellow Sea exposes strategic divide with Seoul: expert (2026-11-02 06:25)

The contrast between Seoul and Washington's approach to China's activities in the Yellow Sea is drawing attention to divergence in the allies' strategic priorities, raising questions about whether Beijing could become a source of friction in the South Korea-US alliance. The contrast emerged following a trilateral foreign ministers' meeting in Atlanta on Friday (local time), with the US State Department explicitly raising concerns over what it described as China's "coercive behavior" in the Yello

• About 80% of Korean judges encounter AI-generated fake legal precedents: survey (2026-11-02 06:23)

Eight in 10 South Korean judges have experienced court cases in which false or nonexistent legal precedents generated by artificial intelligence (AI) were cited, a recent survey by the Supreme Court released Monday showed. The top court published the outcome of the survey conducted on 360 judges from Oct. 6-16 as it sought to examine increasingly worrisome cases of "AI hallucination" -- a term referring to a situation where AI models present false information as if they were true. In the survey,

• Where the next generation of choreographers are taking Korean dance (2026-11-02 06:22)

A body struggling to keep its balance. Another unable to find rest under the midnight sun. A boxer counting the seconds before getting back on his feet. These are the starting points for three new works by emerging choreographers in the National Dance Company of Korea's 2026 Choreographer Project, which will present Lee Ei-sul's "Can't Kill It," Song Yun-joo's "White Night," and Seon Seung-hoon's "COUNT" from Friday through Sunday at the Daloreum Theater in Seoul. Launched in 2023, the project a

• Conservatives accuse Lee of avoiding 'difficult truths' in parliamentary address (2026-11-02 06:21)

The main opposition People Power Party has upped its pressure on President Lee Jae Myung by accusing him of hiding truths and avoiding critical issues in his latest parliamentary address. In a speech at the National Assembly on Monday, President Lee called for support for the government's 820.9 trillion won ($611.3 billion) budget proposal for 2027. In his remarks, he said that the net increase of the national debt "amounts to nearly zero" despite his administration's new sovereign bond issuance

• Finance minister discusses economic ties, cooperation with US ambassador (2026-11-02 06:17)

Finance Minister Lee Hyoung-il met with US Ambassador to South Korea Michelle Steel on Monday to discuss ways to strengthen bilateral economic cooperation, the finance ministry said. During the meeting held at the government complex in Seoul, Lee said the South Korea-US alliance has expanded beyond security to encompass economic areas, including advanced industries, energy and supply chains, over the past 70 years, according to the Ministry of Finance and Economy. He expressed hope that Steel, w

• S. Korea launches Defense Drone Agency (2026-11-02 06:17)

South Korea launched its new military drone headquarters Monday, seeking to make uncrewed aircraft a common battlefield tool across the branches, but experts say the country needs to match production capabilities to military goals. On Monday, the Ministry of National Defense held a ceremony marking the establishment of the Defense Drone Agency, which replaces the Drone Operations Command established in 2023. Under the reorganization, the former command's operational units and missions will be tr

• Household loans again rise in Oct. despite tightened rules, higher rates (2026-11-02 06:15)

Household loans by major banks again rebounded in October from a month earlier despite tight borrowing regulations and higher rates, data showed Monday. Outstanding household loans at five major lenders -- KB Kookmin Bank, Shinhan Bank, Hana Bank, Woori Bank and NH Nonghyup Bank -- stood at 783.6 trillion won ($584 billion) as of end-October, up 2.77 trillion won from the previous month, according to data compiled by the banks. The rebound came a month after such loans fell for the first time in

• Seoul mayor says to review next year's marathons from 'scratch' after severe traffic disruptions (2026-11-02 06:11)

Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon said Monday that marathon races scheduled for next year in Seoul will undergo a review from "scratch," following persistent complaints over severe traffic disruptions. A nationwide running boom in recent years has turned Seoul into a weekend hotspot for running events, but frequent road restrictions from the races have sparked growing public traffic complaints. Oh addressed major traffic disruptions caused by a race Sunday, pledging an overhaul to races next year. "Ultimat

• S. Korea officially recognizes 3 fishing crewmen abducted by N. Korea in 1973 (2026-11-02 06:10)

South Korea has officially recognized three fishing crewmen abducted by North Korea decades ago, Seoul's unification ministry said Monday, bringing the total number of government-recognized abductees since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War to 519. The ministry added Jo Gi-won, Kim Yang-hun and Kim Dong-ho, who were forcibly taken to the North while aboard their fishing boat, the Daeyeong, near the South Korean border island of Yeonpyeong in 1973, to the list of post-war abductees eligible for "c

• From Samsung to Toss: Why Korean finance is betting on Japan (2026-11-02 06:09)

South Korean financial firms are accelerating their push into Japan, with Mirae Asset, Hanwha and Toss moving to acquire local brokerages within weeks, betting on a surge in retail investing and sweeping capital market reforms. The three acquisition plans announced in October signal growing interest in Japan's financial market as households shift savings into investments and the government pushes to revitalize the country's capital markets. The deals also highlight

different strategies among Kor

• BTS wraps sold-out South America tour with 853,000 attendees (2026-11-02 06:07)

BTS wrapped up the South American leg of its “Arirang” world tour after drawing 853,000 concertgoers across 14 sold-out shows in five cities. The group concluded the leg with three concerts at Morumbi Stadium in Sao Paulo on Oct. 28, Oct. 30 and 31. The South American tour began in Bogota on Oct. 2 and continued through Lima, Santiago, Buenos Aires and Sao Paulo. The set list featured tracks from BTS’ fifth LP, “Arirang,” alongside favorites such as “Fake Love,” “Not Today,” “Mic Drop,” “Fire,”

• Korean Series features 2 ex-MVPs as opposing managers (2026-11-02 06:07)

Only three winners of the Korean Series MVP award have gone on to manage in the Korea Baseball Organization (KBO), and two of them will be in the opposing dugouts when the South Korean baseball championship battle begins this week. The KT Wiz and the Samsung Lions will meet in the best-of-seven Korean Series starting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at KT Wiz Park in Suwon, just south of Seoul. Wiz manager Lee Kang-chul was voted the 1996 Korean Series MVP for helping the Haitai Tigers (currently Kia Tigers

• Retrial to begin next week for Uzbek national convicted of murder, robbery 16 yrs ago (2026-11-02 06:06)

A court will open a retrial next week for an Uzbek national who was sentenced to life in prison 16 years ago for killing and robbing a taxi driver in 2009, legal sources said Monday. According to the sources, the first hearing of the retrial for Bozorov Akmal, 37, will begin at 11 a.m. on Nov. 12 at the Changwon District Court in Changwon, about 300 kilometers southeast of Seoul. The Supreme Court finalized Akmal's life imprisonment in 2010 on charges of robbing and killing a 50-something taxi d

• Samsung SDS targets 120MW capacity at new Gumi AI hub (2026-11-02 06:00)

Samsung SDS said Monday that construction is underway on its new artificial intelligence data center in Gumi, North Gyeongsang Province, with plans to double its initial power capacity of 60 megawatts as demand for AI computing grows. The facility, scheduled for completion by the end of 2028, will occupy a 46,000-square-meter site. It is designed to accommodate up to 120 MW of power capacity through phased expansion. Samsung SDS approved a 427.3 billion won ($319 million) investment in January a

• LG CNS completes 30MW AI data center in Indonesia (2026-11-02 05:57)

LG CNS has completed a 30-megawatt artificial intelligence data center in Jakarta, Indonesia, marking the first overseas AI data center built by a Korean company for a foreign client, with its entire capacity booked before completion. The facility was commissioned last year by KMG, a joint venture between Indonesia's Sinar Mas Group and Korea Investment Real Asset Management. The project marks LG CNS' entry into overseas AI data center construction for

third-party clients. Designed to support ne

• N. Korea slams South Korea-US nuclear drills, vows to accelerate nuclear buildup (2026-11-02 05:54)

North Korea on Monday condemned a recent South Korea-US military exercise integrating Washington's nuclear capabilities with Seoul's conventional forces, and vowed to accelerate its nuclear weapons buildup as an "immutable" national defense policy. Kim Jong-sik, first vice department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, accused Washington and Seoul of conducting a nuclear war rehearsal targeting Pyongyang, according to a statement carried by the state-run Korean Cent

• Samsung takes Africa's smartphone crown with 'pay-by-day' plans (2026-11-02 05:50)

Samsung Electronics has topped Africa’s smartphone market for the first time since entering the region in 1995, helped by payment plans that let customers pay for their phones by the day or week. Samsung ranked first by smartphone revenue in the first quarter and took the lead in unit sales in the second, according to market researcher TechInsights on Monday. Its second-quarter sales volume rose 34.8 percent from a year earlier, even as the broader African market shrank 16.6 percent. Flexible pa

• KMI expands beyond health screenings with new vision (2026-11-02 05:45)

The Korea Medical Institute is expanding beyond traditional health screenings into long-term health management, unveiling a new corporate identity to mark its 41st anniversary on Oct. 29. The move reflects the health screening provider's new vision, "Beyond Health Screening, Toward Health Care," which aims to help patients better understand their examination results and manage their health after checkups. Founded in 1985, KMI operates eight screening centers nationwide, including three in Seoul

• Altman bets on Samsung, SK as AI race intensifies (2026-11-02 05:45)

OpenAI CEO Sam Altman returned to South Korea over the weekend facing two mounting challenges: securing enough memory chips and raising the billions needed to build the infrastructure behind them. His surprise visit highlighted the growing importance of Samsung and SK to the ChatGPT maker, as tight memory supplies strengthen chipmakers' bargaining power while investors demand clearer returns on massive AI spending. Altman arrived Friday night and met about 50 Samsung executives in Yongin, Gyeong

• Data on 16,000 people compromised at 3 Seoul international schools in PowerSchool breach (2026-11-02 05:37)

Almost 16,000 personal information records associated with international schools in Seoul were compromised in a December 2024 cyberattack on US-based education technology firm PowerSchool, local media reports said Monday. The three schools affected continue to use PowerSchool's student information management system despite the data breach, raising

questions over whether sufficient safeguards have been put in place to protect students, parents and faculty members. According to a report by Maeil B

• Daewoo E&C; seeks fresh talks with KHNP over Czech nuclear deal (2026-11-02 05:35)

Daewoo Engineering & Construction urged the government Monday to mediate its dispute with Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power over a Czech nuclear project, warning that fidning a replacement builder could jeopardize the project's schedule. The appeal came four days after KHNP ended subcontract negotiations with a Daewoo-led consortium, including Doosan Enerbility, over construction costs and responsibility for additional work arising from design changes. Daewoo asked the Ministry of Trade, Industry and

• No signs of wrongdoing in Woojin bid-rigging probe: source (2026-11-02 05:32)

Two on-site inspections of Woojin Industrial Systems by the Fair Trade Commission have yielded no apparent evidence of bid-rigging, according to an industry source familiar with the matter Monday. The FTC launched an investigation into Woojin, Korea's second-largest railway vehicle manufacturer, and at least one other parts supplier on Oct. 21 over suspected collusion in railway parts procurement tenders. "Neither of the two inspections at Woojin thus far has turned up evidence of wrongdoing," t

• Meet the Korean American stars behind controversial 'Call of Duty' (2026-11-02 05:25)

The latest installment in Call of Duty has quickly climbed to the top of global gaming charts despite also sparking controversy over its fictional depiction of a North Korean invasion of the Korean Peninsula. Released Oct. 23, Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 4 shifts the franchise’s familiar geopolitical battleground to the Korean Peninsula, thrusting players into a surprise North Korean assault and a devastating fictional war. Its portrayal of the conflict has sparked debate, adding another layer

• Korea pushes back T+1 stock settlement to 2028 (2026-11-02 05:23)

South Korea has pushed back its planned shift to faster stock settlement to 2028, giving financial institutions and overseas investors more time to prepare amid concerns over higher costs and operational risks. The move will shorten the settlement cycle from two business days to one, allowing investors to receive proceeds from share sales sooner and reducing the amount of capital tied up in unsettled trades. The Korea Exchange had initially targeted the second half of 2027, in line with Europe's

• Young Koreans living alone face triple the poverty rate despite higher employment (2026-11-02 05:21)

Young South Koreans living alone face a poverty rate over three times that of multi-person households with young members, despite having a significantly higher employment rate, according to a report by the Korea Economic Research Institute. The report, released in October, found that the poverty rate among single-person households headed by people aged

15 to 29 stood at 29.7 percent, compared with 9.8 percent among multi-person households withat least one member in the same age group. The insti

• Lotte's Hanoi mall hits W1tr sales milestone (2026-11-02 05:18)

Lotte Mall West Lake Hanoi has surpassed 1 trillion won ($744 million) in cumulative sales, becoming the Korean department store operator's first overseas retail complex to reach the milestone, Lotte Department Store said Monday. The landmark comes just over three years after the mall opened in Vietnam's capital. Sales reached 100 billion won within 122 days of opening in January 2024 and topped 600 billion won in 2025. With quarterly sales growing by an average of 20 percent, the cumulative tot

• Tous les Jours taps US bakery network to boost Korean grape exports (2026-11-02 05:17)

CJ Foodville's bakery chain Tous les Jours has rolled out limited-edition cakes and pastries featuring Korean shine muscat grapes at five US stores, seeking to boost exports of the premium fruit through its growing American retail network. The promotion, which started Thursday and continues to Nov. 30, is being held in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Korea Agro-Fisheries & Food Trade Corporation and the Korea Grape Export Association. The seasonal lineup fea

• Hanwha, LVMH heirs talk luxury at Galleria's Seoul flagship (2026-11-02 05:15)

Hanwha M&S President Kim Dong-seon hosted Loro Piana CEO Frederic Arnault at Galleria’s flagship store in Seoul last week, in a show of hands-on leadership since Hanwha Group carved his businesses into a new holding company. Kim, the youngest son of Hanwha Group Chairman Kim Seung-youn and head of future strategy at Hanwha Machinery & Service Holdings, guided Arnault through the department store’s holiday collaboration with the Italian label in Apgujeong on Friday, Hanwha M&S confirmed Sunday. A

• N. Korean loudspeakers silent despite October warning (2026-11-02 05:08)

North Korea has not resumed loudspeaker broadcasts toward South Korea despite saying they would be put into operation across the inter-Korean border by the end of October, according to South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff. "As of now, our military has not detected any operation of North Korea's loudspeakers toward South Korea," a JCS official said Monday. Asked about reports from residents in border areas, including Paju, Gyeonggi Province, who said they had recently heard unusual sounds coming f

• A soprano and a bass rarely duet. This married couple rarely shares a home (2026-11-02 05:02)

Soprano Cho Sun-hyung and bass Lim Chae-jun, who perform internationally as Elisa Cho and Simon Lim, have been married since 2017, but they have given just two duo recitals together. Part of the reason is the repertoire. Opera is full of love duets for soprano and tenor, and soprano-baritone pairings are common, too. Duets for soprano and a true bass are

comparatively rare, the couple said. “The vocal ranges are so far apart,” Lim said. The rest ofthe reason is the calendar. The Milan-based cou

• Seoul names 19 places to stay as medical tourism surges (2026-11-02 04:56)

Seoul has selected 19 accommodation facilities catering to foreign patients and their families, the city government announced on Monday, as a sharp rise in medical tourism drives demand for comfortable stays before and after treatment. Services available at the 19 facilities, selected from 40 applicants following document reviews, include dedicated floors and lounges for medical tourists, free laundry services, transportation assistance and multilingual emergency guidance. About 1.76 million for

• Son Suk-ku and Park Bo-young must kiss every day in new rom-com (2026-11-02 04:39)

Date nights are optional, but kisses are not, at least for the couple that Son Suk-ku and Park Bo-young play in their next film. Skip one, and tomorrow never comes. The two stars will play husband and wife in director Kang Hyeong-cheol’s fantasy rom-com “Kiss for Tomorrow,” distributor Next Entertainment World said Monday. Principal photography began Saturday. According to the official synopsis, the couple can’t move on to the next day unless they kiss at least once a day. The film adds a time-l

• Cook for the emperor, with a little help from AI (2026-11-02 04:39)

AI can write your emails and plan your vacation these days. But could it put you in charge of the kitchen at a Korean emperor's state banquet? A special exhibition that opens Tuesday at Deoksugung in central Seoul lets you do just that. Visitors play an imperial chef, choosing ingredients for a dinner and have generative AI cook up the dishes on the spot. The concept opens a window onto a short and turbulent chapter of Korean history. In October 1897, King Gojong of the fading Joseon dynasty dec

• Lee bets on record 2027 budget for ‘growth for all’ — to fuel growth, close wealth gap (2026-11-02 04:34)

President Lee Jae Myung on Monday laid out a record budget to spur economic growth and narrow inequality under his “growth for all” agenda, while projecting a 20-year low in the managed fiscal deficit. In his budget speech to the National Assembly, Lee outlined an 820.9 trillion won ($610 billion) spending plan for 2027, up 12.8 percent from this year, the fastest annual increase and largest fiscal outlay in South Korea’s history. “We have expanded the budget to raise both the standard of living

• Civilians in Ukraine's Kherson prepare for return of war as localized ceasefire ends (2026-11-02 04:14)

KHERSON, Ukraine (AP) -- Civilians in Ukraine's southeastern Kherson region prepared Sunday for the end of a localized ceasefire that has marked the most significant truce between Kyiv and Moscow since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine began nearly five years ago. The White

House said US first lady Melania Trump helped broker the limited truce, which began early Tuesday and was expected to end Sunday evening. The pause in hostilities allowed besieged residents in the front-line city of Ole

• Galaxy S27 Pro may give Samsung new way to push buyers upmarket (2026-11-02 03:29)

Samsung Display is reportedly preparing to begin producing advanced organic light-emitting diode panels with built-in privacy technology for the upcoming Galaxy S27 Pro this month, as Samsung Electronics looks to expand its premium smartphone lineup and improve profitability amid rising component costs. According to a report last week by display industry researcher UBI Research, Samsung Display is expected to produce approximately 700,000 panels for the new model in November, ahead of the Galaxy

• Treasure's new single set to 'Shock' (2026-11-02 03:17)

Boy group Treasure is dropping a new digital single, “Shock,” at 6 p.m. Monday, according to label YG Entertainment. The nine-member act goes full force with a synth hip-hop sound, after signaling a new chapter in its musical journey with its fifth EP, “New Wav,” in June. The all hip-hop mini album became its second million-seller and topped the iTunes Top Albums Chart in 13 regions. The new electronic hip-hop number incorporates thumping beats while the lyrics hark back to 1TYM’s 2003 hit song

• Israeli officials say election will stand after Netanyahu claims Arabs stole vote (2026-11-02 02:51)

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) -- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's efforts to question last week's election appeared to weaken Sunday as officials said the vote would not be undermined by the allegations and a court ordered suspects in one case released. In a show of unity, the head of Israel's elections committee appeared alongside the attorney general and the head of the Shin Bet security service in a statement making clear that even if allegations of foreign interference raised last week ar

• Special counsel raids NEC headquarters over improper stipends (2026-11-02 02:39)

A special counsel team said Monday it raided the National Election Commission over allegations its commissioners were paid 905.8 million won ($677,000) in improper stipends. Special counsel Lee Tae-han's team said a 65-member team, including four prosecutors, were sent to the NEC headquarters in Gwacheon, just south of Seoul, to search the offices of the NEC chair and secretary general. The election watchdog is suspected of having unlawfully paid monthly stipends to its nine commissioners in the

• LG CNS completes construction of AI data center in Indonesia's Jakarta (2026-11-02 02:37)

LG CNS Co., the information technology affiliate of LG Group., said Monday it completed the construction of a hyperscale artificial intelligence data center of 30-megawatt capacity in Jakarta, Indonesia. The project was commissioned by KMG, a joint venture between Indonesia's

Sinar Mas Group and Korea Investment Real Asset Management Co., a local alternative asset management firm. It marks the first time that a South Korean company has built an AI data center for an overseas client, LG CNS said.

- ‘We don’t need permission’: ‘Kill It’ winner weds same-sex partner of eight years (2026-11-02 02:37)

Stylist Kim Na-ra, who won tvN's fashion competition "Kill It: Style Creator Showdown" in July, announced her marriage to her same-sex partner of eight years Sunday. “After years of challenging norms, fighting for our place and simply existing as ourselves in a country that still doesn’t legally recognize our love, we are getting married,” she wrote on Instagram on Sunday. “We don’t need permission to celebrate our love, and we are definitely not waiting around for the world to catch up.” Kim sa

- Stray Kids I.N sings 1st soundtrack on his own (2026-11-02 02:36)

I.N of Stray Kids participated on the soundtrack for drama series “Love in Disguise,” with the single to drop Monday, according to producer Stone Music. It is the first time for the idol to perform solo on a soundtrack. His “Guilty Pleasure” is the fourth song written for the thriller romance that stars singer-turned-actor Im Siwan. Separately, Stray Kids have three nights of show at the Tokyo Dome starting Friday on the “Run It” world tour. On Nov. 25, the octet will release their fourth EP in

- Defense ministry launches new drone headquarters to bolster unmanned capabilities amid NK threats (2026-11-02 02:23)

The defense ministry launched a new drone headquarters Monday, aiming to bolster unmanned aerial systems and counter-drone capabilities amid North Korea's evolving drone threats, officials said. The launch ceremony took place at the Defense Drone Headquarters in Pocheon, about 40 kilometers north of Seoul, attended by Vice Defense Minister Lee Doo-hee and other military officials, the ministry said. The new headquarters replaces the existing Drone Operations Command as a "drone control tower" to

- BTS 지민 아버지가 운영하는 부산 카페 '지밀레니얼' 1년 뒤 문 닫는다 (2026-11-02 02:19)

방탄소년단(BTS) 멤버 지민의 아버지가 운영하는 부산의 카페 지밀레니얼(ZM-illennial)이 1년 뒤 영업을 종료한다고 밝혔다. 카페 측은 지난 1일 공식 인스타그램을 통해 "오늘부터 ZM-illennial이 여러분과 함께할 수 있는 시간이 365일 남았다"고 전했다. 폐업을 결정한 구체적인 이유는 밝히지 않았다. 지역 주민들 사이에서 '지민이네'로 불리기도 하는 ZM-illennial은 지민과 정국의 고향인 부산을 찾는 BTS 팬들 사이에서 인기 있는 방문 명소로 자리 잡았다. 카페 곳곳에는 BTS 관련 기념품과 지민이 그려진 아트워크 및 팬들이 남긴 선물 등이 전시되어 있고, 방문객들은 방명록에 지민과 BTS를 향한 메시지를 남기거나 관련 굿즈를 구매할 수 있다. 운이 좋으면 지민의 아버지를 직접 만나 인사를 나눌 수도 있다. 카페 측은 그동안 보내준 팬들과 방문객들의 성원에 감사를 표했다. 특히 먼 곳에서 찾아온 이들의 따뜻한 인사와 진심 어린 응원이 "말로 다 표현할

• SK Square eyes record W4.3tr payout from SK hynix dividends (2026-11-02 02:17)

SK Square said Monday it plans to return at least 4.3 trillion won ($3.2 billion) to shareholders, its largest shareholder return commitment since its launch in 2021, as surging dividends from SK hynix fuel a major expansion of its payout policy. The investment holding company expects to receive more than 6.2 trillion won in dividend income from SK hynix, based on the chipmaker's plan to allocate over 30 trillion won to cash dividends for the 2026 fiscal year and SK Square's ownership stake. Und

• Exo’s Kai & Sehun to debut as subunit next month: report (2026-11-02 02:02)

Kai and Sehun of Exo are forming a subunit and will release new music in December, according to a local media report on Monday. The bandmates, both born in 1994 and known by fans as the “94s,” gave fans a preview of their chemistry last year, when Sehun appeared as a surprise guest at Kai’s solo concert. This will be Kai's first subunit and the second for Sehun, who teamed up with Chanyeol and dropped two albums, one in 2019 and another in 2020. Kai has released four solo EPs and Sehun put out h

• DHL CEO sees Korea as winner in global supply chain shake-up (2026-11-02 02:02)

South Korea is emerging as a potential winner in the global supply chain shake-up, as demand for AI chips and efforts to reduce dependence on China reshape trade, according to DHL Group CEO Tobias Meyer. Despite escalating tariffs and geopolitical tensions, Meyer said global trade continues to expand, with Korea's semiconductor strength putting it in a particularly favorable position. "Korea is one of our Geographic Tailwind countries," Meyer said in an interview on the sidelines of the 2026 Asi

• Korea Exchange sets up plan for shorter settlement for stock trading (2026-11-02 01:58)

The Korea Exchange on Monday unveiled a plan to shorten a cycle for stock settlement, in what could be a major overhaul to improve efficiency for the equity market. Since 1972, South Korea has adopted a stock settlement system that allows investors to settle their transactions two business days after their trades. Under the envisioned plan, investors would be allowed to settle their transactions one business day afterward, the KRX said in a statement. Relevant authorities plan to complete buildi

• Lee vows bold investment in AI, future growth engines for 'growth for all' (2026-11-02 01:48)

President Lee Jae Myung on Monday pledged bold investment in artificial intelligence and other future growth engine industries to boost South Korea's economic growth potential and ensure what he called "growth for all." Lee made the pledge in a speech at the National Assembly, where he called for bipartisan support for the passage of the 2027 budget bill. "The 2027 budget bill is one that will make South Korea a leader and secure its dominance in the future while turning national growth into gro

• S. Korea's Air Force to participate in US-led space war game for 1st time (2026-11-02 01:44)

The South Korean Air Force will take part in a US-led multinational space war game for the first time this week, a tabletop exercise designed to strengthen joint operational capabilities in the space domain, officials said Monday. The Air Force is scheduled to participate in the war game, dubbed Partner to Win, from Monday through Friday (local time) in Florida, alongside the Netherlands, Sweden, Poland, Brazil and the United States, according to the armed service. Partner to Win, newly launched

• Family, fellow actors bid farewell to iconic actor Choi Bool-am (2026-11-02 01:44)

A funeral service for Choi Bool-am was held Monday, with his family and fellow actors paying their respects to the iconic actor, known for portraying paternal figures in popular television dramas. Choi, whose real name was Choi Young-han, died Thursday while receiving treatment at a hospital in western Seoul. He was 87. His longtime wife, Kim Min-ja, also an actor, was seen in tears, following the funeral service held privately at Asan Medical Center in southeastern Seoul. Kim was accompanied by

• BTS' J-Hope clocks 100m views with ‘Mona Lisa’ music video (2026-11-02 01:23)

J-Hope of BTS hit the 100 million threshold on YouTube with the music video for his solo single, “Mona Lisa,” on Saturday, according to label Big Hit Music. It is his fourth music video to achieve the feat, after “Daydream,” “Chicken Noodle Soup,” and “Killin’ It Girl.” “Mona Lisa” was released in March 2025, and the upbeat funky tune based on hip-hop and R&B entered Billboard’s Hot 100 at No. 65 and the UK Official Singles Top 100 at No. 56. It entered Spotify’s Weekly Top Songs Global at No. 2

• Lee's approval rating rises on summit achievements, economic policies: poll (2026-11-02 01:10)

President Lee Jae Myung's approval rating came to 36.9 percent last week, a poll showed Monday, rising slightly from a week earlier on the back of diplomatic achievements and economic policies but remaining below 40 percent for the 10th consecutive week. In the poll conducted on 2,515 adults nationwide from last Monday to Friday by Realmeter, positive assessments of Lee's job performance rose 1.6 percentage points from the previous week. His disapproval rating fell 2.2 percentage points to 60.1

• 2 best teams from KBO regular season on collision course in Korean Series (2026-11-02 01:01)

The two best teams in the regular season will square off in the South Korean baseball championship series starting this week, with one team going for its second title and the other chasing its ninth. The KT Wiz and the Samsung Lions will duke it out in the best-of-seven Korean Series, with Game 1 starting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at KT Wiz Park in Suwon, some 30 kilometers south of Seoul. After the first two games in Suwon on Tuesday and Wednesday, the Lions will host Games 3 and 4 on Friday and Sat

• Seoul stocks open lower as disappointing tech earnings trigger AI spending woes (2026-11-02 00:34)

Seoul stocks opened lower Monday weighed down by declines in US tech shares amid concerns over massive investments in artificial intelligence . The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index was down 51 points, or 0.89 percent, to 5,679.74 as of 9:15 a.m. Major stock indexes on Wall Street closed lower Friday (US time), following disappointing quarterly earnings from Intel and Amazon, which amplified growing concerns over the sustainability of AI spending. The S&P500 fell 1.82 percent, and the

• N. Korea denounces S Korea-US joint military drills, vows to bolster nuclear deterrent (2026-11-02 00:29)

North Korea on Monday denounced a recent South Korea-US combined military exercise that integrates South Korea's conventional military capabilities with US nuclear capabilities, saying strengthening the North's nuclear capabilities is "immutable" against such a backdrop. In a statement carried by the North's official Korean Central News Agency, Kim Jong-sik, first vice department director of the Workers' Party of Korea's Central Committee, claimed the drill, named Iron Mace, was "the most hideou

• Lee to address National Assembly on next year's gov't budget (2026-11-02 00:03)

President Lee Jae Myung was set to address the National Assembly on Monday, a rare event where he is widely expected to call for bipartisan support for the passage of the 2027 budget bill. The government submitted the budget bill to the National Assembly in September, proposing 820.9 trillion won ($614.5 billion) in total government spending next year, up more than 10 percent from this year, amid expectations of increased tax revenue stemming from a semiconductor boom. During the speech, the pre

• Seoul to launch emergency response system for Czech nuclear project (2026-11-02 00:02)

South Korea will launch an emergency management system to keep its nuclear power plant project in the Czech Republic on track following the breakdown of contract negotiations with a construction consortium, the industry ministry said Monday. Under the system, the government plans to draw up measures to keep the Czech project on track and prevent a recurrence of similar setbacks, according to the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources. The move comes after Korea Hydro & Nuclear Power Co., the

• TWS offers comfort, courage with ‘To Us’ (2026-11-01 23:00)

TWS has spent much of its career singing about the excitement and awkwardness of youth since debuting in January 2024. The boy group has described its signature sound as “boyhood pop,” a genre the group coined, built around capturing the emotions and experiences of youth as they unfold. This time, the six bandmates want their music to offer something else: comfort for those struggling with uncertainty and the courage to keep moving forward. The sextet’s

second single album, “To Us,” captures the

• BTS Jimin's father's cafe announces closure in one year (2026-11-01 21:45)

ZM-illennial, a cafe in Busan operated by BTS member Jimin's father, has announced plans to close in one year. "Starting from today, ZM-illennial has 365 days left with you," it sad in a Nov. 1 Instagram post. It did not disclose the reason for the decision. ZM-illennial has become a popular stop for BTS fans visiting Busan, the hometown of two BTS members, Jimin and Jungkook. More than just a place to grab coffee, it doubles as something of a proud father's tribute to his son, with BTS memorabi

• [Lee Kyong-hee] Urgency of addressing MDL border discrepancies (2026-11-01 20:30)

A supposedly 4-kilometer-wide strip of land cutting across the Korean Peninsula to separate the two Koreas, the Demilitarized Zone is a land of paradoxes. Despite its name, the DMZ is among the world’s most heavily fortified frontiers, with massive troop deployments and countless land mines on either side. More than seven decades after its creation under the armistice that halted the three-year Korean War, the DMZ remains one of the Cold War’s most enduring flashpoints. Yet another paradox is th

• [Man-Ki Kim] Strategic composure in US ties (2026-11-01 20:30)

I have observed Korea-US relations for decades, both in Korea and in the US. Differences are inevitable. What concerns me today is how quickly individual disputes become judgments about the alliance itself, while strategic changes that fall outside Washington’s expectations receive less attention. For Korea, the test is straightforward: Does the alliance protect our security, prosperity and ability to make our own decisions? We need to understand American strategy to answer that question and to

• Samsung chief Lee visits Japan chip packaging lab (2026-11-01 11:32)

Samsung Electronics Executive Chair Lee Jae-yong visited the company's advanced semiconductor packaging research facility in Japan on Sunday, emphasizing the need to secure cutting-edge packaging technologies to sharpen its competitive edge in AI chips. Lee inspected the Advanced Package Lab in Yokohama, where he reviewed progress in developing next-generation packaging materials and manufacturing processes with local researchers. He also discussed ways to strengthen cooperation with Japan’s sem

• Turkish, East Timorese presidents to visit S. Korea this week for talks with Lee (2026-11-01 10:35)

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and East Timorese President Jose Ramos-Horta will separately visit South Korea this week to hold summits with President Lee Jae Myung, a presidential spokesperson said Sunday. Erdogan is set to visit to South Korea from Monday through Wednesday on a state visit that will include a summit with Lee on Tuesday, presidential spokesperson Kang Yu-jung said. It marks Erdogan's first trip to South Korea since 2018, as well

as the second meeting between the South K

• Lee to receive leaders from Turkey, East Timor this week (2026-11-01 09:47)

President Lee Jae Myung is poised to receive Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and East Timor's President Jose Ramos-Horta in the coming week. Lee is set to meet Erdogan Tuesday for a bilateral meeting, an MOU signing ceremony and a state lunch hosted by Lee. Erdogan will be in South Korea from Monday to Wednesday on a state visit, Cheong Wa Dae chief spokesperson Kang Yu-jung said Sunday. This will mark Erdogan's first visit to South Korea in eight years. Lee and Erdogan last held a bilate

• Plays post their best third quarter in five years even as Korea’s overall ticket sales slip (2026-11-01 08:18)

Korea’s performing arts market sold fewer tickets in the third quarter, but straight plays had their strongest July-September stretch in at least five years, according to the latest data from the Korea Arts Management Service. Ticket sales came to about 427.4 billion won ($320.5 million) in the third quarter, down 7.5 percent from a year earlier, KAMS said in its quarterly report based on the Korea Performing Arts Box Office Information System. Tickets sold fell 4.6 percent to about 6.25 million

• K-pop album sales set to top 100 million as merchandise-style formats spread (2026-11-01 08:00)

K-pop album sales are expected to surpass 100 million copies in 2026 for the first time in three years, as the market bounces back on major releases and the rapid spread of merchandise-style formats. According to an analysis released by Circle Chart, cumulative sales for the chart’s top 400 albums sold January through September were 7.6 million copies higher than the previous year. Circle Chart projected that annual sales could climb back above 100 million copies depending on fourth-quarter perf

• Spat over president's social media activities intensifies (2026-11-01 06:53)

The spat over President Lee Jae Myung’s social media activities continues, intensifying over the weekend with the president defending against criticisms as well as using online platforms to go on the offensive. On Saturday, Lee again took to X to refute criticisms about his activities, specifically against his overseas trips, which critics have attacked for lacking substance while incurring unnecessary spending. In the post, Lee said that the trips have “a high work intensity where intravenous t

• Lee Kang-in hits post as Atletico Madrid wins seventh straight to go top (2026-11-01 06:34)

South Korean midfielder Lee Kang-in started and played 67 minutes as Atletico Madrid extended its winning streak to seven matches and moved into first place in La Liga. Lee started on the right side of a 4-4-2 formation in Atletico’s 2-0 road win over Levante at Estadio Ciudad de Valencia on Saturday. The victory gave Atletico 28 points from nine wins, one draw and one

loss, moving the club past Barcelona and into the top spot. Lee has appeared in 13 ofAtletico’s 14 matches in all competitions

• Kim Min-jae plays full match as Bayern draws Dortmund 2-2 (2026-11-01 06:28)

South Korea defender Kim Min-jae played the full match as Bayern Munich drew Borussia Dortmund 2-2 in the Bundesliga's "Der Klassiker." Bayern was held at Allianz Arena in Munich on Saturday in the eighth round of the 2026-27 season. Bayern remained unbeaten through eight matches at 5-3-0 with 18 points and stayed top of the table on goal difference over Dortmund, which has the same record. Kim returned to action for the first time in three competitive matches after recovering from groin and kne

• North Korean cyberterrorism gains renewed scrutiny after record Binance heist (2026-11-01 06:23)

The threat posed by North Korea online is again in focus, following a record cryptocurrency heist potentially linked to Pyongyang. The US Federal Bureau of Investigation said Saturday that North Korea was responsible for the theft of more than $6 billion in virtual assets from Binance, the world's largest cryptocurrency exchange, on or around Oct. 29. The theft is believed to be the largest single cryptocurrency heist on record. The FBI attributed the operation to TraderTraitor, its name for a N

• Telling working mom to 'have husband care for child' is workplace harassment: court (2026-11-01 06:19)

Telling a female employee who has requested time off to “have your husband look after the child” constitutes workplace harassment, a Seoul court recently ruled. The Seoul Administrative Court upheld a local district office’s decision to impose a one-month pay reduction on a senior official, and dismissed her lawsuit seeking to overturn the disciplinary measure, according to legal sources on Sunday. A personnel committee at the district office in Seoul initially imposed a two-month pay reduction

• Carragher apologizes after Aston Villa threatens legal action over comments (2026-11-01 06:17)

LONDON (AP) -- Soccer pundit Jamie Carragher has apologized to Aston Villa for comments he made on a podcast that prompted the English club to say it would take legal action against the former Liverpool defender. Carragher used an expletive toward Villa fans who had criticized him for suggesting manager Unai Emery should consider taking over at Manchester United if under-pressure Michael Carrick was fired. Speaking on the "Stick to Football" podcast broadcast Thursday, Carragher said "there is a

• Shin Jia places sixth in short program at season's first Grand Prix (2026-11-01 06:07)

South Korean figure skater Shin Jia placed sixth in the women's short program at her first senior Grand Prix event of the season after a costly jumping error. Shin scored 65.38 points at the

second event of the 2026-27 ISU Figure Skating Grand Prix series in Kelowna, British Columbia, on Saturday, earning 34.94 points for technical elements and 31.44 for program components, with a one-point deduction. She finished 16.73 points behind leader Mao Shimada of Japan, who scored 82.11. Isabeau Levito

• Choi Min-jeong wins second straight 1,000-meter gold (2026-11-01 06:07)

South Korean short track star Choi Min-jeong, who plans to retire from the national team after this season, won the women's 1,000-meter title for the second straight week on the ISU Short Track World Tour. Choi won Saturday's final in 1 minute, 30.273 seconds at Maurice Richard Arena in Montreal during the second stop of the 2026-27 World Tour. She collected one gold, two silver and one bronze medal at last week's opening event, including a victory in the 1,000 meters. Choi came from behind in S

• Lee Young-jun scores sixth goal of season in Grasshopper draw (2026-11-01 06:07)

South Korean striker Lee Young-jun scored a late equalizer to help Grasshopper Club Zurich salvage a 2-2 draw in the Swiss Super League. Lee scored in the 87th minute Saturday at Letzigrund Stadium in Zurich, with Grasshopper trailing Vaduz 2-1 in the 12th round of the 2026-27 season. Samuel Krasniqi's free kick struck the post, and Lee reacted quickly to score from the rebound. It was Lee's third league goal of the season and sixth in all competitions, including three in the Swiss Cup. The goal

• Eom Ji-sung records third assist of season in Swansea's 4-0 win (2026-11-01 06:07)

South Korean winger Eom Ji-sung recorded his third assist of the season with a clever no-look pass as Swansea City beat Blackburn Rovers 4-0 in the English Championship. Eom started and played the full match Saturday at Swansea.com Stadium in the 13th round of the 2026-27 season. With Swansea leading 3-0 in the 59th minute, defender Josh Tymon played the ball forward from the left side. Eom let it run with a deft touch, allowing Ross Stewart to break into the left side of the penalty area and fi

• Subway car breaks down at Boramae Station; operation resumed after 2 p.m. (2026-11-01 05:40)

Seoul Subway Line No. 7 became fully operational after 2 p.m. on Sunday, after a train breaking down at Boramae Station caused delays. Seoul Metro, the main operator for Line No. 7, said in a statement that operations had resumed for all sections. A north-bound train malfunctioned at Boramae Station in Donjak-gu, Seoul, at around 12:23 p.m. This caused temporary delays for all northbound trains, but southbound trains remained operational. Officials believe the train may have malfunctioned due to

• Middle-class hit hardest in 2024 after COVID-19: data (2026-11-01 05:31)

Nearly 4 in 10 South Koreans in the middle income bracket saw their income decrease in 2024 compared to 2023, government data showed Sunday, the highest rate since the COVID-19

pandemic in 2020. The income level for 38.9 percent of those in the third income quintiledecreased between 2023 and 2024, according to the data by the Ministry of Data and Statistics.About 12.8 percent saw their income drop by at least 50 percent. The proportion of people inthe middle income bracket with decreased inco

- [Legal updates in Korea] New protections for voice phishing victims involving virtual assets (2026-11-01 05:30)

• Updated Law: Special Act on Prevention of Losses Caused by Telecommunications Financial Fraud and Refund for Losses What it does: Expands financial fraud victim protection to virtual asset exchanges, allowing payment suspensions and refunds involving virtual assets Took effect: Oct. 1 South Korea will expand protections for victims of voice phishing and other telecommunications financial fraud involving virtual assets, making it easier for victims to recover their losses. Under the revised law

- Mother gets life insurance, not medical care, for dying son (2026-11-01 05:29)

A South Korean court has leveled a three-year prison term for a woman who did not provide medical care for her critically ill son and instead obtained life insurance subscriptions for him. The defendant in her 60s was found guilty of death by abandonment by the Uijeongbu District Court, officials said Sunday, for the death of her son, whose age was unspecified, on Sept. 22, 2023. The victim on Sept. 20 that year coughed up around 3 liters of blood, but the defendant did not take him to the hospi

- KB Kookmin to lead record W10.7tr loan for Naver AI project (2026-11-01 05:20)

KB Kookmin Bank has secured a mandate to lead a 10.7 trillion won ($8 billion) syndicated loan for a Brookfield-backed AI computing infrastructure project that will supply Naver Cloud, in what the bank called South Korea's first GPU financing and largest-ever syndicated loan arrangement. The loan is part of a project valued at about 13 trillion won. Brookfield will establish a special purpose company, tentatively named Asset Co., to acquire GPUs and other AI computing assets. Asset Co. will supp

- No heroes or villains: Koki Mitani revisits Hollywood's Red Scare in 'American Dream' (2026-11-01 04:54)

“American Dream,” the latest play by Japanese playwright-director Koki Mitani, takes its cue from a speech Dalton Trumbo, the screenwriter blacklisted during Hollywood’s Red Scare, gave in 1970: “It will do no good to search for villains or heroes or saints or devils because there were none; there were only victims.” The line sets the terms for the production, staged at Coex Artium from Friday to Sunday, as the final stop of its tour. It was the first of Mitani’s works to be performed in Korea i

- HD Hyundai Robotics cuts troubleshooting time 63% with Palantir AI (2026-11-01 04:49)

HD Hyundai Robotics has cut the time needed to resolve robot-related problems by 63 percent using AI agents developed in partnership with US software company Palantir Technologies, the South Korean firm said Sunday. Since deploying the AI agents in August, the company has reduced its average problem-solving time from 21.5 days to 7.9 days. It also expects the technology to slash robot programming costs by more than 50 percent. The results were unveiled at Palantir's Sovereignty Bootcamp in New Y

- UK king to address Commonwealth with 'unflinching honesty' amid slavery focus (2026-11-01 04:46)

King Charles III will confront "shameful aspects" of UK history with "unflinching honesty" when he addresses Commonwealth leaders this week, Buckingham Palace said Saturday, amid renewed scrutiny of Britain's role in historical transatlantic slavery. The comments come after Prime Minister Andy Burnham revealed he was open to the UK formally apologizing for its role in the trade, but ruling out paying the financial reparations demanded by some Caribbean countries. The issues have resurfaced as Ch

- APR doubles Q3 revenue as US, European sales soar (2026-11-01 04:45)

South Korean beauty company APR posted record third-quarter revenue of 773.1 billion won ($579.8 million), doubling from a year earlier as booming demand in North America and Europe fueled its global expansion. Operating profit jumped 68.9 percent on-year to 160.6 billion won, according to preliminary earnings released Friday. For the first nine months of 2026, revenue reached 2.13 trillion won and operating profit totaled 503.5 billion won, already surpassing the company's full-year 2025 result

- Korean entertainment expands its presence on global TV screens (2026-11-01 04:44)

More and more Korean content is making its way to international television screens as entertainment companies search for fresh revenue streams to offset rising costs and slow domestic ad sales. Entertainment giant CJ ENM announced the launch of "CJ ENM K-Dance," a channel dedicated to Korean dance content in North America through LG Channels. Operated by LG Electronics, LG Channels is a global Free Ad-Supported Streaming Television service offering around 5,000 channels across 37 countries. FAST

- [APK 2026] 'Tech beats tariffs': German industry chiefs demand faster reforms (2026-11-01 04:17)

European industrial leaders warned Saturday that excessive regulation and years of stagnant growth are eroding the region's competitiveness, urging faster decision-making and pointing to South Korea's manufacturing prowess as a model. Speaking at a breakfast session of the 2026 Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business in Seoul, executives from BASF, DHL Group and Hager Group discussed how businesses can navigate rising protectionism and geopolitical uncertainty. Despite mounting trade barriers

• [APK 2026] Korean PM urges deeper high-tech ties with Germany in AI, chips (2026-11-01 04:17)

South Korean Prime Minister Han Seong-sook on Friday called for greater high-tech cooperation between South Korea and Germany, identifying batteries, semiconductors and industrial AI as key drivers of future growth amid growing global economic uncertainty. Speaking at the 19th Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business in Seoul, Han urged the two manufacturing powerhouses to combine their industrial strengths to boost competitiveness and shape global technology standards. Han highlighted the rap

• [APK 2026] Merz calls for global alliance to defend rules-based trade (2026-11-01 04:17)

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz on Friday called for a global alliance of like-minded economies to defend rules-based trade, urging closer coordination between Europe and the Indo-Pacific as protectionism and geopolitical tensions threaten the international trading system. Speaking at the 19th Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business in Seoul, Merz proposed a political alliance to uphold global trade rules, strengthen the World Trade Organization and coordinate responses to violations. “Trade

• [APK 2026] Korea, Germany seek economic security without protectionism (2026-11-01 04:17)

South Korea and Germany must strengthen economic security without retreating into protectionism, government and business leaders said Friday, calling for closer cooperation in industrial AI and supply chains as geopolitical tensions reshape global trade. Speaking at the 19th Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business in Seoul, Industry Minister Kim Jung-kwan warned that efforts to reduce economic vulnerabilities should not come at the expense of open markets. “Economic security should not become

• [APK 2026] Korea, Germany deepen AI, supply chain ties amid global turmoil (2026-11-01 04:17)

South Korea and Germany are seeking to turn their industrial strengths into new engines of growth and cooperation in artificial intelligence, semiconductors and advanced manufacturing amid escalating trade tensions and geopolitical uncertainty. Their efforts took center stage at the 19th Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business, or APK 2026, held in Seoul from Thursday to Saturday. The high-profile gathering brought together German Chancellor Friedrich Merz, South Korean Prime Minister Han Seo

• Spanish village holds memorial mass (2026-11-01 04:16)

URDA, Spain (AFP) -- Residents and local officials gathered Saturday in a Spanish village near the site of a high-speed train collision that killed at least 69 people for a memorial Mass honoring the victims. The pews inside the San Juan Bautista church in Urda, in the central province of Toledo, were packed, while dozens more people gathered outside to listen to the service. Some wiped away tears. Investigators are looking into the cause of one of Europe's deadliest rail

disasters this century,

• [APK 2026] Siemens, Naver CEOs push industrial AI beyond pilot projects (2026-11-01 04:16)

Siemens CEO Roland Busch and Naver CEO Choi Soo-yeon on Saturday urged companies to move beyond AI pilot projects and focus on measurable productivity gains, stressing that better data management and leadership commitment are key to scaling industrial artificial intelligence. Speaking at an industrial AI session at APK 2026 in Seoul, moderated by journalist Jennifer Moon, the executives said companies' ability to unlock internal data and integrate AI into everyday operations would determine its

• [APK 2026] AI fuels Asia-Pacific's rise as global innovation hub (2026-11-01 04:16)

The Asia-Pacific region is swiftly becoming a center of global innovation as it moves beyond its traditional role as a manufacturing base and into a hub for artificial intelligence, data and cross-border partnerships that will reshape industries, executives from three multinational companies said Friday. Speaking at a session titled "Driving Innovation Across Asia-Pacific: AI & Manufacturing" at APK 2026 in Seoul, Andreas Pecher, CEO of Carl Zeiss, Shashank Deshpande, CEO of Boehringer Ingelheim

• Iran warns US, Israel against new attacks (2026-11-01 04:11)

Iran's supreme leader on Saturday warned the United States and Israel fresh attacks following their threats to resume their strikes after crucial elections, as fears increased over a return to fighting. US President Donald Trump has suggested he could launch fresh military action after the US holds its midterm elections early this week. But US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said Saturday, "If there is a diplomatic solution, we would be open to it." In Israel, which is coming off a general electi

• Seoul's foreign minister explains DMZ mine blast at G20 (2026-11-01 04:10)

Foreign Minister Cho Hyun underscored the importance of communication with North Korea at a Group of 20 meeting in the United States, explaining Seoul's position on a recent land mine explosion in the Demilitarized Zone that injured three South Korean troops, according to the Foreign Ministry on Sunday. Cho made the remarks during the first session of the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in Atlanta on Friday and Saturday, which focused on geopolitical tensions and their impact on the global e

• Finding peace, one click at a time: AI-made virtual sanctuaries draw young Koreans (2026-11-01 04:10)

At this temple, there is no need to kneel, stand or bow. Visitors can perform 108 bows, turn prayer beads and offer prayers, all from their beds. The temple, called Sansa, exists entirely online. It was created by a 26-year-old job seeker surnamed Park, using vibe coding, an artificial intelligence-assisted programming method that allows users to build software through

natural-language instructions, according to news reports Sunday. Visitors entering the websiteare greeted by a Buddhist temple

• US midterm campaign enters final weekend (2026-11-01 04:09)

US President Donald Trump's administration pressed a criminal investigation into Alaska’s pivotal US Senate race and said on Saturday it would likely take its fight over thousands of California mail-in ballots to the Supreme Court, as the midterm campaign for control of Congress entered its final weekend. In Alaska, federal prosecutors are investigating whether aides to Democratic challenger Mary Peltola helped to recruit a retired schoolteacher, Daniel J. Sullivan Jr., to run because his name

• [APK 2026] From Korea Night to AI pitches, APK 2026 goes above and beyond (2026-11-01 04:09)

“I hope that we can extend this cooperation beyond Korea and Germany to our partners across the Asia Pacific region gathered here. Korea will continue working with Germany and Asia Pacific partners to foster open, stable and mutually beneficial economic relations.” The remarks, delivered by Korea’s Minister for Trade Park Jung-sung during the Korea Night held at the Westin Seoul Parnas on Friday, the second evening of the 19th Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business, or APK 2026, reiterated w

• Rubio says he spoke to Lavrov about potential Trump-Putin interaction at APEC (2026-11-01 04:08)

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said Saturday that he spoke to Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov on the sidelines of G20 talks and discussed a possible interaction between both countries' leaders next month. "We spoke just briefly about the opportunity for our leaders to potentially interact at APEC next month," Rubio said, referring to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation group's summit in the Chinese city of Shenzhen in mid-November. But Rubio stressed at a press conference that he did not

• A third weekend of protests in France as youth-led rallies sweep Europe (2026-11-01 04:08)

Hundreds of thousands of protesters inspired by frustrated high school students took to the streets across France on Saturday in a third consecutive weekend of demonstrations over living costs and education. Youth-led protests were also held elsewhere in Europe, including in Germany and Portugal. France's protests were overwhelmingly peaceful, with whimsical Halloween costumes lightening the mood, but gatherings in Paris and other cities ended in clouds of tear gas and scattered fires set by sma

• Snowfall greets November (2026-11-01 04:06)

Rain fell across much of South Korea on Sunday, the first day of November, while snow was reported in the mountainous areas of Gangwon Province amid chilly temperatures nationwide. According to the Korea Meteorological Administration, rain began falling across central regions

early in the morning, while rain or snow was reported in mountainous areas of GangwonProvince at elevations of 1,200 meters or higher, including around Balwangsan in Pyeongchang,which rises to 1,459 meters above sea level

• [World Class] Hoseo turns regional industry links into global strategy (2026-11-01 04:03)

Behind each university's global ambitions are choices about what to preserve, what to develop and where to go next. In "World Class," The Korea Herald interviews leaders of Korean universities about the strengths they are cultivating and the futures they envision. — Ed. ASAN, South Chungcheong Province — Hoseo University is betting that its strongest draw for international students is not simply a place on campus, but a path from the classroom into the industries shaping South Korea's regional e

• Inmate gets added term for false accusation out of spite (2026-11-01 04:03)

An inmate convicted of sex crimes has been sentenced to an additional year in prison for a false accusation, apparently in retaliation for submitting evidence against him, as well as for threatening fellow inmates. The Chuncheon District Court sentenced the 25-year-old inmate, charged with false accusation and aggravated intimidation, to an additional year in prison, according to legal sources Sunday. The inmate was accused of conspiring with another inmate, also 25, to file a false complaint wi

• 7 out of 10 Koreans experienced mental issues in past year: report (2026-11-01 03:53)

Some 70.1 percent of South Koreans had problems with their mental health in the past year, a survey conducted by the state-affiliated National Center for Mental Health showed Sunday. The biennial report showed that while the annual figure decreased compared to 73.6 percent in 2024, the percentage of those who suffered at least five separate mental issues has substantially increased in the last decade, to 30.8 percent from 18.5 percent in 2016. The nationwide survey was first conducted in 2016 to

• Costumes, drug scare and tributes to victims mark Halloween weekend in Seoul (2026-11-01 02:59)

Nearly 160,000 people gathered in the Seoul party districts of Itaewon and Hongdae over Halloween weekend, with no major safety incidents reported as of Sunday morning. Halloween falling on a weekend this year prompted safety authorities to heighten their alert, as larger crowds were expected to gather than over previous years. The occasion came four years after a crowd crush in Itaewon on Oct. 29, 2022, which killed 159 people. According to Seoul Real-time City Data, an estimated 120,000-125,00

• HD Hyundai Robotics partners with Palantir on AI solutions (2026-11-01 02:29)

HD Hyundai Robotics, a robotics solutions unit of South Korea's shipbuilding conglomerate HD Hyundai, said Sunday it has partnered with Palantir Technologies Inc. to develop physical artificial intelligence solutions. The partnership aims to transform workplace operations

through the adoption of physical AI and redefine the role of engineers in overseeing industrial sites, HD Hyundai Robotics said in a press release. The company's Chief Technology Officer Ahn Seong-hwan recently attended Palanti

• SK Telecom seeks returns from workplace AI push (2026-11-01 02:28)

SK Telecom is expanding the use of artificial intelligence across its workforce, seeking to turn widespread adoption into measurable productivity gains as South Korea's largest mobile carrier looks to AI services and data centers for growth beyond its traditional telecom business. More than 7,500 employees use AI agents each month, while over 4,000 have built their own, the company said Sunday. About 1,500 agents are in regular use, helping staff prepare reports, analyze mobile network data and

• Solidigm setback sends warning to Korean firms eyeing Wall Street (2026-11-01 02:27)

SK hynix's retreat from a planned US listing of Solidigm has sent a warning to Korean conglomerates eyeing Wall Street: Seoul's tougher scrutiny of duplicate listings could derail their global fundraising ambitions. The chipmaker said Oct. 23 it had suspended plans to list its US flash memory subsidiary on the Nasdaq, shelving a potential blockbuster offering that could have valued Solidigm at up to $150 billion. While SK hynix cited market conditions, the decision followed mounting shareholder

• FM Cho holds talks with EU, Britain, others at G20 meeting (2026-11-01 02:25)

Foreign Minister Cho Hyun has held a series of bilateral talks with his counterparts from the European Union, Britain, India and Mexico on the sidelines of a Group of 20 meeting in the United States, his office said Sunday. Cho met Kaja Kallas, the EU high representative for foreign affairs and security policy, during the G20 foreign ministers' meeting in Atlanta on Saturday, and called for strengthening their security partnership in cyber and space. The two sides also exchanged views on the sec

• FM outlines S. Korea's position on DMZ mine blast at G20, calls for inter-Korean talks (2026-11-01 02:22)

Foreign Minister Cho Hyun has explained Seoul's position on a recent land mine blast in the Demilitarized Zone at a Group of 20 meeting and highlighted the need for inter-Korean dialogue, his office said Sunday. South Korea has blamed the North for the Sept. 21 mine blast inside the DMZ separating the two Koreas that injured three South Korean soldiers, and has called for military talks to ease tensions. Pyongyang, however, has denied responsibility, vowing to take military action along the bord

• SK hynix hosts first Partners Day in Japan to strengthen chip supply chain (2026-11-01 02:03)

SK hynix brought together more than 20 Japanese semiconductor suppliers at its first Partners Day in Japan, seeking closer cooperation on advanced chip technologies and supply chain

stability as artificial intelligence-driven memory demand surges. The event, held Thursday inChiba prefecture, brought together major Japanese materials suppliers Shin-Etsu, Sumco, JSRand Namics; equipment-makers Tokyo Electron and Screen Holdings; and chip processing andtesting specialists Disco and Advantest. Wh

• N. Korea tests cluster bomb mountable on tactical ballistic missiles (2026-11-01 01:55)

North Korea has tested a cluster bomb that can be mounted on tactical ballistic missiles and vowed to field various types of cluster warheads by the end of the year, its state media said Sunday. The North's Missile Administration conducted the test on Saturday to assess the combat adaptability and power of a cluster-bomb warhead to be mounted on tactical ballistic missiles, the Korean Central News Agency said. The research institutes under the Missile Administration "confirmed that Standard Type

• Hana Financial joins Autism Race to promote inclusion (2026-11-01 01:48)

Hana Financial Group joined the 2026 Autism Race on Saturday, marking its seventh consecutive year supporting the event to raise autism awareness and promote inclusion, the company said Sunday. About 100 employees and family members, including Hana Financial Vice Chairman Lee Eun-hyung, participated alongside runners with autism. Organized by the Autism Society of Korea, the annual event seeks to foster greater understanding and acceptance of autism. Hana Financial has sponsored the race since 2

• International student dropout rates fall at Korean universities: data (2026-11-01 01:43)

The dropout rate among international students at South Korea’s four-year universities and junior colleges declined between 2023 and 2025, although some regions continued to report disproportionately high rates, according to data released Sunday by the Korean Educational Development Institute. Some 5.6 percent of international students dropped out of universities and industrial colleges in 2025, falling by 1.25 percentage points from 6.85 percent in 2023. At junior colleges, the rate dropped by 2

• Package thief condemned for 'breaking unspoken rule' in Korea (2026-11-01 01:31)

A man who stole an unguarded package at an apartment complex has been slapped with a 1 million won ($750) fine, as the court reprimanded the defendant for violating an unspoken societal rule in Korea to not take other people's delivered objects. The Gwangju District Court on Oct. 15 convicted the defendant for stealing a package carrying about 100,000 won of items. The package was placed at a designated spot for the residents of the apartment in Gwangju. The punishment was higher than the 700,00

• Pressure mounts on Carrick as Man United loses again (2026-11-01 01:10)

Michael Carrick's position as Manchester United manager came under further pressure after a 2-0 loss at Chelsea in the Premier League, with Lisandro Martinez's reckless sending-off adding to the club's problems Saturday. It was also a bad day for Manchester City, which lost 1-0 at

home to Brighton for a second straight league defeat after opening the season with seven consecutive wins. Carrick was already under heavy pressure and seemingly operating on a match-by-match basis heading into the gam

• S. Korea's monthly exports hit $115.3b in Oct. on strong chip sales (2026-11-01 00:57)

South Korea's exports jumped 93.7 percent to a record $115.3 billion in October from a year earlier, driven largely by a sharp increase in semiconductor shipments, data showed Sunday. Strong global demand for semiconductors, coupled with continued investments by major technology companies in artificial intelligence infrastructure, boosted overall exports, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Resources said in a press release. Imports rose 36 percent from a year earlier to $72.78 billion, resultin

• Trump open to talks with N. Korean leader but no meeting scheduled: Rubio (2026-11-01 00:51)

US President Donald Trump remains open to talks with North Korean leader Kim Jong-un if Pyongyang is willing to discuss issues of concern to Washington and its allies, but no meeting has been scheduled, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said Saturday. Rubio made the remarks during a press conference following a Group of 20 foreign ministers' meeting in Atlanta. "I think the president's perspective is, if North Korea and Kim Jong-un is prepared to talk with the United States about issues that are

• FBI says N. Korea responsible for over $6b crypto theft from Binance (2026-11-01 00:20)

The US Federal Bureau of Investigation said Saturday that North Korea was responsible for the theft of more than $6 billion in cryptocurrency from Binance, the world's largest cryptocurrency exchange, earlier this week. "The FBI is releasing information advising the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was responsible for the theft of more than $6 billion in virtual assets from cryptocurrency exchange Binance, on or about October 29, 2026," the agency said in a cyber alert, referring to North K

• Siemens CEO outlines path to bring industrial AI to smaller manufacturers (2026-10-31 07:22)

While artificial intelligence is fueling predictions of sweeping industrial change, turning that promise into practical gains on factory floors -- and bringing those benefits to smaller manufacturers -- remains a work in progress. Meeting these challenges requires models trained on industrial knowledge and data, alongside an adoption strategy suited to businesses with limited resources, said Roland Busch, president and CEO of Siemens, the German industrial tech company that supplies factory auto

• South African novelist wants to write a love story. But can he separate it from history? (2026-10-31 07:00)

South African novelist Damon Galgut, whose fiction explores his country's history, racial inequality and the lives shaped by both, has been named the recipient of the 15th Park Kyongni Prize. At a news conference Wednesday in Seoul, Galgut spoke of his wish to write beyond the historical and political constraints that have long shaped South African literature, while acknowledging the obligation he feels to reckon with his country's turbulent past. "To confess to you, I would love to be free of t

• In ‘Final Interview,’ landing the job means burying your friends (2026-10-31 07:00)

Most of us have something in our past that we would rather keep buried. In an age when a years-old accusation on social media can pop up out of nowhere and get you canceled overnight, the worst-case scenario isn’t hard to picture: all of those secrets coming out at the worst possible time, say, in the last round of interviews for your dream job. Based on a novel by Akinari Asakura, “Final Interview” builds a closed-room mystery thriller around that nightmare scenario. Six college graduates make

• From kimchi to malatang, tomatoes take on new flavors in Korea (2026-10-31 07:00)

From sugar-dusted tomato slices, a childhood treat beloved by generations of Koreans, to spicy malatang and modern reinterpretations of traditional dishes, tomatoes are taking on new roles in Korea’s evolving food culture. For many Koreans, tomatoes evoke memories of childhood. Some grew up eating sliced tomatoes sprinkled with sugar as snacks. Others remember "Toma Toma," a tomato-shaped ice pop first introduced in 2005 but brought back in 2017 by popular demand. Millennials grew up listening t

• Where’s the restroom? In Busan, social media has the answer (2026-10-31 07:00)

Foreign tourists in Busan are turning to social media to find restrooms, swapping locations and access codes for toilets in shops and cafes. A search for “Busan restroom passwords” on Xiaohongshu — China's leading lifestyle and social commerce platform — returned dozens of posts as of Wednesday. In some posts, users share restroom locations and entry codes, while others checked whether the information was still accurate. The posts highlight a basic inconvenience for visitors at a time when the s

• Chasing fall colors to the top of Seoul (2026-10-31 07:00)

Just below the summit of Baegundae, a line forms on bare granite. Hikers wait their turn to pose beside the Taegeukgi, the Korean national flag, planted at the top of Seoul's highest peak, 836 meters above sea level, as the city spreads out below them. Many in the line are not Korean. " For the past three years or so, it feels like more and more foreigners have been coming. Even today, more than half of the hikers are foreigners," said Park Sun-gyu, director of public relations at the Korea Natio

• Fireworks to light up Yeosu seafront (2026-10-31 07:00)

The waters off Yeosu in South Jeolla Province will be lit up with fireworks Saturday evening. The 2026 Yeosu Night Sea Fireworks Festival will run from 7 p.m. to 9:10 p.m. at the Yeosu World Expo Center in Deokchung-dong, according to Yeosu City. First held in 2016, the festival has since become one of the coastal city’s signature events. The centerpiece is a maritime fireworks show in two parts. An invited team from the Philippines will open this year's festival with a display themed on island

• When dementia makes aging dangerous (2026-10-31 07:00)

How a society dies can reveal how it lives. From childbirth to suicide and cancer, this series examines what mortality trends tell us about South Korea today. This is the third installment of Behind the Numbers, exploring dementia’s shadow over the final days of life. — Ed. Hardly a day passes without a missing person alert popping up on South Koreans' phones. The police-run system sends emergency-style alerts with details about missing individuals, including their age, gender, last known locat

• K-drama's beloved duo Yoo Yeon-seok, Seo Hyeon-jin reunites after 10 years (2026-10-31 07:00)

It took a decade, but one of K-drama’s most beloved on-screen pairings is back. After winning over audiences with their signature bickering banter in the 2016 ratings smash "Dr. Romantic," Yoo Yeon-seok and Seo Hyeon-jin are joining forces again, this time in a psychological thriller steeped in lies and suspicion. The long-awaited small-screen reunion took center stage at a press conference in Seoul on Wednesday to promote the new series, "The Perfect Lie," where Yoo reflected on how effortlessl

• A box full of K-cuteness: Artbox takes on the world (2026-10-31 07:00)

Korea’s most coveted souvenirs may be pocket-size tokens of cuteness, and more tourists now save suitcase space for plush toys, character key chains and stickers alongside their K-beauty and K-food hauls. Prominent on their itineraries sits Artbox, a four-decade-old stationery chain whose quirky lifestyle goods and trinkets — a far cry from the school supplies of its early days — have put it in the same league as Olive Young, Musinsa and Daiso. The swelling foreign traffic did not end with vacat

• Lee visits southeastern province to inspect pilot basic income scheme (2026-10-31 06:21)

President Lee Jae Myung visited a southeastern province Saturday to inspect a government pilot program providing a monthly basic income to residents in depopulated rural towns. Lee shared details of his unannounced trip to North Gyeongsang Province in a social media post, extending greetings to residents in Yeongyang and Cheongsong counties, located in the same province. The Lee government has introduced the basic income scheme to provide local residents with 150,000 won ($112) per month in gift

• Samsung executives meet OpenAI's Altman to discuss AI strategy (2026-10-31 06:13)

About 50 senior executives from Samsung Group met with OpenAI CEO Sam Altman on Saturday to discuss how artificial intelligence could transform corporate management and create new business opportunities. Samsung said it hosted the meeting at its Human Resources Development Center in Yongin, Gyeonggi Province, bringing together presidents and other top executives from major affiliates spanning electronics, finance and biotechnology. Under the theme “The Next 10 Years Shaped by AI: The Enterprise’

- Fall in full bloom with silver grass (2026-10-31 05:21)

A group of hikers walks through fields of silver grass in full bloom near the summit of Mount Mindungsan in Jeongseon, Gangwon Province, on Saturday, enjoying the picturesque scenery of late autumn. Tourist destinations across South Korea drew visitors seeking to enjoy the fall foliage and crisp weather, as temperatures dipped from the previous day. On Saturday, Seoul reached around 15 degrees Celsius, while southern cities remained relatively mild at around 20 degrees. Colder weather is forecas

- Lee calls for review of multicultural family benefits over reverse discrimination concerns (2026-10-31 05:06)

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung said Saturday that the country should continue supporting multicultural families but must correct policies that are unreasonable or result in reverse discrimination. “Support for multicultural families is necessary, but that does not justify specific policies that are unreasonable or lead to reverse discrimination,” Lee wrote on X, formerly Twitter. “Just because a general principle is right does not mean every specific policy based on it is also right,” he a

- Ruling party lawmaker issued US visa, days after refusal (2026-10-31 03:20)

Rep. Jin Sung-joon of the ruling Democratic Party said Saturday he has been issued a US visa for a trip to the US Pacific Command, days after he said his application was rejected. Jin, who serves as chairman of the parliamentary defense committee, said in a Facebook post that he received the visa from the US Embassy in Seoul and that it was fortunate the US State Department has issued the official A-2 visa, albeit belatedly. The lawmaker said he will depart Sunday afternoon and hold discussions

- Fishing boat catches fire off west coast, all 22 rescued (2026-10-31 03:08)

A fishing boat caught fire off the Yellow Sea island of Yeongheung on Saturday and all 22 people aboard were rescued, with two of them taken to a hospital for inhaling smoke, officials said. The fire broke out on the 9.77-ton charter fishing boat in waters 0.9 nautical mile south of the island at 6:51 a.m. After receiving a distress call from the boat, the Coast Guard sent patrol and rescue boats to the scene, put out the fire and rescued all aboard. Two of them, including the boat's skipper, we

- Hanwha wins first US Navy shipbuilding contract in $269 million deal (2026-10-31 03:03)

Hanwha Defense USA, the US subsidiary of Hanwha Aerospace, has secured a $269 million deal to construct a medium landing ship for the US Navy and Marine Corps at its Philly shipyard, marking a major step in South Korean defense group's push into the American naval shipbuilding market. The company said Friday it was selected by US maritime services company Tote Services to build one medium landing ship, or LSM, with options for three additional vessels. The contract marks Hanwha Group’s first ord

• No drug-related violations found in special crackdown on eve of Halloween (2026-10-31 02:16)

Police said Saturday they have found no drug-related violations during a joint crackdown the previous night on nightlife districts in Seoul on the eve of Halloween. Police carried out inspections at eight clubs in nightlife districts in Gangnam, Seocho and Yongsan on Friday night as part of a special drug crackdown that has been under way since August in cooperation with fire and municipality authorities. "Ahead of Halloween, we conducted crackdowns focusing on clubs, entertainment venues, and a

• N. Korean hackers blamed for record $6.3b Binance cryptocurrency theft: US firm (2026-10-31 01:59)

North Korean hackers purportedly stole an estimated $6.36 billion in cryptocurrency from Binance, the world's largest cryptocurrency exchange, in what would be the biggest cryptocurrency theft on record, according to a US blockchain intelligence firm. TRM Labs said Thursday's attack against Binance was most likely carried out by TraderTraitor, a North Korean hacking group, which stole digital assets from Binance across 10 blockchain networks. Most of the funds were taken in about 20 minutes, it

• S. Korea, US, Japan reaffirm NK denuclearization goal, bolster economic ties (2026-10-31 01:50)

The top diplomats of South Korea, the US and Japan reaffirmed their commitment to the complete denuclearization of North Korea and the full implementation of UN Security Council resolutions during trilateral talks on Friday. South Korean Foreign Minister Cho Hyun met with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi on the sidelines of the Group of 20 meeting in Atlanta, US, according to the countries’ foreign ministries. The talks marked their first trilater

• Zero sugar, zero margins: The strategy behind Zerostore's rise (2026-10-31 00:00)

For Pyeon Young-min, a 30-year-old co-founder and CEO of unstaffed convenience store chain Zerostore featuring zero- to low-sugar products, the brand's rapid rise has been more about building a franchise model around consumers and store owners than riding the “zero” food trend over the past few years. “Our strategy was to prioritize price advantages, product selection and franchisee profitability from the outset, even if that meant giving up much of the headquarters’ distribution margin,” Pyeon

Source: Yonhap

• N. Korean envoy holds 3rd high-level meeting in China (2026-11-07 05:35)

SEOUL, Nov. 7 (Yonhap) -- A senior North Korean ruling party official has met hi...

• (LEAD) Personal info of some 39,000 leaked from Mirae Asset Securities (2026-11-07 05:19)

SEOUL, Nov. 7 (Yonhap) -- The personal information of some 39,000 customers and ...

• Today in Korean history (2026-11-07 05:00)

Nov. 8

• Wiz manager demands more from star slugger with team trailing in Korean Series (2026-11-07 04:11)

DAEGU, Nov. 7 (Yonhap) -- With his KT Wiz trailing the Samsung Lions 2-1 in the ...

• Lions manager benches injured catcher for 1st time in postseason (2026-11-07 02:57)

DAEGU, Nov. 7 (Yonhap) -- After starting eight consecutive postseason games for ...

• Labor minister urges tougher action on industrial accidents (2026-11-07 02:28)

SEOUL, Nov. 7 (Yonhap) -- Labor Minister Kim Young-hoon on Saturday called on of...

• Wiz star Hilliard taking advantage of rubber ball training during Korean Series (2026-11-07 00:33)

DAEGU, Nov. 7 (Yonhap) -- Before he steps into the cage for his pregame batting ...

• Lions pitcher Chris Paddack: proud Texan with ice in veins (2026-11-07 00:13)

DAEGU, Nov. 7 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Lions starting pitcher Chris Paddack is a prou...

• Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers (2026-11-07 00:01)

SEOUL, Nov. 7 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Kor...

• (Yonhap Interview) New Italian trade commissioner sees K-food as gateway to broader bilateral trade (2026-11-07 00:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 7 (Yonhap) -- The new commissioner at the Seoul office of the Italia...

• Mirae Asset says data breaches exposed customer, employee information (2026-11-06 23:14)

SEOUL, Nov. 7 (Yonhap) -- Mirae Asset Securities Co. said Saturday that it suffe...

• U.N. chief calls for restoration of inter-Korean communication channels amid DMZ tensions (2026-11-06 21:13)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has calle...

• (LEAD) Trump names Stephen Miller new White House chief of staff after midterm defeat (2026-11-06 20:31)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump announced Friday that...

• Trump names Stephen Miller new White House chief of staff after midterm defeat (2026-11-06 20:23)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump announced Friday that...

• Lions captain Koo Ja-wook delivers big hit with franchise legend watching (2026-11-06 13:43)

DAEGU, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- After tossing the ceremonial first pitch for Game 3 of...

• (LEAD) Lions ace Jurado throws Korean Series gem to continue strong postseason (2026-11-06 13:21)

DAEGU, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Lions ace Ariel Jurado further burnished his s...

• Lions manager sings praises of ace after latest postseason masterpiece (2026-11-06 13:19)

DAEGU, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- After his ace Ariel Jurado submitted yet another fine ...

• (LEAD) GOPAX suspends withdrawals, trading following hacking threats (2026-11-06 13:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korean cryptocurrency exchange GOPAX said Friday...

• Lions turn to rookie to take stranglehold on Korean Series (2026-11-06 12:45)

DAEGU, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- The Samsung Lions will try to take a 3-1 stranglehold ...

• (LEAD) Lions rally past Wiz to take Korean Series lead (2026-11-06 12:40)

DAEGU, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- The Samsung Lions came from behind to defeat the KT Wi...

• Lions ace Jurado throws Korean Series gem to continue strong postseason (2026-11-06 12:29)

DAEGU, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Lions ace Ariel Jurado further burnished his s...

• Lions rally past Wiz to take Korean Series lead (2026-11-06 12:23)

DAEGU, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- The Samsung Lions came from behind to defeat the KT Wi...

• (LEAD) (profile) Justice minister nominee versatile in legal, defense fields (2026-11-06 10:42)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Justice Minister nominee Lee Yong-cheol is a former la...

- GOPAX suspends withdrawals following hacking threats (2026-11-06 10:12)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korean cryptocurrency exchange GOPAX said Friday...

- Nat'l Assembly passes special counsel bill on alleged fabricated indictments (2026-11-06 08:55)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- The National Assembly, led by the ruling Democratic Pa...

- (profile) Justice minister nominee versatile in legal, defense fields (2026-11-06 08:38)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Justice Minister nominee Lee Yong-cheol is a former la...

- Wiz lose 2 regulars to injuries in Korean Series game (2026-11-06 08:27)

DAEGU, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- The KT Wiz welcomed one injured player back to their l...

- Yonhap News Summary (2026-11-06 08:18)

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

- (LEAD) TPG to take Lotte Rental private via tender offer (2026-11-06 07:53)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- U.S. private equity firm Texas Pacific Group (TPG) wil...

- Lions manager not concerned about players' fatigue during postseason grind (2026-11-06 07:50)

DAEGU, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Even with his club having played seven postseason game...

- (profile) Veteran tax investigator named new head of S. Korea's tax agency (2026-11-06 07:46)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Ahn Duk-su, tapped to lead South Korea's National Tax ...

- (LEAD) Arms review committee approves plan for nuclear-powered submarine project (2026-11-06 07:44)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- A review committee of the state arms agency on Friday ...

- Nvidia finalizes payment of US$1 bln, acquires over 4 pct stake in Naver (2026-11-06 07:36)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Nvidia Corp. has finalized its payment of US$1 billion...

- (2nd LD) Seoul stocks crash for 2nd day on AI rout after U.S. midterms (2026-11-06 07:36)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks sank for the second consecutive session o...

- (LEAD)(News Focus) KOSPI pummeled by AI investment fears, briefly dips below 5,000 (2026-11-06 07:23)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price In...

• (LEAD) LIG D&A; shifts to red in Q3 on facility expansion costs (2026-11-06 07:13)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korean defense company LIG Defense & Aerospa...

• (LEAD) Lee nominates head of defense procurement agency as new justice minister (2026-11-06 07:11)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung has nominated Lee Yong-cheol, ...

• Unionized members at Samsung Biologics stage another partial strike (2026-11-06 07:06)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Unionized workers at Samsung Biologics Co. on Friday k...

• (LEAD) Seoul stocks crash for 2nd day on AI rout after U.S. midterms (2026-11-06 07:01)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks sank for the second consecutive session o...

• Summary of external news of North Korea this week (2026-11-06 07:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- The following is a summary of external news on North K...

• Summary of inter-Korean news this week (2026-11-06 07:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- The following is a summary of inter-Korean news this w...

• Summary of domestic news in North Korea this week (2026-11-06 07:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- The following is a summary of domestic news in North K...

• Key developments on North Korea this week (2026-11-06 07:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- The following are key developments regarding North Kor...

• Lions catcher Kang Min-ho playing in Korean Series through injury: 'I am pouring my soul into it' (2026-11-06 06:57)

DAEGU, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- In pursuit of his first championship ring in his 23-ye...

• Court suspends 201.1 bln-won fine imposed on Coupang for unauthorized user data collection (2026-11-06 06:55)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- A court on Friday temporarily suspended a 201.1 billio...

• Arms review committee approves plan for nuclear-powered submarine project (2026-11-06 06:53)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- A review committee of the state arms agency on Friday ...

• Lee nominates head of defense procurement agency as new justice minister (2026-11-06 06:45)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung has nominated Lee Yong-cheol, ...

• Seoul stocks crash for 2nd day on AI rout after U.S. midterms (2026-11-06 06:34)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks sank for the second consecutive session o...

• (URGENT) Lee nominates chief of defense procurement Lee Yong-cheol as new justice minister (2026-11-06 06:34)

(END)

• Lee vows efforts to restore honor of civilians killed in state violence during Korean War (2026-11-06 06:33)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Friday pledged efforts to r...

• (URGENT) Seoul stocks crash for 2nd day on AI rout after U.S. midterms (2026-11-06 06:33)

fairydust@yna.co.kr (END)

• Nearly half of S. Koreans say they do not trust courts: survey (2026-11-06 06:29)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Nearly 50 percent of South Koreans said they do not tr...

• Korean auteur Lee Chang-dong vows to do best in Oscar race despite barriers (2026-11-06 06:20)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- "Possible Love" director Lee Chang-dong said Friday th...

• KNPA deputy chief nominated as new police chief (2026-11-06 05:48)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Kim Jong-chul, deputy commissioner general of the Kore...

• Presidential secretary for political affairs offers to resign (2026-11-06 05:26)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung's chief secretary for politica...

• Nat'l conference of judges to be held this month amid calls for judicial independence (2026-11-06 05:17)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- A key conference of representative judges from courts ...

• S. Korea-Bosnia and Herzegovina economic cooperation agreement takes effect (2026-11-06 05:12)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- A bilateral economic cooperation agreement between Sou...

• (3rd LD) S. Korea agrees to support East Timor's economic, social development (2026-11-06 05:08)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and East Timor agreed Friday to strengthen...

• (LEAD) DP leader makes public apology over Shincheonji claim amid backlash from lawmakers (2026-11-06 05:07)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Ruling Democratic Party (DP) leader Kim Min-seok issue...

• Today in Korean history (2026-11-06 05:00)

Nov. 7

• S. Korea, Netherlands hold 1st joint committee meeting on science, technology (2026-11-06 05:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Science ministries from South Korea and the Netherland...

• Kia to invest 3 tln won in Gwangju to build PBV mobility ecosystem by 2029 (2026-11-06 04:58)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Kia Corp. said Friday it will invest 3 trillion won (U...

• Chris Evans, Chris Hemsworth to visit S. Korea next month (2026-11-06 04:40)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- "Avengers: Doomsday" stars Chris Evans and Chris Hemsw...

• (2nd LD) S. Korea agrees to support East Timor's economic, social development (2026-11-06 04:39)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and East Timor agreed Friday to strengthen...

• Yonhap News Summary (2026-11-06 04:30)

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

• (LEAD) More market stabilization measures in store to ease panic sell-offs: finance minister (2026-11-06 03:10)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- The country's finance minister said Friday that the fi...

• (News Focus) AI rout prompts KOSPI to tumble below 5,000 after U.S. midterm elections (2026-11-06 02:44)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price In...

• DP leader makes public apology over Shincheonji claim amid backlash from lawmakers (2026-11-06 02:31)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Ruling Democratic Party (DP) leader Kim Min-seok issue...

• Seoul stocks sharply down late Fri. morning on AI rout (2026-11-06 02:31)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks were trading sharply lower late Friday mo...

• S. Korea to see warm, wet winter due to powerful El Nino (2026-11-06 02:29)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is expected to experience a warmer and wet...

• HD KSOE secures 630 bln-won order for 4 ammonia carriers (2026-11-06 02:21)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- HD Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering (KSOE...

• Gov't probing 'all possibilities' in leak of personal data of President Lee, Europe trip entourage (2026-11-06 02:21)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Authorities are investigating all possibilities surrou...

• TPG to take Lotte Rental private via tender offer (2026-11-06 02:15)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- U.S. private equity firm Texas Pacific Group (TPG) wil...

• Veterans ministry to invite foreign Korean War veterans, families on U.N. memorial day (2026-11-06 02:10)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- The veterans ministry said Friday it will invite forei...

• Busan shark remains unsighted for 11 days after monthlong stay in canal (2026-11-06 02:00)

BUSAN, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Bukang-i the shark, which drew more than a million vie...

• Labor rallies, marathons to cause congestion in Seoul this weekend (2026-11-06 01:58)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Traffic congestion is expected in central Seoul this w...

• Jennie sings soundtrack for new Netflix animation 'Steps' (2026-11-06 01:58)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Jennie, a member of K-pop girl group BLACKPINK, has ta...

• Lions holding edge in Korean Series bullpen battle despite missing star closer (2026-11-06 01:55)

DAEGU, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Before the Korean Series started this week, it appeare...

• Lee's approval rating tops 40 pct for 1st time since late Aug.: poll (2026-11-06 01:50)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung's approval rating rose slightl...

• N. Korea removes assembly vice chairman, amends construction, precious metal laws (2026-11-06 01:43)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- North Korea's parliament has held a presidium meeting ...

• (LEAD) Lee set for summit with East Timor President Horta on strengthening ties (2026-11-06 00:52)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myung was set to hold a...

• Doosan to expand CCL production capacity in China amid growing AI demand (2026-11-06 00:48)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Doosan Group said Friday it will invest about 550 bill...

• N. Korea says Japan's push to raise defense spending will only burden its people (2026-11-06 00:47)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- North Korea on Friday criticized Japan's push to incre...

• (LEAD) Seoul stocks open sharply lower on AI fears after U.S. midterms (2026-11-06 00:39)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks opened sharply lower Friday, tracking an ...

• (LEAD) Lotte Shopping swings to Q3 profit on strong overseas, department store sales (2026-11-06 00:37)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Lotte Shopping Co., an affiliate of South Korean retai...

• Finance minister vows timely actions to ease stock market volatility (2026-11-06 00:18)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- The country's finance minister said Friday that the fi...

• Trading of KOSPI stocks suspended amid tech sell-off (2026-11-06 00:08)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's bourse operator on Friday activated a ci...

• (URGENT) KRX issues circuit breaker for KOSPI on sharp fall (2026-11-06 00:04)

fairydust@yna.co.kr (END)

• Seoul stocks open sharply lower on AI fears after U.S. midterms (2026-11-06 00:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks opened sharply lower Friday, tracking an ...

• (URGENT) Seoul stocks open sharply lower on AI fears after U.S. midterms (2026-11-06 00:01)

fairydust@yna.co.kr (END)

• Deputy FM meets British lawmakers for talks on N. Korea, Ukraine (2026-11-05 23:20)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- Deputy Foreign Minister Chung Eui-hae has met with a d...

• Lee set for summit with East Timor President Horta on strengthening ties (2026-11-05 23:19)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myung was set to hold a...

• N. Korea lambasts money-laundering watchdog over renewed 'high-risk' label (2026-11-05 23:15)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- North Korea on Friday denounced the intergovernmental ...

• (EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on Nov. 6) (2026-11-05 22:02)

The government has decided to expand the operational area of the Navy's Cheongha...

• (EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on Nov. 6) (2026-11-05 22:01)

The results of the U.S. midterm elections arrived earlier than expected here in ...

• (EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on Nov. 6) (2026-11-05 22:01)

A weapon's price says little about the cost of stopping it. A drone costing a fr...

• Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers (2026-11-05 22:01)

SEOUL, Nov. 6 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Kor...

• S. Korea should deepen work with U.S., Japan on sanctions against N.K. after Binance theft: expert (2026-11-05 21:57)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- A U.S. cryptocurrency expert on Thursday called f...

• Melania Trump calls for lasting peace after brokering local Russia-Ukraine ceasefire (2026-11-05 21:23)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- U.S. first lady Melania Trump on Thursday called ...

• USFK chief, Japanese defense minister discuss regional defense cooperation (2026-11-05 16:06)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The commander of U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) has met...

• Korean American Rep. Dave Min wins reelection to U.S. House (2026-11-05 14:14)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- Korean American Rep. Dave Min (D-CA) of the U.S. ...

• Lee says his social network activity aims to hear from people; vows continued outreach (2026-11-05 12:54)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Thursday his frequent soc...

• (2nd LD) Cheong Wa Dae says U.S. midterm results unlikely to affect S. Korea-U.S. alliance (2026-11-05 12:42)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- Cheong Wa Dae said Thursday it does not expect the res...

• N. Korean fishing boat found in waters off Ulleungdo (2026-11-05 11:49)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- A North Korean fishing boat was found in international...

• Sewol ferry sinking archive, ancient cookbooks added to regional UNESCO list (2026-11-05 11:30)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- An archive documenting the 2014 Sewol ferry sinking an...

• Appeals court to rule on ex-President Yoon's martial law case on Jan. 26 (2026-11-05 11:10)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- An appeals court said Thursday it will deliver its ver...

• (3rd LD) Special counsel bill on alleged fabricated indictments introduced at plenary session (2026-11-05 10:08)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- A bill calling for a special counsel probe into allega...

• Court rejects injunction lawsuit by Coupang over data breach-related fine (2026-11-05 09:43)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- A Seoul court Thursday rejected an injunction lawsuit ...

• Parliament passes resolution seeking expulsion of opposition lawmaker over controversial remarks (2026-11-05 09:21)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The National Assembly on Thursday passed a resolution ...

• S. Korea eyes sustainable growth beyond chip-led boom: finance minister (2026-11-05 09:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is seeking to turn the current economic bo...

• Seoul vows close consultation with Washington after midterms for key bilateral issues (2026-11-05 08:13)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will continue to work closely with the U.S...

• (LEAD) KT&G; Q3 net plunges 75.1 pct on FX losses (2026-11-05 08:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- KT&G Corp., South Korea's leading tobacco company,...

• (LEAD) PM says sees no big change in alliance with U.S. after Trump's election defeat (2026-11-05 08:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Han Seong-sook said Thursday she antici...

• Yonhap News Summary (2026-11-05 08:00)

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

• China's top diplomat meets visiting N.K. party secretary (2026-11-05 07:59)

BEIJING/SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Thursday m...

• (2nd LD) Special counsel bill on alleged fabricated indictments introduced at plenary session (2026-11-05 07:57)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- A bill calling for a special counsel probe into allega...

• (2nd LD) Seoul shares plunge over 5 pct on AI regulation concerns after U.S. midterms (2026-11-05 07:38)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks plunged more than 5 percent Thursd...

• (LEAD) Special counsel bill on alleged fabricated indictments introduced at plenary session (2026-11-05 07:32)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- A bill calling for a special counsel probe into allega...

• (LEAD) Foreign ministry fails to take steps even after learning of job scam crimes in Cambodia: audit agency (2026-11-05 07:28)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The foreign ministry failed to raise the travel alert ...

• S. Korean won nudges lower against U.S. dollar on foreign outflows (2026-11-05 07:17)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won nudged lower against the U.S. dol...

• (LEAD) S. Korea to seek 2-year delay in tax on cryptocurrency gains (2026-11-05 07:15)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will seek to delay a planned tax on crypto...

• Special counsel seeks 1-yr prison term for CIO chief for dereliction of duty (2026-11-05 07:15)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- A special counsel team on Thursday sought a one-year p...

• (LEAD) Lee calls for virtuous cycle to translate exports growth into domestic demand recovery (2026-11-05 07:13)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Thursday instructed officia...

• (LEAD) S. Korea joins as co-sponsor of U.N. resolution on N. Korean human rights (2026-11-05 07:10)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has decided to co-sponsor this year's U.N....

• Samsung retains top spots in global DRAM market in Q3 (2026-11-05 07:08)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean chip giant Samsung Electronics Co. mainta...

• (LEAD) Seoul shares plunge over 5 pct on AI regulation concerns after U.S. midterms (2026-11-05 07:01)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks plunged more than 5 percent Thursd...

• S. Korea to seek 2-year delay in tax on cryptocurrency gains (2026-11-05 07:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will seek to delay a planned tax on crypto...

• (URGENT) S. Korea to seek 2-year delay in taxation of cryptocurrency gains (2026-11-05 07:00)

(END)

• Special counsel bill on alleged fabricated indictments introduced at plenary session (2026-11-05 06:59)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- A bill calling for a special counsel probe into allega...

• (LEAD) No talks yet on sanctions over N. Korea's alleged Binance theft: unification ministry official (2026-11-05 06:52)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The government has not begun discussing sanctions on N...

• Seoul shares plunge over 5 pct on AI regulation concerns after U.S. midterms (2026-11-05 06:38)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks plunged more than 5 percent Thursd...

• 3-yr prison term finalized for ex-PSS chief for obstructing Yoon's arrest (2026-11-05 06:36)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- A three-year prison term was finalized Thursday for a ...

• (URGENT) Seoul shares plunge over 5 pct on AI regulation concerns after U.S. midterms (2026-11-05 06:34)

(END)

• Lee calls for virtuous cycle to translate exports growth into domestic demand recovery (2026-11-05 06:30)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Thursday instructed officia...

• FM Cho to attend G7 foreign ministers' meeting in Paris next week (2026-11-05 06:30)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- Foreign Minister Cho Hyun will visit Paris next week t...

• (News Focus) S. Korea signals Hormuz role with demining assets for anti-piracy unit (2026-11-05 06:28)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's plan to deploy mine-clearing assets and ...

• N. Korea signals openess to dialogue if talks serve its interests: unification minister (2026-11-05 06:23)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- North Korea is signaling that it is open to dialogue w...

• (LEAD) LG Chem swings to Q3 loss on non-operating losses (2026-11-05 06:14)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- LG Chem Ltd., South Korea's leading chemical company, ...

• Samsung Electronics faces push for sixth labor union amid alleged internal rifts (2026-11-05 06:10)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- A sixth labor union is being formed at Samsung Electro...

• Organizing committee of World Youth Day 2027 vows to prioritize safety (2026-11-05 06:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- With some 500,000 people expected to take part in Worl...

• S. Korea joins as co-sponsor of U.N. resolution on N. Korean human rights (2026-11-05 06:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has decided to co-sponsor this year's U.N....

• Financial policymakers to monitor U.S. AI, trade policies following election (2026-11-05 05:35)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's key financial policymakers on Thursday v...

• Lee commends Korean team's No. 2 finish at world skills event, vows support (2026-11-05 05:33)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Thursday commended the Sout...

• No talks yet on sanctions over N. Korea's alleged Binance theft: unification ministry official (2026-11-05 05:26)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The government has not begun discussing sanctions on N...

• U.S. copyright lawsuit over BTS song 'Swim' dropped: report (2026-11-05 05:09)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- American songwriters who earlier claimed that South Ko...

• Today in Korean history (2026-11-05 05:00)

Nov. 6

• PM says sees no big change in alliance with U.S. after Trump's election defeat (2026-11-05 04:31)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Han Seong-sook said Thursday she antici...

• Yonhap News Summary (2026-11-05 04:30)

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

• SCIA, police to form joint team to investigate Yoon's martial law bid (2026-11-05 03:14)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The Serious Crime Investigation Agency (SCIA) and the ...

• BOK chief to attend BIS governors' meeting in Switzerland (2026-11-05 03:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- Bank of Korea (BOK) Gov. Shin Hyun-song will depart fo...

• Foreign ministry fails to take steps even after learning of job scam crimes in Cambodia: audit agency (2026-11-05 03:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The foreign ministry failed to raise the travel alert ...

• Multicultural marriages in S. Korea edge down in 2025 (2026-11-05 03:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The number of multicultural marriages in South Korea e...

• Seoul shares sharply down late Thu. morning as U.S. midterm results spark AI woes (2026-11-05 02:33)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks traded sharply lower late Thursday...

• Lions pitcher Yang Chang-seop eager for 1st Korean Series start: 'I will be so honored' (2026-11-05 02:24)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- Seeking a turnaround amid his second-half swoon in the...

• (LEAD) SK Biopharm's Q3 operating profit up 66 pct on U.S. sales of seizure drug (2026-11-05 02:11)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- SK Biopharmaceuticals Co., a biopharmaceutical arm of ...

• Lee welcomes East Timor President Horta's visit to S. Korea ahead of summit (2026-11-05 02:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Thursday welcomed East Timo...

• S. Korea, Singapore, New Zealand review progress in green trade pact talks (2026-11-05 02:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea, Singapore and New Zealand have discussed ...

• Hanwha Aerospace breaks ground on Chunmoo rocket plant in Poland (2026-11-05 01:52)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- Hanwha Aerospace Co. said Thursday it has broken groun...

• (LEAD) S. Korea posts record high current account surplus of over US$60 bln in Sept. on chip supercycle (2026-11-05 01:47)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea posted an all-time high current account su...

• (LEAD) N. Korea says test-fired new air defense missile system, long-range cruise missile (2026-11-05 01:46)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- North Korea has test-fired a new air defense missile s...

• LG Twins sign ex-MLB pitcher Tristan Beck (2026-11-05 01:45)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The LG Twins announced their signing of former major l...

• S. Korea's stock markets to open 1 hour later Nov. 19 (2026-11-05 01:38)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's stock markets will start trading an hour...

• Jung Woo-sung cast in upcoming Joseon-era action film (2026-11-05 01:35)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- Actor Jung Woo-sung has been cast as a powerful politi...

• (2nd LD) Kakao Q3 operating profit up 15.5 pct on stable growth of platform biz (2026-11-05 01:31)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean internet tech giant Kakao Corp. said Thur...

• KRX activates sell-side sidecar for KOSPI on sharp fall (2026-11-05 01:29)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's bourse operator on Thursday activated a ...

• (URGENT) KRX activates sell-side sidecar for KOSPI on sharp decline (2026-11-05 01:21)

(END)

• Over 470,000 pieces of personal data leaked from 37 financial firms: FSC (2026-11-05 01:17)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- More than 470,000 personal data records have been leak...

• Shin Min-a, Lee Jin-uk to appear in upcoming romance drama (2026-11-05 01:01)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- Actors Shin Min-a and Lee Jin-uk will portray a couple...

• S. Korea rejects Russia's criticism of joint military exercises with U.S. (2026-11-05 01:01)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea on Thursday rejected Russia's criticism of...

• (LEAD) S. Korea to expand anti-piracy mission closer to Hormuz, send more naval assets (2026-11-05 00:58)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea plans to expand its anti-piracy mission of...

• (2nd LD) UNESCO likely to list traditional Korean paper 'hanji' as cultural heritage (2026-11-05 00:54)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The knowledge and skills associated with the productio...

• S. Korea to expand anti-piracy mission closer to Hormuz, send more naval assets (2026-11-05 00:30)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea plans to expand its anti-piracy mission of...

• (LEAD) Seoul shares open lower on Democratic Party victory in U.S. midterm elections (2026-11-05 00:25)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started lower Thursday as the U.S....

• Crafty pitchers to face off in 3rd game of Korean Series (2026-11-05 00:14)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The third game of the South Korean baseball championsh...

• (LEAD) Kakao Q3 operating profit up 15.5 pct on stable growth of platform biz (2026-11-05 00:05)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean internet tech giant Kakao Corp. said Thur...

• Seoul shares open lower on Democratic Party victory in U.S. midterm elections (2026-11-05 00:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started lower Thursday as the U.S....

• (URGENT) Seoul shares open lower on Democratic Party victory in U.S. midterm elections (2026-11-05 00:02)

(END)

• (LEAD) UNESCO likely to list traditional Korean paper 'hanji' as cultural heritage (2026-11-04 23:37)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The knowledge and skills associated with the productio...

• S. Korea posts record high current account surplus of over US$60 bln in Sept. on chip supercycle (2026-11-04 23:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- South Korea posted an all-time high current account su...

• (URGENT) S. Korea posts record high current account surplus of over US$60 bln in Sept. (2026-11-04 23:00)

(END)

• N. Korea says it test-fired new air defense missile system (2026-11-04 22:46)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- North Korea said Thursday it test-fired a newly design...

• Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers (2026-11-04 22:32)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Kor...

• (EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on Nov. 5) (2026-11-04 22:10)

U.S. voters have checked U.S. President Donald Trump's dominance. In Tuesday's U...

• (EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on Nov. 5) (2026-11-04 22:09)

South Korea, which globally popularized the martial art form of taekwondo, is wa...

• (EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on Nov. 5) (2026-11-04 22:09)

The revelation that the personal information of President Lee Jae Myung and his ...

• UNESCO likely to list traditional Korean paper 'hanji' as cultural heritage (2026-11-04 21:31)

SEOUL, Nov. 5 (Yonhap) -- The knowledge and skills associated with the productio...

• (News Focus) Democratic control of Congress could complicate S. Korea's nuclear submarines, Trump-Kim summit prospects: experts (2026-11-04 17:16)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Democratic control of the U.S. Congress could mak...

• Diaz takes center stage in Lions' Korean Series win with big hits, error (2026-11-04 14:53)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Lions star Lewin Diaz dominated h...

• Lions manager breathes sigh of relief after exhausting win in Korean Series (2026-11-04 14:43)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- After his team eked out a narrow win Wedn...

• (LEAD) Lions defeat Wiz in extra innings to even up Korean Series (2026-11-04 14:12)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- The Samsung Lions edged out the KT Wiz 3-...

• Starting pitchers engage in memorable duel in Korean Series (2026-11-04 14:05)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- One is a wily veteran with an unorthodox ...

• Lions defeat Wiz in extra innings to even up Korean Series (2026-11-04 13:57)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- The Samsung Lions edged out the KT Wiz 3-...

• SK Group chairman to chair board of SK hynix's U.S. AI arm (2026-11-04 12:34)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- SK Group Chairman Chey Tae-won will chair the board of...

• Koh becomes 7th Korean American elected to U.S. Congress; Strickland secures 4th term (2026-11-04 10:56)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Dan Koh became the seventh Korean American electe...

• DaouKiwoom-CJ consortium to sign deal to acquire JoongAng Ilbo this week (2026-11-04 09:55)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- A consortium comprising CJ, Shinsegae and two other co...

• (LEAD) Hoban Construction emerges as Hanjin KAL's largest shareholder (2026-11-04 09:49)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Hanjin KAL, the holding company of Korean Air Co., sai...

• Hoban Construction emerges as Hanjin KAL's largest shareholder (2026-11-04 09:32)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Hanjin KAL, the holding company of Korean Air Co., sai...

• Police arrest woman for stabbing doctor at hospital (2026-11-04 08:59)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Police arrested a woman for allegedly stabbing and inj...

• Lions stack left-handed batters against sidearm opposing pitcher (2026-11-04 08:29)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Going up against a sidearm pitcher who po...

• S. Korea experiences 5th warmest Oct. this year (2026-11-04 08:11)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's average temperature reached 15.8 C last ...

• Lee voices need to revise outdated Constitution, says assembly should take lead (2026-11-04 08:09)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Wednesday voiced the need t...

• Hyundai Motor to showcase hydrogen technologies at local expo (2026-11-04 08:01)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Hyundai Motor Group said Wednesday it will showcase it...

• Yonhap News Summary (2026-11-04 08:00)

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

• Regulator finalizes 370 bln-won penalties on banks, securities firms over mis-selling of HK-tied derivatives (2026-11-04 07:57)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Seven banks and six securities firms were slapped with...

• Subcommittee passes special counsel bill on alleged fabricated indictments involving Lee (2026-11-04 07:46)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- A parliamentary subcommittee on Wednesday approved a b...

• S. Korean won slightly weakens after Democrats retake U.S. Congress in midterm elections (2026-11-04 07:37)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won slightly weakened against the U.S...

• (2nd LD) Seoul shares close higher on early U.S. midterm election outcome (2026-11-04 07:35)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks closed slightly higher Wednesday a...

• S. Korea will not be affected by NASA's Swift telescope crashing back to earth: KASA (2026-11-04 07:34)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- A defunct NASA telescope is expected to fall back to E...

• Wiz manager predicts tight duel between starters in Game 2 of Korean Series (2026-11-04 07:32)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- With two highly regarded right-handers to...

• Wiz pitcher Allen taking role changes in stride: 'I am ready to do whatever team needs' (2026-11-04 07:30)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- KT Wiz pitcher Logan Allen spent the enti...

• (LEAD) Special counsel raids NEC headquarters over alleged bid rigging (2026-11-04 07:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Investigators raided the National Election Commission ...

• DP leader's reversal on Shincheonji claim sparks backlash from lawmakers (2026-11-04 07:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Ruling party leader Kim Min-seok's decision to reverse...

• (LEAD) Seoul shares close higher on early U.S. midterm election outcome (2026-11-04 07:02)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks closed slightly higher Wednesday a...

• Lee set to launch new YouTube program to communicate with public (2026-11-04 06:53)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung will launch a YouTube program ...

• (2nd LD) Ex-President Yoon's election law conviction upheld; PPP at risk of returning US$30 mln in campaign funds (2026-11-04 06:53)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- An appeals court on Wednesday upheld a suspended priso...

• Imported vehicle sales jump 29.3 pct in Oct. on strong EV demand (2026-11-04 06:37)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Sales of imported vehicles in South Korea rose a sharp...

• Seoul shares close higher on early U.S. midterm election outcome (2026-11-04 06:34)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks closed slightly higher Wednesday a...

• (URGENT) Seoul shares close higher on early U.S. midterm election outcome (2026-11-04 06:33)

(END)

• Police arrest 80 high-risk offenders in relationship-based crime review (2026-11-04 06:23)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Police said Wednesday they have conducted a comprehens...

• (Yonhap Interview) More productive, attractive regions outside Seoul key to sustaining growth: OECD officials (2026-11-04 06:15)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea needs to boost productivity in regions out...

• (2nd LD) N. Korea fires multiple missiles toward East Sea: JCS (2026-11-04 06:04)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- North Korea fired multiple missiles toward the East Se...

• (LEAD) Appeals court upholds ex-President Yoon's suspended prison term in election law trial (2026-11-04 06:01)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- An appeals court on Wednesday upheld a suspended priso...

• PM pledges to root out price-fixing practices (2026-11-04 05:44)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Prime Minister Han Seong-sook pledged Wednesday to roo...

• (URGENT) Appeals court sentences ex-President Yoon to suspended prison term for violating election law (2026-11-04 05:43)

(END)

• S. Korea, African Union discuss cooperation fund, broader ties (2026-11-04 05:39)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and the African Union (AU) have discussed ...

• BTS album 'Arirang' certified 'platinum' in Italy (2026-11-04 05:38)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- K-pop supergroup BTS' fifth full-length album "Arirang...

• Gov't announces successful candidates to host two new regional medical schools (2026-11-04 05:37)

SEJONG, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Two new medical schools will be established at Suncho...

• (LEAD) LG Uplus Q3 operating profit up over 80 pct on base effect, biz optimization (2026-11-04 05:05)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- LG Uplus Corp., a major mobile carrier, said Wednesday...

• Today in Korean history (2026-11-04 05:00)

Nov. 5

• Late baseball pitcher Choi Dong-won honored as S. Korean 'Sports Hero' (2026-11-04 04:45)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Choi Dong-won, widely considered one of the finest pit...

• Samsung TVs top Consumer Reports rankings across screen sizes (2026-11-04 04:40)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Electronics Co. ranked first across all TV scr...

• Yonhap News Summary (2026-11-04 04:30)

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

• (LEAD) N. Korea fires multiple missiles toward East Sea: JCS (2026-11-04 03:29)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- North Korea fired multiple missiles toward the East Se...

• Local municipalities vie to host correctional facilities amid regional extinction concerns (2026-11-04 02:38)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Seven municipalities have applied to host new correcti...

• (LEAD) N. Korea's Kim inspects Nampho shipyard, calls for rapid naval buildup (2026-11-04 02:32)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has visited the Nampho...

• Seoul shares turn lower late Wed. morning on tech losses (2026-11-04 02:29)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks turned lower late Wednesday mornin...

• State panel to investigate civilian killings surrounding Korean War (2026-11-04 02:17)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- A state reconciliation panel said Wednesday it has dec...

• Navy stages maritime maneuver drills to hone operability (2026-11-04 02:15)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- The Navy has launched maritime maneuver drills in wate...

• Ruling party proposes gov't delay planned taxation of cryptocurrency (2026-11-04 02:14)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- The ruling Democratic Party (DP) on Wednesday formally...

• Special counsel raids NEC headquarters over alleged bid rigging (2026-11-04 02:02)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Investigators raided the National Election Commission ...

• (LEAD) SKT's operating profit up over 1,000 pct, turns to black in Q3 (2026-11-04 01:36)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- SK Telecom Co. (SKT), South Korea's top mobile service...

• N. Korea's Kim inspects Nampho shipyard, calls for rapid naval buildup (2026-11-04 01:33)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- North Korean leader Kim Jong-un has visited the Nampho...

• 'Dracula' featuring Jennie rebounds to No. 5 on Billboard Hot 100 (2026-11-04 01:10)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- "Dracula," a collaborative single between Jennie of K-...

• N. Korea fires unidentified projectile toward East Sea: JCS (2026-11-04 01:05)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- North Korea fired an unidentified projectile toward th...

• Senior N. Korean party official visiting China: KCNA (2026-11-04 00:58)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- A senior North Korean ruling party official has arrive...

• (2nd LD) Coupang swings to Q3 loss on warehouse fire-related costs (2026-11-04 00:57)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- E-commerce giant Coupang, Inc. said Wednesday it swung...

• S. Korea calls for APEC cooperation on energy supply chains, AI (2026-11-04 00:54)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has called for stronger cooperation among ...

• Science ministry, AMD engage in follow-up discussions on AI chip partnership (2026-11-04 00:54)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- The government and U.S. chip giant AMD held a steering...

• (URGENT) N. Korea fires unidentified projectile toward East Sea: S. Korean military (2026-11-04 00:53)

(END)

• S. Korea, Poland discuss expanding defense, energy, infra cooperation (2026-11-04 00:45)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and Poland have discussed ways to strength...

• Pope invites youth to bring 'questions and wounds' to 2027 World Youth Day in Seoul (2026-11-04 00:42)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Pope Leo XIV has encouraged young Catholics to bring t...

• (LEAD) Seoul shares open sharply higher on tech gains ahead of U.S. midterm election results (2026-11-04 00:21)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started sharply higher Wednesday, ...

• Appeals court to rule on ex-President Yoon's high-stakes election law case (2026-11-04 00:19)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- An appeals court was set to rule Wednesday on former P...

• Wiz closer Park Yeong-hyun says belief in himself, catcher led to big Korean Series save (2026-11-04 00:14)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Even with his team enjoying an 8-0 lead o...

• Senior officials of S. Korea, Switzerland discuss N. Korea situation after Swiss FM's Pyongyang trip (2026-11-04 00:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Senior officials of South Korea and Switzerland have d...

• Seoul shares open sharply higher on tech gains ahead of U.S. election results (2026-11-04 00:02)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started sharply higher Wednesday, ...

• (URGENT) Seoul shares open sharply higher on tech gains ahead of U.S. election results (2026-11-04 00:01)

(END)

• Lions ace Paddack says ready to sacrifice body for Korean Series start (2026-11-03 23:58)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- In his professional career that began 11 ...

• Kakao Bank logs record earnings on rise in interest, non-interest income (2026-11-03 23:56)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- Leading online lender Kakao Bank said Wednesday it pos...

• (LEAD) N. Korea says dialogue with U.S. an option but not a must for national interest (2026-11-03 23:23)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- North Korea said Wednesday that dialogue with the Unit...

• (LEAD) Coupang swings to Q3 loss on warehouse fire-related costs (2026-11-03 22:47)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- E-commerce giant Coupang, Inc. said Wednesday it swung...

• (EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on Nov. 4) (2026-11-03 22:13)

Korea risks losing the initiative to North Korea in securing Unesco intangible c...

• (EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on Nov. 4) (2026-11-03 22:13)

North Korea's record-breaking $6.3 billion cryptocurrency heist targeting Binanc...

• (EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on Nov. 4) (2026-11-03 22:12)

Welfare policy can turn a narrow question of eligibility into a national argumen...

• Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers (2026-11-03 22:12)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Kor...

• Coupang swings to Q3 loss on warehouse fire-related costs (2026-11-03 22:07)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- E-commerce giant Coupang, Inc. said Wednesday it swung...

• N. Korea's Kim Yo-jong says dialogue with U.S. an option but not a must for national interest (2026-11-03 22:01)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- North Korea said Wednesday that dialogue with the Unit...

- (URGENT) N. Korea's Kim Yo-jong says dialogue with U.S. an option but not a must for national interest (2026-11-03 21:28)

(END)

- Foreign reserves rebound in Oct. on foreign currency deposits (2026-11-03 21:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 4 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's foreign reserves rebounded in October on...

- (LEAD) Hyundai, Kia post record Oct. sales in U.S. over hybrid, EV demand (2026-11-03 20:39)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Hyundai Motor Co. and Kia Corp. on Tuesday report...

- Hyundai Motor posts record Oct. sales in U.S. over hybrid, SUV demand (2026-11-03 20:16)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Hyundai Motor America on Tuesday reported record ...

- Hyundai E&C; partners with FANCO of U.S. for next-gen nuclear reactor project (2026-11-03 19:46)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Hyundai Engineering & Construction (E&C) ...

- Binance says fake job interviews, AI tool used in US$6 bln theft blamed on N. Korea (2026-11-03 18:51)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Binance, the world's largest cryptocurrency excha...

- Melania Trump to meet Ukrainian, Russian representatives at White House this week (2026-11-03 17:07)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- U.S. First Lady Melania Trump will bring represen...

- Hanwha names new president of U.S. shipyard in Philadelphia amid expansion (2026-11-03 15:53)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's Hanwha Group has appointed a new pr...

- U.S. reiterates concerns over N. Korean cybercrime following Kim Yo-jong's denial of Binance theft (2026-11-03 14:44)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The United States on Tuesday reiterated concerns ...

- American slugger Hilliard delivers key plays with bat, glove in 1st KBO postseason game (2026-11-03 14:40)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- KT Wiz cleanup Sam Hilliard was named the...

- Young slugger makes emphatic postseason debut with big home run (2026-11-03 14:40)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Before making his Korea Baseball Organiza...

• Wiz manager admits to taking foot off gas in narrow Korean Series win (2026-11-03 14:39)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- After the KT Wiz nearly frittered away an...

• Sidearmer Ko looking to give Wiz commanding Korean Series lead; Lions counter with Paddack (2026-11-03 13:32)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The KT Wiz will try to go up two games to...

• (LEAD) Wiz hold off Lions in Korean Series opener (2026-11-03 13:26)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The KT Wiz edged out the Samsung Lions 8-...

• Wiz starter Daniel impresses in KBO postseason debut (2026-11-03 13:16)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Clearly unfazed by the moment, KT Wiz sta...

• Wiz hold off Lions in Korean Series opener (2026-11-03 13:11)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The KT Wiz edged out the Samsung Lions 8-...

• Korean American candidates vie for congressional, gubernatorial seats in U.S. midterms (2026-11-03 12:00)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- A number of Korean American candidates are vying ...

• Nat'l Olympic body, sports ministry vow support for S. Korean Summer Games bid (2026-11-03 10:40)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The national Olympic committee and the sports ministry...

• (LEAD) Court cancels bail granted to Unification Church leader (2026-11-03 09:59)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- A court on Tuesday canceled a bail granted to Unificat...

• Asian Cup football tournament postponed due to attacks on Saudi Arabia (2026-11-03 09:57)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Asia's top men's football tournament scheduled to take...

• (LEAD) Lee, Erdogan agree to strengthen cooperation in nuclear power plants, defense industry (2026-11-03 09:35)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myung and Turkish Presi...

• (2nd LD) Hybe posts record quarterly results as BTS tour lifts revenue (2026-11-03 09:30)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- K-pop giant Hybe reported record third-quarter revenue...

• Lee, Erdogan agree to strengthen cooperation in nuclear power plants, defense industry (2026-11-03 09:13)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean President Lee Jae Myung and Turkish Presi...

• JCS chief pays visit to console soldiers injured in DMZ blast (2026-11-03 09:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) Chairman Gen. Jin Yong-sun...

• (LEAD) Lee says S. Korea-Turkey cooperation making 'swift' progress (2026-11-03 09:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Tuesday noted "swift" progr...

• (2nd LD) Yonhap forum explores ways to deepen S. Korea-Japan economic ties amid global fragmentation (2026-11-03 08:53)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Yonhap News Agency, South Korea's key newswire, hosted...

• Court cancels bail granted to Unification Church leader (2026-11-03 08:48)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- A court on Tuesday canceled a bail granted to Unificat...

• (LEAD) Hybe posts record quarterly results as BTS tour lifts revenue (2026-11-03 08:41)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- K-pop giant Hybe reported record third-quarter revenue...

• Lions manager Park Jin-man confident momentum behind his club in Korean Series (2026-11-03 08:31)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Lions manager Park Jin-man said T...

• Ruling party to push for passage of special counsel bill on alleged fabricated indictments this week (2026-11-03 08:25)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The ruling Democratic Party (DP) said Tuesday it will ...

• Yonhap News Summary (2026-11-03 08:00)

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

• Girl group Rescene aims for lasting appeal following viral chart resurgence (2026-11-03 07:51)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Rescene, one of the hottest girl groups on the K-pop s...

• Main opposition slams presidential office for leak of Lee's personal data (2026-11-03 07:46)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The main opposition People Power Party (PPP) on Tuesda...

• Wiz manager Lee Kang-chul feeling pressure with his team favored to win Korean Series (2026-11-03 07:37)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Whenever he is managing in a postseason g...

• Wiz slugger Ahn Hyun-min itching to make Korean Series debut (2026-11-03 07:31)

SUWON, South Korea, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- By virtue of finishing first in the regul...

• POSCO Future M says Hyundai Motor to consider investment in Vietnam project (2026-11-03 07:31)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- POSCO Future M Co. said Tuesday that Hyundai Motor Gro...

• (2nd LD) Seoul shares dip over 3 pct amid escalating AI woes (2026-11-03 07:30)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks plunged more than 3 percent Tuesda...

• LG Uplus CTO says S. Korea, Japan could find synergies in voice AI ahead of 6G (2026-11-03 07:25)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The chief technology officer (CTO) of South Korean mob...

• (LEAD) KAI Q3 net plunges 51.3 pct despite strong sales growth (2026-11-03 07:19)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Korea Aerospace Industries Ltd. (KAI), South Korea's s...

• DP lawmaker acquitted of leaking military secrets (2026-11-03 07:16)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- A military court on Tuesday acquitted Rep. Boo Seung-c...

• (LEAD) Seoul shares dip over 3 pct amid escalating AI woes (2026-11-03 06:57)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks plunged more than 3 percent Tuesda...

• S. Korea to hold separate memorial for Sado mine forced labor victims for 3rd straight year (2026-11-03 06:56)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will hold a separate memorial ceremony nex...

• Special counsel raids NEC headquarters for 2nd day over improper stipends (2026-11-03 06:51)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Investigators raided the National Election Commission ...

• Lee calls expanding cooperation with Japan 'task of this era' amid global upheaval (2026-11-03 06:50)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung said Tuesday that deepening co...

• U.N. releases S. Korea's letter decrying N.K. mine blasts, defending border warning shots (2026-11-03 06:41)

NEW YORK/SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The United Nations has released a letter that...

• Seoul shares dip over 3 pct amid escalating AI woes (2026-11-03 06:35)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks plunged more than 3 percent Tuesda...

• (LEAD) Yonhap forum explores ways to deepen S. Korea-Japan economic ties amid global fragmentation (2026-11-03 06:33)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Yonhap News Agency, South Korea's key newswire, hosted...

• (URGENT) Seoul shares dip over 3 pct amid escalating AI woes (2026-11-03 06:33)

(END)

• Match-used ball in football league title clincher fetches record amount in charity auction (2026-11-03 06:32)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The ball used on a goal during the South Korean footba...

• Japanese envoy calls for closer S. Korea-Japan cooperation amid global uncertainty (2026-11-03 06:22)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Japanese Ambassador to South Korea Koichi Mizushima on...

• (LEAD) N. Korea tests 'dispersal warhead' for cruise missiles following cluster bomb test (2026-11-03 06:12)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- North Korea has tested a "dispersal warhead" for a str...

• (LEAD) Police launch investigation into leak of presidential plane passenger information (2026-11-03 05:59)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Police said Tuesday they have launched a formal invest...

• Gov't to add 9 types of behavior to legal definition of stalking (2026-11-03 05:59)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The government is pushing to expand the definition of ...

• SK chief says S. Korea, Japan could generate US$1 tln in economic synergies (2026-11-03 05:55)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- SK Group Chairman Chey Tae-won, who also heads South K...

• Inter-Korean cooperation on animal disease control necessary: unification minister (2026-11-03 05:50)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Unification Minister Chung Dong-young on Tuesday calle...

• Shin Min-a aims to show both regal, human side of Navier in 'The Remarried Empress' (2026-11-03 05:49)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Actor Shin Min-a said Tuesday she tried to portray Emp...

• Drug ring busted for making meth with cold medicine (2026-11-03 05:46)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Police said Tuesday they have busted a criminal ring s...

• LG Chem revises licensing deal with U.S. firm for obesity drug (2026-11-03 05:42)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- LG Chem Ltd., South Korea's leading chemical company, ...

• Regulatory impact analysis to be required when abolishing regulations related to life, safety (2026-11-03 05:38)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The Cabinet on Tuesday approved a revision to the Enfo...

• (LEAD) Lee orders review for establishment of cybersecurity task force (2026-11-03 05:29)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Tuesday instructed official...

• Today in Korean history (2026-11-03 05:00)

Nov. 4

• Kim Ha-seong not tendered qualifying offer by Braves (2026-11-03 04:39)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean infielder Kim Ha-seong has not received a...

• Yonhap News Summary (2026-11-03 04:30)

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

• Lee orders review for establishment of cybersecurity task force (2026-11-03 03:04)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Tuesday instructed official...

• NIS asks 2,100 public institutions to conduct emergency cybersecurity checks (2026-11-03 03:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's spy agency has asked 2,100 public instit...

• (News Focus) Wave of cyber breaches exposes growing risks to S. Korea's digital economy (2026-11-03 02:47)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- A relentless wave of cyberattacks on South Korean bank...

• S. Korean, Italian parliamentary leaders discuss cooperation on driver's license recognition (2026-11-03 02:47)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- National Assembly Speaker Cho Jeong-sik has met with I...

• (2nd LD) N. Korean leader's sister blasts FBI's crypto theft probe as 'political provocation' (2026-11-03 02:31)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- North Korea on Tuesday flatly dismissed the outcome of...

• Seoul shares down over 2 pct late Tues. morning on AI concerns (2026-11-03 02:28)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks traded more than 2 percent lower l...

• Military cadets set to embark on joint training cruise to boost interoperability (2026-11-03 02:23)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Military cadets were set to embark on a joint training...

• (LEAD) Presidential office holds emergency meeting over leak of personal data of president, trip entourage (2026-11-03 02:14)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The presidential office held an emergency meeting Tues...

• (2nd LD) LG Energy swings to Q3 loss amid EV market slowdown (2026-11-03 01:56)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- LG Energy Solution Ltd. (LGES), South Korea's leading ...

• (LEAD) LG Energy swings to Q3 loss amid EV market slowdown (2026-11-03 01:36)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- LG Energy Solution Ltd. (LGES), South Korea's leading ...

• N. Korea slams Japan's missile reinforcement, joint drills with U.S. (2026-11-03 01:31)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- North Korea on Tuesday criticized Japan's push to acqu...

• Police launch investigation into leak of presidential plane passenger information (2026-11-03 01:15)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Police said Tuesday they have launched a preliminary i...

• Sales of Galaxy Z Fold 8 increase following launch of Apple's 1st foldable smartphone (2026-11-03 01:13)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Domestic sales of Samsung Electronics Co.'s latest Gal...

• Presidential office holds emergency meeting over leak of personal data of president, trip entourage (2026-11-03 01:13)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The presidential office held an emergency meeting Tues...

• BOK sees consumer inflation remaining near 3 pct in Nov. (2026-11-03 01:10)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Consumer prices are expected to rise into the high 2 p...

• S. Korea, Fitch begin annual consultation meetings (2026-11-03 01:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and global credit appraiser Fitch Ratings ...

• FTC to toughen penalties for regulatory filing violations by biz groups (2026-11-03 01:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's antitrust watchdog said Tuesday it will ...

• Launch ceremony set for latest indigenously-built attack submarine (2026-11-03 00:54)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The Navy was set to hold a launching ceremony Tuesday ...

• Police release identity of suspect in Seoul building arson (2026-11-03 00:40)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Police on Tuesday released the identity and mug shots ...

• (LEAD) Seoul shares open sharply lower on AI woes ahead of U.S. midterm elections (2026-11-03 00:22)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started sharply lower Tuesday, wei...

• S. Korea, Bulgaria reaffirm economic ties, nuclear cooperation (2026-11-03 00:20)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and Bulgaria have reaffirmed their commitm...

• Foreigners' card spending in Seoul jumps nearly 58 pct to 8.84 tln won (2026-11-03 00:17)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Foreign visitors' card spending in Seoul jumped nearly...

• Seoul shares open sharply lower on AI woes ahead of U.S. midterm elections (2026-11-03 00:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korean stocks started sharply lower Tuesday, wei...

• (URGENT) Seoul shares open sharply lower on AI woes ahead of U.S. midterm elections (2026-11-03 00:01)

(END)

• Lee set for summit with Turkey's Erdogan to discuss deepening cooperation (2026-11-02 23:52)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung was set to hold a summit with ...

• (2nd LD) Consumer prices up 2.8 pct in Oct., remain in 2 pct range for 2nd month (2026-11-02 23:46)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's consumer prices rose 2.8 percent in Octo...

• (LEAD) N. Korean leader's sister blasts FBI's crypto theft probe as 'political provocation' (2026-11-02 23:38)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- North Korea on Tuesday flatly dismissed the outcome of...

• (LEAD) Consumer prices up 2.8 pct in Oct., remain in 2 pct range for 2nd month (2026-11-02 23:17)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's consumer prices rose 2.8 percent in Octo...

• BTS concerts in Taiwan, Indonesia to be screened at movie theaters in over 80 countries (2026-11-02 23:07)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Two shows from K-pop supergroup BTS' upcoming tour in ...

• Consumer prices up 2.8 pct in Oct., remain in 2 pct range for 2nd month (2026-11-02 23:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's consumer prices rose 2.8 percent in Octo...

• (URGENT) Consumer prices up 2.8 pct in Oct., remain at 2 pct levels for 2nd month (2026-11-02 23:00)

(END)

• N. Korea tests 'dispersal warhead' for cruise missiles following cluster bomb test (2026-11-02 22:05)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- North Korea has tested a "dispersal warhead" for a str...

• (Yonhap Interview) Danish football club FC Midtjylland seeking to build sustainable presence in S. Korea: executives (2026-11-02 22:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Having enjoyed growing interest in South Korea thanks ...

• (EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on Nov. 3) (2026-11-02 21:48)

President Lee Jae Myung has spent five consecutive days posting about support po...

• (EDITORIAL from The Korea Times on Nov. 3) (2026-11-02 21:48)

Korea, Asia's export powerhouse, is poised to exceed US$1 trillion in annual exp...

• (EDITORIAL from The Korea Herald on Nov. 3) (2026-11-02 21:47)

The U,S, Federal Bureau of Investigation has blamed North Korea for hacking cryp...

• Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers (2026-11-02 21:47)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Kor...

• N. Korean leader's sister blasts FBI's crypto theft probe as 'political provocation' (2026-11-02 21:37)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- North Korea flatly dismissed the outcome of a U.S. inv...

• (URGENT) N. Korean leader's sister denounces FBI's crypto theft probe as 'political provocation' (2026-11-02 21:21)

(END)

• Yonhap News Agency to host forum on S. Korea-Japan economic cooperation amid global fragmentation (2026-11-02 21:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Yonhap News Agency, South Korea's key newswire, was se...

• (Yonhap Interview) S. Korea prepares launch of new SMR review system this month: nuclear watchdog chief (2026-11-02 21:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 3 (Yonhap) -- Small modular reactors (SMRs) have emerged as an impor...

• U.S. trade commission terminates Samsung chip patent probe following settlement with Netlist (2026-11-02 20:19)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) h...

• White House cites S. Korean trade deal, Alaska gas project among Trump's fulfilled pledges (2026-11-02 19:36)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The White House on Monday highlighted U.S. Presid...

• (LEAD) Personal information of Lee, presidential staff leaked: report (2026-11-02 14:20)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Personal information of President Lee Jae Myung and pr...

• Personal information of Lee, presidential staff leaked: report (2026-11-02 13:50)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Personal information of President Lee Jae Myung and pr...

• Top court upholds antitrust watchdog's 18.6 bln-won fine on Broadcom (2026-11-02 10:23)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's top court has upheld the country's antit...

• S. Korea, India hold inaugural meeting of economic security dialogue (2026-11-02 10:08)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- South Korea and India held the inaugural meeting of th...

• Finance minister, Hyundai Motor chief discuss EV policies: sources (2026-11-02 09:59)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's finance minister met with the head of Hy...

• Yonhap News Summary (2026-11-02 08:39)

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

• (2nd LD) POSCO Holdings Q3 net falls 1.8 pct on one-off losses (2026-11-02 08:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- POSCO Holdings Inc., South Korea's leading steelmaker,...

• S. Korea seeks to finalize agreement with U.S. on joint air base relocations by year-end (2026-11-02 07:48)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is seeking to finalize a comprehensive agr...

• (2nd LD) Seoul stocks rebound over 2 pct on bargain hunting (2026-11-02 07:45)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks rebounded to end over 2 pct higher Monday...

• GM Korea's Oct. sales jump 26.6 pct on strong exports (2026-11-02 07:40)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- GM Korea Co., the South Korean unit of General Motors ...

• KG Mobility's Oct. sales drop 31.3 pct (2026-11-02 07:36)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- KG Mobility Corp. said Monday its sales tumbled more t...

• KAI delivers first 2 FA-50 fighter jets to Malaysia (2026-11-02 07:33)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Korea Aerospace Industries Ltd. (KAI) said Monday it h...

• (LEAD) Daewoo E&C; seeks gov't mediation in dispute over Czech nuclear project (2026-11-02 07:25)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Daewoo Engineering & Construction (E&C) Co. sa...

• Wiz looking to protect home turf as Lions eye revenge (2026-11-02 07:24)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- In 2021, the KT Wiz and the Samsung Lions finished wit...

• (LEAD) Korean Series features 2 ex-MVPs as opposing managers (2026-11-02 07:23)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Only three winners of the Korean Series MVP award have...

• S. Korean won sharply weakens against U.S. dollar (2026-11-02 07:18)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean won sharply weakened against the U.S....

• (LEAD) POSCO Holdings Q3 net falls 1.8 pct amid lower lithium prices (2026-11-02 07:09)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- POSCO Holdings Inc., South Korea's leading steelmaker,...

• Renault Korea's sales drop 23.6 pct in Oct. on weak demand (2026-11-02 07:07)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Renault Korea Motors Co., the South Korean unit of Fra...

• (LEAD) Seoul stocks rebound over 2 pct on bargain hunting (2026-11-02 07:04)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks rebounded to end over 2 pct higher Monday...

• Hyundai Motor's Oct. sales fall 6.3 pct amid sluggish demand (2026-11-02 06:57)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Hyundai Motor Co., South Korea's biggest carmaker, sai...

• (LEAD) DP welcomes Lee's budget speech; PPP slams failure to address N. Korea, economic woes (2026-11-02 06:54)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The ruling Democratic Party (DP) on Monday welcomed Pr...

• Kia's Oct. sales rise 10 pct on strong SUV demand (2026-11-02 06:37)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Kia Corp. said Monday its vehicle sales rose 10.3 perc...

• Seoul stocks rebound over 2 pct on bargain hunting (2026-11-02 06:34)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks rebounded to end over 2 pct higher Monday...

• (URGENT) Seoul stocks rebound over 2 pct on bargain hunting (2026-11-02 06:32)

fairydust@yna.co.kr (END)

• Gov't launches drone strategy team to boost industry competitiveness, cope with drone threats (2026-11-02 06:30)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Seoul launched a new government drone strategy team Mo...

• (LEAD) S. Korea, Japan to hold vice foreign ministerial talks on N. Korea, bilateral issues (2026-11-02 06:11)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Vice foreign ministers of South Korea and Japan were s...

• Household loans again rise in Oct. despite tightened rules, higher rates (2026-11-02 06:02)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Household loans by major banks again rebounded in Octo...

• S. Korea officially recognizes 3 fishing crewmen abducted by N. Korea in 1973 (2026-11-02 06:02)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- South Korea has officially recognized three fishing cr...

• Korean Series features 2 ex-MVPs as opposing managers (2026-11-02 06:01)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Only three winners of the Korean Series MVP award have...

• S. Korea, IMF to hold annual consultation on economy, financial policy (2026-11-02 06:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will hold an annual consultation session w...

• Samsung Electro-Mechanics eyes growth opportunities amid AI boom (2026-11-02 06:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The chief of Samsung Electro-Mechanics Co. on Monday h...

• Finance minister discusses economic ties, cooperation with U.S. ambassador (2026-11-02 06:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Finance Minister Lee Hyoung-il met with U.S. Ambassado...

• Daewoo E&C; seeks gov't mediation in dispute over Czech nuclear project (2026-11-02 05:51)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Daewoo Engineering & Construction (E&C) Co. sa...

• PPP slams Lee's budget speech for overlooking N. Korea, economic concerns (2026-11-02 05:48)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The main opposition People Power Party (PPP) on Monday...

• (LEAD) S-Oil Q3 net surges on higher refining, lubricants margins (2026-11-02 05:47)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- S-Oil Corp., South Korea's third-largest refiner by sa...

• Seoul mayor says to review next year's marathons from 'scratch' after severe traffic disruptions (2026-11-02 05:46)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Seoul Mayor Oh Se-hoon said Monday that marathon races...

• Battle of right-handers set for opening game of Korean Series (2026-11-02 05:29)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The opening game of the South Korean baseball champion...

• LG Electronics CEO eyes 'caregiving' as next frontier for AI-powered homes (2026-11-02 05:16)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The chief of LG Electronics Inc. said Monday that "car...

• Retrial to begin next week for Uzbek national convicted of murder, robbery 16 yrs ago (2026-11-02 05:03)

CHANGWON, South Korea, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- A court will open a retrial next week ...

• Today in Korean history (2026-11-02 05:00)

Nov. 3

• (LEAD) Family, fellow actors bid farewell to iconic actor Choi Bool-am (2026-11-02 04:46)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- A funeral service for Choi Bool-am was held Monday, wi...

• Yonhap News Summary (2026-11-02 04:30)

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

• (3rd LD) Lee vows bold investment in AI, future growth engines for 'growth for all' (2026-11-02 04:19)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Monday pledged bold investm...

• Gov't examines multicultural family support programs amid debate over fairness (2026-11-02 03:04)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The government has begun examining support programs fo...

• About 80 pct of Korean judges encounter AI-generated fake legal precedents: survey (2026-11-02 03:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Eight in 10 South Korean judges have experienced court...

• Online shopping sales up 4.1 pct in Sept. on automobiles, food delivery services (2026-11-02 03:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Online shopping sales in South Korea rose 4.1 percent ...

• S. Korea, Japan to hold vice foreign ministerial talks on N. Korea, bilateral issues (2026-11-02 03:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Vice foreign ministers of South Korea and Japan were s...

• Samsung tops global smartphone market in Q3 despite shipment decline (2026-11-02 02:47)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Electronics Co. retained its position as the w...

• SK Square plans 4.3 tln-won shareholder payout from SK hynix dividends (2026-11-02 02:43)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- SK Square Co., the parent company of SK hynix Inc., sa...

• Special counsel raids NEC headquarters over improper stipends (2026-11-02 02:35)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- A special counsel team said Monday it raided the Natio...

• BTS charms 853,000 fans on Latin American tour (2026-11-02 02:32)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- K-pop supergroup BTS' recent Latin American tour drew ...

• Seoul stocks turn up late Mon. morning on bargain hunting (2026-11-02 02:30)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks reversed course to trade higher late Mond...

• 1 Army staff sergeant dies after being found unconscious at front-line unit (2026-11-02 02:17)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- An Army staff sergeant was found unconscious with an u...

• LG CNS completes construction of AI data center in Indonesia's Jakarta (2026-11-02 02:14)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- LG CNS Co., the information technology affiliate of LG...

• (2nd LD) Lee vows bold investment in AI, future growth engines for 'growth for all' (2026-11-02 02:09)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Monday pledged bold investm...

• Defense ministry launches new drone agency to bolster unmanned capabilities amid N.K. threats (2026-11-02 02:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The defense ministry launched a new drone unit Monday,...

• (LEAD) Korea Exchange sets up plan for shorter settlement for stock trading (2026-11-02 01:56)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The Korea Exchange (KRX) on Monday unveiled a plan to ...

• Son Suk-ku, Park Bo-young cast as couple in upcoming rom-com (2026-11-02 01:41)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Actors Son Suk-ku and Park Bo-young have been cast as ...

• S. Korea's Air Force to participate in U.S.-led space war game for 1st time (2026-11-02 01:35)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The South Korean Air Force will take part in a U.S.-le...

• Korea Exchange sets up plan for shorter settlement for stock trading (2026-11-02 01:33)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The Korea Exchange (KRX) on Monday unveiled a plan to ...

• (LEAD) Lee vows bold investment in AI, future growth engines to boost growth potential (2026-11-02 01:28)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung on Monday pledged bold investm...

• (URGENT) Lee pledges to acquire key military assets for early retaking of OPCON (2026-11-02 01:27)

(END)

• (URGENT) Lee vows bold investment in AI, future growth engines to boost growth potential (2026-11-02 01:25)

(END)

• Family, fellow actors bid farewell to iconic actor Choi Bool-am (2026-11-02 01:22)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- A funeral service for Choi Bool-am was held Monday, wi...

• (URGENT) Lee highlights 43.3 tln-won youth-related budget, pledges thorough support (2026-11-02 01:19)

(END)

• Gov't to exempt CCTV monitoring requirement for non-walk-in ESS units (2026-11-02 01:17)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The government will seek to exempt the mandatory CCTV ...

• (URGENT) Lee pledges focused investment for youth, regional development, education (2026-11-02 01:12)

(END)

• (URGENT) Lee calls for 'growth for all' to ensure everyone shares benefits of growth (2026-11-02 01:09)

(END)

• Lee's approval rating rises on summit achievements, economic policies: poll (2026-11-02 00:34)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung's approval rating came to 36.9...

• (LEAD) Seoul stocks open lower as disappointing tech earnings trigger AI spending woes (2026-11-02 00:26)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks opened lower Monday weighed down by decli...

• 2 best teams from KBO regular season on collision course in Korean Series (2026-11-02 00:16)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The two best teams in the regular season will square o...

• Seoul stocks open lower as disappointing tech earnings trigger AI spending woes (2026-11-02 00:03)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Seoul stocks opened lower Monday weighed down by decli...

• (URGENT) Seoul stocks open lower as disappointing tech earnings trigger AI spending woes (2026-11-02 00:01)

fairydust@yna.co.kr (END)

• Lee to address National Assembly on next year's gov't budget (2026-11-01 23:17)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung was set to address the Nationa...

• N. Korea denounces S Korea-U.S. joint military drills, vows to bolster nuclear deterrent (2026-11-01 23:08)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- North Korea on Monday denounced a recent South Korea-U...

• Tws returns with uplifting anthem for youth's trial and error (2026-11-01 23:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- Known for its bright, youthful sound, K-pop boy group ...

• (EDITORIAL from Korea JoongAng Daily on Nov. 2) (2026-11-01 22:05)

Lawmakers must curb discretionary spending and debt risks as they review the gov...

• (EDITORIAL from Korea Times on Nov. 2) (2026-11-01 22:05)

Anti-diversity rhetoric threatens social cohesion

• (EDITORIAL from Korea Herald on Nov. 2) (2026-11-01 22:04)

Lawmakers must scrutinize budget priorities against costs that may outlast chip ...

• Top headlines in major S. Korean newspapers (2026-11-01 22:01)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- The following are the top headlines in major South Kor...

• (Yonhap Interview) Erdogan seeks stronger S. Korea partnership in energy, tech, logistics amid global uncertainties (2026-11-01 21:01)

SEOUL/ISTANBUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- South Korea is an important potential partner...

• Seoul to launch emergency response system for Czech nuclear project (2026-11-01 21:00)

SEOUL, Nov. 2 (Yonhap) -- South Korea will launch an emergency management system...

• 2 Air Force training aircraft collide mid-air in Sept.; no casualties reported (2026-11-01 12:59)

SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- Two Air Force KT-1 training aircraft collided mid-air ...

• Turkish, East Timorese presidents to visit S. Korea this week for talks with Lee (2026-11-01 09:49)

SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and East Timore...

• Ageless wonder looking forward to yet another Korean Series trip with Lions (2026-11-01 09:28)

DAEGU, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- It has been 11 years since Choi Hyoung-woo last played...

• (LEAD) Jurado pitches Lions to Korean Series with 2nd straight postseason gem (2026-11-01 09:01)

DAEGU, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- Entering this year's Korea Baseball Organization (KBO)...

• Lions manager hoping for better defense with team off to Korean Series (2026-11-01 08:55)

DAEGU, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- Even with his club off to the South Korean baseball ch...

• Tigers skipper vows to come back stronger in '27 after KBO postseason exit (2026-11-01 08:29)

DAEGU, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- For the first time in his three-year managerial career...

• (LEAD) Lions beat Tigers to reach Korean Series (2026-11-01 08:09)

DAEGU, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- For the second time in three seasons, the Samsung Lion...

• (LEAD) Trump says U.S. will talk to N. Korea if it is behind Binance hack (2026-11-01 07:55)

WASHINGTON/SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump has said the Un...

• Jurado pitches Lions to Korean Series with 2nd straight postseason gem (2026-11-01 07:48)

DAEGU, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- Entering this year's Korea Baseball Organization (KBO)...

• Lions beat Tigers to reach Korean Series (2026-11-01 07:42)

DAEGU, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- For the second time in three seasons, the Samsung Lion...

• Samsung chief visits Advanced Package Lab in Japan (2026-11-01 07:29)

SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Electronics Co. Chairman Lee Jae-yong visited ...

• Relatives from a family separated by the Korean War meet for first time in third country (2026-11-01 07:16)

SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- Two relatives from a family separated by the 1950-53 K...

• (LEAD) HD Hyundai Robotics partners with Palantir on AI solutions (2026-11-01 05:36)

SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- HD Hyundai Robotics, a robotics solutions unit of Sout...

• Tigers manager sticks to same lineup in KBO postseason elimination game (2026-11-01 05:13)

DAEGU, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- For the first time in the ongoing South Korean basebal...

• Today in Korean history (2026-11-01 05:00)

Nov. 2

• Lions manager tells players to have fun in do-or-die KBO postseason game (2026-11-01 03:50)

DAEGU, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- Samsung Lions manager Park Jin-man tries not to give t...

• HD Hyundai Robotics partners with Palantir on AI solutions (2026-11-01 02:21)

SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- HD Hyundai Robotics, a robotics solutions unit of Sout...

• FM Cho holds talks with EU, Britain, others at G20 meeting (2026-11-01 02:14)

SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- Foreign Minister Cho Hyun has held a series of bilater...

• FM outlines S. Korea's position on DMZ mine blast at G20, calls for inter-Korean talks (2026-11-01 02:12)

SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- Foreign Minister Cho Hyun has explained Seoul's positi...

• POSCO union to vote on tentative wage deal this week (2026-11-01 01:52)

SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- Unionized workers at South Korean steelmaker POSCO wil...

• (2nd LD) S. Korea's monthly exports hit US$115.3 bln in Oct. on strong chip sales (2026-11-01 01:33)

SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's exports jumped 93.7 percent to a record ...

• (LEAD) N. Korea tests cluster bomb mountable on tactical ballistic missiles (2026-11-01 01:32)

SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- North Korea has tested a cluster bomb that can be moun...

• (LEAD) S. Korea's monthly exports hit US$115.3 bln in Oct. on strong chip sales (2026-11-01 00:34)

SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's exports jumped 93.7 percent to a record ...

• S. Korea's monthly exports hit US$115.3 bln in Oct. on record chip sales (2026-11-01 00:12)

SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- South Korea's exports soared 93.7 percent to a record ...

• (URGENT) S. Korea's monthly exports hit US$115.3 bln in October (2026-11-01 00:01)

(END)

• FBI says N. Korea responsible for over US$6 bln crypto theft from Binance (2026-10-31 22:32)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- The U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) s...

• N. Korea tests cluster bomb mountable on tactical ballistic missiles (2026-10-31 22:31)

SEOUL, Nov. 1 (Yonhap) -- North Korea has tested a cluster bomb that can be moun...

• (LEAD) Trump open to talks with N. Korean leader but no meeting scheduled: Rubio (2026-10-31 18:47)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump remains open to talk...

• Trump open to talks with N. Korean leader but no meeting scheduled: Rubio (2026-10-31 18:24)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- U.S. President Donald Trump remains open to talk...

• (LEAD) Up to 125,000 gather in Seoul's Hongdae area on Halloween; 30,000 in Itaewon: data (2026-10-31 13:54)

SEOUL, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- Up to 125,000 people gathered in the bustling Hongdae...

• S. Korea's top diplomat discusses ties with German, Polish counterparts (2026-10-31 13:16)

SEOUL, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- South Korean Foreign Minister Cho Hyun met separately...

• KBO asks MLB to post All-Star slugger Roh Si-hwan (2026-10-31 11:01)

SEOUL, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- The Korea Baseball Organization (KBO) announced Satur...

• 120,000 gather in Seoul's Hongdae area for Halloween; 20,000 in Itaewon: data (2026-10-31 10:53)

SEOUL, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- Up to 120,000 people gathered in the bustling Hongdae...

• (LEAD) Lee visits southeastern province to inspect pilot basic income scheme (2026-10-31 10:30)

SEOUL, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung visited a southeastern provin...

• (LEAD) Samsung execs meet Open AI's Sam Altman to discuss AI transformation (2026-10-31 08:34)

SEOUL, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- Top executives from key Samsung affiliates met with O...

• Samsung execs meet Open AI's Sam Altman to discuss AI transformation (2026-10-31 06:22)

SEOUL, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- Top executives from key Samsung affiliates met with O...

• Lee visits southeastern province to inspect pilot basic income scheme (2026-10-31 05:09)

SEOUL, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung visited a southeastern provin...

• Today in Korean history (2026-10-31 05:00)

Nov. 1

• Lee says multicultural family support resulting in 'reverse discrimination' cannot be justified (2026-10-31 03:27)

SEOUL, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- President Lee Jae Myung renewed his call Saturday for...

• Fishing boat catches fire off west coast, all 22 rescued (2026-10-31 01:52)

INCHEON, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- A fishing boat caught fire off the Yellow Sea islan...

• N. Korea slams multination statement backing anti-Pyongyang sanctions as 'strategic failure' (2026-10-31 01:38)

SEOUL, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- North Korea blasted Saturday a joint statement recent...

• No drug-related violations found in special crackdown on eve of Halloween (2026-10-31 01:20)

SEOUL, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- Police said Saturday they have found no drug-related ...

• Ruling party lawmaker issued U.S. visa, days after refusal (2026-10-31 00:54)

SEOUL, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- Rep. Jin Sung-joon of the ruling Democratic Party (DP...

• N. Korea reports on Swiss FM's visit following opening of diplomatic office (2026-10-31 00:33)

SEOUL, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- North Korean Foreign Minister Choe Son-hui met one-on...

• Right-handers squaring off again with KBO championship series berth at stake (2026-10-31 00:21)

SEOUL, Oct. 31 (Yonhap) -- The two right-handed pitchers that went toe-to-toe ea...

• (2nd LD) S. Korean, U.S., Japanese FMs reaffirm 'resolute commitment' to complete denuclearization of N. Korea (2026-10-31 00:02)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30 (Yonhap) -- The top diplomats of South Korea, the United Sta...