
 **JAPAN MEDIA
HIGHLIGHTS**

Afternoon Alert - Tuesday, May 9, 2017

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HEADLINES

Noon news

Several networks gave top play to reports that voting for the presidential election in South Korea began this morning. NHK quoted Chief Cabinet Secretary Suga as telling reporters: "We are closely watching the presidential election with particular interest. Cooperation and collaboration between Japan and South Korea, including responding to North Korea, are essential for regional peace and stability. We hope to steadily implement the Japan-ROK agreement and further promote bilateral cooperation in various sectors with a new administration." Other news included a report on a forest fire in Kamaishi, Iwate.

INTERNATIONAL

In what direction will South Korea head?

NHK's "Close-up Gendai +" reported on South Korea's presidential election amid increasing tensions on the Korean Peninsula. The program focused on Democratic Party of Korea leader Moon Jae-in, who is leading in the polls, saying that Moon, whose parents are from North Korea, takes a conciliatory approach to Pyongyang. The program also said Moon, as well as the other candidates, is calling for a review of the 2015 Japan-ROK agreement on comfort women. An expert stressed that Prime Minister Abe needs to personally meet with the new ROK leader as soon as possible to build a relationship of trust.

- [Abe mulls urging Trump to remain in Paris climate pact](#) (Kyodo News)

- [Trump open to meet N. Korea's Kim in U.S. if nuclear arms abandoned](#) (Kyodo News)
- [ADB to boost infrastructure lending with AIIB](#) (The Japan News)
- [Japan, World Bank team on funding for developing nations](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Japan voices support for Taiwan's participation in WHO meeting](#) (Kyodo News)
- [PM Abe, Vietnamese deputy prime minister discuss TPP 11](#) (Nikkei)
- [Japan letting a citizen support arms shipments to DPRK](#) (Sankei)
- [Cartoon: South Korean presidential election](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)

ECONOMY

Western Digital eyes Toshiba's memory chip business

NHK reported on its website on its interview with Western Digital CEO Stephen Milligan conducted on Tuesday, during which he disclosed that the company is aiming to acquire a majority stake in Toshiba's memory chip unit without participating in the so-called U.S.-Japan coalition. The network said Milligan stressed that there will be no leakage of technology overseas. He was quoted as saying: "The Japanese side wants us to invest less than 20%, but that ratio is not enough. We want effective control. If a third party participates, our joint operation of facilities in Yokkaichi, which has been smooth, will become difficult." He also reportedly stressed that his company's acquisition of the unit would dispel Japan's concerns about possible leakage of technology to such nations as China and South Korea.

- [Keidanren narrowing down next chairman candidates](#) (The Japan News)
- [Gov't looking to expand pharmaceutical reach in emerging countries through public-private initiative](#) (Nikkei)
- [Survey shows 9.7% of companies offer telecommuting option](#) (Nikkei)
- [Fisheries Agency allocates additional quota for Pacific Bluefin tuna catch](#) (Nikkei)

POLITICS

- [Prime minister's schedule on May 7-8](#) (Nikkei)

- [Gist of interpellations at Lower House Budget Committee, May 8](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)
- [CCS Suga comments on PM Abe's announcement of constitutional revision plan](#) (Nikkei Evening edition)
- [Ruling, opposition parties react differently to Abe's constitutional revision plans](#) (Mainichi)
- [JIP leader Matsui calls for proposing constitutional revision within Lower House term](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Keidanren to work out proposal on constitutional revision for the first time in 12 years](#) (Nikkei)
- [Cartoon: PM Abe](#) (Kanagawa Shimbun)
- [Cartoon: Article 9](#) (Akahata)

SECURITY

- [Defense minister stays mum on 1st mission to protect U.S. Navy ship](#) (Kyodo News)
- [76% of Okinawan residents think reversion was "good," Ryukyu Shimpo poll](#) (Ryukyu Shimpo)
- [Okinawan views on state of U.S. military bases and SOFA, Ryukyu Shimpo poll](#) (Ryukyu Shimpo)
- [Opinion poll & results from Ryukyu Shimpo](#) (Ryukyu Shimpo)
- [Gov't promoting habitation of remote Okinawa islands](#) (Mainichi)

EDUCATION

- [Okinawa committee concludes study-abroad partnership with U.S. universities](#) (Okinawa Times)
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