
 **JAPAN MEDIA
HIGHLIGHTS**

Afternoon Alert - Tuesday, October 10, 2017

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HEADLINES**Noon news**

Most networks led with reports on the start of the official campaign for the Lower House election today, saying that about 1,100 candidates will compete for a total of 465 seats.

INTERNATIONAL

- [Making the case for a Trump visit to Okinawa](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Abe jumps the gun and calls North Korea a 'nuclear state'](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
- [Russian ferry operator involved in shipping N. Korean cargo to China](#) (Kyodo News)
- [U.S. experiencing a "tribal" conflict](#) (Nikkei Evening edition)
- [U.N. chief plans to visit Japan amid concerns over N. Korea](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Analysis: Japan and China send sweet words, for now](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Hawaii museum donates naval flag from "Nagato" to Isoroku Yamamoto's hometown in Niigata](#) (Sankei)
- [Yasuhiro Yabuzoe receives AJS's "Kaneko Award"](#) (Asahi)
- [Japanese saury fishing boat off Hokkaido is checked then escorted to Russian-held island of Kunashiri](#) (The Japan Times)

ECONOMY

GOJ, TEPCO ordered to pay damages for Fukushima nuclear accident

NHK reported this afternoon that the Fukushima District Court has ordered the GOJ and TEPCO to pay about 3,800 plaintiffs a total of 490 million yen in damages resulting from the March 11 nuclear accident. The network said that among many class action suits filed against the GOJ and TEPCO over the Fukushima nuclear accident, this was the second ruling to hold the government accountable. In today's ruling, the presiding judge concluded that the government was able to predict the possibility of a huge tsunami hitting the plant based on an assessment in 2002 and avert the nuclear accident by ordering TEPCO to take preventive measures. Meanwhile, the court reportedly said the primary responsibility for ensuring safety lies with TEPCO and concluded that the GOJ should pay half of the compensation, or about 250 million yen, to the plaintiffs.

- [Calls for signing FTA with Japan growing within U.S. government](#) (Nikkei)
- [Import bans on four farm products may be lifted after EU inspectors visit in mid-Oct](#) (Sankei)
- [Many expect BOJ Kuroda to stay on despite Low support: Jiji poll](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Kobe Steel data fabrication scandal hits satellite-launching rocket](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Kobe Steel's falsified data undermines trust in 'Made in Japan'](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Toshiba cites antitrust, arbitration hurdles to memory sale](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Keidanren's Sakakibara roiled Toshiba Memory deal](#) (Sentaku)
- [Editorial: Govt, TEPCO must make efforts to realize restarts of N-reactors](#) (The Japan News)
- [Little chance of deal on US beef in upcoming talks with Japan](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike defends her party's policy of not granting foreign residents in Japan the right to vote](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Seko says METI won't reverse locked door policy](#) (Yomiuri)

POLITICS

- [Leaders make pledges as campaign begins for Oct. 22 election](#) (Kyodo News)
- [2017 Lower House Election / Parties vie for voters' hearts with slogans](#) (The Japan News)

- [Major political parties' election pledges on key issues](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Japan election starts with 1,100 candidates vying for seats](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [How Japan's political parties realigned ahead of election](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Gist of Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan's campaign pledges](#) (Asahi)
- [Governors association evaluates political parties' campaign pledges](#) (Yomiuri)
- [2017 Lower House Election / LDP, Kibo to lock horns over consumption tax rate hike](#) (The Japan News)
- [Leaders' debate highlights sharp divides on pacifist Constitution's Article 9](#) (The Mainichi)
- [Abe cites coalition majority as standard to stay PM](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [2017 Lower House Election / Koike leaves open scenario of forming coalition with LDP](#) (The Japan News)
- [PM Abe insists N. Korea tensions necessitated early election call](#) (The Mainichi)
- ['No tax hike? No problem.' Japanese parties make rosy promises](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Japanese parties flirt with risky economic populism](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Japan's Abe lays out conditions for sales tax hike](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Lower House candidates in Okinawa to clash over Henoko relocation](#) (Mainichi)
- [Opposition candidates to clash in 230 Lower House districts](#) (Yomiuri)
- [2017 Lower House Election / Koike, Edano seek support from Rengo](#) (The Japan News)
- [LDP's Yasuoka to retire from politics due to illness](#) (Yomiuri)
- [DP's former MIC minister rejects Party of Hope candidacy, will run as independent](#) (Mainichi)
- [Veteran politician Muneo Suzuki to run in Lower House election](#) (Asahi)
- [Editorial: Face issue of consumption tax hike as route to fiscal recovery / Write prescription to escape deflation](#) (The Japan News)

- [Editorial: Eradicating 'karoshi' should be key campaign issue in election](#) (The Asahi Shimbun)
- [Editorial: Kibo's pledges lack responsibility for a party seeking to take power](#) (The Japan News)
- [Editorial: Don't let low-quality candidates haunt upcoming election](#) (The Mainichi)
- [Prime minister's schedule on Oct. 8, 2017](#) (Nikkei)
- [Prime minister's schedule on Oct. 7, 2017](#) (Nikkei)
- [Prime minister's schedule on Oct. 6, 2017](#) (Nikkei)

OPINION POLLS

- [32% say they will vote for LDP, 13% for Party of Hope in LH election, Yomiuri poll](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Party of Hope loses steam as opposition supporters also look to CDPJ, Yomiuri poll](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Opinion poll & results from Yomiuri Shimbun](#) (Yomiuri)
- [39% of LDP candidates back U.S. military action against N. Korea, Kyodo News poll](#) (Tokyo Shimbun)

SOCIETY

Shogi prodigy Sota Fujii

Sunday's "NHK Special" reported on 15-year-old shogi prodigy Sota Fujii. The program aired video of him at home and school and reported on how he struggled after his record-setting winning streak ended with his defeat against 22-year-old Yuki Sasaki. The program revealed that Fujii is a "normal" junior high school student who loves shogi and continues to strive to become a better player.

SECURITY

- [Japan to deploy GSDF units on Island of Miyakojima](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Abe suggests civilian control of military in Constitution clause](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Japan setting cybersecurity guidelines for autonomous vehicles](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)

OKINAWA LOCAL PRESS

- [POTUS visit to Kadena Air Base during trip to Japan being mulled: White House source](#) (Okinawa Times)
 - [Amb. Hagerty postpones meeting with Okinawa governor, says visit a family trip](#) (Okinawa Times)
 - [Citizens to hold anti-base rally at Camp Schwab on first Saturday of each month](#) (Okinawa Times)
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