
 **JAPAN MEDIA
HIGHLIGHTS**

Afternoon Alert - Monday, January 29, 2018

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HEADLINES

Noon news

NHK, NTV, and TBS gave top play to reports that the Financial Services Agency is planning to order Coincheck to improve its business operations after 58 billion yen worth of NEM virtual money was stolen by hackers. Fuji TV reported on a press conference by Georgia-born sumo wrestler Tochinoshin, who won his first title in a grand tournament. TV Asahi led with a report on a fire that broke out in a house in Osaka this morning that claimed two lives.

SCIENCE

NASA, JAXA sign joint statement on space exploration

Saturday evening's Mainichi wrote that NASA and JAXA have signed a [joint statement](#) on their partnership in space exploration, including human access to the lunar surface and eventually Mars. The paper wrote that the statement dated Jan. 24 said that based on their experience with the International Space Station, both agencies will study the deep space gateway concept and confirm its technical feasibility through their technological expertise and the participation of other countries.

- [Japan eyes black boxes for automated vehicles](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Canon and IHI planning Japan's first private-sector rocket launch site](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)

ECONOMY

- [Japan not positive about TPP renegotiation](#) (Nikkei)

- [Japan prioritizing “new TPP for now”](#) (Yomiuri)
- [U.K., Taiwan could join TPP in future: Motegi](#) (Mainichi)
- [Editorial: Trump's suggestion of return to TPP a welcome step](#) (Mainichi)
- [Graying Japan to step up support for biz succession at small firms](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Mitsubishi Aircraft receives first MRJ cancellation](#) (The Japan Times)
- [JAEA to begin defueling troubled Monju reactor in July](#) (The Japan Times)

INTERNATIONAL

- [U.S. demands China take measures against maritime smuggling with DPRK](#) (Mainichi)
- [U.S. says China must strengthen sanctions against firms, individuals smuggling goods to DPRK](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Gist of Japan-China foreign ministerial meeting](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Japan pushes China, South Korea for 3-way summit](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Palestine advisor to visit Japan](#) (Yomiuri, Evening edition)
- [German president to visit Japan next month](#) (Nikkei)

POLITICS

Ruling, opposition lawmakers discuss issues to be deliberated in Diet

In NHK's Nichiyo Toron Sunday debate show, policy chiefs of the ruling and opposition parties talked about the key issues they plan to discuss during the current Diet session, including the draft budget for the next fiscal year starting in April and labor reform. The panelists from the LDP and Komeito Party underscored the significance of labor reform, including a cap on working hours, a merit-based pay system, and flexible work schedules. The discussants from the Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan (CDPJ) and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) criticized the measures proposed by the ruling coalition by saying that they are not sufficient, but the other opposition participants supported the proposed reform plans.

Concerning the Abe administration's policy of promoting integrated resorts featuring casinos as part of Japan's efforts to attract more foreign tourists, the JCP and CDPJ panelists opposed the policy while the other discussants agreed on the need for the resorts in Japan. With regard to Prime

Minister Abe's desire to amend the Constitution, the JCP strongly opposed any moves to amend Article 9 while the other panelists stressed that the issue should not be discussed in a hasty manner.

- [Prime minister's schedule on Jan. 26, 2018](#) (Nikkei)
- [Prime minister's schedule on Jan. 27, 2018](#) (Nikkei)
- [Prime minister's schedule on Jan. 28, 2018](#) (Nikkei)
- [Opinion poll analysis \(Part 3\): Young women don't have political party to support](#) (Nikkei)
- [Cartoon: LDP leadership race](#) (Asahi)

OPINION POLLS

- [Cabinet support rate rises to 55%, Nikkei poll](#) (Nikkei)
- [Opinion poll & results from Nikkei Digital](#) (Nikkei, Online)

EDUCATION

- [English teacher challenges students to plug in to the world](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Girls Unlimited Program \(7\): Make friends beyond different culture, ideology](#) (Asahi)

SOCIETY

From the cold case file: Fatal shooting at Asahi's Hanshin Bureau

"NHK Special," in the sixth part of its series on unsolved crimes in Japan, aired in two installments on Saturday and Sunday a program on an incident at Asahi Shimbun's Hanshin Bureau on May 3, 1987, in which a reporter, Tomohiro Kojiri, was killed and another reporter was severely injured by a masked gunman with a shotgun. The crime remains unsolved, with the statute of limitations expiring in 2002. A shadowy group calling itself "Sekihotai" claimed responsibility, but police were unable to make an arrest in the case. The program aired a dramatization of the incident, focusing on how Kojiri's colleagues struggled to track down the perpetrator.

