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 **JAPAN MEDIA  
HIGHLIGHTS**

Afternoon Alert - Friday, February 16, 2018

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## HEADLINES

### Noon news

NHK gave top play to a report that the GOJ submitted to the Diet today a plan to reappoint Bank of Japan Governor Kuroda for a second term. The network said the GOJ also plans to appoint Waseda University Professor Masazumi Wakatabe and BOJ Executive Director Masayoshi Amamiya as deputy governors. All commercial networks led with the PyeongChang Olympics.

## INTERNATIONAL

### GOJ to send official to Takeshima Day ceremony

Jiji Press reported that Minister in charge of Ocean Policy and Territorial Issues Esaki announced today that the GOJ will send Yuhei Yamashita, parliamentary secretary of the Cabinet Office, to a commemorative ceremony for Takeshima Day to be hosted by Shimane Prefecture on Feb. 22. Jiji said this will be the sixth consecutive year for the GOJ to send a parliamentary secretary to the ceremony. According to Jiji, although Minister Esaki himself was invited to the ceremony, he decided not to attend. Esaki was quoted as saying today: "We will continue to examine effective ways to peacefully resolve the Takeshima [Liancourt Rocks] issue."

- [New Japanese envoy to U.S. on bilateral ties, comfort women issue, trade, more](#) (Sankei)
- [INTERVIEW: Next Japan envoy to U.S. vows utmost effort on N. Korean issues](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Japan to set up radio jamming monitoring system with Vietnam, Philippines, Indonesia](#) (Sankei)
- [Abe's Russia policy and Aegis Ashore](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Abe: "Contact with North Korea was necessary"](#) (Mainichi)
- [Japan, IAEA agree to cooperate on Tokyo 2020 nuclear counterterrorism](#) (Kyodo News)

- [Interview with FM Kono on outlook for Japan's diplomacy in 2018](#) (Gaiko)
- [Column on Japanese proficiency of ambassadors to Japan, focusing on new Russian envoy](#) (Shukan Bunshun)
- [Cartoon: Winter Olympics](#) (Mainichi)

#### ECONOMY

- [Japan regulator to inspect additional 15 virtual currency exchanges](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Japan's cryptocurrency industry to set up self-regulatory body](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Gov't proposes BOJ Gov. Kuroda's reappointment to drive "Abenomics"](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Senior US official reiterates Trump's willingness to renegotiate TPP](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Dutch energy switching provider to enter Japan market](#) (Mainichi)
- [Japanese gov't mulls limiting casino visits to 10 per month](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Women's wages drop by 8.5% when changing jobs after marriage or childbirth, Cabinet Office study](#) (Nikkei)

#### AMBASSADOR

- [U.S. Amb. Hagerty and Hokkaido Governor agree U.S. and Japanese governments need to join hands to handle Pyongyang](#) (NHK)
- [U.S. Ambassador Hagerty visits Hokkaido, meets with Governor Takahashi](#) (Hokkaido Shimbun)

#### POLITICS

- [Prime minister's schedule on Feb. 15, 2018](#) (Nikkei)
- [LDP OKs draft to change Constitution's article on election system](#) (Kyodo News)
- [DP picks former education minister as head of its constitution research council](#) (Mainichi)

#### EDUCATION

- [FEATURE: Ex-JETs are a major source of Japanese soft power: U.K. study](#) (Kyodo News)
- [Japan to introduce new compulsory subjects in high schools](#) (Jiji Press)

#### SOCIETY

- [New report highlights risks of fire and building collapse in central Tokyo following predicted megaquake](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Japan to participate in international framework to end violence against children](#) (Mainichi)

