

# Earthquake Report - JAIF

We have been reporting a status of Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station by summarizing news aired by NHK, which is Japanese national broadcasting company. We regard it as most credible news among many news sources and we are happy to say that NHK's English website has gotten enriched and now you can see movies and English scripts at <http://www3.nhk.or.jp/daily/english/society.html>. Given this situation, we decide to simply place these scripts as it is for the record in case that it will be deleted from the website later, rather than summarizing news as we did.

**No. 239: 12:00, October 19**

**NHK news regarding status of Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station yesterday and today.**

(Fukushima NPP Site)

● **TEPCO identifies risks that could cause meltdown**

(Other news)

● **Japanese anti-nuke group marks 55th anniversary**

● **Rice shipped from city in Fukushima**

● **Ozawa on nuclear accident at Fukushima**

● **High radioactivity measured at Tokyo school**

● **Fukushima City begins decontamination work**

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## ●TEPCO identifies risks that could cause meltdown

The operator of the damaged Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant says the water-injection system, which has external pipes, is the area that's most likely to cause possible problems in future.

The external system was built as an emergency response to the meltdown that occurred after the March 11 disaster.

Tokyo Electric Power Company has calculated the risks to the water-injection system which could lead to the cooling water supply being stopped, resulting in another meltdown.

TEPCO analyzed 7 scenarios where the state of a reactor in cold shutdown is undermined due the water supply stopping for more than 18 hours.

Cold shutdown means the temperature of the reactors is below 100 degrees Celsius, and stable.

The cases include damage to the water-injection system and external power outages.

TEPCO found that the highest risk involves a case where the water-injection system is swept away by a massive tsunami and the water supply to the reactors stops.

The second most dangerous scenario is where the water-injection system is destroyed and the resumption of the system fails.

The company found that outside pumps and pipes that were built as an emergency solution after the nuclear accident are 10-times more likely to sustain damage than conventional ones inside the building.

TEPCO plans to reinforce the emergency facilities to maintain the water supply in case of a huge tsunami.

Tuesday, October 18, 2011 08:50 +0900 (JST)

## ●Japanese anti-nuke group marks 55th anniversary

A Japanese anti-nuclear organization has marked the 55th anniversary of its founding. The members have renewed their determination to work for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

The Japan Confederation of A-and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations met in Tokyo on Tuesday. The average age of the survivors is over 77. About 130 of them began the meeting by praying for the 210,000 victims of the US atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945.

Second and third-generation descendants of survivors also took part in the meeting. Genki Isobe, who is 31, spent 10 years making a documentary about his late grandfather's campaign to seek recognition for sufferers from radiation-induced illnesses. The documentary will be shown at a film festival in Tokyo next month.

Isobe's grandfather died last year. Isobe hopes the film will help him to continue his grandfather's fight against nuclear weapons.

The group adopted a communique which stated that it will continue to inform people about nuclear disarmament and how nuclear weapons created hellish experiences in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Wednesday, October 19, 2011 00:38 +0900 (JST)

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## ●Rice shipped from city in Fukushima

Farmers in Nihonmatsu City in Fukushima Prefecture have started shipping rice from this year's harvest after radioactive contamination levels dropped below the government-set limit.

Two trucks carrying 24 tons of rice left a local agricultural cooperative in Nihonmatsu on Tuesday. The city is about 35 to 70 kilometers from the troubled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

In September, a preliminary check of a sample of pre-harvest rice in the city found 500 becquerels of radioactive cesium per kilogram -- the same as the government limit.

Rice shipping was allowed after all samples harvested at 288 locations were found to have radioactivity levels below the limit. The highest level among the samples was 470 becquerels of radioactive cesium per kilogram.

Tuesday, October 18, 2011 20:00 +0900 (JST)

## ●Ozawa on nuclear accident at Fukushima

Japanese conductor Seiji Ozawa says he wasn't aware of all the dangers of nuclear power generation. But he said he believes that Japan can now present alternatives to nuclear energy.

Ozawa was speaking at a news conference held on Tuesday for the 5 recipients of this year's Japan Arts Association's global arts prize. He will receive the Praemium Imperiale award in the music category.

Ozawa said he was able to receive the award thanks to the support of many colleagues.

Commenting on the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, Ozawa said he had believed that nuclear power generation was a technology that doesn't pollute the Earth. He said that he's ashamed he didn't know about its dangers.

But he stressed that he also believes in the Japanese people's wisdom, power and ability to show that there are alternatives to nuclear energy.

Ozawa underwent surgery last year for esophageal cancer. He resumed his musical activities but last month withdrew from his scheduled performances in China due to health problems.

Ozawa is now reportedly taking time off to prepare for performances next year.

Tuesday, October 18, 2011 19:23 +0900 (JST)

## ●High radioactivity measured at Tokyo school

A radioactivity level higher than that of areas near the crippled Fukushima nuclear power plant has been detected at a Tokyo elementary school.

A level of 3-point-99 microsieverts per hour was observed 5 centimeters above ground just beneath a rainwater pipe on Monday at the school in Tokyo's Adachi Ward. Radiation levels in Fukushima City about 60 kilometers from the plant were around 1 microsievert per hour on Monday. The ward is about 210 kilometers from the plant.

Ward authorities plan to remove soil and trees from the school area and measure radiation in ditches at about 800 locations including schools, parks and other public facilities.

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The school's principal says he was stunned to hear about the radiation and cancelled physical education classes and other activities in the schoolyard for the day.

Tuesday, October 18, 2011 17:11 +0900 (JST)

## ●Fukushima City begins decontamination work

Fukushima City has launched a massive campaign to clean up radioactive materials, with the ultimate goal of decontaminating all homes and public facilities.

The city is located about 60 kilometers from the disaster-stricken Daiichi nuclear power plant.

Decontamination work began on Tuesday morning in the Onami district, where radiation levels are relatively high.

Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda was on hand for about 20 minutes to inspect the work in Onami.

A team of professional workers used water jet cleaners to clean roofs and ditches. They also cut away vegetation in gardens and removed a layer of top soil.

Fukushima City's ultimate goal is to decontaminate 110,000 households, public facilities, and roads near schools by the end of fiscal 2012.

The city plans to ask residents and volunteers to help clean up areas where radiation levels are not too high.

Securing the necessary manpower and space to store radioactive waste are among the key challenges.

Tuesday, October 18, 2011 12:16 +0900 (JST)

End