

Annex 4

Yokohama Stops Subsidies for Chongryon Schools

The Japanese city of Yokohama has decided to stop annual subsidies to pro-North Korean schools this year, citing North Korea's nuclear test and other provocations, the Tokyo Shimbun daily reported Wednesday.

The schools are affiliated with the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan or Chongryon, a Pyongyang mouthpiece.

The education committee in Yokohama informed three of the Chongryon schools in the city last week that they would not be receiving the subsidy of 2.5 million yen set aside in this year's budget.

They include two primary and one secondary school.

Yokohama Mayor Fumiko Hayashi said she is halting the subsidies as long as the issues of "North Korea's nuclear weapons development and abduction of Japanese citizens remain unresolved."

Earlier in February, the Japanese government cut Chongryon schools out of federal subsidies. Seven regional governments, including Saitama and Hiroshima, have followed suit.

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