

Japan's Abe 'to review Fukushima' atomic crisis

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An Air Photo Service picture shows the Fukushima power plant's number three (left) and four reactors shortly after the earthquake and tsunami hit Japan in March 2011. Japan's incoming pro-nuclear premier Shinzo Abe said Sunday his government will again investigate the Fukushima atomic crisis, after which the country's reactors could be restarted, reports said.

Japan's incoming pro-nuclear premier Shinzo Abe said Sunday his government will again investigate the Fukushima atomic crisis, after which the country's reactors could be restarted, reports said.

His comments will add to [speculation](#) that plans to ditch [atomic power](#) in disaster-scarred Japan will be shelved by his Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) when it takes power after scoring a landslide election win last week.

"We are yet to completely clarify what went wrong (in Fukushima)," he told a political show on Fuji TV on Sunday.

"As a government, we want to once again analyse why Fukushima Daiichi failed," he said. He gave no further details and did not set out a timeframe for a probe.

"After that, I wish to think of next steps, including the restart of [reactors](#) ," he said on the programme, according to [broadcaster](#) NHK.

"Could it have been avoided? Was it a man-made disaster? As a government, we must study that," said Abe, according to Jiji Press.

He has previously derided the zero-nuclear goal of the ousted Democratic Party of Japan as unrealistic.

All but two of Japan's 50 reactors remain switched off after the worst atomic accident in a generation and anti-nuclear sentiment has run high, but that failed to translate into support at the polls for anti-atomic parties.

Several probes have already been conducted into the accident in March last year, which saw the Fukushima plant suffer meltdowns and [explosions](#) after being hit by an earthquake-triggered tsunami.

A damning parliamentary report in July concluded that the Fukushima accident was a man-made disaster caused by Japan's culture of "reflexive obedience" and not just the tsunami that hit the plant.

Shares in Fukushima operator TEPCO have soared since Abe's election win.

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