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Friday, September 11, 2026

AI, Economy, and Global Conflict Daily Briefing

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This edition omits: Global AI News Briefing. Available sections are published first.

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China AI, Robotics and Semiconductors In-Depth Briefing

China AI, Robotics and Semiconductors In-Depth Briefing 2026-09-11

Friday, September 11, 2026

Top 5 Key Developments Today

1. DeepSeek officially released V4.1-Flash and open-sourced its weights under the MIT License. Featuring 552 billion total parameters and supporting a 1-million-token context window, it will replace V4 Pro starting September 14.
2. Chinese AI chipmakers, including Huawei and Cambricon, raised prices by 20% to 50%, driven by surging procurement costs for High Bandwidth Memory (HBM) following US export controls.
3. The US NSA, CISA, and FBI singled out six Chinese AI firms, including DeepSeek, over allegations of large-scale model distillation. China's Ministry of Commerce warned of retaliation while remaining open to dialogue.
4. XPeng launched its IRON humanoid robot production line, achieving an automation rate of over 80% across core processes and targeting a monthly output of 1,000 units by year-end.
5. JD Cloud is building a massive computing cluster powered by 100,000 domestic Moore Threads GPUs, marking the first time domestic Chinese GPUs have entered a tier-1 cloud provider's core 100,000-card cluster.

China AI Models & Platforms

1. DeepSeek V4.1-Flash Officially Released

DeepSeek officially launched V4.1-Flash on September 10, releasing its weights on Hugging Face under the MIT License.

The underlying architecture comprises 552 billion parameters. Active parameters activated during generation per token are 800 million for input and 1.6 billion for output. The model supports a 1-million-token context window with multimodal input handling both images and text. Its KV cache—the memory allocated for context retention—has been compressed to 890 bytes per token, one-fourth that of its predecessor.

Pricing is based on off-peak hours. Cache-hit input, which reuses precomputed states, is priced at \$0.003 per million tokens. Cache-miss input is \$0.15, and output is \$0.60. Peak-hour rates are doubled.

According to DeepSeek's internal benchmarks, the model scored 74.2 on DeepSWE v1.1 and 88.1 on CyberGym, reportedly outperforming GPT-5.6 Sol and Claude Opus 5 on selected metrics. Independent third-party replication is currently pending.

Starting September 14, all requests to deepseek-v4-pro will automatically route to V4.1-Flash, with billing transitioning to V4.1-Flash rates. The legacy V4-Flash and V4-Flash-Vision-Exp models will be deprecated.

(Publication Date: 2026-09-10)

Robotics, Humanoids & Embodied AI

1. XPeng Operates IRON Production Line

XPeng operationalized its IRON humanoid robot production line in Guangzhou on September 8. The automation rate across core processes exceeds 80%. Upon completing assembly, the robot autonomously walked off the production line. The company stated that automotive-grade quality control standards have been applied.

IRON features 76 degrees of freedom (DoF) and is equipped with three proprietary Turing AI chips delivering 2,250 TOPS of computing power. XPeng aims to begin with 200 units per month in Q4, scale to 1,000 units per month

by year-end, and pursue commercial rollout both domestically and internationally in 2027.

The venture raised \$900 million in August at a \$6.3 billion valuation, with backing from IDG Capital, Tencent, and Alibaba.

(Publication Date: 2026-09-08)

AI Semiconductors & Computing Infrastructure

1. Chinese AI Chipmakers Raise Prices by 20% to 50%

Reuters reported exclusively on September 10 that Huawei raised its quote for the Ascend 950DT accelerator card to over 250,000 yuan (approximately \$37,255), up 20% to 50% compared to two months prior.

The Ascend 910C board also increased from around 90,000 yuan to over 110,000 yuan. Cambricon raised prices for its next-generation 690 chip by 20% to 30%, with MetaX and Iluvatar CoreX implementing hikes of similar magnitude.

The primary driver is High Bandwidth Memory (HBM). Mounted alongside AI chips for high-speed data transfer, HBM accounts for a significant portion of chip manufacturing costs. Following tightened US export controls on HBM to China in December 2024, Chinese firms have increasingly turned to secondary gray markets, where prices run several times higher than those paid by overseas buyers.

Iluvatar CoreX is shipping 100,000 GPUs to ByteDance this year, doubling its initial target by redirecting allocations initially reserved for internal use. Competition over supply allocation priorities is intensifying.

(Publication Date: 2026-09-10)

2. JD Cloud Builds 100,000-GPU Cluster with Moore Threads Domestic Chips

JD.com's cloud computing division announced on September 9 that it is constructing a computing cluster utilizing 100,000 Moore Threads general-

purpose GPUs to handle large model training, inference, and embodied AI workloads.

This marks the first time domestic Chinese GPUs have been deployed in a tier-1 cloud service provider's core 100,000-card cluster. It represents a key turning point as domestic Chinese computing transitions from experimental testing to commercialization at scale.

Moore Threads posted first-half revenue of 17.36 billion yuan, an increase of 147% year-over-year. However, following a lock-up expiration on September 7, its stock dropped by the 20% daily limit, pulling its market capitalization below 200 billion yuan.

(Publication Date: 2026-09-09)

Policy, Regulation & National Strategy

1. Entry-Exit Administration Regulation Takes Effect in 4 Days (September 15)

The Entry-Exit Administration Regulations promulgated by the State Council on July 31 take effect in four days. The regulation authorizes exit bans on individuals who violate export control and technology transfer rules. Core AI technical personnel are explicitly subject to these measures, with no statutory time limits.

Previously applied primarily to state-owned enterprise executives and public officials, the scope has now expanded to include private AI enterprises. Two co-founders of Manus AI have been subject to exit bans since March.

(Effective Date: 2026-09-15)

US-China Tech Hegemony

1. Three US Intelligence Agencies Cite Six Chinese AI Firms for Model Distillation

The US NSA, CISA, and FBI issued a joint cybersecurity advisory (AA26-251A) on September 8 naming DeepSeek, Moonshot AI, Alibaba, MiniMax, StepFun,

and Zhipu AI.

The advisory alleges that these entities utilized distillation techniques—harvesting model outputs at scale to train their own systems—to extract billions of tokens from advanced US frontier models since late 2024. The targeted systems reportedly include Anthropic Claude, OpenAI GPT, Google Gemini, and xAI Grok, accessed via fraudulent accounts, bulk commercial subscriptions, and proxy circumvention.

While distillation is widely practiced across the AI industry, the current controversy centers on the alleged scale, organizational coordination, and state affiliations.

China's Ministry of Commerce responded on September 10, dismissing the claims as groundless. While asserting that Beijing remains open to dialogue grounded in equality and mutual benefit, the ministry warned of countermeasures if Chinese AI firms are subjected to suppression.

The development arrives 13 days prior to the September 24 summit in Washington. The issue could join AI chips, electric vehicles, and rare earths on the bilateral agenda. Both sides are also coordinating bilateral AI safety discussions slated for mid-September.

(Publication Dates: 2026-09-08, 2026-09-10)

2. OpenAI-Samsung Chip Collaboration Officially Confirmed

Harrison Kim, Head of OpenAI Korea, confirmed in Seoul on September 9 that OpenAI and Samsung Electronics are engaged in joint research and production of next-generation chips. Specific chip models and the exact scope of Samsung's manufacturing role were not disclosed.

OpenAI previously designed its custom inference chip, Jalapeño, in partnership with Broadcom. Samsung may potentially undertake its foundry fabrication. In addition, Samsung has been supplying HBM4E samples to major customers.

(Publication Date: 2026-09-09)

Legal Commentary by Attorney Kyung-jin Kim

The primary development in this cycle is the model distillation advisory issued by US intelligence agencies. While distillation is a standard technique, naming six specific commercial entities in an official interagency document signals an escalated enforcement posture. The timing—13 days ahead of the bilateral summit—carries strategic significance.

The 20% to 50% price increases across Chinese AI chips demonstrate the tangible real-economy impact of export controls. With HBM remaining a critical bottleneck, the capital expenditure required to expand China's AI infrastructure is rising steadily.

DeepSeek's decision to open-source V4.1-Flash under the MIT License indicates a continued commitment to expanding open-source AI adoption through low-cost distribution. Deprecating V4 Pro in favor of Flash reflects an aggressive prioritization of cost efficiency.

XPeng's IRON production line and JD Cloud's 100,000-GPU cluster demonstrate a broader transition toward mass manufacturing in both robotics and computing infrastructure. China is advancing beyond experimental validation into scaled operational production.

South Korea remains intertwined with both sides of the semiconductor supply chain, as evidenced by the confirmation of OpenAI-Samsung cooperation.

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World Economy Top 10

World Economy Top 10 **2026-09-11**

Period: 2026-09-10 05:30 KST - 2026-09-11 05:30 KST

Today's Top 10 Key Developments

1. The European Central Bank raised interest rates for the second time this year. On September 10, it raised the deposit facility rate by 0.25 percentage points to 2.50 percent and the main refinancing operations rate to 2.65 percent, stating that the decision was aimed at preventing energy price increases stemming from the war with Iran from spreading to inflation.
2. The U.S. 10-year Treasury yield rose above 4.9 percent to its highest level since 2023. It reached 4.92 percent intraday on September 10, nearing the 5 percent mark, as soaring oil prices and concerns over rekindled inflation heightened caution that the Federal Reserve could resume rate hikes.
3. International crude oil prices surpassed \$100 per barrel. On September 10, Brent crude reached around \$101, marking triple digits for the first time since late July 2025, while West Texas Intermediate rose to around \$96, and the United States and Iran exchanged their largest vessel strikes in the Strait of Hormuz.
4. The U.S. Producer Price Index for August rose again. It increased by 0.4 percent month-over-month and 5.4 percent year-over-year, with energy surging 4.2 percent to account for most of the gain (Bureau of Labor Statistics, September 10).

5. Oracle reported earnings beating market expectations. In an announcement after the market close on September 10, cloud infrastructure revenue more than doubled from a year earlier, remaining performance obligations surged 363 percent to \$638 billion, and its stock price rose about 7 percent in after-hours trading.

6. U.S. stock markets fell for a fourth straight day. On September 10, the Dow dropped 0.6 percent to 52,064.10, the S&P 500 declined 0.58 percent to 7,591.70, and the Nasdaq fell 0.65 percent to 26,081.72, weighed down by inflation concerns following oil's rise above \$100.

7. Gold prices edged down ahead of inflation data. As of 9:00 AM U.S. Eastern Time on September 10, spot gold fell from the previous day to around \$4,341 per ounce, and silver retreated to around \$66.6 per ounce.

8. The yen maintained its strongest level in seven months. On September 10, the yen remained strong near 153.4 against the dollar amid sustained expectations that the Bank of Japan will raise interest rates to 1.25 percent at next week's meeting, while U.S. Treasury Secretary Bessent warned against betting on yen weakness.

9. U.S. initial jobless claims remained at a low level. For the week ending September 5, claims stood at 206,000, down 1,000 from the previous week, while continuing claims were 1,774,000 (Department of Labor, September 10).

10. European stock markets dropped to their lowest level in two months. On September 10, the pan-European STOXX 600 index fell about 0.5 percent to slide to the 637 level, pressured by the European Central Bank's rate hike and oil surpassing \$100.

Market Indicators

The U.S. 10-year Treasury yield reached an intraday high of 4.92 percent on September 10, touching its highest level since 2023. The Dow at 52,064.10, the S&P 500 at 7,591.70, and the Nasdaq at 26,081.72 fell for a fourth day. The pan-

European STOXX 600 index slid to the 637 level, near a two-month low. The yen held near its seven-month high around 153.4 against the dollar.

Central Banks and Policy

The European Central Bank raised the deposit rate to 2.50 percent and the refinancing rate to 2.65 percent by 0.25 percentage points on September 10. President Lagarde stated that inflation will return to target towards the end of 2027 and raised the 2027 inflation forecast to 2.5 percent. The U.S. August Producer Price Index rose 5.4 percent year-over-year, increasing caution over a potential resumption of Federal Reserve rate hikes, and the market awaits next week's meeting.

Commodities and Energy

Brent crude surpassed \$100 to trade around \$101 per barrel, and West Texas Intermediate rose to around \$96. As U.S.-Iran vessel strikes in Hormuz intensified, Goldman Sachs warned that Brent crude could exceed \$120 if Gulf production does not recover. Spot gold slipped to around \$4,341 per ounce and silver to around \$66.6 per ounce ahead of inflation indicators.

Key Watchpoints for the Next 24 Hours

The release of the U.S. August Consumer Price Index is scheduled, with attention focused on whether surging oil prices are reflected in inflation. The U.S.-Iran confrontation in the Strait of Hormuz and navigation conditions will dictate the direction of oil prices. Attention will also be on yen trends ahead of the Bank of Japan's September meeting and whether long-term U.S. Treasury yields approach 5 percent.

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International Conflict Briefing

International Conflict Briefing **2026-09-11**

Timeframe: 2026-09-10 09:20 KST - 2026-09-11 09:20 KST

Key Developments Today

1. Yemeni Houthi rebels captured the strategic port city of Mocha at the entrance to the Red Sea, expanding threats to maritime sea lanes.
2. Russian forces launched a drone strike on a shopping mall in Pavlohrad, Ukraine, killing 5 civilians and injuring 67.
3. Ukraine and Canada signed a 100-year security partnership and confirmed 350 million Canadian dollars in air defense support.
4. Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps claimed it attacked a U.S. unmanned surface vessel and captured a navigation drone in the Strait of Hormuz.
5. The Israeli military detonated and destroyed Hezbollah underground facilities on the Ali al-Taher ridge in southern Lebanon.
6. Al-Ahli Arab Hospital in the Gaza Strip stopped operating its main generator due to fuel depletion.
7. NATO allies announced that they foiled a Russian attempt to destroy undersea communication cables in Northern European waters.
8. Retaliatory airstrikes by the Myanmar junta killed 5 civilians and intensified front-line standoffs.

Changes by Front

- Yemen and Red Sea Front: Tensions along major maritime transport routes escalated sharply as Houthi rebels seized the strategic port city of Mocha at the entrance to the Red Sea.
- Ukraine Front: Russian forces continued large-scale drone and missile strikes targeting a downtown shopping mall in eastern Pavlohrad and a grocery warehouse in Dnipro.
- Lebanon Front: The Israeli military detonated Hezbollah underground tunnel networks around the Ali al-Taher ridge in southern Lebanon, triggering seismic vibrations.
- Myanmar Front: Front-line standoffs intensified due to the junta's retaliatory airstrikes on resistance armed group strongholds and the construction of positions in the northern border area.

Civilian Casualties and Humanitarian Situation

- Ukraine: A total of 5 people were killed, including 3 teenagers and 2 rescue workers, and 67 were injured in the airstrike on the Pavlohrad shopping mall.
- Gaza Strip: Due to sustained blockade measures, Al-Ahli Hospital's main generator shut down, placing emergency patient treatment at risk of interruption.
- Myanmar: Airstrikes in Sagaing Region destroyed factories and civilian facilities, killing 5 residents.

Diplomacy, Sanctions, and Military Support

- Canada and Ukraine: Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney and President Zelenskyy established a 100-year partnership and agreed to provide an air defense missile package.

- United States and Iran: The U.S. Department of the Treasury imposed additional sanctions on Kata'ib Hezbollah, an Iranian-backed armed group in Iraq.
- NATO: Allies disclosed that they proactively foiled sabotage and arson operations by Russian military intelligence targeting undersea communication cables in Northern Europe.

Key Points to Watch in the Next 24 Hours

- The level of maritime response from Saudi Arabia and international coalition forces following the Houthi rebels' capture of Mocha port.
- Whether the U.S. military will carry out additional military retaliation following claims of an attack on a U.S. unmanned surface vessel in the Strait of Hormuz.
- Progress in securing additional air defense networks following President Zelenskyy's visit to North Korea and tour of allied nations.

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Global Incidents and Disasters Briefing

Global Incidents and Disasters Briefing **2026-09-11**

Based on: 2026-09-10 07:40 KST - 2026-09-11 07:40 KST. 7 items.

Today's Summary

1. A fire during cargo ship repairs in Qingdao, Shandong Province, China killed 25 people.
2. A school fire and stampede in the Democratic Republic of Congo killed 24 people.
3. Hurricane Lowell struck Hawaii, killing 2 people and destroying a port.
4. A volcanic eruption and wildfires in Indonesia caused flight cancellations and haze damage.

Earthquakes and Volcanoes

1. Damage from the eruption of Anak Krakatau volcano, Indonesia

On September 10, 2026, a volcano in the Sunda Strait, Indonesia, erupted. An ash column rose high into the sky, causing thousands of flights to be canceled. Airport restrictions stranded 150,000 passengers. No casualties have been reported. Indonesian authorities are keeping the volcano alert at level 3 while monitoring the situation.

Heavy Rain, Floods, and Typhoons

2. Hurricane Lowell strikes Hawaii, USA, damage grows

On September 10, 2026, Hurricane Lowell struck Hawaii, USA. This follows earlier reports, with the death toll and port damage now higher. Giant waves and fallen trees killed 2 people. The cargo port on Lanai island was destroyed, halting the supply of goods. The US Coast Guard and local governments are carrying out recovery work.

Wildfires

3. Wildfires and toxic haze spread on Borneo island, Indonesia

On September 10, 2026, large wildfires continued on Borneo island, Indonesia. Fires set to clear farmland spread widely because of dry weather. Toxic haze spread as far as Malaysia, 800 kilometers away. Sarawak state in Malaysia closed schools and declared a state of emergency. The Japanese government sent transport helicopters and equipment to the area to help put out the fires.

Accidents

4. Fire and explosion during cargo ship repair in Shandong Province, China

At 12:15 KST on September 10, 2026, a fire broke out at a shipyard in Qingdao, Shandong Province. Flames erupted during repair work on the Liberian-flagged cargo ship Ocean Melody. The accident killed 25 people and injured 5. Twelve people escaped safely. Chinese authorities are investigating the exact cause of the fire.

5. School fire and stampede disaster in the Democratic Republic of Congo

On September 10, 2026, a fire started in a wooden house in Bukavu, Democratic Republic of Congo. The flames spread in succession to a nearby elementary school and a middle school building. A stampede occurred as students crowded toward narrow exits. Twenty-four students died and dozens were injured. The provincial government of the Democratic Republic of Congo has sent relief personnel to the scene to handle the aftermath.

6. Tour bus overturns on an Alpine road in Switzerland

On September 10, 2026, a bus overturned on a mountain road in the canton of Graubunden, Switzerland. A Dutch tour bus carrying 48 passengers hit a guardrail and overturned. The accident killed several people and injured many others. Swiss police are still tallying the exact death toll. Five rescue helicopters and ambulances responded to the scene to carry out rescue operations.

Infectious Disease

7. Ebola vaccine deployment response in the Democratic Republic of Congo

On September 11, 2026, Ebola containment measures were carried out in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Following earlier reports, the Ervebo vaccine has now been newly introduced. The cumulative death toll has surpassed 3,000. Health authorities in the Democratic Republic of Congo are deploying the Ervebo vaccine to stop the spread. International relief organizations are also expanding Ebola treatment center facilities.

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