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To the Press,

(Original text in Japanese)

The 54th National Skills Competition to open
-A Competition among 1,318 Youths with 41 Skills
for Champion of Skilled Professionals throughout Japan-

The Ministry, collaborating with the Japan Vocational Ability Development Association and the Yamagata Prefectural Government, will organize the 54th National Skills Competition on 21-24 October 2016 at Yamagata Big Wing and 13 other places in Yamagata Prefecture. The National Skills Competition is a national competition of young skilled professionals as prospective leaders for future manufacturing and construction industry.

Designated skilled professionals under 23 years old, after pre-selection at each prefecture, are to participate in the competition. The competition has been organized annually since 1963, aiming to show their skills after everyday training and further enhance their skills. To the 54th National Skills Competition, 1,318 competitors throughout Japan will be joining on 41 types of skills.

The National Skills Competition aims to emphasize the importance of skills to general public and appreciate the value of skills. Anyone can visit to watch the competition free of charge. You may also want to access our website to watch some of the competition by on-the spot broadcasting.

1	Schedule	21-24 October 2016
	Opening	14.00 – 15.00 hrs, Friday, 21 October 2016
	Competition	Saturday, 22 October - Sunday, 23 October with exception of some skills held earlier
	Closing	9.30 – 12.30 hrs, Monday, 24 October 2016
2	Venue for opening/closing	Yamagata Prefectural Sports Park 1-1 Sanno, Tendo City
3	Venue for competition	Big Wing Yamagata and 13 other places in Yamagata Prefecture
4	Website(Japanese only)	http://www.javada.or.jp/jigyou/gino/zenkoku/index.html