《日本东京4万民众举行示威 要求日本首相安倍下台》

导读:日本东京5日有民众示威,要求首相安倍晋三下台,并要求推翻容许自卫队在海外执行作战任务的法案。





Thousands of protesters gathered in downtown Tokyo on Sunday to call for Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to resign and for a law allowing the military to fight overseas to be overturned, as an election for parliament's upper house draws near.

The protesters, many of them elderly, rallied in front of parliament and in a nearby park, holding placards with slogans such as "Step down, Abe government" and "Citizens change politics".

In the July 10 election, opposition parties hope to keep Abe's ruling coalition from winning the majority of the 121 seats up for grabs in the 242-member chamber where it already commands an overall majority.

Analysts say his Liberal Democratic Party and its junior partner have a good shot at success.

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In the lower house, Abe's ruling coalition enjoys a two-thirds "super majority".

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Abe's support rates rose by three percentage points to 56 percent after he hosted a Group of Seven summit in May and accompanied U.S. President Barack Obama on a historic visit to Hiroshima, a Nikkei business daily survey showed on Monday.

Abe on Wednesday announced a widely expected decision to delay a sales tax increase by two-and-a-half years, and said he would seek the public's mandate for his plan in the upper house vote.

But some opposition parties are concerned that a strong election result for the ruling bloc may encourage Abe to press ahead with his long-held aspiration to revise the U.S.-drafted pacifist constitution.

Organizers of the Sunday rally put the crowd at 40,000, while police declined to give a number. Some right-wing activists tried to approach participants but were held back by police.

When a similar anti-Abe rally took place in the same locations last August, organizers said some 120,000 people participated.