Fireproof: Samsung soars

Far from being burned by last year's disastrous release of its Galaxy Note 7 smartphone, which was prone to burst into flames, shares in Samsung Electronics have leapt by more than 50% since January. Even when its de facto boss, Lee Jae-yong, was jailed on bribery charges in August, the share price rebounded. Investors ought to be rewarded today, with an expected forecast of record third-quarter operating profits. Big bets on semiconductor factories are paying off as demand for memory chips soars. The latest smartphone model leaves customers chuffed, not charred. But hurdles lie ahead. Moon Jae-in, South Korea's new president, has promised to tame the country's conglomerates, of which Samsung is the biggest. More worrying is a possible power vacuum while Mr Lee remains behind bars. Managers cannot put off big, risky decisions until he returns: to keep business booming, they must be prepared to place their chips.