



The Weekly Observer

March 21-25

YOUR WEEKLY RECAP OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN JAPAN!

THIS WEEK IN NUMBERS

GOJ Sanctions on Russia

The GOJ **froze the assets of 25 individuals** in executive positions at Russian banks or related to oligarchs. The GOJ also imposed **export controls on 81 military-related organizations**. Prime Minister Kishida Fumio announced that Japan will provide an **additional \$100 million in emergency humanitarian aid** to Ukraine and its neighboring countries. Export restrictions on **luxury goods** are likely to begin next week.

G7 Summit

The G7 leaders met in Brussels on Thursday. The leaders **reiterated their support for Ukraine and urged Russia to withdraw its troops**. They also discussed measures to prevent Russians from **evading sanctions via digital assets and gold**. Kishida revealed that the GOJ would be

submitting **legislation to revoke Russia's MFN status**, as well as to **bolster sanctions to prevent evasion via digital assets**.

North Korea Launches New ICBM

North Korea launched **Hwasong-17**, a new ICBM, on Thursday. It landed **within Japan's EEZ**. The new ICBM represented the **longest test** for a DPRK ICBM. Reports suggest the GOJ is considering **additional sanctions** with the U.S. and ROK.

GOJ Issues First Ever Power Supply Warning

On Monday, the GOJ issued its first-ever **power supply warning**. The warning, **established after 3.11**, is issued when **power usage exceeds 97% of capacity**. Reasons include the bad weather impacting **renewable sources**, and the **March 16 earthquake** damaging **thermal power plants**.

Cabinet Approval



66% (+3 pts.)

28% (-2 pts.)

FNN/Sankei, March 21

COVID-19 Cases (NHK, Mar. 25)

Total Cases: 6.30 million

Total Deaths: 27,617

Daily (Japan): 47,470

7-Day Ave.: 38,673

(+0.77x from last week)

Deaths: 115

Daily (Tokyo): 7,289

7-Day Ave.: 6,275.43

(+0.78x from last week)

Vaccination Progress (Mar. 25)

First dose: 80.7% (+0.1%)

Second dose: 79.4% (+0.1%)

Third dose: 37.4% (+4.3%)