



# The Weekly Observer

July 11-15

YOUR WEEKLY RECAP OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN JAPAN!

THIS WEEK IN NUMBERS

## **Landslide Victory for the LDP**

On Sunday, the **LDP-Komeito ruling coalition** captured a majority of the seats up for election in the **Upper House**.

The LDP won **63 seats** on its own. The coalition now holds **146 of the 248 seats** in the Upper House. **Pro-amendment forces**, including the **Japan Innovation Party**, which **doubled** its seats, **maintained a supermajority**.

Turnout was **52.05 percent**, 3.25 points higher than 2019. The **ratio of women among all winners** increased 5.4 points to **28 percent**. The LDP fielded the most winning female candidates.

The LDP went **28-4 in SMDs** and **captured seats in all 13 MMDs**. In contrast, the **CDP lost six seats**, down to 17, the **lowest historically** among main opposition parties.

## **Abe's Funeral Held**

**Former Prime Minister Abe's** funeral was held on Tuesday at **Zojo-ji Temple**, attended by political figures such as **Prime Minister Kishida Fumio**, business leaders and foreign dignitaries.

After the funeral, the car carrying Abe's coffin drove around **Nagatacho**, from the **LDP headquarters to the Kantei to the Diet**, in memory of the places Abe spent most of his career.

## **PM Outlines Policy Plans**

At a press conference on Thursday, Kishida outlined policies he intends to push forth following the electoral victory. The GOJ will **bolster testing** but will **not impose new restrictions on movement**. The GOJ also plans to restart **10** thermal power plants and **9** nuclear power plants to deal with **energy concerns**.

## **Cabinet Approval**



**65%** (+1 pts.)

**24%** (-2 pts.)

[NNN/Yomiuri](#), July 12

## **COVID-19 Cases (NHK, July 15)**

**Total Cases:** 10.12 million

**Total Deaths:** 31,565

**Daily (Japan):** 103,311 (+53,208)

**7-Day Ave.:** 73,968 (+38,959)

(2.11x from last week)

**Deaths:** 31

**Daily (Tokyo):** 19,059 (+10,282)

**7-Day Ave.:** 12,791 (+6,916)

(2.18x from last week)

## **Vaccination Progress (July 15)**

**First dose:** 82.0% (+0.1%)

**Second dose:** 80.9%

**Third dose:** 62.3% (+0.2%)