



# The Weekly Observer

Oct. 3-7

YOUR WEEKLY RECAP OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN JAPAN!

THIS WEEK IN NUMBERS

## DPRK Launches Missile Over Japanese Mailand

This week, **North Korea launched missiles** on Tuesday and Thursday. Tuesday's ballistic missile **flew over the mainland for the first time since 2017**, resulting in a slew of bilateral and trilateral meetings among the leaders, ministers and deputy level bureaucrats from **Japan, the U.S. and South Korea**.

On Tuesday, **Prime Minister Kishida Fumio** said that the missile launch was a **reckless act that cannot be tolerated**. Both Houses of the Diet **unanimously passed resolutions** protesting the launch as "a serious and imminent threat to our security."

## PM Delivers Policy Speech to Diet

On Monday, Kishida kicked off the extraordinary Diet session

with a policy speech outlining the Cabinet's key focus areas.

It referenced rising costs of living, COVID-19, the energy and food crises, Russia's war with Ukraine, fundamentally bolstering defense, among other issues. The PM emphasized that the GOJ will work to face the **"national crisis"** posed by such threats.

## BOJ Tankan Released

The BOJ's **"Tankan"** released on Monday showed that the **index for business sentiment of large manufacturing companies** fell one point from the last survey in June. The index worsened for a **third consecutive quarter**.

Elsewhere, **capital investment** for FY 2022 was **16.4% higher** than the previous year for all industries—the **highest level recorded in Sept. since the survey began in 1983**.

## Cabinet Approval



**45%** (-5 pts.)

**46%** (+5 pts.)

Yomiuri (Oct. 2)

## COVID-19 Cases (NHK, Oct. 7-8)

Total Cases: 21.52 million

Total Deaths: 45,404

**Daily (Japan): 26,785 (-8,633)**

**7-Day Ave.: N/A for Oct. 8**

(0.74x from last week)

**Deaths: 83 (-22)**

**Daily (Tokyo): 3,016 (-818)**

**7-Day Ave.: 3,266 (-1,868)**

(0.62x from last week)

## Vaccination Progress (Oct. 7)

**First dose: 81.5%**

**Second dose: 80.4%**

**Third dose: 65.5% (+0.1%)**