



#### YOUR WEEKLY RECAP OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN JAPAN!

#### DPRK Launches Missile Over Japanese Mainland

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.

# The Weekly Observer

Oct. 3-7

#### THIS WEEK IN NUMBERS

#### 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%)