



# The Weekly Observer

Nov. 14-18

YOUR WEEKLY RECAP OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN JAPAN!

THIS WEEK IN NUMBERS

## Japan-PRC Summit

On Thursday, Prime Minister Kishida Fumio met with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Thailand for the first summit-level meeting in three years.

Kishida underscored the importance of the two great nations forming a “constructive and stable” relationship to tackle common issues. Xi responded that he would like to form bilateral relations that meet the demands of a new era.

The leaders agreed on the early convening of a high-level economic dialogue and high-level people-to-people and cultural exchange dialogue.

## Japan-U.S.-ROK Summit

On Sunday, Kishida held a trilateral summit meeting with President Joe Biden and President Yoon Suk-yeol.

Among other things, the leaders strongly condemned North Korea’s unprecedented number of ballistic missile launches, and agreed to share real-time missile warning data, as well as establish a new economic security dialogue.

## Another Minister Sacked

On Monday, Kishida announced that former foreign minister Matsumoto Takeaki will replace Terada Minoru as Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications.

Terada was sacked after several weeks of questioning by the opposition and media about multiple campaign finance violations.

He becomes the third minister in the second Kishida Cabinet to be sacked (Yamagiwa Daishiro and Hanashi Yasuhiro).

## Cabinet Approval



[NHK](#) (Nov. 14)

33% (-5 pts.)

46% (+3 pts.)

## COVID-19 Cases ([NHK](#), Nov. 20)

Total Cases: 23.77 million

Total Deaths: 48,281

Daily (Japan): 77,722 (+43,658)

7-Day Ave.: 84,657 (+35,416)  
(1.18x from last week)

Deaths: 122 (+63)

Daily (Tokyo): 7,777 (+4,687)

7-Day Ave.: 8,659 (+4,021)  
(1.17x from last week)

## Vaccination Progress (Nov. 18)

First dose: 81.4%

Second dose: 80.4%

Third dose: 66.6% (+0.3%)

Omicron dose: 12.0%