



The Weekly Observer

June 8-12

YOUR WEEKLY RECAP OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN JAPAN!

THIS WEEK IN NUMBERS

Japan-Malaysia Summit

On Wednesday, Prime Minister Takaichi Sanae hosted Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim for a summit meeting in Tokyo.

The leaders recognized the importance of maritime security cooperation and agreed to continue joint exercises and capacity building assistance through the "Official Security Assistance" program. They also welcomed the signing of a memorandum of cooperation between the coast guards to promote further cooperation.

Takaichi thanked Malaysia for the stable supply of LNG, petroleum, and chemical products in light of the recent energy situation, and requested continued stable supply. Anwar responded with Malaysia's utmost commitment, referring to a new LNG purchase contract signed between JERA and Petronas. They also agreed on building supply chain resilience for energy and critical goods under POWERR Asia.

Legislature Adopts Position on Imperial Household Succession

On Wednesday, the speakers and vice speakers of both Houses submitted the "legislature's consensus" on measures to secure stable Imperial Household succession, a key legislative priority for the Takaichi Administration.

The two proposals are around 1) female members retaining status after marriage and 2) adoption of male-lineage descendants of the former imperial families.

Of the thirteen political parties involved in the discussion, seven including the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and Japan Innovation Party (Nippon Ishin no Kai) supported the consensus, while the Japan Communist Party and three other parties opposed it. The Constitutional Democratic Party neither supported nor opposed, while the Japan Conservative Party said its final decision was pending.

The bill is expected to be submitted as early as the end of the month.

Cabinet Approval



60% (-1 pt.)

26% (+3 pts.)

[NHK](#) (June 8)

State of the Economy

Economy Watchers Survey (May):

DI: 43.6 (+2.8 pts. from April)
1st improvement in 3 months
Maintained assessment that economy is showing signs of weakness in picking up

Corporate Goods Price Index (May):

134.5 (+6.3% from May 2025)
1st high level of increase since 2023

Business Survey Index (April-June):

Large companies (all industries): -0.5
1st negative value in 4 quarters

Current Account Balance (April):

¥3.91 trillion surplus (+64.9%)
15th consecutive month in surplus
Trade account: ¥395.7 billion surplus