

Daiwa's View

Dissolution of lower house in Sep is unlikely

Supplementary budget is expected to be compiled by year-end, either way

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Daiwa Securities Co. Ltd.

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On the night of the day before yesterday and yesterday morning, several media outlets reported that Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga had decided to dissolve the lower house before the presidential election of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan (LDP) in September. However, yesterday morning Prime Minister Suga denied these reports at a press conference. I suspected that no prime minister would respond honestly to questions regarding the timing of dissolution of the lower house, but last night and this morning, several media outlets reported that Prime Minister Suga had promptly given up dissolving the lower house in September due to opposition within the party. In a TV program that aired on 29 August, it was reported that Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare, Norihisa Tamura had said that it would be difficult to withdraw the declaration of a state of emergency, which is currently set to remain in force until 12 September. Therefore, talk of the lower house being dissolved in September was unreasonable from the outset.

Even with no dissolution of the lower house in September, it is still highly likely that Prime Minister Suga will win the LDP presidential election to be held on 29 September, and that the general election will be held on 17 October, and there is a possibility that the LDP or ruling parties will fail to win enough seats for victory and Prime Minister Suga will resign. Therefore, of the four scenarios shown in the chart in yesterday's report, we have eliminated the first and third scenarios, which assumed dissolution of the lower house in September. The remaining scenarios are the second one, in which Prime Minister Suga is expected to stay in office after the lower house election, and the fourth one, in which he likely resigns and a new prime minister is elected (chart below). Compilation of the FY21 supplementary budget and revisions to the JGB issuance plan are likely to be made around late November in the case of the second scenario or around mid-December in the case of the fourth scenario. Things take longer in the fourth scenario than in the second one because of the need to elect a new LDP president after the lower house election, causing the schedule to be delayed accordingly. Either way, if the general election is held on 17 October, a supplementary budget is expected to be compiled by the end of the year.

Assumed Patterns of Snap General Election and Date of Cabinet Decision on FY21 Supplementary Budget/FY22 Initial Budget

LDP presidential election before general election	After general election	LDP presidential election (before general election)	General election	LDP presidential election (after general election)	Extraordinary session of Diet after general election	FY21 supplementary budget*	FY22 initial budget*
② Victory of PM Suga	PM Suga stays in office	29-Sep	End of term 17-Oct	Not be held	Around late Oct	Around late Nov	Late Dec
4	Resignation of PM Suga/Election of new PM			Early Nov	Around mid-Nov	Around mid-Dec	Late Dec

Source: Compiled by Daiwa Securities.

*Date of Cabinet decision, when JGB issuance plan is simultaneously revised/formulated.



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