

## Economic Commentary (supplementary budget)

### Considering early supplementary budget scale and funding

- Cabinet decision on supplementary budget likely around mid-June
- Expect small scale of around Y4.0tn
- Most funding from deficit-financing bonds; JGB issuance plan may avoid increased issuance of coupon-bearing JGBs
- Fiscal deterioration concerns may temporarily intensify, but could later subside

**Koji Hamada**

81-3-5555-8791

kouji.hamada@daiwa.co.jp



Daiwa Securities Co. Ltd.

On 14 May, several news outlets reported that the government was considering a draft supplementary budget for FY26. Here, we expect the cabinet to approve a supplementary budget proposal around mid-June.

We anticipate a relatively small supplementary budget, specifically around Y4.0tn.

The funding will likely come almost entirely from deficit-financing bonds. That said, the JGB issuance plan includes increased issuance of T-bills and the utilization of front-loading issuance of refunding bonds. As such, an increase in the issuance of coupon-bearing JGBs could be avoided.

Concerns on the JGB market about fiscal deterioration are likely to intensify temporarily. However, depending on the size of the budget, the JGB issuance plans, and the level of interest regarding Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's fiscal policy, such intensity may ease for the time being.

### When will cabinet approve supplementary budget?

14 May marked the first time multiple media reports indicated that the government was considering compiling a supplementary budget for FY26. Apparently, these discussions have been proceeding behind the scenes.

**The cabinet is likely to approve a supplementary budget around mid-June.** Keep in mind that the Diet session will end on 17 July. If the opposition parties demand sufficient time to deliberate on the supplementary budget in the Diet, a cabinet decision made around the end of June would not allow for enough time. If the goal is to have the cabinet approve the budget around mid-June, the government would need to start the formal compilation process sometime between May and early June (please refer to our 13 May 2026 report [Considering deadline for compiling early supplementary budget](#)).

### What is the size of the supplementary budget?

Based on a review of the various media reports, the supplementary budget is likely to include the continuation of gasoline price subsidies, subsidies for electricity and gas bills over the summer, and an increase in the contingency reserves. **These all fall within our expectations.** In response to demands from the opposition parties, measures such as financial support for small and medium-sized enterprises and assistance for low-income individuals and families with children could be added. There are reports that **only the contingency reserves will be booked.**

In the case of these particulars, our view that **the supplementary budget will come to around Y4.0tn** remains unchanged. This figure is based on the amounts allocated in the first supplementary budget for FY22 and the utilization of contingency reserves. At that time, crude oil prices were well above \$100/bbl and an early supplementary budget had been compiled (please refer to our 9 Apr 2026 report [High crude oil prices may lead to early supplementary budget compilation](#)).

Following this supplementary budget, another supplementary budget is likely to be compiled sometime between this autumn and December. The Diet will likely pass the budget in December, which has been the case in recent years. The purpose of this supplementary budget is to secure funding through December for the government's measures to address high prices. It is safe to assume that **the budget will not swell to the Y10tn range** seen for those supplementary budgets compiled between autumn and December (FY23 to FY25).

### **Outlooks for supplementary budget funding and JGB issuance plans**

In the case of a supplementary budget at the very start of the fiscal year, it is difficult to secure funding through measures such as revising tax revenue estimates, reducing existing expenditures, or adding non-tax revenue. It is highly likely that **the entire funding will come from deficit-financing bonds**.

Still, JGB issuance plan revisions should **ideally be addressed through increased issuance of T-bills and the utilization of front-loading issuance of refunding bonds, while avoiding an increase in the issuance of coupon-bearing JGBs**.

The reason is that even if the supplementary budget increases spending to offset rising prices, **it is unclear whether the full amount will actually be spent**, particularly in the case of contingency reserves and gasoline subsidies. Indeed, the crude oil price, which is now hovering around \$100/bbl, could drop significantly depending on the situation in Iran.

If funds in the budget are left over, the government can simply cancel the front-loading issuance of refunding bonds. In the case of T-bills, the government can simply halt additional issuance. That would have less of an impact on the JGB market than temporarily increasing the issuance of coupon-bearing JGBs and then again reducing the amount.

### **Will fiscal deterioration concerns intensify?**

Once discussions on the supplementary budget get underway in earnest, concerns about the deterioration of public finances are likely to intensify on the JGB market.

However, as mentioned earlier, if the budget is around Y4.0tn and there is no increase in the issuance of coupon-bearing JGBs, **the intensity of concerns about fiscal deterioration may ease for the time being**.

Takaichi's stance on the supplementary budget is also attracting attention. The administration's top priority is investing in growth and crisis management, but the FY25 supplementary budget allocated a significant amount of funds for measures to address high prices (please refer to our 2 Dec 2025 report [FY25 supplementary budget announcement: Key points for FY26 initial budget, JGB issuance plan](#)). We had assumed that a supplementary budget for FY26 would be considered shortly after the passage of the initial budget. **The government's cautious stance up until now is somewhat surprising**.

It remains to be seen whether Takaichi's comments on the supplementary budget will change the market's perception of proactive fiscal policy. That said, we should keep in mind that the level of interest in fiscal policy initiatives appears to have cooled somewhat.

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