

Abstract

The Japanese Government's Response to COVID-19: Evaluation and Outlook

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Japan is not an exception in worldwide spread of Covid-19. In February and March which was the early stage of spread, for Tokyo Summer Olympic Game originally scheduled to be held on July 24th, the Japanese government proceeded the contagious disease control in direction of fully minimize the number of infectees. Japan has been criticized for not being capable of containing the spread due to their immature response on early stage as they didn't take the aggressive gene amplification test(PCR) for the mild case and didn't open the flow of the infectees to the public.

As small group infection has been expanded into nationwide scale, on April 7th, Prime minister Abe declared a status of emergency and announced not enforceable yet more specified contagious disease control measure. At the same time, as an economy support policy, the additional budget support about 108 trillion Yen was announced. But henceforward the economy of japan is forecasted to be faced the recession. Along this process, the limitation of Japanese government has been exposed and the leadership of prime minister Abe got to taken the blow.

After Covid-19, domestic and foreign policy of Japan is expected to be uncertain to forecast about dissolution of parliament, general election, and revision of the Constitution that the Abe government has been pursuing due to the drop in approval rating for Abe cabinet.

Also, as the possibility of state visit of Xi Jin Ping has been less feasible, it is expected to cause a setback on Abe's political schedule. As the great change is forecasted in international circumstances, the long term conflict between Korea and Japan is not in the best interest of both countries. And, in aspect of geopolitics and geology, cooperation between Korea and Japan is inevitable. Therefore, primarily they have to promote the cooperation in the area that they can pursue of universal benefit for both countries such as health and disaster division.

Keywords: COVID-19, contagious disease control, status of emergency, spreading influence
