

# The National Diet of Japan

The House of Representatives



The National Diet of Japan

September 2018 The House of Representatives

Secretariat of the House of Representatives

1-7-1 Nagatacho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo Tel: (03) 3581-5111

Japanese-language website: <http://www.shugiin.go.jp/>

English-language website: [http://www.shugiin.go.jp/index.nsf/html/index\\_e.htm](http://www.shugiin.go.jp/index.nsf/html/index_e.htm)

House of Representatives Internet TV: <http://www.shugiintv.go.jp/> (英語)



この印刷物は、印刷用の紙へリサイクルできます。



# Table of Contents

<b>Statistics on the Diet Building</b> .....	2
<b>The National Diet: The Design Provided in the Constitution</b>	
Separation of Powers .....	10
Status of the National Diet .....	10
Parliamentary Cabinet System .....	10
Structure of the National Diet .....	11
Powers of the National Diet .....	12
Status of National Diet Members .....	12
Convocation and Term of Session .....	13
Opening Ceremony .....	13
<b>Plenary Sitzings</b>	
Basic Principles of Plenary Sitzings .....	14
Main Business of Plenary Sitzings .....	14
<b>Committees</b>	
Types of Committees .....	17
Deliberation of Bills .....	20
Investigation in relation to Government .....	20
Deliberations when the Diet is not in Session .....	20
<b>Diagram of Legislative Procedure</b> .....	21
<b>Speakers and Vice-Speakers of the House of Representatives</b> .....	22
<b>Prime Ministers of Japan</b> .....	26
<b>Map of the Area Surrounding the National Diet</b> .....	28



## Statistics on the Diet Building

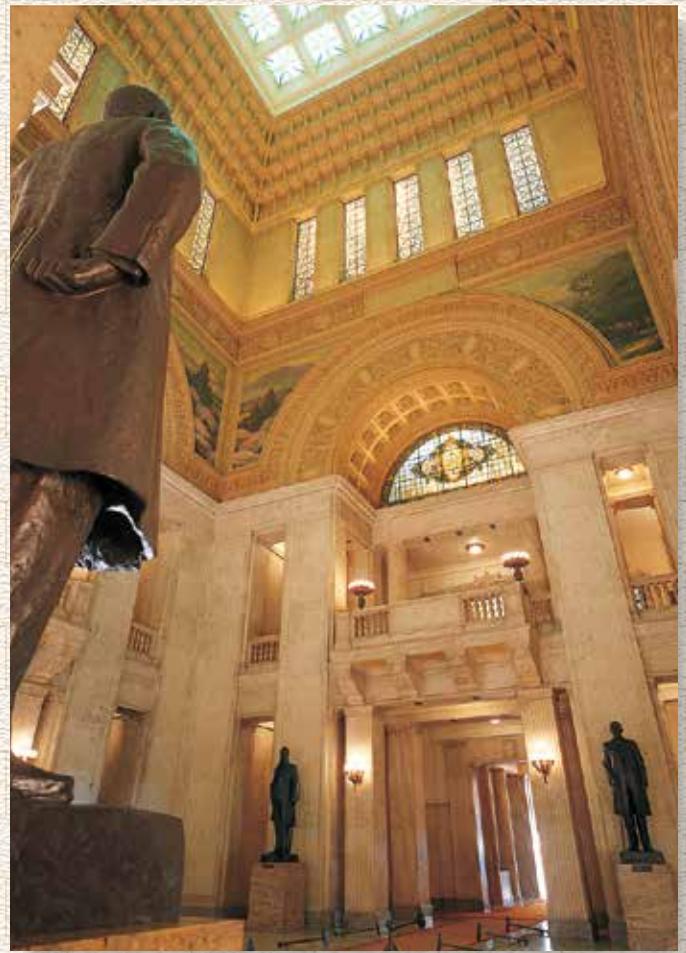
Site area	103,001 square meters
Building area	13,356 square meters (total floor area: 53,464 square meters)
Length (north-south)	206.36 meters
Depth (east-west)	88.63 meters
Height to roof	20.91 meters (central tower: 65.45 meters)
Chamber area	House of Representatives: 743.81 square meters House of Councillors: 743.81 square meters
Diet Building structure	Three floors above ground, with a four-storey central portion and a nine-storey tower; one floor below ground; steel-reinforced concrete construction

Cost of construction	¥25.7 million (at time of construction)
Period of construction	17 years (January 1920 to November 1936)
Date of commencement of use	70 <sup>th</sup> session of the Imperial Diet (December 1936)
Total number of workers	2,540,000
House of Representatives	Left-hand side when facing the building
House of Councillors	Right-hand side when facing the building



### Central Entrance

The central entrance usually remains closed. It is opened only for His Majesty the Emperor on the day of the Opening Ceremony, for Diet Members on the first convocation day after an election, and for State guests.



Hirobumi Ito



Taisuke Itagaki



Shigenobu Okuma

### Central Hall

Beyond the central entrance lies the central hall, which is located directly under the central tower. The hall has a floor area of 267.65 square meters, and the cathedral-like ceiling rises four storeys that admit daylight from above, making the hall 32.62 meters high. The windows and ceiling are decorated with stained glass, and the hall contains bronze statues of Hirobumi Ito (1841–1909), Taisuke Itagaki (1837–1919), and Shigenobu Okuma (1838–1922), each of whom rendered distinguished service in the cause of parliamentary government in Japan.

## Emperor's Room

Located at the top of the central staircase which leads up from the central hall, this room is used by His Majesty the Emperor when he visits the Diet. On the day of the Opening Ceremony, the presiding officer and deputy presiding officer of each House come here to meet His Majesty. The room is made entirely of Japanese cypress finished with fine lacquer and is said to be the quintessence of the architecture and craftsmanship of that era.



## Entrance to the House of Representatives

The Members of the House of Representatives usually enter and exit the Diet Building via this entrance. In the hall at the top of the stairs are busts of Yukio Ozaki (1858–1954) and Takeo Miki (1907–1988) who were House Members for 50 years or more, and were awarded the title of Honorary Member of the House of Representatives for their distinguished service in the cause of constitutional government.



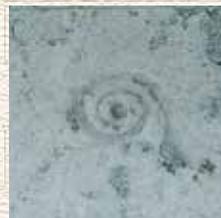
## Attendance Board

To the left as one enters the House of Representatives is the attendance board. Members press the button below their name as they enter the building to indicate that they are present.



## Red Carpet

A red carpet with a total length of about four kilometers lines the halls and staircases of the Diet Building.



## Fossils

The Diet Building is also called the "Treasure House of Fossils" because many of the building's columns and other structures contain fossils.



### **Chamber of the House of Representatives**

In this chamber, the House of Representatives holds its plenary sittings. The Speaker's chair is in the center of the dais, and the seat next to it is reserved for the Secretary General. The seats in the front row on the elevated platform on either side of the Speaker's chair are for the Cabinet Ministers. The Prime Minister's seat is in the front row on the left-hand side near the Speaker.

The Members' seats, which form a semi-circle around the rostrum in front of the Speaker's chair, are traditionally occupied, from left to right, in blocks proportionate to the strength of the political groups represented.

At each Member's seat is the Member's nameplate, a black rectangular block with the Member's name inscribed on it.

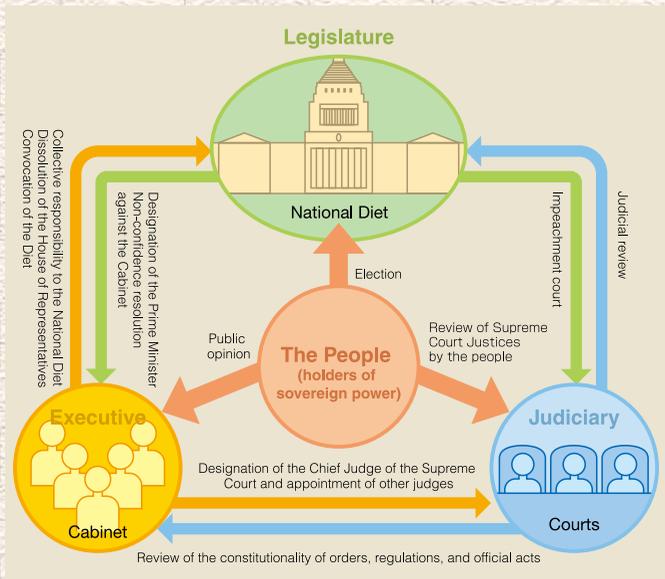
# The National Diet

## The Design Provided in the Constitution

The Constitution of Japan was promulgated on November 3, 1946, and went into effect on May 3, 1947. The first session of the National Diet was convened on May 20 of that year. That session marked the birth of the National Diet, replacing the Imperial Diet which had been created in 1890 under the Meiji Constitution and served for over 56 years.

## Separation of Powers

The Constitution of Japan provides for the principle of the separation of powers. Three independent organs—the Diet, the Cabinet, and the Judiciary—are established, and each limits the power of the others through a system of checks and balances. This prevents the abuse of power and guarantees the rights and freedom of the people.



## Status of the National Diet

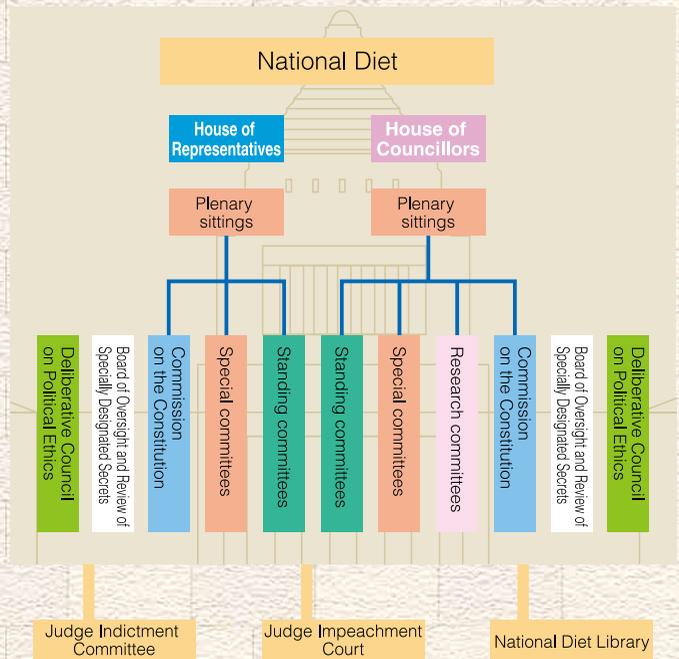
Article 41 of the Constitution of Japan provides that “The Diet shall be the highest organ of State power, and shall be the sole law-making organ of the State.”

## Parliamentary Cabinet System

The Prime Minister is designated from among the Members of the Diet by a resolution of the Diet. The Cabinet is collectively responsible to the Diet in the exercise of executive power. If the House of Representatives passes a non-confidence resolution, either the House of Representatives must be dissolved or the Cabinet must resign en masse. Such a system where the Cabinet, or executive branch of government, is dependent on the support of the Diet, or legislative branch, to exist is called a parliamentary cabinet system.

## Structure of the National Diet

The Diet consists of two Houses—the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors—and each House is composed of elected Members, who represent all the people. Each House has plenary sittings and committees.



## Comparison of the Membership of the Two Houses

House of Representatives		House of Councillors
465	Number of members	242
4 years (Membership ends with the dissolution of the House)	Term of office	6 years (with half of the Members elected every third year)
Citizens 18 years of age or older	Right to vote	Citizens 18 years of age or older
Citizens 25 years of age or older	Right to stand for office	Citizens 30 years of age or older
Single-seat constituency: 289 Proportional representation: 176	Constituency	Plural-seat prefectural constituency: 146 Proportional representation: 96
Possible	Dissolution	Not possible

## Powers of the National Diet

### Powers of the National Diet

- The House of Representatives and the House of Councillors jointly exercise the powers of the National Diet through the passage of bills and measures by both Houses. The Diet's powers include
  - (1) Enactment of laws,
  - (2) Decisions regarding the budget and other matters related to national finances,
  - (3) Decisions regarding approval for the conclusion of international treaties,
  - (4) Designation of the Prime Minister, and
  - (5) Initiation of amendments to the Constitution.
- In the case where the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors make opposite decisions regarding a legislative bill or certain other measures, the Constitution recognizes the precedence of the House of Representatives and its collective decisions over the House of Councillors under certain conditions.

### Powers of Each House

- Each House independently exercises its own powers including
  - (1) Autonomy of each House,
    - Election of the House presiding officer, deputy presiding officer, and standing committee chairmen
    - Establishment of special committees as necessary for each session
    - Establishment of rules pertaining to meeting procedures and internal discipline
  - (2) Right to conduct investigations in relation to government,
  - (3) Right to accept and vote on petitions, and
- Power unique to each House
  - (1) Right of the House of Representatives to pass a non-confidence resolution against the Cabinet,
  - (2) Convocation of the House of Councillors in emergency session.

## Status of National Diet Members

National Diet Members receive a mandate from the people with whom resides sovereign power, and the Diet Members bear the important responsibility of deliberating government matters as representatives of all the people. Certain protection is given to National Diet Members so that they can perform these responsibilities. Except for cases prescribed by law, Diet Members cannot be apprehended when the Diet is in session and they cannot be held responsible outside of the House for speeches, discussions, or votes made in their House.

## Convocation and Term of Session

Convocation of the National Diet is decided by the Cabinet, and an Imperial Rescript is promulgated.

Type	Convocation	Term of Session
Ordinary session	Once a year, starting in January	150 days (one extension possible)
Extraordinary session	(1) When deemed necessary by the Cabinet (2) When requested by one-quarter or more of the total Members of either House (3) After a general election called due to the expiration of the term of office of the Members of the House of Representatives or after a regular election of the House of Councillors	Determined by agreement of both Houses (two extensions possible)
Special session	After a general election called after the dissolution of the House of Representatives	

## Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony is held at the beginning of a session in the presence of His Majesty the Emperor. The Members of both Houses meet in the Chamber of the House of Councillors. At that time, the Speaker of the House of Representatives gives a ceremonial address on behalf of both Houses, and His Majesty the Emperor also delivers a message.



# Plenary Sittings

## Basic Principles of Plenary Sittings

Plenary sittings are meetings of all House Members, and it is here that the final will of the House is determined. Plenary sittings are open to the public in principle, and one-third or more of all Members must be present for a plenary sitting to be held. Business is decided by the agreement of a majority of Members present, except for special cases.

When the Diet is in session, the House of Representatives usually holds its plenary sittings at one o'clock in the afternoon on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, and the House of Councillors at ten o'clock in the morning on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

## Main Business of Plenary Sittings

Business at plenary sittings is conducted in accordance with the Order of the Day which states the meeting date and time as well as the matters for discussion at that day's plenary sitting and their order.

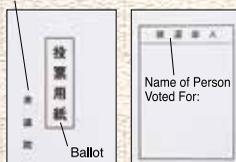
### 1. Organization of the House

- Election of the presiding officer and deputy presiding officer  
The election of the presiding officer and the deputy presiding officer is performed by secret ballot. The House Members write the name of the candidate they want to vote for on the ballot and submit it along with a wooden name card provided at their seat.
- Designation of seats
- Determination of the term of session or the extension of the term of session
- Selection of standing committee members and election of standing committee chairmen
- Selection of members of the Commission on the Constitution, the Board of Oversight and Review of Specially Designated Secrets, and the Deliberative Council on Political Ethics
- Establishment of special committees

### 2. Designation of the Prime Minister

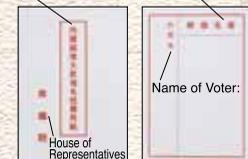
The designation of the Prime Minister is performed by open ballot in each House. In an open ballot, Members write the name of the candidate they want to vote for on the ballot as well as their own name and submit it.

House of Representatives



Ballot for electing the House presiding officer or deputy presiding officer

Ballot for Designating the Prime Minister



Ballot for designating the Prime Minister



Ballot box

### 3. Speeches by Ministers of State and Question-and-Answer Session

Once the National Diet has been convened, a plenary sitting is held in each House and the House is organized. Next, the Opening Ceremony is held. Then, Ministers of State deliver speeches in a plenary sitting at each House.

In an ordinary session, the Prime Minister delivers an address on general policy, and addresses are also given by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Finance, and the Minister of State in charge of economic and fiscal policy. In a special or extraordinary session, usually the Prime Minister gives a policy speech and, when necessary, other Ministers of State also give addresses. After these addresses, Members ask questions (interpellations) on behalf of their political group, and the Prime Minister and other Ministers of State respond.



Prime Minister's speech

# Plenary Sittings

## 4. Explanation of Bills and Question-and-Answer Session

In the case of important bills and measures, when the Committee on Rules and Administration deems it particularly necessary, the Members who submitted the bill, if the bill was submitted by House Members—or the Minister of State in question, if the bill was submitted by the Cabinet—explain the purpose of the bill. Questions are then fielded about the bill or measure.

## 5. Deliberation of Bills

Bills (legislative bills, budgets, international treaties, etc.) for which committee deliberations have been completed are submitted to the plenary sitting. At the plenary sitting, the chairman of the committee that examined the bill gives, after the declaration of the agenda item, a report on the process and results of the committee deliberations. A vote, at times after questions and discussion, is then taken.

There are three methods of voting: oral (asking aloud whether there are any objections), standing (those in favor of the bill are asked to stand), and open ballot (voting where the voter's name is indicated). In the House of Councillors, voting is usually conducted using a push-button system.



Open ballot

An open ballot is used for the national budget and other important bills. Members vote using one of the wooden name tablets provided at their seat. A white wooden name tablet is cast to indicate approval of the bill in question, and a green wooden name tablet is cast to indicate opposition.



Wooden name tablets

# Committees

## Types of Committees

There are two types of committees: standing committees, which are permanent bodies, and special committees, which are established by House resolution when deemed necessary by that House for a given Diet session. Every Diet Member serves on at least one standing committee during his or her term of office.

## Standing Committees

The House of Representatives and the House of Councillors each have seventeen standing committees.

House of Representatives		House of Councillors	
Name of Committee	No. of Members	Name of Committee	No. of Members
Cabinet	40	Cabinet	20
Internal Affairs and Communications	40	General Affairs	25
Judicial Affairs	35	Judicial Affairs	20
Foreign Affairs	30	Foreign Affairs and Defense	21
Financial Affairs	40	Financial Affairs	25
Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	40	Education, Culture and Science	20
Health, Labour and Welfare	45	Health, Welfare and Labour	25
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	40	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	20
Economy, Trade and Industry	40	Economy and Industry	21
Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	45	Land and Transport	25
Environment	30	Environment	20
Security	30	Fundamental National Policies	20
Fundamental National Policies	30	Budget	45
Budget	50	Audit	30
Audit and Oversight of Administration	40	Oversight of Administration	30
Rules and Administration	25	Rules and Administration	25
Discipline	20	Discipline	10

## Special Committees

The jurisdiction and number of members of a special committee are decided by resolution of the House in question when the committee is established.

(as of January 22, 2018, 196th Diet [ordinary session])

House of Representatives		House of Councillors	
Name of Committee (Abbreviated)	No. of Members	Name of Committee (Abbreviated)	No. of Members
Disasters	40	Disasters	20
Political Ethics and Election Law	40	Okinawa and Northern Problems	20
Okinawa and Northern Problems	25	Political Ethics and Election System	35
North Korean Abductions and Other Issues	25	North Korean Abduction Issue and Related Matters	20
Consumer Affairs	35	Official Development Assistance and Related Matters	30
Promotion of Science and Technology, and Innovation	35	Consumer Affairs	25
Reconstruction after Great East Japan Earthquake	45	Reconstruction after the Great East Japan Earthquake	40
Investigation of Nuclear Power Issues	40		
Regional Revitalization	40		

# Committees

## Commission on the Constitution

Each House has set up a Commission on the Constitution to conduct broad and comprehensive research on the Constitution of Japan and basic legislation closely related to it, and to consider constitutional amendment bills, procedure bills and related matters.

The commission of the House of Representatives has a membership of 50 and the House of Councillors 45.

## Board of Oversight and Review of Specially Designated Secrets

Each House set up a Board of Oversight and Review of Specially Designated Secrets to investigate and constantly oversee the system operation for protecting specially designated secrets in the defense and foreign affairs information, whose leakage has the potential to significantly harm the security of Japan and needs to be specially designated to be kept secret; as well as to review judgments including those by administrative organs' heads as to the propriety of their response to requests of each House committee or other organization for the submission of the specially designated secrets.

The boards of both Houses have the same membership of 8.

## Deliberative Council on Political Ethics

A Deliberative Council on Political Ethics has been set up in each House to establish political ethics. The council of the House of Representatives has a membership of 25 and the House of Councillors 15.

## Committees on Fundamental National Policies

The Committee on Fundamental National Policies is responsible for deliberating basic government policy. It normally meets jointly with the House of Councillors committee of the same name, and functions as a venue for debate between the Prime Minister and opposition party leaders on fundamental national policies and other important topics.



## Committee on Budget of the House of Representatives

This committee is mandated to examine the budget for national revenues and expenditures, but members ask questions about a wide range of issues related to government, including issues of concern to the people. Committee deliberations on the national budget commence with a briefing on the budget submitted and include basic questions, general questions, hearings, subcommittee meetings (in the case of the Committee on Budget of the House of Councillors: commissioned research), and closing questions. After the deliberations have been completed, the budget is voted on.



## Committee on Rules and Administration of the House of Representatives

This committee decides the plenary sitting dates, order of business, speakers, and speaking time allocation, as well as other matters related to the administration of the House. The committee also discusses matters related to the Diet Law and various House rules and handles matters about which advice is sought by the House Speaker.



## Deliberation of Bills

No business may be transacted in a committee unless at least one-half of its members are present. All business is decided by majority vote of the members present. Members of the media and others may attend meetings as observers with the permission of the chairman.

Legislation can be submitted by Diet Members or by the Cabinet, but only the Cabinet can submit the national budget or a treaty. For Members to submit a legislative bill, the bill must have the support of 20 or more Members of the House of Representatives (in the case of the House of Councillors: 10 or more Members). Legislative bills requiring budget, however, need the support of 50 or more Members of the House of Representatives (in the case of the House of Councillors: 20 or more Members).

Once a bill has been submitted, the presiding officer of the House refers the bill to the committee under whose jurisdiction the bill falls. After receiving a briefing on the bill from the Members who submitted the bill or the Minister of State in charge, the committee members ask questions of the Diet Members who submitted the bill, the Minister of State, or other government officials in a question-and-answer session.

After questions have been fielded, the political parties and groups express their position on the bill in a debate. Then a vote is taken. Votes at committees are taken by asking those in favor of the bill to stand.



Vote by standing

## Investigation in relation to Government

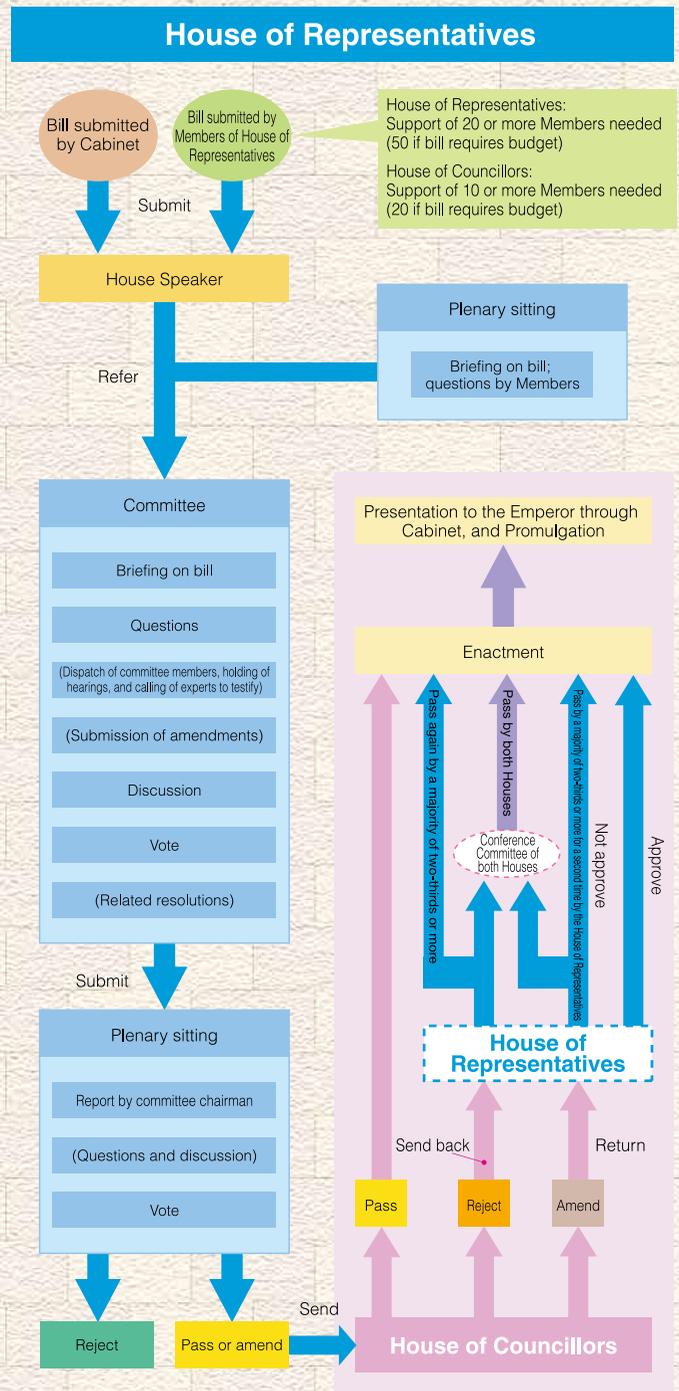
To create legislation and check government, each House can conduct investigations in relation to government. Such investigations are conducted by the various committees set up in each House. Standing committees decide the matters within their jurisdiction that they will investigate for a given Diet session and receive the approval of the presiding officer of the House before commencing their investigations. Special committees investigate matters that are referred to them.

## Deliberations when the Diet Is Not in Session

The National Diet does not meet after the term of session ends. The House standing and special committees, however, can continue their deliberations even when the Diet is not in session provided the House has so decided. With House approval, the committees can pursue their investigations and discussions; they can perform such activities as the holding of meetings and the dispatch of committee members to conduct research.

# Diagram of Legislative Procedure

When Bill Is Considered First by House of Representatives



# Speakers and Vice-Speakers of the

# House of Representatives

## Imperial Diet

No.	Speaker	No.	Vice-Speaker
1	Nobuyuki Nakajima (Nov. 26, 1890–Dec. 25, 1891)	1	Mamichi Tsuda (Nov. 26, 1890–Dec. 25, 1891)
2	Toru Hoshi (May 3, 1892–Dec. 13, 1893)	2	Arasuke Sone (May 3, 1892–Aug. 31, 1893)
		3	Masataka Kusumoto (Nov. 26, 1893–Dec. 15, 1893)
3	Masataka Kusumoto (Dec. 15, 1893–Dec. 30, 1893)	4	Iwane Abei (Dec. 20, 1893–Dec. 30, 1893)
4	Masataka Kusumoto (May 12, 1894–June 2, 1894)	5	Kenkichi Kataoka (May 12, 1894–June 2, 1894)
5	Masataka Kusumoto (Oct. 15, 1894–June 8, 1896)	6	Saburo Shimada (Oct. 15, 1894–Dec. 25, 1897)
6	Kazuo Hatoyama (Dec. 22, 1896–Dec. 25, 1897)		
7	Kenkichi Kataoka (May 16, 1898–June 10, 1898)	7	Hajime Motoda (May 16, 1898–June 10, 1898)
8	Kenkichi Kataoka (Nov. 9, 1898–Dec. 7, 1902)	8	Hajime Motoda (Nov. 9, 1898–Dec. 7, 1902)
9	Kenkichi Kataoka (Dec. 7, 1902–Dec. 28, 1902)	9	Hajime Motoda (Dec. 7, 1902–Dec. 28, 1902)
10	Kenkichi Kataoka (May 9, 1903–Oct. 31, 1903)	10	Teiichi Sugita (May 9, 1903–Dec. 11, 1903)
11	Hironaka Kono (Dec. 5, 1903–Dec. 11, 1903)		
12	Masahisa Matsuda (Mar. 18, 1904–Jan. 19, 1906)	11	Katsundo Minoura (Mar. 18, 1904–Dec. 23, 1908)
13	Teiichi Sugita (Jan. 23, 1906–Dec. 23, 1908)		
14	Sumitaka Haseba (Dec. 23, 1908–Sept. 6, 1911)	12	Ryu Koizuka (Dec. 23, 1908–Aug. 21, 1912)
15	Ikuzo Ooka (Dec. 24, 1911–Aug. 21, 1912)		
16	Ikuzo Ooka (Aug. 21, 1912–Mar. 6, 1914)	13	Naohiko Seki (Aug. 21, 1912–Dec. 25, 1914)
17	Sumitaka Haseba (Mar. 7, 1914–Mar. 15, 1914)		
18	Shigesaburo Oku (Mar. 17, 1914–Dec. 25, 1914)		
19	Saburo Shimada (May 17, 1915–Jan. 25, 1917)	14	Takuzo Hanai (May 17, 1915–Dec. 26, 1915)
		15	Seiji Hayami (Dec. 26, 1915–Jan. 25, 1917)

No.	Speaker	No.	Vice-Speaker
20	Ikuzo Ooka (June 21, 1917–Feb. 26, 1920)	16	Kunimatsu Hamada (June 21, 1917–Feb. 26, 1920)
21	Shigesaburo Oku (June 29, 1920–Feb. 16, 1923)	17	Gizo Kasuya (June 29, 1920–Feb. 17, 1923)
22	Gizo Kasuya (Feb. 17, 1923–Jan. 31, 1924)	18	Genji Matsuda (Feb. 17, 1923–Jan. 31, 1924)
23	Gizo Kasuya (June 26, 1924–Mar. 25, 1927)	19	Matajiro Koizumi (June 26, 1924–Mar. 25, 1927)
24	Shigeru Morita (Mar. 26, 1927–Jan. 21, 1928)	20	Gohee Matsuura (Mar. 26, 1927–Jan. 21, 1928)
25	Hajime Motoda (Apr. 20, 1928–Mar. 14, 1929)	21	Ichiro Kiyose (Apr. 20, 1928–Jan. 21, 1930)
26	Mosuke Kawahara (Mar. 15, 1929–May 19, 1929)		
27	Zenbee Horikiri (Dec. 23, 1929–Jan. 21, 1930)		
28	Ikunosuke Fujisawa (Apr. 21, 1930–Apr. 13, 1931)	22	Shoju Koyama (Apr. 21, 1930–Dec. 22, 1931)
29	Keijiro Nakamura (Dec. 23, 1931–Jan. 21, 1932)	23	Giichi Masuda (Dec. 23, 1931–Jan. 21, 1932)
30	Kiyoshi Akita (Mar. 18, 1932–Dec. 13, 1934)	24	Etsujiro Uehara (Mar. 18, 1932–Jan. 21, 1936)
31	Kunimatsu Hamada (Dec. 24, 1934–Jan. 21, 1936)		
32	Kojiro Tomita (May 1, 1936–Mar. 31, 1937)	25	Tadahiko Okada (May 1, 1936–Mar. 31, 1937)
33	Shoju Koyama (July 23, 1937–Dec. 22, 1941)	26	Tsuneo Kanamitsu (July 23, 1937–Aug. 31, 1939)
		27	Ichimin Tago (Dec. 23, 1939–Dec. 22, 1941)
34	Ichimin Tago (Dec. 24, 1941–May 25, 1942)	28	Sakusaburo Uchigasaki (Dec. 24, 1941–May 25, 1942)
35	Tadahiko Okada (May 25, 1942–Apr. 9, 1945)	29	Sakusaburo Uchigasaki (May 25, 1942–June 7, 1945)
36	Toshio Shimada (June 8, 1945–Dec. 18, 1945)	30	Eikichi Katsuta (June 8, 1945–Dec. 18, 1945)
37	Senzo Hikai (May 22, 1946–Aug. 23, 1946)	31	Kozaemon Kimura (May 22, 1946–Feb. 15, 1947)
38	Takeshi Yamazaki (Aug. 23, 1946–Mar. 31, 1947)		
		32	Tomoharu Inoue (Feb. 21, 1947–Mar. 31, 1947)

# Speakers and Vice-Speakers of the

# House of Representatives

## National Diet

No.	Speaker	No.	Vice-Speaker
39	Komakichi Matsuoka (May 21, 1947–Dec. 23, 1948)	33	Manitsu Tanaka (May 21, 1947–Dec. 23, 1948)
40	Kijuro Shidehara (Feb. 11, 1949–Mar. 10, 1951)	34	Nobuyuki Iwamoto (Feb. 11, 1949–Aug. 28, 1952)
41	Joji Hayashi (Mar. 13, 1951–Aug. 1, 1952)		
42	Bamboku Ono (Aug. 26, 1952–Aug. 28, 1952)		
43	Banboku Ono (Oct. 24, 1952–Mar. 14, 1953)	35	Nobuyuki Iwamoto (Oct. 24, 1952–Mar. 14, 1953)
44	Yasujiro Tsutsumi (May 18, 1953–Dec. 10, 1954)	36	Hyo Hara (May 18, 1953–Dec. 15, 1954)
45	To Matsunaga (Dec. 11, 1954–Jan. 24, 1955)		
46	Shuji Masutani (Mar. 18, 1955–Apr. 25, 1958)	37	Seido Takatsu (Dec. 15, 1954–Jan. 24, 1955)
47	Niro Hoshishima (June 11, 1958–Dec. 13, 1958)	38	Motojiro Sugiyama (Mar. 18, 1955–Apr. 25, 1958)
48	Ryogoro Kato (Dec. 13, 1958–Feb. 1, 1960)	39	Saburo Shiikuma (June 11, 1958–Dec. 13, 1958)
		40	Kiyoshi Masaki (Dec. 13, 1958–Jan. 30, 1960)
49	Ichiro Kiyose (Feb. 1, 1960–Oct. 24, 1960)	41	Takaichi Nakamura (Jan. 30, 1960–Oct. 24, 1960)
50	Ichiro Kiyose (Dec. 7, 1960–Oct. 23, 1963)	42	Tsurumatsu Kubota (Dec. 7, 1960–June 8, 1961)
		43	Kenzaburo Hara (June 8, 1961–Oct. 23, 1963)
51	Naka Funada (Dec. 7, 1963–Dec. 20, 1965)	44	Isaji Tanaka (Dec. 7, 1963–Dec. 20, 1965)
52	Kikuichiro Yamaguchi (Dec. 20, 1965–Dec. 3, 1966)	45	Sunao Sonoda (Dec. 20, 1965–Dec. 27, 1966)
53	Kentaro Ayabe (Dec. 3, 1966–Dec. 27, 1966)		
54	Mitsujiro Ishii (Feb. 15, 1967–July 16, 1969)	46	Sunao Sonoda (Feb. 15, 1967–Nov. 25, 1967)
		47	Hisao Kodaira (Dec. 4, 1967–July 16, 1969)
55	Takechiyo Matsuda (July 16, 1969–Dec. 2, 1969)	48	Sensuke Fujieda (July 16, 1969–Dec. 2, 1969)
56	Naka Funada (Jan. 14, 1970–Nov. 13, 1972)	49	Seijuro Arafune (Jan. 14, 1970–Jan. 29, 1972)
		50	Shiro Hasegawa (Jan. 29, 1972–Nov. 13, 1972)

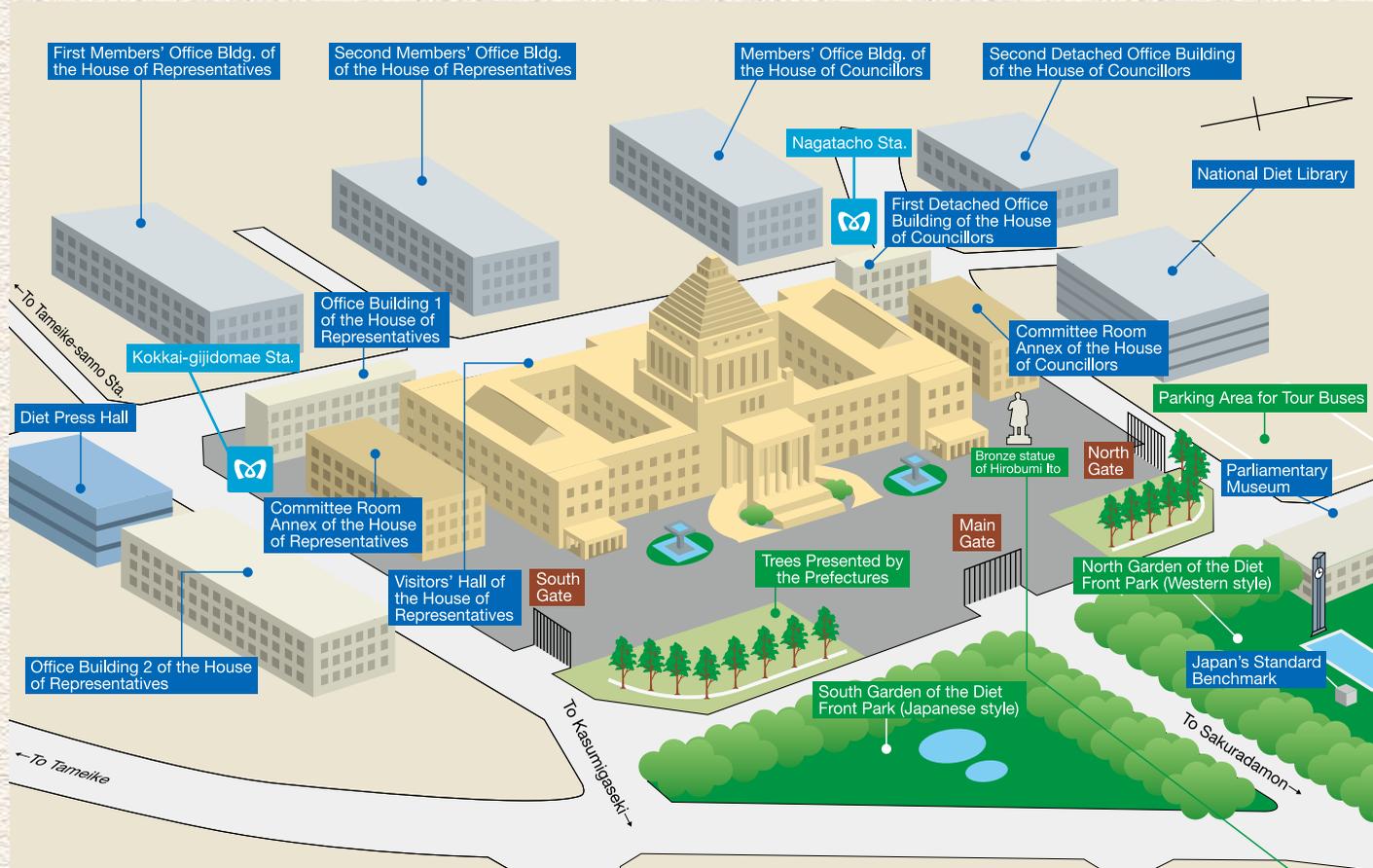
No.	Speaker	No.	Vice-Speaker
57	Umekichi Nakamura (Dec. 22, 1972–May 29, 1973)	51	Daisuke Akita (Dec. 22, 1972–Dec. 9, 1976)
58	Shigesaburo Maeo (May 29, 1973–Dec. 9, 1976)		
59	Shigeru Hori (Dec. 24, 1976–Feb. 1, 1979)	52	Shoichi Miyake (Dec. 24, 1976–Sept. 7, 1979)
60	Hirokichi Nadao (Feb. 1, 1979–Sept. 7, 1979)		
61	Hirokichi Nadao (Oct. 30, 1979–May 19, 1980)	53	Haruo Okada (Oct. 30, 1979–May 19, 1980)
62	Hajime Fukuda (July 17, 1980–Nov. 28, 1983)	54	Haruo Okada (July 17, 1980–Nov. 28, 1983)
63	Kenji Fukunaga (Dec. 26, 1983–Jan. 24, 1985)	55	Seiichi Katsumata (Dec. 26, 1983–June 2, 1986)
64	Michita Sakata (Jan. 24, 1985–June 2, 1986)		
65	Kenzaburo Hara (July 22, 1986–June 2, 1989)	56	Shinnen Tagaya (July 22, 1986–June 2, 1989)
66	Hajime Tamura (June 2, 1989–Jan. 24, 1990)	57	Yoshinori Yasui (June 2, 1989–Jan. 24, 1990)
67	Yoshio Sakurauchi (Feb. 27, 1990–June 18, 1993)	58	Kiichi Murayama (Feb. 27, 1990–June 18, 1993)
68	Takako Doi (Aug. 6, 1993–Sept. 27, 1996)	59	Hyosuke Kujiraoka (Aug. 6, 1993–Sept. 27, 1996)
69	Soichiro Ito (Nov. 7, 1996–June 2, 2000)	60	Kozo Watanabe (Nov. 7, 1996–June 2, 2000)
70	Tamisuke Watanuki (July 4, 2000–Oct. 10, 2003)	61	Kozo Watanabe (July 4, 2000–Oct. 10, 2003)
71	Yohei Kono (Nov. 19, 2003–Aug. 8, 2005)	62	Kansei Nakano (Nov. 19, 2003–Aug. 8, 2005)
72	Yohei Kono (Sept. 21, 2005–July 21, 2009)	63	Takahiro Yokomichi (Sept. 21, 2005–July 21, 2009)
73	Takahiro Yokomichi (Sept. 16, 2009–Nov. 16, 2012)	64	Seishiro Eto (Sept. 16, 2009–Nov. 16, 2012)
74	Bunmei Ibuki (Dec. 26, 2012–Nov. 21, 2014)	65	Hiroataka Akamatsu (Dec. 26, 2012–Nov. 21, 2014)
75	Nobutaka Machimura (Dec. 24, 2014–Apr. 21, 2015)	66	Tatsuo Kawabata (Dec. 24, 2014–Sep. 28, 2017)
76	Tadamori Oshima (Apr. 21, 2015–Sep. 28, 2017)		
77	Tadamori Oshima (Nov. 1, 2017–present)	67	Hiroataka Akamatsu (Nov. 1, 2017–present)

# Prime Ministers of Japan

No.	Prime Minister	Date of Taking Office	No.	Prime Minister	Date of Taking Office
1	Hirobumi Ito (first term)	Dec. 22, 1885	24	Takaaki Kato	June 11, 1924
2	Kiyotaka Kuroda	Apr. 30, 1888	25	Reijiro Wakatsuki (first term)	Jan. 30, 1926
3	Aritomo Yamagata (first term)	Dec. 24, 1889	26	Giichi Tanaka	Apr. 20, 1927
4	Masayoshi Matsukata (first term)	May 6, 1891	27	Osachi Hamaguchi	July 2, 1929
5	Hirobumi Ito (second term)	Aug. 8, 1892	28	Reijiro Wakatsuki (second term)	Apr. 14, 1931
6	Masayoshi Matsukata (second term)	Sept. 18, 1896	29	Tsuyoshi Inukai	Dec. 13, 1931
7	Hirobumi Ito (third term)	Jan. 12, 1898	30	Makoto Saito	May 26, 1932
8	Shigenobu Okuma (first term)	June 30, 1898	31	Keisuke Okada	July 8, 1934
9	Aritomo Yamagata (second term)	Nov. 8, 1898	32	Koki Hirota	Mar. 9, 1936
10	Hirobumi Ito (fourth term)	Oct. 19, 1900	33	Senjuro Hayashi	Feb. 2, 1937
11	Taro Katsura (first term)	June 2, 1901	34	Fumimaro Konoe (first term)	June 4, 1937
12	Kinmochi Saionji (first term)	Jan. 7, 1906	35	Kiichiro Hiranuma	Jan. 5, 1939
13	Taro Katsura (second term)	July 14, 1908	36	Nobuyuki Abe	Aug. 30, 1939
14	Kinmochi Saionji (second term)	Aug. 30, 1911	37	Mitsumasa Yonai	Jan. 16, 1940
15	Taro Katsura (third term)	Dec. 21, 1912	38	Fumimaro Konoe (second term)	July 22, 1940
16	Gombe Yamamoto (first term)	Feb. 20, 1913	39	Fumimaro Konoe (third term)	July 18, 1941
17	Shigenobu Okuma (second term)	Apr. 16, 1914	40	Hideki Tojo	Oct. 18, 1941
18	Masataka Terauchi	Oct. 9, 1916	41	Kuniaki Koiso	July 22, 1944
19	Takashi Hara	Sept. 29, 1918	42	Kantarō Suzuki	Apr. 7, 1945
20	Korekiyo Takahashi	Nov. 13, 1921	43	Naruhiko Higashikuni	Aug. 17, 1945
21	Tomosaburo Kato	June 12, 1922	44	Kijuro Shidehara	Oct. 9, 1945
22	Gombe Yamamoto (second term)	Sept. 2, 1923	45	Shigeru Yoshida (first term)	May 22, 1946
23	Keigo Kiyoura	Jan. 7, 1924			

No.	Prime Minister	Date of Taking Office	No.	Prime Minister	Date of Taking Office
46	Tetsu Katayama	May 24, 1947	81	Tomiichi Murayama	June 30, 1994
47	Hitoshi Ashida	Mar. 10, 1948	82	Ryutaro Hashimoto (first term)	Jan. 11, 1996
48	Shigeru Yoshida (second term)	Oct. 15, 1948	83	Ryutaro Hashimoto (second term)	Nov. 7, 1996
49	Shigeru Yoshida (third term)	Feb. 16, 1949	84	Keizo Obuchi	July 30, 1998
50	Shigeru Yoshida (fourth term)	Oct. 30, 1952	85	Yoshiro Mori (first term)	Apr. 5, 2000
51	Shigeru Yoshida (fifth term)	May 21, 1953	86	Yoshiro Mori (second term)	July 4, 2000
52	Ichiro Hatoyama (first term)	Dec. 10, 1954	87	Junichiro Koizumi (first term)	Apr. 26, 2001
53	Ichiro Hatoyama (second term)	Mar. 19, 1955	88	Junichiro Koizumi (second term)	Nov. 19, 2003
54	Ichiro Hatoyama (third term)	Nov. 22, 1955	89	Junichiro Koizumi (third term)	Sept. 21, 2005
55	Tanzan Ishibashi	Dec. 23, 1956	90	Shinzo Abe (first term)	Sept. 26, 2006
56	Nobusuke Kishi (first term)	Feb. 25, 1957	91	Yasuo Fukuda	Sept. 26, 2007
57	Nobusuke Kishi (second term)	June 12, 1958	92	Taro Aso	Sept. 24, 2008
58	Hayato Ikeda (first term)	July 19, 1960	93	Yukio Hatoyama	Sept. 16, 2009
59	Hayato Ikeda (second term)	Dec. 8, 1960	94	Naoto Kan	June 8, 2010
60	Hayato Ikeda (third term)	Dec. 9, 1963	95	Yoshihiko Noda	Sept. 2, 2011
61	Eisaku Sato (first term)	Nov. 9, 1964	96	Shinzo Abe (second term)	Dec. 26, 2012
62	Eisaku Sato (second term)	Feb. 17, 1967	97	Shinzo Abe (third term)	Dec. 24, 2014
63	Eisaku Sato (third term)	Jan. 14, 1970	98	Shinzo Abe (fourth term)	Nov. 1, 2017
64	Kakuei Tanaka (first term)	July 7, 1972			
65	Kakuei Tanaka (second term)	Dec. 22, 1972			
66	Takeo Miki	Dec. 9, 1974			
67	Takeo Fukuda	Dec. 24, 1976			
68	Masayoshi Ohira (first term)	Dec. 7, 1978			
69	Masayoshi Ohira (second term)	Nov. 9, 1979			
70	Zenko Suzuki	July 17, 1980			
71	Yasuhiro Nakasone (first term)	Nov. 27, 1982			
72	Yasuhiro Nakasone (second term)	Dec. 27, 1983			
73	Yasuhiro Nakasone (third term)	July 22, 1986			
74	Noboru Takeshita	Nov. 6, 1987			
75	Sosuke Uno	June 3, 1989			
76	Toshiki Kaifu (first term)	Aug. 10, 1989			
77	Toshiki Kaifu (second term)	Feb. 28, 1990			
78	Kiichi Miyazawa	Nov. 5, 1991			
79	Morihiro Hosokawa	Aug. 9, 1993			
80	Tsutomu Hata	Apr. 28, 1994			

# Map of the Area Surrounding the National Diet



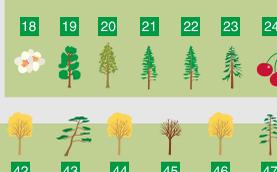
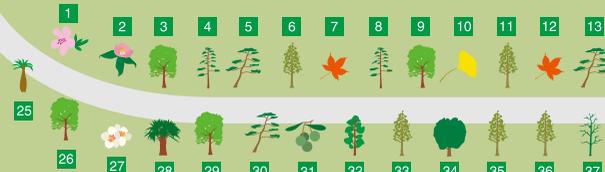
## Trees Presented by the Prefectures of Japan

1	Fukuoka	Azalea
2	Nagasaki	Camellia
3	Saga	Camphor tree
4	Yamaguchi	Japanese red pine
5	Shimane	Japanese black pine
6	Tottori	Okinoyama cedar

7	Hiroshima	Acer palmatum var. matsumurae
8	Okayama	Japanese red pine
9	Hyogo	Camphor tree
10	Osaka	Ginkgo
11	Kyoto	Kitayama cedar
12	Shiga	Japanese maple

13	Fukui	Japanese black pine
14	Gifu	Japanese yew
15	Nagano	Japanese white birch
16	Niigata	Snow camellia
17	Toyama	Tateyama cedar
18	Ibaraki	Japanese apricot

19	Chiba	Kusumaki
20	Akita	Akita cedar
21	Ishikawa	Hiba arborvitae
22	Aomori	Thujopsis dolabrata
23	Hokkaido	Sakhalin spruce
24	Yamagata	Cherry tree



25	Okinawa	Japanese sago palm
26	Kagoshima	Camphor tree
27	Oita	Prunus mume var. bungo
28	Miyazaki	Jelly palm
29	Kumamoto	Camphor tree
30	Ehime	Japanese white pine

31	Kagawa	Olive
32	Tokushima	Bayberry
33	Kochi	Yanase cedar
34	Wakayama	Quercus phillyraeoides
35	Mie	Jingu cedar
36	Nara	Japanese cedar

37	Aichi	Acer pycnanthum
38	Shizuoka	Fragrant tea olive
39	Kanagawa	Ginkgo
40	Yamanashi	Maple tree
41	Tokyo	Ginkgo
42	Fukushima	Japanese zelkova

43	Gunma	Japanese black pine
44	Saitama	Japanese zelkova
45	Tochigi	Japanese horse chestnut
46	Miyagi	Japanese zelkova
47	Iwate	Nanbu red pine



Bronze statue of Hirobumi Ito