

Statement by Minoru Kiuchi, Minister of State for Economic and Fiscal Policy
On the Release of the Quarterly Estimates of GDP for October-December 2025 (First Preliminary Estimates)

February 16, 2026

1. The Quarterly Estimates of GDP for October-December 2025 (First Preliminary Estimates), released today, show that quarter-on-quarter growth rate of nominal GDP and real GDP was 0.6% and 0.1% respectively, with both returning to positive territory for the first time in two quarters.

In terms of the components of real GDP, private consumption recorded its seventh consecutive quarterly increase. Private non-residential investment and private residential investment also turned positive for the first time in two quarters, resulting in an overall increase in domestic demand. Regarding net exports, the negative contribution from exports narrowed compared with the previous quarter, leaving it broadly flat.

2. The Japanese economy is recovering at a moderate pace. Concerning short-term prospects, the improvement in the employment and income situation and the effects of the policies are expected to support a moderate recovery. However, attention should be given to downside risks to the Japanese economy such as price movements and situations in U.S. trade policies.

3. Guided by the principle of “responsible and proactive public finances”, the Government will promote bold and strategic investments that enhance resilience against potential crises and that promote growth. Through these initiatives, we will ensure people feel secure and at ease in their daily lives and livelihoods while also increasing employment and income, enhancing Japan’s potential growth rate, and realizing a “Strong Japanese Economy”.