

## WEEK IN WESTMINSTER

Week ending Friday 3 June

### Business Secretary Vince Cable visits Japan

Business Secretary Vince Cable MP has given a speech on trade and business issues on a visit to Japan. Dr Cable's visit to Japan is the first by a UK government Cabinet member since the earthquake on 11 March this year. He spoke of Japanese investment in the UK, highlighting automotive investment, saying: "...We made the decision to welcome Japanese companies into the UK and it was one of the best decisions we made. Those companies brought good technology and management to the UK and transformed the British car industry among others." The Business Secretary reaffirmed the government's position of supporting aspirations for an Economic Integration Agreement between the EU and Japan, highlighting steps to be taken before an agreement can be reached, he said: "Action is now in Japan's hands in areas such as transparency, public procurement and clarity over regulation. Difficulties already presented by Japan's unique standards demonstrate the benefits of coming closer into line with global standards." (Source: BIS)

<http://www.bis.gov.uk/news/speeches/vince-cable-japan-2011>



### Week ahead

#### House of Commons

Tuesday 7 June – Transport Committee (4.15pm, room 6). Subject: Effective road and traffic management.

Wednesday 8 June - Business, Innovation and Skills Committee (9.30am, room 15). Subject: Bank lending rates with Rt Hon Vince Cable MP

Thursday 9 June - 10.30am: Business, innovation and skills questions (topical questions at 11.15am).

#### House of Lords

The House returns from recess on Monday 6 June.

