Election shock: Japan's ruling LDP coalition loses grip on lower house majority

Oct. 28 (UPI) — In a significant political upset, Japan's Liberal Democratic Party coalition failed to secure the 233 seats required to maintain its majority in the country's lower house in Sunday's general election.

The result marks one of the largest political upheavals Japan has experienced in 15 years, with the yen falling to a three-month low after the coalition's loss.

The LDP's defeat was in large part a reaction to lack of public trust due to a major corruption allegations of misappropriated political donations amounting to nearly \$4 million in campaign financing slush funds that involved dozens of LDP party members.

Of those accused, 46 candidates who were involved in the scandal ran in the election. Discontent over economic concerns, particularly rising living costs, also took center stage in the election.

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