

## **II. Review of operations**

### **1. Business and other risks**

There were no business and other risks that newly arose during the nine months ended August 31, 2016. In addition, there were no significant changes in “Business and other risks” described in the annual securities report for the previous fiscal year.

### **2. Important operational contracts, etc.**

No important operational contracts, etc. were determined or entered into during the third quarter of the current fiscal year.

### **3. Analysis of financial position, operating results and cash flows**

Any forward-looking statements included in the following descriptions are based on the best estimates or judgment of the Tosei Group as of August 31, 2016.

#### **(1) Analysis of operating results**

During the nine months ended August 31, 2016, the Japanese economy continued its moderate recovery, despite apparent weakness in exports and production. We have concerns about the business downturn stemming from the fluctuations in the financial markets over the issue of Britain’s withdrawal from the EU and the slowdown in emerging-market economies. However, increasing capital investment backed by the recovery in corporate earnings as well as robust personal consumption supported by an improving employment and income environment are giving rise to expectations that the moderate expansion will continue going forward.

In the real estate industry where Tosei Group operates, domestic commercial real estate investment in the first half of 2016 totaled ¥1.9 trillion, decreasing 18% year on year. In addition to the limited supply of large properties available to the market, the uncertain economic environment caused some investors to adopt a more conservative investment stance, and market transactions decreased. However, decreased borrowing rates with the introduction of negative interest rates and a proactive lending stance by financial institutions are boosting real estate transactions, which are expected to increase going forward. In projections by a private research institution, the amount of investment is forecast to increase year on year in the second half, totaling around ¥3.9 trillion for the year, down 5% year on year.

In the Tokyo Metropolitan area condominium market, consumer buying motivation is decreasing due to persistently high condominium prices from the increase in construction costs including personnel costs. Newly-built condominium units sold in July 2016 numbered 3,317, down 30.7%, falling for the eighth consecutive month, and the contract rate decreased 20.4 percentage points to 63.3% (both decreases are compared with the same month of the previous fiscal year), falling below the 70% threshold from which market conditions are viewed as favorable for the second consecutive month. In projections by a private research institution, the projected number of condominium units sold in the year has been downwardly revised from 43,000 to around 37,000, the first time the figure has been in the 30,000 range since 2009.

In the Tokyo Metropolitan area build-for-sale detached house market, housing starts for the first half of 2016 rose 5.9% year on year to 29,075 units. There is strong demand for detached housing, which is relatively inexpensive compared to the persistently high price of condominiums, and we expect robust demand to continue going forward and robust demand is expected to continue (according to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism data).

In the office leasing market of Tokyo’s five business wards, demand remains strong overall, fueled by relocation due to corporate business expansion and by consolidation for improved work efficiency, leading the vacancy rate to fall to 3.9% (as of July, 2016), dropping below 4% for the first time in seven years and eleven months. The average asking rent was ¥18,271 per tsubo (1 tsubo = 3.3m<sup>2</sup>), rising 4.6% year on year and increasing for the 31st consecutive month (according to a survey by a private research institution).

In the real estate securitization market, the J-REIT market continues to expand, with the total value of assets under management as of July 31, 2016 (acquisition cost base) increasing around ¥1.1 trillion year on year to around ¥14.8 trillion. Going forward, J-REITs are expected to proactively acquire properties, fueled by the strong fundraising environment (according to a survey by a private research institution).

Amid this operating environment, in the Revitalization Business, the Tosei Group made steady progress in selling assets such as income-generating office buildings and apartments, while in the Development

Business, the Group pushed ahead with sales and development of commercial facilities and detached houses. In addition, we proactively acquired income-generating properties and land for development as future sources of income.

As a result, consolidated revenue for the nine months ended August 31, 2016 totaled ¥39,139 million (up 41.7% year on year), operating profit was ¥8,823 million (up 65.8%), profit before tax was ¥8,203 million (up 72.9%), and profit for the period was ¥5,379 million (up 76.4%).

Performance by business segment is shown below.

Reportable segment classifications have been changed effective from the first quarter of the fiscal year ending November 30, 2016, and in the following quarterly comparisons figures for the same period of the previous fiscal year have been recalculated according to the segment after such change.

### **Revitalization Business**

During the nine months ended August 31, 2016, the segment sold 26 properties it had renovated, including Kinshicho Tosei Building (Sumida-ku, Tokyo), STABLE NAKANO (Nakano-ku, Tokyo), City Forum Kamihongo (Matudo-shi, Chiba), Château Espoir Kokubunji (Kokubunji-shi, Tokyo), Mini-mall Yokohama Aoba (Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa), Takaido Tosei Studio (Suginami-ku, Tokyo) and Grace Heiwadai (Nerima-ku, Tokyo). In addition, the segment sold 48 units in the Restyling Business, including Hilltop Yokohama Negishi (Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa), Hilltop Yokohama Higashi Terao (Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa) and Renai Kamakura Ueki (Kamakura-shi, Kanagawa).

During the nine months ended August 31, 2016, it also acquired a total of 39 income-generating office buildings and apartments and seven land lots for renovation and sales purposes.

As part of the acquisition, our company acquired Kishino Coporation and Kishino Real Estate Corporation, companies hold income properties mainly in Toshima-ku, Tokyo, in the second quarter and acquired Four Big Corporation, company hold income properties mainly in Nakano-ku, Tokyo, in third quarter, through M&A transaction and converted it into consolidated subsidiaries.

As a result, revenue in this segment was ¥19,946 million (up 34.2% year on year) and the segment profit was ¥3,963 million (up 17.7%).

### **Development Business**

During the nine months ended August 31, 2016, the segment sold new commercial facilities T's BRIGHTIA Minami Aoyama (Minato-ku, Tokyo) and T's BRIGHTIA Tsunashima (Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa). In addition, the segment focused on the sale of detached houses, for which there was firm demand. The segment sold 74 detached houses at such properties as THE Palms Court Kashiwa Hatsuishi (Kashiwa-shi, Chiba), THE Palms Court Koshigaya Lake Town (Koshigaya-shi, Saitama), THE Palms Court Mitaka Osawa (Mitaka-shi, Tokyo) and THE Palms Court Hashimoto (Sagamihara-shi, Kanagawa).

During the nine months ended August 31, 2016, it also acquired two land lots for detached housing projects and two land lots for commercial facility projects.

From the three months ended February 29, 2016, the segment embarked on efforts to enhance acquisition and sales networks in the outskirts of Tokyo and the Kanagawa area, facilitated by the Company making Urban Home Corporation, detached house sales and custom home construction company based in Machida-shi, Tokyo a consolidated subsidiary.

As a result, revenue in this segment was ¥11,211 million (up 99.1% year on year) and the segment profit was ¥3,703 million (up 480.5%).

### **Rental Business**

During the nine months ended August 31, 2016, while the segment sold 16 buildings of its inventory assets held for leasing purposes, it newly acquired 39 properties including income-generating office buildings and apartments. In addition, the segment made efforts to lease vacancies out following acquisitions and also focused on leasing activities for its existing non-current assets and inventory assets.

As a result, revenue in this segment was ¥3,825 million (up 27.4% year on year) and the segment profit was ¥1,741 million (up 24.1%).

### **Fund and Consulting Business**

During the nine months ended August 31, 2016, while ¥38,913 million was subtracted from the balance

of assets under management (Note), due mainly to property dispositions by funds, ¥91,117 million was added to the balance of Assets under management ¥421,792 for the end of the previous fiscal year, due mainly to new asset management contracts of large projects the segment obtained. The balance of assets under management as of August 31, 2016, was ¥473,996 million. The acquisition of such large project contracts increased asset management fees and contributed to revenue.

As a result, revenue in this segment was ¥1,711 million (up 24.4% year on year) and the segment profit was ¥742 million (up 10.0%).

Note: The balance of assets under management includes the balance of assets that were subject to consulting contracts, etc.

### **Property Management Business**

During the nine months ended August 31, 2016, the segment worked to win new contracts and maintain existing contracts. Consequently, the total number of properties under management was 579 as of August 31, 2016, an increase of 37 properties from August 31, 2015, with that total comprising 361 office buildings, hotel, schools and other such properties, and 218 condominiums and apartments.

As a result, revenue in this segment was ¥2,174 million (down 2.7% year on year) and segment profit was ¥98 million (down 3.9%).

### **Other**

For the nine months ended August 31, 2016, revenue in this segment was ¥270 million (down 48.0% year on year) and the segment loss was ¥22 million (in comparison with segment profit of ¥155 million in the same period of the previous fiscal year).

## **(2) Analysis of financial position**

As of August 31, 2016, total assets were ¥111,393 million, an increase of 18,197 million compared with November 30, 2015, while total liabilities were ¥70,571 million, an increase of ¥13,604 million.

This was primarily due to an increase in inventories resulting from purchase of properties exceeding sales of properties in the Revitalization Business and Development Business, and an increase in borrowings from financial institutions.

Total equity increased by ¥4,593 million to ¥40,822 million, mainly due to an increase in retained earnings and payment of cash dividends.

## **(3) Analysis of cash flows**

Cash and cash equivalents (hereinafter "cash") as of August 31, 2016, totaled ¥22,097 million, up ¥3,306 million compared with November 30, 2015.

The cash flows for the nine months ended August 31, 2016 and factors contributing to those amounts are as follows:

### **Cash Flows from Operating Activities**

Net cash used in operating activities totaled ¥1 million (net cash used in operating activities totaled ¥10,901 million in the same period of the previous fiscal year). This is mainly due to profit before tax of ¥8,203 million, as well as an increase in inventories of ¥6,562 million, which was a result of property acquisitions in the Revitalization Business and Development Business, and income taxes paid of ¥2,186 million.

### **Cash Flows from Investing Activities**

Net cash used in investing activities totaled ¥6,274 million (net cash used in investing activities totaled ¥172 million in the same period of the previous fiscal year). This is primarily due to purchases of investment properties ¥1,695 million and purchase of investments in subsidiaries resulting in change in scope of consolidation totaling ¥3,286 million.

### **Cash Flows from Financing Activities**

Net cash provided by financing activities totaled ¥9,589 million (down 1.2% year on year). This mainly reflects ¥17,982 million in the repayments of non-current borrowings and ¥771 million in cash dividends paid, despite ¥29,048 million in proceeds from non-current borrowings.

#### **(4) Operational and financial issues to be addressed**

During the nine months ended August 31, 2016, there was no significant change in issues to be addressed by the Tosei Group.

The Company has set the basic policy regarding the persons who control the decision-making on the financial and business policies of the Company. The contents of basic policy (matters set forth in Article 118, item 3 of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Companies Act) are as follows:

##### **a. Contents of basic policy**

The Company believes that the persons who control decisions on the Company's financial and business policies need to be persons who fully understand the details of the Company's financial and business affairs and the source of the Company's corporate value and who will make it possible to continually and persistently ensure and enhance the Company's corporate value and, in turn, the common interests of its shareholders.

The Company believes that ultimately its shareholders as a whole must make the decision on any proposed acquisition that would involve a change of control of the Company. Also, the Company will not reject a large-scale acquisition of the shares in the Company if it will contribute to the corporate value of the Company and, in turn, the common interests of its shareholders.

Nonetheless, there are some forms of large-scale acquisition of shares that benefit neither the corporate value of the target company nor the common interests of its shareholders including those with a purpose that would obviously harm the corporate value of the target company and the common interests of its shareholders, those with the potential to substantially coerce shareholders into selling their shares; those that do not provide sufficient time or information for the target company's board of directors and shareholders to consider the details of the large-scale acquisition, or for the target company's board of directors to make an alternative proposal and those that require the target company to discuss or negotiate with the acquirer in order to procure more favorable terms for shareholders than those presented by the acquirer.

It is particularly necessary and essential for the persons who make decisions on the Company's financial and business policies to (i) maintain the system under which the Company internally covers the six business fields (Note) that allow the "integration of real estate and finance," which leads to maximization of the potential of the Company group, (ii) maintain employees who support that system with knowledge and experience specializing in real estate and finance, (iii) maintain the Company's trust in the real estate industry that has been built up over a long period of time based on the establishment of the ability and information networks supporting various value creation technologies, and (iv) master knowhow that enables comprehensive business. Unless the acquirer of a proposed large-scale acquisition of the shares in the Company understands the source of the corporate value of the Company as well as the details of financial and business affairs of the Company and would ensure and enhance these elements over the medium-to-long term, the corporate value of the Company and, in turn, the common interests of its shareholders would be harmed.

The Company believes that persons who would make a large-scale acquisition of the shares in the Company in a manner that does not contribute to the corporate value of the Company or the common interests of its shareholders would be inappropriate as persons that control decisions on the Company's financial and business policies. The Company believes that it is necessary to ensure the corporate value of the Company and, in turn, the common interests of its shareholders by taking necessary and reasonable countermeasures against a large-scale acquisition by such persons.

##### **b. Overview of special measures to realize the basic policy**

Under the new medium-term management plan called "Advancing Together 2017" (the targeted period of the plan is three years from December 2014 to November 2017), the Company group aims to further strengthen the business infrastructure by expanding and developing of the existing six business (Note) areas and considering its advance to peripheral areas of business, to build optimum corporate governance for expansion of the Company group and increase of the employees which are entailed in expansion of the business, and to establish efficient organization management structure. Further, the Company group will emphasize the cultivation of the most valuable asset of the Company group, i.e. the human resources to increase satisfaction of the employees of the Company group. As the Basic Policy in the new medium-term management plan for the further growth of the Company group, the Company group is determined to establish the original and distinctive "Tosei brand" by providing products

ensuring high customer satisfaction and high-quality services. Based on these policies, the Company group is dedicated to redefine existing ideas with the spirit of challenge and advance as the risk-taking group of companies, to aim “creation of new values and sensation as the truly globally-minded and promising professionals”.

The Company group has previously appointed multiple outside directors (two members), invited all Audit & Supervisory Board Members (five members) from outside the company, and has notified all of the above seven outside directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members as “independent directors and/or Audit & Supervisory Board Members” in accordance with the “Principles of Corporate Governance for Listed Companies” of the Tokyo Stock Exchange. Also, the Company group has reinforced the business execution function by the introduction of the executive officer system, and the establishment of the corporate governance board, and will continue to endeavor to further strengthen corporate governance. Specifically, the Company group will focus on putting into practice actions based on a high-level awareness of compliance through raising awareness from the level of “role model” to that of “ideal” in accordance with the Compliance Principles of the Company, thorough implementation of risk management by correctly understanding and analyzing risks involved in corporate activities, continuous performance of accountability to various stakeholders including investors by promptly publicly disclosing correct corporate information under the spirit of fair disclosure, and other efforts for strengthening corporate governance.

- c. Overview of measures to prevent decisions on the Company’s financial and business policies from being controlled by persons deemed inappropriate according to the basic policy (hereinafter, the “plan”)

The plan is a measure to prevent decisions on the Company’s financial and business policies from being controlled by persons deemed inappropriate under the above basic policy, and its objective is to ensure and enhance the Company’s corporate value and, in turn, the common interests of its shareholders.

The plan stipulates procedures that must be followed in any cases of purchase, etc. of share certificates, etc. of the Company ((i) a purchase or other acquisition that would result in the holding ratio of share certificates, etc. (*kabuken tou hoyuu wariiai*) of a holder (*hoyuusha*) totaling at least 20% of the share certificates, etc. issued by the company; or (ii) a tender offer (*koukai kaittsuke*) that would result in the party conducting the tender offer’s ownership ratio of share certificates, etc. and the ownership ratio of share certificates, etc. of a person having a special relationship totaling at least 20% of the share certificates, etc. issued by the Company; or (iii) any similar action to (i) or (ii) above)

In practical terms, the acquirer must provide the Company a statement of undertaking (acquirer’s statement) and an acquisition document that includes essential information, etc. before making the acquisition, etc.

Upon receiving these documents, the independent committee, while obtaining independent expert advice, will conduct its consideration of the acquisition terms; collection of information on materials such as the management plans and business plans of the acquirer and the Company’s board of directors and comparison thereof; consideration of any alternative plan presented by the Company’s board of directors, and the like; and discussion and negotiation with the acquirer. The Company will disclose information in a timely manner.

When (i) the acquisition is not in compliance with the procedures prescribed in the plan or (ii) it threatens to cause obvious harm to the corporate value of the Company, and, in turn, to the common interests of shareholders, (iii) and it is reasonable to implement the gratis allotment of stock acquisition rights, the independent committee will recommend the implementation of the gratis allotment of stock acquisition rights to the Company’s board of directors. In addition, when a meeting of shareholders is convened to confirm the intent of the Company’s shareholders, the Company’s board of directors will respond to the shareholders’ intent. These stock acquisition rights will be allotted with an exercise condition that does not allow, as a general rule, the acquirer to exercise the rights and an acquisition provision to the effect that the Company may acquire the stock acquisition rights in exchange for shares in the Company from persons other than the acquirer. The Company’s board of directors, in exercising its role under the Companies Act, will pass a resolution relating to the implementation or non-implementation of the gratis allotment of stock acquisition rights, respecting the recommendation of the Independent Committee to the maximum extent. In addition, when a meeting of shareholders is convened to confirm the intent of the Company’s shareholders, the Company’s board of directors will respond to the shareholders’ intent. If the procedures for the plan have commenced, the acquirer must not effect an acquisition until and unless the Company’s board of directors resolves not to trigger the plan. The effective period of the plan expires at the conclusion of the ordinary general meeting of

shareholders for the last fiscal year ending within three years after the conclusion of the 65th Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders. However, if, before the expiration of the effective period, the Company's board of directors resolves to abolish the plan, the plan will be abolished at that time.

d. Decisions by the Company's board of directors regarding specific measures and reasons therefor

Company's board of directors deems that the new medium-term management plan and other measures such as the efforts to enhance the corporate value and the strengthening of corporate governance were established as specific measures to continuously and sustainably enhance the corporate value of the Company and, in turn, the common interests of its shareholders, and that these are truly in accordance with the basic policy, not detrimental to the common interests of the Company's shareholders and not for the purpose of maintaining the positions of the Company's corporate officers.

In addition, the Company's board of directors deems that the plan is not detrimental to the common interests of the Company's shareholders, not for the purpose of maintaining the positions of the Company's corporate officers, and in accordance with the basic policy based on the following reasoning: approval from the general meeting of shareholders must be obtained for its renewal; its effective period is stipulated as a maximum of three years and it can be abolished at any time by the resolution of the Company's board of directors; an independent committee, which is composed of members who are independent from the management of the Company, has been established; in the event that the plan's countermeasures are triggered, the Company must obtain a resolution by the independent committee when making a decision for triggering the countermeasures in the plan, and the plan fully satisfies the three principles set out in the Guidelines Regarding Takeover Defense for the Purposes of Protection and Enhancement of Corporate Value and Shareholders' Common Interests released by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Justice on May 27, 2005.

(Note) Reportable segment classifications have been changed effective from the first quarter of the fiscal year ending November 30, 2016. For details, please refer to "5. Segment information" in "IV. Accounting, 1. Condensed Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements, (5) Notes to Condensed Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements."

**(5) Research and development activities**

No item to report.

**(6) Number of employees**

In the nine months ended August 31, 2016, the number of employees increased by 53 persons compared with November 30, 2015, largely as a result of acquisitions through M&A transactions of Urban Home Corporation and Urban Next Co., Ltd., which operate real estate development business and real estate fund and consulting business.