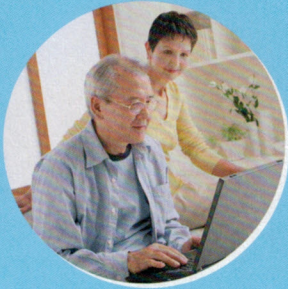


MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

2015

MJ



The Ministry of Justice is closely connected to every member of the community.

In order to live in this community it is necessary to have rules and regulations.

Such rules ensure that family relationships, such as parents and children or brothers and sister are accurately registered; that people can live safely within the community; and that ordered materials can be obtained without fail.

Furthermore, to preserve peace and order in society, it is also essential that the person who harms others or commits a theft is appropriately punished.

The Ministry of Justice not only prescribes such basic rules applicable in society but also creates basic judicial framework under which the rules are adhered to. It also assumes responsibility for a broad range of legal work under which those who have been punished are assisted in their resocialization processes.

The Ministry also oversees the management of a system to help citizens exercise their personal rights, such as the registration of real estate and notarization.

Other important duties of the Ministry of Justice are to ensure that the immigration control of those entering or leaving Japan is dealt with in an appropriate manner, the basic human rights of individuals are respected, and intelligence activities are carried out for the purpose of public security.



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Ministry of Justice Challenge for the Future

—Three Challenges for Establishing the “Safest Country in the World”—

Toward the Safe Future

Promotion of Re-Offending Prevention Measures



In December 2014, the declaration, "No Return to Crime, No Facilitation of a Return to Crime" has been determined by the government.

We have started working on the realization of a bright society by preventing repeated offending as well as supporting those who are on recovery and on rehabilitation with everyone.

Representatives of individual organizations, receiving the prime minister's message, asking for the understanding and cooperation of Re-Offending Prevention Measures (Publicity Poster for the "The Brighter Society Campaign 65th" Central Promotion Committee)

Toward the Interacting Future

Enhancement of Immigration Administration



Examination in a ship by immigration officials

Connection with the world will become more active with the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games coming up in 2020.

The Ministry of Justice is advancing efforts so that Japan can welcome foreign visitors safely and efficiently to Japan.



Automated gate

Toward the Future of Law

System to Protect the People and Society

To realize a society where each and every individual can live without anxiety, the Ministry of Justice is working to develop the careful human rights remedy system, enhance the justice system in which the people can relate to or rely on, and promote law-related education for the next generation who will be using and creating laws in the future.

Also, the Ministry will actively provide assistance for the improvement of legal systems in different countries as a country open to the world.

Children's Rights SOS Letter-Cards (for elementary school students)



The mascot for law-related education "Hourisu-kun"

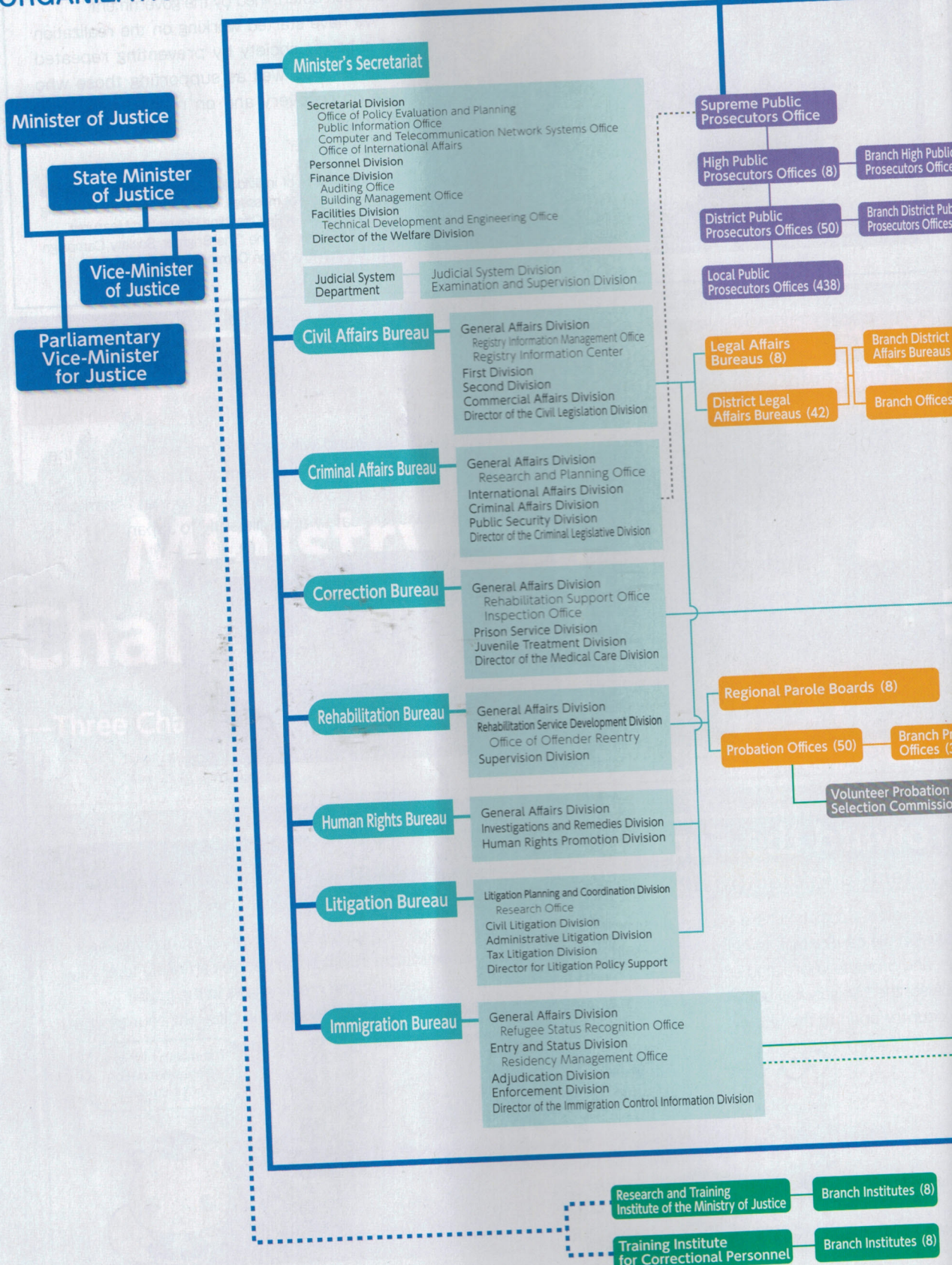
Law-related education class

Structure, Historical Background, Quota and Budget for the Ministry of Justice

ORGANIZATION OF THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

01

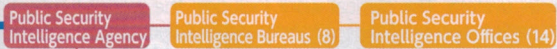
About Ministry of Justice



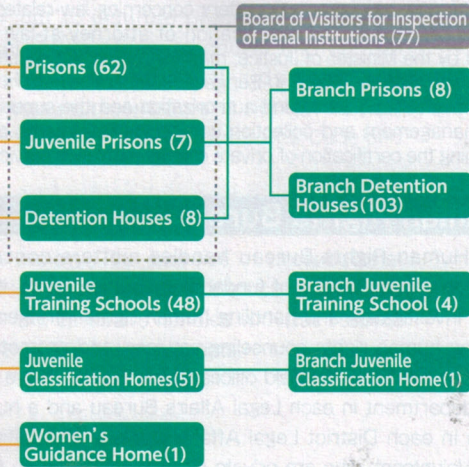
*Figures in parentheses show the number of organizations (as of Apr. 2015)



Public Security Examination Commission



Training Institute of the Public Security Intelligence Agency



Regional Correction Headquarters (8)

Immigration Detention Facilities Visiting Committee (2)

Regional Immigration Bureaus (8)

District Immigration Offices (7)

Branch Offices (6) Branch Offices (55)

Immigration Centers (3)

- National Bar Examination Commission
- Public Prosecutors' Qualifications Examination Committee
- National Offenders Rehabilitation Commission
- Evaluation Commission of the Japan Legal Support Center
- Legislative Council of the Ministry of Justice
- Public Prosecutors and Notaries Public Appointment Examination Committee

Historical Background

1871	Shihosho established
1947	Separated from Shihosho, came under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court
1948	Homucho established (Shihosho abolished)
1949	Renamed Homufu (with 3 director-generals and 11 bureaus)
1952	Renamed the Ministry of Justice (with Minister's Secretariat and 7 bureaus)
2001	Reorganization of the central government (with Minister's Secretariat and 6 bureaus)
2015	Litigation Bureau established (with Minister's Secretariat and 7 bureaus)

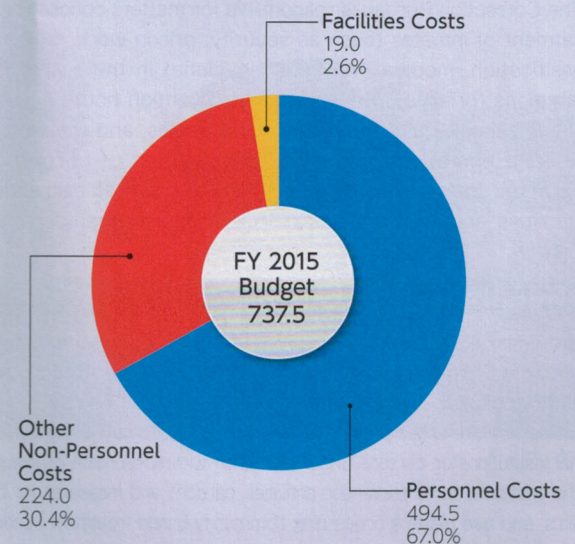
Quota (FY 2015)

Organization	Quota
Ministry of Justice	843
Research and Training Institute of the Ministry of Justice	85
Legal Affairs Bureaus	8,948
Public Prosecutors Offices	11,796
Correctional Institutions	23,572
Probation and Parole Offices	1,770
Regional Immigration Bureaus	3,980
Public Security Examination Commission	4
Public Security Intelligence Agency	1,546
Total	52,544

Note: The numbers in the Ministry of Justice include the number of special officers

Budget (FY 2015)

The MOJ FY 2015 Budget totals 737.5 billion yen, including 494.5 billion (67.0%) in personnel costs. An additional 1.6 billion is allocated to MOJ from the "Special Account for Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake". (Unit: billion yen)



Organization of Ministry of Justice

Minister's Secretariat

01

About Ministry of Justice

Minister's Secretariat

● Secretarial Division

The Secretarial Division is in charge of secretary work for the Minister of Justice, etc., overall coordination of administration of each department, clerical work pertinent to the National Diet, public relations, liaison, etc.

● Personnel Division

The Personnel Division is in charge of the general affairs of National Bar Examination Commission and clerical work accompanying its exams, etc. as well as clerical work pertinent to human resources such as the quota, appointment and dismissal of employees.

● Finance Division

The Finance Division is in charge of the budget, auditing and revenues and expenditures of the Ministry of Justice.

● Facilities Division

The Facilities Division engages in the design, construction work and maintenance of the facilities under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Justice, and also in international cooperation to help foreign governments build correctional institutions.

Civil Affairs Bureau

The Civil Affairs Bureau is responsible for handling matters such as the affairs regarding the system of the registration of companies and real estate, family registration, nationality, deposit, notarization, judicial scriveners, land and house investigators, and the planning and drafting of civil legislation, such as the Civil Code, the Commercial Code, and the Code of Civil Procedure.

Criminal Affairs Bureau

The Criminal Affairs Bureau is responsible for among other things, the planning and drafting of criminal legislation, such as the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure; the affairs regarding prosecution; and the affairs regarding extradition of criminals and fugitives as well as international mutual legal assistance.

Correction Bureau

The Correction Bureau is responsible for matters concerning the treatment of inmates (such as security, prison work, education, classification, medical treatment, hygiene) in the correctional institutions (prisons, juvenile prisons, detention houses, juvenile training schools, juvenile classification homes, and the women's guidance home); the planning and drafting of correctional legislation; the organization and management of correctional institutions; and the international transfer of sentenced persons.

Rehabilitation Bureau

The Rehabilitation Bureau is responsible for administration matters concerning the offenders rehabilitation system in the community which includes the parole of inmates of correctional institutions, probation for juveniles who are under probation, parolees from juvenile training schools / penal institutions or persons under probation with suspension of execution of the sentence, crime prevention activities, pardons and measures for crime victims, and also matters concerning community-based treatment according to the Act on Medical Care and Treatment for Persons Who Have Caused Serious Incidents on the Grounds of Insanity or Diminished Capacity.

● Director of the Welfare Division

The Director of the Welfare Division is in charge of clerical work pertaining to mutual aid associations, the benefits and well-being of employees, as well as efficiency enhancement of the employees, pension, and accident compensation.

● Judicial System Department

The Judicial System Department is in charge of the work of research and studies as well as drafting of laws and regulations pertaining to the judicial system. The clerical work includes: the work of filing, compiling and publishing of data on laws and regulations, precedents and legal affairs; the administration of the Legislative Council of the Ministry of Justice; the administration of the Ministry of Justice Museum-Message Gallery; the collection and management of statistics on the work handled by the Ministry; matters concerning comprehensive legal support; matters concerning law-related matters concerning the qualification of attorney-at-law (certified by the Minister of Justice; matters concerning registered lawyers as "Gaikoku-Ho-Jimu-Bengoshi (Gaiben)"; matters concerning the examination of license and authorization and the supervision of claim management and collection companies (servicers); and matters concerning the certification of private dispute resolution services.

Human Rights Bureau

The Human Rights Bureau handles matters concerning the protection and promotion of fundamental human rights. Its work includes investigating and handling human rights infringement, providing human rights counseling services, and promoting human rights for human rights. As the field offices of the Bureau, there is a human rights department in each Legal Affairs Bureau and a human rights section in each District Legal Affairs Bureau. In addition, Human Rights Volunteers, who are private citizens appointed by the Ministry of Justice, are placed in each municipality of cities, towns and wards (including wards of Tokyo) across the country.

Litigation Bureau

Litigation Bureau handles state redress suits and administrative suits in which the State is the party. Furthermore, they are in charge of clerical work that makes suits from juristic perspectives by request from each administrative machinery concerning cases which may lead to legal disputes. The divisions are also responsible for dealing with matters involving local public entities, independent administrative institutions and other public juristic persons as prescribed by Cabinet orders in cases where such suits are filed related to the interests of the State.

Immigration Bureau

In addition to the immigration examinations of Japanese nationals and foreign nationals, the Immigration Bureau handles the administrative affairs relating to the residency of foreigners for foreign nationals staying in Japan, the deportation of Japanese nationals and the recognition of refugees.

Extraordinary Organs

Public Prosecutors Office

The function of the Public Prosecutors Office is to exercise control over all the work handled by the public prosecutors. The public prosecutors offices consist of the Supreme Public Prosecutors Office (in Tokyo), the High Public Prosecutors Offices (in Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya, Hiroshima, Fukuoka, Sendai, Sapporo and Takamatsu), the District Public Prosecutors Offices (one each in the 46 prefectures except for Hokkaido, where because of the large size of its administrative area, there are four offices) and Local Public Prosecutors Offices (one each in major cities, wards and towns). Each of the high public prosecutors offices and the

district public prosecutors offices has branches to handle parts of their work.

Public prosecutors offices are staffed with public prosecutors (Prosecutor-General, Deputy Prosecutor-General, Superintending Prosecutors, Public Prosecutors and Assistant Prosecutors) and public prosecutors' assistant officers.

Public Prosecutors

In criminal cases, public prosecutors have the power to investigate any criminal offense, decide whether or not to institute prosecution, request proper application of law to courts and control / supervise the execution of judgment, and furthermore, as representatives of public interests, they are given more authority by the Civil Code and other laws.

Prosecutorial power is exercised for the purpose of the maintenance of the law and order of the nation and society. The exercise of prosecutorial power is based on the principle of strict fairness and impartiality, and cases are handled with due respect to the human rights of the suspects.



The cover of a pamphlet explaining the meaning and role of prosecution (For its contents, please refer to the Ministry of Justice website http://www.moj.go.jp/keiji1/keiji_keiji12.html).



The cover of a pamphlet clearly explaining the various systems in the Public Prosecutors Office, supporting victims of crime (For its contents, please refer to the Ministry of Justice website <http://www.moj.go.jp/ENGLISH/CRAB/crab-02.html>).

Facilities

Penal Institutions (Prisons, Juvenile Prisons, Detention Houses)

The penal institutions consist of prisons which confine inmates sentenced to imprisonment with or without work, juvenile prisons which confine sentenced juvenile inmates and detention houses which confine defendants or suspects awaiting trial.

The treatment of sentenced persons aims at their rehabilitation and smooth return to society and for this purpose, they are taken into the most suitable institution after psychological examinations of their personality characteristics and social adjustments. The institutions draw up the treatment plans most suitable for individual sentenced persons and actively carry out various work, vocational training, living guidance, and educational programs, etc.

In addition, some prisons, including Ichihara Prison and Ooi Shipyard Prison Camp (of Matsuyama Prison), adopt "open treatment" measures, and thus the Ministry is actively introducing new treatment techniques.

The treatment of defendants awaiting trial is intended to contribute to smooth trial proceedings by detainment and by preventing the destruction of evidence while paying due respect to their basic human rights.



FUCHU Prison

Training Institute for Correctional Personnel

The Training Institute for Correctional Personnel of the Ministry of Justice provides training programs necessary as a matter of duty for personnel engaged in correctional services.



Training Institute for Correctional Personnel



Training at the Training Institute for Correctional Personnel

History

The Training Institute for Correctional Personnel is a venerable institute whose predecessor is the Prison Officers Training Institute of the old Home Office established in 1890. It has a long history and tradition as a training institution for public officers.

After its establishment, the Institute was renamed a number of times, but in 1969, it was reorganized into the present structure by the amendment of the Ministry of Justice Establishment Act.

Extra-ministerial Bureaus (Public Security Intelligence Agency, Public Security Examination Commission)

Public Security Intelligence Agency

The Public Security Intelligence Agency is an administrative organ whose duties are to integrally conduct functions including intelligence activities and request for dispositions regarding the control of subversives and other relevant organizations based on the Subversive Activities Prevention Act and the Act on the Control of Organizations Which Have Committed Acts of

Indiscriminate Mass Murder.

Furthermore, as a core member of the Japanese intelligence community, the Agency contributes to relevant government policies by providing relevant organs on a timely basis with domestic and foreign intelligence / materials collected through investigation and related to the public security of Japan.

The Operations of the Public Security Intelligence Agency

Control of Subversive Organizations

In Japan, there are many organizations and forces which may pose a security risk to the public. They include: Aum Shinrikyo, which carried out the subway sarin gas attacks, among others; leftist extremists, which have repeatedly conducted illegal activities including terrorist and guerilla attacks; right wing groups; and the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan.

Based on the Subversive Activities Prevention Act, the Agency conducts intelligence activities regarding those organizations which have a potential for subversive terrorist activities. When it is deemed necessary to take control measures as a result of intelligence activities, the Agency files an application with the Public Security Examination Commission (see page 14) in order to take control measures such as restricting their activities or giving them a dissolution order. Also, in accordance with the Act on the Control of Organizations Which Have Committed Acts of Indiscriminate Mass Murder, the Agency files an application with the Commission against organizations that have committed indiscriminate mass murder in the past and are still considered dangerous in order to take "surveillance measures" or other measures for preventing a recurrence. At the same time, the Agency conducts on-site inspections at the facilities of these organizations under the Commission's order for surveillance and carries out necessary investigations.

Aum Shinrikyo Today —20 years after the Tokyo Subway Sarin Gas Attacks—

In order to reveal the status of the activities of Aum Shinrikyo, the Agency conducts surveillance of the cult in an appropriate and rigorous manner. Investigations and on-site inspections of Aum Shinrikyo have revealed that the cult still poses a threat in nature: the cult has increased the number of new followers by recruiting

activities without mentioning its name; the cult also has reinforced teachings designed to increase the followers' absolute faith in Asahara, who is currently on death row.



How an On-Site Inspection is Conducted

Intelligence Contribution

There are many challenges to the security of Japan and people such as North Korea's ballistic missile test-launches, nuclear development and abductions of Japanese nationals; China's extensive and rapid modernization of military strength; threats posed by international terrorism and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. These challenges need to be carefully watched. Especially, Japan has repeatedly faced situations where tensions became heightened with its neighbouring countries over the territorial and maritime interests of Japan, and these situations have become

ers of great concern to the government and relevant organs
pan. It has become one of the most important missions of the
ncy, which is tasked to secure public security, to collect and
alyze relevant intelligence with regard to these challenges, thus
tributing to the government's policies by providing relevant
ns with the intelligence.

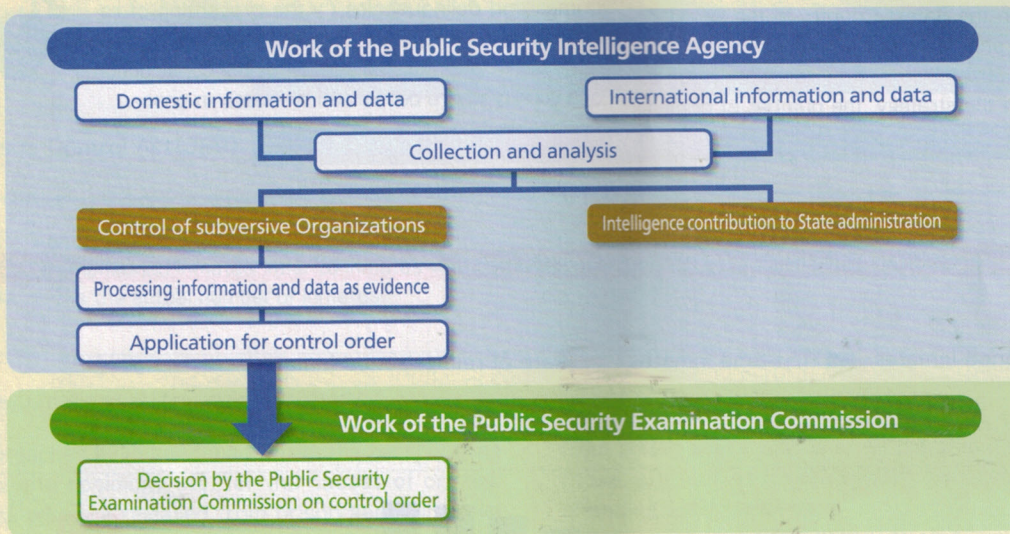
● National Security Council and Public Security Intelligence Agency

In December 2013, the National Security Council was established as the control tower for diplomacy and national security of Japan. The Public Security Intelligence Agency provides the National Security Council on a timely basis with intelligence/materials for deliberation at the council.

Public Security Examination Commission

The Public Security Examination Commission is an extra-territorial organ of the Ministry with the aim of maintaining public security. Upon receiving an application from the Director-General of the Public Security Intelligence Agency for regulatory actions against subversive organizations stipulated in the Subversive Activities Prevention Act or the Act on the Control of Organizations Which Have Committed Acts of Indiscriminate Mass Murder, the Commission examines the application from an objective and neutral viewpoint and makes a decision on whether any control measure is necessary or what control measure should be taken.

The Commission is composed of a chairperson and six members. They are selected from among persons of good character who are capable of making a fair judgment on the control of organizations and those who have ample knowledge and experience of both law and society. They are appointed by the Prime Minister and must be approved by both houses of the Diet. With regard to application of the aforesaid laws, the members perform their duties quite independently, free from any direction or supervision of the Prime Minister or the Minister of Justice.



Subversive Activities Prevention Act

The Subversive Activities Prevention Act provides for necessary restrictive measures against organizations that have committed violent subversive activities, such as insurrection, disturbance, or homicide, with the aim of creating civil commotion or achieving their own political purposes, where such activities posed a serious threat to the peaceful lives of citizens. The Act also provides a means to complement the usually applicable punitive provisions regarding such activities to help ensure public safety in Japan.

violent subversive activities is determined to pose a threat, and if apparent risk for conducting further activities is detected, the organization shall have its activities under restriction or be disbanded. It also provides for additional or stricter punishments for organizations that have committed violent subversive activities; the Act stipulates that proper punishments be inflicted on violent subversive activities that might not be covered by the provisions of the Criminal Code or other laws, or that could only be dealt with by a lenient punishment. (Enforced in 1952)

The Act provides that, if an organization that has committed

Act on the Control of Organizations Which Have Committed Acts of Indiscriminate Mass Murder

The Act on the Control of Organizations Which Have Committed Acts of Indiscriminate Mass Murder is intended to contribute to securing the public security of Japan by prescribing necessary control measures in order to reveal the status of the activities of organizations which have committed an act of indiscriminate mass murder in the past and which are still found to possess a menacing nature, or to prevent the recurrence of an act of indiscriminate mass murder.

The Act provides for measures, aiming to prevent those organizations from committing indiscriminate mass murder again, such as the submission of mandatory reporting, surveillance action that legally authorizes the Agency to conduct on-site inspections, prohibition of acquisition and use of facilities, and/or prohibition to receive donation of money and goods. The Act also stipulates to impose appropriate punishment against prohibited conducts or rejection of on-site inspection. (Enforced in 1999)

Enhancement of Guidance and Support According to Each Offender's Character

There are various factors for committing crimes or turning to delinquency, however, to prevent re-offending, it is necessary to take effective approach to each problem as well as to give guidance and support to overcome their problems.

Therefore, prisons, juvenile training schools and probation offices are seeking to enhance effective and seamless treatment programs on empirical studies and bases according to each offender's characteristics.

02

Toward Japan as "the Safest Country in the World"

● Guidance Provided at Prisons and Probation Offices

At Prisons, for inmates who have difficulty in rehabilitation or smooth return to society because of having certain reasons such as drug dependency, the following programs are conducted:

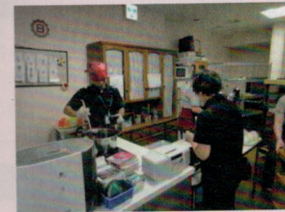


Workgroup at a Prison

- ◆ Guidance to Overcome Drug Dependency
- ◆ Guidance to Stay Away from Organized Crime Groups
- ◆ Guidance for Re-Offending Prevention from Sexual Offenses
- ◆ Education Adopting the Perspectives of Victims
- ◆ Guidance for Traffic Safety
- ◆ Guidance for Job Assistance

At probation offices, in addition to specialized treatment programs as treatment programs for sexual offenders or drug criminals, etc. efforts for social contribution activities have been implemented.

Examples of social contribution activities



Preparation assistance for serving lunch at a welfare facility



Cleanup activity at a dr

Creating a "Place to Belong" and "Opportunity" in the Community

Ensuring Occupation to Lead an Independent Life

When re-offending rates of those who have occupation and those who do not have occupation are compared, the re-offending rate of those who are out of work is four times as high compared to the rate of those who are in work. If the unemployed can go into work, they can not only gain steady incomes but also be expected to establish interpersonal relationships through work which will then lead to great opportunities to overcome as independent members of the society.

However, difficult situations remain for those who have committed crimes or turned to delinquency to obtain their qualifications and previous criminal records.

The Ministry of Justice is engaging in job placement cooperation with not only prisons and probation offices but also with various organizations in the community as well as citizens such as cooperative employers, etc.



Division of Care Welfare

● Vocational Training that Meets the Needs of the Society

At prisons or juvenile training schools, vocational training that will lead to employment in various businesses with high social needs such as construction industries and care welfare industries is being conducted.

Also, in addition to the acquisition of technique and skills, the facilities give guidance to inmates to acquire manners and abilities needed for work such as manners as members of a company and communication abilities in the workplace.

● Efforts in the Community

Companies that employ those released from prison by understanding their conditions are called "cooperative employers" (see page 38).

The Ministry of Justice is enhancing measures for economic assistance toward "cooperative employers" as well as promoting the foundations etc. of support systems where companies can continuously and safely employ released inmates.



Cooperat



The Ministry of Justice is seeking companies that are willing to become "cooperative employers"

Employment Information for Inmates

To match the job offer of companies which wish to employ released inmates and to increase the seeking of those inmates, new efforts have been advanced in that companies can provide job offers at certain correctional institutions through job-placement offices.

Ensuring a Place to Belong in the Community

For inmates who can ask their relatives for help, adjustments have been undertaken so that they can be supported by their relatives after release.

Meanwhile, the repetition of criminal behavior leads to estrangement. They become isolated since there is no one to support them, therefore, for those who do not have places to go back, efforts are being made to provide them with places to stay for a time such as relief and rehabilitation facilities (see page 37).

Also, for inmates who have difficulty in leading independent lives such as the elderly or disabled, improvements have been made on the systems in cooperation with prisons /probation offices and local public authorities so that they can receive appropriate welfare services even after their release.



A room of a relief and rehabilitation facility



Education at a relief and rehabilitation facility

● Functional Enhancement of Relief and Rehabilitation Facilities and Securement of Various Places to Stay

To enhance treatment for inmates who have difficulty in leading independent lives such as the elderly or disabled or those who are drug dependent, officials with professional qualifications in welfare and psychology fields are placed. Acceptance mechanisms at relief and rehabilitation facilities are being enhanced, and from FY 2011, efforts are being made to secure various places to accept them taking advantage of welfare hotels (self-support homes) which are managed by incorporated non-profit organizations etc.

Declaration “No Return to Crime, No Facilitation of a Return to Crime” (Toward a Bright Society by Everyone Supporting Rehabilitation)

To realize “Japan the Safest Country in the World,” where crimes are not repeated, above all where no new victim is created as well as where the citizens can live safely in peace, it is indispensable to create social environment where everyone can accept those who committed crimes or turned to delinquency once again in natural manners without rejecting and isolating them as responsible members of the society (RE-ENTRY).

For the realization of such society, the declaration “No Return to Crime, No Facilitation of a Return to Crime” was approved at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime held in December 2014.

In the declaration, the following targets are articulated to secure “occupation” and a “place to belong,” which are the keys to prevent re-offending, by 2020:

- 1** triple the number of companies which are willing to employ those who have committed crimes or turned to delinquency by understanding their conditions
- 2** reduce the number of those who return to society from prisons without no place to go back by more than 30 percent.

The declaration explicitly asks for the efforts of the country and support from the citizens by setting the above two numerical goals.

The prevention of re-offending is not an easy aim, however, this is an issue which we should never give up.

The Ministry of Justice will face this issue squarely and will continue to tackle and advance the problem by gaining understanding and cooperation of the citizens as much as possible for the realization of “Japan the Safest Country in the World.”

For further information on the prevention of re-offending

再犯防止対策

検索

Click

On the homepage for measures for the prevention of re-offending, various kinds of information on re-offending prevention such as the “Comprehensive Measures for the Prevention of Re-Offending” or the “Declaration: ‘No Return to Crime, No Facilitation of a Return to Crime’” are broadly introduced.

The contents will be updated as needed. We look forward to your visit.

Efforts to Secure Safety and Security

The Strategy to Make "Japan the Safest Country in the World"

In the past, Japan boasted its well-maintained public peace, but in 2002, the number of general penal code offenses that were identified by the authorities increased up to about 2,850,000 cases, the worst number in postwar history. Meanwhile, the clearance rate dropped drastically and remained at a very low level, which made the deterioration of public safety an issue of grave concern to the nation.

Under such circumstances, the Government established the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime in 2003, which formulated in 2003 and 2008 "The Action Plan for the Realization of a Society Resistant to Crime"; the Government has actively been promoting comprehensive measures for making the whole society resistant to crimes by taking countermeasures against crimes and by improving the social environment in which criminal activities are difficult to occur.

As a result of such measures, some improvements were

made in that the number of general penal code offenses that were identified by the authorities decreased by more than 50% compared to the worst level after World War II. The public opinion poll conducted in July 2012 by the Cabinet Office revealed that the concerns about public safety were reduced. In addition, in view of new threats such as cybercrimes, international terrorism, as well as the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, it is necessary to further reduce the concerns at the same time, to strain to foster the sense of trust among people about public safety. For this reason, in December 2012, "The Strategy to Make Japan the Safest Country in the World" was compiled at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime, which was approved in a Cabinet meeting.

Based on this strategy, the Ministry of Justice is taking various efforts for the prevention of re-offending (see pages 13 to 14) and various efforts such as those described below.

02

Toward Japan as "the Safest Country in the World"

Number of Reported Cases and Clearance Rates for General Penal Code Offenses (1996-2013)



The Bill for Partial Amendment to the Penal Code and Other Related Laws

Given the current situation of cybercrimes, other crimes associated with the advancement of information processing, and crimes obstructing compulsory execution, The Bill for Partial Amendments to the Penal Code and Other Related Laws was submitted to the ordinary Diet session in 2011; its purpose was to

ensure appropriate responses to these crimes and the advancement of information processing. The new penal provisions of the Code were enforced on July 1, 2012, and those for procedures were enforced on July 1, 2013.

Cooperation Between the Investigative Authorities of Foreign Countries and Japan

In order to deal effectively with the frequently occurring atrocious crimes committed by foreign nationals and the increase in the number of transnational crimes, it is necessary to gather evidence from abroad more effectively and to enhance cooperation between the investigative authorities of foreign countries and Japan.

As part of such enhancement of cooperation, the Government concluded the Treaty between Japan and the United States of America on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (entered into force on July 21, 2006), the Treaty between Japan and the Republic of Korea on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (entered into force on July 21, 2006), and the Treaty between Japan and the Republic of Korea on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (entered into force on July 21, 2006).

Criminal Matters (entered into force on January 26, 2007), the Treaty between Japan and the People's Republic of China on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (entered into force on November 23, 2008), the Agreement between Japan and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (entered into force on September 24, 2009), the Agreement between Japan and the European Union on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (entered into force on January 2, 2011) and the Treaty

between Japan and the Russian Federation on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (entered into force on February 11, 2011). These treaties and agreements have made it possible to send and receive requests for collection of evidence directly between the Ministry of Justice or other competent authorities of Japan and the judicial authorities of respective countries or region, not through diplomatic channels, enabling expedition of procedures. The Ministry of Justice is planning to strengthen cooperation with other countries as well in the future.

Measures at the Border

In order to protect people's lives and safety, it is highly important to prevent those who intend to enter Japan for illicit purposes, such as terrorists and criminals who disguise themselves as tourists, from entering the country at the border. To ensure that such illegal entrants are identified, the Immigration Bureau conducts strict and effective immigration examinations through the methods described below.

● Immigration Examinations Using Personal Identification Information (Fingerprints and Facial Photographs)

Based on such information, the bureau is striving to prevent the entry of terrorists or those who intend to illegally enter the country with forged or altered passports hiding their records of deportation.

● Utilization of Information on Lost or Stolen Passports Provided by the International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO)

In order to prevent terrorists etc. who impersonate others from entering the country using lost or stolen passports, immigration examinations are carried out utilizing ICPO's database on lost or stolen passports.

● Utilization of APIS (Advance Passenger Information System)

The bureau is striving to identify terrorists etc. by obtaining passenger information in advance regarding aircrafts and vessels entering Japan and closely checking them against the terrorist blacklist.



Immigration examinations using personal identification information

Measures Against Illegal or Fraudulent Foreign Residents

Along with measures at the border, it is also important to reduce the number of foreigners who are now residing illegally in Japan for the restoration of security. The Immigration Bureau is striving to reduce the number of illegal foreign residents by reinforcing the detection of illegal residents, performing safe and reliable forced repatriation, and implementing public relations activities for prevention of illegal employment.

In addition, the existence of fraudulent foreign residents, who work illegally disguising themselves as legal residents, has recently become a problem; they falsify their identities as well as the purpose of their activities and obtain residence permission by using falsified or altered documents. Thus, the bureau will promote the analysis of information on foreign residents whose information can be obtained from the new residence management system introduced in July 2012. Through the analysis the bureau will endeavor to build a society where there is no illegal foreign resident--made possible by assembling pictures about foreign

residents and by taking active measures against fraudulent foreign residents by accurately performing procedures to revoke their status of residence.

Changes in the Number of Foreign Overstayers (Jan. 2004-Jan. 2014)



Penal Institutions

Even though the overall number of inmates falls below the capacity, female penal institutions are still overcrowded. Also, many inmates who require great time and effort for treatment compared to general inmates, such as elderly inmates, are imprisoned. As a result, the workload of the personnel is increasing.

Under such circumstances, efforts are being made to renovate old facilities, and at the same time, the security systems are being

improved and reinforced, so that escapes and other incidents can never occur. In addition, efforts are being made to further improve the capabilities of the personnel for the execution of duties so that they are able to respond to different types of inmates. In order to create a new option for transfer of sentenced foreign persons to the personnel, the processes have been advanced toward the conclusion of bilateral treaties on the transfer of sentenced persons with Brazil, Iran, and other countries.

Offenders Rehabilitation

Considering that there are many probationers/parolees who have difficulty in returning to society due to their old age and unemployment, it is very important to make efforts to help them with their rehabilitation and to prevent them from repeating offenses. For this reason, a framework to offer guidance and

support in the society is being reinforced in regional organizations and groups. The necessary assistance on securing advisers and life including housing and occupation.

Public Security Intelligence Agency

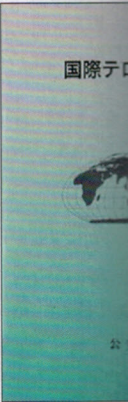
In view of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, creating a terrorism-resistant society is required. In the light of the prevention of terrorism, among others, the Public Security Intelligence Agency further intensifies cooperation with domestic and foreign agencies concerned, and at the same time, endeavors to collect and analyze intelligence to find out the presence of any individuals, bodies, or organizations suspected of involvement in terrorism as well as to reveal their moves.

The Public Security Intelligence Agency also makes every endeavor to collect and analyze relevant intelligence on the issues of abducted Japanese nationals and nuclear/missile developments conducted by North Korea, as well as of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and other activities detrimental to Japan.

As to Aum Shinrikyo, the group has split into two groups because of differences in how they perceive the intention of Shoko Asahara, also known as Chizuo Matsumoto, and in action policies to realize the goal of each group; the mainstream group goes by the name of "Aleph" and the group by Fuminori Joju goes by the name of "Hikarinowa" both of which have been active. These days, the groups have expanded activities by vigorously attracting a large number of new followers. The on-site inspections on the mainstream group have revealed that photos of public security intelligence officers are skewered with knife-like objects and placed near the altar. Even after 20 years since the subway sarin gas attack, the cult still retains its dangerous and antisocial nature, expanding its influence. The Public Security Intelligence Agency is fairly and strictly implementing surveillance and shedding light on their activities in an effort to secure public security and to ease the feelings of fears and anxiety of concerned local residents.



"Review and Prospects of Internal and External Situations" (2015 Edition)



"Summit on International Terrorism" (2015 Edition)

The Public Security Intelligence Agency publishes "Review and Prospects of Internal and External Situations" on domestic and international situations, and the "Summit on International Terrorism" which compiles the movement of international terrorism each year. You can see both documents (for the "Summit on International Terrorism," the document on the website is an edited version) on the Public Security Intelligence Agency website (<http://www.psia.go.jp/>).

Support for Crime Victims

The Basic Act on Crime Victims and the Basic Plan for Crime Victims

●The Basic Act on Crime Victims

The Basic Act on Crime Victims was enforced in April 2005. The Act intends to comprehensively and systematically promote policies for crime victims and their family members (victims of crime and victims of acts similar to crime that adversely affect the body and mind of victims as well as their families or the bereaved) in order to protect their rights and interests.

●The Basic Plan for Crime Victims

Because the target period of the "Basic Plan for Crime Victims" was approved in the Cabinet meeting in December 2005, the "Second Basic Plan for Crime Victims" (hereinafter referred to as the "Second Basic Plan") was approved in the Cabinet meeting in March 2011. The Ministry of Justice is promoting support measures in consideration of the Second Basic Plan.

Concrete Support Measures

● Procedure for Payment Based on the Recovery of the Property of Crime Victims

Under the "Act on Recovery Payment to be Paid from Assets Generated from Crime," it is now possible, under certain conditions, to confiscate such property taken by offenders from crime victims through property offenses and to use the confiscated property for the recovery of damages suffered by the crime victims of relevant cases.

● Victim Participation System

The victims etc. of crimes such as murder or injury may, when they so wish and with the court's permission attend the trial dates and engage in activities such as questioning of the defendant under certain requirements.

● Travel Expenses Payment System for Victim Participants

To reduce the economic burden of victim participants under the victim participation system, a system has been established whereby the government pays travel expenses, daily allowances, and accommodation charges to victim participants who appear on the trial dates, etc.

● State-Appointed Attorney for Victim Participants

A victim participant can request the court to appoint a participating victim's attorney on assistance, under certain requirements; the fees are covered by the state.

● Restitution Order

A criminal court, making use of the outcome of the criminal proceedings, is able to briefly and quickly examine and decide on a claim for damages that the victims etc. of crimes such as murder or injury may file against the defendant.

● Observation of Hearing by Victims, etc.

A victim of a serious case such as homicide etc. can observe the proceedings on the date of the hearing of a case of a Juvenile.

● Hearing of Victims' Opinions in Parole Examinations and Communication of Victims' Sentiments to Probationers

"Hearing of Victims' Opinions in Parole Examinations" is a system to hear criminal victims' opinions during parole examinations by Regional Parole Boards.

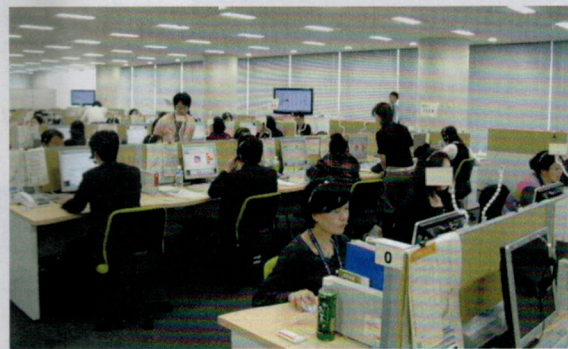
"Communication of Victims' Sentiments to Probationers" is a system to hear the sentiments of the victims and to communicate such feelings to offenders on probation.

● Victim Notification System

The public prosecutors office notifies crime victims of information related to their cases, including the determinations on whether or not the offenders should be prosecuted, the outcomes of the trials, and the dates of offenders' release. In collaboration with related organizations, the office also notifies victims of information on offenders upon victims' request, such as the treatment circumstances of the offenders after the final decision in criminal trials and of the offenders under protective measures.

The Japan Legal Support Center (Houterasu)

The Japan Legal Support Center (Houterasu) nominates candidates as court-appointed attorneys for the victims, does the administrative work of notifying the court, provides travel expenses etc. for victim participants, offers various types of information to support crime victims and their families, and introduces attorneys-at-law who have experience and understanding of victim assistance.



A call center

Establishing a New Criminal Justice System that Goes with the T

With regard to the criminal justice system, a variety of reforms, including the introduction of the Saiban-in (lay judge) system, have been advanced as part of the reform of the judicial system. On the other hand, discussions on the reform have highlighted some problems, such as the ways of procedures for investigation and trial adaptable to the new era, still remaining as the agenda to be examined in the future.

In these situations, some questions have been raised on the criminal justice system that investigations and trials may be too dependent on interrogations and confession statements. In order for the system to fully achieve the goal of ensuring the safe and secure livelihood of the people, it is necessary to examine diverse issues and to build a new criminal justice system, based on such suggestions.

In May 2011, for the purpose of establishing a new criminal justice system that goes with the times, the Minister of Justice called on the Legislative Council of the Ministry of Justice to deliberate how to develop the substantive criminal law and procedural law relating to criminal cases, including the review of the modality for investigation and trial that are too dependent on interrogations and confession statements, and the introduction of a system to keep a record of interrogations of suspects by means of audio and video recording.

The Council delivered two principles –the mode of diversification of evidence-gathering as well as the mode of trial procedure– and the report was submitted in September 2014. The report raised nine items for the new criminal justice system: i) introducing the recording system of interrogations, ii) introducing the agreement system for cooperation in investigations, iii) testimonial immunity system, iii) rationalizing and strengthening the interception of electronic communication, iv) introducing the provision regarding the judgment of confinement, v) legal assistance by defense counsels, vi) broadening the disclosure system, vii) enhancing the protective measures protecting victims and witnesses, viii) introducing measures to secure the authenticity of evidence presented, ix) introducing measures to simplify and accelerate the process for defendants admit their guilt. The council recommendations will be incorporated into the present criminal justice system.

The Ministry of Justice will develop a set of procedures for the development of legal systems based on this report.

03

Provision of the Judicial System

Enrichment and Development of Law-Related Education

Law-Related Education

Law-related education aims to enable citizens who are not legal professionals to understand laws, the judicial system, and the

values that underlie them.

The Importance of Law-Related Education

Following the reforms in various fields and deregulation in Japan, it has become more crucial to prevent disputes, and to solve them in a fair way based on law, once they occur.

Furthermore, as is symbolized by the saiban-in system (see page 24), it is essential for every citizen to take an active role in the judicial system so that it is supported nationally. This has made law-related education, which aims to give citizens a deeper understanding of laws and the judicial system, more important.

The Courses of Study, the national curriculum standard,

provides that students study about the basic concepts and the significance of public involvement in judicial proceedings and the importance of contract.

Considering the importance of law-related education, the Ministry of Justice is working on its improvement. The Ministry will keep on with its efforts to improve law-related education, with the cooperation of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and relevant organizations.

The Law-Related Education Promotion Council

The Law-Related Education Promotion Council established by the Ministry of Justice aims to enhance the opportunities to learn about laws and the judicial system and to promote law-related education in school, through its activities such as developing teaching materials for law-related education.

The Ministry of Justice will continue its efforts to involve citizens, including those who take part in education.

How law-related education class is conducted by staff members of the Ministry of Justice





●The mascot for law-related education “Hourisu-kun”

The mascot for law-related education was chosen through a popularity vote. “Hourisu-kun” will play an active role to make law-related education seem more familiar to the general public. Why don't you join and enjoy law-related education class with “Hourisu-kun” ?

Saiban-in System

The saiban-in system that commenced on May 21, 2009 is a system in which the saiban-in who have been selected from the general public participate in the criminal trials for serious cases.

The saiban-in, with professional judges, determine whether the defendant is guilty or not and the sentence where guilty.

With this system, the justice system will be more familiar to the people.

The Ministry of Justice has been implementing public relations activities on the system so that the people will be able to deepen their understanding.

Appointment Procedure

Around November

Persons who have been selected by lot as next year's candidates for saiban-in will be notified of their selection.

※At this stage the candidates do not need to appear in the court.

About six weeks before the trial

The candidates who have been further selected by lot for each trial will be notified of the date for appearance by the service of the writ of summons.

The day of the appointment procedure

Six saiban-in will be appointed through the appointment procedure at the court.

Duty of saiban-in

Trial

Saiban-in hear the witness testimony and examine the evidence.

Deliberations

Saiban-in and professional judges deliberate and determine together whether the defendant is guilty or not and the sentence where guilty.

Judgment

The presiding judge renders the judgment.



A courtroom for saiban-in trials



A room for deliberations

●For more information about the system, please refer to our website:

http://www.moj.go.jp/keiji1/saibanin_index.html

