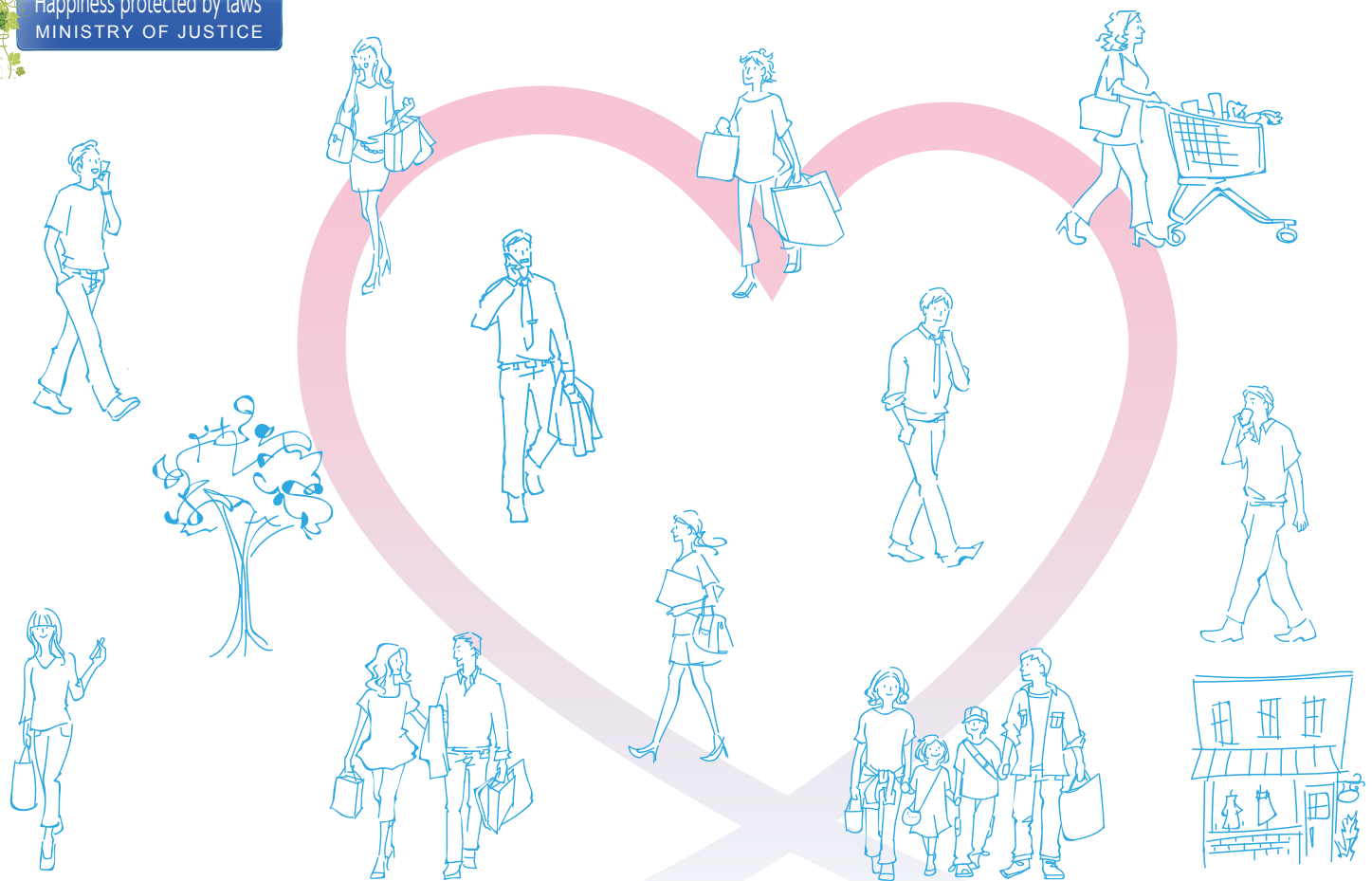




# MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

JAPAN  
2019

MOJ



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# 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 sisters 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 persons who harm others or commit a crime are 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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# Kyoto Congress will be held from April 20 to 27, 2020.



Kyoto International Conference Center (the venue of the Kyoto Congress)  
photos provided by the courtesy of Kyoto International Conference Center

## The Ministry of Justice is undertaking the preparation of the Kyoto Congress.

### ■ UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held once in every five years since 1955, is one of the largest UN conference in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.

Representatives of the Member States including Justice Ministers, Attorney-Generals, international organizations and NGOs participate in the Crime Congress.

The 14<sup>th</sup> UN Crime Congress will be held in Kyoto in 2020, and it will be the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the last time it was held in Japan.

### ■ Theme

The Overall Theme, the 14<sup>th</sup> UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Kyoto Congress ), is “ Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda (\*).”

Participants from around the world will discuss strategies to reduce reoffending, fostering a culture of lawfulness, international cooperation to prevent and address crimes such as terrorism, organized crime and cybercrime.

(\*) The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs), was adopted at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on September 25, 2015.





KYOTO CONGRESS

2020

### The logo of Kyoto Congress

The Kyoto Congress logo consists of SDGs color-wheel, symbol of the UN Crime Congress and Cherry blossoms that represent Japan and the time of the year of Kyoto Congress will be held.



The 13th UN Congress in Doha

### Justice Affairs Diplomacy

By hosting the Kyoto Congress, the Ministry of Justice will promote the rule of law through Japanese society and “the world’s most safe and secure society”. We will show our leadership and advance the “Justice Affairs Diplomacy” towards strengthening the rule of law in the international community.

### Youth Forum

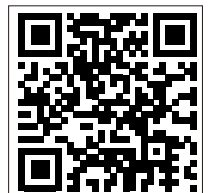
The young people from around the world will discuss their role in crime prevention and rehabilitation in relation to the theme of the Kyoto Congress.

Through the discussion of the Youth Forum, it aims to develop partnership among the young people that continues towards the future.



Please visit the website and see the details about Kyoto Congress.

<http://www.moj.go.jp/KYOTOCONGRESS2020>





# 3 Challenges

## Ministry of Justice Challenges for the Future

The Ministry of Justice is dedicated to ongoing efforts to maintain the security of society by working to prevent repeat offenses, promoting immigration regulations that encourage international exchange and strengthening Japan's legal institutions and educating the public about them, all with the aim of establishing Japan as "the Safest Country in the World."

### 01 Toward a Safer Future

#### Promotion of Re-offending Prevention Measures

Public officials and citizens of the private sector are working together to prevent repeat offenses (re-offending) so that everyone can live in safety and security in a society that is free of repeat offenses and where no new victims are created.

Justice Minister Yamashita explains the White Paper on the Promotion of Prevention of re-offending



### 02 Toward the Future of Interaction

#### Enhancement of Immigration Administration

Connection and interaction 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.

Immigration Examinations at the port of Entry



Facial recognition automated gates



### 03 Toward the Future of Law

#### Systems 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 a comprehensive and carefully implemented human rights relief system, enhance the justice system in ways that the people can relate to and 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.



# for Establishing the “Safest Country in the World”

## WHAT'S NEW!

### The age of adulthood will be lowered to 18.

**Q** Why will the age of adulthood be lowered to 18 ?

**A** The age of adulthood in Japan has been 20 since 1878. The voting age was lately specified as 18 or higher in the Public Offices Election Act, which has promoted the policy that those who are 18 and 19 years of age should be considered an adult with regard to judgments about significant political issues. Accordingly, it has been increasingly discussed that treating those who are 18 years of age or older as an adult may be appropriate in the Civil Code, the basic law on the people's public life, too. Eighteen years old is common as the age of adulthood even in the worldwide view. To lower the age of adulthood to 18 is to respect the right to self-determination by young people aged 18 and 19. It is also thought that lowering the age of adulthood will encourage those to actively participate in society.

**Q** When will the age of adulthood be lowered to 18 ?

**A** The age of adulthood will be lowered to 18 on April 1, 2022. Those who are 18 years of age or more but less than 20 as of April 1, 2022 (those who were born between April 2, 2002 and April 1, 2004) will come of age on that day. Those who were born on and after April 2, 2004 will come of age on their eighteenth birthday.

**Q** What can they do at the age of 18 ?

**A** Once coming of age, they can sign a valid contract by themselves and do not have to be subject to the parental authority of their parents. By lowering the age of adulthood, those who are 18 and 19 years of age will be able to conclude various contracts without parental consent. For instance, they can buy a mobile phone or rent an apartment to live alone. Moreover, since they are not subject to the parental authority any longer, they are able to decide where to live (the residence), as well as their future path of further education or career. However, it remains important to get an understanding of their parents and schoolteachers. Meanwhile, some age limits on smoking and drinking alcohol will remain the age of 20.



Children's Rights SOS Mini-Letters  
(for elementary school students)



Law-related education class

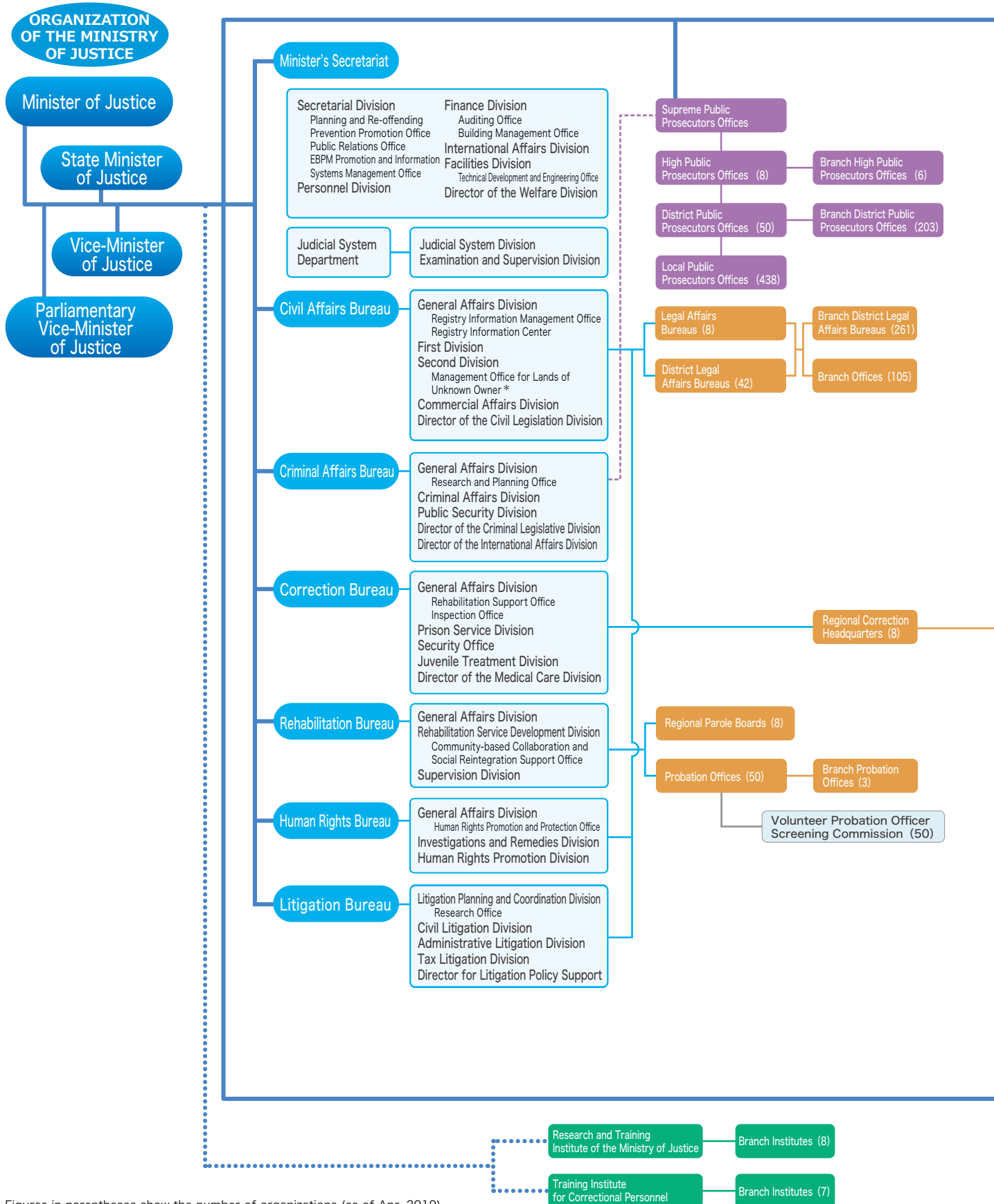


Law-Related Education  
mascot,  
"Hourisu-kun"

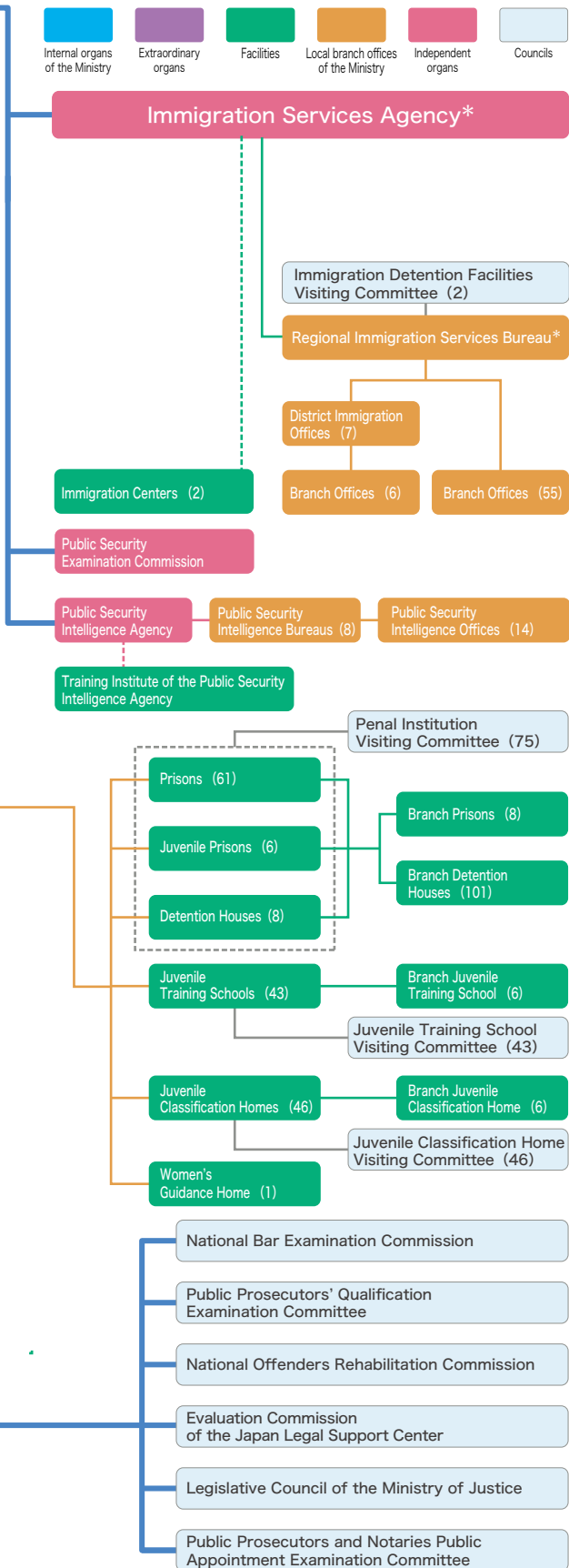


# About the Ministry of Justice

Structure, Historical Background, Number of Personnel of budget base, and Budget



Figures in parentheses show the number of organizations (as of Apr. 2019)  
 \*Founded in Apr. 2019 (Organization name provisional as of Jan. 2019)



### 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)
- 2019 ● New Establishment of Immigration Services Agency (Minister's Secretariat, 6 Bureaus)

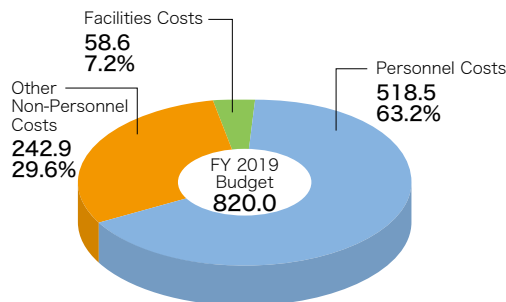
### Number of Personnel of budget base (FY 2019)

Organization Name	Personnel
Ministry of Justice	778
Research and Training Institute of the Ministry of Justice	84
Legal Affairs Bureaus	8,894
Public Prosecutors Offices	11,860
Correctional Institutions	23,613
Probation Offices and Regional Parole Boards	1,843
Immigration Services Agency	5,432
Public Security Examination Commission	4
Public Security Intelligence Agency	1,650
<b>Total</b>	<b>54,158</b>

Note: Special officers are included in the Ministry of Justice.

### Budget (FY 2019)

The MOJ FY 2019 Budget comprises a general budget of 820.0 billion yen and 3.2 billion yen for the "Special Account for Reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake". Personnel costs comprise 63.2% of the general budget.



## Internal Departments of the Ministry of Justice

### Minister's Secretariat

#### ▶ Secretarial Division

The Secretarial Division is in charge of secretarial and administrative work for the Minister of Justice, overall coordination of administration of each department, clerical work pertinent to the National Diet, public relations, and more.

#### ▶ Personnel Division

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

#### ▶ Finance Division

The Finance Division is in charge of budget creation, execution, payment, and auditing accounts, as well as the revenues and expenditures of the Ministry of Justice.

#### ▶ International Affairs Division

The International Affairs Division is in charge of developing basic policy and overall coordination concerning international affairs of the Ministry of Justice, hosting international conferences and arranging courtesy calls for officials from abroad, among other things.

#### ▶ Facilities Division

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

#### ▶ Director of the Welfare Division

The Director of the Welfare Division is in charge of clerical work pertinent to mutual aid associations, benefits, and welfare, as well as enhancing the efficiency of pension and accident compensation for employees.

#### ▶ Judicial System Department

The Judicial System Department is in charge of conducting research and studies as well as drafting of laws and regulations on the judicial system; clerical work related to collecting, filing, compiling and publishing of data on laws and regulations, court precedents and legal affairs; the administration of the Legislative Council of the Ministry of Justice; the administration of the Ministry of Justice Library and the Ministry of Justice Museum and the Message Gallery; the compilation of statistics on the work handled by the Ministry; matters concerning comprehensive legal support; matters concerning law-related education; matters concerning the qualification of attorneys-at-law (bengoshi) certified by the Minister of Justice; matters concerning foreign lawyers registered as "Gaikokuho-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.

### Civil Affairs Bureau

The Civil Affairs Bureau is responsible for handling affairs related to registration systems for companies and real estate, family registration, nationality (citizenship), deposit services, notarization, judicial scriveners, land and house investigators, and planning and drafting of civil legislation, such as the Civil Code, the Commercial Code, and the Code of Civil Procedure.

### Human Rights Bureau

The Human Rights Bureau promotes and protects fundamental human rights, and as such is in charge of investigating and seeking a remedy for human rights violation cases, providing human rights counseling services, and conducting human rights awareness-raising activities. As field offices of the Bureau, there is a Human Rights Department in each Legal Affairs Bureau and a Human Rights Division in each District Legal Affairs Bureau. In addition, Human Rights Volunteers, who are private citizens appointed by the Minister of Justice, are placed in each municipality (including the special wards of Tokyo) across the country.

### Criminal Affairs Bureau

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

### Corrections Bureau

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

### Litigation Bureau

The Litigation Bureau handles state redress suits and administrative suits in which the State is the party, and is in charge of clerical work involved in stating legal advices upon request from administrative organizations concerning cases which may lead to legal disputes (so called "Preventive Legal Support System"). It is also responsible for dealing with lawsuits involving local public entities, independent administrative institutions, and other public corporations as prescribed by Cabinet orders in cases where such suits are found to be related to the interests of the State.

### Rehabilitation Bureau

The Rehabilitation Bureau is responsible for administration matters concerning the offender rehabilitation system in the community, including the parole of correctional institution inmates, probation for juveniles on probation, parolees from juvenile training schools and penal institutions, or persons on probation with suspended sentences; crime prevention activities; pardons and measures for crime victims; and 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.



## Special Agencies (Public Prosecutors Office)

### Public Prosecutors Office

The function of the Public Prosecutors Office is to exercise control over all the work handled by public prosecutors, with offices consisting of the Supreme Public Prosecutors Office (Tokyo), the High Public Prosecutors Offices (Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya, Hiroshima, Fukuoka, Sendai, Sapporo and Takamatsu), the District Public Prosecutors Offices (one each in the 46 prefectures except 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 or 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 prosecute, request proper application of law by courts and control/supervise the execution of judgments, and furthermore, as representatives of public interest, are given additional authority by the Civil Code and other laws.

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



A pamphlet explaining the meaning and role of prosecution

●For details, please refer to the Ministry of Justice website  
[http://www.moj.go.jp/keiji1/keiji\\_keiji12.html](http://www.moj.go.jp/keiji1/keiji_keiji12.html)



A pamphlet clearly explaining the various systems in the Public Prosecutors Office that support victims of crime.

●For details, 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)

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 based on psychological examination regarding personality and social adjustment. The institutions draw up treatment plans deemed most suitable for individual sentenced person and perform the various tasks involved, including vocational training, life guidance, educational programs, and more.

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

The treatment of defendants awaiting trial is intended to contribute to smooth trial proceedings by detaining and preventing

the destruction of evidence, while paying due respect to the defendants' basic human rights.



Fuchu Prison

## Juvenile Classification Homes

A Juvenile classification home confines juveniles who have been referred by the family court when the court orders protective measures, and conducts assessments of these juveniles based on the home's expertise in medicine, psychology pedagogy, and more., in order to provide information relevant to the investigation and family court hearing. Such assessments is conducted by interviews, psychological tests and behavioral observations as well as by psychiatric examinations if necessary; the treatment guidelines for rehabilitation are drawn up through examination and diagnosis of the mental and physical condition of the juvenile and through understanding of the causes of delinquency.

The home also conducts assessments at the request of the juvenile training school superintendent or probation office director for the enforcement of protective measures.

Furthermore, the home provides advice using their expertise and techniques in consultation with the general public and school teachers on delinquency, bullying, and domestic violence, as well as the necessary support, in order to prevent delinquency and crime in the local community.



Osaka Juvenile Classification Home



Photo of a psychological test at a juvenile classification home (image)

## Juvenile Training Schools

Juvenile Training Schools confine juveniles who have been sent from the family court as protective measures that provide correctional education. A juvenile training school creates an Individual Plan for Correctional Education for each individual which determines the goals, content, implementation methods, and terms of correctional education to be implemented according to the juvenile's traits, such as age, physical and mental condition, and criminal tendencies, and provides lifestyle guidance, vocational guidance, school courses, physical education, and special activities according to the characteristics of each juvenile. In addition, in order to ensure smooth rehabilitation in society for juveniles who have difficulties leading independent lives after release, the school provides support for learning and working, securing of a place of residence, and continuous support in collaboration with medical/welfare institutions.



Kakogawa & Harima Juvenile Training School



Photo of guidance on problematic behavior

## Women's Guidance Home

The Women's Guidance Home confines adult women who are sentenced to guidance measures by the criminal court for violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act, and provides living guidance and vocational training according to their rehabilitation needs.

## Research and Training Institute of the Ministry of Justice

The Research and Training Institute is one of the agencies of the Ministry of Justice, and conducts a wide range of work, including (i) research related to criminal justice policies and other Ministry of Justice affairs, (ii) various kinds of training for Ministry of Justice officials, and (iii) international cooperation both in criminal and civil sectors provided for developing countries mainly in the Asian region.

### Activities of Research and Training Institute

#### ■ Research

The Institute conducts research useful for the Ministry of Justice to draft measures for prevention and control of crime and implement policies. The results are summarized in the White Paper on Crime, a foundational document concerning criminal justice policy, as well as the Research Department Reports or Research Department Materials, which are themed on concrete, individual issues concerning criminal trends and treatment of offenders.



White Paper on Crime

#### ■ Training

Various types of training are conducted for the officials of the Ministry of Justice (excluding correctional personnel and those at the Public Security Intelligence Agency). This training adopts various formats, such as lectures, debates, and exercises, so that officials can acquire the knowledge and skills needed as officials of the Ministry of Justice depending on their duties. Through this training, the institute aims to foster officials who can respond appropriately to operations that have become increasingly diverse and complex in recent years.

#### ■ International Cooperation

##### [The United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders]

The United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI), established in 1962 upon an agreement between the UN and the Government of Japan, regularly organizes training courses and seminars for criminal justice practitioners in developing countries etc., and also cooperates in the formulation and implementation of UN strategies.



UNAFEI's International Training Course; Group Discussion

#### [Technical Assistance in the Legal Field]

The International Cooperation Department (ICD) of the Research and Training Institute invites legal practitioners of selected countries to Japan for training, and has also dispatched Japanese experts to said countries to give counsel and hold seminars. The ICD has so far offered support to such countries as Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia and Myanmar.

See "Promotion of International Cooperation" on page 45 for more about international cooperation.



Mock Mediation by ICD and Myanmar Trainees

## Training Institute for Correctional Personnel

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

#### History●

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



Training Institute for Correctional Personnel



Training at the Training Institute for Correctional Personnel



## ● Extra-Ministerial Bureaus

(Immigration Services Agency, Public Security Intelligence Agency, Public Security Examination Commission)

### Immigration Services Agency

Immigration Services Agency, established in April 2019 as an external agency of the Ministry of Justice, is a government agency that is responsible for equitable control over all those who enter and depart from Japan, the residency of foreign nationals residing in Japan, and procedures for refugee recognition, based on the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act.

The Agency is also responsible for implementing a plan, proposals and comprehensive coordination regarding the development of an acceptance of foreign workers, in addition to the operations that the Immigration Bureau used to have jurisdiction over.

### Immigration Services Agency's duties

#### ■ Immigration Controls

Foreign nationals who intend to enter Japan are required to provide personal identification information (fingerprints and facial photographs), except for those exempt from this requirement, and must be interviewed by an immigration inspector. The immigration inspector checks whether the foreign national meets the conditions for disembarkation, such as whether the passport and visa held by the foreign national are valid, whether activities to be conducted while in Japan are legitimate and come under a status of residence prescribed in the Appended Tables of the Immigration Control Act, and for certain statuses of residence, the inspector checks whether the foreign national meets the criteria stipulated in the Ministerial Ordinance, and that the foreign national does not fall under the grounds for denial of entry. If the immigration inspector deems these conditions have been met, the foreign national will be permitted to enter Japan. Foreign nationals who intend to depart from Japan must receive confirmation of departure from an immigration inspector.

Immigration inspectors also verify the fact of departure and return of Japanese nationals.

#### ■ Residency Management of Foreign Nationals

Foreign nationals residing in Japan are allowed to engage in activities based on their status of residence and period of stay decided when entering the country.

If those foreign nationals intend to change their status of residence, extend the period of stay, or obtain permission to engage in activities other than those permitted under the status of residence previously granted, or obtain re-entry permission, they need to go through necessary procedures at the Regional Immigration Services Bureau. In granting permission for the activities of foreign nationals in Japan, the Immigration Services Agency strives to ensure proper residency management of foreign nationals while paying due consideration to the interests of the Japanese people and to the security of Japan.

Since April 2019, acceptance has started of work-ready foreign nationals with certain expertise and skills in order to solve the growing labor shortage, and the Agency also strives to provide appropriate residency controls over such foreign workers.

Starting July 2012, a residency management system for mid- to long-term residents was introduced, under which foreign nationals residing in Japan mid- to long-term are issued a residence card when receiving permission relating to residence, such as landing permission, permission to change the status of residence, or permission for extension of the period of stay. This residence card gives such details as the name, date of birth, sex,

nationality or region, place of residence, status of residence, and period of stay of the foreign national.

#### ■ Deportation

Among foreign nationals residing in Japan, there are those considered undesirable by Japanese society, such as those who have entered or disembarked illegally, those who obtained entry permission but have illegally overstayed their period of stay or are engaged in activities other than those permitted, or those who are imposed certain punishments. With regard to such foreign nationals, the Agency carefully undertakes a required series of procedures to verify the facts and understand their circumstances through an investigation into and examination of the violation and oral proceedings, determines whether the violation serves as a ground for deportation, and deport those who are accordingly determined to be liable for deportation.

In Japan, not all foreign nationals who fall under the grounds for deportation defined in the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act are subject to deportation. The Minister of Justice may grant special permission to foreign nationals, considering their social history in Japan and family circumstances.

Foreign nationals who are in violation of the Immigration Control Act but satisfy certain requirements may leave the country through simple procedures under the "departure order system."

#### ■ Refugee Recognition

Japan has signed the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, which went into effect January 1, 1982. Various protection measures stipulated in the convention and protocol were granted to refugees.

A refugee is someone who, "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country."

The Agency provides administrative procedures for the recognition of refugee status for people who fall within the refugee definition in the Convention upon the request of foreign nationals residing in Japan, the issuance of refugee travel documents to those who are recognized as refugees, and Landing Permission for Temporary Refuge, which permits a temporary entry into/stay in Japan, to foreign nationals who apply for asylum at a seaport or airport in Japan and are likely to fall under the refugee definition.

#### ■ Comprehensive Coordination for Environmental Improvement in Accepting Foreign Nationals

The planning, policy development, and comprehensive coordination needed for unifying the relevant administrative branch policies concerning environmental improvement in accepting foreign nationals are the responsibilities of the Ministry of Justice according to "Basic Policy on the operations regarding the development of an environment for the acceptance of foreign workers(Cabinet Decision of July, 24, 2018)", and the Immigration Services Agency has been responsible for foreign nationals since April 2019.

Specifically, the Agency is responsible for holding ministerial group meetings about the acceptance and coexistence of foreign workers in cooperation with the Cabinet Secretariat and for compiling comprehensive measures for the acceptance and coexistence of such foreign workers.

## Public Security Intelligence Agency

The Public Security Intelligence Agency is an administrative institution that deals comprehensively with intelligence activities and requests for dispositions regarding the control of subversive groups and other 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 the promotion of relevant key governmental policies in various spheres including crisis management, foreign policy, and national security, by providing, in a timely and appropriate manner, the relevant organizations with domestic and foreign intelligence/materials related to the public security of Japan that have been collected and analyzed in the process of investigation.

### 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, including Aum Shinrikyo, which carried out the subway sarin gas attacks; 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, and when it is deemed necessary to take control measures as a result, the Agency files an application with the Public Security Examination Commission (see page 14) in order to take control measures, such as restricting their organizational 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 applications 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 to prevent a recurrence, as well as collects reports from these organizations under the Commission's order for surveillance, conducts on-site inspections at the facilities of these organizations, and also carries out necessary investigations.



An on-site inspection

#### Current State of Surveillance Measures

In order to uncover the actual activities of Aum Shinrikyo (focused on the activities of "Aleph" and a group led by Yamada and "Hikarinowa"), 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 maintains a risk of committing an act of indiscriminate mass murder: the cult has increased the number of new followers through recruitment activities that do not mention its name; the cult also has maintained teachings designed to increase the followers' absolute faith in Chizuo Matsumoto, who is the founder of the cult and popularly known as Shoko Asahara.

#### Contribution to Intelligence

There are many challenges to the security of Japan and its people, such as North Korea's nuclear and missile development, and abductions of Japanese nationals; China's extensive and rapid modernization of military strength; threats posed by international terrorism and cyber attacks; and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, that need to be monitored carefully. In particular, Japan has repeatedly faced situations of heightened tensions with its neighboring countries regarding the territorial and maritime interests of Japan, and these situations have become matters of great concern to the government and relevant organizations of Japan. It has become one of the most important missions of the Agency, which is tasked with protecting public security, to collect and analyze relevant information with regard to these challenges, thus contributing to the government's policies by providing relevant organizations, including the National Security Council, with intelligence.

#### Initiative for public-private collaboration

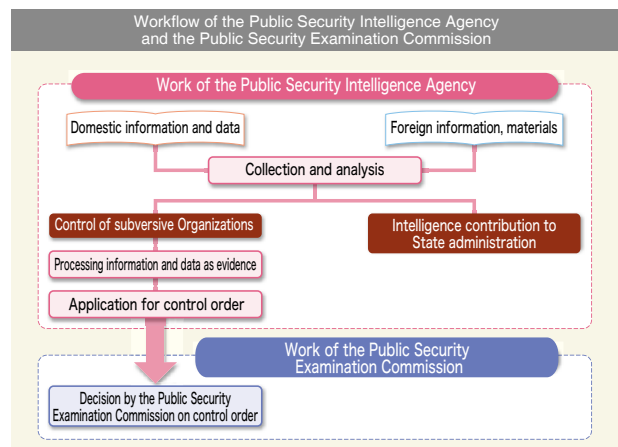
The Agency is strengthening its measures of providing intelligence regarding terrorism, and the Director-General of the Agency delivers lectures for private corporations and economic associations, as well as actively distributes relevant materials such as the "Summary of International Terrorism," which outlines the trends of terrorist groups and their activities in the world. The Agency promotes initiatives that protect important information owned by private corporations and research institutes by presenting relevant information at the "Public-Private Forum on Trade Secrets" held by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.



Lecture at an outside seminar

### Public Security Examination Commission

The Public Security Examination Commission is an extra-ministerial agency of the Ministry created to maintain public security. Upon receiving an application from the Director-General of the Public Security Intelligence Agency for regulatory actions on 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 control measures are necessary, and if so, what control measures should be taken.





## PICK UP!

### Establishing the Safest Country in the World

Ensuring favorable public security is an important basis to enable women and the young to live comfortably and with assurance in the community. It is also an important issue that can be the “foundation” for development of the localities. Also, with the emergence of new threats such as cybercrime, international terrorism, and the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games, we aim to further reduce crime and foster a sense of confidence in public security.

Under such circumstances, at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime in December 2013, the “Strategy to Make Japan ‘the Safest Country in the World’” was approved, and while efforts for comprehensive crime control were made by the government as a whole based on the strategy, the number

of reported crimes decreased from 2013 (1,314,140) to 2017(915,942), proving that an improvement has been seen in the public security of Japan.

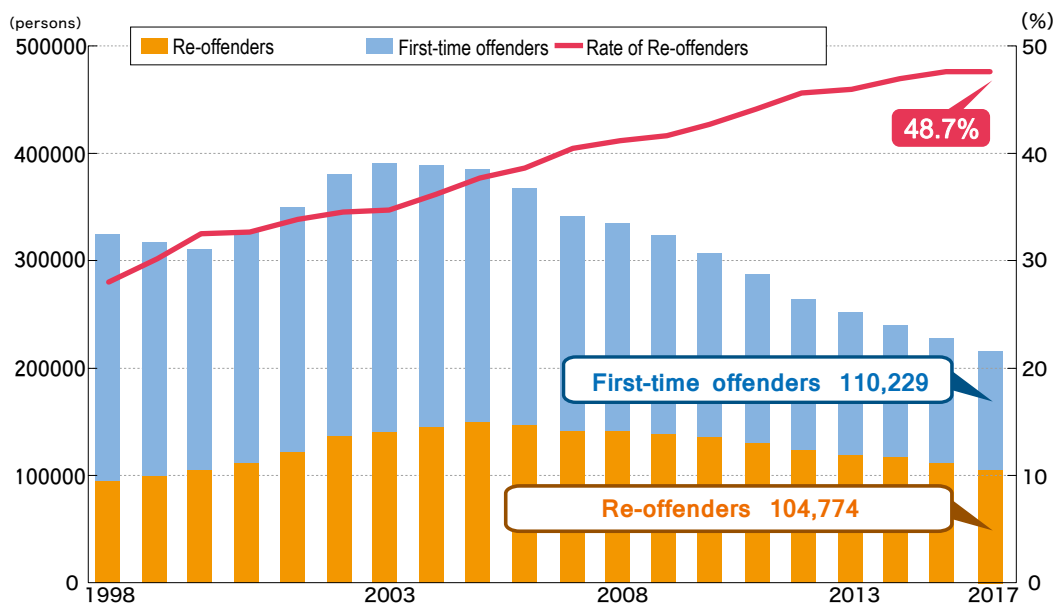
However, roughly 50 percent of the cleared persons for Penal Code offences was re-offenders in 2017, and the rate of re-imprisoned inmates among new inmates reached about 60 percent.

Taking the above facts into consideration, the question of how we should prevent the repetition of crimes and delinquencies (=prevention of re-offending) is a major challenge.

The Ministry of Justice carries out various measures to ensure the safety and security of citizens, including countermeasures for repeat offenses.



The Number of Repeat Offenders Among the Cleared Persons for Penal Code Offences (1998-2017)



(Note 1) Source, White Paper on Crime 2018

(Note 2) “Re-offenders” refer to people who are arrested for the second criminal offence, excluding any violations of the Road Traffic Law.

## Comprehensive Measures for the Prevention of Repeat Offenses

At the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime in July 2012, the Comprehensive Measures for the Prevention of Repeat Offenses stipulating the mid- to long-term government efforts toward preventing re-offending were established.

In this strategy, a numerical target to “decrease the rate of in-

mates who become re-imprisoned within two years of release from prison by more than 20 percent in ten years” was set as the first ever government efforts toward preventing re-offending. Details are presented in the following.



## Enhancing Guidance and Support According to Offender Characteristics

As various factors underlie crime and delinquency, preventing re-offending needs to focus on the problems that each individual has.

Therefore, prisons, juvenile training schools, and probation offices seek to enhance effective and seamless treatment based on empirical studies, according to the individual characteristics.

### Guidance Provided at Prisons and Probation Offices

For inmates who have difficulty in rehabilitation or smooth return to society for specified reasons such as drug dependency, the following programs are conducted at prisons:

- Guidance for Overcoming Drug Dependence
- Guidance for Leaving Organized Crime Groups
- Guidance for Preventing Re-offending for Sexual Offenses
- Education from the Perspectives of Victims
- Guidance for Traffic Safety
- Guidance for Job Assistance



Group session at a Prison

Treatment in juvenile training schools takes into consideration the problem of each individual inmate. For inmates with specific needs, the following programs are conducted.

- Education from the Perspectives of Victims
- Guidance for Prevention of Drug Dependence
- Guidance for Prevention of Sex Offense
- Guidance for Prevention of Violence
- Guidance for Improvement of Family Relationships
- Guidance for Improvement of Peer Association

In addition to specialized treatment programs for sexual offenders or drug-related offenders, probation offices have implemented activities that help offenders contribute to society as well.

#### ● Examples of activities that contribute to society ●



Helping prepare lunch at a welfare facility



Cleanup activity at a dry riverbed

## Creating a Place to Belong and Work in the Community

### ■ Securing Work to Lead an Independent Life

The re-offending rate of jobless people is three times higher than those who are not. Employment provides not only steady income, but is also expected to establish interpersonal relationships through work that will then lead to greater opportunities to re-establish oneself as an independent member of society.

However, those who have committed crimes or delinquency

tend to have difficulty obtaining jobs due to insufficient vocational abilities or previous criminal records.

The Ministry of Justice has made effort toward work assistance in cooperation not only with prisons and probation offices, but with various organizations as well as private citizens such as cooperative employers in the community.

### Vocational Training that Meets the Needs of the Society

Prisons and juvenile training schools conduct vocational training that leads to employment in businesses with increasing of social need, such as construction, nursing care, and welfare.

Also, in addition to acquiring technique and skills, trainees are given guidance that enables them to acquire the attitude and abilities needed for work, such as social manners and workplace communication ability.



Nursing Care and Welfare Division

### Efforts in the Community

Business owners that employ ex-offenders and juvenile delinquents to help them become independent and rehabilitated are called "cooperative employers" (see page 42).

The Ministry of Justice promotes financial aid for cooperative employers as well as support systems that employers can continue to employ ex-offenders and juvenile delinquents with an easy mind.

The Ministry of Justice is recruiting companies to serve as cooperative employers.



Cooperative employers



### ACTION! Providing Employment Information for Inmates

In order to match inmates with job offers from companies willing to employ released inmates, the Ministry of Justice promotes measures that allow companies to post job offers in particular correctional institutions through Hello Work.

Further, Employment Support Information Center for Correction (commonly known as "CORRE-Work") was established in Tokyo and Osaka Regional Correction Headquarters, and commenced operations in November 2016. CORRE-Work collectively manages information on such things as place of return and acquired qualifications for inmates across the country, and provides companies willing to employ released inmates with information on institutions housing inmates who meet their needs.

# 1 Toward Japan as “the Safest Country in the World”

## ■ Ensuring a Place to Belong in the Community

For inmates who can rely on relatives, arrangements are made so that they can receive support from their relatives after release.

Meanwhile, for offenders whose repeated criminal behavior has estranged them from relatives, have become isolated with no one to support them, and have no place to return to, efforts are made to provide them with temporary housing, such as relief and rehabilitation facilities (see page 41).

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



A room of a rehabilitation facility

## Strengthening Function of Rehabilitation Facilities and Securing a Variety of Housing

To enhance treatment for inmates who have difficulty leading independent lives, such as the elderly, the disabled, or those dependent on drugs, the Ministry has striven since 2011 to secure a variety of places that can accept these inmates using housing managed by NPOs (self-support homes) in addition to stationing officials with professional qualifications in the fields of welfare and psychology fields and strengthening the ability of rehabilitation facilities to accept inmates.



Education at a rehabilitation facility

## Declaring “No Return to Crime, No Facilitating Return to Crime”

-Toward a Bright Society Where Everyone Supports Rehabilitation-

To make Japan “the Safest Country in the World”, without repeated crime and, above all, with no new victims, where citizens can live in safety and peace, it is essential to create a social environment in which those who once committed crimes or delinquency can be accepted naturally as responsible members of society without rejection and isolation (re-entry).

To achieve such a society, the declaration “No Return to Crime, No Facilitating Return to Crime” was approved at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime held in December 2014.

Many drug addicts who have had difficulty recovering and many elderly or disabled who have committed crimes fall between the cracks of criminal justice and the local community, and return to crime without receiving the necessary support.

For this reason, the Emergency Measures to Prevent Re-offending in Drug Addicts and Elderly offenders, which focuses on drug

addicts and elderly criminals, were formulated in July 2017 at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime.

These measures promote the following three policies and aim to establish a nationwide network by 2020 that supports the recovery of drug addicts and elderly or disabled persons who have committed crimes.

Aimed at securing work and housing, which are key to preventing re-offending, this declaration asks for the effort of the nation and support from citizens by setting the following two numerical targets that to be achieved by 2020.

- 1 triple the number of companies 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 any place to go back to by more than 30 percent.

## Emergency Measures to Prevent Re-offending by Drug Addicts and Elderly Offenders

-Establishment of a Long-Term Support Network to Facilitate Rehabilitation-

Many drug addicts who have had difficulty recovering and many elderly or disabled who have committed crimes fall between the cracks of criminal justice and local community, and return to crime without receiving necessary support.

For this reason, the Emergency Measures to Prevent re-offending in Drug Addicts and Elderly offenders, which focuses on drug addicts and elderly offenders, were formulated in July 2017 at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime.

These measures promote the following three policies and aim to establish a nationwide network by 2020 that supports the recovery of drug addicts and elderly or disabled persons who have committed crimes.

- 1 An integrated system of guidance provided by correction and probation facilities, as well as medical treatment by medical facilities to aid drug addicts in their recovery
- 2 The provision of guidance and support through all stages of the criminal justice system in conjunction with the local community
- 3 Promotion of long-term civic support initiatives to facilitate rehabilitation

Implementing these initiatives in an integrated fashion will ensure that the Comprehensive Measures to Prevent Re-offending will achieve their numerical targets, and will help make Japan “the Safest Country in the World,” a country in which crimes are not repeated and in which people can live with safety and peace of mind.

## Re-offending Prevention Promotion Act & Re-offending Prevention Promotion Plan

The Re-offending Prevention Promotion Act, which, along with clarifying the responsibilities of the national and local governments, as to re-offending prevention sets basic measures and stipulates the comprehensive and systematic promotion of measures to prevent re-offending in order to create a society where citizens can live in safety and peace, was announced and took effect in December 2017.

Moreover, the Review Committee for the Re-offending Prevention Promotion Plan, chaired by the Minister of Justice, was established in February 2018 to discuss the matters listed in the Re-offending Prevention Promotion Plan Draft created by the Minister of Justice based on the said law, resulting in many meetings with relevant ministries and committees of private experts. A review committee was then held to compile a plan proposal, and after passing through the public comment, the Cabinet decided on the Re-offending Prevention Promotion Plan in December 2018.

Under five basic policies, regarding to seven priority issues below, 115 measures are stipulated in this plan.

### Seven priority issues in "Re-offending Prevention Promotion Plan"

- 1 Securing employment and housing
- 2 Promotion of utilization of healthcare and welfare services
- 3 Implementation of school support in collaboration with schools
- 4 Implementation of effective instruction in accordance with the characteristics of those who have committed crimes
- 5 Promotion of activities of cooperators from the private sector/ Promotion of publicity campaigns and enlightenment activities
- 6 Strengthening cooperation with local governments
- 7 Improvement of human and physical systems at related organizations

We ask everyone to understand the intent of this law and this plan, support rehabilitation, and further ask for cooperation and understanding on these measures to prevent re-offending to help create a society in which everyone can live with peace of mind.

### Strengthening cooperation with local governments

#### ● Annual meeting of local governments about re-offending prevention

The role of local government is greater than ever in promoting re-offending prevention promotion measures, since only national government but also local governments are positioned as subjects to prevent repeat offenses. Therefore, in August 2018, in order to establish a network between the national and local governments relating to the re-offending prevention, the first meeting was held. On that day, sixty-one local governments participated in the meeting and the mayor of Shizuoka city and Akashi city, which are doing advanced measures shared the contents of their efforts in their cities with other participants. We will share necessary information through this conference so that many local governments carry out measures to prevent repeat offenses.



Annual meeting of local governments about re-offending prevention promotion

#### ● Regional re-offending prevention promotion model projects

Based on the Re-offending Prevention Promotion Act and re-offending prevention promotion plan, the Government is supposed to tackle the measure related to re-offending prevention in cooperation with local governments. However, since the government has played a major role in focusing on preventing repeat offenses so far, except for some, most local governments do not have enough know-how and knowledge concerning measures to prevent repeat offenses. Therefore, in order to investigate the effective way of preventing repeat offenses by cooperation with the government, some local public entities are asked to (1) investigate the actual condition of the local regions and formulate support plans, (2) implement the model projects, (3) verification of the effectiveness of projects and enhancement of regional re-offending prevention promotion plan. We have started the project since 2018 and each local public entities entrusted by the governments will implement various model projects making full use of the social resources of each region in the future.

Preventing re-offending is not easy, but it is an issue we must never give up on.

The Ministry of Justice will face this issue squarely, and strive to make progress through gaining understanding and cooperation from as many citizens as possible to help make Japan "the Safest Country in the World."



#### For further information on the prevention of re-offending

The Ministry of Justice website introduces a wide range of information regarding prevention of re-offending. Please check the website for regularly updated content.

[http://www.moj.go.jp/hisho/seisakuhyouka/hisho04\\_00038.html](http://www.moj.go.jp/hisho/seisakuhyouka/hisho04_00038.html)





## Efforts to Achieve Safety and Security

### ■ Cooperation Between the Foreign Investigative Authorities and Japan

In order to deal effectively with the frequent occurrence of violent crimes by foreign nationals as well as the increasing number of international crimes, it is necessary to gather evidence from abroad more effectively and strengthen cooperation between foreign investigative authorities and Japan.

Examples of such enhancement of cooperation include 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 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), the Treaty between Japan and the Russian Federation on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (entered into force on February 11, 2011), the Convention on Cybercrime (entered into force on November 1, 2012), the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (entered into force on August 10, 2017) and the United Nations Convention against Corruption (entered into force on August 10, 2017). These treaties, agreements and conventions enable communication for the collection of evidence not through diplomatic channels but directly between the Ministry of Justice or the National Police Agency and the judicial authorities of respective countries or regions, expediting the process. The Ministry of Justice is committed to further strengthening international cooperation.

### ■ Measures at the Borders

In order to protect the lives and safety of citizens, 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 borders and ports of entry. To ensure that such illegal entrants are identified, Immigration Services Agency conducts strict and effective immigration examinations and implements surveillance and monitoring through the methods below.

- Immigration Examinations Through the Use of Biometric Information (Fingerprints and Facial Photographs)
- Utilization of Database of Stolen and Lost Travel Documents Provided by the International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO)
- Utilization of API (Advance Passenger Information) and PNR (Passenger Name Record)
- Reinforcement of Information Collection and Analysis
- Implementation of Patrols at Seaports and Other Measures



Immigration examinations through the use of biometric information



Scene at the port patrol

### ■ Measures Against Illegal Foreign Residents

Along with measures at the borders and ports of entry, reducing the number of foreign nationals currently residing in Japan illegally is important in restoring security. Immigration Services

Agency strives to reduce the number of illegal residents by reinforcing crackdowns, implementing safe and secure deportation, preventing illegal employment, and publicizing the departure order system more widely.

The Agency is actively engaged in taking measures and developing a society free from illegal immigrants, actively analyzing information on foreign residents obtained through the Residency Management System implemented in July 2012, assembling a picture of illegal aliens, and appropriately undertaking procedures for revoking residency status.

### ■ Public Security Intelligence Agency

In September 2013, the Public Security Intelligence Agency established the Special Task Force for Intelligence for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games to strengthen intelligence functions related to the Olympic events on a long-term basis.

Terrorism has become an increasingly real threat, as demonstrated by the terror attack in Dhaka, Bangladesh in July 2016, which had Japanese nationals as victims, as well as the frequent outbreak of terror attacks aimed at soft targets by those influenced by international terrorist groups. Meanwhile, extremist groups in Japan have carried out illegal activities and have cooperated with anti-globalization forces. In order to deal appropriately with these situations, the Agency is strengthening its gathering and analysis of information related to international terrorist groups and these domestic groups, as well as strengthening systems for providing pertinent information to Japanese citizens traveling or living abroad. In addition, the Agency promotes and strengthens measures to prevent terrorism and other illegal activities as a core member of the intelligence community of Japan by, among others, closely cooperating with the International Counter-Terrorism Intelligence Collection Unit of Japan (CTU-J) and other relevant organizations and also actively providing relevant intelligence to Counter-Terrorism and -Intelligence Information and Data Exchange Center of Japan (CTI-INDEX), which was established in August 2018 to strengthen the sharing and analysis of information related to alleged terrorist cases, looking ahead to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games and other relevant events.

Furthermore, to strengthen counter-intelligence functions and prevent the proliferation of materials and technology related to weapons of mass destruction, the Agency also diligently pursues the gathering and analysis of relevant information. In addition, to counter increasingly serious threats to the cyberspace, the Agency gathers and analyzes information and provides intelligence to relevant organizations in a timely manner, contributing to the government’s measures against cyber attacks.

Also, the Agency has verified the danger and anti-social nature of Aum Shinrikyo, as there are still believers who place absolute faith in Chizuo Matsumoto, who is the founder of the cult and popularly known as Shoko Asahara, and continues to conduct surveillance on the group with appropriate diligence and provide relevant local authorities upon request by their heads with the investigation results based on this surveillance in order to protect public security and also to remove and alleviate fear and anxiety of local residents.



“Summary of International Terrorism” (2018 edition)



#### “Summary of International Terrorism” (Web version)

<http://www.moj.go.jp/psia/ITH/index.html>

The Web version of “Summary of International Terrorism” can be viewed on the Public Security Intelligence Agency’s website.



# Support for Crime Victims

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

Basic Act on Crime Victims was established in 2004, stating that "As everyone in society is vulnerable to becoming a Crime Victim, policies from the viewpoints of Crime Victims are required. These steps must be taken into account to realize a society where the Crime Victims' interests and well-being are protected".

Pursuant to the Basic Act on Crime Victims, The Basic Plan for Crime Victims was formulated in 2005, the Second Basic Plan for Crime Victims was formulated in 2011, and the Third Basic Plan for Crime Victims was formulated in 2015, and measures for crime victims are promoted through collaboration between relevant government ministries.

### Five priorities in the Third Basic Plan for Crime Victims

- ① Efforts to recover the victims' damages and to provide them with economic support
- ② Efforts for the victims to recover from or to prevent mental and/or physical damage
- ③ Efforts to broaden the opportunity for victims to participate in criminal procedures
- ④ Efforts to improve the systems to support crime victims
- ⑤ Efforts to foster the understanding among citizens and to earn their consideration and cooperation

## Efforts by Ministry of Justice –Aiming for seamless and continuous supports to crime victims

The Ministry of justice promotes various support measures aiming for seamless and continuous support to crime victims.

For example, Victim Notification System is in place. The public prosecutor's office notifies crime victims of information related to their cases, including decisions on prosecution, trial outcomes, and the dates of offenders' release, as well as information on offenders,

such as treatment of offenders after the final decision of a criminal trial and of offenders under protective measures, upon victims' request and in collaboration with relevant organizations.

Besides this, The Ministry of Justice mainly promotes support measures that can be taken at the time of trial or hearing and after trial or hearing ends.

### Support measures at the time of trial

**Victim participation system**  
The victims 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 the defendant under certain requirements.

### Support measures at the time of hearing

**Hearing of victims' opinions and conveyance of feelings**  
Systems are in place that allow crime victims to voice their opinions during parole examinations by Regional Parole Boards, as well as to have their feelings regarding damages heard and conveyed to the offender while on probation.

In implementing these measures, officers specifically in charge of these measures are positioned at each probation office (victim-specific officers and victim-specific volunteer probation officers).

### Support measures after trial or hearing ends

**Opinion hearing system in parole examination**  
A system is in place that allows crime victims to express their opinions regarding the parole of the person subject to proceedings and their sentiment on damage caused by the crimes or delinquency during parole examinations by Regional Parole Boards.

**Communication system of victims' sentiments to probationers**  
A system is in place that, during the probation or parole, crime victims may communicate their sentiments regarding damage, the current situation of the victims and their opinions toward the life or behavior of the probationer or parolees to the parole office, and the relevant probation office conveys them to the probationer or parolee.

**Remission payment system**  
Under the Act on Issuance of Remission Payments Using Stolen and Misappropriated Property it is now possible under certain conditions to confiscate property obtained by offenders through property offenses, and to use this confiscated property in the recovery of damages suffered by the crime victims of relevant cases.  
\*Remission Payment System is for victims of criminal acts such as property criminals who were certified in criminal trials.

### The Japan Legal Support Center (Houterasu)

The Japan Legal Support Center (Houterasu) nominates candidates to act as court-appointed attorneys for participating victims and notifies the court, as well as pays travel expenses, etc. to participating victims, provides information to support crime victims, introduces attorneys with experience and understanding of victim assistance, and provides legal consultation aid for victims of domestic violence, stalking, and child abuse.



## PICK UP!



### Measures for Smooth and Strict Immigration Examinations

**Q** I have heard that recently there has been a sudden increase in the number of foreign tourists coming to Japan. Have you been taking any measures with regard to the immigration examinations?

**A** In recent years, there has been a significant increase in the number of foreign tourists visiting Japan, and a further increase is expected in the future in anticipation of the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games to be held in Japan. Amid such circumstances, the Ministry of Justice is working to achieve measures included in "The Tourism Nation Promotion Basic Plan" approved in March 2017. It is important that

Immigration Services Agency continues proactively working so as to quickly achieve various measures towards creating a tourist-friendly nation, all while implementing measures to prevent terrorists and other persons attempting to stay illegally in Japan from entering at the borders, so that the Immigration Services Agency may protect the security of the country and the safety of its citizens.



## Principal Measures of Immigration Controls

While strict immigration examinations have been implemented for foreign nationals attempting to work illegally in Japan, Immigration has also taken various measures to implement smooth immigration examinations for trouble-free foreign nationals to help create a tourist-friendly nation.

To implement strict immigration examinations, the Agency prevents undesirable foreign nationals such as terrorists from entering the country, utilizing Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) reported by air companies and ICPO (International Criminal Police Organization)'s data on lost and stolen passports, and obliging foreign nationals who wish to enter Japan to provide their personal identification information (fingerprints and face photo), in principle.

The Agency, to implement smooth immigration examinations at the port of entry, has installed in Narita, Haneda, Chubu, and Kansai Airports automated gates, which facilitate immigration processing by automatically verifying passports and fingerprints for use by Japanese nationals and foreign nationals satisfying certain creation requirements, who have registered their completed user registration in advance. (From November 2016, when the Trusted Traveler Program was launched, it became available to a wider range of foreign users.)

Also, since October 2016, in order to speed up the acquisition of personal identification information for landing examination of foreign nationals, equipment for the acceptance of fingerprints and facial photographs, known as "Bio-Cart", which utilize the time spent waiting in line for a landing examination and have been introduced at 17 airports.

Moreover, to streamline the departure and return procedures for Japanese nationals utilizing facial recognition technology, the Agency in October 2017 implemented and started the operation of the facial recognition automated gates that do not require prior user registration. The system is currently available



Bio Carts



Facial recognition automated gates



Cruise ship examination



for departure and return procedures for Japanese nationals at Narita, Haneda, Chubu, Kansai and Fukuoka Airports. In FY 2019, the system is scheduled to be available for departure procedures of foreign nationals who had entered Japan for the purpose of sightseeing and other such activities.

In response to the lately increasing number of foreign

tourists coming in by cruise ship, the Agency facilitates immigration procedures for foreign passengers by cruise ship by implementing in January 2015 the Landing Permission for Cruise Ship Tourists system, which allows foreign passengers arriving in Japan on cruise ships with simple procedures specified by the Minister of Justice.

### Facial Recognition Automated Gate - Available for the Departure and Return Procedures of Japanese Nationals and Departure Procedures of Foreign Nationals

In order to streamline the departure and return procedures for Japanese nationals through the use of facial recognition technology, allow more immigration inspectors to the examination of foreign nationals, and maintain the strictness of and facilitate inspection, the Agency implemented the facial recognition automated gates at Haneda Airport in October 2017 and started its operation for the return procedures for Japanese nationals. It also was launched at the landing/ departure examination areas at the following five airports in 2018 and has been operated for the departure and return procedures for Japanese nationals.

Also, the facial recognition automated gate will be available for the departure procedures of foreign nationals who had entered Japan for the purpose of sightseeing and other such activities, and its operation is scheduled to be launched within FY 2019.



Facial recognition automated gates

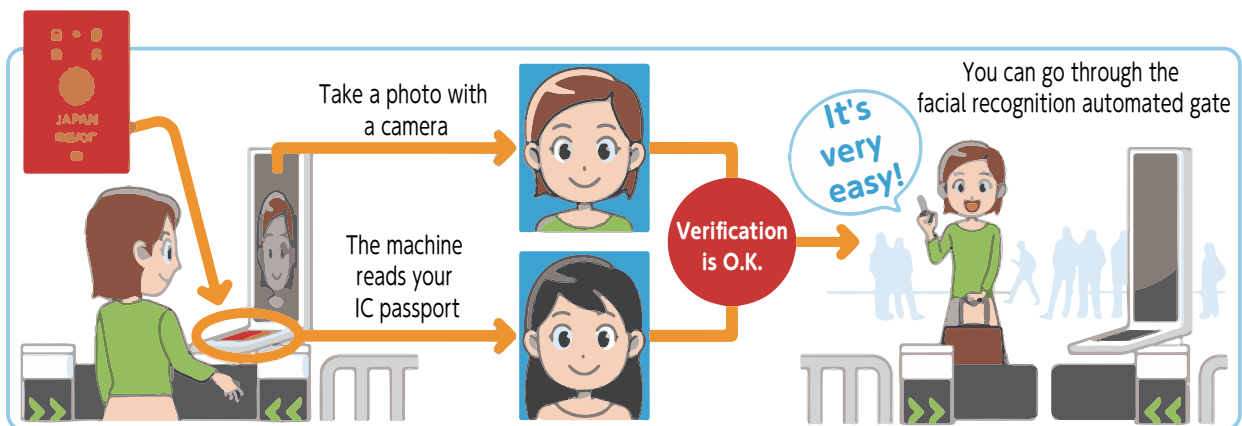
#### Airports with Facial Recognition Automated Gates

Narita Airport, Haneda Airport, Chubu Airport, Kansai Airport, Fukuoka Airport

#### How to Use the Facial Recognition Automated Gate

The facial recognition automated gate verify the identity of the traveler by crosschecking the facial image contained in the IC chip of the IC passport with the facial image taken using the camera at the facial recognition automated gate. If the confirmation of the identity of the traveler is completed through the

crosscheck and there are no problems, the traveler is able to go through the gate. Those who used the facial recognition automated gate do not have to be stamped a seal(stamp) by an immigration inspector in their passport.



Procedures to use the facial recognition automated gate

### Points-Based System for Highly-Skilled Foreign Professionals

#### Objectives and Outline of the System

In order to promote entry of highly-skilled foreign professionals, a points-based system that provides highly-skilled foreign professionals with preferential immigration treatment was introduced on May 7, 2012.

The activities of highly-skilled foreign professionals are classified into three categories: advanced academic research activities, ad-

vanced specialized or technical activities, and advanced business management activities. Points are set according to the characteristic features of each category, such as academic background, professional career, annual salary, research performance, and more. If the total points reach 70, the foreign nationals will be recognized as a Highly-Skilled Foreign Professional.

#### The three categories of activities of highly-skilled foreign professionals

##### ● Advanced academic research activities

Activities of engaging in research, research guidance, or education based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan



##### ● Advanced specialized/ technical activities

Activities of engaging in work requiring specialized knowledge or skills in the fields of natural sciences or humanities based on a contract entered into with a public or private organization in Japan



##### ● Advanced business management activities

Activities of engaging in the operation or management of a public or private organization in Japan



#### Details of Preferential Immigration Treatment

The following preferential immigration treatment is granted to foreign nationals recognized as a Highly-Skilled Professional (i) as a result of the points evaluation.

- 1 Permission for Multiple Activities
- 2 Grant of the "five years" period of stay
- 3 Relaxation of Requirements for Permanent Residence
- 4 Work Permission for Spouses
- 5 Permission for Accompanying Parents
- 6 Permission for Accompanying Domestic Workers
- 7 Preferential Processing of Entry and Residence Procedures

### Program for Acceptance of Fourth-Generation Japanese

#### Purpose of the Program

- The "Program for Further Acceptance of Fourth-Generation Japanese" started on July 1, 2018. This Program aims to provide fourth-generation Japanese with opportunities to deepen understanding of and interest in Japan by engaging in activities to learn Japanese culture, while receiving support from Supporters Accepting Fourth-Generation Japanese, thereby encouraging them to be a bridge between Japan and overseas Japanese communities.
- In this Program, they can stay in Japan up to 5 years in total if they meet certain requirements.

#### Fourth-Generation Japanese subject to the Program

Fourth-generation Japanese who satisfy the following requirements are eligible. (However, there is an annual limit of 4,000 people accepted. \*Subject to change due to social situations and other factors)

Items	Details
Age	Being between 18 and 30 years old
Behavior	Having no criminal record at home
Health	Having normal health Having medical insurance coverage
Means of living	Having deposits or being expected to be employed after entry, or otherwise being surely able to earn a living in Japan
Funds for returning home	Securing funds for returning home
Japanese proficiency	At the time of entry: Having the ability to understand basic Japanese language (equivalent to N4 Level of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test) At the time of extending period of stay: When staying in Japan over two years in total → Having the ability to understand the Japanese language used in ordinary situations to a certain extent (equivalent to N3 Level of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test)

※1 Either a six-month or a one-year period of stay is permitted. A fourth-generation Japanese who wishes to continue staying in Japan needs to file an application for extension of period of stay around three months prior to the expiration of his/her visa. (A six-month period of stay is permitted for the first year in Japan, in principle.)

※2 A fourth-generation Japanese who intends to stay in Japan over three years must have deepened his/her understanding of Japanese culture and general lifestyle in Japan sufficiently through activities during his/her stay, in addition to satisfying the requirements listed above.

#### What is "Supporters Accepting Fourth-Generation Japanese"?

- Supporters Accepting Fourth-Generation Japanese volunteer to provide support to fourth-generation Japanese who enter and stay in Japan under this Program.
- ※ A fourth-generation Japanese who intends to use this Program must secure a Supporter.



For detailed information of the Program, see the website of the Ministry of Justice.

"Program for Further Acceptance of Fourth-Generation Japanese" by the Ministry of Justice  
[http://www.moj.go.jp/nyuukokukanri/kouhou/nyuukokukanri07\\_00166.html](http://www.moj.go.jp/nyuukokukanri/kouhou/nyuukokukanri07_00166.html)



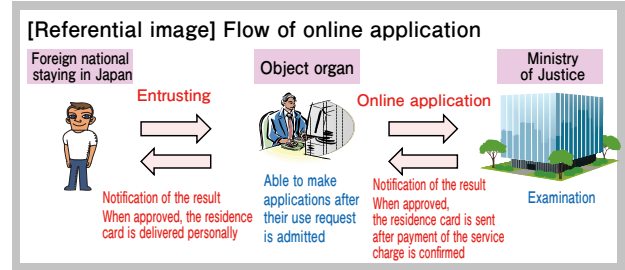
- A Supporter is to provide the relevant fourth-generation Japanese with advice on the acquisition of knowledge on Japanese culture, daily living-related information, and assistance in immigration procedures.
- Individuals or non-profit corporations can serve as a Supporter.

## Introduce Online Procedures for the status of residence

Based on Growth Strategy 2018 (decided by the Cabinet on June 15, 2018), applicants will be able to apply online for the procedures of Immigration Services Agency from July 2019, allowing sub-organs, which satisfying certain requirements such as employing foreigners properly, fulfilling the obligation to make the Report on the Employment Situations of Foreigners and more, make applications on behalf of the foreign employee in order to facilitate and smooth the procedures for the status of residence.

The application for the extension of period of stay can be applied online. The status of residence covered is the status of working category (specified in the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, Appendix I, excluding "Specified

Skilled Worker" and "Temporary Visitor"). The status of residence covered will be expanded in future.



## Initiatives for Prompt and Reliable Protection for Genuine Refugees

Based on changes in domestic and international trends affecting the refugee recognition system, the Immigration Services Agency revised the operations of the refugee recognition system in September 2015 in order to promote prompt and reliable asylum for genuine refugees, and as part of this revision, measures are being implemented in order to curb the abuse or misuse of applications for

refugee recognition status for the purpose of working. However, there had been a persistent surge in the abuse or misuse of applications, resulting in a situation where the prompt protection of genuine refugees had been hindered. Therefore, the Agency conducted further revision of the operations of the refugee recognition system (here in after called "the further revision").

### Points of the further revision

- ◆ Establishment of a pre-sorting period (time limit not exceeding two months) for the first-time application, reflecting the result promptly to the status of residence.
- ◆ Further consideration to those who genuinely require asylum. Applicants whose applicability as a refugee under the Refugee Convention, or applicants who are considered highly likely to need humanitarian consideration is deemed to be high are quickly granted the status of residence of "Designated Activities" (six months) permitting work, as soon as they are found out about that there by given further consideration.
  - Restrictions on stay are imposed on applicants, even with first-time applicants, claiming circumstances that clearly do not correspond to the requests of the Refugee Convention and "repeat applicants" (excluding applicants whose applicability as a refugee under the Refugee Convention is deemed to be high, or applicants who are considered highly likely to need humanitarian consideration).
  - Even in cases where restrictions on stay are not imposed, applicants who applied for recognition of refugee status after abandoning to engage in the activities falling under the original status of residence, such as technical intern trainees or international students, or applicants who filed an application for recognition of refugee status during the departure preparing period have restrictions imposed on their work. The period of stay in this case will be reduced from the previous six months to three months.
- ◆ Applied to those who file an application on after January 15, 2018

### Specific contents of the further revision of the operations

	Prior to the further revision of the operations	Current
Restrictions on stay	Applicants repeating an application three times or more without a good reason	Re-applicant(*)
	Applicants repeating an application twice clearly without the Convention definition	Applicants clearly without the Convention definition (the first application)
Restrictions on employment	Applicants capable of supporting themselves without working	Applicants capable of supporting themselves without working
	Applicants repeating an application twice without a good reason	Applicants applying after abandoning their initial activities (the first application)
		Applicants applying after getting the designated status to make the preparations for departure (the first application)
Fast-track process	Applications clearly without the Convention definition	Applications clearly without the Convention definition
	Multiple applications without a good reason	Re-applications
		Applications after abandoning initial activities
		Applications after getting the designated status to make the preparations for departure

(\*) Excludes applicants whose applicability as a refugee under the Refugee Convention is deemed to be high, or applicants who are considered likely to require humanitarian consideration due to the situation in their home country.



### System of Accepting New Foreign Workers

#### Background

The Japanese economy has largely recovered and has been in a virtuous cycle from growth to distribution due to the promotion of Abenomics. The active job opening rate has marked the highest level since the 1970s, exceeding one point in all prefectures, and the unemployment rate has reached the lowest level in 25 years. The labor force participation rate has been increasing mainly among women and aged people, and the number of workers has been drastically increasing even

under a population decrease. On the other hand, the labor shortage experienced by companies has been deepening to the level of the “bubble” years.

This System responds to such a serious lack of labor with which we accept foreign workers who have certain expertise and skills as work-ready labor in areas where foreign professionals are needed even after efforts are made for enhancing productivity and securing domestic human resources.

#### Outline of the System (Enforced on April 1, 2019)

##### Establishment of “Specified Skilled Worker” as a status of residence

**Specified Skilled Worker (i):** Status of residence for foreign nationals engaged in work that requires skills needing considerable knowledge or experience in an industrial field where the lack of labor should be compensated.

**Specified Skilled Worker (ii):** Status of residence for foreign nationals engaged in work that requires expert skills in such an area.

##### Support for foreign workers

Accepting organizations and registered support organizations shall provide support for foreign nationals with Specified Skilled Worker (i) in their vocational life, daily life, or social life.

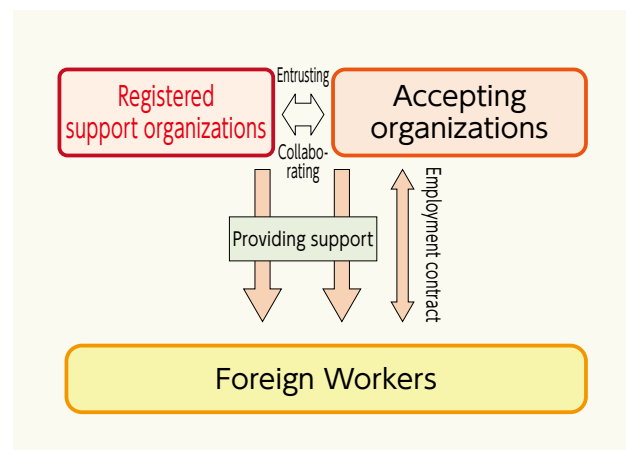
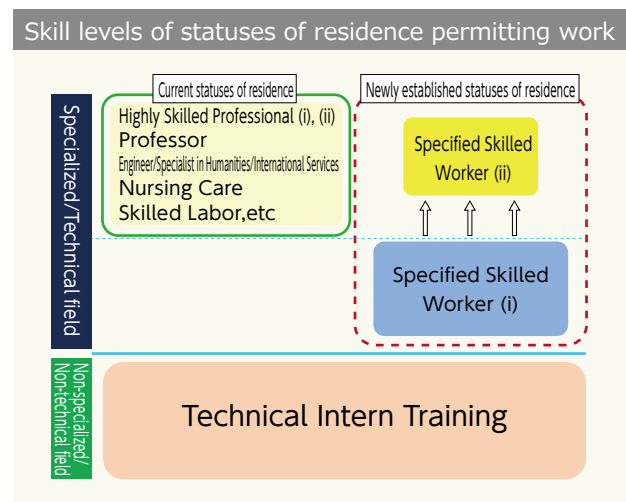
##### Details of support

- Provision of life guidance before entry
- Assistance in securing housing
- Orientation on life during their stay
- Assistance in acquiring Japanese language for living
- Dealing with inquiries and complaints

##### Basic policy on acceptance and field-specific operation policy

(Decided by the cabinet on December 25, 2018)

We conduct acceptance based on the basic policy that defines the cross-sectional policy, and field-specific operation policy that defines the policy in the respective accepting areas.



For detailed information of the System, see the website of the Ministry of Justice.

System of Accepting New Foreign Professionals (Establishment of “Specified Skilled Worker” as status of residence, etc.)

[http://www.moj.go.jp/nyuukokukanri/kouhou/nyuukokukanri01\\_00127.html](http://www.moj.go.jp/nyuukokukanri/kouhou/nyuukokukanri01_00127.html)





## Ensuring that the Results of Justice System Reforms Take Root

The justice system is expected to play an even larger role in the 21st century due to various social changes, including change from a society of ex-ante regulation and coordination to one of ex-post facto checks and remedies, making it necessary to continue strengthening judiciary function and establish a new legal system that is readily accessible to the general public.

To achieve a justice system that is faster, more reliable, and more familiar to the public, the Ministry has implemented reform based on the following three fundamental principles: (1) construction of a justice system that meets the expectations of citizens; (2) reform of the legal community to support the justice

system; and (3) establishment of the foundations of justice among citizens (citizen participation in the justice system). A total of 24 acts related to judicial system reform were enacted and implemented in the three years from 2002 to 2004.

In the future, we must work to establish this judicial system reform so that the justice system can fully exercise its function and the public can share in the fruits of reform.

Being in charge of the justice system, the Ministry of Justice is ready to take appropriate measures to meet the demands of a new age while giving due regard to the aims of judicial system reform.

### Government Efforts

- July 1999 ▶ Justice System Reform Council (JSRC) within the Cabinet established
- June 2001 ▶ Recommendations of the JSRC to the Cabinet submitted
- December 2001 ▶ Office for Promotion of Justice System Reform (OPJSR) within the Cabinet established (time limit for establishment: November 2004)
- March 2002 ▶ Plan for Promotion of Justice System Reform approved by the Cabinet
- December 2004 ▶ Office for Promotion of Justice System Reform established within the Cabinet Secretariat (until: December 2009)

### The Three Pillars of the Reform

#### Construction of a Justice System that Meets the Expectations of the People

- **Establishment of the Japan Legal Support Center (Houterasu)**  
The Center aims to enable citizens to acquire information and services necessary to settle disputes based on law anywhere in Japan. (Concerning the Japan Legal Support Center, please see page 36 of "Implementation of Comprehensive Legal Support by the Japan Legal Support Center")
- **Enhancement of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)**  
The function of ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution), which allows for autonomous and flexible dispute settlement, will be enhanced in addition to enhancing its functions of adjudication. (For enhancement of ADR, please see page 35 of "Legal Services" )
- **Improvement and Acceleration of Criminal Trials**  
Punitive authority shall be exercised more appropriately and expeditiously through the introduction of pretrial arrangement proceedings and state-appointed counsel.
- **Promoting Translation of Japanese Laws**  
Translation of Japanese laws shall be promoted in order to build a foundation for facilitating international transactions and promoting direct foreign investment.

#### Reform of the Legal Community

- **Education System Reform for the Legal Community**  
Cultivate the legal community through law schools, the national bar examination, and legal training.
- **Increasing the Number of Legal Professionals**  
Cultivate the legal community in terms of both quality and quantity, and increase the number of legal professionals.

#### Establishment of the Foundations of Justice Among Citizens

- **Lay Judge System -"Saiban-in System"**  
A system in which citizens participate in criminal trials. commenced May 21, 2009
- **Promotion of Law-Related Education**  
Law-Related Education shall be promoted in order to understand the significance of law and the judicial system, and acquire ways of legal thinking that support a free and just society.

### 3 Promotion of Judicial System Reform

## Promotion of Translation of Japanese Laws

In order for Japanese laws to be broadly and correctly understood, the Ministry of Justice is committed to translating Japanese laws into foreign languages and making them available on the Ministry's website. By using the Japanese Law Translation website (listed on right), over 700 English translations of the laws, including the Civil Law and Companies Act, can be accessed along with the Standard Legal Terms Dictionary, which is a dictionary of legal terms translated from Japanese to English, used as a guideline by the relevant ministries and agencies.

The Ministry of Justice will continue to publish and update information related to English translations of the laws, and the Standard Legal Terms Dictionary, in order of priority.



**The Japanese Law Translation website**  
<http://www.japaneselawtranslation.go.jp>

Japanese Law Translation  
Promotion Mascot

**YAKU**

## Establishing a New Criminal Justice System that Keeps Pace with the Times

With regard to the criminal justice system, a variety of reforms, such as the Saiban-in (lay judge) system, have been advanced as part of judicial system reform. On the other hand, discussions on reform have highlighted problems, such as procedural methods for investigations and trials suitable to this new era, which remain on the agenda to be examined in the future.

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

In May 2011, in order to establish a new criminal justice system that keeps pace with the times, the Minister of Justice called on the Legislative Council of the Ministry of Justice to deliberate ways to develop substantive criminal and procedural law relating to criminal cases, and in a report submitted to the Minister in September 2014, the Council delivered two principles: (1) the moderation and the diversification of evidence-gathering and (2) the improvement of trial procedure.

Based on this report, the Ministry of Justice prepared and submitted a proposal for a bill to revise the Code of Criminal Procedure and other codes to the 189th session of the Diet. This bill includes nine items necessary for the new criminal justice system: i) introducing audiovisual recording systems for interrogations, ii) introducing a prosecutorial agreement system for cooperation in investigations and trials, iii) rationalizing and streamlining the interception of electronic communication, iv) clarifying elements for consideration concerning whether to admit discretionary bail, v) improving legal assistance by defense counsels, vi) broadening information disclosure systems, vii) introducing measures for protecting victims and witnesses, viii) raising statutory penalties of crimes related to obstruction of justice, and ix) introducing measures to simplify and accelerate trials when defendants admit their guilt. The bill incorporates all the items mentioned above into the present criminal justice system and aims to establish a more moderate and more effective criminal justice system.

The law was enacted into law in May 2016. Most of it have already been enforced, with the rest coming into force until June 2019.

## 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 even more crucial to prevent disputes and solve them fairly based on law once they occur. Furthermore, as is symbolized by the lay judge system (see page 28), 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, even more important.

The Courses of Study, the national curriculum standard, provides that students study the basic concepts of laws, 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 and development, and will continue efforts to improve the content of law-related education at schools and other places in cooperation with Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and other relevant organizations.



## ■ The Law-Related Education Promotion Council

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

The Ministry of Justice will continue its efforts to enhance and develop law-related education for citizens, especially those involved in education.

Law-Related Education mascot,  
“Hourisu-kun”

Hourisu-kun plays an active role in law-related teaching materials, various events, and more to help make it more familiar to the general public.



## Saiban-in System

Commenced May 21, 2009, Saiban-in System is a system in which jurors selected from the general public participate in the criminal trials for serious cases. The jurors, along with professional judges, determine whether the defendant is guilty and what the sentence should be.

This system will make the justice system more familiar to citizens.

The Ministry of Justice has conducted public relations in order to deepen citizen understanding of this system.

### Appointment Procedure

#### Around November

Persons selected by lot as next year's candidates for jurors are 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 of their court appearance by writ of summons.

#### The day of the appointment procedure

Six jurors will be appointed through procedure at court.

### Duties of jurors

#### Trial

Jurors hear witness testimonies and examine the evidence.

#### Deliberations

Jurors and professional judges deliberate and determine together whether the defendant is guilty and what the sentence will be.

#### Judgment

The presiding judge renders the judgment.



A courtroom for jury trials



Deliberation room



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

[http://www.moj.go.jp/keiji1/saibanin\\_index.html](http://www.moj.go.jp/keiji1/saibanin_index.html)





## Legal Affairs Bureau

### Responsibilities of the Legal Affairs Bureau

As a regional organization of the Ministry of Justice, the Legal Affairs Bureau is responsible for civil administrative affairs that protect the property and identity of citizens, such as registration, family register, nationality, and deposits, as well as litigation work relevant to the interests of the State and the human rights affairs that protect basic human rights.



Tokyo Legal Affairs Bureau



**For further details, please check the Legal Affairs Bureau website.**

<http://houmukyoku.moj.go.jp/homu/static/index.html>

### Organization of the Legal Affairs Bureau

The Legal Affairs Bureaus are divided into 8 blocks nationwide, with a Legal Affairs Bureau in charge of each block (8 bureaus), and placed under these Legal Affairs Bureaus are the District Legal Affairs Bureaus, which are generally responsible for prefectural units (42 bureaus).

Moreover, Branch District Legal Affairs Bureaus and Branch Offices have been placed under the Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus.

The Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and Branch District Legal Affairs Bureaus are responsible for registration, family register, nationality, deposit office deposits, litigation, and human rights affairs, while Branch Offices are mainly responsible for registration.



State of the Legal Affairs Bureau

## System for Documenting Your Rights

### Registration (This system creates a public register on property and rights for the Legal Affairs Bureau and announces it to the public.)

#### Protecting Assets:

##### Real Estate Property Registration

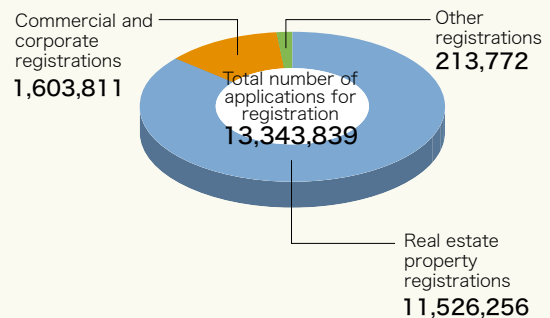
Real Estate Property Registration is a system that records the actual condition of our important property, including the location and area of land and buildings, the name and address of the owner, and the rights involved in a public book called a registry in a way that anyone can understand so as to create safe, smooth real estate dealings.

#### If you don't register...

**Q** After many years of saving, I purchased my home. But later, someone claiming to be the owner of the house appeared. When I checked the registry, I found out that this person was listed as the owner. When I looked more carefully, it appeared that, after I purchased the house, the seller sold this person the house at a higher price. Isn't the owner of the house me, since I bought the house earlier?

**A** Unfortunately, you will not be able to claim ownership. Even though you purchased the house earlier, since it was not registered as your house, you will not be able to claim ownership as third parties. In order to avoid such trouble, it is important to register property properly as soon as possible after completing a transaction.

#### Total Number of Registrations (2017)



### Inheritance Registration for the Future

Registering inheritance clarifies rights regarding estate and enables you to sell property that you have acquired through inheritance immediately or take out a mortgage as collateral.

On the other hand, if real estate is inherited multiple times, it may take a considerable amount of time to identify the heir, with high procedural costs and fees for the inheritance registration. If the inheritance process takes too much time, it might bring you unforeseen disadvantages, such as being unable to sell your real property immediately even though you would like to.

In order to secure your rights as well as the rights of future generations, we recommend you register your inheritance.

## Define Your Parcel of Land Clearly: Creating a Registry Office Designated Map

In order to clarify the exact location and dimensions of registered land, the registry office includes in the registration documents a map called a Registry Office Designated Map, created by high-precision surveying. However, since maintenance of Registry Office Designated Maps is insufficient because many registry offices use old maps created in the Meiji era, experts with specialized knowledge and many years of experience in the registry office have promoted the creation of Registry Office Designated Maps around the country.



Old Map



Registry Office Designated Map

## Economic Activity and Registry Office Designated Maps

When the land around Roppongi Hills was redeveloped, it took considerable time and money to define land parcel boundaries because only the old map existed.

In order to prevent such problems, a highly accurate Registry Office Designated Map is required. The development of Registry Office Designated Maps supports smoother economic activities such as land development.

## Solving Boundary Disputes -Parcel Boundary Demarcation-

Parcel Boundary Demarcation is a system in which, based on requests from registered landowners, Registrars for Parcel Boundary Demarcation specify the location of land boundaries on-site based on the opinion of external experts called Parcel Boundary Examiners. Registrars for Parcel Boundary Demarcation do not make decide new boundaries, but rather clarify original boundaries set at the time of registration after conducting a range of investigations, including field research and surveys.

When issues regarding parcel boundaries arise, use of this system makes it possible to resolve of the problem without filing for litigation promptly.



Public awareness poster for the Parcel Boundary Demarcation system

## What is a Parcel Boundary?

A parcel boundary is a line that defines the position and dimensions of the land at the time of registration. The parcel boundary cannot be changed through agreements between the owners.

## Commercial and Corporate Registration

Commercial registration is a system for publicly notifying names, addresses and board members of companies (stock companies, general partnership companies, limited partnership companies, and limited liability companies) while corporate registration is a system for publicly notifying those of corporations other than companies (including general incorporated associations, general incorporated foundations, NPOs, and social welfare corporations).

Companies and corporations can obtain legal personality only after they register their establishment and maintain the public's confidence by registering their basic information.

Commercial registration also helps them ensure safe and smooth transactions. As information must be correctly registered in line with the actual information of the companies, they must attach supporting documents upon registration application. False statements and negligence in applications will result in legal punishment.

## Adult Guardianship System and Adult Guardianship Registration System

The Adult Guardianship System is designed to protect and support those unable to make decisions for themselves due to conditions such as dementia, intellectual disability, or psychiatric disorders, by appointing a guardian to handle affairs, such as managing assets or entering into contracts, on their behalf.

In the Adult Guardianship Registration system, a registrar registers the authority of the adult guardians appointed by the court, and registers the details of voluntary guardian contracts made by notarial deed, and this information is made public in the form of a certificate.

## Efforts to Implement Registration

In addition to the above-mentioned legal systems, we have promoted various measures to establish a registration system appropriate to today's advanced information society, including enhancing the organization of personnel working in clerical registration, establishing work processing systems such as mechanization and streamlining of office work, optimizing registration office placement, and improving government buildings.

Also, in order to meet the needs of today's IT advances, we have introduced a registry information service through which registered information can be verified online and an electronic certification system based on commercial registry, and have also made available online registration applications for real estate property, commerce and incorporation, transfer of assigned movables, transfer of receivables, and adult guardianship registration.



## 4 Realization of Basic Rights for People

### ◆ Family Registration

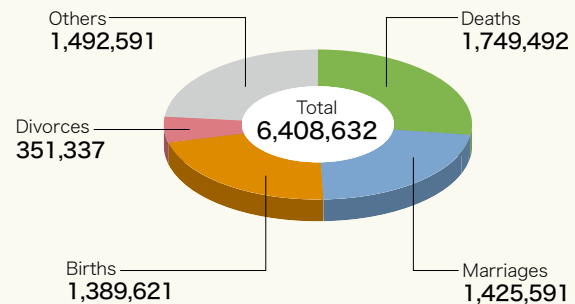
Family registration is a system that notarizes kinship of a person from birth until death, are made for every Japanese national, and are the only public document that notarizes a person's Japanese nationality. Family registration is handled by each city, town or village, but the State (Director of the Legal Affairs Bureau or the District Legal Affairs Bureau) gives advice, suggestions or instructions to ensure that registration is performed in a smooth, proper, and uniform manner throughout the country.

In recent years, the existence of people for whom a birth certificate has not been issued and are thus not entered in a family register has become social issue. Therefore, the Ministry of Justice has posted an explanation of the procedure for entering such persons in a family register on the Ministry of Justice website.

([http://www.moj.go.jp/MINJI/minji04\\_00034.html](http://www.moj.go.jp/MINJI/minji04_00034.html))

Meanwhile, starting May 1, 2008, the Family Register Act restricts cases in which a third person can request the issuance of a copy of a family register, and stipulates that identification must be shown when the applicant submits information for registration.

Statistics on Family Registration (from Apr. 2017 to Mar. 2018)



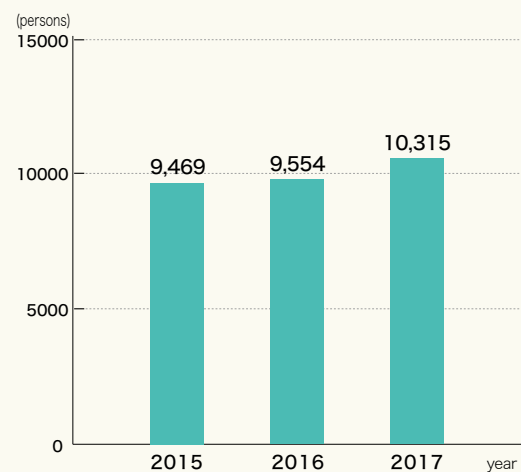
### ◆ Nationality

Nationality is the qualification of an individual to be a national of a particular country. The Ministry of Justice performs various functions related to Japanese nationality, including the following.

- ① Work related to naturalization when a foreign national wishes to acquire Japanese nationality
- ② Work related to applications for acquisition of Japanese nationality
- ③ Work related to applications for renunciation of Japanese nationality
- ④ Work related to the choice of nationality by a person who has dual nationality
- ⑤ Work related to recognition of Japanese nationality
- ⑥ Consultation concerning nationality

An amended Nationality Act was enacted on January 1, 2009, which has changed the conditions for acquiring Japanese nationality under the provision of the third article of the Nationality Act, and has established new penal regulations.

Total Number of Naturalizations Approved

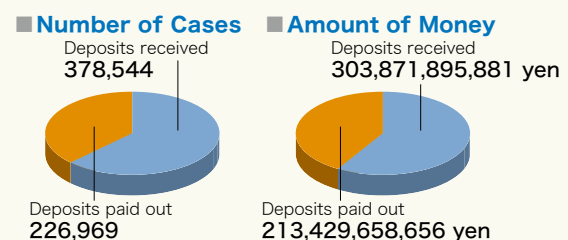


### ◆ Deposits

The deposit system is designed to accomplish certain legal objectives by submitting money or negotiable securities to national organizations called deposit offices, entrusting management to the deposit office, who ultimately allows the rights holder to acquire the assets.

An online deposit application system has been implemented in response to IT advances in today's society, and in an effort to reduce the burden on applicants, deposit applications for pending cases can be made easily by presenting a deposit card, and a large number of deposit applications can be made at the same time using a dedicated application system tool.

Number of Deposits (from Apr. 2017 to Mar. 2018)



## ◆ Notary System

Notarization is a system under which a notary, a State agent whose function is to officially certify legal matters related to the legal life of a private person, such as contracts, certifies matters as prescribed by law by such means as creating documents. By having a notary participate in the preparation of the contract in advance and check the legality and the validity of the contents, this system guarantees the protection of individual's rights and helps prevent possible future legal disputes, and in this sense, is a preventive justice system.

Notaries are commissioned by the persons or parties involved to create notarized documents such as wills, certify private instruments and articles of incorporation, and attaching a

certified date.

With regard to digital documents, notaries can certify private documents, attach certified dates, and save or certification of digital information (electric notary system).

Notaries are appointed, instructed, and supervised by the Minister of Justice (Legal Affairs Bureau directors, District Legal Affairs Bureau directors). About 500 notaries are working in about 300 notary offices throughout the country.

### PICK UP!



### Improvement of Basic Civil Laws

**Q The world is changing rapidly in terms of living environment and more. Will laws be reviewed?**

**A** There are various fundamental laws on civil affairs, such the Civil Code, the Commercial Code, the Companies Act, and the Code of Civil Procedure, which stipulate the basic rules for citizen's daily lives and economic transactions, the family system, and judicial proceedings. Recently in Japan, socioeconomic circumstances have changed significantly, with great diversification in the public, which is why the Ministry of Justice is conducting necessary examinations and reviews to make the fundamental civil laws that can handle these changes and are well-suited to the current era. The Ministry also delivers its views on bills governed by other ministries and agencies regarding consistency with fundamental law from a position of jurisdiction over basic civil law.

● **Civil Code**

In 2016, a partial amendment was made to the Civil Code to shorten the six-month remarriage waiting period to 100 days following a decision of unconstitutionality in a case judged by the Supreme Court on December 16th, 2015.

In 2017, the Civil Code was revised, reviewing the overall regulations related to credit.

In 2018, a partial amendment was made to the Civil Code to lower the age of majority to 18 years and raise the marriageable age for women to 18 years (making the marriageable age 18 years for both men and women). (and inheritance.)

In addition to these revisions, provisions of the Civil Code concerning inheritance have been amended, and the new procedure in which testators can deposit their holograph wills with the Legal Affairs Bureaus has also been introduced.

Furthermore concerning the Civil Code and the Real Property Registration Act, we are currently reviewing articles related to property law and the real property registration system in order to resolve the issue of "land with unknown owner". Also, we are currently reviewing articles related to the special adoption system, which is a type of adoption system that extinguishes the kinship between the child and the natural relatives, and the Charitable Trust Act on the basis of the reform of the public-interest corporation system.

● **Commercial Code**

In 2014, amendments were made to the Companies Act with the aim of strengthening corporate governance, and we are currently examining possibilities for a further reform of rules concerning corporate governance.

In 2018, amendments were made to the Commercial Code related to transport and maritime commerce (corporate activities involving the use of seafaring ships, such as sea transport).

● **Civil Procedural Laws**

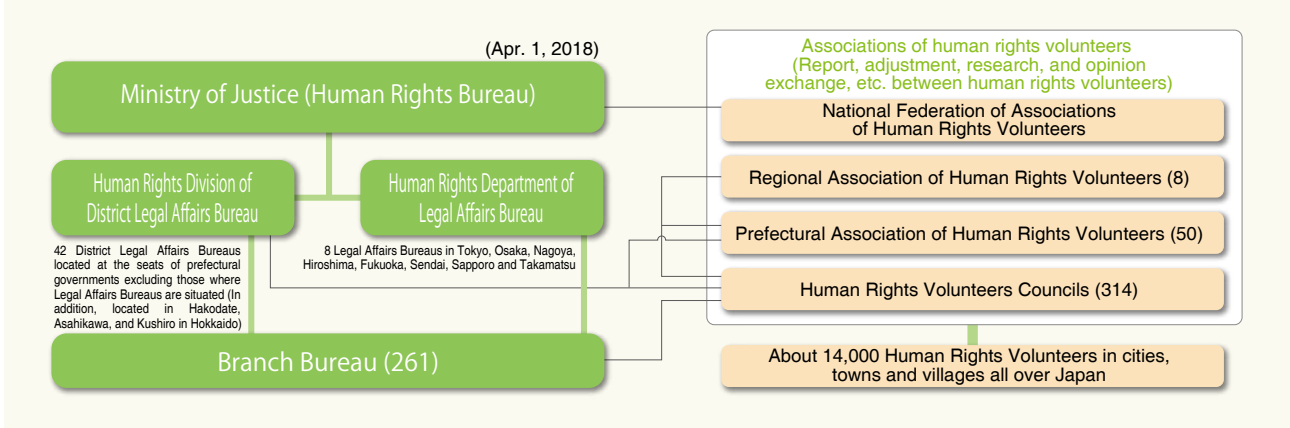
In 2018, a partial amendment was made to the Personal Status Litigation Act etc. to provide rules regarding international jurisdiction on personal status litigations and domestic relations cases.

Also, regarding civil procedural laws, we are currently discussing the review of the laws regarding Civil Execution.



Promotion and Protection of Human Rights  
(Human Rights Counseling, Investigation and Remedy Measures Human Rights Awareness Raising, and More)

Chart of Human Rights Bodies of the Ministry of Justice



■ Investigation and Remedy Measures for Human Rights Violation Cases

There are various human rights violation cases (cases where human rights violations are suspected), including assault and abuse of women, children, and the elderly; bullying at schools; compulsion and coercion in the forms of sexual harassment, power harassment, and stalking; and online defamation and invasion of privacy. The Human Rights Bodies have taken measures to seek a remedy and prevent damages in human rights violation cases, such as providing assistance to victims (introducing relevant authorities or organizations, giving legal advice, etc.), conciliating the parties involved, as well as providing “instruction” and “recommendations” to the other party when violation of human rights is recognized.

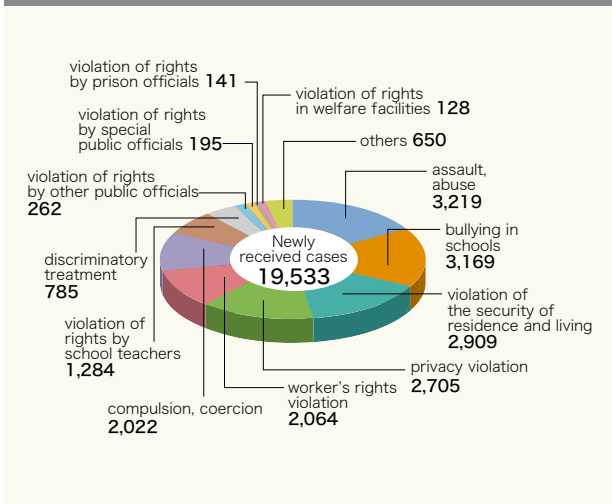
■ Awareness-Raising for Human Rights

Raising awareness for human rights involves making citizens understand the necessity and importance of respecting human rights and disseminating these ideas, and is one of the most important duties of the Human Rights Bodies.

● Awareness-Raising Activities

A variety of methods are used to raise wider awareness among citizens, but in general, priority targets on which to focus these activities are set, using various events including symposiums, lectures, and movie viewings, as well as mass media such as TV, radio and the internet to raise awareness.

Number of Human Rights Violation Cases (from Jan. 1 to Dec.31, 2017)



poster "STOP! HATE SPEECH"

● Awareness-Raising Activities Aimed at Children  
"The Human Rights Flower Campaign"

The Human Rights Flower Campaign is an awareness-raising activity carried out mainly for elementary school children in which children grow flower seeds or bulbs through cooperation,

helping them realize the preciousness of life and gain kindness and compassion.

#### "Human Rights Lectures"

The human rights lectures is an awareness-raising activity for children aimed at nurturing compassion and understanding the preciousness of life by creating opportunities to think about such topics as bullying. The lecture targets mainly elementary and junior high school students, and is held with Human Rights Volunteers across the country playing a central role.

#### "National Essay Contest on Human Rights for Junior High School Students"

The National Essay Contest on Human Rights for Junior High School Students is an awareness-raising activity designed to enable junior high school students to deepen their understanding of the importance and necessity of respect for human rights and to foster awareness of human rights through writing essays on human rights issues.



Human Rights Flower Campaign



Human rights lectures

## ■ Human Rights Counseling

Human rights counseling is available for all kinds of human rights problems, with counselors providing advice depending on the content. When human rights violations are suspected, the human rights bodies initiate an investigation in accordance with the counselor's consent. The counseling services are free of charge, require no difficult procedures, and strictly confidential.

### ● Human Rights Counseling Centers

Human rights counseling centers are permanently installed at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and their branches across the nation, with interview-style counseling, phone counseling, and online counseling available, as well as Human Rights Counseling Center for Foreigners, which provides counseling through interpreters for foreigners unable to speak Japanese fluently.

### ● Children's Rights SOS Mini-Letters

Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus nationwide have actively responded to consultations from children through "Children's Rights SOS Mini-Letters" (letter paper with a pre-stamped envelope), which are distributed to elementary and junior high school students nationwide as part of an effort to solve human rights problems involving children, such as bullying and corporal punishment at school and domestic child abuse.



Human rights promotion characters  
Jin-KEN-Mamoru-Kun & Jin-KEN-Ayumi-Chan



Children's Rights SOS Mini-Letters  
(for elementary school students)

## Counseling Services

	Human Rights Hotline	<b>0570-003-110</b> (nationwide)
	Children's Rights Hotline	<b>0120-007-110</b> (nationwide toll-free number)
	Women's Rights Hotline	<b>0570-070-810</b> (nationwide)
	Foreign-language Human Rights Hotline	<b>0570-090-911</b> (nationwide)



<http://www.jinken.go.jp/>

Human Rights Counseling Services on the Internet

## ■ Human Rights Volunteers

Human Rights Volunteers are "Counseling Partners in Your Town" recommended by the mayor and appointed by the Minister of Justice. The system of Human Rights Volunteers was introduced in 1948 based on the concept that the government and citizens should work together to protect human rights of local residents, and there

are currently about 14,000 Human Rights Volunteers (about 6,500 of whom are women) placed in municipalities across the nation working to solve human rights problems through raising awareness and providing counseling on human rights in cooperation with Legal Affairs Bureau and District Legal Affairs Bureau officials.



### Legal Services

#### ■ Attorney Certification System

In order to obtain the attorney qualifications, a person is generally required to complete a legal apprentice training course after passing the national bar examination, but an exception to this are the attorney qualifications through the Attorney Certification System with the approval of the Minister of Justice given to those who have passed the national bar examination and have acquired a certain level of actual legal practice experience in a corporation.

The Ministry of Justice is responsible for work concerning the certification of attorney qualifications.

#### ■ Gaikokuho-Jimu-Bengoshi (Registered Foreign Lawyers)

The Gaikokuho-Jimu-Bengoshi system is designed to permit persons qualified as lawyers in foreign states to handle specific legal business in Japan as a registered foreign lawyer, without having to retake qualification examinations.

To become a registered foreign lawyer, the qualified foreign lawyers must be approved by the Minister of Justice in accordance with the Act on Special Measures Concerning the Handling of Legal Services by Foreign Lawyers, and must also register on the Roll of Registered Foreign Lawyers kept by the Japan Federation of Bar Association.

The Ministry of Justice is responsible for work concerning the approval of qualifications for registered foreign lawyers.

#### ■ Claim Management and Collection Companies (Servicers)

In order to promote the disposal of non-performing loans and thereby contribute to the sound development of the national economy, the Act on Special Measures Concerning the Claims Servicing Business (Servicer Act; Act No. 126 of 1998) was enacted on February 1, 1999 as an exception to the Attorney Act.

Servicers licensed by the Minister of Justice are allowed to manage and collect specified monetary claims provided in the Servicer Act.

The Ministry of Justice is responsible for reviewing approvals of claim management and collection, as well as for supervising servicers to ensure appropriate practices through on-site inspections.

#### ■ Certified Dispute Resolution Business Operators

The Act on Promotion of Use of Alternative Dispute Resolution, enacted on April 1, 2007 as part of the reform of the judicial system, has introduced a system in which the Minister of Justice certifies private dispute resolution services (conciliation and intercession services performed by private businesses on a civil dispute), when legal criteria and requirements are met and the service is deemed appropriate, to promote the use of alternative dispute resolution processes (procedures for the resolution of a civil dispute between parties who seek, with the involvement of a fair third party, a resolution without using legal procedures).

Certified dispute resolution business operators (private businesses certified by the Minister of Justice) resolve disputes, utilizing professional knowledge and experience to accurately meet the diverse needs of citizens.

The number of certified dispute resolution business operators increased from 10 in FY 2007 when the system was launched to over 150 in FY 2018, with the area of disputes handled growing more diversified and accessibility to the system further improved.

The Ministry of Justice is responsible for work concerning the certification of private dispute resolution services and undertaking various efforts to ensure that procedures for conciliation taken by certified dispute resolution operators are used extensively as an accessible means of resolving disputes.



#### ■ Judicial Scriveners

Judicial scriveners are legal experts whose purpose is to help protect the rights and interests of citizens, and who register real estate and commercial registration on behalf of the client, as well as prepare documents for the court. Since 2003, judicial scriveners, certified by the Minister of Justice after completing the designated training, may engage in civil procedures on behalf of clients at summary courts. Furthermore, since 2006, they may undertake proceedings as representatives in identifying registered land parcel boundary demarcations within a certain range.

The Civil Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Justice is responsible for the judicial scriveners system.

#### ■ Land and House Investigators

Land and house investigators contribute to the clarification of rights of the people related to real estate, and take charge of necessary investigations, surveys, and application procedures of lands and buildings for registering real estate on behalf of a client. Since 2006, land and house investigators approved by the Minister of Justice after completing a certain training to act as agents in proceedings to identify registered land parcel sections may undertake proceedings for solving civil disputes originating from unclear registration of land parcel sections, and dispute resolution business operators engaged in proceedings must be designated by the Minister of Justice, with operations carried out jointly with attorneys-at-law.

The Civil Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Justice is responsible for the land and house investigators system.

## Implementation of the Comprehensive Legal Support by the Japan Legal Support Center

### ■ What is the Comprehensive Legal Support Plan?

The Comprehensive Legal Support Act was approved at the 2004 ordinary Diet session. The Act is based on the Comprehensive Legal Support Plan designed to provide all citizens in Japan with necessary information and services for legal solutions to both civil and criminal disputes so that the justice system may be more accessible to citizens.

#### ● The Japan Legal Support Center (Houterasu)

The Japan Legal Support Center (Houterasu) is a corporation established within the framework of an independent administrative agency and forms the core of the Comprehensive Legal Support Plan, with the Ministry of Justice as its competent ministry.

Houterasu was established in April 2006 with the purpose of promptly and properly implementing operations related to comprehensive legal support, and commenced its operations in October of the same year. The popular name Houterasu, a play on words meaning either "shining a light on law" or "law terrace", reflects the desire to "shed light on the path to solving legal troubles for the confused" and "to be a kind of sunny terrace where people can relax."

### ■ Outline of the Operations of Houterasu

The principal work of Houterasu consists of the following five services as prescribed in Article 30, Paragraph 1 of the Comprehensive Legal Support Act:

- ① Information Services
- ② Civil Legal Aid
- ③ Legal Aid for Criminal Defense
- ④ Measures for Areas with Limited Legal Services
- ⑤ Support for Victims of Crime

Building cooperating with relevant organizations required for these five services is also part of the work at Houterasu. Moreover, Houterasu may also provide services entrusted by national and local governments or non-profit organizations, provided this does not hinder these core services (Article 30, Paragraph 2). In addition, since April 2012, Houterasu has been providing legal aid for victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake.

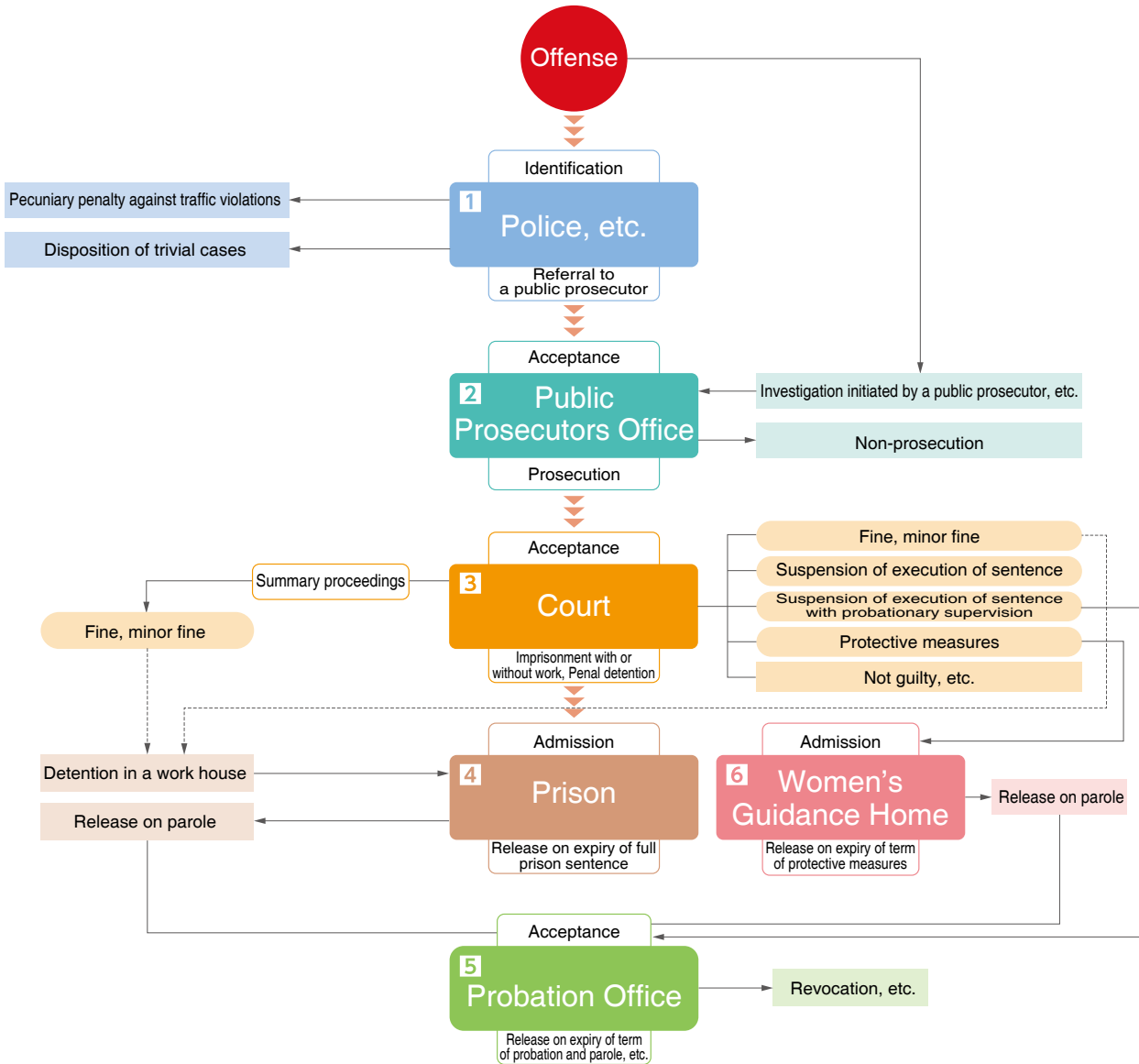


# 5 Enforcement of Proper Criminal Policy



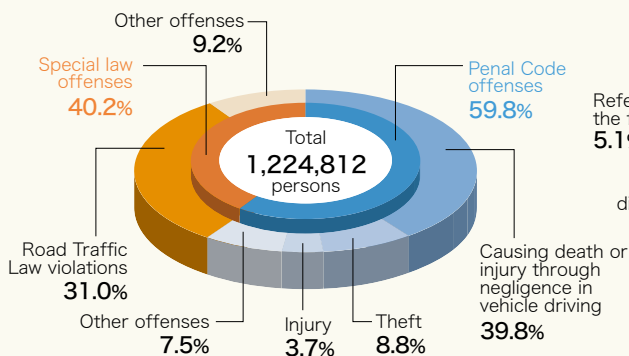
## Process of Criminal Cases Committed by Adults

■ Process of Criminal Cases Committed by Adults (Figure 1)

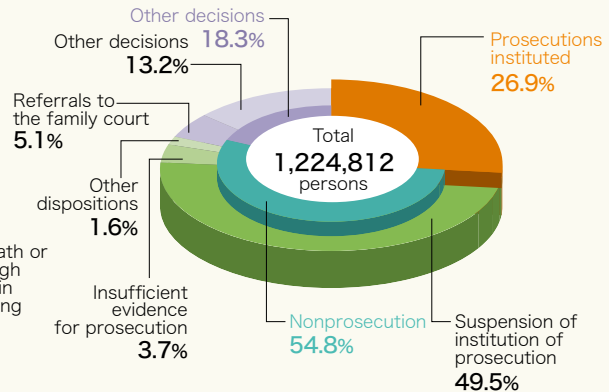


Cases Handled at Public Prosecutors Offices Nationwide (2017)

### ■ By type and name of offense



### ■ By dispositions rendered



●The proportion is rounded off to the first decimal places. Therefore, the sum of the composition rates do not add up to 100.0.



● Figure 1 shows the process of criminal offenses committed by adults.

**1 Police**

All cases in which the police arrest suspects and conduct necessary investigations are, in principle, transferred to public prosecutors.

**2 Public Prosecutors Office**

Public prosecutors conduct necessary investigations on cases transferred from the police and determine whether or not to indict the accused based on the law and evidence.

At times, they themselves may detect criminal cases or conduct investigations on cases that have been charged or accused.

**3 Court**

The courts hold hearings at public trials, and when they recognize the accused as guilty, the courts hand down a sentence, such as the death penalty, penal servitude, imprisonment, or a fine. In the case of penal servitude or imprisonment for three years or less, prison terms may be suspended due to extenuating circumstances, and probation may be given during the period of suspended sentence.

In the case of a relatively minor offense, the court may decide to examine the case through summary proceedings as long as the accused has no objection.

**4 Prison**

After the accused is convicted, the punishment will be administered under the direction of public prosecutors. As a general rule, punishment, including imprisonment, with or without prison work, or detention is enforced at penal institutions such as prisons. Penal institutions help inmates to reform and re-integrate into the community through correctional treatment.

Those who are incapable of paying the full amount of a penalty or fine will be detained in a workhouse attached to a penal institution.

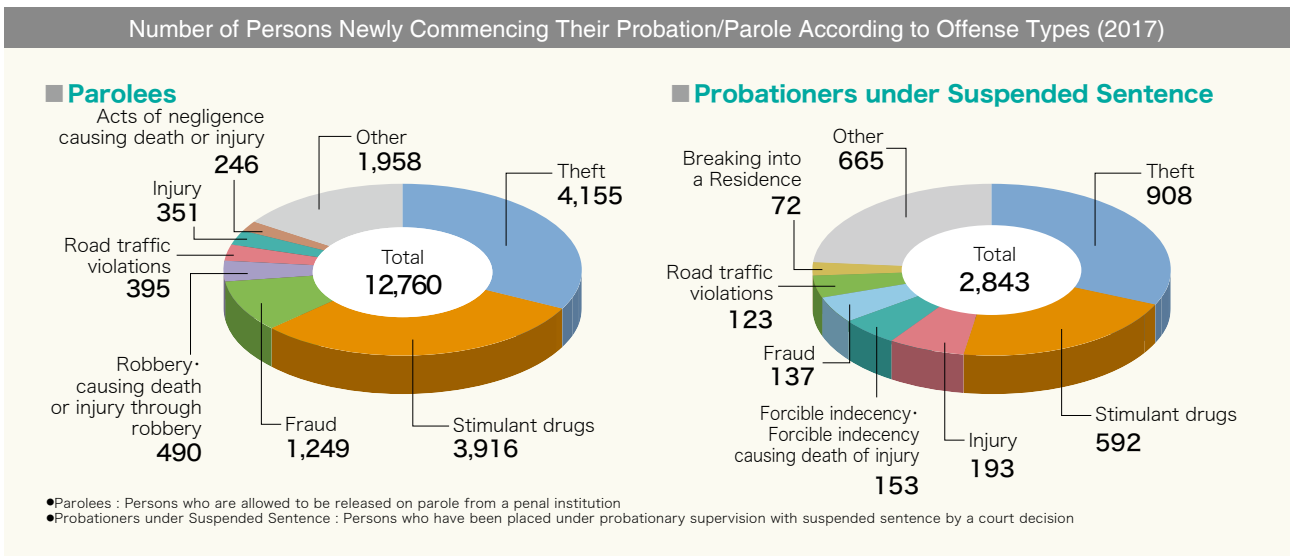
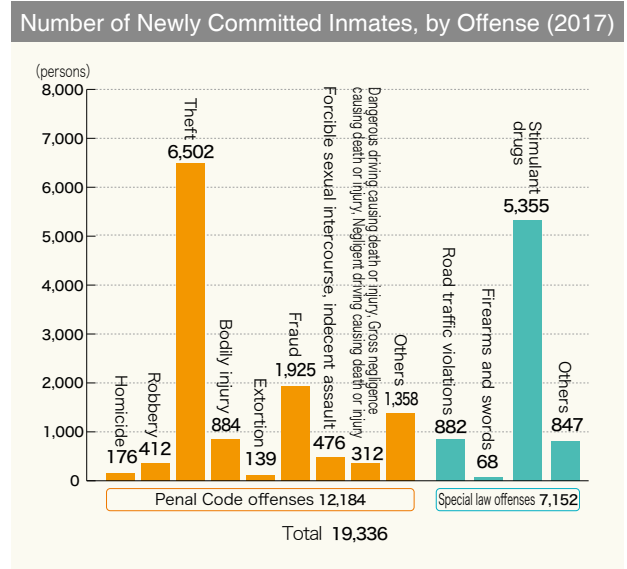
**5 Probation Office**

Inmates may be released on parole in accordance with a decision by the regional parole board even before their sentence ends, and such parolees are placed under probationary supervision while on parole. Those given a suspended sentence on the condition of probation will be placed under probationary supervision during the suspension period as well.

These parolees receive guidance and assistance from probation officers and volunteers probation officers at probation offices for rehabilitation and a smooth return to society.

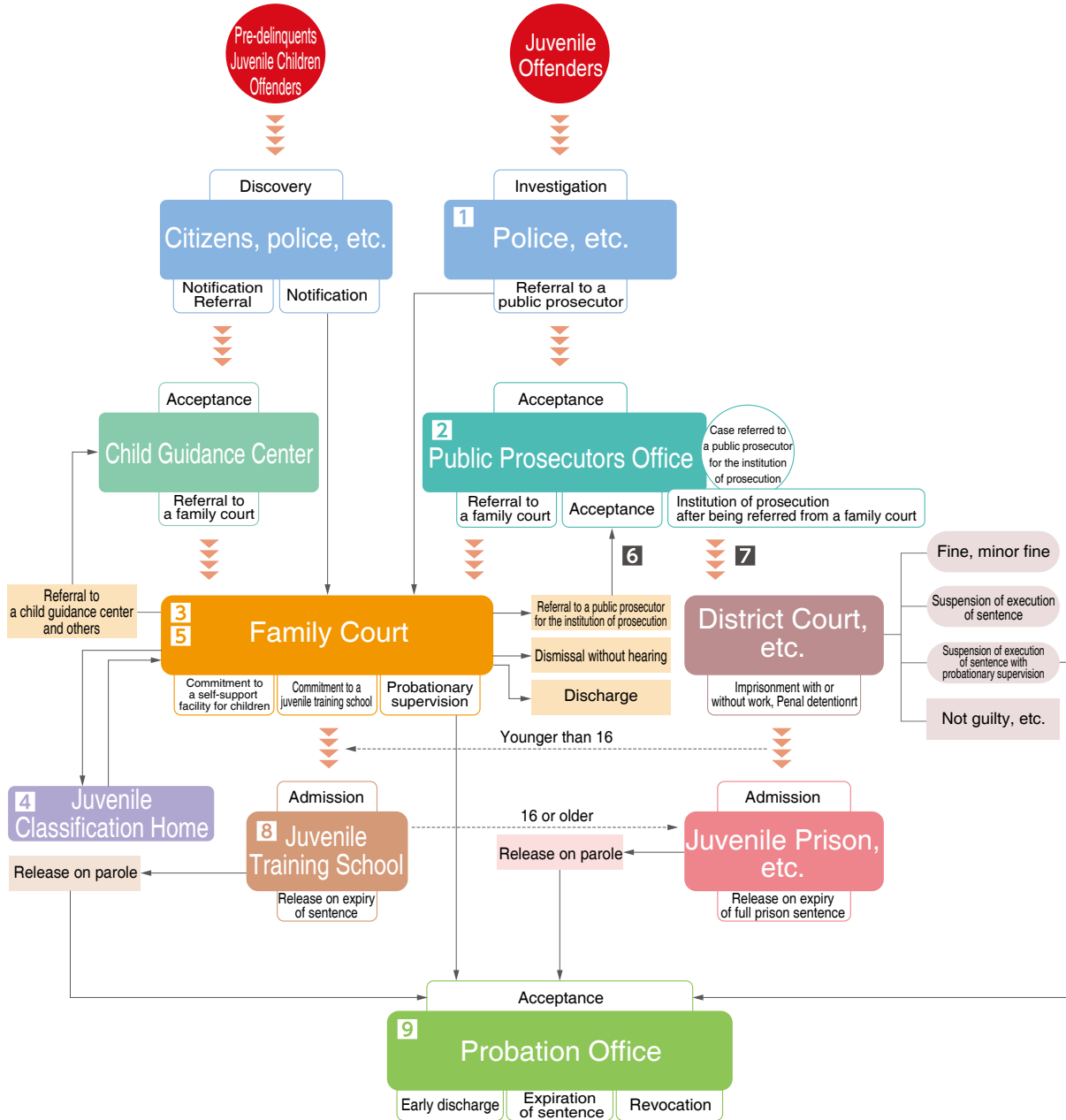
**6 Women's Guidance Home**

Adult females taken into custody for violating the Anti-Prostitution Act are detained in women's guidance homes and are placed on probation when they are granted parole release.



## Handling Juvenile Crimes and Delinquencies

■ Process for Juvenile Delinquents (Figure 2)



### Community volunteers supporting correctional facilities

Correctional facilities nationwide are supported by community volunteers, such as volunteer visitors and religious counsellors.

Volunteer visitors are those who help reformation and rehabilitation as well as smooth re-entry into society of inmates through of counseling, guidance sessions, music instruction, and more.

Religious counsellors provide religious guidance upon request from inmates according to their religious beliefs in order to ensure freedom of religion.



Volunteer visitors

● Figure 2 is a flowchart of proceedings for juvenile delinquents.

**1 Police**

When juvenile suspects are arrested by the police, the cases are in principle transferred to public prosecutors after investigations are complete.

**2 Public Prosecutors Office**

When public prosecutors suspect juveniles of committing crimes, or have good reason to refer them to family court for pre-delinquency (juvenile delinquents with behavioral problems that stop short of crime yet may lead to crime and need to be taken into custody), the relevant cases will be transferred to the family court after investigations are complete.

**3 Family Court**

A family court orders investigators to conduct investigations on relevant juveniles, including their dispositions and family backgrounds, and sends them to a juvenile classification home for assessment.

**4 Juvenile Classification Home**

A Juvenile classification home conducts assessments of juveniles based on medical, psychological, pedagogical, sociological, or other expertise, and submits the results to a family court.

**5 Family Court**

When a family court decides that a juvenile has no reason to undergo adjudication procedures, or that adjudication procedures are not appropriate based on the result of the investigation of the dossier, the court elects dismissal without hearing, and when the court finds it reasonable to take adjudication procedures, it employs the closed-door process

When recognizing delinquency for certain serious incidents becomes necessary, the prosecutor will take part in judgement by family court decision.

If placing the juvenile in protective custody is deemed unnecessary as a result of the adjudication process based on the above-mentioned investigations and assessment of ⑤ and ④, the court declares the juvenile not to be charged. However, if placing the juvenile in protective custody is deemed, the court decides whether to place them on probation or in a juvenile training school.

**67 Sending Juveniles to Public Prosecutors and Indictment**

When a family court finds it reasonable to impose criminal punishment on those who have committed a crime that deserves the death penalty, penal servitude, or imprisonment, the court sends the case to public prosecutors.

When juveniles aged sixteen or older are accused of killing victims intentionally, the cases are, in principle, sent to public prosecutors who must indict them once they have accepted the case.

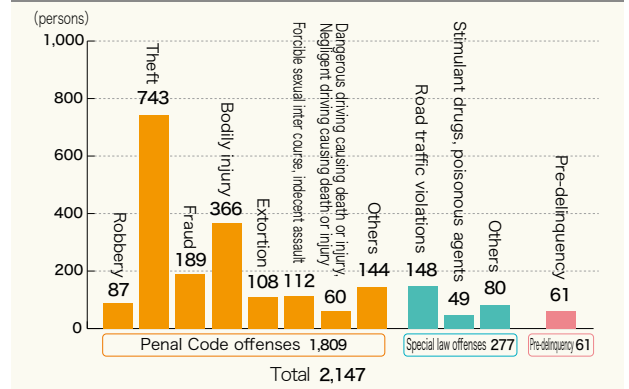
**8 Juvenile Training School**

Juveniles given a family court judgment to be sent to a juvenile training school are admitted to any of Type-I, Type-II or Type-III juvenile training schools, where receive correctional education and rehabilitation support as they work toward reform. Juvenile sentenced inmates younger than 16 are accommodated in Type-IV juvenile training schools if needed.

**9 Probation Office**

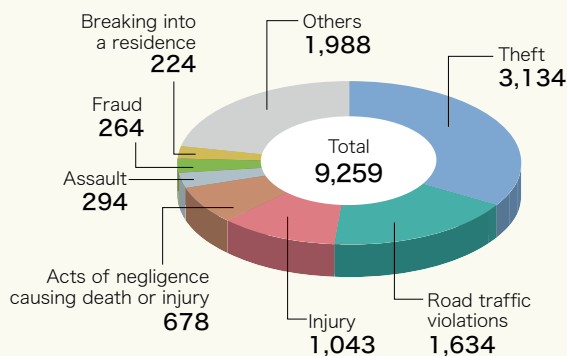
Juvenile delinquents who have been placed on probation by a family court, or those who are provisionally permitted to be released from a juvenile training school, receive guidance and assistance from probation officers and volunteer probation officers for rehabilitation and a smooth return to society.

Number of Juveniles Newly Committed to Juvenile Training Schools According to Delinquency (2017)

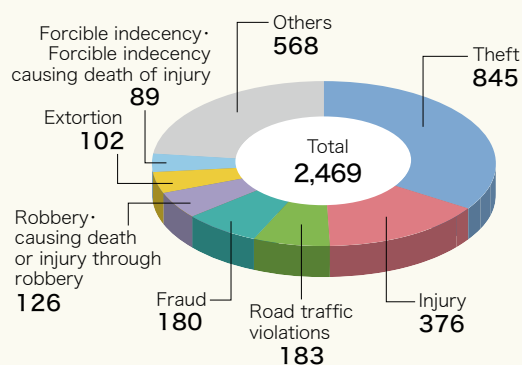


Number of Persons Newly Commencing Probation/Parole According to Types of Delinquency (2017)

**Juvenile Probationers**



**Juvenile Training School Parolees**



● Juvenile Probationers : Juveniles who have been placed under probationary supervision by a family court decision (excluding those under short-term probation for traffic offenses)  
 ● Juvenile Training School Parolees : Persons who are released on parole from a juvenile training school



### What is Offender Rehabilitation?

This is a system carried out in cooperation with the nation and volunteers designed to give guidance and assistance to those who have committed crimes or those who have turned to juvenile delinquency so that they can become sound members of the society.

#### Regional Parole Boards

Regional parole boards are located in the eight regions across the country that correspond to the jurisdictional areas of the high courts. The major functions of the boards are to make decisions on parole of inmates of prisons or juvenile training schools, and revoking parole when parolees fail to observe the parole conditions.

#### Probation Offices

There are 50 probation offices throughout the country located in each of the district court jurisdiction. Their major function is conducting probationary supervision over juveniles placed on probation by family court decision, those released on parole from prisons or juvenile training schools, and those on probation with suspension of sentence. The probation offices also engage in activities that promote community-based campaigns to prevent crime and delinquency.

#### Probation Officers

Probation officers are full-time government officials of the Ministry of Justice who are assigned to either the Secretariat of the Regional Parole Board or to the Probation Office. With expert knowledge on psychology, pedagogy, welfare and sociology, they work to rehabilitate those who have committed crimes or have turned to juvenile delinquency, giving them guidance and assistance in everyday life in collaboration with volunteer probation officers. They also perform crime and delinquency prevention and provide support for crime victims.

#### Volunteer Probation Officers

Volunteer probation officers are private citizens commissioned by the Minister of Justice, and there are 47,000 of these officers across the country. As they are familiar with the circumstances and customs of their community, they are able to give effective guidance and assistance to those who have committed crimes or have turned to juvenile delinquency in the community in collaboration with probation officers. In addition, they engage in crime prevention in their community to promote prevention of crime and delinquency, and provide support for crime victims.

Volunteer probation officers have the status of part-time government officers, but do not receive compensation except for the expenses involved in their activities.

#### Badge of Volunteer Probation Officers

Designed by the late Sagenji Yoshida, Professor Emeritus at the Tokyo University of the Arts, this badge consists of 18 chrysanthemum petals with a sunflower and the rising sun, with the circle of its contour representing harmony among people and the red cloth representing human heart and passion.



#### Offenders Rehabilitation Facilities

Of all the persons who have been placed on parole/probationary supervision or released from prison, offender rehabilitation facilities accommodate those who have no proper place to live and give them living guidance and vocational trainings so that they will be able to live independently at the earliest possible date. There are 103 such facilities in the country, mainly operated by juridical persons for the offender rehabilitation services, which are private foundations approved by the Minister of Justice to run the services in order to facilitate the rehabilitation of offenders.



Exterior of an Offenders Rehabilitation Facility

#### Women's Association for Rehabilitation Aid

The Women's Association for Rehabilitation Aid is an organization composed of women volunteers working toward crime prevention as well as rehabilitation for those who have committed crimes or juvenile delinquents from a female perspective in order to build a brighter society, free from crime and delinquency. There are about 158,000 volunteer members across the country engaged not only in crime and delinquency prevention educational activities, but also in a wide range of activities rooted in the community, such as sound upbringing of youth, child-support, rehabilitation support in offender rehabilitation facilities, cooperation in volunteer work with offenders on probation, and visits to prisons and juvenile training schools to encourage inmates.

#### BBS Association

The Big Brothers and Sisters Association is a youth volunteer organization that aims to support the healthy growth of juveniles with various difficulties including delinquency by interacting with them like a friendly older brother or sister. There are about 4,500 BBS members who conduct activities such as "Friendship Activities", which supports the growth and independence of the juveniles by befriending them, and carry out crime prevention to create a crime-free society.

## Cooperative Employers

Cooperative Employers are business owners who employ ex-offenders and juvenile delinquents to help them become independent and rehabilitated. These employers understand the feelings of offenders and provide them with stable jobs, which serves as a tremendous contribution to offenders rehabilitation in society.

There are about 20,000 such cooperative business owners across the country.

## Become an Offender Rehabilitation Volunteer

Ensuring that those who have committed a crime can get rehabilitation and become law-abiding members of society is a task that cannot be achieved by government alone. The efforts of offender rehabilitation volunteers, including Volunteer Probation Officers, the Women's Association for Rehabilitation Aid, BBS, and Cooperative Employers have been of great help.

If you are interested in participating in such activities, please contact your nearest Parole Office.

## National Centers for Offenders Rehabilitation

The National Center for Offenders Rehabilitation is established and operated to provide parolees from penal institutions or juvenile training schools who cannot secure the necessary social surroundings for smooth reintegration into society from relatives or private-sector offender rehabilitation facilities with lodging at state-established facilities, where probation officers directly provide them with intensive supervision and generous employment assistance, thereby encouraging their rehabilitation and preventing them from committing further offenses.

Among these facilities, organizations that perform selective, specialized treatment in society in accord with the relevant specific problem are called the National Center for Offenders Rehabilitation, while other organizations that provide vocational training, primarily in agriculture, are called the National Center for Offenders Job Training and Employment Support.

The National Centers for Offenders Rehabilitation is established and operated in Kitakyushu and Fukushima City, while the National Centers for Offenders Job Training is established and operated in Hokkaido (Numata-cho) and Ibaraki (Hitachinaka City).



The National Center for Offender Rehabilitation in Fukuoka (Kitakyushu City)



The National Center for Offender Job Training and Employment Support in Hokkaido (Numata-cho, Uryu-gun)

## System for Partial Suspension of Sentence

In June 2016 the Act for Partial Revision of the Penal Code and the Act for Partial Suspension of Sentence for Criminals Convicted of Drug Use and Others were enforced to provide suspension of part of a criminal's sentence, and the Partial of Sentence System these laws introduced enable judges to partially suspend sentences for 1-5 years in rendering a sentence of imprisonment with or without labor for terms less than 3 years, with the aim of preventing re-offending and helping offenders to rehabilitate by securing a period of treatment in prison, followed by a longer period of treatment in society.

Under this system, those who have no previous record of sentences heavier than imprisonment without work are put on discretionary probation during the period of the suspended sentence, while those who have been imprisoned with work because of drug use and other substance issues are put on mandatory probation.

### Securing Volunteer Probation Officers

#### Current Volunteer Probation Officer System

Volunteer probation officers play an extremely important role in the Japanese offenders rehabilitation system by supporting rehabilitation of offenders in the community and by engaging in publicity campaigns and enlightenment activities to build a brighter community without crime and delinquency. "The Third World Congress on Probation" held in Japan in 2017 also recognized again that the roles of the volunteer probation officers in the community is significant in the field of offenders rehabilitation.

Furthermore, in the Re-offending Prevention Promotion Plan decided by the Cabinet in 2017, national government, local government and private sector shall closely work together to promote recidivism prevention measures, and therefore it is expected that public interest in and expectations for volunteer probation officers as supporters in the community will become higher and higher.

Meanwhile, due to the changes in social circumstances, such as the weakening of interpersonal relationships in the community, it is becoming more difficult to secure suitable persons as volunteer probation officers. Recently there was a downward trend in the number of the volunteer probation officers (quota is 52,500). Due to the trend, securing volunteer probation officers constantly for the future is the most serious issue for the offenders rehabilitation in Japan.

#### Efforts of the Ministry of Justice

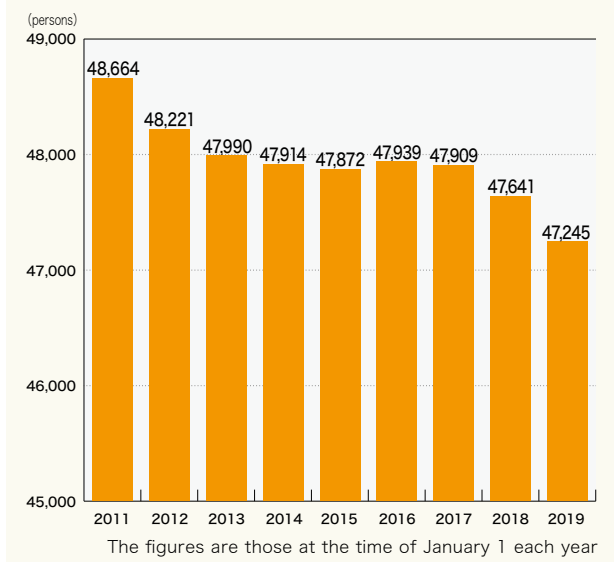
Under these circumstances, the Ministry of Justice is working on various strategies for constantly recruiting the volunteer probation officers and reinforcing the volunteer probation officer system, based on the suggestions written in the report submitted to the Rehabilitation Bureau of the Ministry of Justice by the "Study Group on Improving the Volunteer Probation Officer System" launched in 2011.

For example, the Ministry of Justice supports the local volunteer probation officers associations across the country to hold "Volunteer Probation Officer Candidate Information Meetings" so as to secure appropriate candidates for volunteer probation officers from local residents with various points of view such as a wide range of age groups, including youth, and occupations, and to conduct the "Internship for Volunteer Probation Officer" for local residents to experience the activities of volunteer probation officers.

There are in total 802 "Offenders Rehabilitation Support Centers" nationwide in 2018, which serve as hubs for offenders rehabilitation by the volunteer probation officers, which are planning further enhancement and improvement in the future.

The volunteer probation officer organizations and the national government are working together to secure volunteer probation officers and support for the volunteer probation officers' activities so that Japan can develop a sustainable world-class volunteer probation system.

Changes in the Number of Volunteer Probation Officers (2011-2019)



Offenders Rehabilitation Support Center

### Medical Treatment and Supervision Measures for Persons Who Have Caused Serious Cases under the Condition of Insanity

The Medical Treatment and Supervision for Persons Who Have Caused Serious Cases under the Condition of Insanity is a system which gives persons who have committed murder, arson, or other serious offences continuous and appropriate medical treatment, conducting observations and guidance necessary to prevent them from committing such acts again, and promotes

the return of people to society.

The Probation Offices have psychiatric social workers known as Rehabilitation Coordinators who work in collaboration with medical institutions designated by the Minister of Health, Labor and Welfare and relevant local institutions to promote the return of people to society.



## Improvement and Enhancement of Treatment in Correctional Facilities

### ■ Smooth Enforcement of Act on Penal Detention Facilities and Treatment of Inmates and Detainees

The Ministry of Justice conducts appropriate treatment of inmates that respects their human rights based on the Act on Penal Detention Facilities and Treatment of Inmates and Detainees enacted under a total revision of the Prison Law, and to achieve this, the Ministry has striven to improve facilities and human resources, as well as to rationalize and mechanize clerical work.

In addition, modeling cases in foreign countries, the Ministry of Justice manages some penal institutions through joint operation between the public and private sectors using the PFI (Private Finance Initiative), which utilizes private capital, ingenuity, and expertise, and in doing so plans to enrich and develop correctional treatment by incorporating programs never seen in conventional prisons, such as the Training Program for Guide Dog Puppies for the Blind in cooperation with the Japan Guide Dog Association Foundation.

The Ministry of Justice is working to implement the Act on Penal Detention Facilities and Treatment of Inmates and Detainees smoothly to prevent recidivism and will contribute to the creation of a safe society where the people can live with peace of mind.

### ■ Enhancement of Assessments of Juveniles and Community Support Activities by Juvenile Classification Homes

To prevent recidivism, juvenile classification homes are working to enhance their ability to assess juveniles by developing and introducing a new assessment method, "Ministry of Justice Case Assessment Tool (MJCA)" in order to grasp the risk of recidivism and educational needs of each juvenile.

The homes are also working to enhance treatment for recidivism prevention by conducting assessment of juveniles under protective measures in response to requests from juvenile training schools and probation offices.

Furthermore, the home provides counseling and consultation services to juveniles and their families on problems related to crime and delinquency (crime, delinquency, misbehavior, family upbringing problems, troubles at work or school, interpersonal problems, etc.). Moreover, staff at the home provide explanations on various topics such as delinquency, crime, child-rearing, or educational and instructional methods for youth at workshops or lectures held at schools or related organizations.

Those interested are welcome to contact a nearby juvenile classification home.

### PICK UP!



### Further Improvement of Juvenile Correction

**Q** Recently, I frequently hear about juvenile crimes on the news. What measures are being taken?

**A** The Ministry of Justice has been strengthening efforts toward preventing recidivism offenses by changing laws.

● Strengthening Correctional Education Based on New Juvenile Training Schools Act

In June 2015, the New Juvenile Training Schools Act was enacted. Under this act, the Juvenile Training Schools design an individual correctional education plan for each juvenile in accordance with his or her traits and implement programs addressing individual problems such as drug use, sexual delinquency, and family issues. The Juvenile Training Schools also implement vocation guidance for such things as acquiring qualifications for employment and social skills necessary for retaining a job, thus conducting appropriate correctional education aimed at preventing recidivism.

● Legal Provisions for Reintegration Support by Juvenile Training Schools

In order to prevent recidivism, it is important not only to provide diverse correctional education, but also to support the smooth reintegration of delinquent juveniles. The New Juvenile Training Schools Act stipulates that Juvenile Training Schools are responsible for providing support for juveniles' reintegration into society. Specifically, they proactively provide academ-

ic support such as helping re-entry or transfer to a local high school, as well as support in finding work and assistance for obtaining accommodations.

● Performing Appropriate Classification under the Juvenile Classification Act

A new Juvenile Classification Act has also been enacted. This new law makes it possible for juveniles detained in Juvenile Training Schools to spend a certain amount of time in Juvenile Classification Homes specialized in determining the causes behind the juvenile's delinquency and drawing up individual treatment plans that enable more detailed classification.

● Assisting Local Communities With Juvenile Classification Homes

In order to contribute to the prevention of delinquency and crimes in local communities, juvenile classification homes provide local people and those involved in schools and education with counseling based on specialized knowledge and skills.





## PICK UP!



### Promotion of “Justice Affairs Diplomacy” by the Ministry of Justice



**How does the Ministry of Justice get involved with the international society?**

**A** The Ministry of Justice’s policies and measures are not limited to those targeting the domestic field. We have long been working on international cooperation in the field of legal and justice affairs with the developing countries including the Asian and African countries through the International Cooperation Department (ICD) of the Research and Training Institute of the Ministry of Justice and the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI).

These activities are the challenges to permeate the “rule of law”, which is enabling us the enjoyment of “Japan as the safest country in the world”, not only in our country but also throughout the world. Furthermore, advancement in the rule of law is also set out in the Goal 16 of the “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” to realize the peaceful and inclusive societies. The SDGs are the adopted by the United Nations and all the member states including Japan are working to achieve the shared goals.

To achieve the goal of permeating the rule of law internationally, the Ministry of Justice is working on the following areas; a) active promotion of international cooperation including the legal technical assistance that the ICD and the UNAFEI have been engaging in, b) strengthening the collaboration with the foreign governments and international organizations with our longstanding reputation for international cooperation as Japan’s strength, c) active involvement in the United Nations including hosting of the 14th United Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, d) promotion of international arbitration, and e) strengthening of preventive legal service in the international field.

The International Affairs Division, Minister’s Secretariat was established in April, 2018, to promote and expand the individual policies and measures that the Ministry of Justice had been working on steadily to meet the international challenges with even more strong and strategic approach of “Justice Affairs Diplomacy”.



## Promotion of International Cooperation

The Ministry of Justice provides assistance mainly to developing countries with a view to establishing the rule of law for the democratic and free development as well as to realizing peaceful and secure society of these countries. Promoting and enhancing good governance based on the rule of law through international cooperation with developing countries contributes not only to the sound development of these countries and stability of the region, but to the strengthening countermeasures against transnational crime and the promotion of economic activity for Japanese companies as well, serving as an important contribution to the international community.

In the field of civil and commercial law, the Ministry of Justice has provided legal technical assistance for Asian countries such as Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia and Myanmar mainly through activities of the International Cooperation Department. These activities include drafting and amending fundamental laws and regulations, strengthening function of judicial institutions for the operation of enacted laws, and capacity-building of legal professionals. Through such technical assistance, a number of legislation, including civil code and civil procedure code, have been enacted and relevant legal commentaries have also been prepared in recipient countries. Moreover, a great number of individuals in leadership positions at judicial institutions have built their capacities

through our assistance.

The United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI), established in 1962 by the agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Japan, has held training courses and seminars in the field of crime prevention and treatment of offenders for criminal justice personnel (police officers, public prosecutors, judges, correctional and probation officers, etc.) from developing countries. Since 1962, more than 5,800 practitioners from 139



International Training Course

jurisdictions have participated in training courses and seminars organized by UNAFEI (as of 1st November 2018). Many UNAFEI alumni are playing leading roles in the area of criminal justice. Some alumni members have served as, among others, Minister of Justice, Prosecutor General, and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in their respective countries. This personnel network provides a foundation for valuable relationship between criminal justice personnel of Japan and those of other countries.

The Ministry of Justice makes efforts to promote and achieve United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through these activities that contribute to crime prevention and capacity-building of legal professionals and criminal justice personnel. Such efforts are highly valued by international community as well as individual countries.

Furthermore, reflecting the expansion of our roles required in the international sphere, a growing number of officials of the Ministry of Justice are working in foreign countries, including diplomatic establishments and international organizations. In addition to the above-mentioned, each bureau/department of the Ministry of Justice promotes international corporation while engaging in cooperation activities in its own field.



**For further details, please check the Ministry of Justice website.**



[http://www.moj.go.jp/housouken/housou\\_kyouryoc\\_index.html](http://www.moj.go.jp/housouken/housou_kyouryoc_index.html)



Local Activity



Local Seminar

## The 14th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Kyoto Congress)

The UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is one of the largest UN conference in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. The 14th UN Crime Congress will be held in Kyoto in 2020, and it will be the 50th anniversary since the last time it was held in Japan.

Kyoto Congress will bring together delegations headed by justice ministers, attorney-generals or high ranking criminal justice officials

from across the world. The discussions will identify concrete measures of crime prevention and criminal justice towards achieving the "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)".

Kyoto Congress is an excellent opportunity for participants from across the world to promote the rule of law in Japan, and it will be an excellent opportunity to highlight our culture of lawfulness that supports the world's most safe and security society.

## Vitalization of the International Arbitration

As the growing number of Japanese companies is expanding business overseas in the era of globalization, the Ministry of Justice is taking initiatives to promote the use of international arbitration as a method of dispute resolution.

Arbitration is a form of dispute resolution in which the disputing parties select one or more arbitrators who are the third party and make an award. Compared with litigation, arbitration has various advantages such as the ease of enforcement of arbitration awards, confidentiality of a trade secret through closed sessions, impartial arbitrators with relevant expertise chosen by the parties, and avoidance of litigation where the judicial system is less reliable. Because of these advantages, international arbitration has become a global standard to resolve disputes arising from cross-border transactions and investments. The development of the international arbitration in Japan as part of judicial infrastructure will contribute not only to the promotion of

Japanese companies' business activities overseas, but to attracting inward investment.

In September 2017, the government set up the "Liaison Conference of the Relevant Ministries for Vitalizing the International Arbitration" chaired by the Assistant Chief Cabinet Secretary. Since then, the Conference has been holding discussions on challenges to be tackled and policy measures to be taken. The Ministry of Justice is also promoting wide-ranging efforts for human resource development as well as awareness-raising and advertisement through symposiums, seminars and other means with a view to vitalizing the international arbitration in Japan.

The Ministry of Justice will continue to take initiatives so that Japan will be the core of international dispute resolution in Asia and more and more Japanese experts will be active in the field of international arbitration.

### Intensification of International Legal Support

Nowadays globalization is rapidly expanding in the areas such as politics and economies surrounding our country, and many foreign companies are coming into our country, and vice versa, many Japanese companies are going abroad. And by backing international commercial activities of these companies through signing investment treaties and the like by our government, people, goods and money come and go actively beyond national borders of the countries.

Based on these circumstances, it is estimated that conflicts would happen, and therefore, the number of cases is likely to increase, in which our country is involved in courts of other countries or international organizations.

Especially in the situations where conflicts regarding our national

interests are settled, or where negotiations with other countries are conducted so as to avoid these conflicts, it is necessary to deal from the legal views including international public law, international private law and the like. In order to achieve appropriate and reasonable outcomes, it is indeed important and effective to utilize know-how and knowledge regarding allegation and presentation of evidence which Ministry of Justice has gained through litigation procedures at the national level over the long term.

Ministry of Justice will continue to endeavor to avoid conflicts in advance and strengthen the power to address international conflicts by establishing robust framework to deal with conflicts through close cooperation with related agencies including Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

### Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)


The Ministry of Justice incorporates the perspective of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) when convincing the domestic and international audience the necessity to promote the Justice Affairs Diplomacy.

SDGs are the 17 international goals that were adopted by all United Nations Member States at the UN Summit in September, 2015. There is a concerted effort globally, including Japan, to achieve sustainable and inclusive societies where "no one shall be

left behind".

The promotion of Justice Affairs Diplomacy to permeate the rule of law will contribute to the achievement of the Goal 16 of the SDGs, which aims to realize the rule of law for peaceful and inclusive societies.

The Ministry of Justice is also undergoing various initiatives other than the Justice Affairs Diplomacy in order to achieve the SDGs.

For further information, please refer to our webpage on the Ministry of Justice and the promotion of the SDGs (Japanese web page). 

[http://www.moj.go.jp/kokusai/kokusai03\\_00007.html](http://www.moj.go.jp/kokusai/kokusai03_00007.html)





## PICK UP!

## Litigation Bureau



Q

**What kind of work does the Litigation Bureau do?**

A

The Litigation Bureau represents the Japanese government in any dispute involving Japan as a nation and performs, as an agent of Japan, a range of litigation activities including filing complaints, claims, and proofs.

In addition, the Bureau provides legal advice in order to prevent litigation and supports international litigation involving national interests.



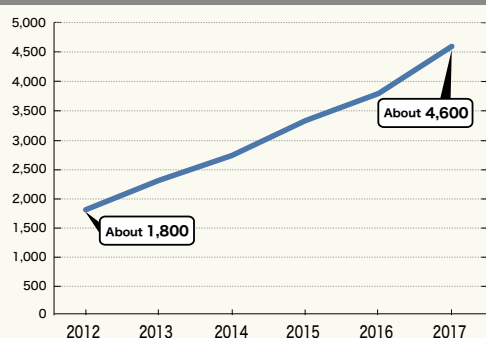
## Pursuit of Lawsuits

Lawsuits in which the state is a party include actions for damages against the State on the grounds of illegal acts by public officers who exercise public authority, or defects in the establishment and administration of public buildings, and administrative lawsuits seeking the revocation of administrative disposition.

The number of such lawsuits are on an increasing trend, and in particular, the percentage of serious and large-scale cases which may potentially have a profound impact on the politics, administration, and economy of the State have increased.

By producing evidence and constructing an argument from the State's viewpoint in a unified and appropriate manner as part of the judiciary, the Ministry of Justice contributes to the achievement of appropriate settlement of disputes based on law and evidence. This allows the interests of the whole nation and the rights and interests of the individual to be balanced properly and thereby is expected to ensure adherence to the principle of "administration by rule of law".

Change in Number of Major Pending Lawsuits



## Preventive Legal Support System

The Litigation Bureau, as legal professionals in the Japanese government, provide, according to requests from ministries and agencies having legal issues, legal advices by presenting the know-how which we have gained through litigation procedures, and the like ("Preventive Legal Support System").

"Preventive Legal Support System" is aiming to support the protection of rights and interests of Japanese citizens, by checking, in advance from the legal point of views, whether measures, dispositions, and the like which each administrative authority is likely to carry out are appropriate, so that those cases in which lives, bodies, assets, etc. of Japanese citizens would be damaged or other cases in which Japanese citizens would become involved in legal disputes such as court cases will be prevented from happening through the abovementioned measures, dispositions and the like.

## International Litigation

The progress of globalization in the political, economic and other realms could increase the chance of Japan becoming parties to cases before foreign courts or international organizations. The Litigation Bureau, with its skills and expertise on legal strategies, such as submitting claims and proofs, provides support in order to skirt such court cases or deal properly with those cases through cooperation with Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other relevant ministries and agencies.

(cf. page 47 Intensification of International Legal Support)



The Litigation Bureau posts information on the Ministry of Justice website about lawsuits involving the Japanese government, including summaries of major pending lawsuits and major decisions.

## Summaries of Major Pending Lawsuits

[http://www.moj.go.jp/shoumu/shoumukouhou/shoumu01\\_00024.html](http://www.moj.go.jp/shoumu/shoumukouhou/shoumu01_00024.html)



## List of Major Decisions

[http://www.moj.go.jp/shoumu/shoumukouhou/shoumu01\\_00023.html](http://www.moj.go.jp/shoumu/shoumukouhou/shoumu01_00023.html)



## Database of Important Litigation Precedents

This database enables you to search and browse precedents contained in the Monthly Litigation Report (the information magazine issued by the Litigation Bureau).

[http://www.shoumudatabase.moj.go.jp/search/html/shoumu/general/menu\\_general.html](http://www.shoumudatabase.moj.go.jp/search/html/shoumu/general/menu_general.html)



# Qualifications and Employment

## Qualification Examinations

### ● National Bar Examination

The national bar examination is designed to determine whether those who wish to become judges, public prosecutors, or attorneys have the necessary knowledge and practical abilities. In 2006, it was replaced by a new national bar examination more organically linked with education provided at law school and legal apprentice training.

The national bar examination can be taken by those who have completed law school or passed the preliminary bar examination, but there is a time limit, and candidates can take the examination within a five-year period from the first day of April after gaining qualifications.

The examination consists of a short-answer test (including multiple-choice questions) and an essay test, and all candidates take both tests at the same time.

The successful candidates will be qualified to enter the legal profession as judges, prosecutors, and attorneys after training

at the legal training center of the Supreme Court. (For details on the training, please contact the Recruitment Division, Personnel Affairs Bureau, Supreme Court.)

#### ■ Results of the National Bar Examination

Year	Candidates	Successful candidates	Average age of successful candidates	Successful percentage
2014	8,015	1,810 (408)	28.2	22.58%
2015	8,016	1,850 (399)	29.1	23.08%
2016	6,899	1,583 (371)	28.3	22.95%
2017	5,967	1,543 (315)	28.8	25.86%
2018	5,238	1,525 (375)	28.8	29.11%

Figures in parentheses show the number of women from the total on the left.

### ● Preliminary Bar Examination

The purpose of the preliminary bar examination is to judge whether a person who intends to take the national bar examination has the knowledge, practical ability, and a basic grounding in legal practices equal to those who have completed law school, and consists of a short-answer test (including multiple-choice questions), an essay test, and an oral test. There are no qualification requirements for candidates.

#### ■ Results of the Preliminary Bar Examination

Year	Candidates	Successful candidates
2014	10,347	356 (37)
2015	10,334	394 (40)
2016	10,442	405 (71)
2017	10,743	444 (81)
2018	11,136	433 (81)

Figures in parentheses show the number of women from the total on the left.

► For further information, please contact the National Bar Examination Commission

Address: The Ministry of Justice, 1-1-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8977 Tel: 03-3580-4111

### ● Judicial Scrivener Examination and Land and House Investigator Examination

A judicial scrivener represents a client in procedures such as or deposition, and with authorization from the Minister of Justice, may also represent a client in summary court trial. A land and house investigator performs investigations, surveying, and application procedures needed for registration of real estate.

These are national examinations that determine whether candidates have the necessary knowledge and ability to enter into

these professions, and are administered by the Minister of Justice. Both examinations consist of written and oral tests, and those who pass the written test are entitled to take the oral test, and passing this earns the candidate qualifications. The successful candidates start work immediately after registration and admission procedures.

#### ■ Results of the National Examination for Judicial Scriveners

Year	Judicial Scrivener Examination candidates	Successful candidates
2014	24,538	759
2015	21,754	707
2016	20,360	660
2017	18,831	629
2018	17,668	621

#### ■ Results of the National Examination for Land and House Investigators

Year	Land and House Investigator Examination candidates	Successful candidates
2014	5,754	407
2015	5,659	403
2016	5,658	402
2017	5,837	400
2018	5,411	418

# Employment Examination for Services

The Ministry of Justice employs officials who have passed the Examination for Comprehensive Service, Examination for General Service, Employment Examination for the Ministry of Justice Specialized Staff (Human Sciences), Prison Officer Employment Examination and Immigration Control Officer Employment Examination.

## ● Examination for Comprehensive Service

▶ **Contact:** Personnel Division, Minister's Secretariat, Ministry of Justice

Those employed in the category of public administration, politics and international matters, law, economics, engineering, and culture are generally assigned to various departments of the Ministry and are involved in planning measures and policies.

Those employed in the human sciences category are assigned to local offices to make the most of their specialized knowledge.

## ● Examination for General Service (college graduates and high school graduates)

▶ **Contact:** General Affairs Section, Facilities Division, Minister's Secretariat (architecture, electrical engineering and mechanical engineering)

**Local offices intending to employ officials (public administration)**

Those employed in the public administration category, excluding in the Facilities Division of the Minister's Secretariat (architecture, electrical engineering and mechanical engineering), are generally assigned to local offices outside the Ministry.

## ● Employment Examination for the Ministry of Justice Specialized Staff (Human Sciences)

### Correctional Psychology Profession

▶ **Contact:** Personnel Section, Regional Correction Headquarters

Correctional psychologists work at juvenile classification homes, penal institutions or juvenile training schools as professional staff (MOJ technical official (psychology)) making use of their specialized knowledge and skills to provide guidelines for treatment of detained juveniles based on analysis of the causes of delinquency or criminal acts through interviews and psychological tests, and carry out treatment programs in penal institutions and juvenile training schools.



### Ministry of Justice Instructor

▶ **Contact:** Personnel Section, Regional Correction Headquarters

Ministry of Justice instructors work mainly at juvenile training schools or juvenile classification homes, providing specialized education (correctional education), including lifestyle and course guidance, as well as observation, in order to develop the juveniles' individuality and abilities and ensure their smooth return to society based on the instructors' broad perspective and expertise, and additionally provide employment support instruction and course instruction at prisons.

### Probation Officers

▶ **Contact:** General Affairs Divisions of Regional Parole Boards

Probation officers work at probation offices and regional parole boards, providing criminals and juvenile delinquents with instruction through interviews and specialized treatment programs as well as job assistance, based on expert knowledge about psychology, pedagogy, welfare and sociology, and are responsible preventing recidivism and supporting rehabilitation within society.

## ● Immigration Control Officers Employment Examination

▶ **Contact:**  
Each Regional Immigration Services Bureau's General Affairs Division  
(Personnel Division for Tokyo Regional Immigration Services Bureau)  
Each Immigration Center's General Affairs Division

Immigration control officers are assigned to regional immigration services bureaus, offices, branch offices, or immigration detention centers, and are responsible for detecting illegal immigrants or over-stayers, investigating violations, and treating and deporting detainees.



## ● Prison Officer Employment Examination

▶ **Contact:** Personnel Section, Regional Correction Headquarters

Prison officers are, in principle, assigned to prisons, juvenile prisons, or detention houses.

In prisons and juvenile prisons, the officers conduct various treatment programs for inmates to facilitate rehabilitation and smooth reintegration.

Detention houses mainly keep those suspects or defendants in custody, where they are prevented from fleeing or attempting to destroy evidence, and are given consideration to ensure fair trial.







# Visit

Ministry of Justice Museum and the Message Gallery



In the Museum-Message Gallery



The Ministry of Justice Museum and the Message Gallery inside the red-brick building of the Ministry consists of a room restored to its original appearance (formerly the dining room of the Justice Minister’s official residence) which retains the atmosphere of the Meiji era, and an adjacent room with brick walls, and exhibits various historical documents and data on the modernization of the judiciary and architectural modernization, as well as information on promotion and publicity for the new justice system.

### Modernization of the Judiciary

The Museum exhibits materials concerning the activities of the old Ministry of Justice, including basic legislation requiring urgent enactment in the first half of the Meiji era, such as the laws concerning the organization of the judiciary and criminal laws, and records of the contributions of the foreign government advisors, in addition to displaying historical records of sensational cases in the Meiji era as well as those related to the administration of justice.

### Architectural Modernization

The red-brick building is the only building that still exists among all the buildings constructed as part of the Central Government Building Integration Project promoted by the Meiji government, and exhibits materials concerning the establishment of the building, which has now been designated as a cultural asset symbolizing the modernization of Japanese architectural techniques, as well as the project to remodel and restore it to its original appearance.



G. Boissonade, a French jurist, and a draft of the old Japanese Penal Code



Dining room of the old Justice Minister's official residence





Birth of the Red-Brick Building and Architectural Techniques



German architects  
Left : W. Böckmann  
Right : H. Ende

Red brick and steel

■ Ministry of Justice Museum(3F)

Tel: **03-3592-7911**

E-mail: [rengal@i.moj.go.jp](mailto:rengal@i.moj.go.jp)

■ Ministry of Justice Website “Welcome to the Ministry of Justice Museum and the Message Gallery” (Japanese-only)

[http://www.moj.go.jp/housei/tosho-tenji/housei06\\_00004.html](http://www.moj.go.jp/housei/tosho-tenji/housei06_00004.html)



**Materials related to the Saiban-in (lay judge) system and the Houterasu are also on display**

We display materials about major public relations promoting deeper understanding of the judicial system and the Ministry of Justice among citizens, and currently exhibits materials relating to the Saiban-in (Lay Judge) System and the Japan Legal Support Center (Houterasu) concerning the new judicial system.

**ACTION!**



<b>Location</b>	3F Ministry of Justice Red-Brick Building, 1-1-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
<b>Access</b>	Please refer to Access on back cover page.
<b>Open Days</b>	From Monday to Friday/Free admission (Closed on Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays, the year-end and New Year holidays)
<b>Open Hours</b>	From 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (No admission after 5:30 p.m.)
<b>Reservations</b>	Please make a reservation by phone or online when arriving in a group of ten or more. Reservations will be accepted three months in advance.

# Visit Let's Visit the Ministry of Justice!

## Visiting the Ministry of Justice



The Ministry of Justice provides tours on request from students and children to deepen their understanding of the role and the duties of the Ministry. You can hear an explanation of the duties of the Ministry, have your questions answered by officers, and take a look around the Ministry of Justice Museum and the Message Gallery located inside the red-brick building.



Briefing of their work



Red-Brick Building and Central Government Office No.6-A

**Contact information for tours and events of the Ministry of Justice**

■ Public Relations Office, Ministry of Justice (Secretarial Division, Minister's Secretariat)  
TEL: **03-3580-4111**

Please check the latest information on events on the Ministry of Justice website.

Ministry of Justice website



Let's Visit the Ministry of Justice! "Kids Room"



# Main Weekly and Monthly Events of the Ministry of Justice

## Human Rights Volunteers Day (June 1)

In commemoration of the day of enactment of the Human Rights Volunteers Act (June 1, 1949), the 1st of June was named Human Rights Volunteers Day. Every year around this day, Human Rights Volunteers carry out activities nationwide by setting up ad-hoc centers for human rights counseling and conducting activities for human rights awareness-raising.



Poster "Human rights volunteers"

## Constitution Week (May 1-7)

Every year, the week from May 1 to 7 around Constitution Day on May 3 is designated as Constitution Week, with events across the country designed to spread knowledge and public understanding about the spirit of the Constitution, the functions of the justice system and other related matters. (Co-hosted by the Ministry of Justice, the Supreme Court and the Japan Federation of Bar Associations)

## Kasumigaseki Open Day for Children (First Wed. and Thu. of August)

The Ministry of Justice holds events for elementary and junior high school students during summer vacation to deepen their understanding of the Ministry. In FY 2018, the Ministry of Justice provided some events that included a demonstration and simulation of an interrogation by public prosecutors, the collaborative program with the NHK TV program "Knock-Out Bullying", work experience of land surveying and work as immigration officers. Original Handmade Eco-bag Workshop, Learn



Collaboration show of the Ministry of Justice and Yoshimoto: "Let's Learn about the Works of the Ministry of Justice!"

Human Rights session, and the Kodomo Rakugo show "Akarenga-tei".



A mock interrogation session by public prosecutors.



Photo session with the Ministry of Justice's mascots

4

White Paper on the Promotion of Prevention of Re-offending



## Recidivism Prevention Awareness Month (July)

Under Article 6 of the Recidivism Prevention Promotion Act, July has been designated Recidivism Prevention Awareness Month, with public awareness events held to deepen interest and understanding of recidivism prevention among the wider public.

6

- Illegal Work Prevention Campaign
- Human Rights Volunteers Day

5

● Constitution Week

7

- Recidivism Prevention Awareness Month
- The Brighter Society Campaign

8

- Kasumigaseki Open Day for Children
- Nationwide Children's Rights Hotline Promotion Week

9

## The Brighter Society Campaign

The power of community action to prevent delinquency, assisting in the rehabilitation of

The purpose of this nationwide campaign is for people to understand the importance of preventing crime and delinquency and rehabilitating offenders, and the efforts of people in their respective communities to build a brighter society free from crime and delinquency. The highlight is a variety of activities rooted in local communities, held each year across the country that can lead to a deeper understanding of the rehabilitation process.

## Japan Law Day Week (October 1-7) Japan Law Day Festa (First Sat. of October)

Japan Law Day originates from Judicial Memorial Day, created on October 1, 1928 to commemorate enactment of the Jury Law on October 1 of the previous year, and on June 24, 1960, the Cabinet designated the 1st of October every year as Law Day, with the week from October 1 to 7 as Japan Law Day Week. During this week, various programs such as lectures, free legal counseling services and other related programs are organized all across the country to promote respect for law, the protection of fundamental human rights, and the establishment of an orderly society through the rule of law. Every year, on the first Saturday of October, Ministry of Justice holds an open day named "Japan Law Day Festa", and holds various programs there, so that citizens may be encouraged to understand the importance and the role of law. (Co-hosted by the Ministry of Justice, the Supreme Court and the Japan Federation of Bar Associations)



Old Ministry of Justice Building  
(Red-Brick Building) tour



A mock court



A public talk discussing the theme "lowering the legal age of adulthood"



Notary

10

- Japan Law Day (Japan Law Day Festa)
- Notarization Week
- Nationwide Legal Affairs Bureau Holiday Counseling

11

- Nationwide Women's Rights Hotline Promotion Week

12

- Human Rights Week
- The North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week

1

2

3

Poster "Human Rights Week"



## Human Rights Week (December 4-10)

The United Nations, at its 5th General Assembly on December 4, 1950, invited all member states to observe December 10 to celebrate the proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on this day in 1948, and to exert increasing efforts in the field of human rights. In Japan, the week ending on December 10 each year was designated as Human Rights Week in 1949, the year following the adoption of the Declaration, and awareness-raising activities for human rights have been carried out throughout the country since then. (Hosted by the Ministry of Justice and the National Federation of Associations of Human Rights Volunteers)

## Notarization Week (October 1-7)

Every year, the week from October 1 through 7 is designated as Notarization Week, with public awareness activities through newspapers and TV, posters, leaflets, lecture meetings, and consultation services held extensively throughout the country to publicize the notary system. (Hosted by Japan National Notaries Association, Supported by the Ministry of Justice)

for Children  
nts

## Campaign (July) to prevent crime and rehabilitation of offenders

This campaign is to help  
of preventing crime  
offenders, combining  
positions in the  
ty that is free from  
of this campaign is  
ommunities held in July  
ll for cooperation in  
n of offenders.



Central Event "Rehabilitation Festival"



An event during Human Rights Week



# Kids Room



The Kids Room character Akarenga-kun

This page is designed to give elementary and junior high school children an easy-to-understand introduction to the Ministry of Justice. When read together with the “Kids Room” page on the Ministry of Justice website, it provides an even deeper understanding of the Ministry.

## What are laws for?

Laws can make us happier.

Laws are rules that help us all live together through cooperation and respect each other’s individuality.

By protecting our rights and showing clearly what rules we have to comply, laws make us possible to live and act freely and enjoy a more fulfilling life.

## What kind of place is the Ministry of Justice?

The Ministry of Justice takes measures to make our society safer and brighter.

For example, the Ministry makes the basic rules that help people live with a feeling of safety. When someone commits a crime, the Ministry educates him/her in prisons or in juvenile training schools, or supports them to live in the community, so that they can live a better life without committing another crime.

In addition, the Ministry takes various measures to make society a comfortable place to live in, such as investigating human violation cases such as bullying, so that it will not re-occur, or conducting immigration examinations for both Japanese and foreign nationals when they enter and depart Japan.

## What is “Kids Room”?

“Kids Room” is a website that introduces the Ministry of Justice to elementary and junior high school students. The “What Kind of Place is the Ministry of Justice?” and the “Ministry of Justice in Photographs” sections use illustrations and photographs to help explain the jobs of each department and agency of the Ministry. Once you get a better understanding of the Ministry, try taking the “Ministry of Justice Quiz”! There is also a children’s human rights desk that provides counseling on bullying and other issues.



<http://www.moj.go.jp/KIDS/index.html>



Get information in an easy-to-understand quiz format.

There are more than 70 unique mascots that reflect the regional characteristics and features of each administrative agency of the Ministry of Justice around the country, such as the Legal Affairs Bureau, the Public Prosecutors Office and the Probation Office, etc. Let us introduce some of the mascots.



The Kids Room character [Dr. Brick]

### Friends of the Ministry of Justice

“Jakkun” of Nagasaki District Legal Affairs Bureau



Saitama Juvenile Classification Home Mascot “Saikan-kun”



“Appuri” of Aomori District Public Prosecutors Office



“Entora-kun” of Osaka Regional Immigration Services Bureau

“Poppo-chan” of Fukuoka Regional Immigration Services Bureau



“Akaruiine” of Osaka Probation Office



“Rehabilitation penguins” “Hogo-chan” & “Sara-chan”



Law-Related Education mascot “Hourisu-kun”



“Katakuri-chan” of Asahikawa Prison



Have you learned anything about the Ministry of Justice? Now, let’s take a look at what the Ministry of Justice does in our daily lives!



Read together with

The Ministry of Justice in our daily lives and you'll learn more!

# MINISTRY OF JUSTICE WORK GUIDE

## 1 Civil Affairs Bureau

The Civil Affairs Bureau conducts work involving registration, family registration, nationality, deposit services, and notarization, as well as manages and operates the Legal Affairs Bureau and the District Legal Affairs Bureau, creates bills on basic civil laws such as the Civil Code, the Commercial Code and the Code of Civil Procedure.

## 2 Criminal Affairs Bureau

The Criminal Affairs Bureau plans and drafts bills to inflict punishment on those who commit crimes, asks for cooperation from foreign countries and responds to requests for cooperation from foreign countries to investigate cases, as well as providing assistance for the activities of the Public Prosecutors Office.

## 3 Correction Bureau

The Correction Bureau is responsible for giving guidance or supervision to correctional institutions such as prisons or juvenile training schools so that treatment (such as security, prison work, classification, assessment, education, medical treatment, hygiene, etc.) of inmates is performed properly, and is also responsible for conducting research and studies on new treatment methods.

## 4 Rehabilitation Bureau

The Rehabilitation Bureau is responsible for giving life guidance and livelihood support in cooperation with private citizens to offenders and juvenile delinquents so that they are rehabilitated in local communities and do not turn to delinquency again, and is also responsible for conducting crime prevention activities such as "The Brighter Society Campaign" and work related to parole from prisons or juvenile training schools.

## 5 Human Rights Bureau

The Human Rights Bureau handles various human rights problems regarding discrimination, abuse, bullying, and violation of privacy, and conducts activities such as human rights counseling, and investigations and resolution of human rights violation cases, as well as human rights awareness-raising in cooperation with Human Rights Volunteers, who are private citizens.

## 6 Litigation Bureau

The Litigation Bureau conducts work as attorneys for the national government, filing motions with the court, making claims or bearing testimony on behalf of the national government in lawsuits where the government is the plaintiff or the defendant.

The Ministry of Justice is doing various work.



## 7 Judicial System Department

The Judicial System Department conducts a wide range of work related to the judicial system, including the structure of the court, measures to make the court more accessible to the general public, how to settle disputes by means other than a trial, the lawyer system, and training of legal professionals. The Department also promotes efforts to enrich and develop law-related education so that all citizens can gain a good understanding of the importance of laws and judicial process.

## 8 Research and Training Institute of the Ministry of Justice

The Research and Training Institute of the Ministry of Justice is responsible for compiling the outcomes of the studies and research on crimes in the White Paper on Crime as well as providing training for the officials of the Ministry of Justice. Also, the Institute helps create laws for countries where laws are not yet well established, as well as providing international training for the prevention of crimes in cooperation with the United Nations.

## 9 Public Prosecutors Office

The Public Prosecutors Office investigates crimes in cooperation with the police and decides whether or not to bring indictments against criminals to the court, and when decided, asks for proper punishment against criminals by the court.

## 10 Immigration Services Agency

The Immigration Services Agency is responsible for work involved in examinations when Japanese nationals or foreign nationals enter or depart from Japan, proceedings for foreign nationals staying in Japan, and deportation of illegally staying foreign nationals. The Agency is also responsible for proceedings for refugee recognition when a foreign national seeks asylum in Japan for fear of persecution in the country of origin.

## 11 Public Security Examination Commission

The Public Security Examination Commission is responsible for fair investigations and neutral decisions upon request from the Director-General of the Public Security Intelligence Agency for control measures against subversive organizations that pose threats to the safety of the country and the citizens through violence.

## 12 Public Security Intelligence Agency

The Public Security Intelligence Agency works to protect the safety of the country and the citizens from organizations that assert themselves with violence, such as terrorist organizations. For example, the Agency is undertaking an investigation into an organization called Aum Shinrikyo, which committed indiscriminate mass murder in the past, so that similar incidents will never happen again.

# History of the Ministry of Justice Building

Central Government Office Complex No. 6-A, which houses the Ministry of Justice, consists of 21 floors and 4 basement floors. The building is functionally divided into two zones: the Ministry of Justice zone on the north side and the Public Prosecutor Offices zone on the south side. The outer wall of the building is covered with dignified red granite from Canada that harmonizes well with the red-brick walls.

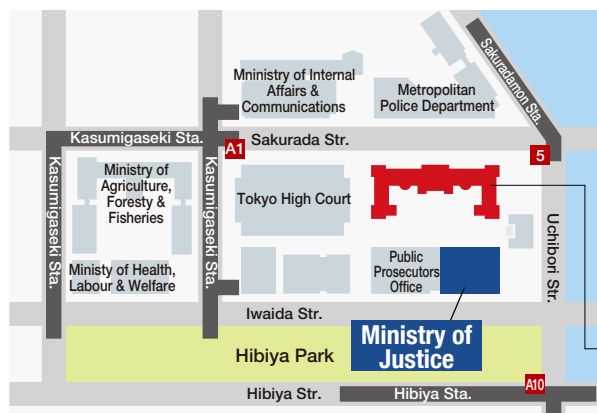
The building was completed on June 30, 1990 as the new Ministry of Justice building. During its construction, the preservation and restoration of the old Ministry of Justice building (the present red-brick building of the Central Government Office Complex No. 6) was discussed, leading to the conclusion that the building should be preserved and utilized. As the only remaining historical building among the Central Government Building Integration Project drawn up in the Meiji era, the retention of the building is essential for the setting of the Kasumigaseki district. The exterior was restored to its original state.

The original red-brick building, designed by the two German architects W. Bockmann and H. Ende, was completed in December of 1895 (the 28th year of Meiji) after about seven years of construction to serve as the Ministry of Justice building. The roofs and floors of the building were destroyed by fire in March 1945 during World War II, but the red-brick walls remained intact. When the structure was renovated through the restoration work conducted from 1948 to 1950, some alterations were made in the materials and the shape of the roof. The present red-brick building has, however, been restored completely to its original appearance in 1895, and its exterior was designated as a national important cultural property on December 27, 1994.



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  - ▶ Keihin Tohoku Line
  - 10-minute walk from JR Yurakucho Station
- **Metro**
  - ▶ Yurakucho Line
  - 1-minute walk from Sakuradamon Station
  - ▶ Marunouchi Line
  - ▶ Hibiya Line
  - 3-minute walk from Kasumigaseki Station
  - ▶ Chiyoda Line
  - 5-minute walk from Kasumigaseki Station
  - ▶ Toei Mita Line
  - 6-minute walk from Hibiya Station



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