

2018

White Paper on Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising



Edited by the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Education,
Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

2018

White Paper on Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising

**Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising
Measures in FY2017**

Ministry of Justice / Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science
and Technology

Front cover: "Article 16 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights Awareness-Raising Calligraphic Work and Painting"

Provided by the Jinken Yogo Kyoryokukai

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights Awareness-Raising Calligraphic Work and Painting was created by a Japanese calligrapher, Taiho Kogi, and a Brazilian painter, Otavio Ross, who were impressed with the human wisdom shown in the Declaration as an anthem to praise people living cheerfully and lively, with the intention to express such impression in an artistic manner.

On the Publication of the White Paper



Minister of Justice

上川 陽子



Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

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The 21st century is referred to as the Century of Human Rights.

We would like to achieve a society that suits the Century of Human Rights in which everyone can live actively, in other words, a society where no one will be left behind, as advocated in the philosophy of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In order to achieve such society, it is indispensable to have people nurture their spirit to accept differences and have sympathy and compassion for others from an early age. For that purpose, the perspective of listening to voices of those receiving support and the perspective of developing the mindset of those offering support are both important. The significance of human rights education and awareness-raising to nurture people's spirit can hardly be exaggerated.

When we look at the current status of human rights in Japan, there still exist various human rights issues, including those involving children such as bullying and abuse, human rights violations through malicious use of the internet, prejudice and discrimination on the grounds of disabilities, hate speech and other human rights violations against foreign nationals, and the *Dowa* issue (*Buraku* discrimination).

2018 marks the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the Human Rights Volunteers System in Japan. Furthermore, with the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics Games two years away, momentum for the promotion and protection of human rights is growing in society as a whole.

Upon such occasion, we would like to promote enriched human rights education and awareness-raising, in collaboration among diverse entities, through sports, volunteer work or other various activities, with the aim of developing mental barrier-free to support one another with mutual respect for others' personality and individuality, thereby creating a cohesive society, in which everyone values each other's human rights and mutually offers support, as a legacy for the future.

Based on the Basic Plan on Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising, which was formulated in March 2002 and was partially amended in April 2011, the national government has taken measures in a range of places such as schools, communities, households, and workplaces, etc., to resolve various human rights issues, so that citizens can acquire correct knowledge on human rights and develop a sense of human rights that would be exercised in their everyday lives.

We will continue promoting measures concerning human rights education and awareness-raising for the purpose of protecting citizens' human rights.

This White Paper is an annual report based on the Act on the Promotion of Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising and a compilation of concrete measures that the national government took in FY2017.

We hope that this White Paper will help you ascertain the current status of measures being taken in relation to human rights education and awareness-raising and further deepen your understanding on human rights.

June 2018

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Introduction

Under the Constitution of Japan (hereinafter referred to as the "Constitution"), which upholds respect for fundamental human rights as one of its basic values, the government has developed human rights-related systems and promoted relevant measures throughout the entirety of its public policy. Efforts have been made in line not only with the Constitution but also with various international rules such as human rights treaties that were formulated by the United Nations after World War II and Japan has ratified. In Japan, the national and local governments and volunteers in the private sector, such as Human Rights Volunteers, have collaboratively and steadily promoted community-based human rights activities. As a result, the principle of respect for human rights has been broadly disseminated among citizens and it can be basically said that Japan has achieved a society with respect for human rights.

However, human rights issues have never been eliminated and Japanese society now faces drastic changes due to the informatization and internationalization caused by recent rapid advancement of information and communications technologies and increase in the number of visiting foreign nationals, as well as due to the falling birthrate and the aging population resulting from delayed marriage, rising longevity and other reasons. Against such background, human rights violations on the internet and human rights issues involving foreign nationals, children, persons with disabilities and elderly people have come to attract people's attention.

Based on the Regulation on Investigation and Resolution of Human Rights Violation Cases (Official Directive of the Ministry of Justice No. 2 of 2004), the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have endeavored to offer remedies to damage due to human rights violations in response to request by victims. The number of human rights violations for which the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice newly commenced remedy procedures in 2017 was 19,533 cases, up by 90 cases (up by 0.5%) from the previous year. By type, cases of assault and abuse were largest in number at 3,219 cases (16.5%), followed by those of bullying at school (3,169 cases; 16.2%), violations of the security of residence and living (2,909 cases; 14.9%), and privacy violations (2,705 cases; 13.8%). The number of cases concerning information violating human rights posted on the internet marked a record high, showing a tendency of a new type of human rights issues (see R-43).

With regard to children's human rights, in particular, the results (definite values) of the FY2016 Survey on Undesirable Behavior and School Non-attendance of Students, which the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology conducted, revealed serious circumstances with the total number of incidents of violence at school remaining high at 59,444 cases. The number of bullying cases recognized at elementary schools, junior high schools, high schools and schools for special needs education was 323,143, and cases causing serious damage due to bullying have been continuously observed. These have long been major educational problems. Additionally, the number of consultations on child abuse received at child guidance centers nationwide reached 122,575, showing increases continuously.

Under such circumstances, the national government is further promoting human rights education and awareness-raising activities targeting citizens, while seeking collaboration among ministries and agencies. Schools are making efforts to further enhance human rights education and raise students' awareness on respect for human rights throughout their educational activities. Regarding social education, lectures and

training targeting social education supervisors provided by the national government and universities aim to foster leaders who can deal with diverse human rights issues and enhance the quality of such leaders.

Additionally, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have been carrying out various awareness-raising activities in collaboration with relevant ministries and agencies and local governments, etc., with the aim of having citizens acquire correct awareness on human rights so that such awareness is materialized in their everyday lives as their attitudes and behavior, in order to achieve a society free from human rights violations.

The Basic Policy for Promoting Measures related to Preparations for and Management of the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo in 2020, which was formulated based on the Act on Special Measures for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics (Act No. 33 of 2015), states as follows in section "(ii) Universal design and the mental barrier-free concept" in 4 (4): through holding the Paralympic Games, the national government will promote town development based on the concept of universal design to realize safe and comfortable mobility for all people in order to promote social participation by all people, including persons with disabilities and elderly people, and increase opportunities for making active contributions amid the ongoing ageing population, and will endeavor to achieve a cohesive society through developing a mental barrier-free to mutually offer support with respect for each other's personality and individuality irrespective of the existence of disabilities.

Based on this policy, towards the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics, the national government is committed to promoting town development based on the mental barrier-free concept and the concept of universal design throughout Japan as a legacy thereafter. For that purpose, the national government held the Ministerial Council on Universal Design 2020 with participation of various organizations of persons with disabilities in February 2017 and decided the Universal Design 2020 Action Plan. In January 2018, the second meeting of the Ministerial Council was held and participants shared the commitment to promote education on mental barrier-free based on the National Curriculum Standards, review the Act on Promotion of Smooth Transportation, etc. of Elderly Persons, Disabled Persons, etc. (Act No. 91 of 2006) and relevant criteria, or otherwise make efforts proactively for both developing people's minds and creating better communities.

With these moves, it is necessary to further activate efforts to tackle human rights issues involving persons with disabilities and various other human rights issues.

This White Paper compiles human rights education and awareness-raising measures taken by ministries and agencies in FY2017 as a report to be submitted to the Diet.

Chapter 1

Citizens' Awareness Concerning Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising

1. Overview

The results of the Public Opinion Survey Concerning Human Rights Promotion and Protection were released by the Cabinet Office in December 2017. This survey has been conducted once about every five years since 1958 and the latest one was conducted from October 5 to October 15, 2017, targeting 3,000 Japanese nationals aged 18 or older residing nationwide (valid responses from 1,758 people; collection rate: 58.6%).

Based on Article 7 of the Act on the Promotion of Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising (Act No. 147 of 2000; hereinafter referred to as the "Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising Promotion Act"), the Basic Plan on Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising (hereinafter referred to as the "Basic Plan") was formulated in March 2002 and was partially amended on April 1, 2011. The Basic Plan requires the national government to strive to ascertain the current status of human rights in Japan and citizens' awareness. Therefore, the latest 12th survey aimed to examine citizens' awareness on major human rights issues listed in the Basic Plan for reference for future policies.

This Chapter overviews citizens' awareness on human rights education and awareness-raising based on the results of the latest public opinion survey and also in comparison with the results of the previous survey (in August 2012) for items common in both surveys.

(Note) For questions and multiple choices that are not exactly the same but can be judged to have almost the same meanings, the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice added notes to that effect and compared the results of the latest survey and the previous survey (in August 2012) in this text for the purpose of ascertaining changes in citizens' awareness.

2. Awareness on Human Rights in General

(1) Publicity of Fundamental Human Rights

For the question whether a respondent knows that fundamental human rights are guaranteed as inviolable and eternal rights under the Constitution, 81.4% responded that they "know" and 18.6% responded that they "don't know" that fact.

The percentage of affirmative responses maintained a high level at 81.4% compared with the results of the previous survey (82.8%), while the percentage of negative responses was 18.6%. This suggests that fundamental human rights have yet to be fully recognized among citizens.

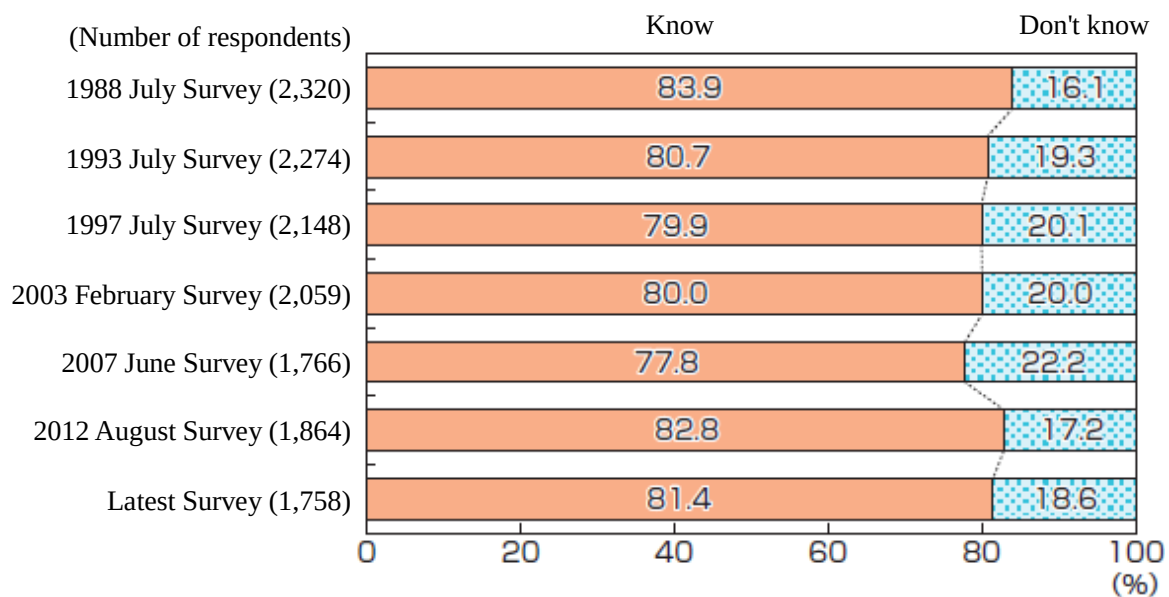


Fig. 1-1 Publicity of Fundamental Human Rights

(2) Changes in Human Rights Violations

There has been news coverage on human rights issues or human rights violations in newspapers and TV programs. For the question whether a respondent considers that human rights violations have been decreasing, almost unchanged, or increasing in Japan in the last five to six years, 14.3% responded that violations are "decreasing", 50.8% responded "almost unchanged," and 29.4% responded "increasing."

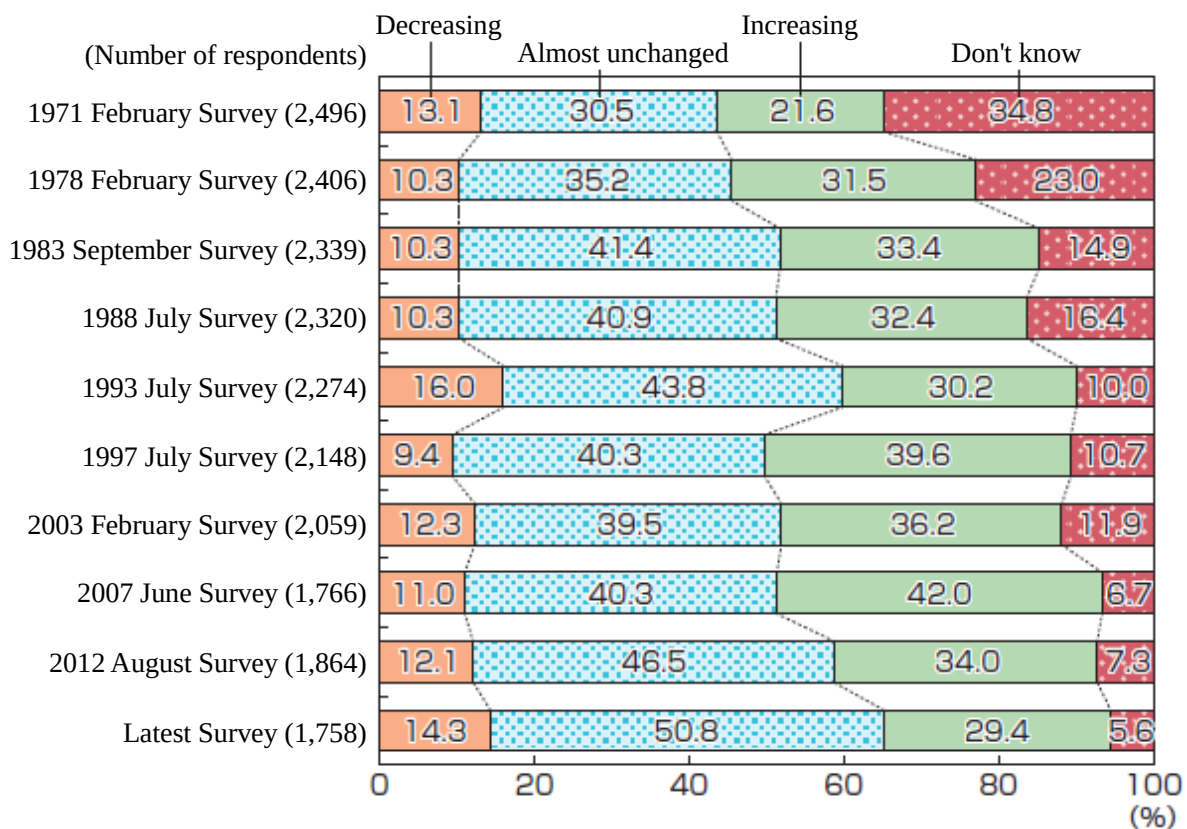


Fig. 1-2 Changes in Human Rights Violations

(3) Experience of Human Rights Violations

For the question whether a respondent has experienced a human rights violation, 15.9% responded that he/she has "experienced" a violation, while 84.1% responded "never."

When asking about the details to those who responded that they have "experienced" a human rights violation, the most common response was "groundless rumor, smear or gossip" (51.6%), followed by "harassment in the workplace" (26.2%), "defamation, reputation impairment or insult" (21.1%), "bullying at school" (21.1%), "privacy infringement" (19.4%), "unfair treatment by an employer, such as forced overtime work" (12.5%), and "bad odor, noise or other environmental pollution" (11.5%).

The percentage of those who responded that they have been subjected to a human rights violation remained almost the same as that in the previous survey (from 16.6% to 15.9%), and the majority responded that they have never experienced a human rights violation in both surveys (from 83.4% to 84.1%).

Details of the violations cited by those who responded that they have "experienced" a human rights violation were the same for the top three in both surveys, with "groundless rumor, smear or gossip" being the most common (from 47.4% to 51.6%) and "defamation, reputation impairment or insult" being the third most common (from 18.1% to 21.1%). The major factor is considered to be the dissemination of the internet. The second most common was "harassment in the workplace" in both surveys (from 24.2% to 26.2%), but the percentage of those who chose the response, "discriminatory treatment (subjected to unfair or disadvantageous treatment in social life, such as upon employment or marriage, on the ground of race, creed, gender, social status, etc.," showed a significant decrease (from 19.7% to 9.3%).

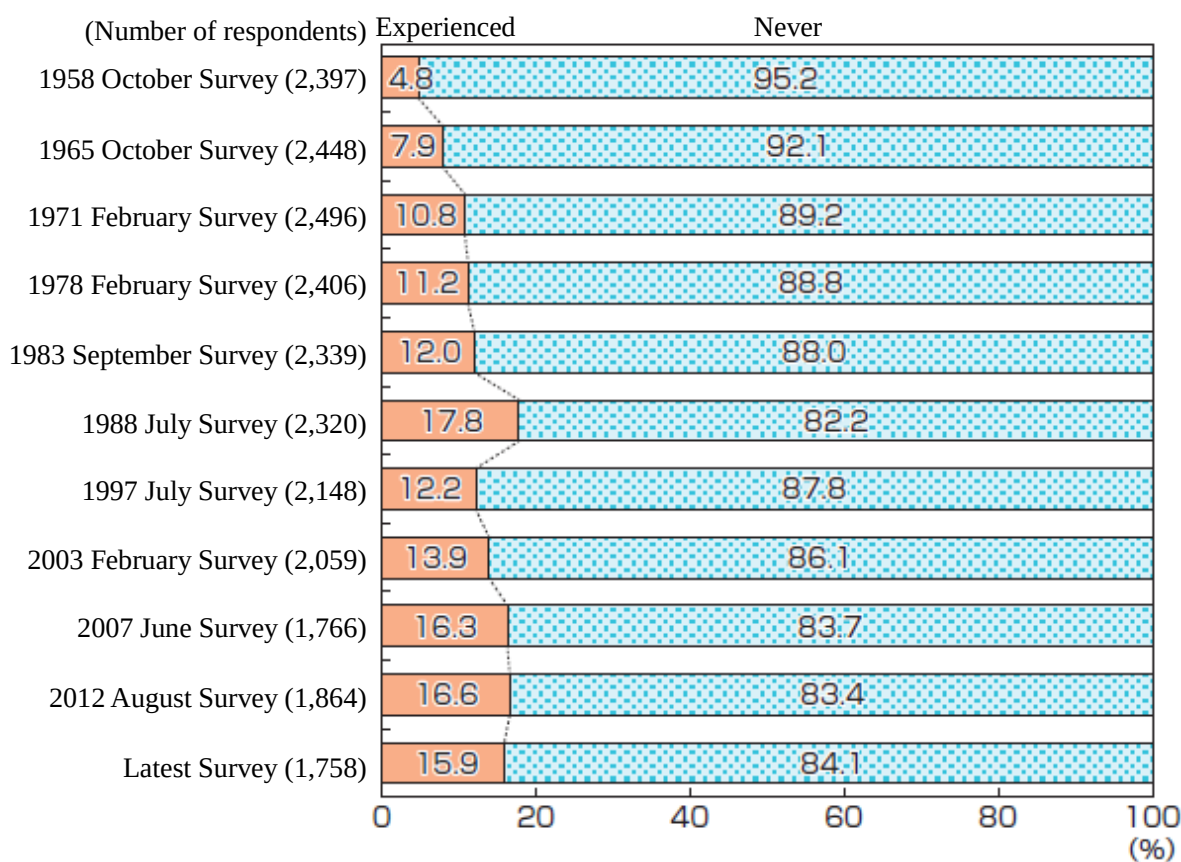
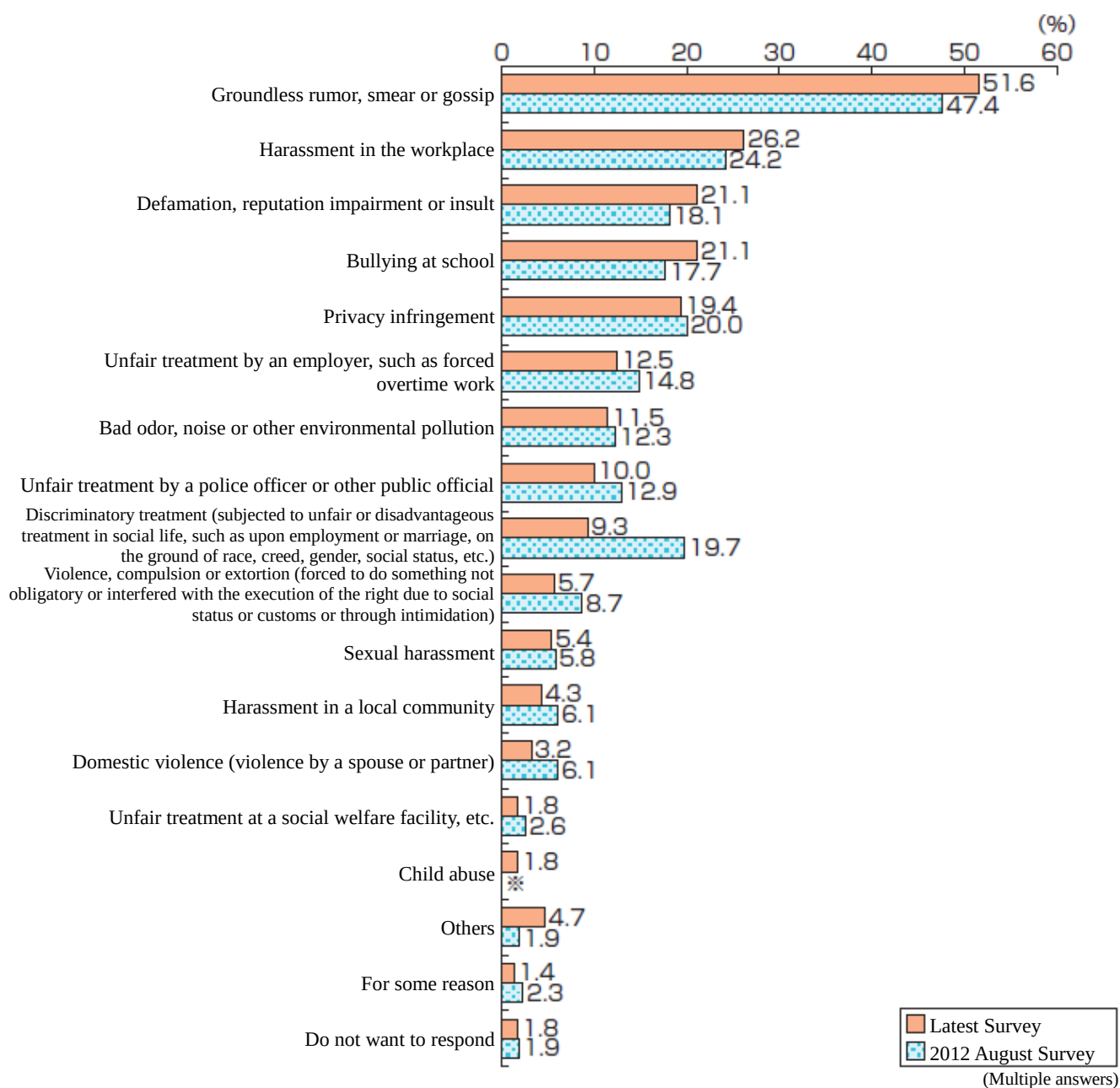


Fig. 1-3 Experience of Human Rights Violations



* Not included in the 2012 August Survey

Fig. 1-4 (For Those Who Have Experienced Human Rights Violations) Details of the Violations

(4) Respecting Human Rights and Nuisance to Others as a Result of Insisting on One's Rights

For the question whether respondents agree with the opinion that an increasing number of people ignore nuisance to others and only insist on their own rights while respect for human rights is being prioritized, 72.1% responded that they "agree" and 25.1% responded that they "do not agree."

Compared with the results of the previous survey, the percentage of respondents who "agree" with the opinion has decreased but still remained at a high level (from 77.7% to 72.1%).

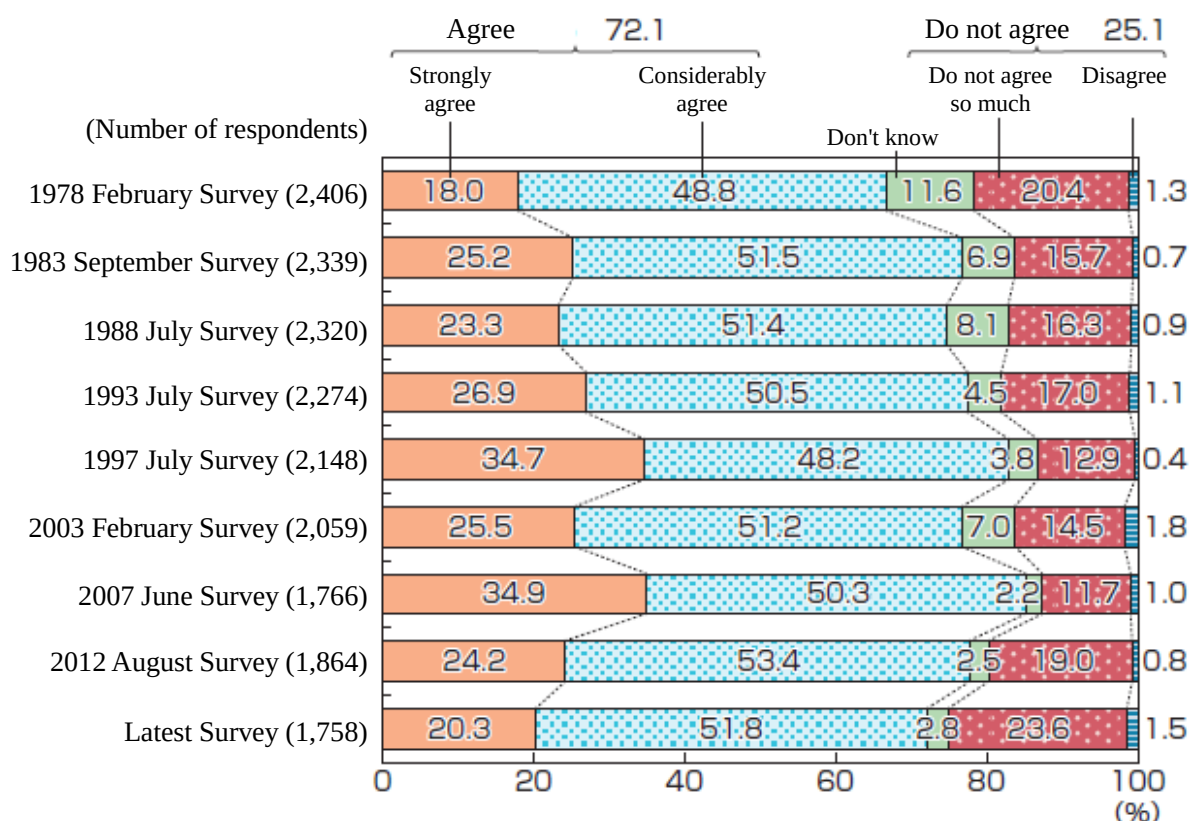


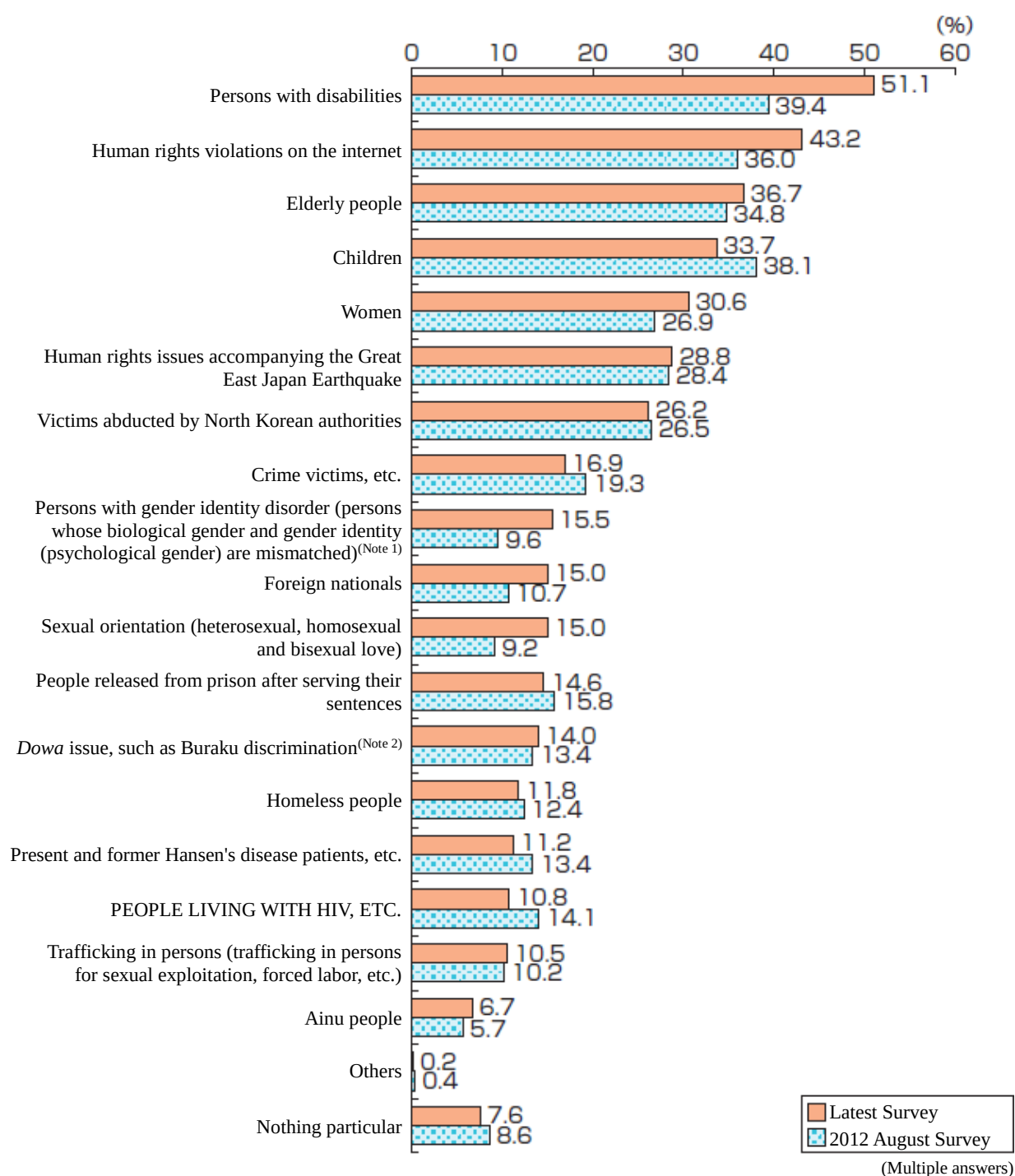
Fig. 1-5 Respecting Human Rights and Nuisance to Others as a Result of Insisting on One's Rights

3. Awareness on Major Human Rights Issues

For the question on human rights issues in Japan which the respondent is interested in, the most common response was "persons with disabilities" (51.1%), followed by "human rights violations on the internet" (43.2%), "elderly people" (36.7%) and "children" (33.7%).

Compared with the results of the previous survey, increases were observed in the percentages of respondents who cited "persons with disabilities" (from 39.4% to 51.1%) and "human rights violations on the internet" (from 36.0% to 43.2%).

This suggests that people have come to have interests in familiar human rights issues and issues that are frequently covered by mass media in recent years ahead of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics.



(Note 1) "Persons with gender identity disorder (persons whose biological gender and self-consciousness about gender (psychological gender) are mismatched)" in the 2012 August Survey

(Note 2) "*Dowa* issue" in the 2012 August Survey

Fig. 1-6 Interest in Human Rights Issues

(1) Human Rights Issues Involving Women

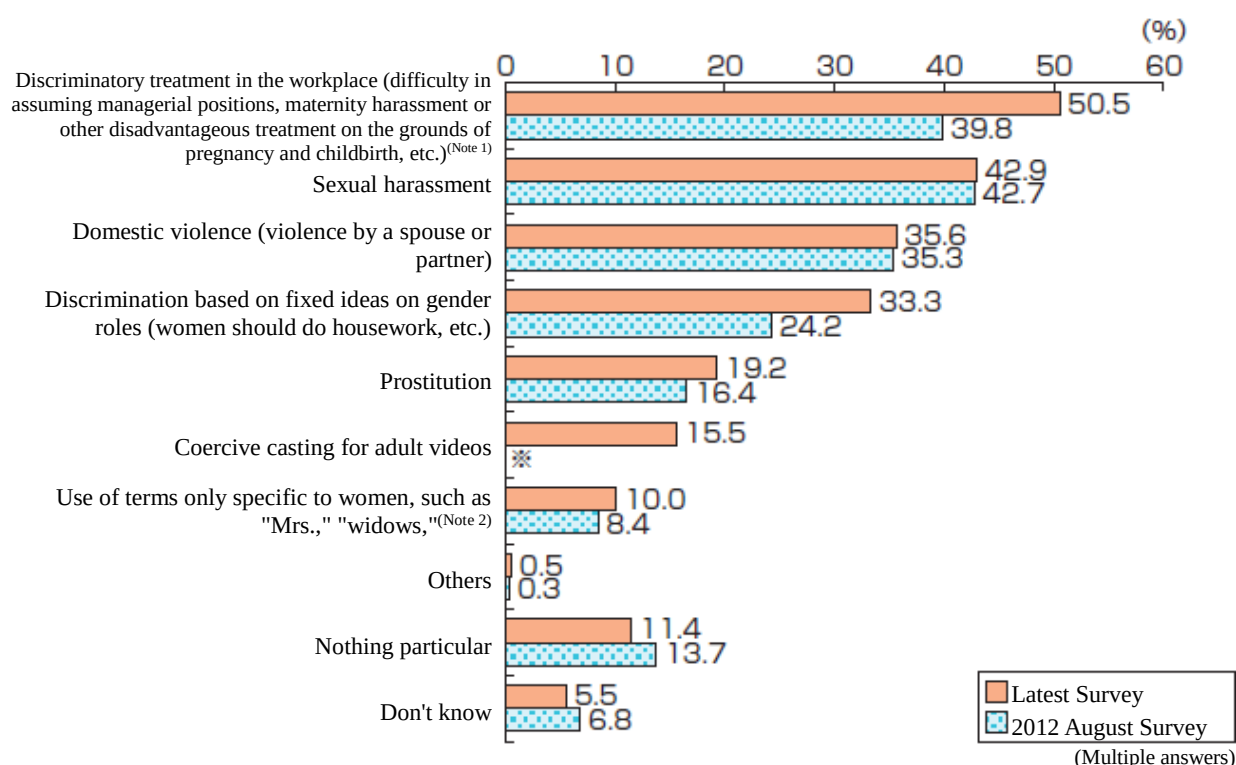
For the question on human rights issues involving women, the most common response was "discriminatory treatment in the workplace (difficulty in assuming managerial positions, maternity harassment or other disadvantageous treatment on the grounds of pregnancy and childbirth, etc.)" (50.5%), followed by "sexual harassment" (42.9%), "domestic violence (violence by a spouse or partner)" (35.6%), and "discrimination based on fixed ideas on gender roles (women should do housework, etc.)" (33.3%).

Compared with the results of the previous survey, awareness on women's human rights issues has generally

increased as seen in increases in the percentages of the following responses: "discriminatory treatment in the workplace (difficulty in assuming managerial positions, maternity harassment or other disadvantageous treatment on the grounds of pregnancy and childbirth, etc.)"^(Note) (from 39.8% to 50.5%), "discrimination based on fixed ideas on gender roles (women should do housework, etc.)" (from 24.2% to 33.3%), and "prostitution" (from 16.4% to 19.2%).

The percentage of respondents who cited "discriminatory treatment in the workplace (difficulty in assuming managerial positions, maternity harassment or other disadvantageous treatment on the grounds of pregnancy and childbirth, etc.)" as human rights issues has increased. This may be because people have come to be more conscious about women's human rights in the workplace, as represented by the issue of maternity harassment.

(Note) "Discriminatory treatment in the workplace (difficulty in assuming managerial positions, etc.)" in the 2012 August Survey



* Not included in the 2012 August Survey

(Note 1) "Discriminatory treatment in the workplace (difficulty in assuming managerial positions, etc.)" in the 2012 August Survey

(Note 2) "Use of terms specific to women, such as 'Mrs.,' 'widows,' 'my wife'" in the 2012 August Survey

Fig. 1-7 Human Rights Issues Involving Women

(2) Human Rights Issues Involving Children

For the question on human rights issues involving children, the most common response was "being bullied" (66.9%), followed by "being abused" (62.6%), "others turning a blind eye to bullying, corporal punishment or abuse" (52.6%), "subject to corporal punishment" (31.1%), and "adults ignoring children's opinions concerning the selection of schools and occupation, etc." (28.3%).

Reflecting the fact that children's suicides due to bullying have come to be recognized as social problems, the percentages were high for respondents who consider "being bullied" and "others turning a blind eye to bullying, corporal punishment or abuse" as human rights issues involving children.

The percentage of respondents who cited "being abused" also remained high, which suggests that news coverage by mass media has raised people's awareness and child abuse at home has come to be recognized as a human rights issue.

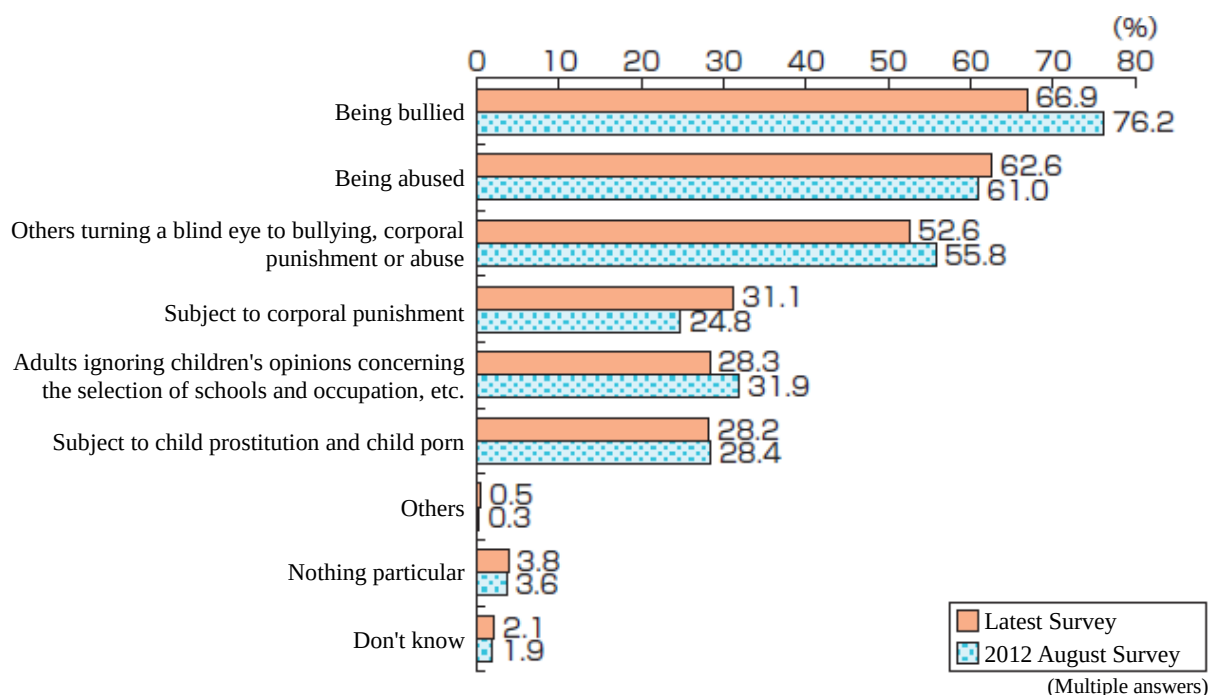


Fig. 1-8 Human Rights Issues Involving Children

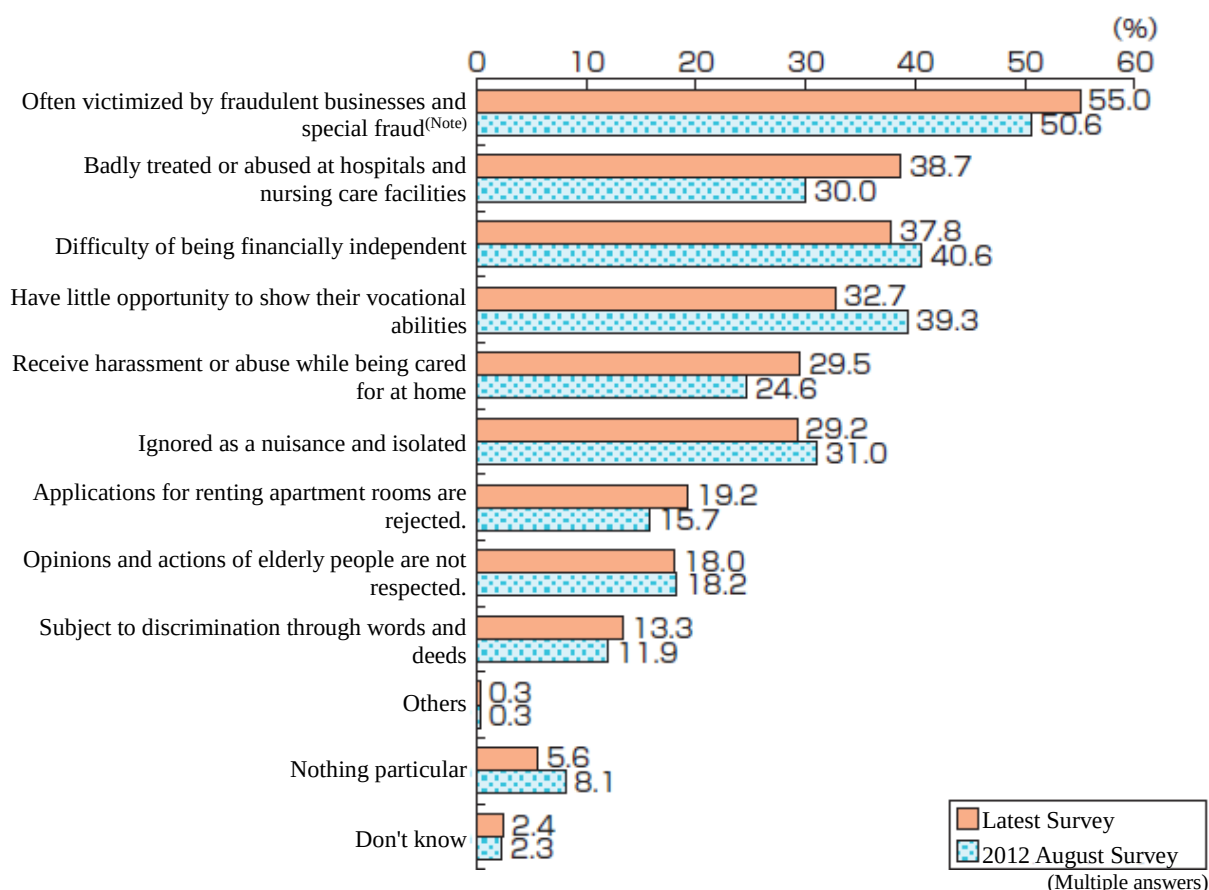
(3) Human Rights Issues Involving Elderly People

For the question on human rights issues involving elderly people, the most common response was "often victimized by fraudulent businesses and special fraud" (55.0%), followed by "badly treated or abused at hospitals and nursing care facilities" (38.7%), "difficulty of being financially independent" (37.8%), "have little opportunity to show their vocational abilities" (32.7%) and "receive harassment or abuse while being cared for at home" (29.5%).

The percentage of the response, "often victimized by fraudulent businesses and special fraud,"^(Note) maintained a high level at 55.0% compared with the results of the previous survey (50.6%). It is worrisome that fraudulent businesses targeting elderly people have been persistently spreading.

Additionally, the percentages remained high for respondents referring to the issue of social participation of elderly people, such as those who cited "difficulty of being financially independent" (from 40.6% to 37.8%), "have little opportunity to show their vocational abilities" (from 39.3% to 32.7%), and "ignored as a nuisance and isolated" (from 31.0% to 29.2%).

(Note) "Often victimized by fraudulent businesses" in the 2012 August Survey



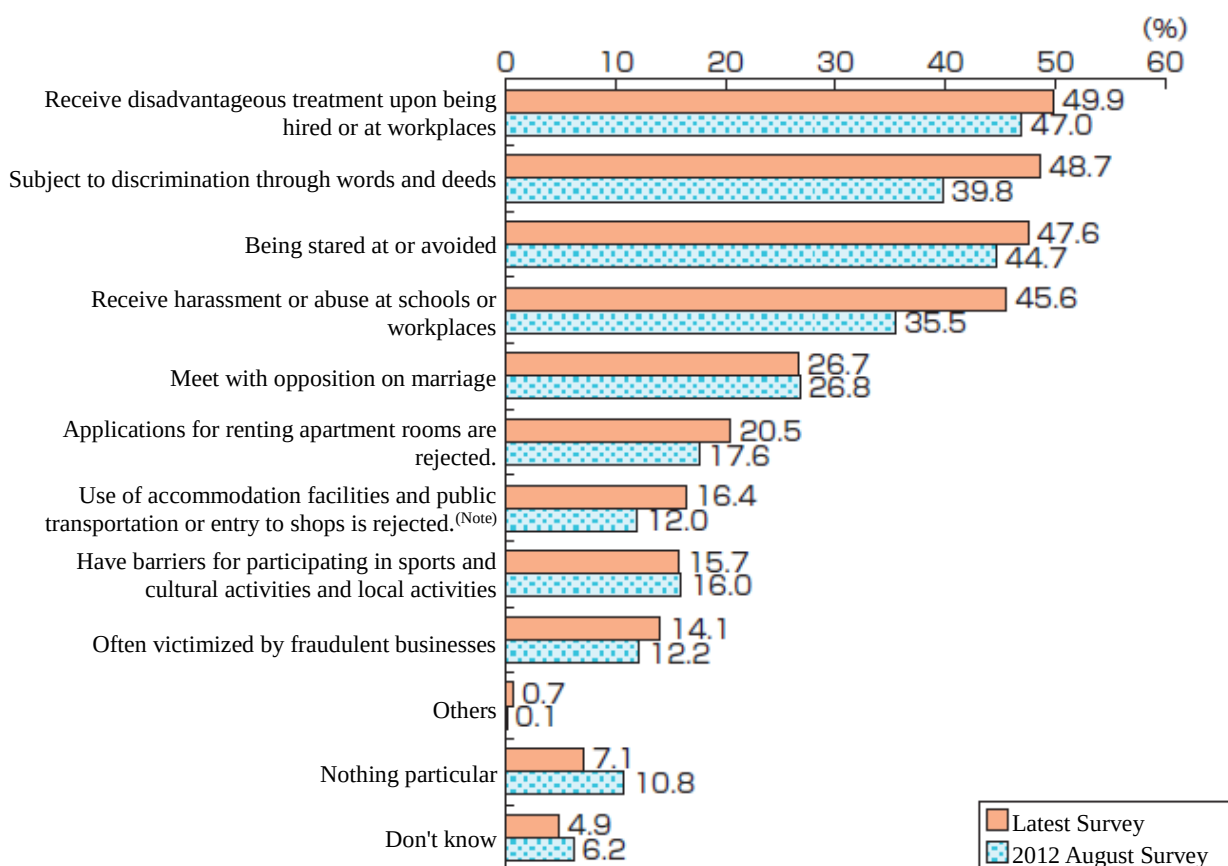
(Note) "Often victimized by fraudulent businesses" in the 2012 August Survey

Fig. 1-9 Human Rights Issues Involving Elderly People

(4) Human Rights Issues Involving Persons with Disabilities

For the question on human rights issues involving persons with disabilities, the most common response was "receive disadvantageous treatment upon being hired or at workplaces" (49.9%), followed by "subject to discrimination through words and deeds" (48.7%), "being stared at or avoided" (47.6%) and "receive harassment or abuse at schools or workplaces" (45.6%).

Compared with the results of the previous survey, there were increases in the percentages of the responses, "subject to discrimination through words and deeds" (from 39.8% to 48.7%) and "receive harassment or abuse at schools or workplaces" (from 35.5% to 45.6%).



(Note) "Entry to accommodation facilities and shops or use of facilities is rejected" in the 2012 August Survey

Fig. 1-10 Human Rights Issues Involving Persons with Disabilities

(5) Dowa Issue (*Buraku* Discrimination)

Regarding the *Dowa* issue, such as *Buraku* discrimination, as many as 82.3% responded that they "know the issue," and for the question on what occasion a respondent first got to know the issue, common responses were "learned in a class at school" (22.9%) and "heard from a family member (grandparents, parents, siblings, etc.)" (19.6%).

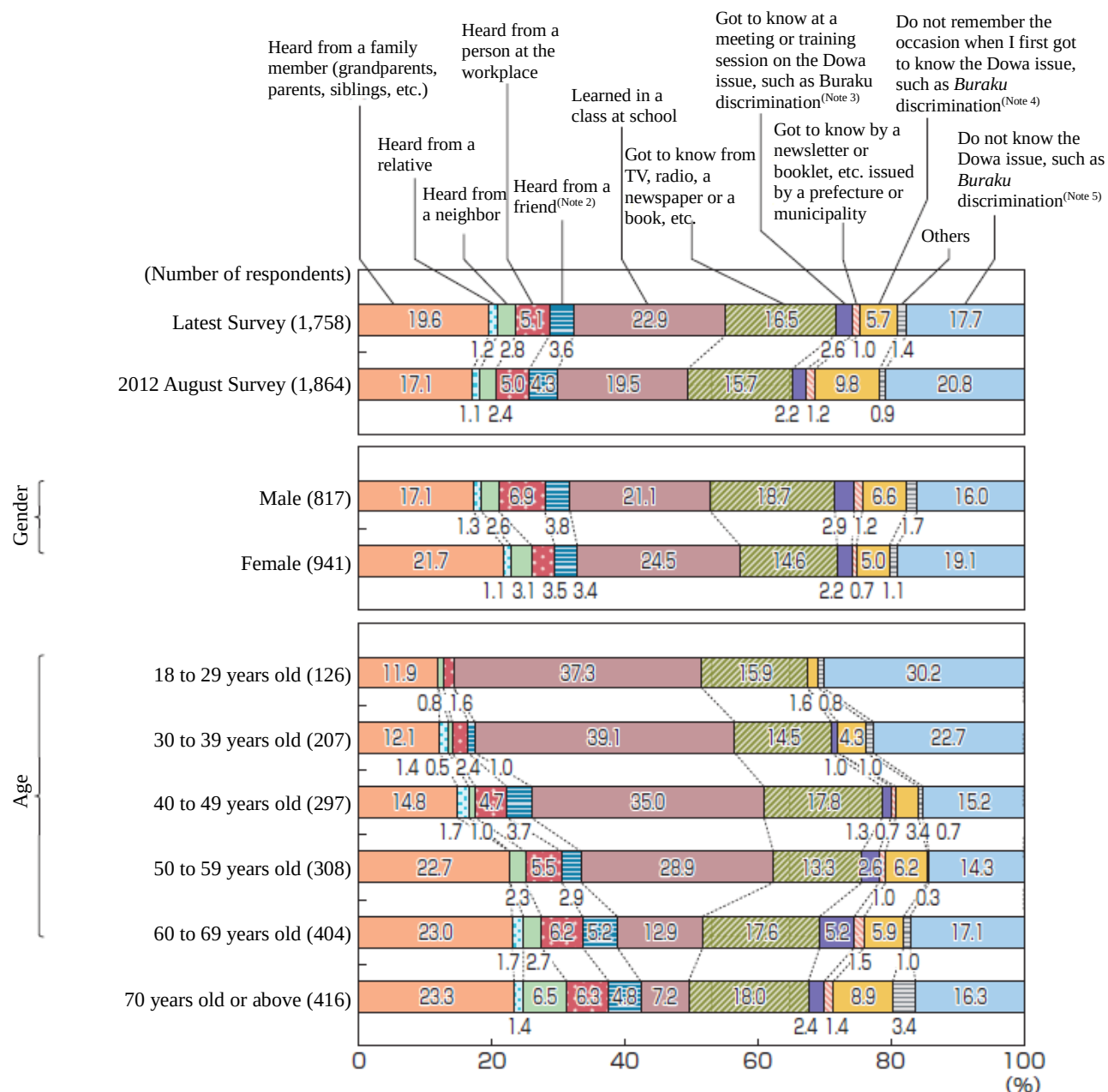
The percentage of those who responded that they "learned in a class at school" was 37.3% among respondents aged between 18 and 29, 39.1% among respondents in their 30s, 35.0% among respondents in their 40s, and 28.9% among respondents in their 50s. School education thus accounts for a significant percentage of the occasion of first getting to know the *Dowa* issue.

When asking respondents who know the issue about what human rights issues they consider are occurring in relation to the *Dowa* issue, such as *Buraku* discrimination, the most common response was "meet with opposition on marriage" (40.1%), followed by "subject to discrimination through words and deeds" (27.9%) and "receive a background check" (27.6%).

Compared with the results of the previous survey, increases were observed in those considering the following as human rights issues: "meet with opposition on marriage" (from 37.3% to 40.1%), "subject to discrimination through words and deeds" (from 24.9% to 27.9%) and "receive disadvantageous treatment upon being hired or at workplaces" (from 23.2% to 23.5%). Those choosing the response, "receive a background check," decreased but the percentage remained almost flat (from 27.8% to 27.6%).

As the Act on the Promotion of the Elimination of *Buraku* Discrimination (Act No. 109 of 2016) was

enforced on December 16, 2016, the latest survey additionally asked respondents who know the issue about the reasons why *Buraku* discrimination still exists. The most common response was "many people just accept traditional prejudice and discrimination with no question" (55.8%), followed by "some people do not have knowledge on or interest in *Buraku* discrimination" (34.6%), and "education and awareness-raising efforts so far were not sufficient" (25.5%). Additionally, for the question of what should be done in the future for resolving the *Dowa* issue, such as *Buraku* discrimination, the percentages were high for the responses, "each one of us should be more aware of the significance of respect for human rights" (50.6%) and "the administration should take measures more positively to promote education and awareness-raising activities and improve the counseling system" (40.8%).



(Note 1) "On what occasion did you first get to know the *Dowa* issue? Choose one from the following" in the 2012 August Survey
 (Note 2) "Heard from a friend at school" in the 2012 August Survey
 (Note 3) "Got to know at a meeting or training session on the *Dowa* issue" in the 2012 August Survey
 (Note 4) "Do not remember the occasion when I first got to know the *Dowa* issue" in the 2012 August Survey
 (Note 5) "Do not know the *Dowa* issue" in the 2012 August Survey

Fig. 1-11 Occasion of First Getting to Know the *Dowa* Issue, such as *Buraku* Discrimination

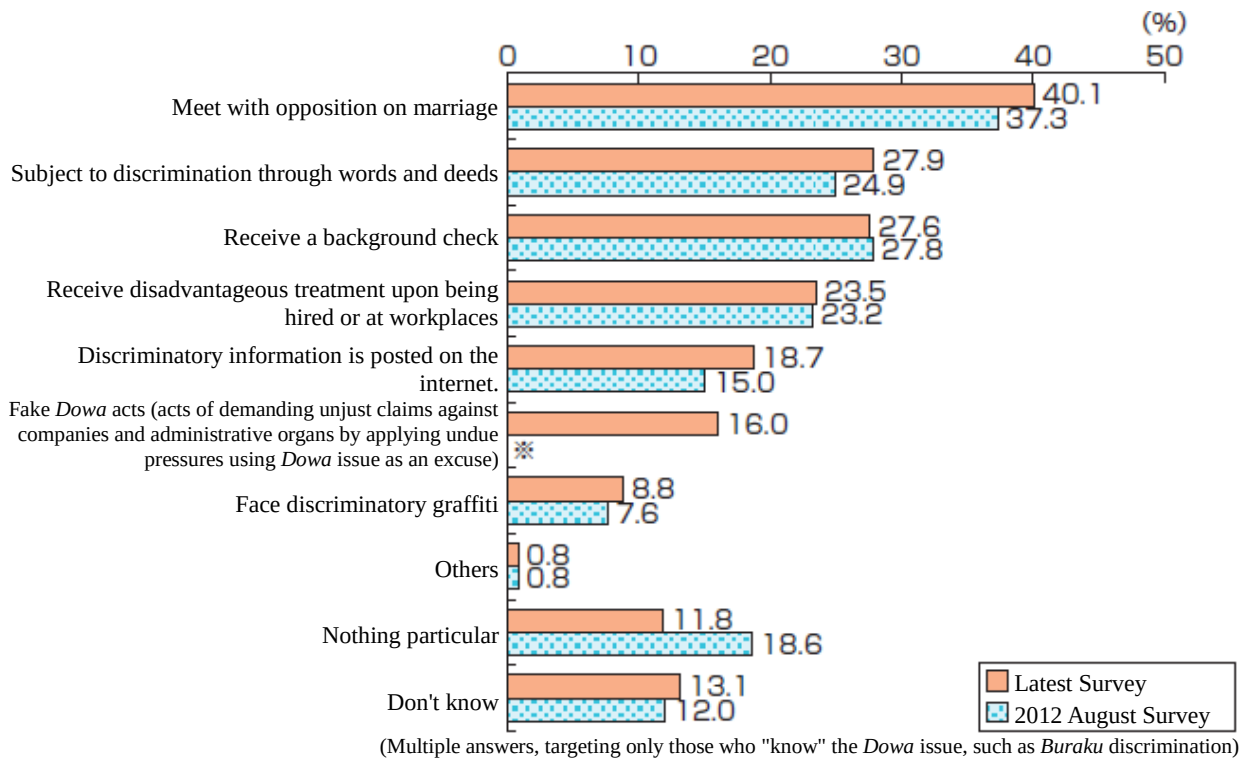


Fig. 1-12 Human Rights Issues Concerning the Dowo Issue, such as Buraku Discrimination

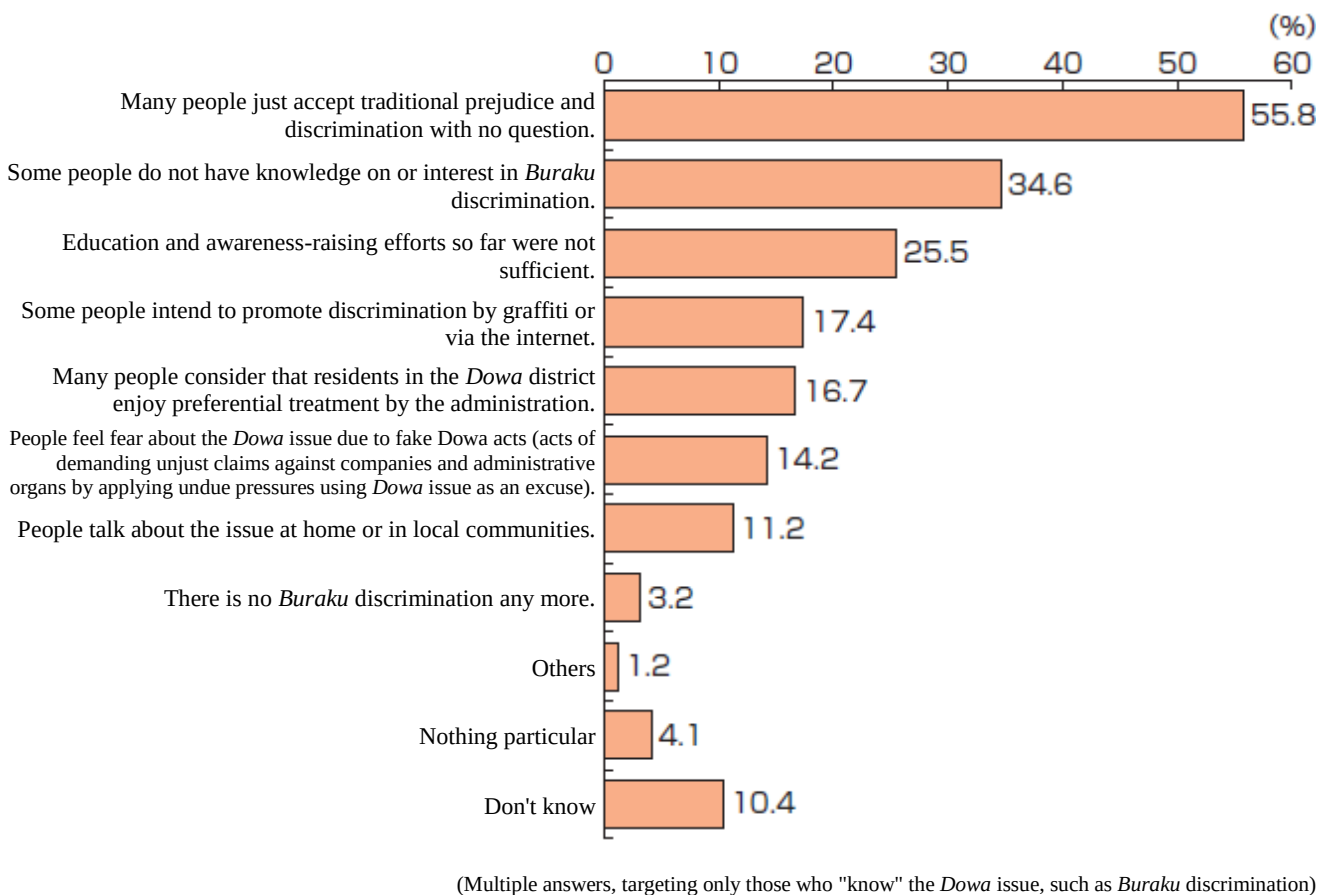
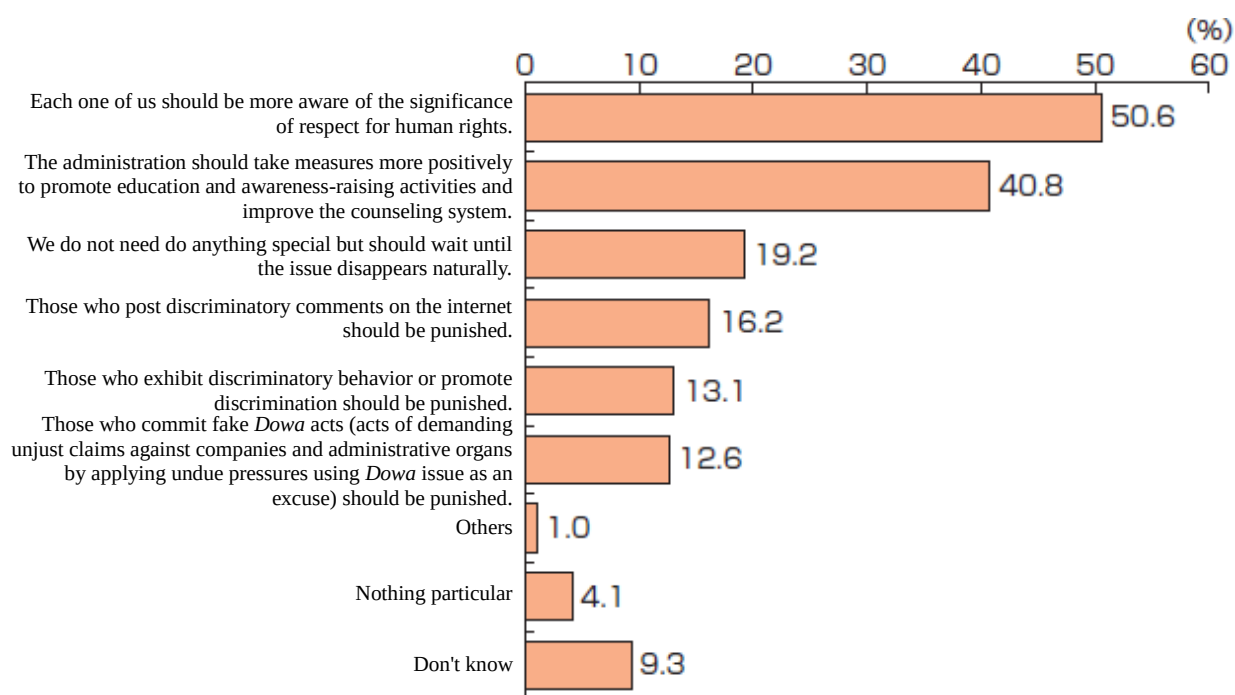


Fig. 1-13 Reasons Why Buraku Discrimination Exists



(Multiple answers, targeting only those who "know" the *Dowa* issue, such as *Buraku* discrimination)

Fig. 1-14 Means to Solve the *Dowa* Issue, such as *Buraku* Discrimination

(6) Human Rights Issues Involving the Ainu People

For the question on human rights issues involving the Ainu people, the most common response was "original culture and tradition have not been sufficiently preserved and handed down" (29.7%), followed by "subject to discrimination through words and deeds" (16.4%). Those who responded that they "don't know" accounted for 38.5%.

Compared with the results of the previous survey, the percentage of those responding that "original culture and tradition have not been sufficiently preserved and handed down" increased slightly (from 25.4% to 29.7%), while the percentage of the response, "don't know," remained high (from 40.0% to 38.5%).



(Multiple answers)

Fig. 1-15 Human Rights Issues Involving the Ainu People

(7) Human Rights Issues Involving Foreign Nationals

For the question on human rights issues involving foreign nationals, the most common response was "Differences in culture and habits, etc. are not accepted" (41.3%), followed by "receive disadvantageous treatment upon being hired or at workplaces" (30.9%) and "applications for renting apartment rooms are rejected" (24.6%).

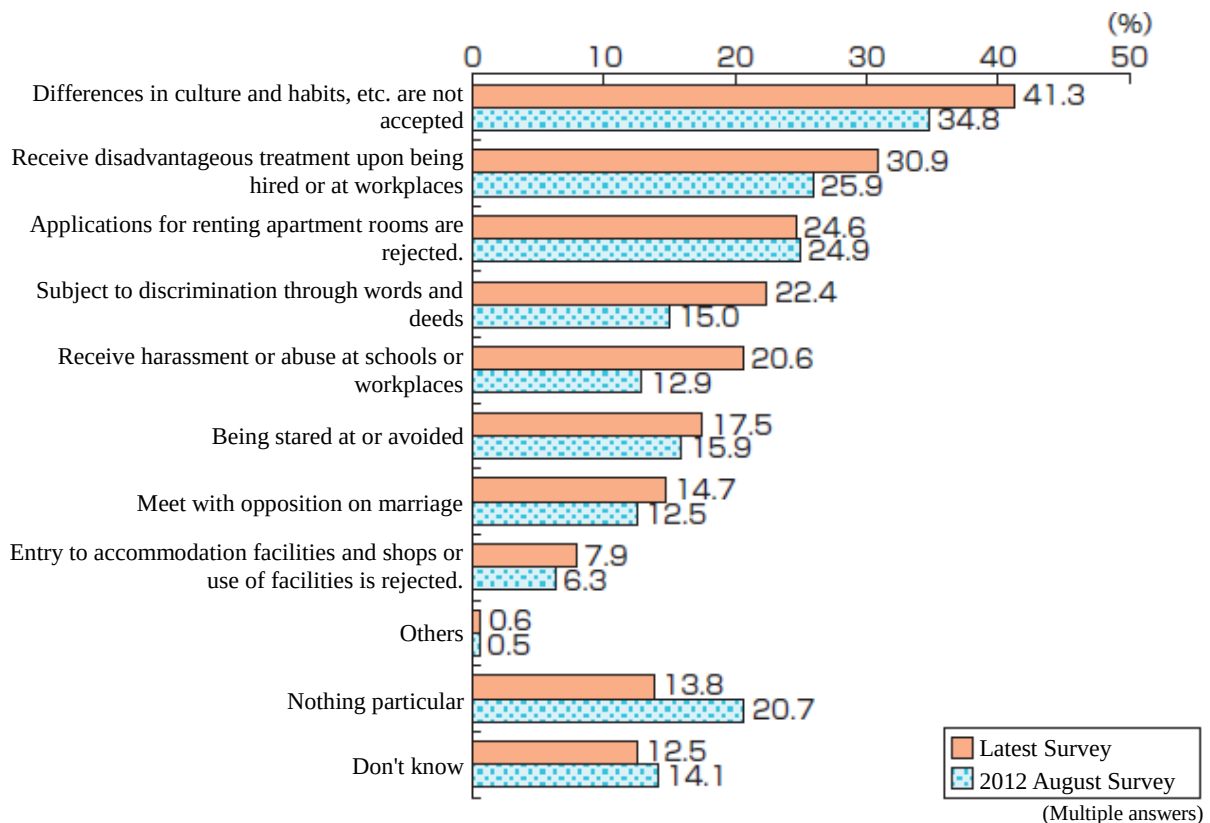
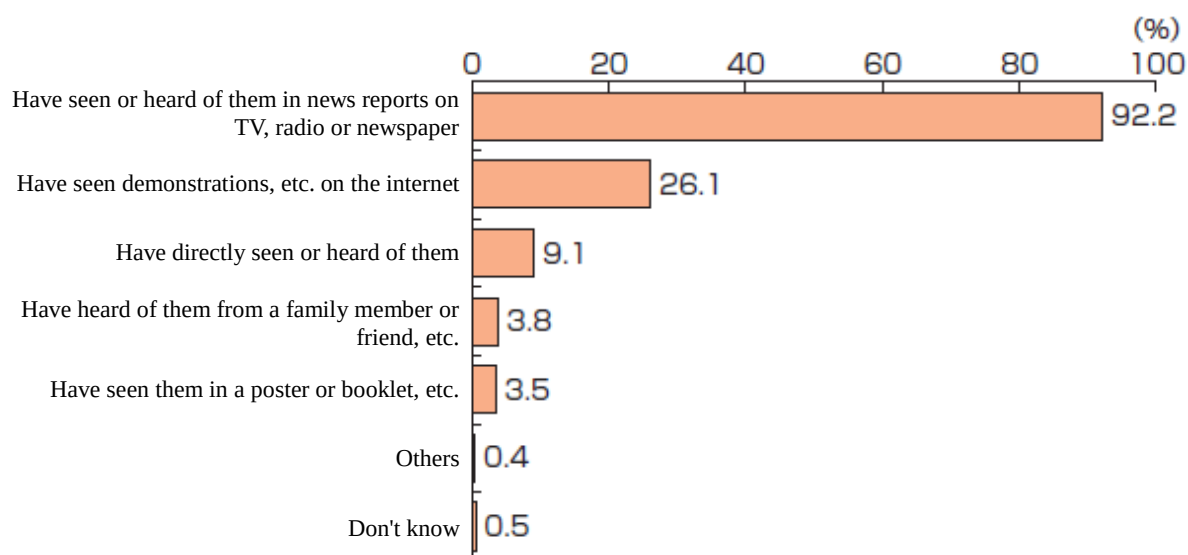


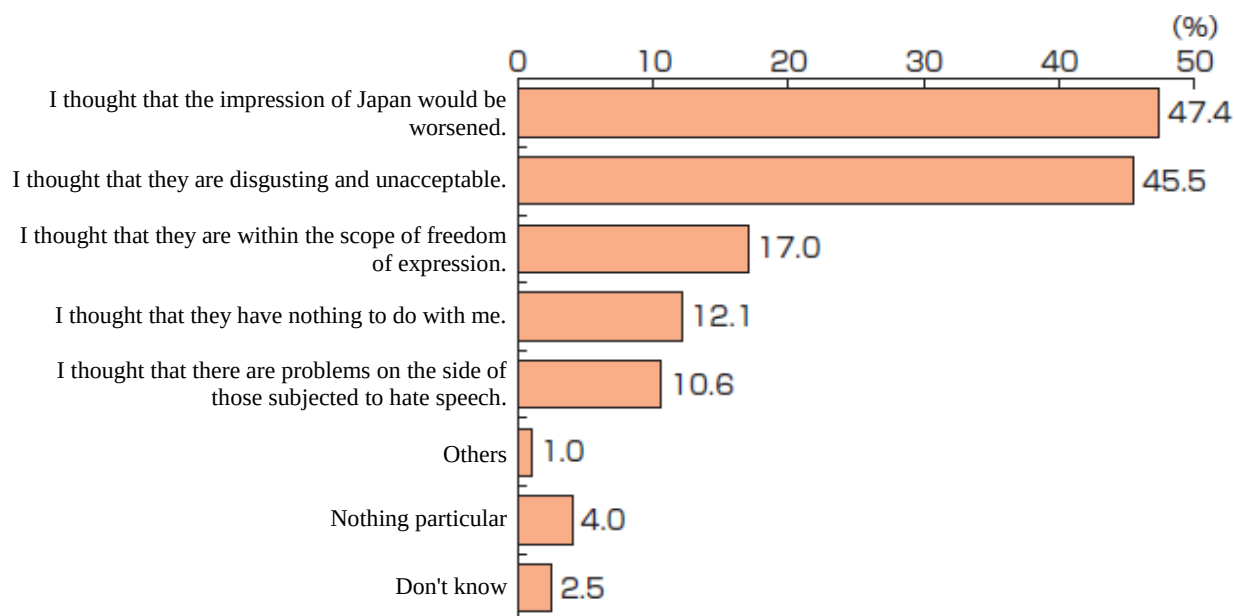
Fig. 1-16 Human Rights Issues Involving Foreign Nationals

As the Act on the Promotion of Efforts to Eliminate Unfair Discriminatory Speech and Behavior against Persons Originating from Outside Japan (Act No. 68 of 2016; hereinafter referred to as the "Hate Speech Elimination Act") was enforced on June 3, 2016, the latest survey additionally asked whether a respondent has knowledge of demonstrations, meetings and propaganda activities (hereinafter referred to as "demonstrations, etc.") accompanied by hate speech, and 57.4% responded that they "know" such activities. When asking those who know demonstrations, etc. accompanied by hate speech how they got to know, as many as 92.2% responded that they "have seen or heard of them in news reports on TV, radio or newspaper." The second most common response was that they "have seen demonstrations, etc. on the internet" (26.1%). Additionally, for the question of what a respondent thought when seeing or hearing of demonstrations, etc. accompanied by hate speech, the percentages were high for the responses, "I thought that the impression of Japan would be worsened" (47.4%) and "I thought that they are disgusting and unacceptable" (45.5%), while certain percentages of respondents chose "I thought that they are within the scope of freedom of expression" (17.0%) or "I thought that they have nothing to do with me" (12.1%).



(Multiple answers, targeting only those who "have knowledge of" demonstrations, meetings and propaganda activities accompanied by hate speech)

Fig. 1-17 How the Respondent Got to Know Demonstrations, etc. Accompanied by Hate Speech



(Multiple answers, targeting only those who "have knowledge of" demonstrations, meetings and propaganda activities accompanied by hate speech)

Fig. 1-18 Awareness on Demonstrations, etc. Accompanied by Hate Speech

(8) Human Rights Issues Involving People Living with HIV, etc.

For the question of what human rights issues involving people living with HIV, etc. are occurring, the most common response was "meet with opposition on marriage" (48.9%), followed by "subject to discrimination through words and deeds" (37.7%), "receive disadvantageous treatment upon being hired or at workplaces" (34.5%) and "treatment or hospitalization is rejected" (19.2%).

Compared with the results of the previous survey, increases were observed in those who chose the following responses: "meet with opposition on marriage" (from 41.6% to 48.9%), "subject to discrimination through words and deeds" (from 30.7% to 37.7%) and "receive disadvantageous treatment upon being hired or at workplaces" (from 29.9% to 34.5%). The percentage of those who chose the response, "treatment or hospitalization is rejected," decreased (from 19.7% to 19.2%) but maintained almost the same level.

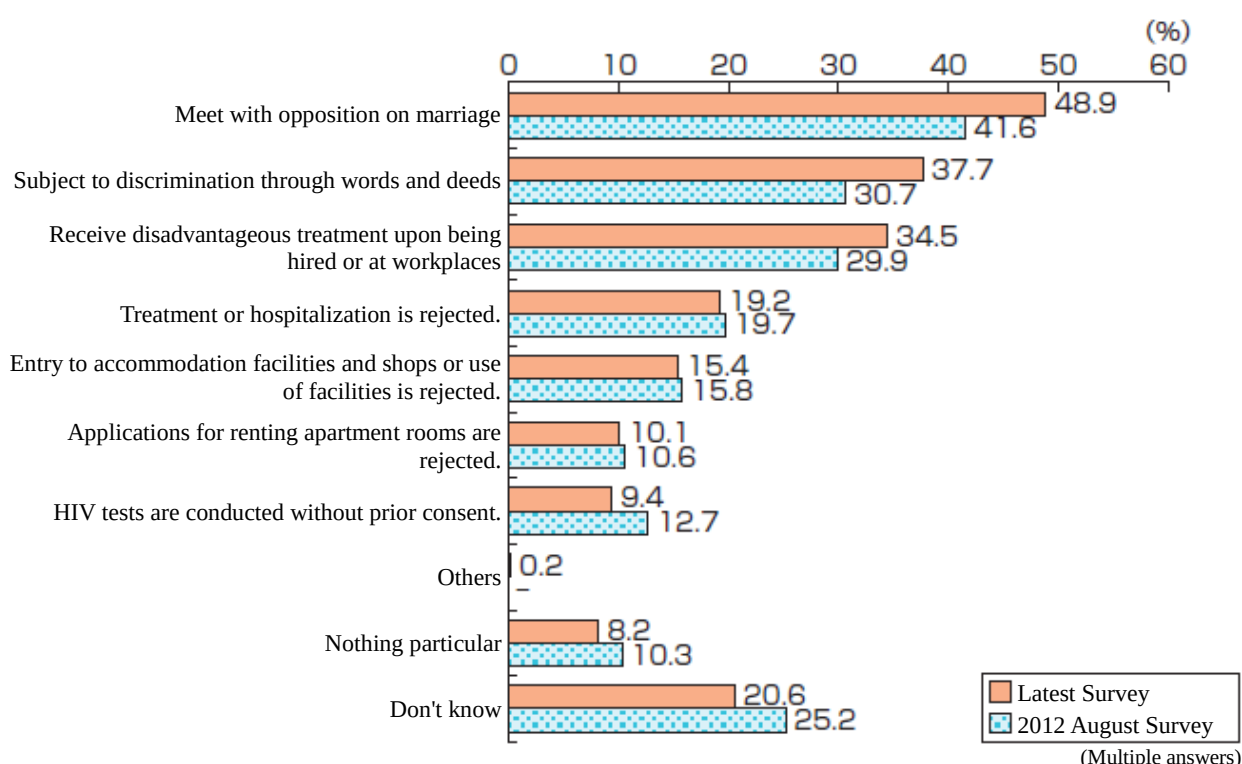


Fig. 1-19 Human Rights Issues Involving People Living with HIV, etc.

(9) Human Rights Issues Involving Hansen's Disease Patients, etc.

For the question of what human rights issues involving present and former Hansen's disease patients and their families are occurring, the most common response was "difficult to live an independent life outside a sanatorium for Hansen's disease patients" (31.7%), followed by "subject to discrimination through words and deeds" (29.0%), "meet with opposition on marriage" (28.2%), "receive disadvantageous treatment upon being hired or at workplaces" (27.0%) and "being stared at or avoided" (26.3%).

Compared with the results of the previous survey, the percentage of those who chose the response, "difficult to live an independent life outside a sanatorium for Hansen's disease patients," decreased but maintained almost the same level (from 32.1% to 31.7%), and the percentages increased for those who chose the following responses: "subject to discrimination through words and deeds" (from 22.3% to 29.0%), "meet with opposition on marriage" (from 25.1% to 28.2%), "receive disadvantageous treatment upon being hired or at workplaces" (from 21.1% to 27.0%), "being stared at or avoided" (from 24.1% to 26.3%).

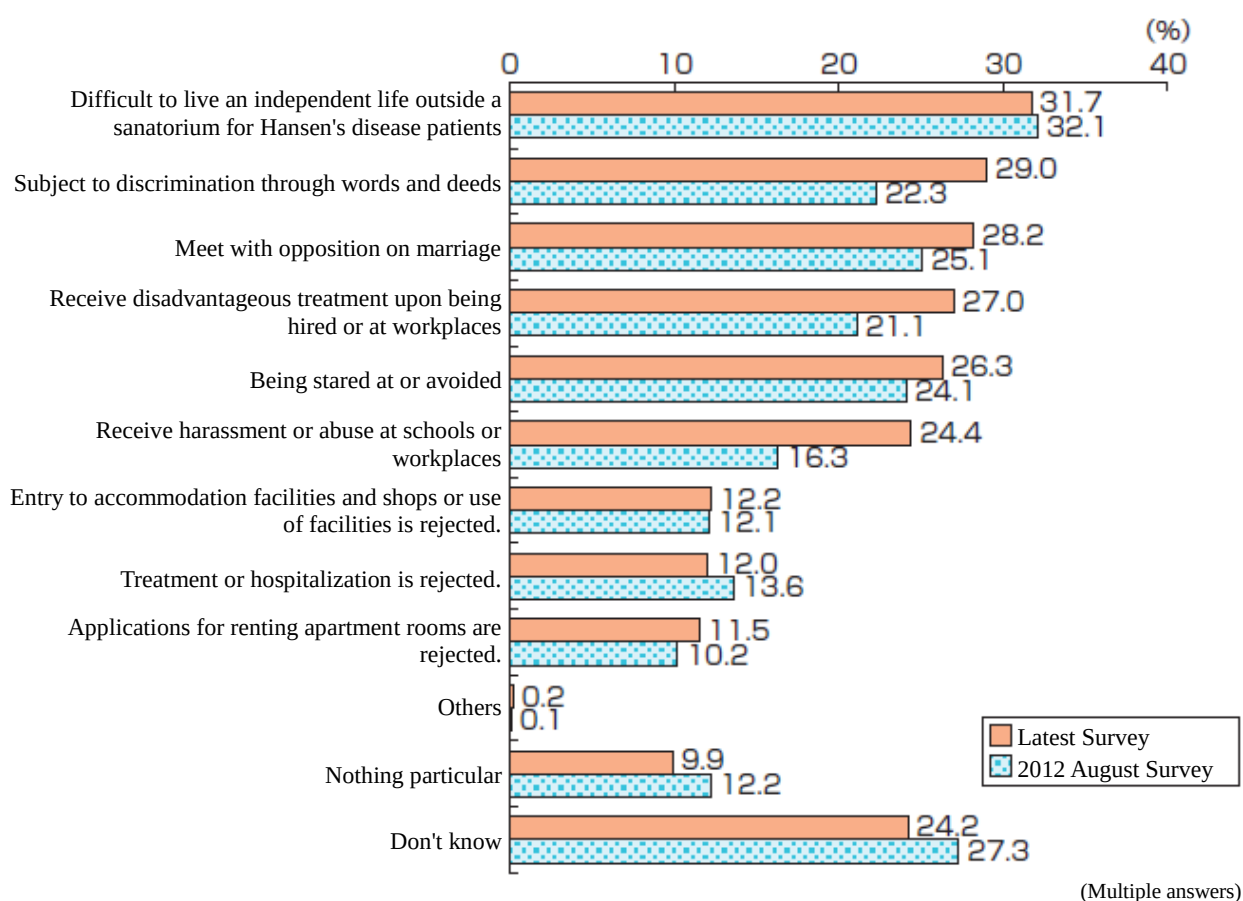


Fig. 1-20 Human Rights Issues Involving Hansen's Disease Patients, etc.

(10) Human Rights Issues Involving Crime Victims, etc.

For the question of what human rights issues involving crime victims and their families are occurring, the most common response was "the incident is the target of rumors by neighbors" (59.8%), followed by "psychologically shocked by the crime" (59.3%), "matters concerning their privacy are disclosed and peace in their private lives is disturbed by media coverage" (54.0%) and "cannot receive expected responses from the police" (46.5%).

Compared with the results of the previous survey, increases were observed in the following responses: "the incident is the target of rumors by neighbors" (from 53.9% to 59.8%) and "psychologically shocked by the crime" (from 50.9% to 59.3%). On the other hand, the following responses showed decreases: "matters concerning their privacy are disclosed and peace in their private lives is disturbed by media coverage" (from 58.3% to 54.0%) and "cannot receive expected responses from the police" (from 47.5% to 46.5%).

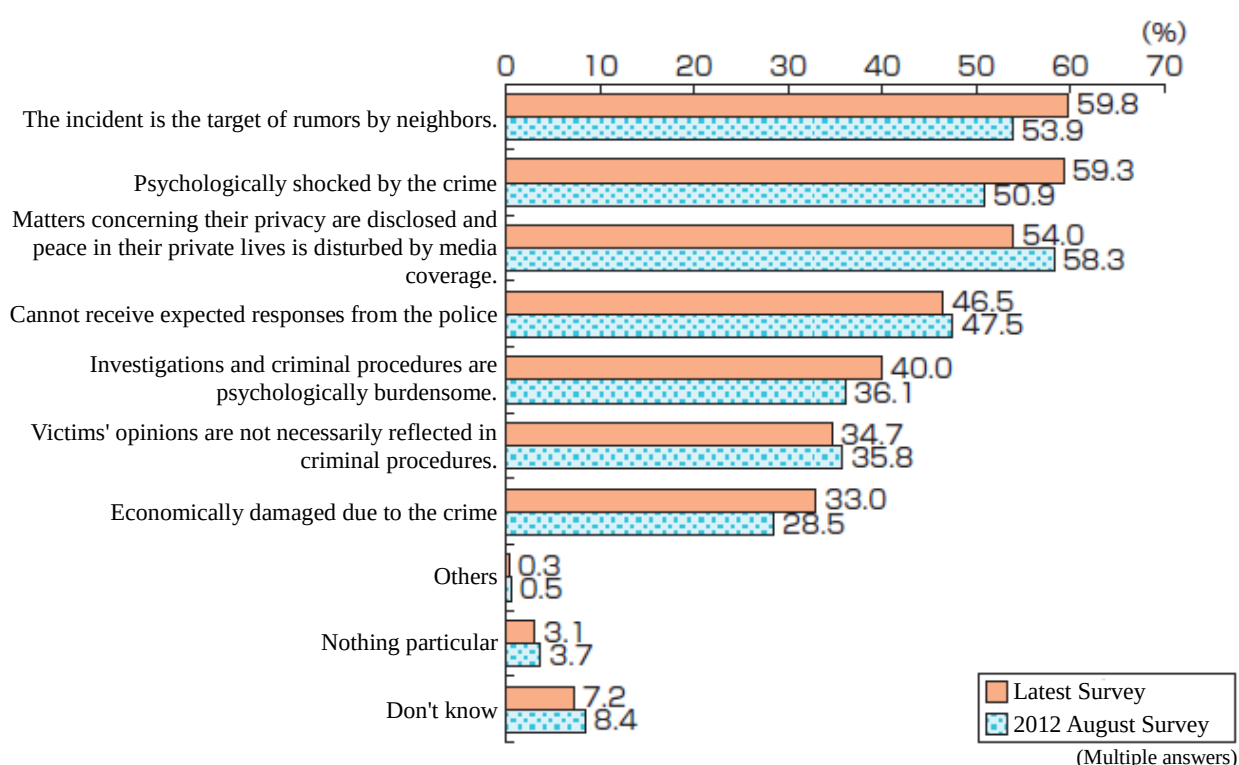


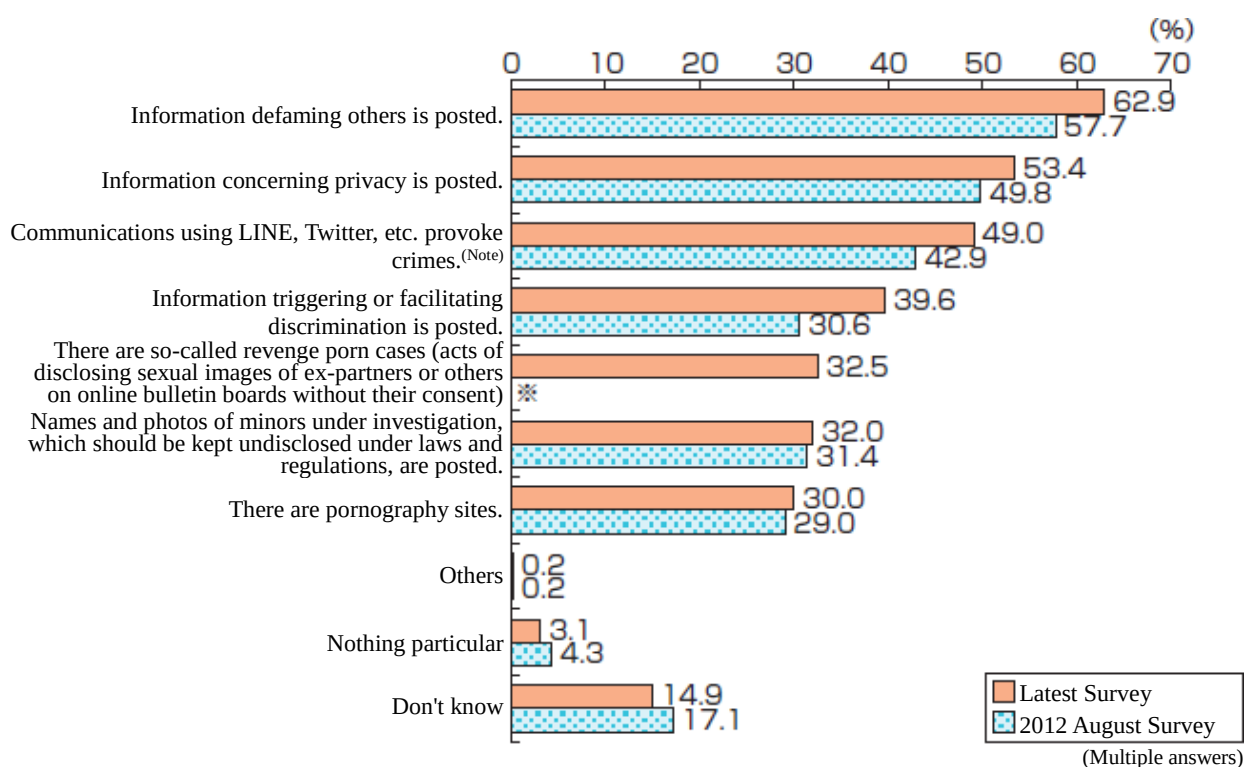
Fig. 1-21 Human Rights Issues Involving Crime Victims, etc.

(11) Human Rights Violations on the Internet

For the question on issues that are occurring in relation to human rights violations on the internet, the most common response was "information defaming others is posted" (62.9%), followed by "information concerning privacy is posted" (53.4%) and "communications using LINE, Twitter, etc. provoke crimes" (49.0%).

Compared with the results of the previous survey, increases were observed in the following responses: "information defaming others is posted" (from 57.7% to 62.9%), "information concerning privacy is posted" (from 49.8% to 53.4%) and "communications using LINE, Twitter, etc. provoke crimes"^(Note) (from 42.9% to 49.0%).

(Note) "The Internet provides platforms for crimes such as dating sites" in the 2012 August Survey



* Not included in the 2012 August Survey

(Note) "The Internet provides platforms for crimes such as dating sites" in the 2012 August Survey

Fig. 1-22 Human Rights Violations on the Internet

(12) Human Rights Issues Involving Homeless People

For the question of what human rights issues involving homeless people are occurring, the most common response was "difficulty of being financially independent" (49.0%), followed by "being stared at or avoided" (44.1%) and "subject to violence by neighboring residents and passersby, etc." (34.2%).

Compared with the results of the previous survey, increases were observed in the following responses: "difficulty of being financially independent" (from 46.2% to 49.0%) and "being stared at or avoided" (from 36.8% to 44.1%).

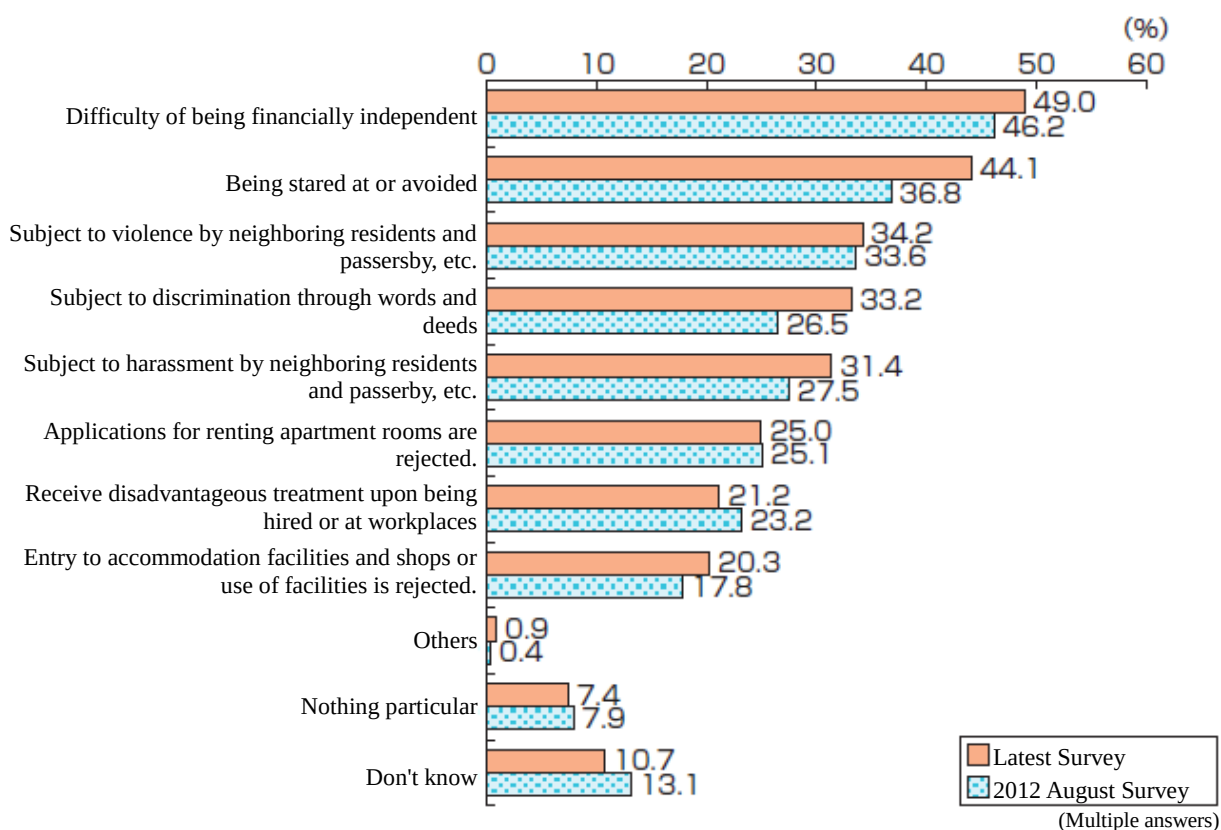


Fig. 1-23 Human Rights Issues Involving Homeless People

(13) Human Rights Issues Concerning Sexual Orientation

For the question of what human rights issues are occurring in relation to sexual orientation, such as heterosexual, homosexual and bisexual love, the most common response was "subject to discrimination through words and deeds" (49.0%), followed by "receive harassment or abuse at schools or workplaces" (35.0%), "being stared at or avoided" (31.7%) and "receive disadvantageous treatment upon being hired or at workplaces" (29.1%).

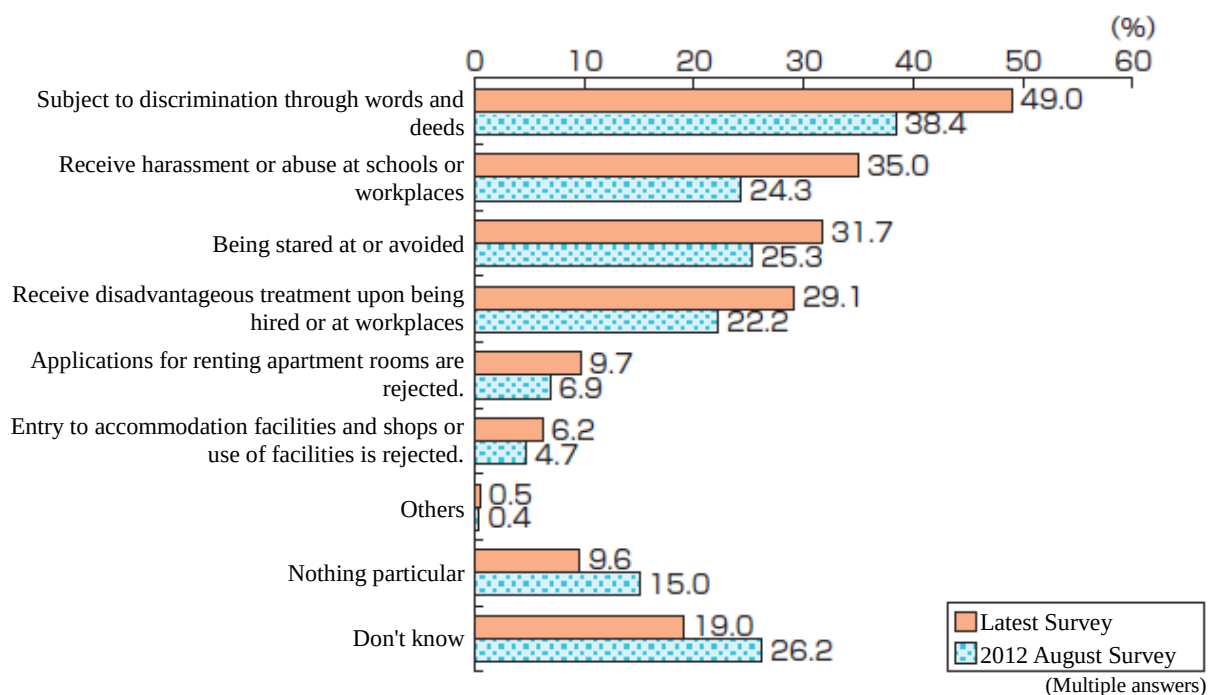


Fig. 1-24 Human Rights Issues Concerning Sexual Orientation

(14) Human Rights Issues Involving Persons with Gender Identity Disorder

For the question of what human rights issues involving persons with gender identity disorder (persons whose biological gender (physical gender) and gender identity (psychological gender) are mismatched) are occurring, the most common response was "subject to discrimination through words and deeds" (49.8%), followed by "receive harassment or abuse at schools or workplaces" (45.7%) and "receive disadvantageous treatment upon being hired or at workplaces" (35.0%).

Compared with the results of the previous survey, significant increases were observed in the following responses: "subject to discrimination through words and deeds" (from 28.1% to 49.8%) and "receive harassment or abuse at schools or workplaces" (from 32.6% to 45.7%).

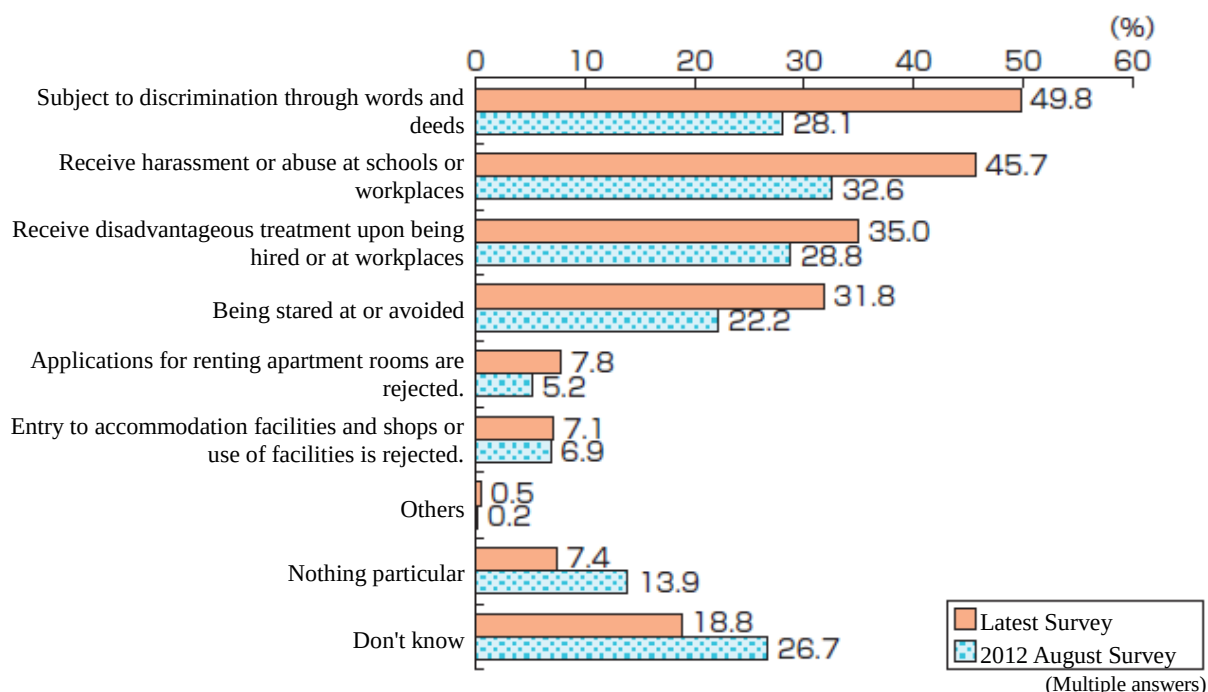
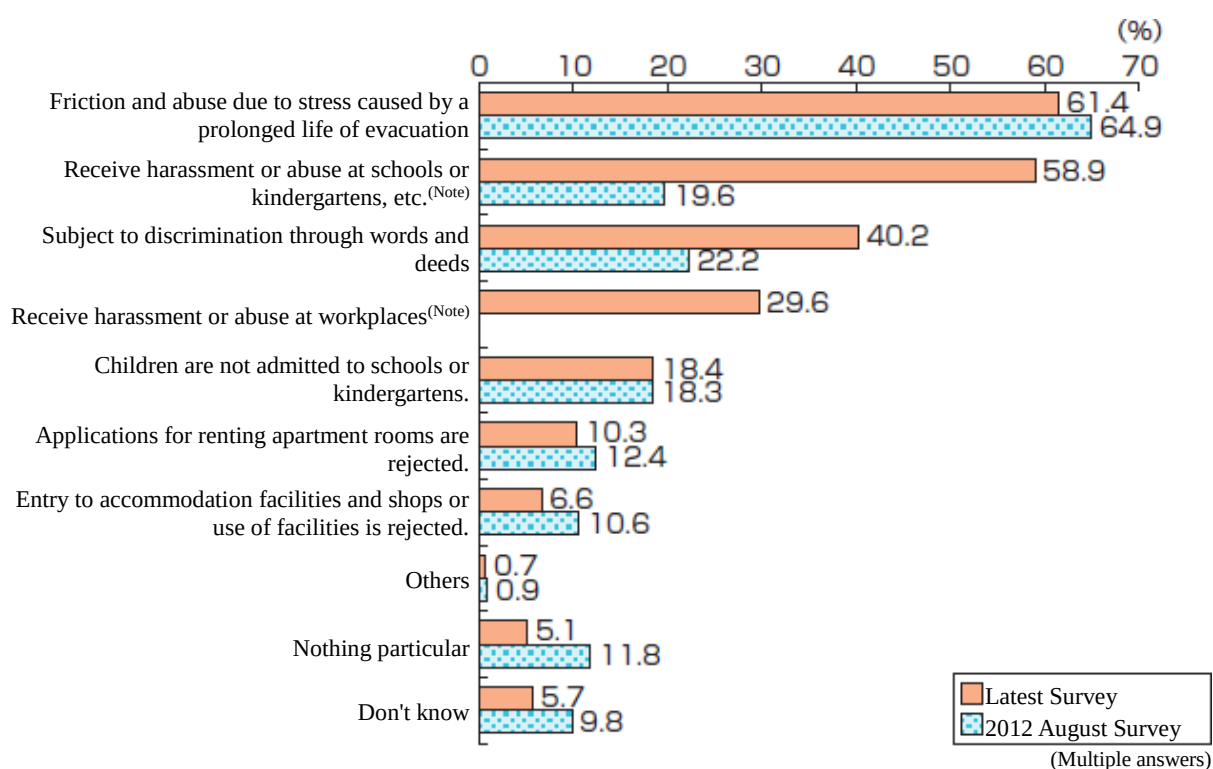


Fig. 1-25 Human Rights Issues Involving Persons with Gender Identity Disorder

(15) Human Rights Issues Accompanying the Great East Japan Earthquake

For the question of what human rights issues are occurring for victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake and the subsequent accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi NPS, the most common response was "friction and abuse due to stress caused by a prolonged life of evacuation" (61.4%), followed by "receive harassment or abuse at schools or kindergartens, etc." (58.9%), "subject to discrimination through words and deeds" (40.2%) and "receive harassment or abuse at workplaces" (29.6%).

Compared with the results of the previous survey, the percentage remained high for those who chose the response, "friction and abuse due to stress caused by a prolonged life of evacuation," (from 64.9% to 61.4%).



(Note) "Receive harassment or abuse at schools or workplaces" in the 2012 August Survey

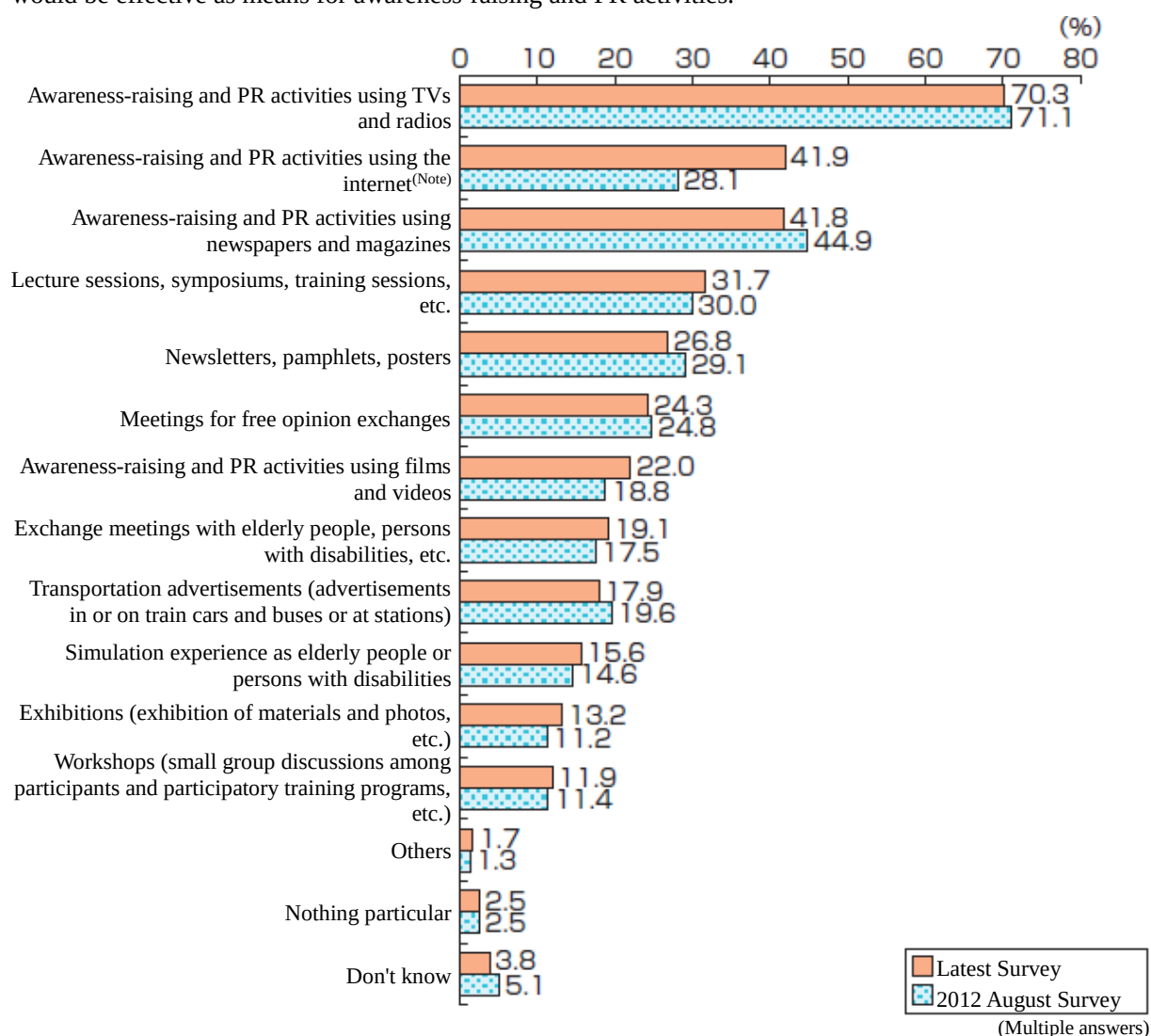
Fig. 1-26 Human Rights Issues Accompanying the Great East Japan Earthquake

4. Means to Solve Human Rights Issues

For the question about effective awareness-raising and PR activities targeting citizens for raising their awareness on human rights, high percentages of respondents cited "awareness-raising and PR activities using TVs and radios" (70.3%) and "awareness-raising and PR activities using the internet" (41.9%). The percentage of those citing "awareness-raising and PR activities using newspapers and magazines" was 41.8%, maintaining a high level as in the previous survey.

For the question of what the national government should prioritize towards the resolution of human rights issues, the percentages were high for those who chose the following responses: "enhance human rights education in and outside school" (59.8%), "enhance remedies and support for victims of human rights violations" (44.0%), and "promote awareness-raising and PR activities to raise awareness and deepen understanding on human rights" (43.1%).

As a whole, citizens seem to have great expectations for human rights education and awareness-raising. Additionally, many of the respondents consider that positive utilization of mass media and the internet would be effective as means for awareness-raising and PR activities.



(Note) "Awareness-raising and PR activities using the internet and e-mail (e-mail magazines, etc.)" in the 2012 August Survey

Fig. 1-27 Awareness-Raising Activities Considered to be Effective



Fig. 1-28 Means to Solve Human Rights Issues

Chapter 2

Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising Measures Taken in FY2017

Section 1 Efforts from Universal Perspectives Concerning Human Rights in General

1. Human Rights Education

Human rights education means "educational activities to cultivate a spirit of respect for human rights" (Article 2 of the Act on the Promotion of Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising). Human rights education has been provided from the standpoint of lifelong learning, depending on the developmental stage from an early age and on circumstances of respective regions, in mutual collaboration between school education and social education.

(1) School Education

A. Promotion of Human Rights Education

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has been promoting human rights education through carrying out "Human Rights Education Research Promotion Project" entrusting practical study on a comprehensive approach through proper cooperation among school, family, and community, and practical research on improvement and awareness raising through teaching methods of human rights education in schools (at 45 areas and 108 schools in FY2017), and Studies on Human Rights Education at School, etc. that the Ministry conducts by itself

Efforts at Schools

(Case 1) At an elementary school

Theme: Promotion of human rights education to help children build rich human relationships with respect for human rights and develop their academic abilities

Details:

- Children in the upper grades performed a play on how to relate to others with generosity in school life and children in the lower grades watched it.
- Changes in individual students and classes as a whole before and after providing human rights education were ascertained (biannual questionnaire surveys).

(Case 2) At a junior high school

Theme: Promotion of human rights education to develop sympathy and communication skills of respective students

Details:

- Teachers and school staff were provided with training, etc. to properly share purposes and goals of human rights education.
- Human rights education on various themes was promoted in a planned manner (holding of the Children's Meeting for Bullying Prevention in collaboration between elementary schools and junior high schools during the Bullying Prevention Month (November), and the Human Rights Lectures on the abductions issue during the Month for Thinking about Life and Human Rights (December)).

Regarding teaching methods for human rights education, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology compiled and publicized the First Report in June 2004, the Second Report in January 2006 and the Third Report in March 2008. The Ministry has delivered the Third Report to public and private schools and boards of education nationwide and has otherwise endeavored to disseminate the

outcomes of its studies.

Since FY2011, the Ministry has collected and publicized unique school human rights education activities via prefectural boards of education with the aim of promoting human rights education nationwide (64 cases for FY2011, 61 cases for FY2012, 57 cases for FY2013, 54 cases for FY2014, and 49 cases for FY2015). Additionally, the Ministry created a video for promoting understanding on human rights education in FY2014 and made it available on its website. As the Act on the Promotion of Efforts to Eliminate Unfair Discriminatory Speech and Behavior against Persons Originating from Outside Japan (Hate Speech Elimination Act) came into force on June 3, 2016, the Ministry collected concrete examples showing respect for foreign nationals' human rights in FY2016 and publicized the results on its website.

Furthermore, the Ministry has held the Liaison Council of Supervisors in Charge of Human Rights Education every year since FY2010 to exchange information and have discussion on the promotion of human rights education, and has endeavored to disseminate the details of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Second Convention in 1994).

B. Promotion of Moral Education

The National Curriculum Standards require schools to teach children and students the importance of being fair and impartial towards everyone, free from prejudice or discrimination, and of observing laws and regulations and cherishing their own and other people's rights. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is endeavoring to enhance moral education at school.

For further enhancement of moral education, the Ministry delivered moral education materials, "Our Morals," for FY2017 to elementary and lower secondary schools nationwide and Special subject: Morality will be commenced at all elementary schools in FY2018 and at all lower secondary schools in FY2019.

In order to support diverse moral education depending on circumstances of respective schools and regions, the Ministry assists local governments through collecting best examples, providing information nationwide and promoting unique moral education and utilization of teaching materials.

As education in early childhood is significant in individuals' personality formation during their lifetime, the Ministry also endeavors to enhance guidance at kindergartens to boost children's sense of morality.

C. Promotion of Social Contribution Activities and Experience-Based Activities in Local Communities and Schools

From the perspective of stimulating social development and fostering a rich humanity of children, it is extremely important to promote their activities based on actual experience and involvement in various matters, not limited to providing them with intellectual knowledge. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is implementing the Program for Promoting Experience-based Activities for Sound Growth of Students Sound Development to provide opportunities for long-time overnight-stay experiences with diverse originality for the purpose of fostering a rich humanity and sociality and facilitating children's sound development.

D. Enhancement of Teachers' Quality

Efforts have been made to enhance the quality of teachers at each stage of their training and recruitment.

Training for new teachers or for mid-career teachers provided by prefectural boards of education or other entities contains subjects related to human rights education to raise teachers' awareness of human rights.

(2) Social Education

Social education focuses on projects based on a spirit of respect for human rights throughout individuals' lifelong learning.

At lectures fostering social education supervisors, who play the central role in social education, and training for in-service instructors, contemporary issues such as human rights issues are picked up as topics. With the aim of nurturing instructors and enhancing their quality, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology holds such classes and lectures at community learning centers or other social education facilities and provides diverse learning opportunities, such as exchanges among people of different generations, persons with disabilities, foreign nationals, etc.

On such occasions as conferences and meetings of officials of local governments in charge of social education, the Ministry endeavors to disseminate the purport of the Hate Speech Elimination Act, the Act on the Promotion of the Elimination of *Buraku* Discrimination or other Acts and have participants obtain correct knowledge on gender identity disorder and sexual orientation, thereby promoting efforts for human rights education in accordance with the circumstances of respective regions.

2. Human Rights Awareness-Raising

Human rights awareness-raising means "awareness-raising activities including publicity (excluding human rights education) to disseminate the principle of respect for human rights among citizens and deepen citizens' understanding thereof" and aims to ensure that "citizens deepen and gain an understanding of the principle of respect for human rights ... depending on the developmental stage of citizens" (Articles 2 and 3 of the Act on the Promotion of Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising).

Human rights awareness-raising refers to training, information provision, public relations activities, etc., excluding human rights education, being carried out for the purpose of disseminating and promoting the philosophy of respect for human rights broadly among citizens. The ultimate purpose is to have each citizen correctly understand the significance of respecting human rights and behave with full consideration to other people's human rights based on such understanding. In other words, human rights awareness-raising aims to ensure that all citizens have the correct awareness concerning such questions as "What do human rights specifically refer to?" "What does it mean to respect human rights?" and "In the event of human rights violation, what system has been put in place to eliminate the violation and provide a remedy?" and that such correct awareness most certainly takes firm root in citizens' behavior and actions in their everyday life, thereby achieving a society free from any form of human rights violation.

(1) Implementing Entities of Human Rights Awareness-Raising

Implementing entities of human rights awareness-raising at the national level are the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice.^(*) Furthermore, other ministries and agencies are engaging in various human rights awareness-raising activities in relation to affairs under their jurisdiction, respectively, and local governments, public interest corporations, private organizations and companies, etc. are also carrying out

diverse human rights-related activities.

(*) The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice refer to the entirety of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice, and its subordinate organizations, such as human rights departments of Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus, as well as Human Rights Volunteers appointed by the Minister of Justice based on the Human Rights Volunteers Act (Act No. 139 of 1949) and their associations.

Human Rights Volunteers are private citizens appointed by the Minister of Justice and are engaging in human rights promotion and protection activities including human rights awareness-raising in collaboration with Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus. The Human Rights Volunteers System was established based on the concept that it would be effective for people in various fields in the local community to work to encourage respect for human rights, to make efforts to avoid violation of the human rights of the residents, and to promote and protect human rights. This system is unparalleled in any other country.

(2) Awareness-Raising Activities by the Human Rights Bodies of the Ministry of Justice

A. The Priority Goal of Awareness-Raising Activities for FY2017

In light of social circumstances and trends of human rights violation cases of the time, the bodies have set a priority goal for each fiscal year and have made all-out efforts based on such common goal.

The goal for FY2017 was set as "Build a Century of Human Rights - Caring about how others feel and passing down the concept of mutually recognizing differences to the future."

The bodies publicized and stressed the importance of caring about the feelings of others to each and every citizen so that people will be able to reaffirm to themselves that the 21st century has been designated as the Human Rights Century, and each citizen will be able to understand the importance of respect for human rights and, on the basis of this, people will pay closer attention to the human rights of others. The bodies thus carried out awareness-raising activities with the aim of telling people the importance of giving due consideration to others, and the same time, fostering the concept of mutually recognizing differences and passing it down to the future, towards 2020, when the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics are to be held.

In FY2017, with cooperation of relevant organizations, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice set the following 17 human rights issues as priority targets, in addition to the priority goal, and held lectures and symposiums nationwide and actively conducted awareness-raising activities using TVs, radios and other mass media, centered on these priority targets.

- (i) Protect Women's Rights
- (ii) Protect Children's Rights
- (iii) Protect Elderly People's Rights
- (iv) Eliminate Prejudice and Discrimination on the Grounds of Disabilities
- (v) Eliminate Prejudice and Discrimination relating to *Dowa* Issue
- (vi) Eliminate Prejudice and Discrimination against Ainu People



Poster "FY2017 Priority Goal of Awareness-Raising Activities"

- (vii) Respect the Rights of Foreign Nationals
- (viii) Eliminate Prejudice and Discrimination against People Living with HIV and Hansen's Disease Patients, etc.
- (ix) Eliminate Prejudice and Discrimination against People Released from Prison after Serving Their Sentences
- (x) Consider the Human Rights of Crime Victims and Their Families
- (xi) Eliminate Human Rights Violations on the Internet
- (xii) Deepen Understanding of the Issue of Human Rights Violations by North Korean Authorities
- (xiii) Eliminate Prejudice and Discrimination against Homeless People
- (xiv) Eliminate Prejudice and Discrimination on the Grounds of Sexual Orientation
- (xv) Eliminate Prejudice and Discrimination on the Grounds of Gender Identity
- (xvi) Stop Trafficking in Persons
- (xvii) Eliminate Prejudice and Discrimination Arising from the Great East Japan Earthquake

B. The 69th Human Rights Week

Every year, the week from December 4 to December 10 (the Human Rights Day on which the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted) is designated as the Human Rights Week and the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice carry out activities intensively with the cooperation of relevant organizations and bodies to attract people's attention to the significance of the Declaration and promote the dissemination of the idea of respect for human rights.

C. Human Rights Volunteers' Day

June 1, on which the Human Rights Volunteers Act entered into force, is designated as the Human Rights Volunteers' Day with the aim of broadly publicizing the Human Rights Volunteers System and disseminating the idea of respect for human rights.

In FY2017 as well, on-the-stree human rights awareness-raising activities were carried nationwide and public relations activities were also carried out via mass media, using TV programs and radio programs, to broadly introduce the system and concrete actions of Human Rights Volunteers.

Additionally, ad-hoc human rights counseling centers^(*) were opened at 2,498 locations nationwide, simultaneously, centered on June 1.

(*) An ad-hoc human rights counseling center is opened by deciding the date and venue in consultation between the Director of a Legal Affairs Bureau or a District Legal Affairs Bureau and the chairperson of a human rights volunteers council. Some are opened at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus or their branches on weekends or on holidays, or are opened at department stores, community learning centers, welfare facilities, etc.



Poster "Human Rights Volunteer System"

D. National Essay Contest on Human Rights for Junior High School Students

The National Essay Contest on Human Rights for Junior High School Students has been held every year for the purpose of enabling junior high school students, who will lead the next generation, to deepen their understanding of the importance and necessity of human rights and to foster awareness of human rights through writing essays on human rights issues, while making the award winning essays public to broadly disseminate the idea of respecting human rights to the general public. A total of 960,390 essays from 7,358 schools were submitted to the 37th contest in FY2017. Students compiled their opinions on the significance of protecting fundamental human rights based on their experiences at home and school. The contest offers opportunities for many junior high school students to deepen their understanding and develop sensitivity to human rights. 102 essays were commended and awards including the following Ministers' Awards were granted at the Central Contest.

Prime Minister's Award

Kano Ohara, Ninth Grade (third year of three grades) Kobe City Tarumi Higashi Junior High School, Hyogo Prefecture

"I Will Be a High School Student Along with Friends"



Central Contest Award Ceremony for the 37th National Essay Contest on Human Rights for Junior High School Students

Justice Minister's Award

Satoshi Ishikawa, Seventh Grade (first-year of three grades) Kariya City Asahi Junior High School, Aichi Prefecture

"Evacuation of People with Mental Disabilities during Disasters"

Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Minister's Award

Mihayu Michel Kida, Seventh Grade (first year of three grades) Higashiomi City Cho'o Junior High School, Shiga Prefecture

"I'm an Earthling. What's Wrong with That?"

Essays that won major awards, such as the Prime Minister's Award, were published in a booklet, "37th National Essay Contest on Human Rights for Junior High School Students: Awarded Essays." The booklets were delivered to junior high schools, municipal governments, public libraries, etc. nationwide, and were also made available on the website of



Award winners and their families

the Ministry of Justice for public use as materials for human rights awareness-raising.

On January 5, 2018, the Ministry of Justice held the Central Contest Award Ceremony. Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus also held award ceremonies for respective regions' contests around the Human Rights Week to publicly announce the content of awarded essays.

Furthermore, the three essays that won Ministers' Awards in the 37th Contest were translated into English and posted on the Ministry's English website together with the explanation of the Contest to publicize its purport and excellent works internationally.



"37th National Essay Contest on Human Rights for Junior High School Students: Awarded Essays"

E. Human Rights Lectures

The purpose of the human rights lectures is to nurture compassion in children and to have them learn about the preciousness of life by providing them with an opportunity to think about bullying and other topics. Lectures are held under the initiative of Human Rights Volunteers nationwide.

Lectures mainly target elementary school children and are provided on such occasions as school visits for the Human Rights Flower Campaigns (see p.37) or integrated study classes. At lectures, animation videos, picture-story shows, picture books, etc. are used to attract children's interest and attention to help them easily understand the idea of respect for human rights. In recent years, targets are being expanded to cover junior high school students, high school students and university students, or even adults by incorporating human rights lectures in corporate training programs.

In FY2017, human rights lecture sessions were held 22,907 times at elementary schools, junior high schools, kindergartens and day-care centers, etc. for 997,815 children and students, etc.

Human rights lectures	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
Number of times	16,163	19,871	20,946	21,968	22,907
Number of participants	650,493	796,748	856,935	922,731	997,815

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)



Human Rights Lectures

F. Human Rights Promotion and Protection Achievement Awards

Among companies, specified non-profit corporations and individuals involved in activities of Human Rights Volunteers, and groups and individuals engaging in activities for realizing a cohesive society (a universal society), those that are found to have made outstanding achievements in human rights promotion and protection are commended by the Minister of Justice and the Chairperson of the National Federation of Associations of Human Rights Volunteers.

In FY2017, the following were commended.

Commendation by the Minister of Justice

FM MOERU (Rumoi-shi, Hokkaido)

Commendation by the Minister of Justice (Universal Society Award)

All Japan Business Committee (Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo)

Fukuoka Society of Blinds (Dazaifu-shi, Fukuoka)

Japan Sun Industries (Beppu-shi, Oita)

Hokkaido Universal Film Festival Executive Committee (Hakodate-shi, Hokkaido)

Commendation by the Chairperson of the National Federation of Associations of Human Rights Volunteers

Nishi Kyushu Densetsu, Tamana Office, Himawari TV (Tamana-shi, Kumamoto)

Appreciation by the Minister of Justice

Saitama Shimbun (Kita-ku, Saitama-shi)

Appreciation by the Chairperson of the National Federation of Associations of Human Rights Volunteers

NTT Sports Community Omiya Ardija (Omiya-ku, Saitama-shi)

Rakuten Vissel Kobe (Hyogo-ku, Kobe-shi)



FY2017 Human Rights Promotion and Protection Achievement Awards

(3) Awareness-Raising Activities by Public Interest Corporations and Local Governments under Entrustment by the Ministry of Justice

A. Awareness-Raising Activities by the Incorporated Foundation Center for Human Rights Education and Training (Project of Entrusting Human Rights Awareness-Raising Activities to an Independent Entity)

(A) Incorporated Foundation Center for Human Rights Education and Training

The Incorporated Foundation Center for Human Rights Education and Training (hereinafter referred to as the "Center for Human Rights Education and Training") has been carrying out comprehensive human rights education and awareness-raising and relevant public relations activities, as well as various surveys and studies, as a national center that functions as the core of human rights education and awareness-raising.

(B) Awareness-Raising Activities Entrusted to the Center for Human Rights Education and Training in FY2017

- (i) Preparation of human rights awareness-raising leaflets
 - "Leaflet on the Act on the Promotion of the Elimination of *Buraku* Discrimination" (aiming to broadly publicize the enforcement of the Act in order to achieve a society free from *Buraku* discrimination)
 - "Leaflet on Human Rights Awareness-Raising Concerning LGBT (for adults and for children)" (aiming to promote public understanding of sexual orientation and gender identity)
- (ii) Preparation of human rights awareness-raising materials
 - Booklet "Private Companies and Human Rights - Starting Efforts from Workplaces to Create Society with Respect for Human Rights" (to be delivered at companies' human rights training sessions in which Human Rights Volunteers serve as lecturers or to be brought back home for self-learning)
 - Video "Private Companies and Human Rights - Starting Efforts from Workplaces to Create Society with Respect for Human Rights" (to be used at companies' human rights training sessions in which Human Rights Volunteers or companies' personnel in charge of human rights awareness-raising serve as lecturers for the purpose of raising public awareness on respect for human rights)
- (iii) Creation of human rights awareness-raising panels
 - "Think about Human Rights of All People" (to be displayed at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus nationwide and at the Human Rights Library within the Center for Human Rights Education and Training or to be lent out for effectively promoting human rights awareness-raising)
- (iv) Holding of Human Rights Symposiums
 - October 28, 2017 (Chuo-ku, Tokyo)
Theme "Earthquakes and Children's Human Rights - Considering Support We Can Give Now -"
 - January 27, 2018 (Hiroshima-shi)
Theme "Foreign Nationals and Human Rights - Aiming to Realize a Cohesive Society with Mutual Respect for Differences"
- (v) Holding of the "Parent-Child Symposium" on Hansen's Disease (August 26, 2017 (Naha-shi, Okinawa)) (see p.78)
- (vi) Holding of the Human Rights Workshop for Local Government Officials (three times) targeting local government officials engaging in human rights awareness-raising affairs with the aim of having them acquire required knowledge and skills as leaders (see p.111)
- (vii) Nationwide public relations activities throughout the year centering on the Human Rights Week to disseminate the significance of human rights awareness-raising activities
- (viii) Operation of the Human Rights Library (website: <http://www.jinken-library.jp/>)
- (ix) Holding of the Human Rights Workshop for National Government Officials (twice) (see p.105)

- (x) Creation of the website on LGBT for promoting understanding of sexual orientation and gender identity

B. Awareness-Raising Activities by Local Governments (Project of Entrusting Human Rights Awareness-Raising Activities to Local Authorities)

(A) Project of Entrusting Human Rights Awareness-Raising Activities to Local Authorities

Project of Entrusting Human Rights Awareness-Raising Activities to Local Authorities (hereinafter referred to as "Entrustment to Local Authorities") is to entrust a wide range of awareness-raising activities covering all human rights issues to prefectures and government-designated cities, etc. Specific activities include holding lectures and training sessions, preparing reference materials, placing commercial messages on TV, and making advertisements on the internet, newspapers and local papers, etc.

(B) Project of Vitalizing Local Human Rights Awareness-Raising Activities

Entrustment to Local Authorities in collaboration with the network associations of human rights awareness-raising activities (see p.109) is especially referred to as the Project of Vitalizing Local Human Rights Awareness-Raising Activities. This cross-sectional network consists of the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice and prefectural and municipal bodies and public interest corporations engaging in human rights awareness-raising activities. In FY2017, the Human Rights Flower Campaigns,^(*) activities together with sports organizations (see p.110), the Human Rights Universal Project in collaboration with local private organizations, and various other community-based activities were carried out, while incorporating familiar contents to attract local residents.

(*) The Human Rights Flower Campaigns mainly target elementary school children, who are anticipated to understand the preciousness of life, nurture a warm-hearted spirit and learn about tenderness and compassion through growing flowers in cooperation. Human Rights Volunteers nationwide play the central role in the Campaigns.

Flowers grown by children are given to parents or sent to social welfare facilities, etc., and sketching and viewing events are held to further raise public awareness on respect for human rights.

In FY2017, the Campaigns were carried out broadly at 3,287 elementary schools and 583 junior high schools, kindergartens and day-care centers, targeting a total of 478,113 children and students.

Human Rights Flower Campaigns	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
Number of schools participating	3,845	3,816	3,669	3,823	3,870
Number of participants	526,129	483,788	470,540	481,863	478,113

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)



Human Rights Flower Campaigns

(4) Awareness-Raising Activities for Industries Closely Relating to SMEs and Small Businesses

In FY2017, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry held lectures and symposiums nationwide concerning various human rights issues arising in corporate activities, from the perspective of corporate social responsibility, with the aim of developing a sense of human rights among officers and employees in the business community (84 times; total number of participants: 9,440).

The Ministry also delivered a pamphlet to be referred to in awareness-raising activities relating to corporate social responsibility and moral information to companies and business associations.



Pamphlet "Outline of the FY2016 Seminar on Corporate Social Responsibility and Human Rights"



FY2017 Seminar on Corporate Social Responsibility and Human Rights

(5) Awareness-raising Activities Concerning International Efforts

From November 1 to November 3, 2017, the "World Assembly for Women: WAW! 2017" was held in Tokyo with the aim of further promoting international efforts to realize a society in which women shine, for which Japan has been playing a leading role. 64 people from Japan and other 21 countries and eight international organizations joined the Assembly, attracting a total of around 2,400 domestic and international audiences.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides information on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, major human rights treaties and human rights-related documents, and the United Nations mechanism for promotion and protection of human rights, etc. on its website (<http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/jinken.html>).

Section 2 Efforts for Each Human Rights Issue

1. Women

The premise of gender equality is stipulated in the Constitution of Japan and the principle of gender equality has been stipulated through legislation such as the Act on Securing, Etc. of Equal Opportunity and Treatment between Men and Women in Employment (Act No. 113 of 1972; hereinafter referred to as the "Equal Employment Opportunity Act for Men and Women"). In reality, however, fixed ideas on gender roles, such as that the man should work outside and the woman should remain at home, are deeply-rooted in society even today and cause various kinds of gender discrimination at home and in the workplace.

In addition, there have been many cases of violence against women such as sex crimes and abuse by a husband or partner, sexual harassment in the workplace, and disadvantageous treatment due to pregnancy and childbirth, in recent years.

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Convention No. 7 of 1985; hereinafter referred to as the "Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women"), to which Japan is a contracting party, aims to contribute to achieving complete gender equality and requests all contracting parties to take appropriate measures for eliminating gender discrimination in political, public, economic and social activities under the basic philosophy of eliminating all forms of discrimination against women.

In Japan, the Basic Act for Gender-Equal Society (Act No. 78 of 1999) entered into force in June 1999 and the Basic Plan for Gender Equality has been formulated based thereon. In December 2015, the current Fourth Basic Plan for Gender Equality was formulated. As an effort to address violence against women, the Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims (Act No. 31 of 2001) came into force in 2001. Since then, measures to prevent spousal violence and protect victims have been taken based on this Act. Furthermore, the Act of Promotion of Female Participation and Career Advancement in the Workplace (Act No. 64 of 2015; hereinafter referred to as the "Act on the Promotion of Female Participation"), which was enforced in full in April 2016, requires the national government and local governments and all employers that employ 301 or more regular workers to ascertain the status of female employees' participation and analyze problems, establish a plan of action with numerical goals, and publicize the information on the implementation status of the plan of action and the status of female employees' participation in the workplace.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice offer counseling services at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and their branches, and ad-hoc human rights counseling centers. When they find any case in which a human rights violation is suspected, they investigate the case as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances. The numbers of human rights violation cases concerning assault or abuse against women for which the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice newly commenced remedy procedures are as follows.

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Assault or abuse against women	2,408	2,043	1,884	1,776	1,386

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

Specifically, the following efforts were made in FY2017.

(1) Review of Various Social Systems and Promotion of PR and Awareness-Raising Activities from a Gender-Equal Perspective

A. The Cabinet Office conducted complaint handling training sessions targeting a total of 111 administrative counselors, Human Rights Volunteers, and responsible personnel of prefectures and government-designated cities, with the aim of deepening their understanding on various issues concerning gender equality and enhancing their knowledge and skills for handling complaints.

Additionally, the Cabinet Office publishes a monthly information magazine, "Kyodo-sankaku," to broadly introduce gender equality-related efforts being made in Japan, and has developed a system to promptly provide substantial information by the use of websites, mail magazines, Facebook and other SNSs, thereby promoting PR and awareness-raising activities via diverse media. The Cabinet Office also collects information that would be helpful in offering support to victims of spousal violence, such as related laws and regulations, systems and organizations, and provides such information on its website, which includes pages in foreign languages.

Based on the Act on the Promotion of Female Participation, which was enforced in full in April 2016, the national government and prefectures and municipalities have formulated plans of action and have publicized information on female positive participation in social activities. The Cabinet Office has developed and enhanced the dedicated website, "Website Showing the Outcomes of the Act on the Promotion of Female Participation" (established in September 2016), which shows a list of formulated plans of action and information on female participation, to further clarify the outcomes and promote the utilization of related information. Furthermore, based on this Act, the Cabinet Office offered Grants for Regional Efforts for Promoting Female Participation to local governments for their efforts under plans they formulated to facilitate female participation in the workplace in respective regions.

B. As decided by the Headquarters for the Promotion of Gender Equality, the week from June 23 to June 29 every year is designated as the Gender Equality Week. In FY2017 as well, the National Conference for Creating a Gender Equality Society was held and ceremonies were held for the Prime Minister's Commendations to Contributors for the Promotion of a Gender-Equal Society and the Women's Challenge Award.

Additionally, since FY2014, the Award for Pioneering Companies in which Women Shine has been granted to companies that have made outstanding achievements in policies, efforts and performance concerning the appointment of women as officers or managers and in disclosure of relevant information, with the aim of promoting the development of a working environment in which women can participate actively. The award ceremony for FY2017 was held in December 2017.

C. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare took every opportunity to carry out PR and awareness-raising activities for promoting positive actions (companies' voluntary and positive efforts to eliminate gaps existing between men and women in the workplace). Such activities include the awarding of the "Minister's Prize for Equal Employment/Work and Family Harmonization," for which the ceremony was held in December 2017 (see p.43).

In order to ensure the effects of the Act on the Promotion of Female Participation, the Ministry has assisted companies to facilitate their efforts for promoting female participation, and operates the Database on Companies Promoting Female Participation for publicizing plans of action formulated based on the Act and information on the current status of female participation, and encourages active utilization thereof. The Database was also made available on smartphones in December 2017.

- D. The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry has selected excellent companies as the Diversity Management 2.0 Prime, which it newly established in FY2017, the New Diversity Management Selection 100, and Nadeshiko Brands, and has publicized those pioneering efforts by companies utilizing their diverse human resources, thereby backing up the voluntary efforts of companies for achieving gender equality (the details are described in the White Paper on Gender Equality).
- E. From November 1 to November 3, 2017, the "World Assembly for Women: WAW! 2017" was held in Tokyo with the aim of further promoting international efforts to realize a society in which women shine, for which Japan has been playing a leading role. The theme for the fourth 2017 Assembly was set as "WAW! in Changing World." Participants discussed measures to enable women to play active roles in a changing world, focusing on specific efforts and achievements for supporting women. At section meetings on the second day, discussions were held among a wide range of participants, from top leaders in their respective fields to young people, on such topics as gender equality-related efforts by companies and international organizations, women's activities in the science field, sharing of unpaid work, women's participation in ensuring peace and security, women in media, and gender equality at the time of natural disasters. On the final day, action-oriented proposals made by participants were compiled as the outcomes of the three-day discussions and were publicized as the "WAW! 2017 Tokyo Declaration." For further boosting the movement of WAW!, the period before and after the Assembly (from September 7, 2017, to January 31, 2018) was designated as Shine Weeks in the same manner as in 2016, and official side events were publicly sought in and outside Japan. A total of 138 events were registered and held by foreign diplomatic missions, private companies and miscellaneous bodies, etc. in various locations during this period (see p.38).

(2) Dissemination of Laws, Regulations, Treaties, etc.

- A. While making concrete efforts to achieve a gender equal society in Japan, the Cabinet Office has endeavored to broadly disseminate international rules, standards and policies for efforts to improve women's status, such as treaties and discussions at international conferences closely related to gender equality, through briefing sessions and publications and via the website of the Gender Equality Bureau of the Cabinet Office (<http://www.gender.go.jp/>).

In FY2017, the Steering Committee of Liaison Conference for the Promotion of Gender Equality hosted the hearings on the 61st United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, W20, G7 Ministerial Meeting on Gender Equality, APEC Women and the Economy Forum, and follow-ups of the concluding observations of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women concerning the 7th and 8th reports on the implementation status of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. The outlines of international conferences, including the APEC Women and the Economy Forum in September 2017 and the G7 Ministerial Meeting on Gender Equality in

November 2017, are made available on the website of the Gender Equality Bureau of the Cabinet Office.

- B. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs posts documents related to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and conferences for improving women's status on its website (https://www.mofa.go.jp/fp/pc/page23e_000181.html) to broadly disseminate the details of these documents.

(3) Awareness-Raising Activities to Eliminate Prejudice and Discrimination against Women

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Protect women's rights" as a priority target, and are holding lectures, delivering awareness-raising booklets or otherwise carrying out various awareness-raising activities with the aim of eliminating fixed ideas on gender roles or other forms of prejudice and discrimination against women.

They lend out awareness-raising videos, "Abuse Prevention Series: Domestic Violence" and "What is Dating DV? - For Building a Fifty-Fifty Relationship," at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus, and also made them available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

In FY2017, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice prepared the awareness-raising booklet, "Private Companies and Human Rights - Starting Efforts from Workplaces to Create Society with Respect for Human Rights," which explains various human rights issues in the workplace including sexual harassment, and are delivering copies thereof at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus. Additionally, they created an awareness-raising video explaining the content of the booklet in an easy-to-understand manner and made it available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

A spot video on sexual harassment by a ventriloquist, Ikkokudo, titled "What Miko-san Really Feels" and spot videos by an actress, Erika Mahiro, titled "Sexual Harassment and Power Harassment" and "Harassment and Domestic Violence" are also available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

(4) Enhancement of Education and Learning for Promoting Gender Equality and Increase of Women's Lifelong Learning Opportunities

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology endeavored to further disseminate the National Curriculum Standards so that education on gender equality and mutual understanding and cooperation between men and women is to be properly provided in Social Studies, Home Economics, Special Subject: Morality or Tokkatsu (Student-led activities) at school, depending on the developmental stage of students, for the purpose of creating a gender equality society.

Furthermore, in order to promote women's social participation through learning, the Ministry started an experimental study in FY2017 under the Women's Learning and Career Development Support Program for the Promotion of Gender Equality. The study aims to develop a model mechanism in which universities, local governments, Gender Equality Promotion Centers, and other relevant organizations collaborate with each other and integrally offer support in respective communities to women who left their jobs due to child rearing or other reasons to provide them with learning opportunities and help their reemployment and social participation. The Ministry held study meetings in Tokushima and Tokyo to expand relevant efforts and raise people's awareness.

The National Women's Education Center of Japan has also endeavored to achieve a gender equality society and holds training sessions, conducts specialized research, and collects and provides information, targeting local governments, Gender Equality Promotion Centers, and women's groups, etc., to promote their activities for gender equality.

(5) Efforts for Ensuring Equal Opportunities and Treatment of Men and Women in Employment

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has been endeavoring to develop an employment environment free from discrimination by gender in which women can fully exert their capabilities with respect for their motherhood. For that purpose, the Ministry provides guidance to ensure equal treatment of men and women in line with the Equal Employment Opportunity Act for Men and Women, and offers support for a smooth and early resolution when a dispute occurs between an employer and an employee.

Companies' voluntary and positive efforts to eliminate gaps existing between men and women in the workplace (positive actions) are indispensable for ensuring substantial gender equality. Therefore, the Ministry offers necessary advice and provides information actively to help companies make specific efforts and publicly seeks excellent companies and awards the Minister's Prize for Equal Employment/Work and Family Harmonization.

As disadvantageous treatment of women due to pregnancy and childbirth, etc. is socially impermissible as an act of hurting the dignity of female workers and hinders their continued employment, the Ministry promptly and appropriately provides guidance to companies that are found to be against the law.

Disadvantageous treatment by employers due to pregnancy or childbirth or the acquisition of childcare or nursing care leave is prohibited under the Equal Employment Opportunity Act for Men and Women or other Acts, but harassment by superiors and/or co-workers has come to be recognized as an issue. Therefore, the Equal Employment Opportunity Act for Men and Women and the Act on Childcare Leave, Caregiver Leave, and Other Measures for the Welfare of Workers Caring for Children or Other Family Members (Act No. 76 of 1991) were amended to newly require employers to take measures to prevent harassment concerning pregnancy, childbirth and childcare leave, etc. in January 2017 onward, so that relevant workers' working environments would not be damaged by the behavior of their superiors and/or co-workers. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare held briefing sessions and established counseling offices for harassment issues at Prefectural Labour Bureaus, thereby endeavoring to ensure that harassment prevention measures are taken properly.

(6) Awareness-Raising for Improving Women's Status in Rural Areas

Women account for nearly half of population mainly engaged in farming and are fulfilling roles as significant players in rural communities and the agriculture, forestry and fisheries industry. Nevertheless, they do not sufficiently participate in policy decisions. Therefore, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has been carrying out awareness-raising to encourage active efforts by relevant organizations to ensure that women's roles are properly evaluated and women in rural areas can fully exert their capabilities. As a result, in FY2017, the percentage of female members of the Agriculture Committees reached 10.6% (from 8.1% in the previous fiscal year) (surveyed by the Ministry) and the percentage of female officers in agricultural co-operatives increased to 7.7% (from 7.5% in the previous fiscal year) (surveyed by the

JA-ZENCHU).

The Fourth Basic Plan for Gender Equality, which was decided at the Cabinet meeting in December 2015, set a numerical goal to be achieved by FY2020, i.e., 30% for the percentage of female members of the Agriculture Committees and 15% for the percentage of female officers in agricultural co-operatives, respectively, to further promote women's participation.

Additionally, the Act on Agricultural Committees and Related Organizations (Act No. 88 of 1951) and the Agricultural Cooperatives Act (Act No. 132 of 1947) after the amendment by the Act Partially Amending the Agricultural Cooperatives Act, etc. (Act No. 63 of 2015), which was enacted in August 2015, provide that consideration should be given to avoid any significant unbalance in members of the Agriculture Committees and officers of agricultural co-operatives in terms of their age and gender.

Furthermore, municipal committees that formulate Farmers and Farmland Plans, which provide for major farm households and agricultural policies for respective regions, are now required to include women at a level of 30% or more of their constituent members.

March 10 every year is designated as the Day for Women in Rural Areas for correctly understanding and evaluating roles played by women in rural areas and promoting further utilization of their capabilities. Therefore,



Awarding Ceremony for FY2017 WAP100

various events to boost momentum for gender equality were held in early March, such as various conferences of local governments and agriculture, forestry and fisheries-related women's groups, the awarding ceremony for WAP100 to select 100 entities encouraging active participation of women for the future of agriculture, the Future Agriculture DAYs (commendation of active participation of women in rural areas and competition "Daichi-no-Chikara"), and the Nougyou-Joshi Project Forum 2017.

(7) Promotion of Appropriate Responses and Awareness-Raising Concerning Women's Human Rights Issues

As decided by the Headquarters for the Promotion of Gender Equality, the two weeks from November 12 to November 25 (the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) every year is designated as the period of the Campaign for Eliminating Violence against Women, during which efforts for raising social awareness of violence against women are further strengthened in collaboration with local governments, women's groups and other relevant groups.

A. In FY2017, the Cabinet Office prepared awareness-raising posters and leaflets and lighted up Tokyo Tower and Tokyo Sky Tree, etc. in purple, the color of the Purple Ribbon symbolizing the Campaign, thereby broadly advocating for an end to gender-based violence.

The Cabinet Office also put in place a call forwarding service, "Domestic Violence Consultation Navigation" (0570-0-55210 (from anywhere in Japan)), which automatically forwards calls from victims of domestic violence who do not know where to get advice to the nearest counseling and

support centers based on such information as the relevant persons' locations.

Additionally, the Cabinet Office carries out the Project to Promote Public-Public and Public-Private Collaboration for Women Victims of Violation, under which workshops, etc. are held for public and private personnel engaging in support of victims of spousal violence (directors and counselors of Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Centers and local government officials). Through sharing of specific collaboration cases and pioneering efforts in respective regions and opinion exchanges, collaboration between prefectures and municipalities and between the administration and the private sector has been promoted to further improve the quality of counseling services at Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Centers and enhance support for victims.

From the perspective preventing young people from becoming perpetrators or victims of violence against women, as means to facilitate effective preventive awareness-raising, the Cabinet Office held training sessions targeting teachers and school staff who have opportunities to provide education to and raise awareness of young people, local government officials in charge of preventive awareness-raising projects, and private bodies, etc. engaging in preventive awareness-raising activities.

In FY2017, the Cabinet Office created the "Support Grant for Victims of Sex Crimes and Sexual Violence" for the purpose of assisting local governments nationwide to establish one-stop support centers for victims of sex crimes and sexual violence as early as possible and ensuring stable operation thereof.

The Cabinet Office also carries out the Project to Promote Development of Support Systems for Sex Crime Victims and has introduced best practices. Under this project, training is provided to local government officials and counselors supporting sex crime victims with the aim of developing an environment to enable victims to receive counseling services and support without worries.

With regard to problems of sexual violence against young women, such as so-called forced appearances in pornographic materials and "JK business" (JK stands for joshi-kosei, or high school girl), the Inter-Ministerial Committee on measures against the issue of forced appearances in pornographic materials and "JK business," which was established in March 2017, compiled emergency countermeasures and the national government as a whole took required measures urgently and intensively in April 2017, designating the month as the Forced Appearance in Pornographic Materials and "JK Business" Prevention Month. Based on the implementation status of these measures, the Inter-Ministerial Committee formulated actions for proceeding with measures on the issue of so-called forced appearances in pornographic materials and "JK business" in May 2017 and is promoting efforts for eliminating these problems.

	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016
Counseling cases received at the Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Centers	89,490	99,961	102,963	111,172	106,367

(Materials of the Cabinet Office)

- B. The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice established the Women's Rights Hotline (0570-070-810 (from anywhere in Japan)), a special telephone service for human rights counseling for women, at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus nationwide to further strengthen the

counseling system.

In FY2017, the week from November 13 to November 19, 2017, which was included in the period of the Campaign for Eliminating Violence against Women, was designated as the Women's Rights Hotline Promotion Week, during which the Hotline was made available for longer hours and on weekends as well to receive calls from women facing various human rights issues.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice are endeavoring to prevent damage and provide a remedy for victims, while further strengthening collaboration with relevant organizations including Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Centers.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Counseling cases received at the Women's Rights Hotline	21,119	21,033	21,123	19,306	19,656

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)



Poster "Women's Rights Hotline Promotion Week"



Poster "Campaign for Eliminating Violence against Women"



Domestic Violence Consultation Card (front)



Domestic Violence Consultation Card (back)

C. According to a report, "Responses to Stalking Cases and Spousal Violence Cases in 2017" (National Police Agency), nearly 90% of the victims of stalking cases were women in 2017.

In order to protect young people from stalking, the police create educational materials describing stalking behaviors with illustrations for high school and university students and have provided anti-stalking classes using these materials. The National Police Agency also has opened a portal site disseminating various information concerning stalking cases.

In order to ensure the safety of victims of highly dangerous and urgent cases of stalking, the police bear expenses for accommodation fees with public funds in cases where it is necessary to urgently or temporarily evacuate these victims to hotels.

2. Children

The Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which Japan is a party, stipulates that States Parties undertake to make the principles and provisions of the Convention widely known, by appropriate and active means, to adults and children alike (Article 42).

The results (definite values) of the FY2016 Survey on Undesirable Behavior and School Non-attendance of Students, which the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology conducted via prefectural boards of education, etc., revealed serious circumstances with the total number of incidents of violence at school remaining high at 59,444 cases. The number of recognized bullying cases was 323,143 and cases causing serious damage due to bullying have been continuously observed. These have long been major educational problems.

In 2017, the number of persons who were referred to a prosecutor's office, etc. or who received police guidance in bullying cases was 245 (down by 8.2% from the previous year), of which, 63 were elementary school students (up by 43.2% (id.)), 132 were junior high school students (down by 24.1% (id.)), and 50 were high school students (up by 2.0% (id.)).

Among human rights violation cases investigated and resolved by the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice in 2017, the number of bullying cases was 3,169, that of corporal punishment by teachers was 263, and that of assault or abuse against children was 486, all remaining at high levels. It is required to make efforts properly to prevent damage and provide a remedy for victims of these human rights violations.

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Bullying at school	4,034	3,763	3,883	3,371	3,169
Corporal punishment by teachers	887	574	494	448	263
Assault or abuse against children	911	802	699	586	486

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

Specifically, the following efforts were made in FY2017.

(1) Awareness-Raising Activities to Achieve a Society in Which Children are Respected at a Maximum as Individuals who Enjoy Fundamental Human Rights

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Protect children's rights" as a priority target, aiming to create a society in which children are respected at a maximum as individuals who enjoy fundamental human rights. They hold lecture sessions and deliver awareness-raising booklets, and Human Rights Volunteers take the initiative in various awareness-raising activities, including Human Rights Lectures (see p.34), Human Rights Flower Campaigns (see p.37), and activities together with sports organizations (see p.110).

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice lend out an awareness-raising video, "Abuse Prevention Series: Child Abuse" at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus, and also made it available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

The Cabinet Office carries out the Spring Internet Safety Campaign for New School Year from February to May every year to prevent juveniles from being involved in crimes and troubles caused by harmful information on the internet. During this period, the Cabinet Office intensively carries out awareness-raising activities to promote safe use of smartphones and social media in collaboration with juvenile organizations and internet service provider associations, etc.

In 2017, in response to the case of murders and abandonment of bodies that occurred in Zama-shi,

Kanagawa, the Cabinet Office started the campaign earlier in December as the Internet Safety Campaign for Winter Holidays and New School Year to promote awareness-raising focused on increasing the use of filtering services and improving internet literacy.



Leaflet "What Guardians can Do Now for Protecting Children from Risks of the Internet"

(2) Promotion of Human Rights Education in School Education and Social Education

A. In the courses of study, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology prioritizes developing children's "zest for living" while maintaining a balance among academic abilities, richness in humanity, and health and physical strength. The new courses of study publicized in March 2017 maintain that idea and require the materialization of the concept of "zest for living" to achieve sound development of children.

Regarding the development of richness in humanity, concrete efforts are being made by such means as teaching how to differentiate between right and wrong in moral education classes and introducing experience-based activities.

Additionally, from the perspective of stimulating social development and fostering a rich humanity of children and students, the Ministry has implemented the the Program for Promoting Experience-based Activities for Sound Growth of Students, the Human Rights Education Research Promotion Project for promoting human rights education at school, and Studies on Human Rights Education at School (see p.28).

For social education, the Ministry picks up contemporary issues such as human rights issues in training sessions for social education supervisors, who are professionals, to foster leaders and improve their quality.

B. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare designates the week from May 5 to May 11 every year as the Child Welfare Week, during which various events are held and concrete efforts are made nationwide in collaboration among the national and local governments, related organizations, companies and local communities, with the aim of having all citizens think about children, families and sound growth of children.

In FY2017, slogans for the Child Welfare Week were sought nationwide and the best one, "There are Many Things You Can Do," was used as the symbol of the Week to disseminate the idea of child welfare.

(3) Promotion of Efforts to Deal with Bullying and Violence

A. Bullying remains a big social problem. In response to the enactment of the Act for the Promotion of Measures to Prevent Bullying (Act No.71 of 2013) in June 2013, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology formulated the Basic Policies to Prevent Bullying on October 11, 2013. The Ministry holds the Council on Promoting Public Awareness Regarding Bullying Prevention and otherwise makes effort to broadly publicize the Act for the Promotion of Measures to Prevent Bullying and the Nation's Basic Policies to Prevent Bullying.

Additionally, based on the First Recommendations by the Council for the Implementation of Education Rebuilding and the Act for the Promotion of Measures to Prevent Bullying, the Ministry has been implementing the Program for Comprehensive Promoting Measures to Counter Bullying (retitled in FY2017 as the Program for Comprehensive promoting Measures to Counter Bullying and Support Non-Attendant Students) with the aim of preventing the occurrence of bullying, detecting and resolving bullying at an early stage, developing educational counseling systems, and improving measures against new types of bullying via the internet.

Based on the Nation's Basic Policies to Prevent Bullying, the Council on Measures to Prevent Bullying of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology examined the implementation status of the Act. The Council presented the Summary of the Discussions on the Implementation Status of the Act for the Promotion of Measures to Prevent Bullying in November 2016, and the Nation's Basic Policies to Prevent Bullying were amended in March 2017 based thereon. The amended Basic Policies state that schools and their establishers need to collaborate with the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice and that an information sharing system needs to be developed through constantly promoting exchanges among responsible personnel of relevant organizations and holding liaison meetings. In January 2018, the National Children's Summit on Bullying was held to foster child leaders who lead children's independent activities and further promote various efforts being made nationwide.

B. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology requests schools and boards of education to ensure that teachers and school staff make all-out efforts to prevent and detect and resolve violence at school at an early stage and promote community-based efforts by obtaining understanding of households and respective local communities as a whole, and demands that they should properly deal with children and students who repeat problematic behavior by persistently continuing guidance in a resolute attitude, while promoting collaborative efforts with the police or other relevant organizations.

C. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has been offering support for the development of educational counseling systems at school, such as assigning school counselors with experience and highly professional knowledge on children's psychology and social workers with welfare-related expertise and skills, so that children and students being bullied or experiencing violence or those with worries and problems can get counseling appropriately. Furthermore, in FY2017, under the Program for Comprehensive Promoting Measures to Counter Bullying and Support Non-Attendant Students, the Ministry conducted studies on concrete efforts that would be effective in prevention and early detection and resolution of problematic behavior of children and students.

D. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has put in place a telephone

service, "24-Hour SOS Dial for Children," to receive calls from children at any time, even during the night time and on holidays. Since FY2016, this telephone service was made free of charge and the telephone number was changed to 0120-0-78310.

- E. In recent years, many young people use SNSs as major communication tools and bullying via SNSs has come to attract social attention as an issue to be addressed properly. Given these facts, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology held an expert meeting in July 2017 to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the utilization of SNSs and other tools for the consultation on children's anxiety including bullying. In March 2018, the meeting compiled the final report, "An immediate vision about a consultation system using SNSs (final report)." In 2018, the Ministry started to offer support to local governments intending to build a counseling system using SNSs for children and students.
- F. The police endeavor to detect bullying early through its juvenile counseling services and school supporters' school visits. The police also take necessary actions in consideration of the seriousness and urgency of detected bullying cases, intentions of child victims and their guardians, and concrete measures taken by respective schools, etc., and properly deal with each case in close collaboration with schools, etc., based on the purport of the Act on Promotion of Preventive Measures against Bullying. The police in addition try to ascertain school violence cases at an early stage through information exchange with schools, etc. and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances, including strict actions in malicious cases, and endeavor to prevent recurrence of similar cases.
- G. The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice deal with children's human rights issues by receiving consultations from children being bullied or similar through such means as a dedicated telephone service.

For raising social awareness of bullying and other human rights issues involving children, they placed advertisements on the internet and prepared the awareness-raising booklet, "Bullying: Prevent, Do not Overlook." Copies of the booklet are delivered at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus nationwide and have been utilized in various awareness-raising activities.
- H. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare uses Regional Support Centers for Social Recluses as primary contact places and has made effort to resolve the problems of truant children and students through making adjustments regarding family environments and childcare problems, in collaboration with the educational field, while fully utilizing the functions of child guidance centers and foster homes.

(4) Promotion of Efforts to Deal with Problems of Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment is prohibited in Article 11 of the School Education Act (Act No. 26 of 1947) and should never be permitted in any situation as it has serious harmful effects on children's bodies and souls, and may foment the idea of seeking settlement by force and create an environment for bullying and violence. In March 2013, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology issued a public notice to explain the distinction between discipline and corporal punishment in an easy-to-understand manner for teachers, citing specific examples of corporal punishment and permissible disciplinary measures and presenting matters to note in club activities. In May 2013, the Ministry also publicized the Guidelines for Instruction at Sports Clubs to eliminate corporal punishment and ensure effective instructions in sports club activities at school. In this manner, the Ministry has presented its basic

policies concerning efforts to prevent corporal punishment.

The Ministry considers it important to make effort to ascertain the current status for eliminating corporal punishment, and publicized the results of the surveys on corporal punishment at public and private schools in December 2017. According to these survey results, the number of teachers who were given disciplinary dispositions on the grounds of their corporal punishment was 838, down by 52 from 890 in the previous fiscal year.

(5) Increased Support for Home Education

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has carried out activities to support education at home so that all parents can provide education at home without worries. Specific activities include organizing support teams for education at home and deploying supporters of education at home to provide guardians with learning opportunities and offer counseling services in respective communities. Additionally, the Ministry entrusts the Project to Support and Promote Pioneering Education at Home (home-visit support) to six local governments nationwide with the aim of developing a system for education at home support offered by support teams visiting each household.

In FY2017, the Ministry newly established a Minister's Award System regarding activities of Education at Home support teams to further encourage relevant activities in respective regions.

(6) Efforts against Child Abuse and Other Serious Problems Hindering Sound Development of Children

A. Regarding child abuse, institutional measures have been taken through multiple amendments of the Child Abuse Prevention Act (Act No. 82 of 2000), which was enforced in November 2000, and the Child Welfare Act (Act No. 164 of 1947), and the enactment of the Act Partially Amending the Civil Code, etc. (Act No. 61 of 2011).

In the meantime, the number of consultations concerning child abuse received at child guidance centers nationwide has increased constantly and reached 122,575 cases in FY2016, nearly 10.5 times the number immediately before the enactment of the Child Abuse Prevention Act. Serious child abuse cases resulting in children's deaths occur frequently, and the prevention of child abuse is a problem to be tackled by society as a whole.

The Child Welfare Act and other related Acts were amended two years in a row to strengthen a series of measures against child abuse, from prevention to self-reliance support. The Act Partially Amending the Child Welfare Act, etc. (Act No. 63 of 2016), which was enacted in May 2016 and was enforced in full in April 2017, legally positions children as subjects holding rights for the first time and clarifies the concept of the Child Welfare Act, and also provides for required measures, including the establishment of Comprehensive Support Centers for Families with Small Children, strengthening of municipal systems and systems of child guidance centers, and promotion of the use of foster parent systems. The Act Partially Amending the Child Welfare Act and the Child Abuse Prevention Act (Act No. 69 of 2017), which was enacted in May 2017, provides for the strengthening of judiciary involvement by allowing family courts to recommend prefectures to give guidance to guardians for the purpose of protecting children being abused.

- B. Regional Councils for Children in Need of Protection established in municipalities require child guidance centers, schools, boards of education, the police and other relevant organizations to share information on children in need of protection and their guardians and discuss details of support therefor in order to detect and appropriately protect children, etc. being abused early. Based on the results of such discussions and shared information, Regional Councils are to take measures while collaborating with relevant parties appropriately. As of April 2016, Regional Councils were established in 99.2% of municipalities.
- C. Regarding child pornography, the Act on Punishment of Activities Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children (Act No. 52 of 1999) was partially amended in June 2014 and was retitled as the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children, under which punishments were newly introduced for the act of possessing or retaining child pornography or electronic or magnetic records thereof for the purpose of satisfying one's sexual curiosity and the act of producing child pornography by secretly depicting the pose of a child. This Amended Act was enforced in July 2014 and the provision to punish the act of holding child pornography for the purpose of satisfying one's sexual curiosity was made applicable in July 2015.
- D. Every year since 2014, November is designated as the Child Abuse Prevention Promotion Month to raise social interest in the issue of child abuse. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare intensively carries out PR and awareness-raising activities during this month in collaboration with relevant ministries and agencies, local governments and related organizations.
- In FY2017, under the slogan for the Month, "Courage to Notify Promptly, Voices for Connection," the Ministry held the Council on Child Abuse Prevention Measures (November 22), prepared and delivered PR posters and leaflets, and also utilized government bulletin papers to raise awareness that child abuse must be prevented by society as a whole. Additionally, the Ministry backs up the Orange Ribbon Campaign, the activities led by a private organization (Japan Network for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect) for disseminating the importance of preventing child abuse.



Poster "Promotion of Prevention of Child Abuse"

The Ministry operates a nationwide telephone service "189," which connects to child guidance centers, so that anyone who finds a child suspected to be abused or similar can notify and consult with child guidance centers without hesitation. In order to shorten the time to reach a child guidance center, the Ministry adopted shorter audio guidance in April 2016 and introduced a call center system for calls from mobile phones in February 2018 for improving the service.

The Expert Committee for Verification of Cases Requiring Protection, Such as Child Abuse, which was established under the Child Sub-Committee of the Social Security Council, analyses and verifies child abuse cases resulting in children's deaths, etc., and compiles the problems and required measures specifically as recommendations. In August 2017, the 13th report, "Results of Verification of Cases of Children's Deaths due to Abuse," was publicized.

The 13th report points out commonly observed characteristics that out of 48 cases involving deaths of 52 children due to abuse, excluding collective suicide cases, victims were most frequently babies less than one year old (approximately 60%), of which, approximately 40% were babies less than one month old, and that unexpected or unplanned pregnancy and having not received prenatal care were the most common problems of mothers of victimized children.

- E. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology issues a notice on the promotion of efforts for preventing child abuse to parties engaging in school education and social education via prefectures and has endeavored to broadly publicize the obligation to make efforts to detect child abuse early and the obligation to report suspected child abuse cases at various meetings.

The Ministry also supports the utilization of school social workers and school counselors and the development of educational counseling systems to ensure that children and students can receive counseling as necessary.

- F. The police deal with child abuse cases by placing the top priority on confirming and securing the safety of children. Specifically, the police directly confirm the safety of children, properly process cases, protect children and maintain close cooperation with related organizations, such as making reports to Child Guidance Centers.

With regard to measures against child sexual victimization such as child prostitution and production of child pornography, the police are strengthening crackdown on crime groups targeting young children and promoting measures to prevent distribution of and access to images of child pornography and efforts for early detection and support of child victims in order to prevent the continuation and expansion of their damage.

The National Police Agency provides information on cleared cases of child pornography and damage caused thereby, concrete measures to prevent damage, and the seriousness of child pornography victimization, etc. on its website under the title "STOP! Child Sexual Exploitation" to raise public awareness.

(7) Dissemination of Conventions

In collaboration with the Cabinet Office and other relevant ministries and agencies, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is committed to the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which Japan concluded in 1994, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs makes the provisions of these Convention and Optional Protocols available on its website (<http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/jinken.html>) to widely disseminate the contents of these Convention and Optional Protocols

In June 2017, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs submitted the Combined 4th and 5th Periodic Report of Japan on the Convention on the Rights of the Child to the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has also made efforts to disseminate the Conventions at the Liaison Council of Supervisors in Charge of Human Rights Education held every year since FY2010 or on other occasions.

(8) Promotion of Childcare to Develop Young Children's Mindset to Respect Human Rights

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has encouraged day-care centers, etc. to comply with the guidelines and consider the best interests of children, and has promoted childcare depending on children's physical and mental development and circumstances of respective families and regions, with the aim of developing young children's mindset to respect human rights.

(9) Appropriate Responses to Human Rights Violation Cases Involving Children

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have developed systems to enable children to have counselling sessions easily. Specifically, (i) there is a special toll-free telephone service, "Children's Rights Hotline," (0120-007-110 (from anywhere in Japan)), which was made available for longer hours and on weekends as well during the Children's Rights Hotline Promotion Week (from June 26 to July 2, 2017); (ii) the Internet Human Rights Counseling Service (SOS-e mail) (<http://www.jinken.go.jp/>) was opened on the website of the Ministry of Justice; and (iii) Children's Rights SOS Mini-Letters (letters with a stamped envelope for human rights counseling) are distributed to all students of elementary and junior high schools throughout Japan.

When any suspected case is found in which children's rights are violated, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice investigate it as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.

Awareness-raising activities are being carried out proactively to inform citizens of the fact that all are obliged to report a case if they find any abused child. The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice provide information to child guidance centers, etc. based on the content of received Children's Rights SOS Mini-Letters or other information and have interviews with victims promptly or otherwise try to offer remedy to abused children by such means as immediately protecting victims, supporting the improvement of their family environments, or building a system to closely watch the children.

Counseling is also provided for victims of child prostitution and child pornography, and if any human rights violation is suspected, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice investigate it as a human rights



Children's Rights Hotline Promotion Week

violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Counseling cases received at the Children's Rights Hotline	28,847	25,711	25,195	23,317	22,122

	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
Counseling cases received via the Children's Rights SOS Mini-Letters	19,774	21,578	19,107	16,845	16,005

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)



Children's Rights SOS Mini-Letter (for elementary school children)

The following is an example of a concrete case in which a call to the Children's Rights Hotline triggered an investigation as a human rights violation and remedy measures were taken.

Case Example (Improper handling of bullying at a high school)

This is a case in which a high school student consulted the Children's Rights Hotline, alleging that bullying by his/her classmates had continued as a result of the school's failure to take proper countermeasures despite his/her complaint.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice encouraged the school to examine the developments concerning the bullying case through a meeting with the student and to take proper measures to terminate such aggregations. As a result, the school developed a system to watch the student carefully. It was later confirmed that the bullying ended and the student was enjoying school life (a case of "assistance").

3. Elderly People

Due to the increased extension of the life expectancy at birth and the declining birth rate, about one-quarter of the population in Japan is composed of elderly people aged 65 and over.

In such a situation, the human rights problems of elderly people, such as physical or psychological abuse by caretakers, and financial abuse such as family members disposing of the property of elderly people without permission, are now becoming social problems.

Specifically, the following efforts were made in FY2017.

(1) Awareness-Raising Activities Aiming to Deepen Understanding on Elderly People and Achieve a Society in which Elderly People can Live Actively

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Protect elderly people's rights" as a priority target, aiming to deepen citizens' awareness and understanding on elderly people's human rights and create a society in which elderly people can live actively as significant constituent members. They hold lecture sessions and deliver awareness-raising booklets or otherwise carry out awareness-raising activities.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice lend out an awareness-raising video, "Abuse Prevention Series: Abuse against Elderly People" at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus, and also made it available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

Additionally, a spot video by a ventriloquist, Ikkokudo, titled "Respect Elderly People" is also available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.



Poster "Senior Citizens' Day and Senior Citizens' Week"

(2) Information Dissemination and Awareness-Raising Concerning Welfare of Elderly People

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare designated the week from September 15 to September 21, 2017, as the Senior Citizen's Day and Senior Citizens' Week and requested prefectures to offer support, cooperation and incentives to related organizations so that they would hold events in line with the purport of the week, "to deepen citizens' interest in and understanding on welfare of elderly people and to encourage elderly people to strive to improve their own living environments." 12 organizations including the Cabinet Office, Fire and Disaster Management Agency and Japan National Council of Social Welfare, formulated the Guideline for the 2017 Senior Citizen's Day and Senior Citizens' Week Campaign under the slogan "Let's Create a Safe and Vital Society of Good Health and Longevity," and supported relevant efforts.

(3) Promotion of School Education on Elderly People and Their Welfare

Based on the National Curriculum Standards, volunteer activities and experience-based activities including exchanges with elderly people are carried out in school education with the aim of deepening students' understanding on the challenges of an aging society and on elderly people as a whole.

(4) Increase of Learning Opportunities for Elderly People

The Guideline of Measures for Ageing Society, which was formulated in 2018 requires efforts to provide a variety of learning opportunities at schools and in communities to enable all people, including elderly

people, to conduct learning activities throughout their life and to promote an appropriate evaluation of the outcome and use thereof in community activities. Based on this, social education facilities are actively providing learning opportunities to elderly people.

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology held the Forum on Policies for Lifelong Learning for an Aging Society for the purpose of encouraging elderly people to positively participate in creation of local communities through lifelong learning. In 2017, the Forum meetings were held in Kushiro City in Hokkaido (November), Furano City in Hokkaido (November), Niihama City in Ehime (December), and Bunkyo City in Tokyo (December). Participants had discussions based on the outcomes of the studies on lifelong learning of elderly people and pioneering efforts being made in each region.

(5) Increase of Opportunities for Intergenerational Exchanges

The Cabinet Office held meetings of the "Ageing Society Forum" in Miyazaki-shi in October 2017 and in Chiyoda-ku in Tokyo in January 2018 with the aim of facilitating social participation of elderly people and intergenerational exchanges.



Ageing Society Forum

(6) Promotion of Elderly People's Social Participation, Such as Volunteer Activities

Every year, the Cabinet Office broadly introduces elderly people who live freely and actively with their abilities under their own responsibility, irrespective of age, (people practicing an Ageless Life), and organizations of elderly people actively engaging in social activities. In FY2017, the Cabinet Office selected 55 individuals and 46 organizations and introduced their social participation activities through the Ageing Society Forum or on other occasions.

(7) Awareness-Raising Activities for Securing Elderly People's Employment and Various Working Opportunities

Under the policy that employers intending to recruit or hire employees should evaluate all job seekers by their experience, aptitude and capabilities, etc., not by their age, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has basically prohibited, by the Employment Measures Act (Act No. 132 of 1966), all age limits for recruitment through job advertisements or internet advertisements, or via private job placement agencies or "Hello Work" (public employment security office), except for cases specified by Order of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. The Ministry has thus endeavored to secure opportunities for all job seekers irrespective of age.

Recruitment of only elderly people aged 60 or over falls under the exceptional cases specified by Order of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and age limits are permitted exceptionally in such cases for promoting employment of elderly people.

(8) Appropriate Responses to Human Rights Violation Cases Involving Elderly People

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice established the Human Rights Hotline (0570-003-110 (from anywhere in Japan)), a special telephone service for human rights counseling, and offer counseling services at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus or their branches. Additionally, they are trying to strengthen counseling systems by delivering leaflets to persons engaging in social welfare business who often have contact with elderly people to inform them of the human rights counseling service, and establishing ad-hoc human rights counseling centers at welfare facilities for elderly people or other social welfare facilities to give facility users and their families opportunities to receive counseling easily. The week from September 4 to September 10, 2017, was designated as the Promotion Week for Human Rights Counseling for Elderly People and Persons with Disabilities, during which the Hotline was made available for longer hours and on weekends as well to provide counseling to a larger number of elderly people. When the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice find any case in which a human rights violation, such as abuse against an elderly person, is suspected, they investigate the case as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.



Poster "Promotion Week for Human Rights Counseling for Elderly People and Persons with Disabilities"

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Assault and abuse against elderly people	454	488	440	437	363
Human rights violations at welfare facilities for elderly people	77	81	82	57	40

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

4. Persons with Disabilities

In order to create a comfortable society equal for everyone, including persons with disabilities, it is necessary for all people in society to strive to fully understand and give due consideration to persons with disabilities, while various measures are being taken by the national and local governments.

Based on the Basic Programme for Persons with Disabilities (Third plan), which was decided at the Cabinet meeting in September 2013, measures for supporting independence and social participation of persons with disabilities had been taken comprehensively and systematically with the aim of achieving a society in which all citizens live together with respect for each other's personality and individuality without being separated due to disabilities. In March 2018, the Basic Programme for Persons with Disabilities (Fourth), covering from FY2018 to FY2022, was decided at the Cabinet meeting (the details are described in the Annual Report on Government Measures for Persons with Disabilities).

The Act for Eliminating Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities, which was enforced in April 2016, prohibits unfair discriminatory treatment and requires reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities. Under this Act, administrative organs and companies have been making efforts for eliminating

discrimination on the basis of disability.

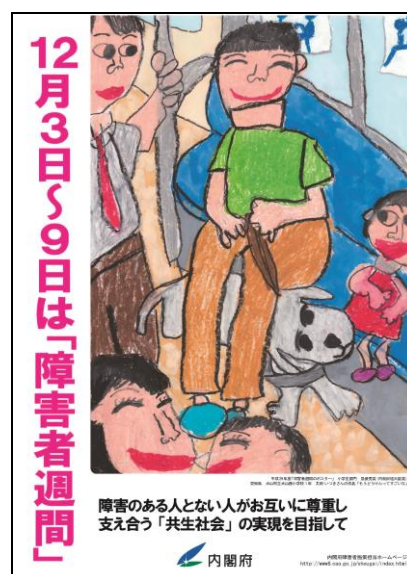
In February 2017, the Ministerial Council on Universal Design 2020 was held with participation of various organizations of persons with disabilities, with the aim of promoting universal design-related efforts nationwide starting from the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics. At the meeting, the Universal Design 2020 Action Plan was approved. The Action Plan provides that all people should make the utmost efforts to eliminate discrimination against persons with disabilities, on the basis of the principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In January 2018, approximately one year after the establishment of the Action Plan, the second meeting of the Ministerial Council was held and participants shared the commitment to promote education on mental barrier-free based on the new National Curriculum Standards, review the Act on Promotion of Smooth Transportation, etc. of Elderly Persons, Disabled Persons, etc. and relevant criteria, or otherwise make efforts proactively for both developing people's minds and creating better communities, with the aim of further promoting related measures and accelerating efforts for achieving a cohesive society.

Specifically, the following efforts were made in FY2017.

(1) Awareness Raising and Public Relations Activities for Realizing an Inclusive Society

In order to disseminate the principle of an "inclusive society," in which persons with and without disabilities are able to respect each other's personality and individuality, the Basic Act for Persons with Disabilities designates the week from December 3 to 9 every year as the Week of Persons with Disabilities, during which the national and local governments collaborate with private organizations and intensively hold various events and make efforts throughout the country.

The Cabinet Office used various media to broadly publicize the Week of Persons with Disabilities and made effort to raise citizens' awareness upon the Week, such as by holding a ceremony to grant the Prime Minister's Awards to excellent works publicly sought throughout the country for the contests, "Essays on Experiences with Expanding Your Mind's Connections" and "Posters for the Week of Persons with Disabilities," and supporting seminars on disabilities or persons with disabilities targeting citizens in general that were hosted by organizations of persons with disabilities (the details are described in the Annual Report on Government Measures for Persons with Disabilities).



Poster "Week of Persons with Disabilities"

(2) Awareness-Raising Activities for Eliminating Prejudice and Discrimination on the Grounds of Disabilities

A. The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Eliminate prejudice and discrimination on the grounds of disabilities" as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as holding lecture sessions and delivering awareness-raising booklets.

They delivered copies of the awareness-raising booklet "Let's Learn Together! Human Rights of Persons

with Disabilities - Ahead of the Paralympic Games" to Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus, and prefectures and municipalities nationwide, and also created a spot video by a ventriloquist, Ikkokudo, titled "To Achieve a Livable Society," and made it available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

In FY2017, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice publicly sought catch copies that present the concept of awareness-raising activities concerning human rights of persons with disabilities and created a poster using the selected best catch copy. The posters were delivered to public organizations, etc. nationwide via Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus and were posted there. Furthermore, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice prepared the awareness-raising booklet, "Private Companies and Human Rights - Starting Efforts from Workplaces to Create Society with Respect for Human Rights," which explains various human rights issues in the workplace including those concerning persons with disabilities, and are delivering copies thereof at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus. Additionally, they created an awareness-raising video explaining the content of the booklet in an easy-to-understand manner and made it available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

Towards the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice collaborate with the All Japan Business Committee for the 2020 Olympics and Paralympics, which was established under the initiative of three economic associations, and have been carrying out various awareness-raising activities combining lectures by Paralympians and experience-based activities of using wheelchairs and enjoying sports for the disabled (boccia and wheelchair basketball, etc.) and Human Rights Lectures in which Human Rights Volunteers talk about human rights of persons with disabilities and the significance of mental barrier-free.

In addition, since FY2010, voice codes have been introduced sequentially to various awareness-raising materials such as a booklet, "The Protection of Human Rights," so that visually impaired persons can



Awareness-raising booklet "Let's Learn Together! Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities - Ahead of the Paralympic Games"



Poster using the best work of the Human Rights Poster Catch Copy Contest "Think about Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities!"

also use these materials.

- B. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has endeavored to further disseminate the purport of the Act on Assistance Dogs for Physically Disabled Persons (Act No. 49 of 2002) and the roles of assistance dogs. For that purpose, the Ministry prepared and is delivering posters, pamphlets, stickers, etc. and opened a website (<http://www.mhlw.go.jp/topics/bukyoku/syakai/hojyoken/>).



Sticker "Assistance Dogs Welcome"



Poster "We are Partners"



Pamphlet "BOOK: Know More about Assistance Dogs"



Pamphlet "BOOK: Know More about Assistance Dogs (for medical institutions)"



(3) Enhancement of Special Needs Education and Promotion of Education to Deepen Public Understanding on Persons with Disabilities

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has been making efforts to enhance special needs education and education to deepen public understanding on persons with disabilities for the purpose of facilitating independence and social participation of children and students with disabilities.

Concrete efforts for promoting special needs education based on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Convention No. 1 of 2014) include the project to assist part of the expenses required for developing systems of special needs education, the project to develop systems for supporting children and students suspected to have developmental disorders and the project to enhance teachers' expertise.

Specifically, the Ministry is promoting the deployment of experts such as nurses for medical care, physical therapists (PT), occupational therapists (OT) and speech therapists (ST), and has established a council for strengthening and utilizing collaboration among the medical, health, welfare and labor fields. Additionally, the Ministry amended Ordinance for Enforcement of the School Education Act for to introduce special support service in resource rooms for high school education in FY2018, and revised the staffing levels of teachers in charge of special support service in resource rooms at elementary and junior high schools by applying a new flexible system to include such teachers in the fixed number of teachers since FY2017 to stably secure a sufficient number of teachers depending on disabilities of respective children and students. The Ministry also takes financial measures to assist local governments for deploying special needs education support assistants, who provide various support to children and students with disabilities, and makes effort to promote exchanges and collaborative learning among children with and without disabilities (the details are described in the White Paper on Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and the Annual Report on Government Measures for Persons with Disabilities).

As it is important to ensure that persons with disabilities can also have rich and fulfilling lives at each of their life stages, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology established the Extraordinary Team for the Special Support General Project and also established in FY2017 the Office for the Promotion of Learning Support for Persons with Disabilities in the Lifelong Learning Policy Bureau in order to promote ministry-wide efforts for the planning of measures for persons with disabilities.

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology will continue carrying out measures comprehensively in a cross-sectoral manner for increasing diverse learning activities of persons with disabilities throughout their lifetime, by developing a seamless support system including assistance for continued education and employment, in collaboration with relevant ministries and agencies, providing special needs education to help voluntary efforts of children with disabilities for independence and social participation, and promoting sports and cultural activities of persons with disabilities.

(4) Promotion of Employment of Persons with Disabilities

The number of persons with disabilities employed by private companies has been increasing and was 495,795 (up by 4.5% from the previous year) (one severely disabled or mentally retarded person is counted as two persons and one short-hour worker is counted as 0.5 persons) as of June 1, 2017, recording a record high for 14 consecutive years. Various measures to support employment of persons with disabilities have been taken to raise awareness and give guidance concerning the prohibition of discrimination against persons with disabilities and the obligation to give reasonable consideration under the Act on Employment Promotion etc. of Persons with Disabilities. Additionally, September every year is designated as the Employment Support Month for Persons with Disabilities and efforts are made to broadly boost momentum for increasing employment of persons with disabilities through awareness-raising, such as the commendation of the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare's Awards to businesses willing to hire persons with disabilities. Since FY2017, lectures targeting general company employees have been held nationwide to foster vocational supporters who watch over and help mentally retarded persons and persons with developmental disorders for the purpose of promoting correct understanding on mental and developmental disorders.

Furthermore, the Abilympics, a skills competition for persons with disabilities, is held for the purpose of disseminating the significance of vocational independence of persons with disabilities, deepening understanding and awareness of employers and society in general, and promoting employment of persons with disabilities. The most recent 37th Abilympics was held from November 17 to November 19, 2017, jointly by Tochigi Prefecture and the Japan Organization for Employment of the Elderly, Persons with Disabilities and Job Seekers.

(5) Awareness-Raising Activities to Correct Prejudice and Discrimination against the Persons with Mental Disorders

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare provides information to promulgate correct understanding on mental disorders, using such media as its general website, "Everyone's Mental Health," which introduces information on mental health and diseases and support services in general, and its mental health website for young people, "Also Maintain Your Mental Health," and also through the Mental Health and Welfare Campaign to disseminate knowledge on mental health and welfare to local residents. In FY2017, the 65th Mental Health and Welfare Campaign was carried out from October 16 to October 22, during which local governments nationwide carried out PR activities intensively by holding lecture sessions and delivering awareness-raising pamphlets.

(6) Appropriate Responses to Human Rights Violation Cases Involving Persons with Disabilities

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice established the Human Rights Hotline (0570-003-110 (from anywhere in Japan)), a special telephone service for human rights counseling, and offer counseling services at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus or their branches. Additionally, they are trying to strengthen counseling systems by delivering leaflets to persons engaging in social welfare business who often have contact with persons with disabilities and would-be graduates of special needs high schools to inform them of the human rights counseling service, and establishing ad-hoc human rights counseling centers at welfare facilities for persons with disabilities or other social welfare facilities to give facility users and their families opportunities to receive counseling easily. The week from September 4 to September 10, 2017, was designated as the Promotion Week for Human Rights Counseling for Elderly People and Persons with Disabilities, during which counseling was made available for longer hours and on weekends as well to provide counseling to a larger number of persons with disabilities. When the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice find any case in which a human rights violation, such as discrimination or abuse against a person with disabilities, is suspected, they investigate the case as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Discriminatory treatment against persons with disabilities	217	263	265	286	272
Human rights violations at welfare facilities for persons with disabilities	60	93	77	63	49

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

(7) Efforts to Prevent Abuse against Persons with Disabilities

The Act on Prevention of Abuse of Persons with Disabilities and Support for Caregivers (Act No. 79 of 2011; hereinafter referred to as the "Act on Prevention of Abuse of Persons with Disabilities"), which was enforced in October 2012, provides that local governments should fulfil functions as Municipal Centers for the Prevention of Abuse of Persons with Disabilities or Prefectural Centers for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as offices to receive reports and notifications of abuse against persons with disabilities. Each Center receives such reports and notifications, provides counseling, guidance and advice, and carries out PR and awareness-raising activities to promote public understanding on the prevention of abuse against persons with disabilities.

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has been taking measures under the Project to Support Local Life to assist local efforts for preventing abuse against persons with disabilities, thereby developing cooperative systems of relevant organizations in local communities and strengthening support systems, so that local governments can prevent or detect abuse against persons with disabilities early and take prompt actions in collaboration with relevant organizations.

Additionally, the Ministry prepared a pamphlet to broadly raise awareness on the prevention of abuse against persons with disabilities and made it available on its website (<http://www.mhlw.go.jp/file/06-Seisakujouhou-12200000-Shakaien-gokyokushougaihookenfukushibu/0000121196.pdf>).



Pamphlet "Easy-to-Understand Explanation of the Act on Prevention of Abuse of Persons with Disabilities"



Poster "World Autism Awareness Day"

(8) Support for Persons with Developmental Disorders

A. In December 2007, the United Nations adopted a resolution to designate April 2 every year as the World Autism Awareness Day. In response to this, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has held a symposium jointly with the Autism Society Japan or has otherwise endeavored to disseminate correct knowledge on autism and other developmental disorders. On the World Autism Awareness Day and during the Developmental Disorders Awareness Week (advocated by relevant organizations) from April 2 to April 8, various awareness-raising activities are carried out nationwide.

The Ministry established the Information and Support Center for Persons with Developmental Disorders and has promoted research and studies on support for persons with developmental disorders, disseminated support measures via the website or other means, and endeavored to deepen understanding of citizens on developmental disorders.

In light of recent moves toward the achievement of a cohesive society, the Act Partially Amending the Act on Support for Persons with Developmental Disorders (Act No. 64 of 2016) was enacted on May 25,

2016, for further improving support for persons with developmental disorders. The amended Act prescribes that the national and local governments should provide seamless lifelong support and should develop a system to enable children with developmental disorders and their families to receive meticulous support at a place close to them.

- B. A majority of children and students suspected to have developmental disorders are enrolled in ordinary classes and it is important to detect such children and students early and provide them with seamless support. All teachers and school staff also need to have certain knowledge and skills concerning developmental disorders.

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology started new projects in FY2016 for supporting children and students suspected to have developmental disorders. Specifically, they are the project to offer support for collaboration between schools and welfare organizations and conduct research and studies on how to share information on detailed support, and the project to build a training system for teachers in charge of special guidance (guidance using resource rooms) depending on disabilities of respective children and students and study necessary guidance methods.

In March 2017, the Ministry formulated and publicized the Guidelines for Developing Learning Support Systems for Children and Students with Disabilities Including Developmental Disorders, targeting boards of education, schools and guardians.

(9) Conclusion and Dissemination of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Japan concluded the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on January 20, 2014. The Convention covers a wide range of matters concerning persons with disabilities, such as the principle of the Convention (indiscrimination, equality, engagement in society, etc.), political rights, rights relating to education, labor and employment, social guarantees, participation in cultural life and sports, and international cooperation. States Parties are required to prepare a comprehensive report on concrete measures they have taken to fulfill obligations under the Convention and the progress brought about by such measures and submit it to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities within two years after the entry into force of the Convention in their countries. Japan prepared the first government report incorporating the discussions at the Commission on Policy for Persons with Disabilities, which consists of persons with disabilities, and reflecting public comments, and submitted it in June 2016.

In order to properly implement this Convention, it is important to raise awareness of society as a whole concerning the issues of persons with disabilities. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will continue its efforts to disseminate the outline and significance of the Convention to all citizens including persons with disabilities, in collaboration with relevant ministries and agencies.

5. Dowa Issue (*Buraku* Discrimination)

Due to discrimination based on the structure of social statuses which was formed in the course of the historical development of Japanese society, some Japanese people had been forced to endure a deprived status economically, socially and culturally over years, and they are still subject to various kinds of discrimination in their daily lives even today, such as meeting opposition on marriage or being subject to disadvantageous treatment upon employment on the grounds of being from a *Dowa* district. This is the

Dowa issue, which is a human rights issue unique to Japan.

In order to solve this issue, the national government, together with local governments, had worked for 33 years since 1969 on measures for regional improvements based on acts for special measures. As a result, developments in infrastructure in order to improve the impoverished environment of the *Dowa* districts have achieved steady results, and the regional disparity with other districts has become considerably smaller.

However, discriminatory information is still posted on the internet and so-called fake *Dowa* acts are being conducted to hamper the resolution of the *Dowa* issue.

On December 16, 2016, the Act on the Promotion of the Elimination of *Buraku* Discrimination was enforced. The *Dowa* issues (*Buraku* discrimination) are to be dealt with properly based on the purport of this Act and the incidental resolutions.

Specifically, the following efforts were made in FY2017.

(1) Education and Awareness-Raising for Eliminating the Public Prejudice Relating to the *Dowa* Issue (*Buraku* Discrimination)

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Eliminate prejudice and discrimination relating to *Dowa* issue" as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as holding lecture sessions and delivering awareness-raising booklets, with the aim of eliminating the public prejudice relating to the *Dowa* issue (*Buraku* discrimination).

They created awareness-raising materials on the *Dowa* issue (*Buraku* discrimination), "Human Rights Archive Series '*Dowa* Issue - Testimony from the Past, Advice for the Future'" (collection of statements and video for persons in charge of human rights education and awareness-raising) and "*Dowa* Issue - Toward the Future" (video for general public) and lend them out at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus, and also made them available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

In FY2017, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice also issued a leaflet, titled "Leaflet on the Act on the Promotion of the Elimination of *Buraku* Discrimination," for the purpose of disseminating the enforcement of the Act and thereby contributing to the achievement of a society free from *Buraku* discrimination.

Additionally, a spot video by an actress, Erika Mahiro, titled "Discrimination based on the Place of Birth" is also available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

(2) Efforts for Solving the *Dowa* Issue (*Buraku* Discrimination) through School and Social Education

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology explains the purport of the Act on the Promotion of the Elimination of *Buraku* Discrimination, which was enforced on December 16, 2016, and educational activities for eliminating *Buraku* discrimination and the Ministry of Justice also provides administrative explanation at meetings convening persons in charge of human rights education from prefectural boards of education. In addition, including issuing notices to boards of education, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology publicizes the details of this Act broadly on various opportunities.

For social education, programs on human rights education are included in lectures for granting qualification

as specialized social education supervisors and in training targeting officials specialized in social education. Human rights education is thus being promoted steadily.

(3) Establishment of Fair Recruitment System

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare made efforts as follows to raise awareness of employers to encourage companies to establish a fair recruitment system with consideration to human rights under which applicants are judged only with their aptitude and capabilities.

- (i) The Ministry issued written requests to 446 business groups, including the Japan Business Federation and the National Association of Commercial Broadcasters, to give guidance to their affiliated companies to encourage fair recruitment.
- (ii) The Ministry prepared pamphlets, leaflets, posters, calendars, etc. for promoting fair recruitment and delivered them to business offices.
- (iii) The Ministry publicized awareness-raising notices on newspapers, etc. around the season when companies recruit new graduates from junior high schools, high schools, universities, etc.
- (iv) The Ministry deployed fair recruitment and human rights awareness promoters, who play central roles in establishing a fair recruitment system, to business offices of a certain size or larger and had Labor Bureaus and "Hello Work" (public employment security office) provide training to those promoters.
- (v) The Ministry held training sessions for major companies that have influence on recruitment of workers as a whole.



Pamphlet "To Ensure Fair Recruitment"



Poster "Do You Know? That Question in a Recruitment Interview is NOT Politically Correct."

(4) Awareness-Raising Activities Targeting Officials of Agricultural or Fisheries Cooperatives or Other Related Organizations

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries held training sessions targeting officials of agricultural or fisheries cooperatives or other related organizations via prefectures and also offered support to similar training sessions targeting such officials by agricultural, forestry and fisheries organizations nationwide in

order to proactively promote awareness-raising activities on a broad range of human rights issues, including the *Dowa* issue (*Buraku* discrimination) arising from the relevant industry and rural areas.

(5) Promotion of Activities at "Rinpokan"

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare offers support for services of open community centers called "Rinpokan," which are providing counseling on daily problems and carrying out various activities for resolving human rights issues.

(6) Efforts for Eliminating Fake *Dowa* Acts

In order to eliminate fake *Dowa* acts of demanding unjust profits or claims against companies and administrative organs by applying undue pressures using *Dowa* issue as an excuse, the national government established the Central Liaison Conference for Measures against Fake *Dowa* Acts with the participation of all of the ministries and agencies and has made all-out efforts.

A. The Ministry of Justice has conducted questionnaire surveys for ascertaining the actual status of fake *Dowa* acts ten times since 1987 (the outline of the 2013 survey results: <http://www.jinken.or.jp/jinken-info/research2013>).

As of April 2018, a total of 1,111 government organizations, local governments and bar associations, etc. participated in the Liaison Conference among Relevant Organizations for Measures against Fake *Dowa* Acts, which is organized with 50 Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus nationwide serving as the secretariat. The Liaison Conference occasionally holds meetings for information exchange and makes efforts in various ways.

In FY2017, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice prepared the awareness-raising booklet, "Private Companies and Human Rights - Starting Efforts from Workplaces to Create Society with Respect for Human Rights," which explains various human rights issues including fake *Dowa* acts, and are delivering copies thereof at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus. Additionally, they created an awareness-raising video explaining the content of the booklet in an easy-to-understand manner and made it available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

B. The prefectural police also crack down on illegal acts and promote measures to eliminate fake *Dowa* acts in collaboration with relevant organizations.

	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
Counseling cases concerning fake <i>Dowa</i> acts	45	32	18	25	23

Demands	Goods	Compensation	Loan	Donation	Grant	Contract	Subcontract	Lecture	Other	Total
FY2017	7	2	0	3	4	2	1	0	4	23
FY2016	6	0	0	3	8	0	1	1	6	25
FY2015	10	1	0	3	1	1	0	0	2	18
FY2014	28	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	32
FY2013	27	0	0	5	0	1	3	0	9	45

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

C. The Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry held a Seminar on Countermeasures against Fake *Dowa* Acts and delivered leaflets on fake *Dowa* acts targeting the business community.

(7) Appropriate Responses to Human Rights Violation Cases Concerning the *Dowa* Issue (*Buraku* Discrimination)

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice are endeavoring to provide a remedy for damage and prevent occurrence of human rights violations concerning the *Dowa* issue (*Buraku* discrimination) through human rights counseling and investigation and resolution of human rights violation cases. In particular, considering discrimination in marriage and discriminatory remarks as incidents that cannot be overlooked from the perspective of promotion and protection of human rights, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice provide awareness-raising guidance to persons who committed relevant acts or other related parties to have them voluntarily and independently stop human rights violations and improve and restore situations or draw their attention not to cause similar situations.

When they find any information on the internet citing a certain area as a *Dowa* district with the intent of provoking unfair discrimination, they demand the relevant provider, etc. to delete the information or otherwise take appropriate measures.

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Human rights violations concerning the <i>Dowa</i> issue	85	117	93	78	86

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

6. Ainu People

The Ainu people have an original and rich culture such as a unique language, traditional ceremonies and rituals, and oral literature (Yukar), but due to integration policies which were implemented in modern times, efforts for the preservation and the handing down of traditions have not been sufficiently made in the present day. In particular, people who understand the Ainu language and can uphold the traditions are aging and important foundations needed to pass on the culture show signs of diminishing.

In addition, because of the lack of understanding about the Ainu people, prejudice and discrimination still exist against the Ainu people in terms of employment and marriage.

Specifically, the following efforts were made in FY2017.

(1) Promotion of Comprehensive Policies Concerning the Ainu People

In response to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in September 2007, and the Resolution to Recognize the Ainu people as an Indigenous People, which was adopted by both Houses of the Diet in June 2008, the Chief Cabinet Secretary held the Advisory Council for Future Ainu Policy. The Council compiled a report in July 2009, and based on this report, the Council for Ainu Policy Promotion hosted by the Chief Cabinet Secretary has been held with the participation of the national government, intellectuals and the representatives of the Ainu People (developments of the Promotion Council: <http://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/ainusuishin/index.html>).

With regard to the Symbolic Space for Ethnic Harmony, which serves as a national center for promoting Ainu culture, efforts are being made, based on the Basic Principle on the Development and Management of the Symbolic Space for Ethnic Harmony to promote the Revitalization of Ainu Culture (Cabinet decision on June 13, 2014; partially amended on June 27, 2017), aiming to develop major facilities, i.e., the National Ainu Museum, National Park and Memorial Facilities, towards their opening to the public in April 2020, ahead of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics.

(2) Promotion of Ainu Culture and Dissemination and Enlightenment of Knowledge on Ainu Tradition and Culture

Based on the Ainu Culture Promotion Act (Act No. 52 of 1997), the Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, etc. provided subsidies to the Foundation for Research and Promotion of Ainu Culture for their projects.

In order to create the archive that will contribute to preserving and handing down the Ainu language, the Agency for Cultural Affairs continued the Project to Support Creation of the Archive of the Ainu Language and the Project to Digitalize Analog Sound for the Preservation and Handing Down of the Ainu Language in FY2017 in the same manner as in FY2015 and FY2016. Additionally, the Agency held the Languages and Dialects in Danger Convention in Sapporo-shi in FY2017, following that in Naha-shi in Okinawa in FY2015 and that in Yoron-cho in Kagoshima in FY2016. The Convention has been held with the aim of making public the critical conditions of languages and dialects, including the Ainu language, in Japan that are included in the UNESCO Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger.

The Languages and Dialects in Danger Conventions in FY2016 and FY2017 were certified as events in the Tokyo 2020 Cultural Olympiad.

(3) Efforts for Protecting Ainu Folk Cultural Properties

Based on the Cultural Properties Protection Act (Act No. 214 of 1950), the Agency for Cultural Affairs offered assistance to the Hokkaido Board of Education for expenses required for surveys and activities for handing down and utilizing tangible and intangible Ainu folk cultural properties.

(4) Awareness-Raising Activities for Eliminating Prejudice and Discrimination against the Ainu People and Creating a Society with Respect for Their Dignity

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Eliminate prejudice and discrimination against Ainu people" as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as delivering awareness-raising booklets, with the aim of eliminating prejudice and discrimination against the Ainu people and deepening understanding and awareness of them. Additionally, they also posted internet banner advertisements and text advertisements for promoting citizens' understanding of the Ainu people.

(5) Promotion of Learning about Ainu in School Education

The new National Curriculum Standards for elementary and lower secondary schools were revised in March 2017, and it is stated that in Social Studies classes at lower secondary schools concerning Japan's external relations during the national isolation period, Ainu culture should also be referred to when students

learn about the Ainu people, who had transactions with northern countries. The explanations concerning Social Studies for the new National Curriculum Standards for elementary schools state that students should learn the fact that Japan has a long history and has fostered unique traditions and culture and that in that process they should also learn that the Ainu people, who were the original inhabitants in areas in present Hokkaido, have original traditions and culture.

In March 2018, the National Curriculum Standards for upper secondary schools were revised and it is stated that in a new compulsory subject of history students should learn about the Ainu people, who had transactions with northern countries, and about their culture in classes concerning economies and societies in Asia in the 18th century. In this manner, the new National Curriculum Standards enhance the content of learning about Ainu.

(6) Consideration for Efforts Concerning the Ainu Language, etc. at Higher Educational Institutions

Universities, centered on those in Hokkaido, are making efforts for education and research on the Ainu language, etc. and some opened classes on the Ainu language, etc.

(7) Promotion of Activities at Seikatukan

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare offers support for activities at facilities called "Seikatukan," which provide counseling on daily problems to local residents and have been comprehensively carrying out PR and awareness-raising activities for deepening public understanding on the Ainu people.

(8) Appropriate Responses to Human Rights Violation Cases Involving the Ainu People

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice offer counseling services at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and their branches, and ad-hoc human rights counseling centers. When they find any case in which a human rights violation, such as discrimination against an Ainu person, is suspected, they investigate the case as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Discriminatory treatment against the Ainu people	0	0	0	0	0

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

(9) Promotion of Understanding through Modernization of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Businesses

Due to historical special circumstances, agriculture, forestry and fisheries businesses in residential areas of the Ainu people are generally small-sized and less productive, causing disparity in income and living standards compared with other areas. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries supports all-out efforts of local residents for modernizing agriculture, forestry and fisheries businesses in residential areas of the Ainu people with the aim of promoting public understanding on the Ainu people engaging in agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

7. Foreign Nationals

The International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Convention No. 26 of 1995; hereinafter referred to as the "Racial Discrimination Elimination Convention"), to which Japan is a party, mainly requires all parties to undertake to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating racial discrimination in all its forms for the purpose of guaranteeing the full and equal enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The number of foreign nationals who enter Japan has been increasing over the years and reached 27.43 million people (including those who re-entered) in 2017, marking a record high. Due to differences in language, religion, customs and other factors, various human rights problems regarding foreign nationals have taken place.

The Center for Human Rights Education and Training conducted a survey on foreign residents, which the Ministry of Justice entrusted with the aim of utilizing the results as basic materials for future human rights protection measures for foreign nationals. The survey revealed that not a few foreign nationals have faced discrimination on grounds of nationality in various scenes in their everyday lives, such as upon finding housing (the outline of the survey results: http://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken04_00101.html).

Recently, unfair discriminatory speech and behavior intended to exclude people of certain ethnic groups or nationalities has become a public concern as so-called "hate speech," and the Hate Speech Elimination Act was enforced on June 3, 2016.

As of May 2017, the number of foreign children and students enrolled in public elementary schools, junior high schools and high schools in Japan reached 86,015 (School Basic Survey by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; conducted every year). As of May 2016, the number of foreign children and students requiring Japanese language tuition was 34,333 (Survey on Acceptance of Children and Students Requiring Japanese Language Tuition by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; conducted every other year), up by 5,137 (approx. 17.6%) compared with the results of the survey conducted in FY2014. When a foreign national wishes to send his/her child to a public school to receive compulsory education, the Japanese government accepts such child free of charge and guarantees the same educational opportunities as those for a Japanese national, including the provision of textbooks free of charge and school expense subsidies. The national government has promoted efforts to develop a system to enable children of foreign residents to receive education at public schools more easily.

Specifically, the following efforts were made in FY2017.

(1) Awareness-Raising Activities Aiming to Eliminate Prejudice and Discrimination against Foreign Nationals and Cultivate Japanese People's Sense of Human Rights Suited to the Age of Internationalization

A. The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Respect the rights of foreign nationals" as a priority target, aiming to eliminate prejudice and discrimination against foreign nationals and cultivate people's sense of human rights suited to the age of internationalization. They hold lecture sessions and deliver awareness-raising booklets or otherwise carry out awareness-raising activities.

On January 27, 2018, a symposium on the theme of "Foreign Nationals and Human Rights" was held in Hiroshima-shi (see p.37).

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice lend out the awareness-raising video, "Foreign Nationals and Human Rights - Recognize the Differences, and Live Together," at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus, and also made it available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

Additionally in FY2017, they prepared the awareness-raising booklet, "Private Companies and Human Rights - Starting Efforts from Workplaces to Create Society with Respect for Human Rights," which explains various human rights issues in the workplace including those involving foreign nationals, and are delivering copies thereof at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus. Also, they created an awareness-raising video explaining the content of the booklet in an easy-to-understand manner and made it available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

Furthermore, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice provided lectures under the theme of "Human Rights of Foreign Nationals" in workshops to foster leaders of human rights awareness-raising activities, targeting local government officials (see p.111).

They also incorporated materials concerning multicultural coexistence in the audiovisual material (animation) and the booklet collecting cases of human rights awareness-raising workshops titled "'Join a Workshop' - Participatory Human Rights Lectures." This animation and a spot video by a ventriloquist, Ikkokudo, titled "Why Not Internationalize Your Mind as Well?" are also available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

- B. The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology explains the purport of the Hate Speech Elimination Act, which was enforced on June 3, 2016, and educational activities for eliminating unfair discriminatory behavior and the Ministry of Justice also provides administrative explanation at meetings convening persons in charge of human rights education from prefectural boards of education. In addition, including issuing notices to boards of education, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology publicizes the details of this Act broadly on various opportunities.
The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology delivered a poster created by the Ministry of Justice, "Stop Hate Speech," to high schools nationwide, in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice.
- C. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare designates June every year as the Month for Raising Awareness on Issues of Foreign Workers and disseminates information and raises awareness on proper employment of foreign nationals in compliance with rules on working conditions, etc., broadly targeting citizens in general including employers. In 2017, from June 1 to June 30, the Ministry carried out awareness-raising activities and provided guidance intensively under the slogan, "Employ Foreign Nationals Properly in Compliance with Rules - Ensure Appropriate Personnel Management and Working Environments in which Foreign Nationals can Exercise Their Abilities!"
- D. Based on the Act on Promoting Supply of Rental Housing to Persons Requiring Housing Support (Act No. 112 of 2007), which was amended in 2017, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism implemented a New Housing Safety Net System to register rental housing that is intended for the promotion of smooth move-in for persons requiring housing support such as foreign nationals and provide relevant information. At the same time, in light of this new policy, the Ministry reviewed the Guidelines for the Trusted Rental Housing Project and Smooth Moves of Foreign Nationals into Private

Rental Housing, which it formulated in 2009.

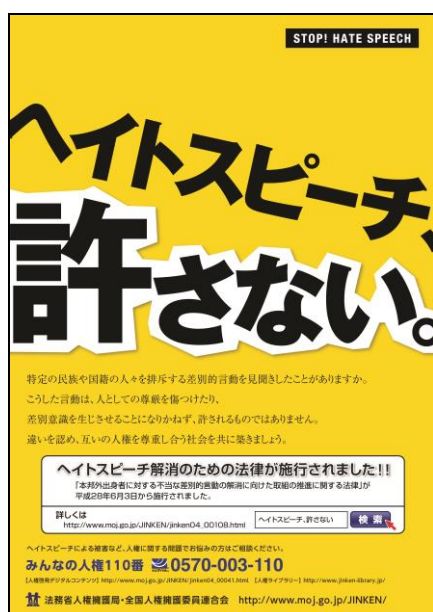
- E. Based on the provisions of Article 9 of the Convention, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs submitted the 10th and 11th Combined Periodic Report on the Racial Discrimination Elimination Convention, to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in July 2017. This report describes concrete measures taken by Japan for the purpose of eliminating racial discrimination.

(2) Awareness-Raising Activities Focused on Hate Speech

- A. The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have carried out awareness-raising activities focused on hate speech. Specifically, while continuing awareness-raising on the theme of "Human Rights of Foreign Nationals" in conventional ways, they adopt more effective means to present a message not to tolerate hate speech in a more understandable manner using diverse media and have endeavored to positively disseminate information on offices providing counseling for problems on human rights such as damage due to hate speech.

They carried out awareness-raising activities and posted internet advertisements, etc. using a poster with a catch copy, "Stop Hate Speech," and the awareness-raising booklet, "Hate Speech around Us."

- B. As the Hate Speech Elimination Act was enforced, the police promote education for police officials and make a contribution to overall efforts for eliminating unfair discriminatory behavior by responding to requests from other organizations for cooperation with their various PR and awareness-raising activities.



Poster "Stop Hate Speech"



Awareness-raising booklet "Hate Speech around Us"



Internet advertisement "Stop Hate Speech"

(3) Promotion of Education for International Understanding and Education for Foreign Children at School, etc.

It is important in an international society to encourage children to have a broad vision and understand different cultures, and foster their quality and capacity to live together with people with different customs or cultures. From this viewpoint, schools are now providing education for international understanding in each area of study.

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology holds a liaison council every year by convening responsible persons from boards of education of prefectures and government-designated cities nationwide to ascertain the current status concerning education and share best practices at pioneering schools, thereby endeavoring to promote education for international understanding and education for foreign children.

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is carrying out the following measures to enhance education for foreign children and students.

- (i) Apply a new flexible system to include the number of teachers for enhancing education for foreign children and students in the fixed number of teachers, which was introduced through the amendment of the Act on Standards for Class Formation and Fixed Number of School Personnel of Public Compulsory Education Schools in March 2017, in a planned manner in ten years from FY2017 to FY2026.
- (ii) Provide training for Japanese language teachers, etc. at the National Institute for School Teachers and Staff Development.
- (iii) Implement a project to support efforts made by local governments in collaboration with local people for promoting acceptance of foreign students in public schools and developing a system to enhance and support Japanese language tuition.
- (iv) Promote the organization and introduction of special curricula for children and students requiring Japanese language tuition (partial amendment of the Regulation for Enforcement of the School Education Act (promulgated on January 14, 2014, and enforced on April 1, 2014)).
- (v) Implement a project to subsidize local communities that provide foreign children having difficulties in enrolling in schools with out-of-school support necessary for entering public schools or international schools
- (vi) Develop model programs for fostering and training teachers who provide education to foreign children

and students.

(4) Appropriate Responses to Human Rights Violation Cases Involving Foreign Nationals

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice offer counseling services at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and their branches, and ad-hoc human rights counseling centers. When they find any case in which a human rights violation, such as discrimination on grounds of nationality, is suspected, they investigate the case as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.

For providing human rights counseling to foreign nationals who cannot speak Japanese fluently, Human Rights Counseling Centers for Foreign Nationals have been established at 50 Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus nationwide, where counseling is provided in six languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Filipino, Portuguese and Vietnamese).

Additionally, the Foreign-language Human Rights Hotline (0570-090-911 (from anywhere in Japan)) is in place and counseling is provided in the six languages mentioned above.

The website of the Ministry of Justice also has pages for the Human Rights Counseling Services on the Internet and provides human rights counseling in English and Chinese (English: https://www.jinken.go.jp/soudan/PC_AD/0101_en.html; Chinese: https://www.jinken.go.jp/soudan/PC_AD/0101_zh.html).

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Discriminatory treatment against foreign nationals	69	73	85	57	84

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

Regarding the Technical Intern Training Program, when the Immigration Bureau of the Ministry of Justice finds any misconduct such as an act of violating human rights of technical intern trainees, it gives a notice to the relevant implementing organization to point out the illegality of such act and orders suspension of acceptance of technical intern trainees for five years. The Immigration Bureau publicizes cases of misconduct for which it issued a notice on the website of the Ministry of Justice to raise awareness to prevent misconduct.

The Act on Proper Technical Intern Training and Protection of Technical Intern Trainees (Act No. 89 of 2016), which aims to ensure appropriate implementation of the technical intern training and protect technical intern trainees, was enforced on November 1, 2017. As measures for ensuring appropriate implementation of the program, this Act introduces an accreditation system for technical intern training plans and a license system for supervising organizations, establishes the provisions to prohibit acts of violating human rights such as forcing technical intern trainees to engage in training against their will, and prescribes punishments for violations.

8. People Living with HIV and Hansen's Disease Patients, etc.

Correct knowledge and understanding of infections such as HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) and Hansen's disease is still lacking. There have been such problems as patients or former patients of these

diseases, etc. being discriminated against or suffering from violation of privacy in their daily lives, in their workplace, or in hospitals or clinics, due to incorrect knowledge or the prejudice of the people around them.

With regard to Hansen's disease, the case in November 2003 of the hotel in Kumamoto prefecture rejecting people living in a sanatorium for former patients with Hansen's disease highlighted the fact that incorrect knowledge and prejudice still exist in society. In order to further promote the elimination of such discrimination and prejudice, the Act on the Promotion of Resolution of Issues Related to Hansen's Disease (Act No. 82 of 2008) was enforced in April 2009.

Specifically, the following efforts were made in FY2017.

(1) People Living with HIV, etc.

A. Awareness-Raising Activities for Eliminating Prejudice and Discrimination against AIDS Patients and People Living with HIV and Deepening Understanding on Them

- (A) The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Eliminate prejudice and discrimination against people living with HIV and Hansen's disease patients, etc." as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as holding lecture sessions and delivering awareness-raising booklets, with the aim of eliminating prejudice and discrimination against AIDS patients and people living with HIV and deepening understanding on them.
- (B) In order to eliminate prejudice and discrimination against AIDS patients and people living with HIV and to prevent the spread of AIDS, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare held the RED RIBBON LIVE 2017, a live talk event by experts and celebrities, in Minato-ku in Tokyo on November 30, 2017, as a campaign event towards the World AIDS Day on December 1. Additionally, the Ministry offers a telephone service for counseling on AIDS or otherwise endeavors to disseminate correct knowledge on HIV and AIDS and raise awareness on these diseases.

B. Promotion of School Education on AIDS

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology promoted school education on AIDS to eliminate prejudice and discrimination against AIDS patients and people living with HIV and also promoted preparation of teaching materials and training of school teachers and other staff.

C. Appropriate Responses to Human Rights Violation Cases Involving People Living with HIV, etc.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice offer counseling services at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and their branches, and ad-hoc human rights counseling centers. When they find any case in which a human rights violation, such as discrimination against a person living with HIV, is suspected, they investigate the case as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Discriminatory treatment against people living with HIV and Hansen's disease patients	3	1	5	2	2

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

(2) Present and Former Hansen's Disease Patients, etc.

A. Awareness-Raising Activities for Eliminating Prejudice and Discrimination against Present and Former Hansen's Disease Patients, etc. and Deepening Understanding on Them

(A) The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare carries out diverse dissemination and awareness-raising activities to broadly publicize correct knowledge on Hansen's disease. From FY2009, June 22, the day of enforcement of the Act on Payment of Compensation to Inmates of Hansen's Disease Sanatorium (Act No. 63 of 2001), was designated as the Day to Restore Honor and Commemorate Victims of Leprosy Prevention Law. In FY2017, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare hosted an event for commemoration, consolation and restoration of honor on June 22, with the attendance of people from the Ministry of Justice and other relevant organizations.

On February 3, 2018, the Ministry held the 17th Symposium on Hansen's Disease Issues in Shibuya-ku in Tokyo, in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, etc., with the aim of broadly publicizing correct knowledge on Hansen's disease.



Symposium on Hansen's Disease (leaflet)

In February 2018, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare prepared a pamphlet for junior high school students and teaching materials for teachers, "The Opposite Side of Hansen's Disease," to promote correct understanding of the disease and delivered them to junior high schools and boards of education nationwide.



Parent-Child Symposium on Hansen's Disease (held in Naha)

(B) The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Eliminate prejudice and discrimination against people living with HIV and Hansen's disease patients, etc." as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as holding lecture sessions and delivering awareness-raising booklets, with the aim of eliminating prejudice and discrimination against Hansen's disease patients, etc. and deepening understanding on them.

As part of such efforts, they held the Parent-Child Symposium on Hansen's Disease, in which junior high school students participated as panelists, in Naha-shi in Okinawa on August 26, 2017, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, etc. They posted internet advertisements and also placed advertisements in national newspapers for elementary school and junior high school students.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice created awareness-raising materials on Hansen's disease issues, "Human Rights Archive Series 'Hansen's Disease Issues – Testimony from the Past, Advice for the Future'" (collection of statements and video for persons in charge of human rights education and awareness-raising) and "Thinking about Hansen's Disease with My Family" (video for general public), as well as a spot video by a ventriloquist, Ikkokudo, titled "Correct Knowledge Eliminates Discrimination," and made them available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

Awareness-raising advertisement on Hansen's disease (Yomiuri KODOMO Shimbun)

Awareness-raising advertisement on Hansen's disease (Yomiuri Shimbun for Junior High School and High School Students)

B. Appropriate Responses to Human Rights Violation Cases Involving Present and Former Hansen's Disease Patients, etc.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice offer counseling services at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and their branches, and ad-hoc human rights counseling centers. When they find any case in which a human rights violation, such as discrimination against a Hansen's disease patient, etc., is suspected, they investigate the case as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.

C. Efforts at the United Nations

Japan is taking a leading role in the international community to eliminate prejudice and discrimination

against persons affected by leprosy and their families. Specifically, Japan took the initiative in submitting draft resolutions aimed at eliminating prejudice and discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their families caused by incorrect recognition and misunderstanding on the disease (resolutions on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members) to the United Nations Human Rights Council in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2015 and to the United Nations General Assembly in 2010. These resolutions were all adopted unanimously. As a follow-up action of these resolutions, Japan submitted a draft resolution on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members to the United Nations Human Rights Council in June 2017, together with Brazil, Ethiopia, Fiji and Morocco, which was also adopted unanimously with as many as 50 co-sponsors. Based on this resolution, the Human Rights Council decided to appoint a Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members for a three-year term in order to protect human rights of the persons all over the world who suffers from discrimination related to leprosy. Additionally, this resolution encourages the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur to organize seminars on discrimination related to leprosy. Following the adoption of this resolution, Ms. Alice Cruz from Portugal was appointed as the Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by leprosy and their family members at the Human Rights Council in September 2017.

9. People Released From Prison after Serving Their Sentences

Prejudice and discrimination against people released from prison after serving their sentences and their family members are deeply rooted and they frequently face discrimination in employment or difficulties in finding housing, and therefore the conditions are very severe for those people who are trying to reintegrate into society. In order to ensure their peaceful social life as a member of local communities, understanding and cooperation not only from their family members but also from their workplaces and local communities are indispensable, in addition to a strong will for rehabilitation on the part of people released from prison after serving their sentences. Therefore, the Ministry of Justice considers offering support for their employment as one of the important issues, and seeks cooperative employers who would hire people released from prison after serving their sentences and pays employment incentives to cooperative employers who provide lifestyle guidance and advice to such people necessary for their continued engagement in work, or otherwise proactively makes effort to prevent their repeat offenses.

On December 15, 2017, the Cabinet decided a Plan on Promotion of Prevention of Repeat Offenses based on the Act on Promotion of Prevention of Repeat Offenses (Act No. 104 of 2016).

Specifically, the following efforts were made in FY2017.

- (1) The Ministry of Justice has been carrying out the "Movement Towards a Brighter Society - Power of Local Communities to Prevent Crimes and Juvenile Delinquency and Support Rehabilitation" with the participation and understanding of local residents, aiming to promote understanding and cooperation of citizens with regard to improvement and rehabilitation of persons who committed crimes and delinquent juveniles and to create local communities free from crimes and delinquency. Specifically, the Ministry

holds PR and awareness-raising events, essay contests, small meetings, residents meetings, lecture sessions and speech contests, etc. or otherwise carries out awareness-raising activities in order to eliminate prejudice and discrimination against people released from prison after serving their sentences and facilitate their smooth rehabilitation into society.

In FY2017, the Ministry held a PR and awareness-raising event, "Recovery Festival," in the square in front of Yurakucho station, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo on July 1, 2017. This event included a talk show by a singer, Shinji Tanimura, who has developed relations with offenders rehabilitation volunteers nationwide as a flag artist of the Movement Towards a Brighter Society, and a talk show by cast members of a film on volunteer probation officers titled "I Want to See Your Smile" (featured by an actress, Yoriko Doguchi), and introduced the appeal of activities of volunteer probation officers and other offenders rehabilitation volunteers. In addition to these, there were also other unique contents, such as a live Eisa performance by DARC, a group of drug abusers striving to free themselves from drug dependence, and sale of vegetables grown by persons placed under probation. The event attracted many visitors and let them directly see those striving to rehabilitate themselves.

For the essay contest held during the 67th Campaign in FY2017, a total of 333,796 essays were submitted, which marked a record high. Through the contest, elementary school children and junior high school students nationwide, who lead the next generation, had chances to think about crimes and delinquency and how to create safe local communities free from crimes and delinquency by writing essays based on their experience in their everyday lives at home and school.

On February 26, 2018, Prime Minister Abe publicized a Message for Promoting the 68th Movement Towards a Brighter Society to seek citizens' cooperation for supporting recovery of persons who committed crimes or delinquency.

The Ministry of Justice has been endeavoring to build recognition of a symbol mark, "Happy Yellow Feather," for wishing to achieve a happy society in which all citizens can live safely in peace, and to further promote the Movement Towards a Brighter Society as a community-based people's movement, while broadly collaborating with diverse organizations and groups, with the aim of promoting understanding and cooperation of citizens with regard to support for recovery of persons who committed crimes or delinquency and creating a brighter society free from crimes and delinquency.



Live Eisa performance by DARC ("Recovery Festival")



Talk show on a film titled "I Want to See Your Smile" (by an actress, Yoriko Doguchi, who played a leading role as a volunteer probation officer (right in the center), an actor, Takuya Tsuchida, who played a role as a delinquent juvenile (right), and others) ("Recovery Festival")



Ceremony for the Justice Minister's Awards for the 67th Movement Towards a Brighter Society Essay Contest

(2) The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Eliminate prejudice and discrimination against people released from prison after serving their sentences" as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as delivering awareness-raising booklets, with the aim of eliminating prejudice and discrimination against people released from prison after serving their sentences and contributing to their rehabilitation into society.

They offer counseling services at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and their branches, and ad-hoc human rights counseling centers. When they find any case in which a human rights violation, such as discrimination against a person released from prison after serving his/her sentence, is suspected, they investigate the case as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Discriminatory treatment against people released from prison after serving their sentences	10	15	9	15	8

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

10. Crime Victims, etc.

It is pointed out that crime victims and their family members are not only damaged psychologically and economically by the crime itself and its aftereffects, but they also suffer other injuries such as defamation through rumors and mindless slander or disturbance of peace in their private lives.

In order to achieve a society in which the rights and benefits of crime victims, etc. are protected, the Basic Act on Crime Victims (Act No. 161 of 2004) was enacted in December 2004. The Third Basic Plan for Crime Victims, etc., which was decided by the Cabinet in April 2016 based on this Act, specifies 261 concrete measures for each of the five priorities^(Note 1) under the four fundamental principles^(Note 2) and relevant ministries and agencies are carrying out measures based on the plan.

Specifically, the following efforts were made in FY2017.

(Note 1) Five priorities

(i) Efforts to recover the victims' damages and to provide them with economic support; (ii) Efforts for the victims to recover from or to prevent mental and/or physical damage; (iii) Efforts to broaden the opportunity for victims to participate in criminal procedures; (iv) Efforts to improve the systems to support crime victims, etc.; and (v) Efforts to foster the understanding among citizens and to earn their consideration and cooperation

(Note 2) Four fundamental principles

(i) Guarantee the right of crime victims, etc. to be treated accordingly to their dignity; (ii) Take each measure properly, mindful of individual victim's circumstance; (iii) Provide a seamless and continuous support; and (iv) Progress while building the national consensus

(1) Awareness-Raising and PR on Human Rights of Crime Victims, etc.

A. The Ministry of Justice prepared a pamphlet titled "For Victims of Crime" for introducing and disseminating systems for protecting and supporting crime victims broadly to citizens, and delivers copies thereof to crime victims, etc. at public prosecutors offices nationwide and the police of all prefectures. The Ministry also posts the pamphlet on its website and the Public Prosecutors Office's website, thereby providing relevant information.

Additionally, the Ministry publicizes the system for crime victims, etc. at the stage of offenders rehabilitation after criminal trials or juvenile proceedings by such means as delivering leaflets.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Consider the human rights of crime victims and their families" as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as delivering awareness-raising booklets, with the aim of ensuring consideration to human rights issues of crime victims and their families and protecting them.

B. The National Police Agency designates the week from November 25 to December 1 every year as the Crime Victims' Week and intensively carries out awareness-raising projects during the week for deepening citizens' understanding on crime victims, etc. In FY2017, the National Police Agency hosted the Crime Victims' Week Central Meeting in Tokyo and also held regional meetings jointly with local governments in Tokushima and Saga prefectures. At these events, some bereaved families of crime victims delivered speeches and panel discussions were held.

The National Police Agency also compiled information on events held during the Crime Victims' Week for FY2017 in prefectures and government-designated cities nationwide and publicized the fact that relevant efforts were made all over Japan on its website or via other media.



Pamphlet "For Victims of Crime"

The National Police Agency prepares pamphlets introducing its PR and awareness-raising activities concerning support for crime victims, such as "The Police Support for Crime Victims, etc.," and "Introduction of the Benefit System for Crime Victims," and has also opened a dedicated webpage for publicizing support for crime victims (<https://www.npa.go.jp/higaisya/index.html>). It also sets up "To disseminate activities for supporting crime victims and promote participation therein, and thoroughly build recognition of the Benefit System for Crime Victims" as one of the priorities for its PR activities in November every year. Each prefectural police carry out PR and awareness-raising activities, such as "Class to learn importance of life" for junior high school and/or high school students, in which crime victims or bereaved families directly talk about their experience, an essay contest on the theme of the importance of life and support for crime victims with the participation of the junior high school and high school students who attended those classes, and lectures on support for crime victims for university students.

The police also carry out PR and awareness-raising activities concerning support for crime victims in collaboration with relevant organizations and groups, including private crime victim support organizations that are members of the National Network for Victim Support, a network offering support to crime victims, etc.

(2) Education and Training to People Offering Support to Crime Victims, etc.

A. Officials of Public Prosecutors Offices

For officials of public prosecutors offices, efforts are being made to have them fully understand systems for protecting crime victims through various training sessions and guidance by superiors in daily duties so that those systems are properly implemented.

B. Police Officials

The police consider that education for police officials is extremely important for properly offering support and making responses to crime victims, etc. from their standpoint. Based on this awareness, the police provide education proactively so that officials can surely understand the significance of support for crime victims and the outline of various measures, the need to give due consideration to feelings of crime victims, etc., and concrete means for taking actions.

C. Probation Officers

In various training sessions targeting probation officers, lectures by related parties, such as crime victims themselves and people from private crime victim support organizations, are provided under themes of circumstances of crime victims, etc. and the need for their support in the criminal policy, etc. from the perspective of ensuring proper responses to crime victims, etc. and also from the perspective of having persons placed under probation sufficiently understand the circumstances and feelings of crime victims, etc. and have deep repentance.

D. Volunteers of Private Crime Victim Support Organizations

The police endeavor to provide even more effective education and training to volunteers who offer support for crime victims as members of private crime victim support organizations by dispatching police officials as lecturers and fully utilizing DVDs for victim support education.

(3) Appropriate Responses to Human Rights Violation Cases Involving Crime Victims, etc.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice offer counseling services at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and their branches, and ad-hoc human rights counseling centers. When they find any case in which a human rights violation against a crime victim, etc. is suspected, they investigate the case as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Human rights violations against crime victims, etc.	8	5	6	4	7

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

11. Human Rights Violations on the Internet

Following increased use of the internet and owing to its anonymity and capacity to send out information with ease, various human rights problems have arisen, such as violation of honor and privacy of individuals and publication of expressions that promote discrimination. Therefore, it is necessary to carry out human rights awareness-raising activities for general internet users in order to promote their correct understanding on honor and privacy of individuals.

Specifically, the following efforts were made in FY2017.

(1) Awareness-Raising Activities to Deepen Correct Knowledge on Privacy and Honor of Individuals

A. The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Eliminate human rights violations on the internet" as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as holding lecture sessions and delivering awareness-raising booklets, with the aim of deepening correct understanding on privacy and honor of individuals.

As efforts against human rights violations through malicious use of the internet mainly among young people, which are becoming increasingly serious, they hold human rights lectures nationwide, in collaboration with Smartphone and Mobile Phone Safety Lectures that are held by mobile phone companies mainly targeting junior high schools nationwide.

Additionally, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice posted internet banner advertisements and text advertisements on SNS sites and blog sites for deepening correct understanding on human rights and introducing counseling services and remedy procedures.

As awareness-raising images, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice created audiovisual material (animation) for the booklet collecting cases of human rights awareness-raising workshops titled "'Join a Workshop' - Participatory Human Rights Lectures," a spot video by a ventriloquist, Ikkokudo, titled "Thoughtless Comments on the Internet," a spot video by an actress, Erika Mahiro, titled "Human Rights Violation on the Internet," and an awareness-raising video titled "The Internet and Human



Awareness-raising video "The Internet and Human Rights; Not to be an Assailant Nor a Victim"

Rights; Not to be an Assailant Nor a Victim" for the purpose of deepening understanding and interest concerning respect for human rights on the internet and safe use of the internet. These are made available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

Additionally, they carry out various awareness-raising activities using awareness-raising material, "Are you All Right? Let's Think About the Internet and Human Rights," that deals with the theme of the internet and human rights.

- B. The police promoted crackdown based on the Act on Prevention of Damage by Provision of Private Sexual Image Records (Act No. 126 of 2014). In 2017, the police cleared 57 cases of violation of this Act, of which 52 cases were violations using the internet such as e-mail and SNSs.

The police also promote PR and awareness-raising activities to prevent damage, on such themes as the current status of and countermeasures against cases concerning private sexual image records, the significance of providing counseling at an early stage, and methods of requesting deletion of relevant records. The National Police Agency, for example, posts concrete damage prevention measures on its website under the title of "To Prevent Damage due to Revenge Porn, etc."

- C. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications is endeavoring to call attention to the possibility of causing privacy infringement or defamation by carelessly posting personal information on the internet through seminars for school teachers and other staff held by the Illegal Harmful Hotline and on the occasion of an e-net caravan, a lecture targeting children and their guardians to raise their awareness to ensure safe use of the internet and smartphones.

(2) Appropriate Responses to Human Rights Violation Cases on the Internet

- A. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications is supporting proper enforcement of the Act on the Limitation of Liability for Damages of Specified Telecommunications Service Providers and the Right to Demand Disclosure of Identification Information of the Senders (Act No. 137 of 2001; hereinafter referred to as the "Provider Liability Limitation Act").

In August 2009, the Ministry opened the Illegal Harmful Hotline that accepts consultations on the Provider Liability Limitation Act and various guidelines, etc., with the aim of supporting appropriate responses by providers and other related parties against illegal or harmful information on the internet.

The telecommunications carriers' bodies formulated their own guidelines as their action agenda for smooth implementation of the Provider Liability Limitation Act. In December 2014, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications offered support for partial revision of the Guidelines for the Provider Liability Limitation Act Concerning Defamation and Privacy Issues, in response to the enactment of the Act on Prevention of Damage by Provision of Private Sexual Image Records.

Furthermore, with regard to the Model Terms and Conditions for Internet Services, which was also formulated by the telecommunications carriers' bodies for the purpose of ensuring appropriate responses against illegal harmful information on the internet, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications offered support jointly with the Ministry of Justice for the revision of the Interpretation in March 2017 in response to the enactment of the Hate Speech Elimination Act and the Act on the Promotion of the Elimination of *Buraku* Discrimination.

- B. When the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice receive a consultation on information on a

human rights violation on the internet (including that due to private sexual image records), they demand the relevant provider to disclose identification information of a sender and provide the person with advice on methods of requesting deletion of the information. If they find that the case falls under defamation or privacy infringement as a result of an investigation, they demand the relevant provider, etc. to delete the information based on the Guidelines for the Provider Liability Limitation Act Concerning Defamation and Privacy Issues, which provide for deletion demanded by the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice. When they find any information on the internet citing a certain area as a *Dowa* district with the intent of provoking unfair discrimination, they demand the relevant provider, etc. to delete the information in a proper manner or otherwise take appropriate measures, although such information is not covered by the Guidelines.

The Act on Promotion of Preventive Measures against Bullying has the provision to the effect that in a bullying case using the internet, children, etc. and their guardians may ask for cooperation of the Legal Affairs Bureaus for the deletion of information, etc. (Article 19, paragraph (3)). Based on the purport of this provision, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice take actions appropriately.

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Human rights violations on the internet	957	1,429	1,736	1,909	2,217

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

(3) Responses Against Bullying, etc. via the Internet, etc.

Based on the Basic Plan on Measures to Enable Juveniles to Use the Internet Safely with Peace of Mind and other policies, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has been promoting awareness-raising and educational activities targeting juveniles and their guardians, in collaboration with local communities, private organizations and relevant ministries and agencies, etc., such as through holding participatory symposiums for learning about filtering services and rules for the internet use and delivering dissemination and awareness-raising materials.

Since FY2014, the Ministry has continued support for efforts for school internet patrols by the use of moderators patrolling the internet and private specialized organizations, which have been carried out by prefectures and government-designated cities.

Additionally, based on the courses of study, the Ministry has been promoting information morals education, including appropriate use of the internet.

12. Victims Abducted by North Korean Authorities

The abduction of Japanese citizens by North Korean authorities constitutes violations of the national sovereignty of Japan and serious human rights violations.

With regard to raising awareness of the abductions issue, the Act Concerning Measures to Address the Abductions Issue and Other North Korean Human Rights Violations (Act No. 96 of 2006; hereinafter referred to as the "North Korean Human Rights Act") states that the national and local governments are responsible for raising awareness of citizens on the abductions issue and other human rights violations by North Korean authorities.

The Basic Plan on Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising (Cabinet decision on March 15, 2002) states that efforts for disseminating correct knowledge on the abductions issue and deepening citizens' interest and awareness should be promoted proactively in its part titled "The Abductions Issue by North Korean Authorities and Other Issues" in "Efforts for Each Human Rights Issue" (partially amended on April 1, 2011).

The national government has been striving to promote understanding on the abductions issue domestically and internationally from the perspective that backup by domestic and international public opinions is indispensable for resolving the abductions issue.

Specifically, the following efforts were made in FY2017.

(1) Efforts during the North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week

The North Korean Human Rights Act designates the week from December 10 to December 16 as the North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week. In FY2017, the Headquarters for the Abductions Issue and the Ministry of Justice cohosted the International Symposium held by the Government, "Prospects of Applying Strong Pressure - Effects of Sanctions and Future Vision," in Chiyoda-ku in Tokyo on December 16, 2017, with support by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. The Symposium invited domestic and foreign experts specialized in North Korean affairs, and discussions were held on the effects of the sanctions based on Security Council resolutions and other intensified pressure and on expected future developments concerning North Korea. In this event hosted by the national government, an award ceremony was also held for the Essay Contest for the North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week for junior high school and high school students, which was introduced as a new measure for FY2017. Contest winners received awards of merit from the Minister in Charge of the Abductions Issue and the winner of the top prize recited his/her essay. In addition, a mini-concert (joint recording of radio programs to North Korea co-hosted by the Secretariat of Headquarters for the Abductions Issue and a private organization) was also held, and families of the abductees and missing Japanese for whom the possibility of abduction by North Korea cannot be ruled out and people of support organizations, etc. gathered and sang songs.

The symposium was aired live on the government's radio program to North Korea in Japanese and was also broadcasted into North Korea in the Korean language in collaboration with the US Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG).

On December 10, 2017, the Lecture and Concert to Think about the Abductions Issue was held in Takasaki-shi in Gunma, cohosted by the National Federation of Associations of Human Rights Volunteers, Kanto Regional Association of Human Rights Volunteers, Gunma Prefectural Association of Human Rights Volunteers, and the Ministry of Justice, etc. This event invited Mr. Nobuhiro Matsuki, a younger brother of an abductee, Kaoru Matsuki, the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force 12th Band, and the Takasaki-shi Tobu Elementary School Brass Band.

Internet banner advertisements and transportation advertisements were placed for disseminating the North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week, and advertisements for the Week were also placed on 52 local newspapers nationwide. Additionally, related leaflets and posters were posted also in collaboration with relevant ministries and agencies and local governments and activities suited to the purport of the Week

were carried out in various ways.



International Symposium "Prospects of Applying Strong Pressure - Effects of Sanctions and Future Vision"



Joint recording of radio programs



Essay Contest Award Ceremony



Lecture and Concert to Think about the Abductions Issue



Poster "North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week"

(2) Utilization of PR Media

The Headquarters for the Abductions Issue delivered awareness-raising posters and pamphlets to various organizations, held a stage performance hosted by the national government for raising awareness on the abductions issue, and screened the film titled "Abduction: The Megumi Yokota Story" and the animation titled "Megumi" at schools. The Headquarters also operates the awareness-raising booth, "Plaza to Know about the Abductions Issue," on the first floor of the Cabinet Office Building.

(3) Cooperation with Local Governments and Private Organizations

As awareness-raising events jointly with local governments and private organizations, the Headquarters for the Abductions Issue held Citizens' Meetings to Think about the Abductions Issue in various cities (Fukuoka-shi, Mito-shi in Ibaraki, Chiba-shi, Yonago-shi in Tottori, Yamaguchi-shi, and Osaka-shi), and also screened the film titled "Abduction: The Megumi Yokota Story" jointly with local governments, etc. Additionally, the Headquarters held stage plays, "The Pledge to Megumi - Regain," jointly with local governments, etc. with the support of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, as an event for raising awareness on the abductions issue. The stage plays were held in Itabashi-ku in Tokyo, Imari-shi in Saga, Hiroshima-shi, Yokote-shi in Akita, Obama-shi in Fukui, Tagajo-shi in Miyagi and Ginowan-shi in Okinawa.



Leaflet "Stage Play for Raising Awareness on the Abductions Issue "The Pledge to Megumi - Regain"

(4) Efforts in School Education

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology takes the opportunity of meetings convening persons in charge of human rights education from prefectural boards of education and explains that the Basic Plan on Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising was partially amended and "The Abductions Issue by North Korean Authorities and Other Issues" was added as a matter to be addressed in efforts for each human rights issue and the Secretariat of Headquarters for the Abductions Issue also provides administrative explanation. In this manner, efforts to disseminate the abductions issue are being made on various opportunities.

(5) Provision of Information to Foreign Countries

In May 2017, the Headquarters for the Abductions Issue screened the animation titled "Megumi" at the Mission of Japan to the European Union in Brussels, Belgium, inviting members of the European Parliament and diplomats stationed at the European Union. Minister Kato visited the European Parliament as the Minister in Charge of the Abductions Issue for the first time to have policy dialogues with parliament members. In the dialogues, the Minister directly called for attention, together with the representatives of the abductees' families, stating that the abductions issue should be urgently resolved by the international

community, and emphasized the necessity of cooperation of the European Parliament that has opportunities to have talks with North Korea and European countries that have diplomatic relations with North Korea for achieving comprehensive resolution of outstanding issues of concern, such as the abductions, nuclear and missile issues.

Japan has taken all possible diplomatic opportunities to raise the abductions issue and other issues concerning North Korea, including at summit meetings, foreign ministers-meetings and international conferences such as the G7 Hamburg Summit, Japan-U.S.-ROK summit meetings and foreign ministers-meetings, ASEAN-related summit meetings, UN Security Council ministerial-level meetings, and the Foreign Ministers' Meeting on Security and Stability on the Korean Peninsula, and succeeded in gaining the understanding and support of other countries. In November 2017, U.S. President Donald Trump visited Japan and met with family members of abductees in the presence of Prime Minister Abe and Minister in Charge of the Abductions Issue Kato. The President stated that he will work together towards the resolution of the abductions issue.

Additionally, at Japanese embassies, consulates and permanent missions, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs explained the abductions issue to government officials, the press and experts in respective countries, using various PR media, to raise their awareness.

(6) Awareness-Raising Activities for Deepening Awareness on the Issue of Human Rights Violations by North Korean Authorities

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Deepen understanding of the issue of human rights violations by North Korean authorities" as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as holding lecture sessions and delivering awareness-raising booklets, centered on the North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week, with the aim of deepening understanding of all citizens on the abductions issue

Awareness-raising activities during the North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week are as described in (1) above.

(7) Appropriate Responses to Human Rights Violation Cases by North Korean Authorities

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice offer counseling services at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and their branches, and ad-hoc human rights counseling centers. When they find any case in which a human rights violation is suspected, they investigate the case as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Human rights violations against victims abducted by North Korean authorities	0	1	0	2	0

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

(8) Efforts at the United Nations

At the March 2017 session of the United Nations Human Rights Council, Japan and the EU co-tabled the

Resolution on the Situation of Human Rights in the DPRK, which is strong in content as in 2016. The resolution was adopted without voting. The resolution was based on the previous year's Human Rights Council resolution reflecting the final report of the Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the DPRK presented in February 2014 and also reflects the recommendations in the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK, which was submitted to the same session of the Human Rights Council. The resolution condemns in the strongest terms North Korea's ongoing systematic, widespread and gross human rights violations, welcomes the previous year's United Nations General Assembly resolution, which encourages the United Nations Security Council to take appropriate actions, including through consideration of referral of the situation in North Korea to the International Criminal Court (ICC) and consideration of the further development of sanctions. While welcoming the fact that the Security Council discussed the situation of human rights in North Korea, the resolution looks forward to continued and more active engagement of the Council on this matter. Furthermore, the resolution has decided to strengthen the capacity of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including its field-based office in Seoul, to implement the relevant recommendations in the report of the Group of Independent Experts on Accountability for Human Rights Violations in the DPRK.

At the United Nations General Assembly in 2017, Japan and the EU co-tabled the Resolution on the Situation of Human Rights in the DPRK, which is strong in content as in 2016. The resolution was adopted without voting in December 2017. Based on the previous year's United Nations General Assembly resolution reflecting the final report of the Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the DPRK presented in February 2014, the resolution condemns North Korea's systematic, widespread and gross human rights violations, and urges North Korea to urgently take measures to end all human rights violations. In addition, the resolution underscores very serious concerns regarding reports of torture, summary executions, arbitrary detention, abductions and other forms of human rights violations and abuses that North Korea commits against citizens from other countries within and outside its territory. The resolution also condemns North Korea for diverting its resources into pursuing nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles over the welfare of its people. Furthermore, the resolution encourages the United Nations Security Council to take appropriate actions, including through consideration of referral of the situation in North Korea to the International Criminal Court (ICC) and consideration of the further development of sanctions. In December 2017, the Security Council discussed the situation in North Korea comprehensively, including the human rights situation, as in 2016. At the Security Council meeting on "the situation in the DPRK" in December 2017, which was held four years in a row, participating countries expressed strong concerns about human rights violations in North Korea, including the abductions issue, and sent a clear message to North Korea to demand improvement of the situation. United Nations Security Council resolution 2371 (2017), resolution 2375 (2017) and resolution 2397 (2017), which were adopted unanimously, express deep concern about the human rights situation in North Korea.

13. Other Human Rights Issues

The national government has also been taking measures for the resolution of various human rights issues other than those clearly cited in the Basic Plan on Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising, depending on circumstances of respective issues.

Among those other human rights issues, there is an issue concerning atomic bomb survivors in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Unreasonable discrimination against people having experienced the atomic bombing, reputational damage or other indescribable human rights issues have remained persistently and Japan needs to further strengthen measures to eliminate them as the only atom-bombed country.

Out of those various other issues, those cited as priority targets for awareness-raising activities by the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice and human rights education and awareness-raising measures taken therefor by relevant ministries and agencies are explained below.

(1) Human Rights of Homeless People and Support for Their Self-Sufficiency, etc.

The Act on Special Measures for Self-Sufficiency Support for the Homeless (Act No. 105 of 2002), which was enacted in 2002, provides that self-sufficiency support for homeless people should be offered in consideration of their human rights. This Act was enacted as temporary legislation with a ten-year term limit but the term was extended for five years in June 2012 and for ten years in June 2017.

The Basic Policy to Support Self-Sufficiency of the Homeless, which was formulated based on this Act and in light of the results of the nationwide survey on the status of homeless people that was conducted in July 2013, states that it is necessary to promote protection of human rights of homeless people through carrying out awareness-raising and PR activities and offering human rights counseling services, while giving due consideration to human rights of both homeless people and neighboring residents.

In light of these, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Eliminate prejudice and discrimination against homeless people" as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as holding lecture sessions and delivering awareness-raising booklets.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice also offer counseling services at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and their branches, and ad-hoc human rights counseling centers. When they find any case in which a human rights violation, such as harassment against a homeless person, is suspected, they investigate the case as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Human rights violations against homeless people	0	2	1	3	1

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

(2) Human Rights Related to Sexual Orientation

Sexual orientation refers to the object of one's love or sexual interest. Homosexual and bisexual people are apt to be considered abnormal and may even be forced to leave their workplace in some cases. Although discrimination based on sexual orientation is acknowledged to be unjust these days, prejudice and discrimination are still occurring.

A. The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Eliminate prejudice and discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation" as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as holding lecture sessions and delivering awareness-raising booklets.

As part of such efforts, they lend out an awareness-raising video on the theme of sexual orientation

titled "So that You can be Yourself; Sexual Minority and Human Rights" at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus, and also made it available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel. Furthermore in FY2017, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice prepared the awareness-raising booklet, "Private Companies and Human Rights - Starting Efforts from Workplaces to Create Society with Respect for Human Rights," which explains various human rights issues in the workplace including those concerning sexual orientation and gender identity, and are delivering copies thereof at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus. Additionally, they created an awareness-raising video explaining the content of the booklet in an easy-to-understand manner and made it available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice also created a spot video by a ventriloquist, Ikkokudo, titled "What it Means to Love Someone," and made it available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

Additionally, they prepared the "Human Rights Awareness-Raising Leaflet on LGBT" (for general public and children) and deliver copies thereof at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus nationwide and also opened a dedicated website, "Website on LGBT," on the website of the Ministry of Justice.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice newly introduced lectures on the theme of sexual orientation in workshops to foster leaders of human rights awareness-raising activities targeting local government officials (see p.111).

They also offer counseling services at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and their branches, and ad-hoc human rights counseling centers. When they find any case in which a human rights violation, such as harassment concerning sexual orientation, is suspected, they investigate the case as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Human rights violations on the grounds of sexual orientation	0	15	8	9	8

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

B. In April 2015, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology issued a notice, "Taking Appropriate Measures for Students concerning Gender Identity Disorder," to promote appropriate educational counseling at school. In April 2016, the Ministry publicized the pamphlet for school teachers titled "Taking Appropriate Measures for Students concerning Gender Identity Disorder, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity" and delivered to elementary schools, junior high schools and high schools nationwide.

C. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has established telephone counseling offices in various regions to offer counseling services to people lacking social relations including such people due to their sexual orientation or gender identity. The telephone counseling is available free of charge, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Interviews or accompanying support are provided as necessary and meticulous assistance is being offered to achieve concrete resolutions.

As lack of understanding on sexual orientation and gender identity often triggers harassment in the

workplace, the Ministry endeavors to disseminate knowledge using guidebooks for employers titled "Manual for Introducing Harassment Countermeasures" and "It is the Employers' Obligation to Take Measures against Sexual Harassment and Harassment in Relation to Pregnancy or Childbirth or the Acquisition of Childcare or Nursing Care Leave at Workplaces!"

Furthermore, a pamphlet for employers concerning a fair recruitment system clearly states that employers must not exclude specific persons such as LGBT or other sexual minorities. The pamphlet is publicized on the website of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.

(3) Human Rights Related to Gender Identity

Gender identity is the concept of how an individual recognizes his/her gender. Persons whose biological gender and gender identity (sexual identity) are mismatched are subjected to prejudice in society and face discrimination, such as being unable to get promoted in the workplace or being bullied at school.

A. The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Eliminate prejudice and discrimination on the grounds of gender identity" as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as holding lecture sessions and delivering awareness-raising booklets.

As part of such efforts, they lend out an awareness-raising video on the theme of gender identity titled "So that You can be Yourself; Sexual Minority and Human Rights" at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus, and also made it available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

Furthermore in FY2017, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice prepared the awareness-raising booklet, "Private Companies and Human Rights - Starting Efforts from Workplaces to Create Society with Respect for Human Rights," which explains various human rights issues in the workplace including those concerning sexual orientation and gender identity, and are delivering copies thereof at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus. Additionally, they created an awareness-raising video explaining the content of the booklet in an easy-to-understand manner and made it available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice also created a spot video by an actress, Erika Mahiro, titled "Gender Identity Disorder," and made it available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

Additionally, they prepared the "Human Rights Awareness-Raising Leaflet on LGBT" (for general public and children) and deliver copies thereof at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus nationwide and also opened a dedicated website, "Website on LGBT," on the website of the Ministry of Justice.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice newly introduced lectures on the theme of gender identity in workshops to foster leaders of human rights awareness-raising activities targeting local government officials (see p.111).

They also offer counseling services at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and their branches, and ad-hoc human rights counseling centers. When they find any case in which a human rights violation related to gender identity, such as harassment, is suspected, they investigate the case as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Human rights violations on the grounds of gender identity disorder	7	10	16	6	18

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

- B. In April 2015, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology issued a notice, "Taking Appropriate Measures for Students concerning Gender Identity Disorder," to promote appropriate educational counseling at school. In April 2016, the pamphlet for school teachers titled "Taking Appropriate Measures for Students concerning Gender Identity Disorder, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity" and delivered to elementary schools, junior high schools and high schools nationwide.
- C. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has established telephone counseling offices in various regions to offer counseling services to people lacking social relations including such people due to their sexual orientation or gender identity. The telephone counseling is available free of charge, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Interviews or accompanying support are provided as necessary and meticulous assistance is being offered to achieve concrete resolutions.

As lack of understanding on sexual orientation and gender identity often triggers harassment in the workplace, the Ministry endeavors to disseminate knowledge using guidebooks for employers titled "Manual for Introducing Harassment Countermeasures" and "It is the Employers' Obligation to Take Measures against Sexual Harassment and Harassment in Relation to Pregnancy or Childbirth or the Acquisition of Childcare or Nursing Care Leave at Workplaces!"

Furthermore, a pamphlet for employers concerning a fair recruitment system clearly states that employers must not exclude specific persons such as LGBT or other sexual minorities. The pamphlet is publicized on the website of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.

(4) Appropriate Responses to Cases of Trafficking in Persons

Trafficking in persons is a grave violation of human rights and requires prompt and appropriate response from a humanitarian perspective as trafficking in persons causes serious psychological and physical pain for the victims and recovery from such damage is very difficult.

- A. The national government has held the Inter-Ministerial Liaison Committee Regarding Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons since April 2004 and endeavored to prevent and eliminate trafficking in persons and promote proper protection of victims based on the Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons (December 2004) and the 2009 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons (December 2009). In order to continue responding with appropriate measures to the situation against trafficking in persons, and for the government as a whole to carry out both integral and comprehensive measures against trafficking in persons more strongly, the 2014 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons was formulated at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime in December 2014, and it was decided to hold meetings of the Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons, which is composed of relevant ministers, as needed.

In May 2017, the third meeting of the Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons was held and an annual report, "Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons," which compiled

information regarding victims of trafficking and the initiatives of relevant ministries and agencies related to combating trafficking, was decided and publicized.

It was also confirmed at the Council that initiatives based on the 2014 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons should be steadily implemented with the aim of eliminating trafficking completely.

The national government called attention using government TV programs and Yahoo! banner advertisements during the Month for Raising Awareness on Issues of Foreign Workers in June 2017 and using SNSs on the annual World Day against Trafficking in Persons on July 30 and during the campaign period for eliminating violence against women in November to publicize the current status of trafficking in persons in Japan and efforts being taken to prevent and eliminate trafficking in persons and protecting victims, and asked for cooperation to make a report when any suspected victims are found.

- B. The Immigration Bureau of the Ministry of Justice introduces efforts against trafficking in persons in its report on the current status of immigration control policies titled "Immigration Control" and in its pamphlet and on the website of the Immigration Bureau. It also provides information necessary for the protection of trafficking victims in eight languages on its website.

In the Illegal Work Prevention Campaign, which is carried out in June every year, the Immigration Bureau prepared a leaflet to ask for cooperation for the prevention of illegal foreign workers and posted it on the website of the Ministry of Justice, and also delivers copies to related organizations. Through these PR activities, the Immigration Bureau is endeavoring to raise awareness to prevent trafficking in persons by way of measures to prevent illegal foreign workers.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Stop trafficking in persons" as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as delivering awareness-raising booklets.

Additionally, they offer counseling services at Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and their branches, and ad-hoc human rights counseling centers. When they find any case in which trafficking in persons is suspected, they investigate the case as a human rights violation and take appropriate measures depending on the circumstances.



Poster "Measures against Trafficking in Persons"

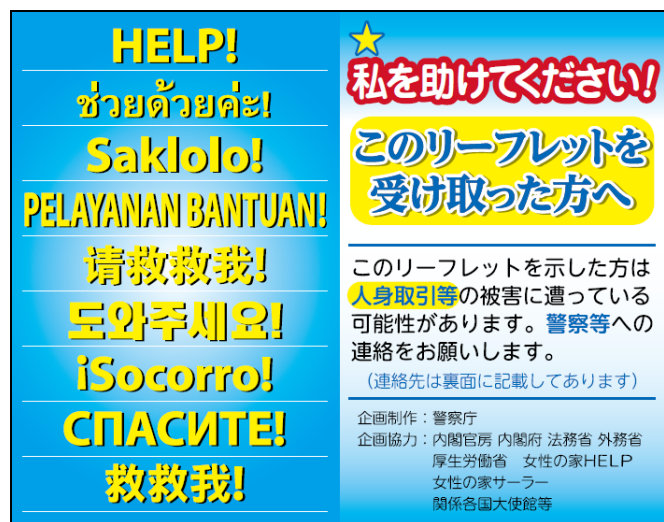
Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Human rights violations concerning trafficking in persons	0	0	1	0	0

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

C. From the perspective of preventing entry of trafficking victims into Japan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs strictly examines applications for visas at Embassies and Consulates and carries out PR activities concerning the strengthening of visa examination as measures against trafficking in persons on its website.

Since 2004, the Ministry has dispatched the Government Delegation on Anti-Human Trafficking Measures, which consists of personnel from relevant ministries and agencies, to a total of 24 countries and regions to exchange opinions with people of government organizations, offices of international organizations and NGOs of respective countries and regions, thereby strengthening collaboration and mutually ascertaining the current status of damage, efforts for prosecution and protection of victims, and problems concerning trafficking in persons.

With regard to foreign trafficking victims found in Japan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs implements the project to support return and reintegration into society of trafficking victims (provision of support for employment and medical expenses, etc.) by way of making contributions to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). From May 1, 2005, to March 1, 2018, a total of 317 foreign trafficking victims returned to their home countries safely under this project.



Leaflet "Measures against Trafficking in Persons"

The Ministry also delivers leaflets in nine languages prepared by the National Police Agency, which contain information on counseling offices, etc. for foreign trafficking victims, at foreign embassies in Japan and foreign diplomatic missions to raise awareness on trafficking in persons and enhance recognition of trafficking victims.

D. The Cabinet Office has been carrying out PR and awareness-raising activities concerning trafficking in persons by preparing awareness-raising posters and leaflets on measures against trafficking in persons and delivering copies thereof to local governments, airports and ports, universities and colleges of technology, etc., the Japan Association of Travel Agents, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and other related organizations.

E. The National Police Agency holds the Contact Points Meeting to exchange information and opinions on the detection and protection of trafficking victims with embassies in Japan, international organizations and NGOs of related countries. It prepared leaflets in nine languages to ask for cooperation to report

cases of trafficking in persons to the police, etc. and delivers them at places easily accessible for trafficking victims.

A private organization commissioned by the National Police Agency operates the Anonymous-Report Hot Line (<http://www.tokumei24.jp/>), which receives anonymous reports concerning cases of trafficking in persons from ordinary citizens.

- F. Based on the 2014 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare protects female trafficking victims at women's consulting offices, irrespective of nationality and age, and offers them support with respect for their religions and diets.

(5) Human Rights Issues in Relation to the Great East Japan Earthquake

The Great East Japan Earthquake, which occurred on March 11, 2011, was an unprecedented large-scale disaster. It caused tremendous human damage of 15,895 deaths, 2,539 people missing and 6,156 injured and completely or partially damaged a total of 402,699 houses (based on the material publicized by the Emergency Disaster Security Division of the National Police Agency as of March 9, 2018). In addition, the accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station caused by the earthquake and tsunami made the damage even more serious. Evacuees due to the Great East Japan Earthquake were 71,365 in number as of March 30, 2018, mainly in Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures that were most significantly damaged (based on the survey by the Reconstruction Agency).

A. Awareness-Raising, etc. in Life of Evacuation

- (A) The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice have set up "Eliminate prejudice and discrimination arising from the Great East Japan Earthquake" as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as holding Human Rights Lectures and symposiums and posting awareness-raising digital contents.

On October 28, 2017, they held the human rights symposium, "Earthquakes and Children's Human Rights - Considering Support We Can Give Now -," in Chuo-ku in Tokyo (see p.36). The symposium is publicized on the Human Rights Channel of the Center for Human Rights Education and Training (<http://www.youtube.com/jinkenchannel>).

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice are dealing with various human rights issues arising from the Great East Japan Earthquake, and also offer human rights counseling services including mental health care for disaster victims by visiting temporary housing, etc. to prevent occurrence of new human rights violations. When they find any case in which a human rights violation is suspected, they commence remedy procedures as a human rights violation case to properly offer remedy to the victim.



Human rights symposium "Earthquakes and Children's Human Rights - Considering Support We Can Give Now -" (held in Tokyo)

Number of human rights violations (for which remedy procedures were commenced)	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Human rights violations arising from the Great East Japan Earthquake	7	8	12	5	5

(Materials of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice)

- (B) The Cabinet Office has been implementing the project to provide counseling concerning women's worries and violence against women after the Great East Japan Earthquake since FY2011 in Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures in order to respond to women who have worries or are subjected to violence, etc.
- (C) The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has dispatched school counselors, etc. to schools in order to provide mental health care to children who sustained damage due to the Great East Japan Earthquake. In FY2017, the Ministry plans to dispatch a total of 537 school counselors, etc. to Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures based on requests from disaster-stricken areas.

B. Reputational Damage due to the Accident at the Nuclear Power Station

- (A) The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice are dealing with various human rights issues arising from the Great East Japan Earthquake, such as discriminatory treatment based on rumors due to the accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi NPS. Additionally, they have set up "Eliminate prejudice and discrimination arising from the Great East Japan Earthquake" as a priority target and are carrying out various awareness-raising activities, such as holding Human Rights Lectures and symposiums and posting awareness-raising digital contents, in order to prevent occurrence of new human rights violations.

In order to respond to various problems arising from the Great East Japan Earthquake, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice continue entrusting local governments with efforts for awareness-raising activities in relation to the aftermath of the earthquake in the Entrustment to Local Authorities.

- (B) In response to cases in Yokohama-shi, etc. in which children who had been forced to evacuate due to the accident at the NPS were bullied but schools failed to take actions appropriately, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology issued a notice in December 2016 to schools accepting children from disaster-stricken areas to request (i) to check the existence or non-existence of bullying against children from disaster-stricken areas, including evacuees due to the accident at the NPS, and (ii) to give special consideration regularly to such children and provide them with mental health care or otherwise take appropriate measures. In March 2017, the Ministry amended the Nation's Basic Policies to Prevent Bullying to include the requirement to make efforts to prevent and detect bullying against children and students from disaster-stricken areas early, requesting school teachers and other staff to take appropriate actions. Furthermore, on April 11, 2017, the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology publicized a message to children and students, their guardians, local residents, officials of boards of education and school teachers and other staff nationwide to ask for their efforts to prevent bullying against children and students from

disaster-stricken areas.

- (C) In response to the accident at the NPS, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry provided information from the perspective of risk communication such as through dispatching experts on radiation, etc. to lectures and training sessions to prevent reputational damage and disseminate knowledge on radiation, etc.

Section 3 Training, etc. for Personnel Engaging in Specific Jobs Closely Related to Human Rights

1. Training

(1) Officials Working for Public Prosecutors Offices

For officials working for public prosecutors offices, lectures on human rights, etc. are provided in various training sessions provided depending on years of service. Additionally, guidance is provided by superiors in daily duties to ensure operations with respect for fundamental human rights.

In FY2017, lectures on human rights of crime victims, suspects and the accused and lectures on international treaties concerning human rights were provided in training sessions for newly appointed public prosecutors and general training sessions targeting those with around three-year experience.

(2) Officials Working for Correctional Institutions

Lectures on such themes as guarantee of rights of inmates and international rules, human rights awareness-raising, protection of personal information, human rights of crime victims, and sexual harassment are provided to newly hired officials and executives of correctional institutions in training courses targeting recruits and those for appointment. Additionally, lectures on the Constitution of Japan and the Adult Corrections Act incorporate the perspectives concerning human rights.

In FY2017, practical training based on the perspective of behavioral science under a private-sector program was provided in specialized training courses targeting officials of correctional institutions engaging in treatment of inmates, with the aim of having trainees acquire abilities to act calmly with sympathy for the other side's position (Anger management training: 32 mid-level penal institution supervisor and juvenile training school specialists, etc.; Coaching training: 51 mid-level penal institution supervisor and juvenile training school specialists, etc.).

Correctional institutions themselves conducted training independently in which the participants of the abovementioned training sessions served as lecturers.

Each correctional institution endeavors to enhance officials' sense of human rights through original training based on actual practices such as case studies and role-playing.

(3) Officials Engaging in Rehabilitation Services

In various training sessions for persons engaging in rehabilitation services provided depending on years of service, lectures on human rights of crime victims and persons placed under probation are provided to probation officers and lectures on human rights of crime victims and persons placed under medical treatment and supervision are provided to rehabilitation coordinators. In FY2017, a total of 321 officials received lectures on human rights.

Also in regular training sessions by region targeting all volunteer probation officers and various other training sessions for volunteer probation officers depending on years of service that are provided by probation offices, efforts are made to raise awareness so that all officials give due consideration to human rights and handling of personal information in treating persons placed under probation, etc.

(4) Officials Engaging in Immigration Services

In training sessions for officials working for immigration bureaus provided depending on years of service, lectures on the themes of respect for fundamental human rights, the current status of human rights protection and matters concerning trafficking in persons are provided. In FY2017, a total of 768 officials participated in these training sessions.

Human rights training sessions targeting officials who perform central duties in respective regional immigration bureaus contain lectures on various treaties concerning human rights, with the aim of deepening those officials' knowledge on human rights issues and helping them perform duties properly.

For mid-career officials who deal with cases of trafficking in persons and spousal violence (domestic violence), special training on measures against trafficking in persons and domestic violence cases is provided to have them learn related knowledge, skills and problems.

In FY2017, a total of 45 officials received human rights training and special training for personnel dealing with cases of trafficking in persons and domestic violence.

(5) School Teachers and Officials Engaging in Social Education

The National Institute for School Teachers and Staff Development and prefectures provide training for school teachers, etc. to enhance their sense of respect for human rights.

Training sessions for social education supervisors include human rights issues to foster supervisors with correct knowledge on various issues concerning human rights. In FY2017, training for social education supervisors was entrusted to and conducted at 13 national universities, etc. nationwide (a total of 14 sessions).

(6) Persons Engaging in Medical Services

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has endeavored to foster awareness and attitude of persons engaging in medical services to fully respect human rights of patients, etc., while requesting relevant facilities to incorporate education to have trainees broadly understand human dignity in their courses to train medical workers.

(7) Officials Engaging in Welfare Services

National workshops, etc. for chief commissioned child welfare volunteers have been held to deepen understanding on respect for human rights through symposiums, etc. to consider collaboration with local residents and related organization.

Additionally, in order to improve treatment with respect for children's human rights at child welfare facilities, training sessions were held at the Children's Self-Independence Supporter Training School affiliated to the Musashino Gakuin Reform School.

Regarding the enhancement of training for officials engaging in protection of abused children, the Children's Rainbow Center (Japan Information and Training Center for Problems related to Child Abuse and Adolescent Turmoil), a training center for leading specialized supporters who deal with child abuse and adolescent problems such as delinquency and violence, provides various specialized training courses for officials of child guidance centers, child welfare institutions, municipal governments, and health

institutions, etc. Furthermore, the Act Partially Amending the Child Welfare Act, etc. in 2016 newly introduced the obligation to provide training to experts dispatched to municipal coordinating organizations of regional councils on countermeasures for aid-requiring children and child welfare officers of child guidance centers for the purpose of enhancing the quality of these officials.

(8) Coast Guard Officers

The Japan Coast Guard provides human rights education in training for newcomers and retraining of officials at the Japan Coast Guard Academy, etc. In FY2017, a total of 960 officers received relevant education.

(9) Officials Engaging in Labor Policies

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare provides lectures on human rights centered on the *Dowa* issue (*Buraku* discrimination) in central training sessions held depending on officials' statuses. In FY2017, a total of 1,246 officials received relevant lectures.

(10) Fire-Fighting Personnel

The Fire and Disaster Management College of the Fire and Disaster Management Agency provides human rights education to fire-fighting personnel.

In FY2017, lectures on various human rights issues were provided in the executive course (292 executives) and the senior executive course (54 senior executives).

(11) Police Officials

The police provide education prioritizing the fundamentals of professional ethics centered on respect for human rights at police academies and police stations from the stage of initial education for recruits, and also provide other types of education as well so that officials acquire knowledge and skills necessary for performing duties properly with respect for fundamental human rights.

In addition, in order to further enhance appropriateness in investigative interviews, the police properly operate the Supervision System for Investigative Interviews of Suspects based on the Guidelines for Proper Interviews in the Police Investigation (http://www.npa.go.jp/keiji/keiki/torishirabe/tekiseika_shishin.pdf).

(12) Uniformed Self-Defense Forces Personnel

The Ministry of Defense provides education on the Geneva Convention and other international humanitarian laws in curricula of the National Defense Academy, National Defense Medical College, National Institute for Defense Studies, Joint Staff College, and Staff Colleges, etc. of respective Ground, Maritime and Air Self Defense Forces so that uniformed self-defense forces personnel and would-be uniformed self-defense forces personnel would surely protect human rights of captives, etc. in a contingency. At the National Institute for Defense Studies and the Joint Staff College, external experts specialized in the Geneva Convention and other international humanitarian laws provide lectures. In FY2017, a total of approximately 28,700 personnel received the lectures.

Additionally, the Ministry conducts comprehensive international humanitarian action drills in order to

ensure proper enforcement of the Geneva Convention and other international humanitarian laws concerning the treatment of captives, etc. Drills are carried out regarding operations based on the Act on the Treatment of Prisoners of War and Other Detainees in Armed Attack Situation (Act No. 117 of 2004) to improve knowledge and skills on the treatment of captives, etc. In FY2017, a total of approximately 100 personnel participated in the drill.

(13) Government Employees

A. The Ministry of Justice holds human rights workshops for national government officials. In FY2017, the Ministry held training sessions twice as follows in Minato-ku, Tokyo with the participation of a total of 853 officials.

(i) September 12, 2017

Lecture titled "Problems and Prospects for the Resolution of the Dowa Issue - Consider the Issue Again upon Enforcement of the Act



Human rights workshop for national government officials

on the Promotion of the Elimination of *Buraku* Discrimination" (lecturer: Shuichiro Baba; participated in by 440 officials) and the screening of the awareness-raising video titled "Dowa Issue - Toward the Future" (created by the Ministry of Justice)

(ii) January 17, 2018

Lecture titled "Japan's Future with Universal Design - Diversity is the Source of Innovation" (lecturer: Chika Sekine; participated in by 413 officials) and the screening of the awareness-raising video titled "Ai Support Campaign: Step-up DVD" (created by Tottori prefecture)

Additionally, the Ministry of Justice holds workshops to foster leaders of human rights awareness-raising activities, targeting prefectural and municipal government officials, for the purpose of having them acquire the knowledge and skills necessary as leaders (see p.111). In FY2017, a total of 254 officials participated in the training sessions.

B. The National Personnel Authority incorporated human rights issues concerning women, elderly people and persons with disabilities, etc. in the curricula of training sessions by official position for officials of all ministries and agencies, including initial administrative training for recruits. In training sessions by official position for young and mid-career officials, the Authority delivered copies of the awareness-raising booklet titled "The Protection of Human Rights," which was prepared by the Ministry of Justice, and provided guidance to further deepen trainees' awareness on human rights in general.

C. In FY2017, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provided lectures on human rights issues and human rights diplomacy in various types of training targeting officials temporarily transferred from other ministries and agencies, and a total of 165 officials received the lectures. Additionally, in training for officials of other ministries and agencies scheduled to be dispatched as security personnel for foreign diplomatic missions, lectures on the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (the 1980

Hague Convention) were provided and a total of 79 officials received them in FY2017.

For consular officials of foreign diplomatic missions and officials scheduled to be dispatched as consular officials, lectures on the 1980 Hague Convention and issues of trafficking in persons were provided in training targeting new consular officials and lectures on the 1980 Hague Convention were provided in mid-career training. A total of 70 officials received the lectures in FY2017.

- D. The Local Autonomy College provides advanced training sessions aiming to comprehensively cultivate the policymaking capability of local government officials who would be executives of respective local governments in the future. In FY2017, human rights education was provided in two training courses with the participation of a total of 107 officials.

2. Cooperation with Other Government Organizations

The Legal Training and Research Institute, an institute to train judges, provides diverse lectures on human rights issues in training for judges. In FY2017, a total of 376 judges received the lectures.

In some cases, the Ministry of Justice offered cooperation for these training sessions such as through dispatching lecturers from the ministry, etc.

Section 4 System for Comprehensive and Effective Promotion

1. Strengthening of Implementing Entities and Improvement of Their Recognition

(1) Strengthening of Implementing Entities

In order to effectively promote human rights education and awareness-raising, it is necessary to enhance and strengthen the system of implementing entities both qualitatively and quantitatively. In particular, better utilization of approximately 14,000 Human Rights Volunteers located nationwide is effective and indispensable for effective community-based human rights awareness-raising.

It is also necessary to enhance and strengthen the structure of the associations of Human Rights Volunteers and develop a system in which the associations of Human Rights Volunteers themselves promote human rights awareness-raising activities voluntarily and positively in order to properly respond to increasingly complicated and diversified human rights issues on a timely basis and further vitalize activities of Human Rights Volunteers.

(2) Improvement of Recognition

The Ministry of Justice has prepared the awareness-raising booklet for improving recognition of the bodies, titled "The Protection of Human Rights," as well as the leaflet titled "Human Rights Volunteer - A Counselor in Your Community," and the booklet titled "Why Don't You Become a Human Rights Volunteer - A Counselor in Your Community?" which explains activities and roles of Human Rights Volunteers in an easy-to-understand manner, and delivers copies thereof at lecture sessions during the Human Rights Week or centered on the Human Rights Volunteers' Day, thereby endeavoring to strengthen relevant activities.

In particular, targeting upper elementary school children and older students, the Ministry prepared the awareness-raising booklet titled "All are Friends; Learn and Consider Human Rights through a Comic," with the aim of explaining human rights issues in their everyday lives and the importance of respecting human rights in an easily understandable manner using a comic, and has been utilizing it for disseminating and publicizing the idea of respect for human rights.

Additionally, the Ministry of Justice delivers copies of the leaflet titled "Introduction of Counseling and Remedy Systems of Legal Affairs Bureaus" to broadly disseminate systems for investigation and remedy by the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice. The Ministry also prepared the self-checking sheet titled "Self-Checking of a Sense of Human Rights - What would You Do at Times like This?" to give people opportunities to notice discrimination in themselves, thereby decreasing unconscious human rights violations and achieving a cohesive society. The Ministry delivered copies of the leaflet and established a dedicated site on its website and utilizes these materials for disseminating and publicizing the idea of respect for human rights.



Awareness-raising booklet
"FY2017: The Protection of
Human Rights"



Awareness-raising booklet "All are
Friends; Learn and Consider
Human Rights through a Comic"



Booklet "Why Don't You Become a
Human Rights Volunteer - A
Counselor in Your Community?"



Leaflet for disseminating information "Human Rights Volunteer - A Counselor in Your Community"



Leaflet "Introduction of Counseling and Remedy Systems of Legal Affairs Bureaus"



Leaflet "Self-Checking of a Sense of Human Rights - What would You Do at Times like This?" (for general public)



Leaflet "Self-Checking of a Sense of Human Rights - What would You Do at Times like This?" (for elementary school children)

2. Collaboration among Implementing Entities

(1) High-Level Central Government Liaison Council for Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising

On September 25, 2000, the High-Level Central Government Liaison Council for Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising was established, based on agreements of relevant Administrative Vice-Ministers, as a platform for information exchange and liaison among relevant ministries and agencies regarding their education and awareness-raising activities.

In FY2017, director meetings were held twice, and participants exchanged information on awareness-raising projects and methods of verifying the effects thereof and consulted about an annual report to be compiled based on the Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising Promotion Act.

(2) Network Associations of Human Rights Awareness-Raising Activities

The Ministry of Justice established prefectural network associations of human rights awareness-raising activities for respective prefectures (in Hokkaido, for respective areas under jurisdiction of the Sapporo Legal Affairs Bureau and three District Legal Affairs Bureaus) by September 2000, and regional network associations of human rights awareness-raising activities, which consist of municipal governments and human rights volunteers councils, at a total of 193 locations nationwide by March 2008. Taking advantage of these network associations, the national and local governments, associations of Human Rights Volunteers and other implementing entities mutually collaborate and cooperate with each other depending on their respective roles and are striving to carry out various human rights awareness-raising activities

efficiently and effectively.

(3) Collaboration between the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and the Ministry of Justice

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs Bureaus, etc. jointly requested boards of education, etc. to encourage schools to fully utilize the booklet collecting excellent works of the National Essay Contest on Human Rights for Junior High School Students hosted by the Ministry of Justice (see p.33). Additionally, they collaboratively made efforts to disseminate the counseling services by the Ministry of Justice, such as Children's Rights SOS Mini-Letters, broadly to schools nationwide.

(4) Liaison Committee of Relevant Ministries and Agencies Regarding Measures to Prevent Child Abuse

Regarding measures to prevent child abuse, the Liaison Committee of Relevant Ministries and Agencies Regarding Measures to Prevent Child Abuse was established in April 2016 and meetings have been held. Relevant ministries and agencies (Cabinet Office, National Police Agency, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare) closely collaborate with each other and are making all-out efforts to strengthen comprehensive measures to prevent child abuse and promote them even further effectively.

(5) Collaboration and Cooperation with Sports Organizations

In order to disseminate the idea of respect for human rights such as the prevention of bullying, etc. among young people, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice collaborate and cooperate with J-league soccer teams, professional baseball teams and other sports organizations, which have significant influence on people of all generations not limited to juveniles in local communities with their spirit of fair play. They jointly carry out various awareness-raising activities at stadiums, hold the Human Rights Lectures with Sports, and dispatch professional athletes to the Human Rights Volunteers One-day Event, thereby endeavoring to raise awareness on human rights of fans and supporters of those sports organizations.



Message of Minister of Justice Kamikawa



Awareness-raising activities for the Human Rights
Volunteers One-day Event

Awareness-raising activities in collaboration with sports organizations

(6) Awareness-Raising Activities in Collaboration and Cooperation with Private Companies

The term "human rights" gives an impression of being unfamiliar or difficult. Therefore, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice carry out human rights awareness-raising activities in collaboration with a private company that is contributing to society through entertainment using "*Warai*" to make people laugh, as a new approach to attract people's attention to human rights awareness-raising activities.

As efforts against human rights violations through malicious use of the internet mainly among young people, which are becoming increasingly serious, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice hold human rights lectures, in collaboration with mobile phone companies' Smartphone and Mobile Phone Safety Lectures.

Towards the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice collaborate with the All Japan Business Committee, which was established under the initiative of three economic associations, and have been carrying out various awareness-raising activities combining lectures by Paralympians and experience-based activities of using wheelchairs and enjoying sports for the disabled (boccia and wheelchair basketball, etc.) and Human Rights Lectures in which Human Rights Volunteers talk about human rights of persons with disabilities and the significance of "mental barrier-free". In FY2016, the Human Rights Universal Project was commenced with the aim of achieving a so-called universal society or a cohesive society in which people understand and naturally accept differences in races or the existence of disabilities or not, etc. and mutually respect each other. Under this project, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice entrust concrete activities to local governments and have been promoting human rights awareness-raising in collaboration with private companies, schools and organizations of persons with disabilities, etc.

3. Fostering of Responsible Personnel

(1) Human Rights Workshops for Local Government Officials

The Ministry of Justice holds workshops to foster leaders of human rights awareness-raising targeting local government officials in charge of administrative work for human rights awareness-raising with the aim of having them acquire knowledge and skills necessary as leaders.

In FY2017, workshops were held three times: for three days from September 5 to September 7 in Osaka with participation of 93 officials; for three days from October 25 to October 27 in Tokyo with participation of 108 officials; and for three days from November 7 to November 9 in Hiroshima with participation of 53 officials.

(2) Training for Officials Handling Human Rights Protection-related Affairs and Human Rights Volunteers

The Ministry of Justice provides not only primary and middle-level general training but also practical training for officials handling human rights protection-related affairs and training for officials handling investigation and remedy-related affairs, as well as specialized training, etc. for directors of human rights protection divisions of Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus and branch chiefs, thereby fostering officials engaging in administrative work for human rights promotion and protection.

For Human Rights Volunteers, the Ministry provides initial training for new volunteers upon appointment, the first training for those with experience less than six months, the second training for those with experience less than two years, and the third training for those re-appointed for the first time within one year after re-appointment, aiming to have trainees acquire knowledge and skills necessary for performing duties as Human Rights Volunteers. The Ministry also holds lecture sessions on the *Dowa* issue and training sessions on the issue of gender equality.

Furthermore, for the purpose of fostering leaders of associations of Human Rights Volunteers, the Ministry of Justice provides training to foster leaders of Human Rights Volunteers targeting leading Human Rights Volunteers who play the central role in concrete activities and the management of respective associations, aiming to enhance their management abilities necessary for performing duties and have them acquire advanced counseling skills, human rights awareness-raising methods, and knowledge on processing of human rights violation cases and the latest human rights issues, etc.

In addition to these, the Prefectural Associations of Human Rights Volunteers and human rights volunteers councils, which are organized by Human Rights Volunteers, also plan and hold various training sessions independently.

(3) Training for Fair Recruitment and Human Rights Awareness Promoters

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare holds training sessions for fair recruitment and human rights awareness promoters. The Ministry also held training sessions on the theme of the establishment of a fair recruitment system at business offices, targeting major companies that have influence on recruitment of workers as a whole.

4. Enhancement of the Incorporated Foundation Center for Human Rights Education and Training

The Center for Human Rights Education and Training (see p.35) has endeavored to fulfill its role as a national center that comprehensively carries out human rights education and awareness-raising activities while taking advantage of the characteristics as a private organization. Specifically, it implements projects entrusted by the Ministry of Justice and local governments, and also implements its original projects, such as the publication of the information magazine titled "AIYU," information provision on its website, preparation of various human rights awareness-raising pamphlets, and outsourced duties for training for local governments and companies. In FY2017, it hosted 11 human rights courses and various original seminars.

The details of the courses and seminars are as follows.

(1) Human Rights Courses

- (i) "Visit to the National Hansen's Disease Museum and a Row of Cherry Trees in *Jinken-no-Mori* Forest" (Storyteller (screening of a video): Osamu Sagawa (Member of the steering committee of the National Hansen's Disease Museum; President of the Tama Zenshoen residents' association))
- (ii) "A Doctor Protecting Human Rights of Children, etc. with a Stammer and Their Mothers" (Lecturer: Yoshikazu Kikuchi (Otolaryngologist, Kyushu University Hospital))

- (iii) "Beauty Develops a Zest for Living - Makeup Therapy to Enable People to Be Themselves to the End" (Lecturer: Chishio Ohira (President, NOTICE))
- (iv) "LGBT Diversity & Inclusion Promoted by Shibuya-ku - Promotion of Awareness-Raising from the Perspective of the Private Sector" (Lecturer: Ryutaro Nagata (Section chief in charge of gender equality and diversity, General Affairs Department, Shibuya-ku))
- (v) "Human Rights in an Internet Society - There are People on the Other Side of the Internet" (Lecturer: Yoshihiro Takeuchi (Chief technical instructor, Social Media Association))
- (vi) "Foster Parent System as Measure to Protect Children's Human Rights" (Lecturer: Kiyoshi Miyajima (Associate professor, Professional Graduate School, Japan College of Social Work))
- (vii) "Assist Finding Housing with Multicultural Responses: Globalization of Communities Led by Real Estate Companies" (Lecturer: Masao Ogino (President, Japan Property Management Association; Chairman, JPM International Exchange Committee; CEO, ICHII Corporation))
- (viii) "Act on the Promotion of the Elimination of *Buraku* Discrimination and the *Dowa* Issue" (Lecturer: Kiyohide Ishimoto (Professor, Faculty of Sociology, Kansai University))
- (ix) "Thoughts as the Ainu" (Lecturer: Haruzo Urakawa (Chairperson Emeritus, Ainu Association of Tokyo))
- (x) "Sustainable Development Goals and Human Rights" (Lecturer: Kaori Kuroda (Secretary-General and Executive Director, CSO Network Japan; Board Chair, Oxfam Japan))
- (xi) "Consider the Radiation Problem from the Perspective of Human Rights - Great East Japan Earthquake and Accident at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi NPS" (Lecturer: Akifumi Ueda (Representative, Citizen's Science Initiative Japan))

(2) Seminars

The Center for Human Rights Education and Training held various seminars using the general human rights education manual titled "Compasito" (lecturer: Hiroshi Fukuda (Senior Fellow of the Center; Professor Emeritus of Tsukuba University)).

The Center purchases and collects books, pictures, videos, etc. created by local governments and diverse research bodies, and lends them out broadly to the general public at the Human Rights Library, which was established within the Center.

Additionally, the Center collects information and materials concerning human rights education and awareness-raising submitted by the national and local governments and compiles and accumulates them as data to enable users to search necessary information. Anyone can use those accumulated data freely and necessary information can be retrieved via the website of the Human Rights Library (<http://www.jinken-library.jp/>).

The data newly collected and registered in FY2017 were 1,233 publications, 1,800 materials on lectures, 78 TV and radio programs, 46 awareness surveys and status surveys, and 1,352 materials on various other projects.

5. Utilization of Mass Media, etc.

(1) Utilization of TVs and Radios, etc.

A. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning Women's Human Rights

Problems of sexual violence against young women, such as so-called forced appearances in pornographic materials and "JK business," were featured in the BS TV program, "Information from Kasumigaseki 2017 ("Kasumigaseki kara oshiraseshimasu 2017")" (on July 9, 2017; Public Relations).

B. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning Human Rights of Elderly People and Persons with Disabilities

- (A) Information about the nationwide campaign week, "Promotion Week for Human Rights Counseling for Elderly People and Persons with Disabilities," was publicized in the BS TV program, "Information from Kasumigaseki 2017 ("Kasumigaseki kara oshiraseshimasu 2017")" (on September 3, 2017; Public Relations) and in a 60-second message during the radio program, "Akimoto Sayaka's Weekly Japan!! ("Akimoto Sayaka no Weekly Japan!!")" (on September 9 or 10, 2017; Public Relations).
- (B) The employment of persons with disabilities was featured in the BS TV program, "Information from Kasumigaseki 2017 ("Kasumigaseki kara oshiraseshimasu 2017")" (on December 17, 2017; Public Relations).

C. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning Human Rights of People Living with HIV, etc.

The "Stop AIDS" campaign and the need to promote early testing were featured in the radio program, "Akimoto Sayaka's Weekly Japan!! ("Akimoto Sayaka no Weekly Japan!!")" (on November 25 or 26, 2017; Public Relations), and an awareness-raising program on human rights of people living with HIV, etc. was broadcast on the TBS radio (from December 2017 to March 2018; Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare).

D. PR Activities on the Promotion of Understanding on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

Information about the promotion of understanding on sexual orientation and gender identity was publicized in a 60-second message during the radio program, "Akimoto Sayaka's Weekly Japan!! ("Akimoto Sayaka no Weekly Japan!!")" (on August 19 or 20, 2017; Public Relations).

E. PR Activities on the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons

The prevention of trafficking in persons was featured in the BS TV program, "Information from Kasumigaseki 2017 ("Kasumigaseki kara oshiraseshimasu 2017")" (on June 11, 2017; Public Relations).

F. PR Activities on the Human Rights Volunteers' Day

The establishment of ad-hoc human rights counseling centers on the Human Rights Volunteers' Day was publicized in the radio program, "Akimoto Sayaka's Weekly Japan!! ("Akimoto Sayaka no Weekly Japan!!")" (on May 27 or 28, 2017; Public Relations).

(2) Utilization of Newspapers and Magazines, etc.

A. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning Women's Human Rights

Side box advertisements on the Campaign for Eliminating Violence against Women were placed in newspapers nationwide (national papers, block papers and local papers) (from November 6 to November 12, 2017; Public Relations).

B. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning Children's Human Rights

- (A) Side box advertisements for broadly disseminating measures against bullying and other human

rights issues involving children were placed in newspapers nationwide (national papers (excluding Nikkei Shimbun), block papers and local papers) (from April 11 to April 15, 2017; Public Relations). Additionally, related awareness-raising messages were recorded in the PR CD titled "Voices for Tomorrow" (in March 2018; Public Relations).

- (B) Side box advertisements on the promotion of measures to prevent child abuse were placed in newspapers nationwide (national papers, block papers and local papers) (from November 27 to December 3, 2017; Public Relations).

C. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning Human Rights of Elderly People and Persons with Disabilities

- (A) Side box advertisements on the promotion of understanding and awareness-raising on developmental disorders were placed in newspapers nationwide (national papers (excluding Nikkei Shimbun), block papers and local papers) (from April 3 to April 8, 2017; Public Relations).
- (B) Awareness-raising messages to publicly seek applications for the "Essays on Experience Expanding a Warm-Hearted Network" and "Posters for the Week of Persons with Disabilities" were recorded in the PR CD titled "Voices for Tomorrow" (in July 2017; Public Relations).
- (C) Awareness-raising messages on the nationwide campaign week, "Promotion Week for Human Rights Counseling for Elderly People and Persons with Disabilities," were recorded in the PR CD titled "Voices for Tomorrow" and were published in the PR magazine in Braille and in large letters titled "*Fureai* Compass" (in August 2017; Public Relations).
- (D) A side box advertisement on the employment of persons with disabilities was placed in Nikkei Shimbun (on September 17, 2017, Public Relations) and relevant awareness-raising messages were recorded in the PR CD titled "Voices for Tomorrow" and were published in the PR magazine in Braille and in large letters titled "*Fureai* Compass" (in September 2017; Public Relations).
- (E) Awareness-raising messages on the Week of Persons with Disabilities were recorded in the PR CD titled "Voices for Tomorrow" and were published in the PR magazine in Braille and in large letters titled "*Fureai* Compass" (in November 2017; Public Relations).

D. PR Activities Concerning the Achievement of a Universal Society

Awareness-raising messages on the achievement of a universal society (understanding toward foreign nationals and persons with disabilities) were recorded in the PR CD titled "Voices for Tomorrow" (in September 2017; Public Relations)

E. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning Human Rights of Former Hansen's Disease Patients, etc.

Articles on the Parent-Child Symposium on Hansen's Disease (held in Naha) were placed in Mainichi Shimbun for Elementary School Children (on September 29, 2017), Asahi Shimbun for Elementary School Children (the same day), Yomiuri Shimbun for Junior High School and High School Students (the same day), monthly paper *NEWS-ga-Wakaru* (on October 15, 2017) and Yomiuri KODOMO Shimbun (on October 19, 2017) (see p.79) (Ministry of Justice).

F. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning the North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week

Awareness-raising advertisements on the North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week were

placed in 52 local papers (from November 1 to December 14, 2017; Ministry of Justice).

G: Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning the Great East Japan Earthquake

An article featuring the human rights symposium, "Earthquakes and Children's Human Rights - Considering Support We Can GiveNow," was published in Asahi Shimbun (on January 20, 2018; Ministry of Justice).

H. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning the Human Rights Week

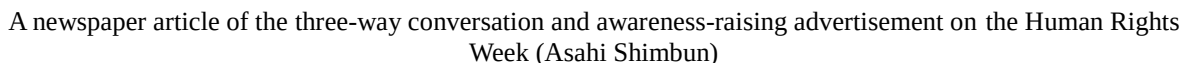
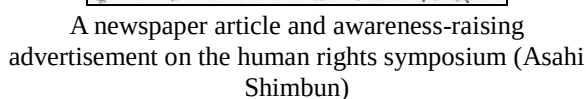
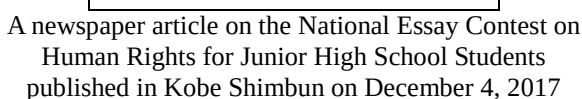
An article of the three-way conversation among the Vice-President of the Japan Football Association, Takeshi Okada, a Paralympian, Mami Tani, and the Director-General of the Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice and an awareness-raising advertisement on the Human Rights Week were published in Asahi Shimbun (December 2, 2017; Ministry of Justice).

I. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning the National Essay Contest on Human Rights for Junior High School Students

Articles and awareness-raising advertisements on the National Essay Contest on Human Rights for Junior High School Students were published in 52 local papers (from November 1 to December 14, 2017; Ministry of Justice).

The advertisement is divided into two main sections. The left section promotes the 'National Junior High School Student Human Rights Essay Contest' (全国中学生人権作文コンテスト). It features a photo of a student, Hasegawa Yoko (紙谷 桃歌さん), who won the 36th contest. Text describes the contest's purpose: to raise awareness of human rights through writing. It includes contact information for the Ministry of Justice (0120-007110) and the contest website (http://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken04_00149.html). The right section promotes the 'North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week' (北朝鮮人権侵害問題啓発週間) from December 10 to 16. It features a graphic with the text '必ず救い出す' (We will definitely rescue you) and '愛する人を' (The person I love). It includes information about the government-led international symposium on the abduction issue (『政府主催 拉致問題に関する国際シンポジウム』) and the website for the North Korean human rights issues response center (http://www.rachi.go.jp/).

Awareness-raising advertisement on the North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week and the National Essay Contest on Human Rights for Junior High School Students



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- (B) For the purpose of broadly disseminating the nationwide campaign week, "Women's Rights Hotline Promotion Week," relevant articles were published in monthly and weekly online government magazines, and internet text advertisements were placed (from November 6 to November 12, 2017; Public Relations).
- (C) For the purpose of broadly disseminating the Campaign for Eliminating Violence against Women, relevant articles were published in monthly and weekly online government magazines on helpful information on everyday life, and internet text advertisements were placed (from November 13 to November 19, 2017; Public Relations). Additionally, articles on the government webpage on helpful information on everyday life were updated (on November 28, 2017; Public Relations).

B. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning Children's Human Rights

- (A) For the purpose of broadly disseminating measures against bullying and other human rights issues involving children, internet text advertisements were placed (from April 10 to April 16, 2017; Public Relations), internet advertisements were placed on Yahoo! JAPAN and Google sites (from August 24 to September 23, 2017, and from January 4 to January 31, 2018; Ministry of Justice), and Yahoo! banner advertisements were placed (from August 28 to September 3, 2017; Public Relations).
- (B) For the purpose of broadly disseminating knowledge on the prevention of child abuse, relevant articles were published in monthly and weekly online government magazines, and internet text advertisements were placed (from April 17 to April 23 and from May 8 to May 14, 2017; Public Relations). Additionally, Yahoo! banner advertisements were placed (from November 13 to November 19, 2017; Public Relations).
- (C) For the purpose of broadly disseminating the nationwide campaign week, "Children's Rights Hotline Promotion Week," Yahoo! banner advertisements were placed (from June 5 to June 11, 2017; Public Relations).
- (D) For the purpose of eliminating child pornography, internet text advertisements were placed (from August 14 to August 20, 2017, and from January 8 to January 15, from January 22 to January 28, and from January 29 to February 9, 2018; Public Relations), and relevant video was posted on the government internet TV (on December 28, 2017; Public Relations).

C. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning Human Rights of Elderly People and Persons with Disabilities

- (A) Regarding the promotion of understanding and awareness-raising on developmental disorders, relevant articles on the government webpage on helpful information on everyday life were updated (on April 5, 2017; Public Relations).
- (B) For the purpose of disseminating assistance dogs for physically disabled persons and raising awareness, Yahoo! banner advertisements were placed (from May 22 to May 28, 2017; Public Relations).
- (C) For the purpose of broadly disseminating the nationwide campaign week, "Promotion Week for Human Rights Counseling for Elderly People and Persons with Disabilities," relevant articles were published in monthly and weekly online government magazines, and Yahoo! banner advertisements were placed (from September 4 to September 10, 2017; Public Relations).

(D) For the purpose of promoting the employment of persons with disabilities, relevant articles were published in monthly and weekly online government magazines, and Yahoo! banner advertisements were placed (from September 11 to September 17, 2017; Public Relations), and articles on the government webpage on helpful information on everyday life were updated (on November 27, 2017; Public Relations).

(E) For the purpose of broadly disseminating the Developmental Disorders Welfare Month, relevant articles were published in monthly and weekly online government magazines (Public Relations), and Yahoo! banner advertisements were placed (from December 4 to December 9, 2017; Public Relations).

(F) For the purpose of raising awareness on the Week of Persons with Disabilities, relevant articles were published in monthly and weekly online government magazines (Public Relations).

D. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning the Dowa Issue (Buraku Discrimination)

Yahoo! banner advertisements on the *Dowa* issue (*Buraku* discrimination) were placed (from January 22 to January 28, 2018; Public Relations).

E. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning the Ainu People

For the purpose of promoting citizens' understanding toward the Ainu people, internet text advertisements were placed (from April 17 to April 23, 2017; Public Relations) and internet advertisements were placed on Yahoo! JAPAN and Google sites (from December 11 to December 20, 2017; Ministry of Justice).

F. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning Human Rights of Foreign Nationals

Internet advertisements on awareness-raising activities focused on hate speech were placed on Yahoo! JAPAN and Google sites (from June 1 to June 7, 2017; Ministry of Justice), and internet text advertisements were also placed (from June 12 to June 18, 2017; Public Relations).

G. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning Human Rights of People Living with HIV, etc.

For the purpose of promoting the "Stop AIDS" campaign and early testing, relevant video was posted on the government internet TV (in November 2017; Public Relations), and Yahoo! banner advertisements were placed (from November 20 to November 26, 2017; Public Relations). Additionally, relevant articles on the government webpage on helpful information on everyday life were updated (on December 1, 2017; Public Relations), and internet text advertisements were placed (from December 4 to December 17, 2017; Public Relations).

H. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning Hansen's Disease

For the purpose of promoting correct knowledge and understanding on Hansen's disease and broadly disseminating the Parent-Child Symposium on Hansen's Disease, internet advertisements were placed on Yahoo! JAPAN and Google sites (from August 1 to August 25, 2017; Ministry of Justice).

I. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning the Movement Towards a Brighter Society

For the purpose of broadly disseminating the Movement Towards a Brighter Society, relevant articles were published in monthly and weekly online government magazines (Public Relations).

J. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning the Crime Victims' Week

For the purpose of broadly disseminating policies for crime victims, etc., relevant articles were published in monthly and weekly online government magazines and articles on the government

webpage on helpful information on everyday life were updated (on November 13, 2017; Public Relations). Additionally, internet text advertisements were placed (from November 20 to November 26, 2017; Public Relations), relevant video was posted on the government internet TV (on December 28, 2017; Public Relations), and internet text advertisements were placed again (from January 15 to January 28 and from March 5 to March 11, 2018; Public Relations).

K. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning Human Rights Violations through Malicious Use of the Internet

For the purpose of deepening correct understanding on human rights on the internet and introducing counseling services and remedy procedures, internet advertisements were placed on Yahoo! JAPAN and Google sites (from November 1 to December 31, 2017, and from February 12 to March 13, 2018; Ministry of Justice), and internet text advertisements were placed (from December 4 to December 10, 2017; Public Relations).

L. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning the North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week

For the purpose of broadly disseminating the North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week, relevant articles were published in monthly and weekly online government magazines, and Yahoo! banner advertisements were placed (from June 12 to June 18 and from December 4 to December 10, 2017; Public Relations), and internet advertisements were placed on Yahoo! JAPAN and Google sites (from December 1 to December 10, 2017; Ministry of Justice).

M. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

For the purpose of promoting understanding on sexual orientation and gender identity, Yahoo! banner advertisements were placed (from April 10 to April 16, 2017; Public Relations) and PR activities were conducted via mobile sites or other terminal sites (from October 16 to October 22, 2017; Public Relations).

N. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons

For the purpose of broadly disseminating the prevention of trafficking in persons, Yahoo! banner advertisements were placed (from June 5 to June 11, 2017; Public Relations).

O. Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning the Human Rights Week

For the purpose of broadly disseminating the Human Rights Week, relevant articles were published in monthly and weekly online government magazines, and Yahoo! banner advertisements were placed (from November 27 to December 3, 2017; Public Relations), and internet text advertisements were placed (from December 4 to December 10, 2017; Public Relations).

P. PR Activities Concerning the Human Rights Volunteers' Day

For the purpose of broadly disseminating the establishment of ad-hoc human rights counseling centers on the Human Rights Volunteers' Day, Yahoo! banner advertisements were placed (from May 22 to May 28, 2017; Public Relations).

(2) Utilization of Websites, etc.

- A. The Ministry of Justice posts various types of information relating to human rights via its website (<http://www.moj.go.jp/>), Human Rights Bureau's Twitter page

(https://mobile.twitter.com/MOJ_JINKEN) and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/HumanRightsBureau.MOJ>) and otherwise provides diverse information broadly to citizens.

Additionally, the Ministry also established the website of the network associations of human rights awareness-raising activities (see p.109) (<http://www.moj.go.jp/jinkennet/>) so that people can easily have access to and utilize information on human rights education and awareness-raising.

The full text of the Basic Plan on Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising is posted on the website of the Ministry of Justice (<http://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/JINKEN83/jinken83.html>) and the website of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shotou/seitoshidou/jinken/06082102/016.htm) to broadly disseminate the content thereof.

Furthermore, a total of 11 spot videos by a ventriloquist, Ikkokudo, (concerning human rights in general, the Human Rights Week, the Great East Japan Earthquake, elderly people, persons with disabilities, women, children, internet-related issues, foreign nationals, Hansen's disease, and sexual orientation), and a total of six spot videos by an actress, Erika Mahiro, (concerning discrimination due to a place of birth, etc., gender identity disorders, sexual harassment and power harassment, Children's Rights Hotline, human rights violations on the internet, and harassment and domestic violence) are made available on the Ministry of Justice's YouTube channel.

- B. The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare posts information and materials on its measures for elderly people, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV, and former Hansen's disease patients, etc. on its website (<http://www.mhlw.go.jp>) or other websites to broadly disseminate those measures, thereby endeavoring to deepen citizens' understanding.
 - (A) Website of the Japan Organization for Employment of the Elderly, Persons with Disabilities and Job Seekers (<http://www.jeed.or.jp/>)
 - (B) Website of the AIDS Prevention Information Network (<http://api-net.jfap.or.jp/>)
 - (C) Webpage on information concerning Hansen's disease (http://www.mhlw.go.jp/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryoku/kenkou/hansen/index.html)
 - (D) A campaign event towards the World AIDS Day held on November 30, 2017, was introduced via the internet (<http://redribbonlive.net/>).
- C. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides information on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, major human rights treaties, and human rights-related documents, etc. on its website (<http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/gaiko/jinken.html>).
- D. The Cabinet Secretariat provides information on efforts being made by the national government towards the resolution of the abductions issue broadly to citizens on the website on the issue of abduction by North Korea (<http://www.rachi.go.jp/>).

7. Utilization of Transportation Facilities

(1) Awareness-Raising and PR Activities Concerning the North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week

Advertising posters to broadly disseminate the Awareness-Raising Week were put up in train cars of JR, private railways, subways, etc. running on lines with major stations in areas nationwide where Legal Affairs Bureaus are located (from December 1 to December 16, 2017).

(2) Awareness-Raising Activities by Local Governments under Entrustment (Project of Vitalizing Local Human Rights Awareness-Raising Activities)

Community-based human rights awareness-raising activities were carried out in various ways using digital signage in train cars and buses and in station buildings.

8. Utilization of Ideas of the Private Sector

The Ministry of Justice entrusts the Center for Human Rights Education and Training (see p.35) with human rights awareness-raising projects, such as the creation of effective human rights awareness-raising materials and videos and holding of human rights symposiums, etc., and flexibly incorporates opinions of private production companies when creating posters, etc.

In human rights workshops for local government officials, etc. and training for personnel in charge of human rights working for Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus, experts specialized in human rights issues are invited from the private sector as lecturers and they provide advice on awareness-raising activities.

Furthermore, in order to achieve a so-called universal society or a cohesive society in which people understand and naturally accept differences in races or the existence of disabilities or not, etc. and mutually respect each other, the Ministry implements the Human Rights Universal Project by entrusting concrete activities to local governments to promote human rights awareness-raising activities in collaboration with private companies, schools and organizations of persons with disabilities, etc.

9. Cultivation of Citizens' Sense of Positive Participation

(1) National Essay Contest on Human Rights for Junior High School Students

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice hold the National Essay Contest on Human Rights for Junior High School Students with the aim of encouraging junior high school students, who lead the next generation, to develop sensitivity to human rights through writing essays on human rights issues (see p.33).

This provides many junior high school students with opportunities to deepen understanding on human rights and develop their sensitivity.

(2) World AIDS Day Poster Contest

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare held the World AIDS Day Poster Contest with the aim of disseminating correct knowledge on HIV and AIDS and raising awareness. 24 works,



Poster "FY2017 World AIDS Day"

118 works, 126 works and 88 works were submitted from elementary school children, junior high school students, high school students and adults, respectively.

The best work was adopted as a design of the poster for the World AIDS Day Campaign, copies of which were posted nationwide to trigger people to think about and deepen understanding on HIV and AIDS.

Chapter 3

Promotion of Basic Plan on Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising

The government of Japan had implemented various measures to comprehensively promote human rights education and human rights awareness-raising, based on the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education and proposals of the Council for Human Rights Promotion. In March 2002, the Cabinet approved the Basic Plan on Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising (partially amended on April 1, 2011), and the national government has been promoting relevant measures based on this Basic Plan. In FY2017 as well, the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and other ministries and agencies implemented various measures as introduced in this report, based on the Basic Plan.

In accordance with the basic approach and methods for promoting human rights education and human rights awareness-raising set forth in the Basic Plan, the national government will continue promoting related measures in close collaboration among relevant ministries and agencies.

The Basic Plan provides that resolution measures should also be considered for other human rights issues not classified into any conventional categories, such as discrimination against same-sex relationships or other issues related to individuals' sexual orientation or newly arising human rights issues, depending on the circumstances of respective cases. In line with this approach, this report introduces not only actions for conventional human rights issues clearly cited in the Basic Plan but also actions for other types of issues, namely human rights of homeless people and support for their independence (see p.93), human rights related to sexual orientation (see p.93), human rights related to gender identity (see p.95), appropriate responses to trafficking in persons (see p.96), and human rights problems arising after the Great East Japan Earthquake (see p.99).

The national government will further promote measures on human rights education and human rights awareness-raising in relation to the issues cited in this report and will also carry out relevant resolution measures for newly arising human rights issues depending on the circumstances of respective cases.

Additionally, the national government will continue analysis of the current status and constantly review concrete measures concerning human rights issues with the aim of further enhancing the effects of its relevant measures.

Reference Materials 1

1. Act on the Promotion of Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising
(Act No. 147 of 2000) ----- R-2
2. Basic Plan on Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising
(Cabinet Decision on March 15, 2002)
(Partial Amendment on April 1, 2011) ----- R-5
- * Changes in the Number of Human Rights Violation Cases ----- R-43
- * Statistical Data on Human Rights Violation Cases (2017) ----- R-44
- * List of Addresses of Reference Materials ----- R-45

Reference Material 1

Act on the Promotion of Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising

(Act No. 147 of 2000)

(Purpose)

Article 1 In consideration of the increased awareness of the urgent need to respect human rights, the current situation of human rights violations, including the occurrence of unjust discrimination based on social status, family origin, race, creed, or sex, and other domestic and international situations regarding the promotion and protection of human rights, the purpose of this Act is to clarify the responsibilities of the national government, local governments, and citizens for the promotion of policies concerning human rights education and human rights awareness-raising, to provide for necessary measures, and thereby to contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights.

(Definitions)

Article 2 In this Act, human rights education means educational activities to cultivate a spirit of respect for human rights, and human rights awareness-raising means awareness-raising activities including publicity (excluding human rights education) to disseminate the principle of respect for human rights among citizens and deepen citizens' understanding thereof.

(Fundamental Principle)

Article 3 The human rights education and human rights awareness-raising provided by the national government and local governments shall be carried out with a view to providing various opportunities, adopting effective methods, respecting the independence of citizens and ensuring the neutrality of implementing entities so that citizens deepen and gain an understanding of the principle of respect for human rights at various places, including schools, communities, households, and

workplaces, depending on the developmental stage of citizens.

(Responsibilities of the National Government)

Article 4 The national government shall be responsible for formulating and implementing policies on human rights education and human rights awareness-raising in accordance with the fundamental principle of human rights education and human rights awareness-raising provided for in the preceding Article (hereinafter referred to as the "fundamental principle").

(Responsibilities of Local Governments)

Article 5 Local governments shall be responsible for formulating and implementing policies on human rights education and human rights awareness-raising based on the conditions of the community, in accordance with the fundamental principle, while coordinating with the national government.

(Responsibilities of Citizens)

Article 6 Citizens shall endeavor to cultivate a spirit of respect for human rights, and to contribute to the realization of a society in which human rights are respected.

(Establishment of a Basic Plan)

Article 7 The national government shall establish a basic plan on human rights education and human rights awareness-raising in order to comprehensively and systematically promote policies on human rights education and human rights awareness-raising.

(Annual Report)

Article 8 The government shall annually submit to the Diet a report on policies concerning human rights education and human rights awareness-raising implemented by the

government.

(Financial Measures)

Article 9 The national government may take financial measures for local governments implementing policies on human rights education and human rights awareness-raising by entrusting activities relevant to those policies to the local governments or through other means.

Supplementary Provisions

(Effective Date)

Article 1 This Act shall come into force as of the date of promulgation; provided, however, that the provisions of Article 8 shall be applied to policies on human rights education and human rights awareness-raising that shall have been implemented in or after the fiscal year following the fiscal year that includes the date of enforcement of this Act.

(Review)

Article 2 This Act shall be reviewed within three years from the date of enforcement, taking into account the results of study and deliberation by the Council for Human Rights Promotion on basic matters concerning the enhancement of policies for remedies for victims of human rights violations based on Article 3, paragraph (2) of the Act on the Promotion of Policies on Human Rights Promotion and Protection (Act No. 120 of 1996).

Incidental Resolution on the Draft of the Act on the Promotion of Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising by the Committee on Judicial Affairs, House of Representatives

Upon the enforcement of this Act, the government should give due consideration to the following points.

1. When formulating the Basic Plan on Human Rights Education and Human Rights

Awareness-Raising, the government should give consideration to the neutrality of the administration and fully reflect opinions of local governments, human rights-related private organizations, and other relevant parties.

2. The government should formulate the Basic Plan rich in content in reference to the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education and other materials.

3. Establishment of human rights-related policies is to be prioritized as the core and basis of Japan's politics towards the 21st Century, "the Century of Human Rights," and should be clearly positioned as a task to be fulfilled through all-out efforts by the government and the Cabinet Office.

Incidental Resolution on the Draft of the Act on the Promotion of Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising by the Committee on Judicial Affairs, House of Councillors

Upon the enforcement of this Act, the government should make enormous efforts for the following points with the aim of realizing the 21st Century, "the Century of Human Rights."

1. The government should endeavor to broadly disseminate the fundamental principle of the Act on the Promotion of Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising and responsibilities of local governments and citizens and take appropriate measures to prevent human rights violations especially by public employees.

2. When formulating the Basic Plan on Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising, the government should fully reflect opinions of local governments, human rights-related private organizations, and other relevant parties.

3. The government should formulate the Basic Plan rich in content in reference to the Plan of

Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education and other materials.

4. Considering that human rights-related policies should be placed as the core and basis of politics,

the Cabinet Office should make all-out efforts therefor.

We make the resolution as above.

Reference Material 2

Basic Plan on Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising

(Cabinet Decision on March 15, 2002)

(Partial Amendment on April 1, 2011)

* Addition of (12) to 2. of Chapter 4

Chapter 1 Introduction

The Basic Plan on Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising (hereinafter referred to as the "Basic Plan") is formulated based on Article 7 of the Act on the Promotion of Human Rights Education and Human Rights Awareness-Raising (Act No. 147 of 2000; promulgated and enforced on December 6, 2000; hereinafter referred to as the "Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising Promotion Act") with the aim of comprehensively and systematically promoting measures relating to human rights education and awareness-raising.

Under the Constitution of Japan, which guarantees fundamental human rights for all citizens, the national government has developed human rights-related systems and joined various international treaties and has taken other related measures. However, there still are incidents threatening lives or physical safety of individuals or cases of unjust discrimination, or other human rights violations on the grounds of social status, family origin, race, ethnic group, creed, sex or disabilities. In tandem with internationalization, informatization, population ageing, etc., new human rights problems are also arising in the Japanese society.

In order to achieve a peaceful and affluent society in which all people can coexist while respecting each other, it is indispensable to develop a spirit of respect for human rights and it is no exaggeration to say that education and awareness-raising for that purpose is highly significant. The national

government is committed to promoting human rights education and awareness-raising comprehensively and systematically based on this Basic Plan for an early realization of a society in which human rights are equally respected and co-exist.

1. Developments up to the Enactment of the Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising Promotion Act

The latest moves concerning the promotion of human rights education and awareness-raising include the efforts concerning the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education. At the General Assembly held in December 1994, a resolution to designate the decade from 1995 to 2004 as the "United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education" was adopted. In response to this, the government of Japan set up the relevant headquarters headed by the Prime Minister based on the Cabinet Decision on December 15, 1995, and formulated and publicized the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Domestic Action Plan") on July 4, 1997.

In December 1996, the Act on the Promotion of Policies on Human Rights Promotion and Protection (Act No. 120 of 1996) was enacted as temporary legislation with a five-year term limit and was enforced on March 25, 1997. This Act provided for the responsibilities of the national government to promote measures concerning human rights education and awareness-raising, and the Council for Human Rights Promotion was

established within the Ministry of Justice. The Council studied and deliberated basic matters for comprehensively promoting measures concerning education and awareness-raising for the purpose of deepening mutual understanding of citizens on the principle of respect for human rights for over two years based on consultations of the Minister of Justice, the Minister of Education (Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, at present), and the director general of the Management and Coordination Agency (Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications, at present). On July 29, 1999, the Council made reports to these Ministers.

In light of the Domestic Action Plan and reports by the Council, the national government had carried out various measures for comprehensively promoting human rights education and awareness-raising. However, it was considered indispensable to clarify the principle on human rights education and awareness-raising and responsibilities of the national and local governments and citizens, respectively, and legally stipulate required measures, such as the formulation of the Basic Plan and the submission of an annual report, in order to further promote relevant efforts. In November 2000, a bill was submitted to the Diet as lawmaker-initiated legislation and was enacted as the Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising Promotion Act.

2. Formulation Policy and Structure of the Basic Plan

(1) Formulation Policy of the Basic Plan

The Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising Promotion Act provides the fundamental principle that "the human rights education and human rights awareness-raising provided by the national government and local governments shall be carried out with a view to

providing various opportunities, adopting effective methods, respecting the independence of citizens and ensuring the neutrality of implementing entities so that citizens deepen and gain an understanding of the principle of respect for human rights at various places, including schools, communities, households, and workplaces, depending on the developmental stage of citizens" (Article 3). With regard to the Basic Plan, it is provided that "the national government shall establish a basic plan on human rights education and human rights awareness-raising in order to comprehensively and systematically promote policies on human rights education and human rights awareness-raising" (Article 7).

The Domestic Action Plan and reports by the Council are the fundamental basis for promoting human rights education and awareness-raising, but it was decided to formulate the Basic Plan under the following policy in light of the purport of past examinations and recommendations, deliberations and incidental resolutions of both Houses in the process of enacting the Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising Promotion Act, and the international trends in the field of human rights.

- (i) Each citizen needs to deepen and gain understanding of the principle of respect for human rights. From the viewpoint that persistent efforts are indispensable for that purpose, the plan should be formulated in a medium- and long-term perspective.
- (ii) The plan should be made rich in content in reference to the Domestic Action Plan.
- (iii) Based on reports on human rights education and awareness-raising by the Council for Human Rights Promotion, "the basic approach on human rights education and awareness-raising" and "means for comprehensive and effective promotion of human rights education and

awareness-raising" should be discussed.

- (iv) When formulating the plan, due consideration should be given to the neutrality of the administration, and opinions of local governments, private organizations, and other relevant parties should be broadly collected.

(2) Structure of the Basic Plan

As the main substance of measures for comprehensive and systematic promotion of human rights education and awareness-raising, the Basic Plan first clarifies the developments up to the enactment of the Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising Promotion Act and formulation policy and structure of the Basic Plan in Chapter 1 "Introduction," then refers to the current status and basic approach in Japan in Chapter 2 "Current Status of Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising" and Chapter 3 "Basic Approach to Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising," and presents means to promote human rights education and awareness-raising comprehensively and systematically in Chapter 4 "Means to Promote Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising." Specifically, Chapter 4 examines efforts from universal perspectives concerning human rights in general, efforts for each human rights issue, training for personnel engaging in specific jobs closely related to human rights, and presents future directions for a system, etc. for comprehensive and effective promotion of human rights education and awareness-raising. Lastly, Chapter 5 "Promotion of the Plan" describes a system and follow-up activities for steady and effective promotion of the plan.

When promoting human rights education and awareness-raising comprehensively and systematically, efforts by local governments, public interest corporations, private organizations, etc. are

very important in addition to efforts by the national government. The national government will further deepen collaboration with these other parties to promote concrete efforts listed in this Basic Plan steadily.

Chapter 2 Current Status of Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising

1. Circumstances Concerning Human Rights

Under the Constitution of Japan, in which respect for fundamental human rights is positioned as part of the fundamental principles, the national government has developed various human rights-related systems and promoted relevant measures in the entirety of national politics. These efforts are not only in line with the Constitution but also in compliance with international human rights treaties and other international rules prepared by the United Nations that Japan has acceded to since the end of World War II. In the meantime, however, there has been criticism of these systems and measures from the perspective of human rights from inside and outside of Japan and the existence of various human rights issues has been pointed out in the relationships between public authority and citizens or among citizens.

In promoting human rights protection today and into the future, human rights issues involving women, children, elderly people, persons with disabilities, the Ainu people, foreign nationals, people living with HIV, and Hansen's disease patients, as well as the *Dowa* issue, in particular, are material, and the Domestic Action Plan states that upon promoting human rights education and awareness-raising, these significant issues should be addressed not only with approaches specific to each of them but also from universal perspectives of legal equality and respect for individuals. In recent years, the public is paying more attention to

human rights issues of crime victims and their families. Consideration has come to be required for crime victims during criminal procedures and other problems such as privacy infringement, defamation, invasion of quiet private lives due to excessive media coverage have arisen. Regarding media coverage of suspects of juvenile cases and their families, similar human rights issues are pointed out, and other types of new human rights issues include those caused by the posting of discriminatory information on online bulletins or websites.

Behind such human rights issues, there lie Japanese people's tendency to prioritize homogeneity or uniformity and unreasonable traditional ideas, but rapid social changes such as internationalization, informatization, population ageing and falling birthrate, are also considered to be causes. More fundamentally, the fact that citizens lack correct understanding of the principle of respect for human rights and the attitude to realize this principle is the very problem and this causes problematic behavior as pointed out: some only assert their own rights and ignore others', do not fully understand and cannot properly claim their rights, or lack the attitude or habits to behave based on their reasonable judgment of the circumstances and merely act with a sense of discrimination or prejudice.

Various efforts have so far been made for human rights education and awareness-raising, but it is necessary to further activate such efforts in light of these circumstances concerning human rights.

2. Current Status of Human Rights Education

(1) Significance and Purpose of Human Rights Education

Human rights education means "educational activities to cultivate a spirit of respect for human rights" (Article 2 of the Human Rights Education

and Awareness-Raising Promotion Act) and is provided "so that citizens deepen and gain an understanding of the principle of respect for human rights ..., depending on the developmental stage of citizens" (Article 3 of the same Act). Following the spirits of the Constitution of Japan, the Basic Act on Education, the International Covenants on Human Rights, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, etc., human rights education is promoted through school education and social education, while taking into account circumstances of respective regions, so that citizens properly learn a spirit of respect for fundamental human rights.

School education is provided in an organized and planned manner to cultivate each student's ability to learn and think by oneself and nurture humanity for the purpose of achieving specific goals and purposes of respective types of schools. Through the entirety of such educational activities at schools, students are to be educated to enhance their awareness of respect for human rights, depending on their developmental stage.

Regarding social education, diverse educational activities to enhance people's awareness of human rights are to be carried out outside schools, targeting broadly from young children to elderly people, not limited to juveniles, in accordance with their lifecycles, from the standpoint of lifelong learning.

Through such human rights education through school education and social education, it is expected that people understand the significance of exercising their own rights and the need to fairly and impartially respect other people's human rights as well, learn about various human rights-related problems and practice a spirit of respect for human dignity in their everyday life.

(2) Implementing Entities of Human Rights

Education

Implementing entities of human rights education include social education-related organizations, private organizations and public interest corporations, in addition to schools, social education facilities and boards of education.

Responsible authorities are the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology at the national level, prefectural boards of education and governors' branches that govern private schools at the prefectural level, and municipal boards of education at the municipal level. Public schools established by the national or local governments or municipalities and private schools established by incorporated educational institutions promote human rights education through school education, while community learning centers and other social education facilities established by municipalities, etc. promote human rights education through social education.

(3) Current Status of Human Rights Education

A. School Education

At schools, efforts have been made to enhance the content of education to value each student and raise awareness of respect for human rights through the entirety of educational activities, depending on students' developmental stage.

Recently, the National Curriculum Standards for Kindergartens, Elementary Schools, Lower and Upper Secondary Schools, and Special Schools for visually impaired, hearing impaired, physically disabled and mentally retarded persons were revised to further enhance education at respective schools, prioritizing the development of "the competencies for living" (the ability to learn and think by oneself and rich humanity, etc.).

The National Curriculum Standards for Kindergartens aims to make children aware of the

existence of others and act with respect for others through engagement with each other and to encourage them to deepen involvement with friends and have sympathy. At kindergartens, instructions are given in line with the courses of study through play and other activities to generate a spirit of respect for human rights. At day-care centers, childcare is provided under the guidelines formulated while ensuring consistency with the National Curriculum Standards for Kindergartens. At elementary schools and lower and upper secondary schools, education to increase awareness of respect for human rights is provided through all aspects of educational activities at schools in accordance with the characteristics of each subject, Morality and Tokkatsu (Student-led activities) etc., depending on students' developmental stage. For example, in Social Studies, students are expected to deepen understanding of human dignity and guarantee of fundamental human rights while learning about the Constitution of Japan, and in moral education, they are guided to be fair and impartial toward everyone without discrimination or bias and endeavor to establish justice, and to abide by laws and regulations with a sense of public morality, cherish their own and other people's rights, and fulfill their obligations voluntarily. The new National Curriculum Standards that have been fully implemented since FY2002 emphasize a goal of reflecting a spirit of respect for human dignity and a sense of awe toward life in actual life and cite the creation of opportunities for exchange with diverse people as a matter to be considered in providing education. In addition, the School Education Act was amended in July 2001, and it is newly provided that elementary schools, lower and upper secondary schools, and special schools for visually impaired, hearing impaired, physically disabled and mentally retarded persons should endeavor to

expand opportunities for volunteer activities and other social contribution activities and nature-based Experiential Activities. Respective schools are expected to make relevant efforts also from the standpoint of human rights education.

At special schools for visually impaired, hearing impaired, physically disabled and mentally retarded persons, education equivalent to that at elementary schools and lower and upper secondary schools is provided to help students with disabilities achieve independence and social participation, and at the same time, guidance is provided to help them overcome various difficulties due to disabilities. The revised courses of study require schools to further improve the content of guidance meticulously in accordance with each student's circumstances. These special schools have also carried out practical efforts such as exchange activities together with local people and students without disabilities with the aim of stimulating social development and fostering a rich humanity of students with disabilities and deepening correct understanding and awareness of the public in regard to persons with disabilities. The new courses of education encourage the enhancement of those practical efforts.

At universities, etc., human rights education is provided, for example, in relation to legal studies on the Constitution of Japan and laws in general. Some universities have a class on human rights education in liberal arts subjects.

As mentioned above, human rights education is being promoted throughout school education activities, but problems in teaching methods have been raised, such as the fact that students only intellectually acquire knowledge but do not fully develop sensitivity to human rights or that teachers themselves do not necessarily have sufficient awareness on the idea of respect for human rights.

B. Social Education

In order to assist education at home, which is the starting point of individuals' learning in life, opportunities are provided for parents to learn about preferable education at home, and Education at Home Handbooks and Education at Home Notebooks, which explain discipline at home in an easy-to-understand manner, are delivered to parents with infants or elementary school students. These Handbooks and Notebooks state that it is important for parents themselves to be free from prejudice and show children their strong will not to tolerate discrimination.

Furthermore, community learning centers and other social education facilities hold classes and lectures or exchange events, thereby offering diverse learning opportunities so that local people can voluntarily learn about human rights depending on their life stages. Additionally, guidelines on human rights education for social education supervisors were compiled and various types of training sessions targeting social education supervisors and instructors are held to enhance their quality.

In July 2001, the Social Education Act was amended and it is clearly defined that as part of affairs under jurisdiction of boards of education, the latter should implement and encourage projects to provide juveniles with opportunities for volunteer activities and other social contribution activities and nature-based Experiential Activities. Boards of education are expected to promote relevant efforts from the perspective of developing people's attitude to respect human rights.

In this manner, human rights education is being promoted through various measures to encourage lifelong learning, but there is a criticism that learning opportunities are apt to be in a lecture style merely teaching knowledge to participants.

3. Current Status of Human Rights Awareness-Raising

(1) Significance and Purpose of Human Rights Awareness-Raising

Human rights awareness-raising means "awareness-raising activities including publicity (excluding human rights education) to disseminate the principle of respect for human rights among citizens and deepen citizens' understanding thereof" (Article 2 of the Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising Promotion Act) and is provided "so that citizens deepen and gain an understanding of the principle of respect for human rights ..., depending on the developmental stage of citizens" (Article 3 of the same Act). In other words, the term refers to training, information provision, public relations activities, etc., excluding human rights education, being carried out for the purpose of broadly disseminating the philosophy of respect for human rights and raising the awareness of citizens. The ultimate purpose is to have each citizen correctly understand the significance of respecting human rights and behave with full consideration to other people's human rights based on such understanding. Human rights awareness-raising aims to ensure that all citizens have the correct awareness concerning such questions as "What do human rights specifically refer to?" "What does it mean to respect human rights?" and "In the event of a human rights violation, what system has been put in place to eliminate the violation and provide a remedy?" and that such correct awareness most certainly takes firm root in citizens' behavior and actions in their everyday life.

(2) Implementing Entities of Human Rights Awareness-Raising

Implementing entities of human rights awareness-raising at the national level are the

Human Rights Bureau of the Ministry of Justice, and its subordinate organizations, such as human rights departments of Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus. Additionally, there are volunteers in the private sector, who are appointed by the Minister of Justice, under the Human Rights Volunteers System. These human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice are coherently carrying out human rights awareness-raising activities. Furthermore, other ministries and agencies are engaging in various human rights awareness-raising activities in relation to affairs under their jurisdiction, respectively, and local governments, public interest corporations, private organizations and companies, etc. are also carrying out diverse human rights-related activities.

With regard to the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice, deliberations are underway for building a new system, including the establishment of the Human Rights Commission, based on the Report on the Framework of the Human Rights Remedy System (on May 25, 2011) and the Report on the Reform of the Human Rights Volunteers System (on December 21, 2011) by the Council for Human Rights Promotion.

(3) Current Status of Human Rights Awareness-Raising

A. Awareness-Raising Activities by the Human Rights Bodies of the National Government

As mentioned above, relevant ministries and agencies are carrying out various awareness-raising activities concerning human rights respectively in relation to the affairs under their jurisdiction. In particular, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice, which are in charge of human rights awareness-raising as one of the human rights promotion and protection affairs, are carrying out various activities broadly targeting

citizens in general to disseminate the principle of respect for human rights and raise their awareness. They set up priority goals for activities, make concrete efforts nationwide upon such opportunities as the Human Rights Week and Human Rights Volunteers' Day, hold the National Essay Contest on Human Rights for Junior High School Students, a human rights flower campaign targeting elementary school kids, and the Human Rights Awareness-Raising Festival, which aims to encourage a larger number of people to think about human rights in a joyful atmosphere while participating in various events, and also participate in regional events nationwide, thereby promoting relevant activities throughout the year. Specifically, they prepare awareness-raising booklets, leaflets, pamphlets and posters on specific issues or on human rights in general and deliver them broadly, hold lectures, round-table talks, debate sessions and symposiums in accordance with then-current social circumstances concerning human rights, and organize film screenings and theatrical plays. They also use TV, radio and cable broadcasting and other mass media. In this manner, they use a large variety of means and exhibit their originality and ingenuity in specific activities. Formerly, the national government and many local governments conducted awareness-raising activities independently and their collaboration and cooperation were not necessarily sufficient. From the perspective of promoting human rights awareness-raising in a more effective manner, cross-sectional networks were created to enable miscellaneous institutions including prefectural and municipal governments to collaborate with each other and promote human rights awareness-raising networking project. In addition to the general awareness-raising activities mentioned above, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice carry out awareness-raising

activities specific to the parties identified through the process of counseling or investigation and processing of human rights violation cases.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice are thus promoting various human rights awareness-raising activities but some point out that the content and methods do not necessarily attract the attention, interest and sympathy of citizens, that mass media are not utilized effectively enough in activities, that the presence and activities of the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice are not widely recognized by citizens, and that the implementation system and the expertise of responsible personnel are not sufficient.

B. Awareness-Raising Activities by Local Governments

Prefectural and municipal governments are carrying out various awareness-raising activities depending on their regional circumstances, respectively. These activities range from the preparation and delivery of awareness-raising materials to surveys and studies on relevant means and holding of events and training sessions. Concrete content thereof varies by region. In particular, prefectural governments conduct projects to lead municipal governments, projects that are difficult for municipal governments to handle, and projects to assist municipal governments, depending on respective circumstances, from the broad-based standpoint of encompassing municipalities and from the perspective of complementing municipal governments. Municipal governments are promoting meticulous activities closely linked to local communities upon diverse opportunities from the standpoint of being closest to local residents and responsible for local administration necessary for their everyday life.

C. Awareness-Raising Activities by Private Organizations and Companies

Some private organizations are engaged in efforts significant for human rights awareness-raising, such as public relations activities, surveys, studies and training on specific issues or on human rights in general, and participate in lectures and events held by the national and local governments. They are thus carrying out various human rights-related activities and are expected to continue playing significant roles as implementing entities of human rights awareness-raising.

Companies are also more or less carrying out voluntary human rights awareness-raising activities depending on their respective circumstances and policies. Some companies provide education and training concerning human rights to employees, and in more proactive cases, an organization to promote awareness-raising has been established, human rights-related guidelines have been formulated, or human-rights slogans are sought from employees.

Chapter 3 Basic Approach to Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising

1. Principles of Respect for Human Rights

Human rights are inherent to human beings based on their dignity and are indispensable to all people constituting society for securing their existence and freedom as individuals and having a happy life in society.

In order to ensure human rights for all people and achieve a peaceful and rich society, citizens must mutually respect the human rights of others. For that purpose, human rights must be exercised in a harmonious way, or in other words, it is important to achieve the "coexistence of human rights." For the achievement of society based on respect for human rights in which human rights of all people

coexist, individuals are required to deepen mutual understanding of the meaning of human rights and the importance of respecting and achieving coexistence of human rights both rationally and emotionally, be aware of the responsibility upon exercising their own human rights, and respect other people's human rights in the same manner as their own.

Therefore, as pointed out by the Council for Human Rights Promotion in its Report on Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising, the philosophy of respect for human rights should be understood as the idea to correctly understand other people's human rights not limited to one's own, be aware of the responsibility upon exercising one's own rights and mutually respect one's own and other people's human rights, or the idea of coexistence of human rights.

2. Basic Approach to Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising

Human rights education and awareness-raising should be promoted for the achievement of society based on respect for human rights in line with the Constitution of Japan, the Basic Act on Education and other domestic laws and regulations, and human rights-related international treaties, etc. Based on the fundamental principle prescribed in the Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising Promotion Act (Article 3), the following can be cited as the basic approach to human rights education and awareness-raising.

(1) Collaboration among Implementing Entities and Provision of Various Opportunities to Citizens

Human rights education and awareness-raising activities are being carried out by diverse implementing entities. However, as human rights issues are becoming more and more complicated

and diverse, it is important to strengthen organic collaboration and cooperation among these implementing entities while ascertaining roles to be fulfilled by respective institutions in order to promote their independent efforts in a more effective and comprehensive manner and provide diversified learning opportunities to citizens.

Human rights education and awareness-raising targeting citizens will achieve larger effect if citizens are given learning opportunities throughout their lifetime in households, schools, communities, workplaces and various other locations. From that perspective as well, implementing entities are expected to strive to collaborate with each other to sufficiently and comprehensively promote human rights education and awareness-raising activities.

(2) Effective Methods Based on the Developmental Stage of Citizens

Human rights education and awareness-raising activities broadly target young children to elderly people. In order to promote these activities effectively, it is necessary to persistently carry them out in accordance with the circumstances of respective regions and based on the developmental stage of targeted citizens.

In particular, it is extremely important that citizens learn the meaning and significance of human rights as knowledge and at the same time sufficiently develop a sense to intuitively understand human rights issues and come to act and behave with due consideration to human rights in their everyday life. For that purpose, originality and ingenuity are required, such as citing concrete experiences in targeted citizens' everyday life in households, schools, communities, workplaces, etc. depending on their developmental stage. Consideration should be given so that a spirit of respect for human rights is generated as a sense from the early stage of

personality formation. For human rights education and awareness-raising targeting children, it should be noted that they are in the course of their development.

Regarding methods, there are two approaches: an approach from universal perspectives of equality under the law and respect for individuals, and an approach from specific perspectives depending on concrete human rights issues. Combined application of methods based on these approaches will deepen citizens' understanding of respect for human rights. That is, it is important to advocate the importance of respect for human rights from universal perspectives of equality under the law and respect for individuals, but additionally, it is necessary to devise methods with originality and ingenuity to pick up themes and expressions familiar to and easy for citizens based on concrete human rights issues with the aim of truly obtaining their understanding and sympathy. When adopting an approach from specific perspectives, circumstances of respective regions should be taken into account, while aiming to encourage citizens to correctly understand human rights issues and cultivate a spirit to rationally judge things. The evaluation of the outcomes and methods of past activities should also be referred to.

Incidentally, careless use of foreign terms in the process of promoting human rights education and awareness-raising activities may rather hinder dissemination of correct understanding among citizens in some cases and should preferably be avoided. Relevant public offices should take note of this point and properly promote their activities.

(3) Respect for the Independence of Citizens and Ensuring of the Neutrality in Education and Awareness-Raising

Human rights education and awareness-raising

closely relates to individuals' mindset and should not be intrusive, based on respect for their independence. Human rights originate from the idea that human beings are basically free. If human rights education and awareness-raising activities turn out to be an imposition on citizens, this does not make any sense and citizens' understanding cannot be obtained in a true sense. Considering that citizens have diverse opinions concerning human rights issues and ideal human rights education and awareness-raising, efforts should be made to develop an environment enabling free opinion exchanges based on a spirit of tolerance toward different opinions.

For sufficiently ensuring the effect of human rights education and awareness-raising, not only the content but also the implementation methods need to be broadly understood and accepted by citizens. In recent years, there are certain moves that may be referred to as "human rights fundamentalism" to justify one's wrongful opinions and acts or silence different opinions on the grounds of human rights, demand for unfair profits based on human rights issues, and excessive objections to persons who have allegedly committed problematic acts from a humanitarian point of view. These are all undesirable.

In light of these circumstances, administrative agencies in charge of human rights education and awareness-raising are strictly required to secure independence and neutrality, being free from any undue influence from specific organizations, etc. When carrying out relevant activities, they should clarify the distinction with political activities and social activities and should be careful not to confuse these activities with human rights education and awareness-raising activities.

Chapter 4 Means to Promote Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising

Relevant ministries and agencies are making various efforts for human rights education and awareness-raising based on the Domestic Action Plan and reports by the Council for Human Rights Promotion. Needless to say, those efforts should continue to be promoted proactively and steadily in light of the trends in domestic and overseas circumstances.

Based on the basic approach to human rights education and awareness-raising described in Chapter 3, and with the recognition that it is important to carry out various measures for strengthening efforts based on the Domestic Action Plan and for comprehensively and effectively promoting human rights education and awareness-raising as proposed in reports by the Council for Human Rights Promotion, this Chapter presents future directions for measures to be promoted concerning efforts from universal perspectives concerning human rights in general, efforts for each human rights issue, training for personnel engaging in specific jobs closely related to human rights and other problems, and explains a system, etc. for effectively promoting human rights education and awareness-raising.

1. Efforts from Universal Perspectives Concerning Human Rights in General

(1) Human Rights Education

Human rights education needs to be provided from the standpoint of lifelong learning, depending on the developmental stage from an early age and on circumstances of respective regions, in mutual collaboration between school education and social education.

A. School Education

Schools carry out educational activities for achieving their purposes and goals specific to

respective school types. In the course of these activities, children and students are to be guided to firmly acquire knowledge and skills and develop the mindset necessary for social life, thereby cultivating a spirit of respect for human rights.

Elementary and secondary education aims to develop students' "competencies for living," such as the ability to learn and think by oneself and a rich humanity, based on the new National Curriculum Standards. Higher education is intended to further enhance students' intellectual, moral and applicative abilities based on their competencies for living developed through elementary and secondary education.

Based on such basic recognition, the following measures are to be promoted.

Firstly, the national government will collect information and conduct studies concerning effective education practices and materials and provide the outcomes to schools with the aim of improving teaching methods at schools. Additionally, assistance measures will be taken, such as the appropriate deployment of local personnel and preparation of teaching materials, thereby promoting more impressive moral education.

Secondly, opportunities for diverse experience-based activities are to be increased in school education to stimulate social development and foster a rich humanity of students, while seeking collaboration with social education. In light of the purport of the amendment of the School Education Act, model regions and model schools will be designated with the aim of proactively promoting students' volunteer activities and other social contribution activities, nature-based Experiential Activities, working experiences, vocational experiences, artistic and cultural activities, and exchanges with elderly people and persons with disabilities, etc.

Pioneering efforts of those model regions and schools are to be introduced and disseminated to all schools nationwide.

Thirdly, each school should strive to manage itself and provide education with due consideration to human rights in order to fulfill their significant roles to cultivate children's spirit of respect for human rights. In particular, as school violence and bullying have been causes of concern, schools must guide students to develop a sense of discipline while showing a strict attitude against any such acts, thereby securing a safe school environment in which all students can learn with peace of mind.

Fourthly, regarding higher education, universities, etc. are to be encouraged to pay further attention to human rights education in legal studies or other diverse fields, on a voluntary basis.

Fifthly, the national government will endeavor to enhance the quality of teachers, who play central roles in school education, through proper training and recruitment aiming to secure and develop personnel who have love for children, a sense of responsibility, practical ability to teach specific subjects, and an awareness of respect for human rights. Teachers are to be provided with increased opportunities to broaden their perspective through diverse experience. Furthermore, teachers themselves must not commit any act that would infringe children's human rights in class, etc. Therefore, strict guidance should be provided to teachers to prevent any careless problematic acts. The national government will also devise appropriate deployment of teachers so that education can be provided meticulously depending on each student.

B. Social Education

It is necessary to further enhance human rights-related content of social education through

implementing various measures for promoting lifelong learning, as mentioned in a report by the Council for Lifelong Learning, which recommends the achievement of a society respecting all people's human rights and cites human rights as a contemporary issue, as well as in reports by various other councils that recommend the enhancement of functions of social education for assisting education at home and the promotion of a variety of experience-based activities, etc. It should be noted that social education should not only aim to provide knowledge on human rights but to have people develop sensitivity to human rights that naturally appears in their attitudes and behavior in everyday life.

Firstly, education at home should be enhanced as the starting point of all education, playing a significant role in individuals' personality formation from an early age, by such means as enriching emotions, nurturing compassion and respect for life, and developing the ability to differentiate between right and wrong. In particular, parents themselves need be free from prejudice and discrimination and show children this mindset in their daily lives. Therefore, opportunities are to be provided for parents to acquire relevant information and learn about preferable education at home so that parents and children can both develop sensitivity to human rights. Fathers are to be encouraged to participate in education at home as well. Additionally, a consultation system should also be developed targeting parents who have worries and concerns over child rearing.

Secondly, local residents should have diverse opportunities to learn about human rights at community learning centers or other social education facilities, depending on circumstances of respective regions. Therefore, the national government will promote efforts, such as offering relevant learning opportunities, carrying out

exchange programs, and preparing learning materials, to increase an understanding on human rights issues broadly among citizens. Furthermore, the national government will seek to increase opportunities for juveniles' volunteer activities and other social contribution activities, nature-based Experiential Activities, and other experience-based activities, as well as exchanges with elderly people and persons with disabilities, etc., in collaboration with school education, with the aim of stimulating social development and fostering compassion and humanity amongst juveniles. Additionally, efforts will also be made to develop an environment to facilitate volunteer activities and other social contribution activities of juveniles having completed elementary and lower secondary school education and adults in general.

Thirdly, the national government will develop experience-based learning programs that will foster motivation to learn and broadly disseminate the outcomes to relevant organizations. It is important to develop and provide learning programs that particularly focus on cultivating the awareness to intuitively notice any incident in everyday life that is problematic from a humanitarian point of view and developing sensitivity to human rights that ensures individuals' unconscious attitude and behavior based on respect for human rights, while referring to the outcomes of practical learning activities achieved by municipalities. For that purpose, methods to raise people's motivation should be devised by citing familiar examples or incorporating activities that facilitate development of sensitivity to human rights naturally through exchange with diverse people, and the outcomes of research and development on such teaching methods should be disseminated nationwide.

Fourthly, the national government will endeavor to train social education supervisors who lead human rights education in respective regions to enhance

their quality, and will improve an instruction system for social education. It is necessary to devise the content and methods of instructor training sessions with originality and ingenuity by adopting practical and experience-based means.

(2) Human Rights Awareness-Raising

It is essential to ensure that not only the content but also the implementation methods of human rights awareness-raising are broadly understood and accepted by citizens. When considering efforts concerning human rights in general, such perspective is indispensable.

A. Content

From the perspective of gaining citizens' understanding and compassion, human rights awareness-raising activities should be carried out based on the current social circumstances relating to human rights. In particular, the following can be cited as concrete content.

i. Acquisition of Basic Knowledge on Human Rights

The poll conducted by the Prime Minister's Office (Cabinet Office, at present) in 1997 revealed a decreasing trend concerning citizens' awareness that fundamental human rights are guaranteed as inviolable and eternal rights under the Constitution of Japan. As symbolized with this fact, citizens do not sufficiently have basic knowledge on human rights. Therefore, it is necessary to promote awareness-raising to have citizens acquire basic knowledge on human rights by disseminating the details of the Constitution of Japan and other human rights-related domestic laws and international treaties.

ii. Preciousness of Life

In recent years, brutal crimes victimizing

elementary school kids or other weak people often capture the attention of society. Not limited to these, there are cases of bullying, child abuse, stalking, trouble on trains or other transportation facilities, trouble between neighbors and so on, in which people are easily hurt or killed due to trivial reasons in all scenes of everyday life. As a background factor, weakening of respect for human life has been pointed out. It is required to promote awareness-raising to make people aware of the preciousness and importance of life and the importance of coexistence with and compassion towards others, while recognizing that they themselves and others are both irreplaceable.

iii. Respect for Individuality

The general tendency of the Japanese people to excessively worry about reputation and others' opinions and the persistent 'follow-the-others' mentality in society are apt to drive people to retreat to safe ground or overlook problems. This partially hinders the elimination of varied discrimination, and it is important to correct such tendency and mentality. Therefore, it is necessary to promote awareness-raising to appeal to citizens that mutual respect for human rights is the key value based on each person's individuality.

B. Methods

Major points to note regarding methods of awareness-raising from the perspective of gaining citizens' understanding and compassion are as follows.

i. Awareness-Raising Depending on Targets' Developmental Stage

Generally speaking, it is essential to carry out appropriate human rights awareness-raising activities in accordance with targets' level of understanding. For that purpose, methods should

be devised depending on their developmental stage by citing their concrete experience in everyday life in households, schools, communities and workplaces, etc. from the perspective of respecting human rights, with the aim of having targets consider human rights issues as issues they face themselves. Methods should be adopted appropriately for each developmental stage. For example, for young children, effective methods include having them write an essay to help them deepen understanding on human rights as an issue they face themselves or having them consider a slogan on their own. The focus should be placed on developing their compassion towards others and enriching their sentiments to guide them to feel others' pain and behave with consideration to others' feelings. For juveniles with a certain level of understanding, it will be effective to provide them with opportunities for volunteer activities and other social contribution activities wherein they directly have contact with elderly people and persons with disabilities and would develop sensitivity to human rights.

ii. Awareness-Raising Using Concrete Examples

Citing concrete examples for free discussion is an effective awareness-raising method that can inspire targets. For example, if human rights promotion and protection organizations can attract the attention of society to specific human rights issues on a timely basis, this is expected to effectively help a broad range of citizens acquire correct knowledge and develop sensitivity towards respect for human rights. In particular, when a specific issue is closely related to a neighboring area, local people will become more interested and can deepen their understanding on the philosophy of respect for human rights. In that sense as well, community-based awareness-raising activities using specific examples are expected to be more

effective.

When citing any past example, awareness-raising activities should incorporate the perspective of how to respond to a recurrence of a similar case in the future based on lessons learned therefrom. It should also be noted that due consideration should be given to relevant victims who were deeply hurt by the human rights violation, and activities are to be carried out from the standpoint of the victims.

iii. Participation/Experience-Based

Awareness-Raising

Conventional awareness-raising activities such as the preparation and delivery of various booklets, holding of lectures and training sessions, and screening of films and videos, which have been led by implementation institutions, clearly exhibit certain effects in terms of broadly disseminating correct knowledge and information but have limits from the perspective of having each citizen acquire sensitivity and sensibility to human rights. Therefore, adoption of new methods to have targeted citizens actively and voluntarily participate in activities (such as workshops and experience to use wheelchairs) should be positively discussed and promoted.

2. Efforts for Each Human Rights Issue

Human rights education and awareness-raising should preferably be promoted not only through efforts from universal perspectives but also through efforts for each human rights issue to deepen people's knowledge and understanding and cultivate their practical attitude towards the resolution thereof. It is necessary to promote appropriate efforts based on the circumstances of respective regions, developmental stage of targets, and characteristics of relevant implementing entities.

(1) Women

The Constitution of Japan guarantees equality under the law, prohibits discrimination in political, economic or social relations because of sex (Article 14), and clearly prescribes gender equality in family relationships (Article 24). However, in reality, conventional gender bias persistently remains and women still often suffer disadvantages in various scenes in social life. Domestic violence by husbands or partners, sex crimes, prostitution, sexual harassment, stalking or other cases of violence against women frequently attract the attention of society, and it could hardly be said that a gender-equal society has been achieved.

Improvement of women's status is a worldwide problem. Looking at related international action centered on the United Nations, the United Nations designated the year 1975 as International Women's Year and positioned the decade from the following year (from 1976 to 1985) as United Nations Decade for Women to encourage each member country to carry out activities to deepen awareness on women's issues. The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was adopted in 1979 (enforced in 1981; Japan ratified the Convention in 1985), and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women was adopted in 1993. International conferences including the World Conference on Women have been held worldwide and efforts for improving women's status have thus been promoted on an international scale.

Also in Japan, the Prime Minister's Office (Cabinet Office, at present) took the initiative to promote efforts for achieving a gender-equal society, while paying attention to such international action. In June 1999, the Basic Act for Gender-Equal Society (Act No. 78 of 1999) was enacted for the purpose of promoting relevant efforts in a comprehensive and planned manner, and the Basic Plan for

Gender Equality, the first plan based on the same Act, was formulated in December 2000. Upon reform of central government bodies in January 2001, the Council for Gender Equality and the Gender Equality Bureau were established within the Cabinet Office and the system to promote relevant activities was enhanced and strengthened. With regard to violence against women, legal measures have been taken such as the enactment of the Anti-Stalking Act (Act No. 81 of 2000) and the Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and the Protection of Victims (Act No. 31 of 2001). Based on these trends, the following efforts are to be promoted proactively.

- (i) Demonstrate leadership by expanding women's participation in the process of policy decisions and broadly encourage and support efforts for the expansion of women's social participation by local governments, companies, and various other organizations and bodies. (All ministries and agencies)
- (ii) Review various social systems and practices from the perspective of gender equality and actively carry out public relations and awareness-raising activities involving all citizens in order to change the mindset of people who have supported those conventional systems and practices. Additionally, endeavor to disseminate the content of domestic laws and regulations relating to women's rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the outcomes of the UN conference "Women 2000" and other international documents. (All ministries and agencies)
- (iii) Enhance and strengthen awareness-raising activities for disseminating the idea of respect for human rights and raising public awareness with the aim of eliminating prejudice and

- discrimination against women and erasing conventional social perception of dividing roles by sex. (Ministry of Justice)
- (iv) Enhance the content of education and learning to promote gender equality in all social aspects, including households, schools, communities, etc., to correct conventional social perception of dividing roles by sex and promote the development of a sense of gender equality based on respect for human rights. Additionally, strengthen measures to increase lifelong learning opportunities for women and promote women's social participation. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
 - (v) Carry out awareness-raising for ensuring non-discriminatory employment opportunities and working conditions for men and women and conduct programs to assist women's social participation focusing on jobs at "*Josei to Shigoto no Miraikan*" (Center for Women and Jobs). (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare; Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
 - (vi) Carry out awareness-raising for improving the status of women at home and communities in rural areas and promoting their participation in policy decisions in order to achieve a society in which women in rural areas can actively participate in various activities together with men. (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)
 - (vii) Promote the use of gender-free expressions in publications and public relations materials made by the national government organizations and promote effective measures to ensure respect for women's human rights by mass media, while encouraging their voluntary efforts, in accordance with the characteristics of each medium and technological innovation. (Cabinet Office and other relevant ministries and agencies)
 - (viii) Develop the basis for eliminating violence against women, such as domestic violence by husbands or partners, sex crimes, prostitution, sexual harassment and stalking, and comprehensively promote a wide range of efforts depending on each form of violence. (Cabinet Office)
 - (ix) In order to eliminate all forms of violence against women, such as domestic violence by husbands or partners, sex crimes, prostitution, sexual harassment and stalking, not only crack down on crimes strictly but also develop a system for investigations, etc. from the perspective of protecting human rights of victimized women such as enabling them to choose the gender of investigators, and provide officials in charge of questioning or counseling with proper education and training. (National Police Agency)
 - (x) Upon occurrence of a case of domestic violence by the husband or partner, sex crime, prostitution, sexual harassment or stalking, investigate or deal with the case as a human rights violation, provide counseling, or otherwise seek to resolve the case properly depending on the circumstances. Additionally, carry out awareness-raising activities targeting related parties to have them acquire and deepen correct understanding on the significance of respecting women's human rights. (Ministry of Justice)
 - (xi) With the aim of facilitating the resolution of human rights issues concerning women, actively offer counseling services at permanent human rights counseling centers of Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus and further enhance the human rights counseling system including the

telephone service, Women's Rights Hotline, established nationwide in 2000. Endeavor to make the counseling system more friendly to women, such as by ensuring that female Human Rights Volunteers or officials respond to consultations from women, and also seek close collaboration and cooperation with related organizations as necessary. (Ministry of Justice)

- (xii) Actively offer cooperation to international efforts for promotion and protection of women's human rights, such as the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women established within the United Nations Development Fund for Women, for which Japan played the leading role. (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

(2) Children

The fundamental principles or ideas for respect for children's human rights and guarantee and promotion of children's mental and physical welfare have already been clearly described in the Constitution of Japan, the Child Welfare Act, the Children's Charter and the Basic Act on Education, etc. Internationally as well, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child clarifies the criteria for guaranteeing relevant rights and declares various children's rights including the need to consider the best interests of children.

However, the environment surrounding children is also a concern in Japan. For example, juvenile delinquency is currently in the fourth peak of increase after World War II and it is pointed out that juvenile delinquency is becoming more brutal and violent in nature. In addition, child abuse cases by biological parents are becoming more serious, and the number of children suffered damages from crimes is increasing. Child prostitution or pornography, drug abuse or other crimes harming

children's health and welfare also happen frequently. At schools, school violence, bullying and non-attendance at school are still causes of concern.

In light of these circumstances, the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children (Act No. 52 of 1999) and the Act on the Prevention, etc. of Child Abuse (Act No. 82 of 2000) were enacted and other legal measures have been taken. It is also necessary to reconsider child rearing at home and in local communities and ideal school education, and at the same time, to question adults' tendency to prioritize self-interest and place importance on money and other material things. Adults are required to respect the personality of individual children, who forge the future of Japan, and to fulfill their responsibility towards children, being fully aware of the importance of ensuring their sound development.

With such recognition, the whole society including local governments, local communities, schools, households, private companies and organizations, and mass media, not limited to the national government, are to collaboratively and proactively promote the following efforts for respecting and protecting children's human rights, in line with the purport of various domestic laws and regulations and international treaties relating to children's human rights.

- (i) Enhance and strengthen awareness-raising activities to disseminate the idea of respect for human rights and raise public awareness with the aim of creating a society in which children are respected at a maximum as individuals who enjoy fundamental human rights, not merely as subjects to be protected and guided. (Ministry of Justice)
- (ii) Endeavor to further promote education to

- raise awareness of respect for human rights in light of the spirits of the Constitution of Japan and the Basic Act on Education through school education and social education. Regarding school education, promote studies on teaching methods for enhancing human rights education and endeavor to ensure guidance and school management prioritizing individuals with due consideration to human rights of children and students. Students are to be guided to cherish both their own and other people's rights and to fulfill their obligations and responsibility in society. Also endeavor to increase and improve learning opportunities for social education, holding classes and lectures at community learning centers, etc. so that citizens can acquire and deepen correct understanding on the significance of children's human rights. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
- (iii) Proactively promote volunteer activities and other social contribution activities, as well as experience-based activities such as nature-based Experiential Activities, at all elementary and lower and higher secondary schools from the perspective of stimulating social development and fostering a rich humanity of children, based on the purport of the amendments of the School Education Act and the Social Education Act in July 2001. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
 - (iv) For resolving such problems as school violence, bullying or non-attendance at school, etc., facilitate the enhancement of the school counseling system, including appropriate assignment of school counselors. Provide guidance to children and students who are apt to have problematic behavior to have them understand that violence or bullying should never be permissible, and apply a suspension system as needed. Additionally, develop a community-based support system under which the relevant school, board of education and related organizations establish a support team to offer proper support to individual students. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
 - (v) Endeavor to enhance efforts for supporting education at home such as providing parents with learning opportunities and information concerning education at home, and developing a system for counseling on child rearing. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
 - (vi) Strengthen collaboration among relevant organizations, such as Child Guidance Centers, schools and the police, to promote comprehensive measures concerning serious problems such as child abuse that hinder sound development of children, and promote awareness-raising activities. (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare; Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; National Police Agency)
 - (vii) Actively promote public understanding of the issue of commercial sexual exploitation of children such as child prostitution and child pornography as well as sale of children, which is a common task for the international community to tackle, through dissemination of the information on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and in other ways. (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
 - (viii) Offer counseling or other support to children suffering from damages due to crimes and promote efforts to crack down on crimes harming children's welfare, thereby rescuing and protecting child victims. (National Police)

- Agency)
- (ix) Ensure that proper childcare is provided, based on the guidelines for day-care centers, depending on children's mental and physical development and circumstances of households and regions, in order to develop young children's mindset to respect human rights as prescribed in the guidelines. Additionally, promote human rights education and awareness-raising targeting nursery teachers and instructors for children, etc. (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
 - (x) Upon occurrence of a case of child abuse or corporal punishment, investigate or deal with the case as a human rights violation, provide counseling, or otherwise seek to resolve the case properly depending on the circumstances. Additionally, carry out awareness-raising activities targeting related parties to have them deepen correct awareness and understanding on the significance of children's human rights. (Ministry of Justice)
 - (xi) Enhance the quality of teachers and school staff through proper training and recruitment to raise their awareness of respect for human rights. Also improve the deployment of teachers so that meticulous education can be provided depending on each student. Furthermore, strictly guide teachers not to carelessly violate children's human rights. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
 - (xii) Enhance and strengthen the Children's Human Rights Expert Advisors System to resolve human rights issues concerning children. Actively offer counseling services at permanent human rights counseling centers of Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus and further enhance the human rights counseling system including the

telephone service, Children's Rights Hotline. When offering counseling services, seek close collaboration and cooperation among related organizations. (Ministry of Justice)

(3) Elderly People

Population ageing has been progressing rapidly worldwide. In Japan, it was expected that one-quarter of the population would be aged 65 and over by 2015. The pace of population ageing has thus been unprecedentedly fast and the Japanese society and economy as well as citizens have been unable to catch up with it. Proper measures have been urgently needed.

Looking at international measures for population ageing, the United Nations hosted a world conference in Vienna in 1982 as the first international conference and formulated the "International Plan of Action on Ageing." At the 46th United Nations General Assembly in 1991, the "United Nations Principles for Older Persons" were adopted. At the 47th United Nations General Assembly in 1992, further dissemination of the International Plan of Actions and the United Nations Principles were recommended and a resolution to designate the year 1999 as the "International Year of Older Persons" was adopted, while anticipating that each country would make various efforts in preparation for the ageing society.

In Japan, based on the Guideline of Measures for the Longevity Society (Cabinet decision in June 1986), the national government promoted comprehensive measures. Since the enforcement of the Basic Act on Measures for the Ageing Society in December 1995, the national government has taken measures based on the Guideline of Measures for the Ageing Society (Cabinet decision in July 1996) formulated under the same Act, while taking relevant international trends into

consideration. In December 2001, the new Guideline of Measures for Ageing Society was decided at a Cabinet meeting with the aim of continuously promoting related measures.

Human rights issues involving elderly people include difficulties in social participation, in addition to physical and mental abuse and infringement of their property rights. In light of such tendencies, etc., support will be offered to elderly people so that they can live independently without worries and the following efforts are to be promoted proactively to ensure active social participation of elderly people as significant members constituting society.

- (i) Deepen citizens' awareness and understanding on elderly people's human rights and enhance and strengthen awareness-raising activities to disseminate the idea of respect for human rights and raise public awareness with the aim of creating a society in which elderly people can live actively as significant constituent members. (Ministry of Justice)
- (ii) Broadly deepen citizens' interest in and understanding on welfare of elderly people through events for the Respect-for-the-Aged Day, a senior citizens' day and senior citizens' week. (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- (iii) In light of the progress in population ageing, promote school education to foster students' respect and gratitude towards elderly people and deepen their understanding on basic knowledge on the aging society and problems of nursing care and welfare of elderly people through the entirety of educational activities, including each subject, moral education, special activities and integrated study classes. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
- (iv) Promote the systematic development of learning opportunities for elderly people and the environmental development to help elderly people actively participate in social activities with their excellent knowledge and experience, etc. (Ministry of Labour and Welfare; Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
- (v) Increase opportunities for intergenerational exchanges to deepen mutual understanding and a sense of unity between elderly people and other generations. (Cabinet Office; Ministry of Labour and Welfare; Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
- (vi) Promote elderly people's social participation including volunteer activities so that elderly people can also play active roles in society. (Cabinet Office; Ministry of Labour and Welfare; Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
- (vii) Make effort to ensure stable employment up to 65 years of age by raising retirement ages, and offer assistance for re-employment and carry out awareness-raising activities for securing diverse employment opportunities for elderly people with the aim of creating a society in which elderly people can continue working fully utilizing knowledge and experience they have obtained over years. (Ministry of Labour and Welfare)
- (viii) Offer support to elderly people in rural areas, where population ageing is especially rapid, so that they can actively engage in agriculture and community activities throughout their lives and continue living in their communities with peace of mind. (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)
- (ix) Upon occurrence of a case of physical, mental or financial abuse (infringement of property rights) of the elderly by caregivers,

investigate or deal with the case as a human rights violation, provide counseling, or otherwise seek to resolve the case properly depending on the circumstances. Additionally, carry out awareness-raising activities targeting related parties to have them deepen correct awareness and understanding on the significance of elderly people's human rights. (Ministry of Justice)

- (x) With the aim of facilitating the resolution of human rights issues concerning elderly people, actively offer counseling services at permanent human rights counseling centers of Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus and further enhance the human rights counseling system to make it more accessible for elderly people. When offering counseling services, seek close collaboration and cooperation among related organizations. (Ministry of Justice)

(4) Persons with Disabilities

Article 3, paragraph (2) of the Basic Act for Persons with Disabilities provides that "all persons with disabilities are guaranteed the opportunity to participate in activities in society, the economy, culture, and other fields as constituent members of society." However, in reality, persons with disabilities are apt to face disadvantages due to various physical or social barriers and their independence and social participation are often hindered. Prejudice and discrimination against persons with disabilities are sometimes caused by a lack of understanding on causes or symptoms of disabilities.

Looking at international trend concerning issues involving persons with disabilities, the United Nations adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons in 1971 and the Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons in

1975, and thus presented the guidelines concerning fundamental human rights and issues on persons with disabilities based on the idea of normalization. Following this, at the 31st General Assembly in 1976, the United Nations adopted a resolution to designate the year 1981 as the International Year of Disabled Persons and also adopted the Plan of Action for the International Year of Disabled Persons, which was later approved in 1979. Additionally, a declaration to designate the decade from 1983 to 1992 as the United Nations Decade for Disabled Persons was adopted and each country was encouraged to promote welfare of persons with disabilities. After this decade, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) adopted a resolution to designate the decade from 1993 to 2002 as the Asia Pacific Decade for Disabled Persons to further deal with issues involving persons with disabilities on an ongoing basis.

In Japan as well, various efforts have been made in tandem with this international action. In March 1982, the Long-Term Plan for Persons with Disabilities was formulated, and the Headquarters for Promoting Measures for Persons with Disabilities headed by the Prime Minister was established in April of the same year (renamed as the Headquarters for Promoting Policies for Persons with Disabilities in January 1996), thereby endeavoring to promote employment and develop social facilities and infrastructure for persons with disabilities. In March 1993, the New Long-Term Plan for Persons with Disabilities was formulated by revising the original plan, and in December 1995, the Plan for Persons with Disabilities was formulated, covering the seven years from FY1996, the final year of the New Long-Term Plan, to FY2002, to further facilitate policies for persons with disabilities from a long-term perspective.

Based on these trends, the following efforts are to

be promoted proactively.

- (i) Further facilitate independence and social participation of persons with disabilities and promote awareness-raising and public relations activities to achieve the idea of normalization towards the goal of full participation and equality of persons with disabilities (awareness-raising and public relations activities, etc. intensively carried out on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities and during the Week of Persons with Disabilities). (Cabinet Office)
- (ii) Enhance and strengthen awareness-raising activities to disseminate the idea of respect for human rights and raise public awareness with the aim of creating a society in which independence and full participation of persons with disabilities can be achieved by eliminating prejudice and discrimination and broadly disseminating the idea of normalization. (Ministry of Justice)
- (iii) Enhance the content of education at special schools for visually impaired, hearing impaired, physically disabled and mentally retarded persons and promote awareness-raising activities targeting school teachers and other staff and guardians, such as the provision of exchange education at elementary or lower secondary schools or in local communities and the preparation and delivery of teaching materials for elementary and lower secondary school teachers with the aim of promoting their understanding and awareness towards children with disabilities. Additionally, promote school education to deepen students' understanding of persons with disabilities in general and problems of social support or nursing care and welfare of persons with disabilities through the entirety of educational activities, including each

subject, moral education, Tokkatsu (Student-led activities) and Period for Integrated Study. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)

- (iv) Set the Disability Employment Awareness Month and hold a national meeting to facilitate employment of persons with disabilities, thereby stimulating persons with disabilities to aim to become vocationally independent and deepening citizens' understanding on the problem of disability employment. Additionally, hold the Abilympics, a skills competition for persons with disabilities, for enhancing their vocational abilities and deepening the understanding and awareness of society. (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- (v) Provide training for mental health physicians designated by the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare and mental health counselors to facilitate the dissemination of the idea of normalization and promote and protect the human rights of persons with mental disorders with the aim of eliminating discrimination and prejudice against them. (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- (vi) Upon occurrence of a case of discrimination upon employment, infringement of property rights or poor treatment or abuse at facilities faced by a person with disabilities, investigate or deal with the case as a human rights violation, provide counseling, or otherwise seek to resolve the case properly depending on the circumstances. Additionally, carry out awareness-raising activities targeting related parties to have them deepen correct awareness and understanding on the significance of human rights of persons with disabilities. (Ministry of Justice)
- (vii) With the aim of facilitating the resolution of

human rights issues concerning persons with disabilities, actively offer counseling services at permanent human rights counseling centers of Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus and further enhance the human rights counseling system to make it more accessible for persons with disabilities. When offering counseling services, seek close collaboration and cooperation among related organizations. (Ministry of Justice)

- (viii) Offer cooperation for the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability to proactively support projects aiming to achieve the goals of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations. (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

(5) *Dowa* Issue

The *Dowa* issue is a serious human rights issue unique in Japan and should be resolved as soon as possible as a national issue. The national government has made efforts and taken various measures, especially after World War II under three special laws. Developments in infrastructure in order to improve the impoverished environment of the *Dowa* districts have achieved steady results, and the regional disparity with other districts has become considerably smaller in terms of hardware. The vicious cycle in that a materially impoverished environment reproduces discrimination has been broken and education and awareness-raising for eliminating a sense of discrimination has been devised and promoted.

These efforts have worked to steadily decrease a sense of discrimination on *Dowa* issue but the sense more or less remains persistently in some areas (report by the Council for Human Rights Promotion on July 29, 1999), and discrimination mainly in marriage and other problems in such

aspects as education, employment, industry, etc. are still observed. Additionally, so-called fake *Dowa* acts that hinder citizens' correct understanding on the *Dowa* issue are being committed, and the situation remains rather serious.

Specified regional improvement projects were all completed upon the abolishment of the Act on Special National Financial Measures for Specified Regional Improvement Projects in March 2002. Therefore, required measures are to be taken depending on needs and circumstances of each district in the same manner as in other regions. Future measures for resolving the *Dowa* issue will be carried out within the general framework, but with regard to human rights education and awareness-raising, the following efforts are to be promoted proactively based on the purport of the opinions of the Council on the Policy of Regional Improvement presented in May 1996 and the outcomes of efforts made so far, considering the *Dowa* issue as one of the significant human rights issues.

- (i) Seek to eliminate the sense of discrimination on the *Dowa* issue by promoting human rights education and awareness-raising projects based on the Cabinet decision on July 26, 1996, titled "Future Policy for Early Resolution of the *Dowa* Issue." (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; Ministry of Justice)
- (ii) Encourage schools, households and communities to collaboratively raise motivation to learn and enhance academic abilities of students and people in general and promote efforts to resolve the *Dowa* issue through school education and social education. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
- (iii) Enhance and strengthen awareness-raising

activities to disseminate the idea of respect for human rights and raise public awareness with the aim of eliminating prejudice and discrimination against the *Dowa* issue and achieving early resolution of the issue. (Ministry of Justice)

- (iv) Provide guidance and carry out awareness-raising targeting employers so as to ensure the establishment of a fair recruitment system for securing equal employment opportunities for all people. (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- (v) Carry out awareness-raising projects targeting industries closely related to small scale businesses with the aim of broadly disseminating the philosophy of respect for human rights and deepening understanding of the industries. (Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry)
- (vi) Carry out education and awareness-raising activities targeting officials of agricultural or fisheries cooperatives or other related organizations by providing them with training on a broad range of human rights issues, including the *Dowa* issue, that have hindered efforts for promoting agriculture, forestry and fisheries. (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)
- (vii) Further promote comprehensive awareness-raising activities at open community centers called "*Rinpokan*," which serve as the base for exchange of local residents for the improvement of welfare and human rights awareness-raising in respective regions including the surrounding areas, based on the opinions of the Council on the Policy of Regional Improvement presented on May 17, 1996. Additionally, actively collaborate with community learning centers or other social education facilities, which are

expected to play central roles in promoting human rights education in respective regions. (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare; Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)

- (viii) Promote awareness-raising for eliminating so-called fake *Dowa* acts that hinder the resolution of the *Dowa* issue. (Ministry of Justice and other related ministries and agencies)
- (ix) Upon occurrence of a case of discrimination in marriage or employment, discriminatory graffiti, or posting of discriminatory information on the internet, etc. in relation to the *Dowa* issue, investigate or deal with the case as a human rights violation, provide counseling, or otherwise seek to resolve the case properly depending on the circumstances. Additionally, carry out awareness-raising activities targeting related parties to have them deepen correct awareness and understanding on the *Dowa* issue. (Ministry of Justice)
- (x) With the aim of facilitating the resolution of human rights issues in relation to the *Dowa* issue, actively offer counseling services at permanent human rights counseling centers of Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus and further enhance the human rights counseling system to make it more accessible for persons who have allegedly been victimized by human rights violations in relation to the *Dowa* issue. When offering counseling services, seek close collaboration and cooperation among related organizations. (Ministry of Justice)

(6) Ainu People

The Ainu people were historically the original inhabitants in Hokkaido, distinct from the

mainland Japanese, until late medieval times at the latest, and have somehow maintained an original culture and traditions such as the Ainu language. However, their culture and tradition, which are the sources of their pride as the Ainu people, have not been sufficiently preserved or handed down as a result of the governance by the Matsumae clan during the Edo era and the assimilation policy in the process of the development of Hokkaido after the Meiji Restoration. Economic conditions and levels of living and education of the Ainu people have been steadily improved through the Hokkaido Utari welfare measures or other measures, but there remain gaps between the Ainu people and others in their settlements and prejudice and discrimination in marriage or employment are still observed.

Under such circumstances, the Expert Committee on the Utari Measures was established as a private advisory organ for the Chief Cabinet Secretary in March 1995 to promote discussions on relevant measures including legislation. Based on the purport of the report by this Expert Committee, the Act on the Promotion of Ainu Culture, and Dissemination and Enlightenment of Knowledge about Ainu Tradition, etc. (Act No. 52 of 1997) was enacted in May 1997. At present, measures are being taken under this Act to carry out comprehensive and practical studies on the Ainu, promote Ainu culture including the Ainu language, and disseminate knowledge on Ainu tradition.

Based on these trends, the following efforts are to be promoted proactively from the perspective of deepening awareness and understanding of citizens in general concerning the history, culture, tradition and current status of the Ainu people and having them respect human rights of the Ainu people.

- (i) Promote measures to promote Ainu culture, and broadly disseminate knowledge on Ainu tradition and culture and raise awareness of

citizens in general. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology; Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism)

- (ii) Enhance and strengthen awareness-raising activities to disseminate the idea of respect for human rights and raise public awareness with the aim of eliminating prejudice and discrimination against the Ainu people and deepening correct understanding and awareness towards unique Ainu culture and tradition, thereby creating a society in which dignity of the Ainu people is fully respected. (Ministry of Justice)
- (iii) Promote training of school teachers to ensure that they teach students about the Ainu people in social studies, etc. and continue providing education from the standpoint of respecting fundamental human rights. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
- (iv) Give due consideration to the promotion of educational studies on the Ainu language and culture at higher education facilities, etc. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
- (v) Promote activities at facilities called "*Seikatukan*" to improve living of the Ainu people and raise their awareness. (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- (vi) Upon occurrence of a case of discrimination in marriage or employment faced by an Ainu person, investigate or deal with the case as a human rights violation, provide counseling, or otherwise seek to resolve the case properly depending on the circumstances. Additionally, carry out awareness-raising activities targeting related parties to have them deepen correct awareness and understanding on the significance of human rights of the Ainu

people and on Ainu culture and tradition.
(Ministry of Justice)

- (vii) With the aim of facilitating the resolution of human rights issues concerning the Ainu people, actively offer counseling services at permanent human rights counseling centers of Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus and further enhance the human rights counseling system to make it more accessible for the Ainu people. When offering counseling services, seek close collaboration and cooperation among related organizations. (Ministry of Justice)

(7) Foreign Nationals

Reflecting internationalization in recent years, the number of foreign nationals residing in Japan is increasing year by year. The Constitution of Japan guarantees fundamental human rights equally for foreign nationals residing in Japan, except for rights that are construed to be vested only in Japanese nationals, judging from the nature thereof. The government of Japan is making effort to guarantee equal rights and opportunities to foreign nationals as well, respect cultures and values of other countries, and increase mutual understanding to achieve co-existence with foreign nationals.

However, in reality, there are problems concerning the Korean people residing in Japan, derived from historical developments. Various other human rights issues involving foreign nationals also arise frequently, such as discriminatory treatment in employment or rejection of applications for renting apartment rooms or entry to shops. Background factors include Japan's geographical characteristics of being an island nation, its history of long-term national isolation during the Edo era, and prejudice and discrimination against foreign nationals due to a lack of understanding concerning their languages, religions and customs. Such prejudice and

discrimination are considered to be steadily decreasing as a result of rapid internationalization, development of citizens' spirit of respect for human rights, and various entities' efforts for human rights education and awareness-raising, but problems still remain partially.

With this awareness in mind, the following efforts are to be promoted proactively so that prejudice and discrimination against foreign nationals are eliminated and the Japanese people accept foreign cultures and diversity and respect human rights of individuals from an international perspective.

- (i) Enhance and strengthen awareness-raising activities to disseminate the idea of respect for human rights and raise public awareness with the aim of eliminating prejudice and discrimination against foreign nationals and cultivating Japanese people's sense of human rights suited to the age of internationalization to assume a mindset of tolerance and respect towards diversity in cultures, religions and customs of foreign nationals. (Ministry of Justice)
- (ii) In light of the rapid progress in internationalization, promote school education to encourage students to have a broad vision and respect different cultures and foster students' attitude towards living together with people with different customs or cultures through the entirety of educational activities, including the classwork, moral education, special activities and integrated study classes. Offer appropriate assistance to foreign children and students, including Japanese language tuition. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
- (iii) Upon occurrence of a case of discrimination in employment, rejection of an application for renting an apartment room or entry to a shop

faced by a foreign national, or violence or harassment towards a Korean student residing in Japan, investigate or deal with the case as a human rights violation, provide counseling, or otherwise seek to resolve the case properly depending on the circumstances. Additionally, carry out awareness-raising activities targeting related parties to have them deepen correct awareness and understanding on the significance of human rights of foreign nationals. (Ministry of Justice)

- (iv) With the aim of facilitating the resolution of human rights issues concerning foreign nationals, actively offer counseling services at permanent human rights counseling centers of Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus and further enhance the human rights counseling system for foreign nationals such as by opening counseling centers with interpreters. When offering counseling services, seek close collaboration and cooperation among related organizations. (Ministry of Justice)

(8) People Living with HIV and Hansen's Disease Patients, etc.

Medically incorrect knowledge on diseases and excessive awareness of risks created prejudice and discrimination and have caused various human rights issues concerning present and former infectious disease patients and their families. For infectious diseases, medical treatment and preventive measures are obviously indispensable, but at the same time, it is necessary to give due consideration to human rights of present and former patients and their families and to eliminate prejudice and discrimination against them.

A. People Living with HIV, etc

HIV infection is a disease causing progressive

immune dysfunction. The immune deficiency syndrome caused by HIV is called AIDS. Since its first case was reported in the United States in 1981, AIDS has spread worldwide and the situation is rather serious. In Japan, the first AIDS patient was found in March 1985 and the disease has come to attract people's attention as a familiar problem.

Lack of correct knowledge and understanding has created prejudice and discrimination against AIDS patients and people living with HIV and they have faced various problems in their social life. They are rejected at hospitals or inspected without consent, or rejected for employment or forced to resign. Their applications for renting apartment rooms are rejected or they are forced to move out, or are not allowed to use public baths. However, infection routes for HIV are clarified and HIV itself is not highly contagious. As long as people lead normal lives based on correct knowledge on HIV, there is no need to be afraid of becoming infected. Furthermore, it has become possible to delay the onset or mitigate symptoms of AIDS thanks to the accumulation of medical knowledge and development of new drugs, etc.

The national government will endeavor to disseminate the preciousness of life of all people and the importance of the existence broadly among citizens from the perspective of respecting fundamental human rights and will proactively promote the following efforts for deepening understanding on co-existence with AIDS patients and people living with HIV.

- (i) Promote awareness-raising activities to deepen understanding on HIV infection and people living with HIV by preparing and delivering relevant awareness-raising materials, carrying out various public relations activities and holding events on the World AIDS Day, thereby striving to disseminate correct knowledge and eliminate

prejudice and discrimination against AIDS patients and people living with HIV. (Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)

- (ii) Promote education on AIDS to eliminate prejudice and discrimination against AIDS patients and people living with HIV by having students acquire correct knowledge depending on their developmental stage, and also promote preparation of relevant teaching materials and training for school teachers. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
- (iii) Endeavor to disseminate correct knowledge on AIDS with the aim of eliminating discrimination at workplaces caused by misunderstanding towards AIDS patients and people living with HIV. (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
- (iv) Upon occurrence of a case of discrimination in everyday life, at workplaces or hospitals, or violation of privacy faced by an AIDS patient or a person living with HIV, investigate or deal with the case as a human rights violation, provide counseling, or otherwise seek to resolve the case properly depending on the circumstances. Additionally, carry out awareness-raising activities targeting related parties to have them deepen correct awareness and understanding on the significance of human rights of AIDS patients and people living with HIV. (Ministry of Justice)
- (v) With the aim of facilitating the resolution of human rights issues concerning AIDS patients and people living with HIV, actively offer counseling services at permanent human rights counseling centers of Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus and further enhance the human rights counseling system to make it more accessible

for AIDS patients and people living with HIV such as by ensuring stricter confidentiality of the consulted matters. When offering counseling services, seek close collaboration and cooperation among related organizations. (Ministry of Justice)

B. Present and Former Hansen's Disease Patients

Hansen's disease is caused by the bacteria *Mycobacterium leper*, but it is extremely rare to contract the disease only by being infected with the bacteria. Even if the disease is contracted, there is established effective treatment nowadays. It has also been proved that the disease is not genetic.

Therefore, it is not at all necessary to isolate Hansen's disease patients. Nevertheless, the disease had been considered to be peculiar due to the characteristic appearances of patients and an isolation policy had long been adopted in Japan to force patients to move into special sanatoriums. This isolation policy was maintained even in the Leprosy Prevention Act, which was amended in 1953, or even after errors in prior knowledge on the disease were revealed in 1955 onward. It was only after the enforcement of the Act on the Repeal of the Leprosy Prevention Act in 1996 that the isolation policy was abolished. However, many of those who had long been isolated in special sanatoriums faced difficulties in returning to society due to old age or having no connection with their families and relatives, even after they made a full recovery.

On May 11, 2001, a lower court made a ruling to hold the national government liable for compensation of damages sustained by Hansen's disease patients. This ruling called attention of society to the seriousness of the issue of Hansen's disease. The national government is now taking measures to compensate present and former

Hansen's disease patients, restore their honor and promote welfare therefor.

The national government needs to further strengthen relevant efforts for eliminating prejudice and discrimination against present and former Hansen's disease patients, etc. and will proactively promote the following efforts.

- (i) Promote awareness-raising activities to deepen understanding on Hansen's disease by preparing and delivering relevant awareness-raising materials, carrying out various public relations activities and operating the National Hansen's Disease Museum, thereby striving to disseminate correct knowledge and eliminate prejudice and discrimination against Hansen's disease and Hansen's disease patients. Utilize awareness-raising materials appropriately in school education and social education. (Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare; Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)
- (ii) Upon occurrence of a case of rejection of an application for renting an apartment room, discrimination and harassment in everyday life, or any hindrance in returning into society faced by a present or former Hansen's disease patient, etc., investigate or deal with the case as a human rights violation, provide counseling, or otherwise seek to resolve the case properly depending on the circumstances. Additionally, carry out awareness-raising activities targeting related parties to have them acquire correct knowledge on Hansen's disease and deepen understanding on the significance of human rights of present and former Hansen's disease patients, etc. (Ministry of Justice)
- (iii) With the aim of facilitating the resolution of human rights issues concerning present and

former Hansen's disease patients, etc., actively offer counseling services at permanent human rights counseling centers of Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus. In particular, provide counseling for those accommodated in special sanatoriums, while making effort to understand their feelings and heal their emotional wounds. When offering counseling services, seek close collaboration and cooperation among related organizations. (Ministry of Justice)

(9) People Released From Prison after Serving Their Sentences

People released from prison after serving their sentences often face persistent prejudice and discrimination and are subject to discriminatory treatment when getting jobs or renting apartment rooms. Even having a strong will for rehabilitation, they face difficulties in getting back into society.

In order to have people released from prison after serving their sentences be rehabilitated and lead a peaceful social life as a member of local communities, understanding and cooperation from their family members, workplaces and local communities are indispensable, in addition to a strong will for rehabilitation on the part of those people. Therefore, the national government needs to continue promoting awareness-raising activities for eliminating prejudice and discrimination against people released from prison after serving their sentences and helping their rehabilitation.

(10) Crime Victims, etc.

Recently, human rights issues concerning crime victims and their families have been attracting social attention and consideration to crime victims and measures to protect them are urgently required.

Rights of crime victims have come to be better protected in judicial proceedings through a series of legal measures, including the enactment of the Act on Measures Incidental to Criminal Proceedings for Protecting the Rights and Interests of Crime Victims in 2000 and the amendments of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Act on Committee for Inquest of Prosecution and the Juvenile Act. In 2001, the Act on Support for Crime Victims, etc. Such as Payment of Crime Victims Benefit was amended and efforts are to be made for proper application of these systems.

Serious problems involving crime victims include excessive media coverage, which may result in violation of privacy, defamation, and invasion of quiet private lives. Crime victims are usually in a position of being unable to make a complaint. Even if they intend to take legal action, the associated heavy burden often makes them hesitate and forces them to merely accept the situation.

Based on these trends, the national government needs to encourage voluntary efforts by mass media or otherwise promote awareness-raising activities that will contribute to promoting and protecting human rights of crime victims, etc.

(11) Human Rights Violations on the Internet

The internet enables not only communications using e-mail between specific persons but also information transmission targeting many and unspecified users such as through a website and repeated two-way communications of online news using a bulletin between many and unspecified users. In any case, senders are anonymous and information transmission is technically and psychologically easy. Such characteristics of the internet induce human rights violations such as posting of expressions disdaining others, information harmful to specific individuals or groups that may promote discrimination, or names

and photos identifying suspected juvenile delinquents, etc.

It is obviously necessary to respect freedom of expression guaranteed by the Constitution of Japan, but regarding vicious cases of human rights violation beyond permissible limits, measures have been taken on a case-by-case basis by encouraging voluntary regulations by the industry. When a sender is identified, relevant violation is to be eliminated through awareness-raising measures targeting the sender, and when a sender is not identified, the authority requests the suspension or deletion of the information to relevant providers.

Based on these trends, the following efforts are to be promoted proactively.

- (i) Promote awareness-raising activities targeting a broad range of citizens as it is indispensable to have general internet users and providers acquire and deepen correct understanding on privacy and honor of individuals. (Ministry of Justice)
- (ii) Enhance the content of information-related subjects in school education to teach students about the influence of progressing informatization on society, including problems caused by incorrect or biased information on the internet, and have them understand individuals' responsibility and morality when collecting or sending information on the internet. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)

(12) The abductions issue by North Korean Authorities and other issues

During the 1970s and 1980s, many Japanese citizens disappeared under unusual circumstances. As it was revealed that there was a strong possibility that these cases involved abductions conducted by North Korea, since 1991, the

Government of Japan has brought up the abductions issue at every available opportunity. North Korea had stubbornly kept denying any involvement, but, at the Japan-North Korea summit meeting held in September 2002, North Korea at last admitted for the first time that it had abducted Japanese citizens and apologized. In October of the same year, while five of the abductees returned from North Korea to Japan, North Korean authorities have taken no concrete actions since then to resolve the abductions issue involving the other abductees.

The Government of Japan has identified 17 Japanese citizens as victims of abduction by North Korean authorities by 2010 and has continued required investigations with the recognition that there are other cases where the possibility of abduction by North Korea cannot be ruled out. The abductions by North Korean authorities are human rights violations against Japanese citizens and a critical issue concerning the sovereignty of Japan and the lives and safety of Japanese citizens. The Government of Japan has been making its utmost efforts to realize the return of all the abductees as quickly as possible under its responsibility.

Moreover, at the United Nations, Resolutions on the Situation of Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, co-tabled by Japan and the EU, have been adopted every year since 2003. The Resolutions urge North Korea to achieve early resolution of the abductions issue, including the immediate return of abductees.

In light of the United Nations General Assembly resolution in 2005, the Act Concerning Measures to Address the Abductions Issue and Other North Korean Human Rights Violations (Act No.96 of 2006) was enacted in June 2006. This Act requires the national and local governments to raise public awareness concerning the abductions issue and other human rights violations committed by North

Korea (hereinafter referred to as the "the abductions issue and other issues") as their responsibility. The Act also establishes North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week (December 10-16), which calls on the national and local governments to hold educational events on the topic during this week, aiming to deepen citizens' interests in and understanding of the abductions issue and other issues. In order to resolve the abductions issue and other issues, understanding and support from a broad range of citizens and the international community are indispensable, and it is required to make efforts to generate public interest and awareness.

Given these circumstances, the following efforts are to be promoted proactively.

- (i) Carry out projects suited to the North Korean Human Rights Abuses Awareness Week in order to deepen interest in and awareness on the abductions issue and other issues broadly among citizens. (All ministries and agencies)
- (ii) Prepare and deliver awareness-raising materials and carry out various other public relations activities in order to disseminate correct knowledge on the abductions issue and other issues and deepen public awareness and interest. (Cabinet Secretariat; Ministry of Justice)
- (iii) Carry out awareness-raising events in collaboration with local governments and private organizations in order to deepen understanding of all citizens concerning the abductions issue and other issues (Cabinet Secretariat; Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications; Ministry of Justice)
- (iv) Promote efforts to deepen students' understanding on the abductions issue and other issues in school education depending on their developmental stage. (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and

Technology)

- (v) Make efforts to deepen interest in and awareness on the abductions issue and other issues, broadly targeting other nations. (Cabinet Secretariat; Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

(13) Others

Also with regard to human rights issues that are not categorized into any of the above, such as those relating to sexual orientation including discrimination against homosexual persons, and newly arising human rights issues, the national government will consider measures to resolve them depending on the circumstances.

3. Training for Personnel Engaging in Specific Jobs Closely Related to Human Rights

When promoting human rights education and awareness-raising, it is indispensable to provide training or take other measures for personnel engaging in specific jobs closely related to human rights.

The Domestic Action Plan for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education cites persons engaging in 13 types of jobs (those working for public prosecutors offices, those working for correctional institutions and those engaging in rehabilitation services, those engaging in immigration services, school teachers and those engaging in social education, those engaging in medical services, those engaging in welfare services, coast guard officers, those engaging in labor policies, fire-fighting personnel, police officials, uniformed self-defense forces personnel, government employees, and media workers) and requires efforts to enhance the content of human rights education and awareness-raising in training for these people. In response, relevant ministries and agencies are making required efforts and their

efforts need to be further promoted proactively. They are expected to enhance the content of training programs and materials, respectively.

Additionally, the national government will endeavor to offer possible cooperation within its roles as the executive for any similar efforts by the legislature and the judiciary for lawmakers and judges, etc., such as the provision of information and introduction of lecturers.

4. System for Comprehensive and Effective Promotion

(1) Strengthening of Implementing Entities and Improvement of Their Recognition

In order to effectively promote human rights education and awareness-raising, it is necessary to enhance and strengthen the system of implementing entities both qualitatively and quantitatively. In particular, better utilization of approximately 14,000 Human Rights Volunteers located nationwide is effective and indispensable for effective community-based human rights awareness-raising. The base of the Human Rights Volunteers System needs to be strengthened while securing and properly deploying appropriate volunteers.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice and other implementing entities have yet to be sufficiently known to citizens in general, according to the results of opinion polls, etc. Generally speaking, when the organization and activities of an implementing entity are well-recognized, its awareness-raising measures are expected to generate larger effects. Accordingly, each implementing entity should normally carry out positive public relations activities such as preparing PR pamphlets and opening websites.

(2) Collaboration among Implementing Entities

A. Strengthening of Existing Organizations

Implementing entities are endeavoring to make collaboration in various fields for promoting human rights education and awareness-raising and they should continuously enhance their efforts.

In particular, the High-Level Central Government Liaison Council for Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising established by the national government and the network associations of human rights awareness-raising activities established locally are cross-sectional organizations for collaboration regarding human rights education and awareness-raising in general. The former was established on September 25, 2000, based on agreements of relevant Administrative Vice-Ministers. Regarding the latter, the Ministry of Justice has been promoting the establishment since FY1998 as part of the human rights awareness-raising networking project and network associations have already been established in all prefectures, and municipal-level networks are being established mainly in areas under jurisdiction of respective Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and branches. These organizations are playing significant roles in comprehensively and effectively promoting human rights education and awareness-raising and their organizational power and activities should further be strengthened and developed.

B. Creation of New Collaboration

For promoting human rights education and awareness-raising even more comprehensively and effectively, collaboration with new organizations needs to be considered in addition to the strengthening of collaboration among existing organizations. For example, for smooth human rights education and awareness-raising depending on developmental stage of targets, new collaboration should be sought between school and social education organizations such as

kindergartens, elementary and lower and higher secondary schools, and community learning centers, and human rights bodies such as Legal Affairs Bureaus, District Legal Affairs Bureaus and Human Rights Volunteers.

With regard to human rights issues concerning women, children and elderly people, relevant organizations respectively make various efforts in accordance with the characteristics of each organization. However, in order to promote these efforts more comprehensively and effectively, relevant organizations should collaborate with each other more closely and means to create flexible and broad collaboration should be devised depending on each issue and field.

Furthermore, in the field of promotion and protection of human rights, public interest corporations, private volunteer groups and companies are carrying out various activities and they are expected to continue playing significant roles as implementing entities. From this perspective, the possibility and extent of collaboration with these corporations, groups and companies should also be discussed. Needless to say, the neutrality in education and awareness-raising must be ensured when seeking new collaboration.

(3) Fostering of Responsible Personnel

It is important for the national and local governments to foster personnel for human rights education and awareness-raising by training, etc.

Additionally, the outcomes of projects promoted in social education and rich knowledge and experience of specialized organizations such as the Incorporated Foundation Center for Human Rights Education and Training should be fully utilized in formulating training programs for responsible personnel with the goal of fostering people who can act with sensitivity to human rights in

everyday life. When the national and local governments use private specialized organizations in designing and providing training sessions, due consideration must be given to ensuring the neutrality in education and awareness-raising.

People engaging in human rights education and awareness-raising are to make constant efforts for self-improvement to further develop sensitivity to human rights as responsible personnel and their voluntary efforts should be encouraged.

(4) Compilation and Development of Reference Materials

Documents and materials concerning human rights should be developed as indispensable tools for effective human rights education and awareness-raising. Reference materials held by respective implementing entities should be shared and utilized effectively and efficiently, and from that perspective, networking of information for facilitating mutual use should be considered and environmental development needs to be promoted so that many people can have access to required information.

As domestic and international circumstances concerning human rights change over time, documents should be collected and updated domestically and internationally, and efforts also need to be made to positively collect materials in fields uncovered so far.

The Human Rights Library of the Incorporated Foundation Center for Human Rights Education and Training, which collects and stores books and documents on human rights, as well as awareness-raising booklets, posters, videos, etc. prepared by local governments so far, should be improved to develop a better environment to facilitate the utilization of related documents and materials.

(5) Studies and Research on the Content and Methods

A. Utilization of Existing Studies and Research

Studies and research by private companies or organizations concerning the content and methods of human rights education and awareness-raising are often from unique and innovative perspectives (such as making analyses for specific targets intensively in detail) and better utilization of the outcomes of those studies and research is expected to enhance the effectiveness of awareness-raising activities.

Local governments have carried out awareness-raising activities in relation to various human rights issues and have also made significant achievements in studies and research of concrete methods, etc. they have adopted so far. The outcomes of their studies and research reflect diverse viewpoints to be referred to as their activities are generally focused on raising awareness of local residents on specific issues based on the circumstances and characteristics of respective regions.

The outcomes of studies and research on human rights conducted in foreign countries are also useful, in addition to those of domestic studies and research. Their utilization should also be worth considering from the following perspectives.

- (i) Comparison of concrete methods, while taking into consideration various institutional differences, will be helpful in creating new methods.
- (ii) The outcomes of foreign studies and research that reveal people's awareness on human rights in respective countries will help the understanding of the current status of human rights in Japan.

B. New Studies and Research

It is necessary to conduct studies and research

anew with regard to more effective content and methods of awareness-raising. As part of the preparatory work therefor, staff in charge of development of new content and methods need to be fostered.

Private specialized organizations have excellent staff with rich knowledge and experience concerning know-how of awareness-raising, and it is highly likely that they can develop effective content and methods from diversified standpoints. Therefore, entrustment of development work to private specialized organizations or joint development should also be promoted.

C. Others

The content and methods of human rights education and awareness-raising thus studied or developed should be demonstrated on such occasions as the Human Rights Awareness-Raising Festival and a mechanism to verify the effects of new content and methods should also be discussed.

(6) Enhancement of the Incorporated Foundation Center for Human Rights Education and Training

The Incorporated Foundation Center for Human Rights Education and Training is expected to fulfill its roles as a national center that comprehensively carries out relevant activities while taking advantage of the characteristics as a private organization.

It is necessary to further enhance the functions of the Center through structural development and securing and fostering of staff with expertise on human rights issues to have it fulfill its expected roles. At the same time, projects implemented by the Center, including activities to promote the use of the Human Rights Library and preparation of leader training programs and human rights education and awareness-raising materials, should

be enhanced.

The characteristics as a private organization should be taken into account in policies for enhancing the functions of the Center and it is also necessary to ensure consistency with the reforms of public interest corporations now being discussed by the national government.

(7) Utilization of Mass Media, etc.

A. Utilization of Mass Media

Mass media, which play prominent roles in promoting human rights education and awareness-raising, should be positively utilized for disseminating the significance of the idea of respect for human rights to a larger number of citizens in an effective manner.

Mass media include those using images, sound, letters, etc., each of which has different characteristics. Therefore, it is important to select optimal media to maximize the effects, in consideration of various factors including characteristics of each medium.

B. Utilization of Ideas of the Private Sector

The private sector has rich knowledge and experience concerning know-how of human rights education and awareness-raising and adoption of effective methods from diversified standpoints can be expected. Diverse ideas of the private sector should be utilized proactively. When utilizing the private sector, efforts should be made to increase effectiveness, such as concluding entrustment contracts, while giving due consideration to the neutrality in education and awareness-raising.

C. Cultivation of Citizens' Sense of Positive Participation

Encouraging citizens to naturally have interest in human rights issues would be most effective. At present, as part of such efforts, awareness-raising

slogans or designs of awareness-raising posters are publicly sought every year. Excellent works are awarded and used in awareness-raising activities. These efforts should further be devised and promoted.

(8) Utilization of the Internet and Other Information Technologies

The advancement of the internet as a communication tool has been rapid and ongoing. The characteristics of the internet in a highly information-oriented society should be fully utilized to provide diverse information on human rights (such as related treaties, laws, reports, regulations and awareness-raising materials (booklets, leaflets, posters, videos, etc.)) broadly to citizens and to carry out activities to disseminate the philosophy of respect for fundamental human rights and raise public awareness (introduction of the details of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, explanation of the current status of various human rights issues and efforts being made therefor, announcement of events during the Human Rights Week or other occasions, etc.).

Implementing entities should preferably open websites, enhance the content thereof, compile relevant links, and devise effective use of information terminals so that many people can easily have access to and utilize information concerning human rights education and awareness-raising.

Chapter 5 Promotion of the Plan

1. Promotion System

The national government will promote the implementation of this Basic Plan in close collaboration among relevant ministries and agencies, centered on the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science

and Technology, in order to ensure comprehensive and systematic promotion of human rights education and awareness-raising. For concrete actions, the High-Level Central Government Liaison Council for Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising and other frameworks for collaboration should be utilized effectively.

Relevant ministries and agencies are expected to fully understand the purport of this Basic Plan and develop and improve their systems respectively for measures under their jurisdiction, thereby striving to achieve steady and effective implementation of the Basic Plan.

2. Collaboration and Cooperation with Local Governments, etc.

Roles of local governments, public interest corporations, private organizations and companies are significant in promoting human rights education and awareness-raising. All these entities are expected to make voluntary efforts in line with the purport of the Basic Plan, while maintaining organic mutual collaboration as needed depending on their positions and fields of expertise. In the meantime, the national government should give due consideration to efforts and opinions of these entities when implementing the Basic Plan.

With regard to financial support for local governments, the national government is to take appropriate measures based on the provisions of Article 9 of the Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising Promotion Act: "The national government may take financial measures for local governments implementing policies on human rights education and human rights awareness-raising by entrusting activities relevant to those policies to the local governments or through other means."

Additionally, in consideration of international trends, the national government will endeavor to

play active roles in international efforts in the field of human rights.

3. Follow-up and Review of the Plan

The national government prepares and submits an annual report on human rights education and awareness-raising (White Paper) to the Diet, thereby checking the implementation status of the relevant measures in the previous fiscal year and endeavoring to follow up the Basic Plan while

properly reflecting the past outcomes to the future measures.

The national government will also strive to ascertain current status of human rights in Japan and actual conditions of and citizens' awareness on human rights education and awareness-raising, and will review the Basic Plan as needed in order to properly respond to changes in domestic society and the economy and in international trends, etc.

Changes in the Number of Human Rights Violation Cases

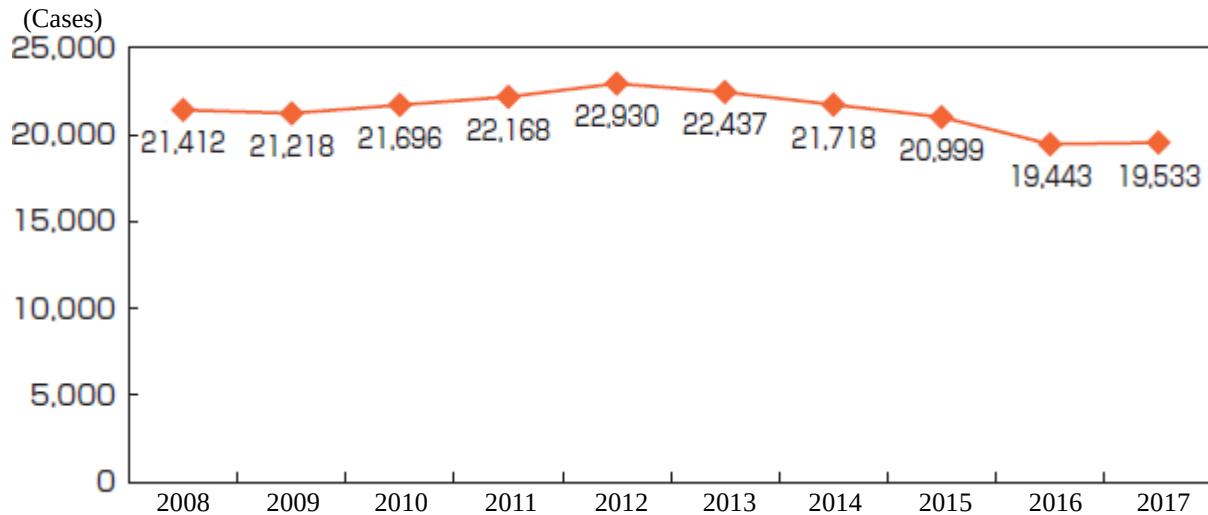


Fig.1 Changes in the Number of Human Rights Violation Cases for which Remedy Procedures were Newly Commenced

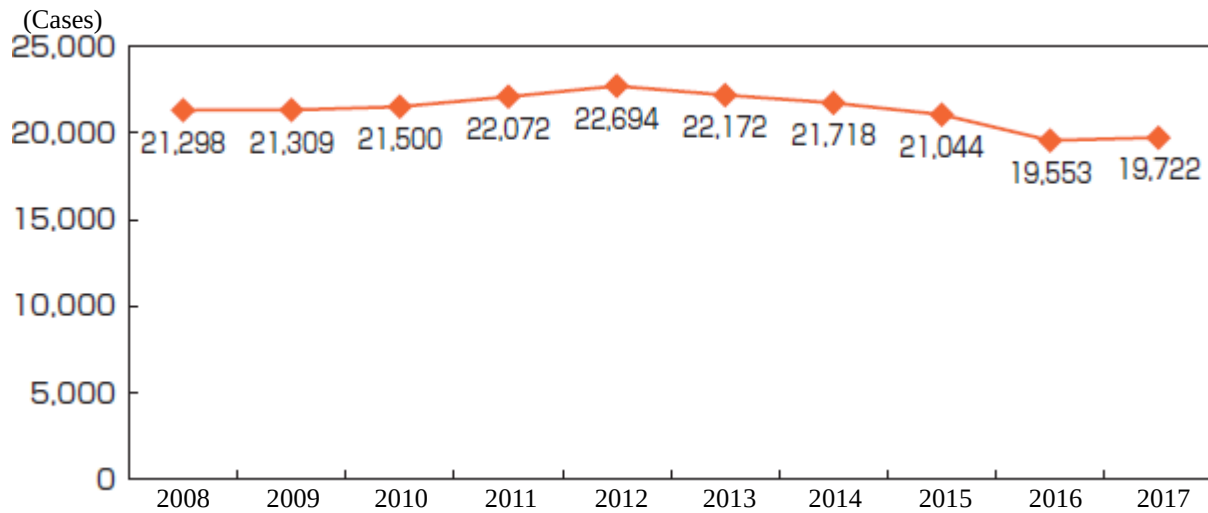


Fig.2 Changes in the Number of Processed Human Rights Violation Cases

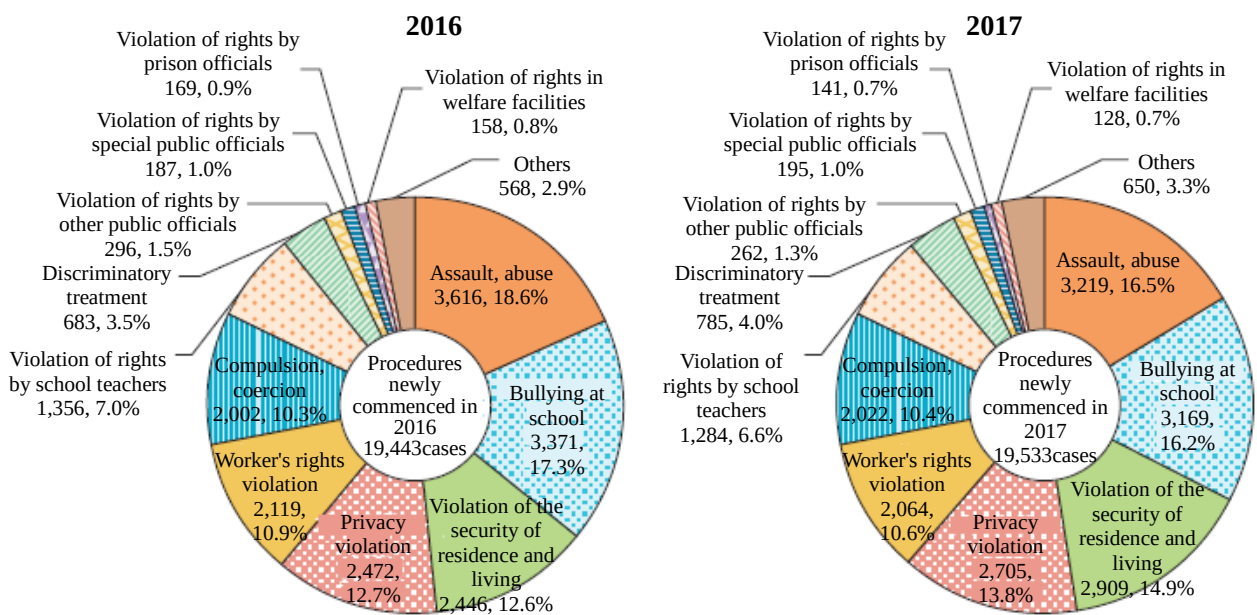


Fig.3 Comparison of Contribution Ratios of Types of Human Rights Violation Cases

(Based on the materials of the Human Rights Bureau)

Statistical Data on Human Rights Violation Cases (2017)

Cases	Total	Already accepted	Newly accepted							Subtotal	Processed												Unsettled		
			Subtotal	Declaration		Reporting by Human Rights Volunteers	Steps by the government to investigate and prosecute	Information	Transfer		Measures							Termination	Discontinuation	Transfer	Awareness-raising				
				Received by officials	Received by Human Rights Volunteers						Assistance	Conclusion	Request	Sanction	Mediation	Criminal referral	Separation of measures					Non-fulfillment of measures		Two different violations of international law	The last of violation was not defined
Overall total	20,675	1,142	19,533	9,319	9,974	-	29	203	8	19,722	17,845	23	672	88	-	-	-	10	17	994	140	5	8	42	953
Human rights violations in the process of execution of duties by public officials																									
Total	5,336	285	5,051	1,838	3,073	-	-	138	2	5,081	4,624	6	93	79	-	-	-	6	9	315	23	3	2	18	255
By special public officials																									
By police officials	206	15	191	129	62	-	-	-	-	190	160	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	1	-	-	-	-	16
By other special public officials	6	2	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
By school teachers																									
Corporal punishment	349	86	263	75	83	-	-	105	-	287	145	-	90	76	-	-	-	5	-	45	3	-	-	5	62
Others	1,056	35	1,021	483	523	-	-	13	2	1,003	925	4	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	64	5	1	2	10	53
Bullying at school	3,215	46	3,169	847	2,306	-	-	16	-	3,184	3,148	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	27	3	2	-	-	3	31
By prison officials	216	75	141	130	9	-	-	2	-	142	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	108	8	-	-	-	74
By other public officials																									
By national public officials	37	7	30	24	6	-	-	-	-	35	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	7	-	-	-	-	2
By local public officials	236	17	219	142	75	-	-	2	-	220	184	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	30	3	-	-	-	16
Others	15	2	13	6	7	-	-	-	-	15	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Human rights violations by individuals																									
Total	15,339	857	14,482	7,481	6,901	-	29	65	6	14,641	13,221	17	579	9	-	-	-	4	8	679	117	2	6	24	698
Trafficking in persons	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prostitution	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Child pornography	2	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assault and abuse																									
Among family members																									
By a husband	1,148	3	1,145	387	758	-	-	-	-	1,148	1,146	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
By a wife	81	-	81	29	52	-	-	-	-	81	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
By a parent	796	23	773	314	446	-	-	13	-	781	780	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	15
By a child	283	1	282	85	195	-	-	2	-	282	281	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Others	362	6	356	119	235	-	-	2	-	358	354	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	4
Other than that among family members	591	9	582	245	333	-	-	4	-	583	562	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	1	-	-	-	1	8
Private sanction	3	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Related to medical services	188	4	184	117	67	-	-	-	-	181	169	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	7
Related to personal liberty																									
Related to the Act on Mental Health and Welfare for Persons with Mental Disorders	103	7	96	70	26	-	-	-	-	100	87	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	3
Others	18	-	18	8	9	-	-	1	-	18	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Related to social welfare facilities																									
By facility officials	134	35	99	56	35	-	-	8	-	126	84	-	10	-	-	-	-	1	-	30	1	-	-	2	8
Others	31	2	29	10	19	-	-	-	-	28	24	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Social ostracism	24	-	24	11	13	-	-	-	-	23	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Discriminatory treatment																									
Against women	40	-	40	17	22	-	-	1	-	40	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Against elderly people	72	1	71	24	47	-	-	-	-	71	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Against persons with disabilities	305	33	272	174	97	-	-	1	-	275	234	6	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	30	1	-	-	-	30
Dowry issue	106	20	86	34	15	-	25	7	5	95	36	-	27	3	-	-	-	1	-	21	3	-	4	6	11
Against Ainu people	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Against foreign nationals	88	4	84	49	29	-	4	2	-	88	68	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	2	-
Against people living with HIV, etc.	45	1	44	30	14	-	-	-	-	42	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	3
Against people infected with hepatitis after serving their sentences	11	3	8	4	4	-	-	-	-	11	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Against homeless people	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Against sexual orientation	6	-	6	4	2	-	-	-	-	6	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Against gender identity disorder	17	-	17	11	6	-	-	-	-	16	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	2	1
Others	172	15	157	81	76	-	-	-	-	162	136	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	23	1	-	-	1	10
Related to suffrage	2	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Related to privacy																									
News media	7	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	-	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Internet	2,541	543	1,998	1,745	242	-	-	10	1	2,070	1,156	1	539	-	-	-	-	-	287	87	1	2	-	-	471
Private sexual image recording	66	-	66	51	15	-	-	-	-	53	50	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	13
Neighboring relationship	233	13	220	88	131	-	-	1	-	224	202	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	2	-	-	-	1	9
Others	448	34	414	231	181	-	-	2	-	429	364	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	54	5	-	-	6	19
Related to freedom of expression, association and assembly	2	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Related to freedom of religion	14	-	14	11	3	-	-	-	-	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Related to right to education	5	-	5	4	1	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Related to right to work																									
Unfair labor practices	21	-	21	7	14	-	-	-	-	21	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Violation of the Labor Standards Act	102	-	102	62	40	-	-	-	-	102	102	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	1,976	35	1,941	1,037	902	-	-	2	-	1,933	1,870	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	52	6	1	-	1	43
Related to housing and living safety																									
Self-execution	14	-	14	7	7	-	-	-	-	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Neighboring relationship																									
Minor environmental pollution	421	1	420	131	289	-	-	-	-	420	415	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	1
Others	974	27	947	317	628	-	-	2	-	959	927	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	26	4	-	-	1	15
Environmental pollution	15	-	15	6	9	-	-	-	-	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Real estate	267	-	267	118	149	-	-	-	-	266	265	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1></

List of Addresses of Reference Materials

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Incorporated Foundation Center for Human Rights Education and Training	http://www.jinken.or.jp/
Network Associations of Human Rights Awareness-Raising Activities	http://www.moj.go.jp/jinkennet/
List of Prefectural Associations of Human Rights Volunteers	http://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken125.html
List of Human Rights Volunteers Councils	http://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken126.html
Permanent Human Rights Counseling Centers (Human Rights Hotline)	http://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken20.html
Women's Rights Hotline	http://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken108.html
Spousal Violence Counseling and Support Centers	http://www.gender.go.jp/policy/no_violence/e-vaw/soudankikan/01.html
Locations of Prefectural Labor Bureaus	http://www.mhlw.go.jp/kouseiroudoushou/shozaiannai/roudoukyoku/
Children's Rights Hotline	http://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken112.html
List of Child Guidance Centers	http://www.mhlw.go.jp/bunya/ko/youkintou/gyakutai/
Human Rights Counseling Centers for Foreigners	http://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken21.html
Human Rights Counseling Services on the Internet	http://www.jinken.go.jp/
Human Rights Violation Cases in 2017 (Outline)	http://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken03_00214.html

White Paper on Human Rights Education and Awareness-Raising (2018)

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