● Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention

# 1. Current State of Motor Vehicle Thefts

Although the number of motor vehicle theft cases known to the police has been decreasing since 2003 when the number hit a record high, motor vehicle theft still occurs frequently all over Japan.You should always take anti-theft measures and protect your vehicle.

# 2. Motor vehicle Theft Prevention

It is effective to take multiple anti-theft measures.

○ Secure locking

You should always close the windows completely, take your vehicle’s key(do not leave it in or on your vehicle) and lock the steering wheel and doors even when you leave your car for just a minute or so.

○ Install an immobilizer

You should install an immobilizer (Note) to protect your vehicle from theft.

(Note): An immobilizer is an electronic anti-theft device that prevents the engine from running if the identification code transmitted by a transmitter contained in the ignition key does not match the identification code registered in the electronic control system of the vehicle in advance.

○ Utilize anti-theft devices

70% or more of all motor vehicle thefts occurred when the vehicles were locked. You should utilize anti-theft devices, such as an alarm system with a sensor that sounds an alarm when detecting abnormal shock, vibration or sound, etc.; a steering wheel lock; a tire wheel lock; a GPS tracking system and a shielding key case (Note), etc.

(Note): You should use a shielding key case after confirming its effectiveness.

○ Use a parking lot with a secure crime prevention system

70% or more of vehicle thefts occurred at home or in parking lots. You should install a light or security camera at home. When you use a parking lot, you should choose a well-lit parking lot with a secure anti-theft system.

○ Measures to prevent the theft of vehicle parts

You need to be aware of thieves who steal license plates, tires and wheels, etc. You should attach the license plate with anti-theft screws or take other appropriate measures.

○ Never leave valuables in your vehicle

It is dangerous to leave a wallet, bag, cellphone or smartphone, etc., in your vehicle . When you leave your vehicle, you should not leave your valuables in it and should always keep them with you.