

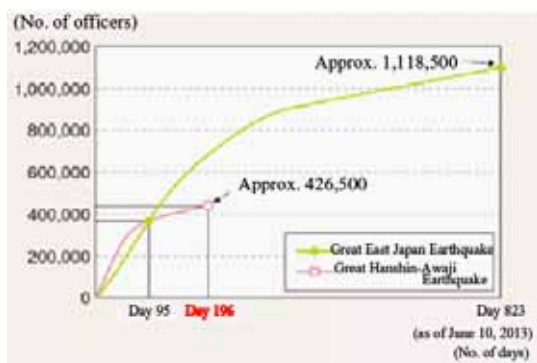
Topic III: Disaster Response Activities that continue to this day and Preparations for the Next Large-Scale Disasters

To this day, the police are still engaged in activities in the areas affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake while reviewing disaster countermeasures in preparation for the next large-scale disaster.

The damage caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011 has risen to 15,883 fatalities, 2,671 missing persons and 6,145 persons injured (as of June 10, 2013).

Immediately after the earthquake, police forces nationwide worked in unison and engaged in a wide range of activities. In addition, in order to reflect the inadequacies and lessons learnt from this disaster in future disaster countermeasures, specific reviews of police responses in large-scale disasters were conducted and a variety of measures are being promoted.

Total number of police officers dispatched in relation to the Great East Japan Earthquake and the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake (as of June 10, 2013)



(1) Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake

1) Police Response Structure

Immediately after the disaster, the prefectural police of Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures (hereinafter the “police of the three affected prefectures”) engaged in a wide range of activities covering the evacuation guidance/search and rescue for victims, searches for the missing autopsies and identification of bodies, securing of emergency traffic routes, victim support, guard/patrol activities and crackdowns on crime. Up to now, police forces nationwide have dispatched about 1.12 million police personnel to support police of the three affected prefectures (as of June 10, 2013), and are promoting the reinforcement of police activities in the affected areas by increasing the number of police officers through special assignment from police forces nationwide.

Under a 4,070 officer structure, including support units for the Fukushima prefectural police, the police of the three affected prefectures are currently still implementing crime prevention activities in temporary housing areas, searches for the missing, guard/patrol activities in “Difficult to return” zones and other areas. Police have also secured response structures in order to continue providing appropriate and flexible responses in accordance with conditions in the affected areas and are continuously promoting activities that are in touch with the region (as of June 10, 2013).

Case: On March 11, 2013, two years after the earthquake, the police of the three affected prefectures implemented an intensive search for the missing in a joint action with the Japan Coast Guard and other agencies. Together with police station personnel who administer coastal areas, riot police officers and other officers from all police headquarters departments formed search units, and with a focus on coastal areas and areas in which residents requested searches, conducted searches on land, in the sea and from the air using aircraft, boats, underwater robots and other equipment, which resulted in the recovery of albums and other personal belongings.



Search for missing persons

2) Activities around the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant

Immediately after the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accidents, police engaged in evacuation guidance for persons in the vicinity and activities such as spraying water onto reactor buildings, as well as subsequent monitoring of radiation levels, searches for the missing checkpoints, guard/patrol activities and support for provisional entry of residents into restricted zones.

To this day, in view of situational changes due to reviews of designated evacuation zones and requests and suggestions from residents and others, Fukushima Prefectural Police endeavor to ensure the safety/security of the region by mounting joint patrols with local authorities and volunteers, and other activities.



Police activities in the vicinity of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant

(2) Preparations for the Next Large-Scale Disaster

Since this earthquake, police have revised the “National Public Safety Commission/NPA Disaster Management Operation Plan” (hereinafter the “Disaster Management Operation Plan”), implemented structural reinforcements related to wide-area unit operation by newly established Police Disaster Dispatch Units, implemented various training programs, prepared and enhanced materials and equipment, reinforced coordination with related agencies, drafted practical guidelines for the implementation of traffic restrictions of large-scale disasters and established operational continuity structures, in their tireless reviews of disaster countermeasures in order to protect as many citizens as possible in times of disaster and minimize damage.

1) Reinforcing Natural/Accidental Disaster Countermeasures

Since this disaster, the National Public Safety Commission and the NPA have twice reviewed the Disaster Management Operation Plan, with the systemization of tsunami disaster countermeasures in the revision of March 2012, and the defining of measures to reinforce immediate response capabilities for wide-area large-scale disasters that are anticipated, in the revision of January 2013.

In view of revisions and other provisions in the Disaster Management Operation Plan, prefectural police are reviewing disaster countermeasures that are appropriate to the status of disaster sites and promoting natural and accidental disaster countermeasures through the implementation of various training programs and active participation in approaches taken by local authorities. In addition, regarding police measures for large-scale disasters such as the anticipated Giant Nankai Trough Earthquakes and the Tokyo Metropolitan Area Epicentral Earthquake, police continue to proceed with specific reviews in light of revised government plans and damage estimates, etc.



Search and rescue training using police aircraft

2) Reinforcing Nuclear Disaster Countermeasures

In view of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accidents, police have reinforced nuclear disaster countermeasures through organizational reform and increases in personnel, prepared and enhanced materials/equipment, and implemented practical training programs. In addition, measures to reinforce nuclear disaster response capabilities were defined in the above revision of the Disaster Management Operation Plan in January 2013. In view of this, prefectural police are working to reinforce nuclear disaster countermeasures, beginning with the revision of local disaster prevention plans, in coordination with related local authorities, nuclear power businesses and other parties.



Resident evacuation guidance training for a nuclear disaster scenario

<p>1) Coordination with related agencies Stipulation concerning the establishment of communications structures with related agencies in view of the formation of the Nuclear Regulatory Authority</p>	
<p>2) NPA security structures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Structures to be established when an event that may develop into a specified event occurs - Coordination with other disaster countermeasure structures for efficient business operation when compound disasters occur - Maintenance of security structures in accordance with post-event measures that police should undertake following the declaration of the cancellation of a nuclear emergency situation 	
<p>3) Formulation of nuclear disaster security plans [Stipulated items]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased scope of prefectural police that should formulate plans - Items that should be included in said plans, attachment of materials related to evacuation guidance - Considerations concerning the possible release of radioactive materials - Creation of manuals covering initial measures to be taken for transportation accidents/disasters involving nuclear fuels or other highly hazardous substances 	
<p>4) Emergency transportation support Stipulation concerning the implementation of support for transportation of materials, equipment and personnel to the areas where they are required for the implementation of emergency response measures</p>	
<p>5) Maintenance of social order in disaster areas such as the prevention of crime, etc. Stipulation of security zones and other areas as areas in which necessary measures should be implemented to realize the full effect of evacuation orders and other directives</p>	
<p>6) Measures to prevent the exposure of police personnel Stipulation concerning the precise measurement of radiation exposure and appropriate management</p>	

Overview of revisions to the Disaster Prevention Business Operation Plan (for nuclear disaster countermeasures)