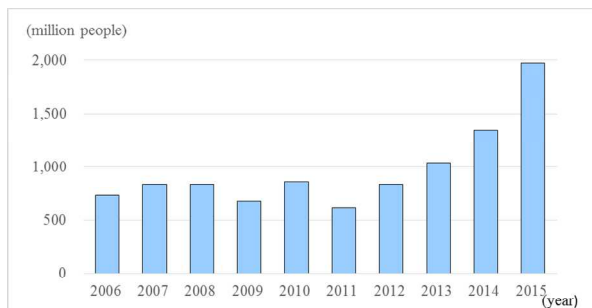


Topic I: Response to the Rapid Increase of Foreigners Visiting Japan

(1) Present Situation and Issues of Foreigners Visiting Japan

Following various government initiatives in order to realize becoming a tourism-oriented country, the number of foreign visitors to Japan reached 10 million for the first time in history in 2015, and approaches 20 million in 2015. Toward 2020 when the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games will be held, the trend still continues and the number of foreign visitors is increasing rapidly. In addition, it is expected that the number of foreigners staying in Japan will further increase due to policies such as utilization of highly skilled foreign workers based on the (Government's) Japan Revitalization Strategy.

Transition of number of foreigners visiting Japan (2006-2015)



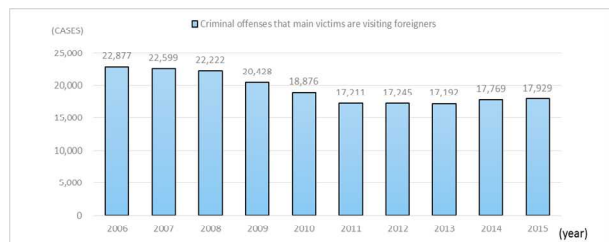
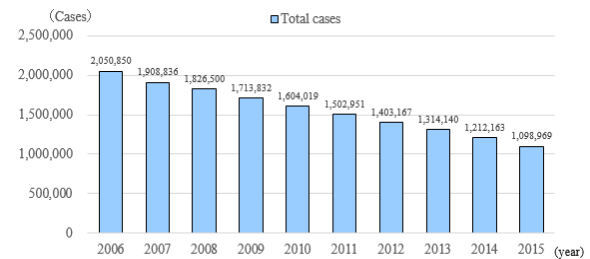
Note: Based on the Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) data

Looking at recent criminal circumstances, while the number of penal code offenses is decreasing as a whole, the cases in which foreigners become the main victims have been slightly increasing for the second consecutive year since 2014.

Given these circumstances, there are concerns about an increase in cases where foreigners who are unfamiliar with the language and systems of Japan get involved in some troubles and fall victim to incidents or accidents. Therefore, the police try to improve the environment in order to help foreigners visit-

ing Japan experience good public order in our country.

Transition of confirmed cases of criminal offenses (2006-2015)



(2) Efforts by the Police

1. Facilitation of Communication with Foreigners

To deal with sudden complaints and various reports from foreigners who do not understand Japanese, each police box is equipped with communication support materials such as boards with simple pictures foreigners can point at to communicate with police officers and basic foreign language phrase books. In addition, the Japanese police are trying to allocate the police officers who can handle foreign languages to the police stations and police boxes that exercise jurisdiction over tourist areas, downtown areas and entertainment districts. Also, in order to respond appropriately to emergency call dial 110 in foreign languages, the police aim to further utilize the three party call system among the 110 caller, staff in Communication Command Center and interpreter.

[Column] Utilization of Tablet Terminal with Translation Function

Okayama Prefectural Police utilized tablet terminals equipped with a speech translation application compatible with about 30 languages and started to use them from August 2015 among railway police units, station police boxes and airport security police boxes where many foreign visitors come.



Tablet terminal with translation function

[Column] Setting up Temporary Police Box at Tourist Spots

Hokkaido Sapporo Area Kutchan Police Station establishes a temporary police box to respond to foreign tourists during the winter season when many foreign skiers visit the Niseko Hirafu district (within the jurisdiction) and allocate the police officers who can speak English there.



Activities at the Niseko Hirafu temporary police box of the Kutchan police station

2. Assuring Simplicity of Procedures and Systems Relating to the Japanese Police

The police not only try to provide foreign

language translations in various notification documents such as those pertaining to receipt acceptance of found property and The Lost Property Report but also try to make explanation materials about the systems and procedures relating to the Japanese police such as criminal proceedings, traffic infringement notification system and crime victim support in foreign languages and utilize them.

In addition, at the time of large-scale disasters and in large-scale crowd control, the police try to provide information in foreign languages, such as conducting public relations activities in foreign languages. Furthermore, in order to make it easy for foreigners to understand, the police pay consideration to providing foreign language translations. For example, writing “POLICE” on police cars on the street, police officers’ uniforms and police facilities such as police stations and police boxes is encouraged. Moreover, the NPA is also considering to make road signs that are easy to understand for foreign drivers, such as those with foreign languages.

[Column] Public Relations Activities in Foreign Languages at the Security Site

On January 2, 2016, in the crowd control of People's Visit to the Imperial Palace



Crowd control of people's visit for the New Year Greeting

for the New Year, the Metropolitan Police Department conducted guidance on the participants in the vicinity of the Imperial Palace where congestion was expected. In this control, many foreigners were expected

to come so the police carried out on-site public relations activities in English using a Sign Car equipped with an electric bulletin board.

3. Enhancing Infrastructures

In the Research and Training Center for International Criminal Investigation and Police Cooperation, National Police Academy, the police try to prepare interpreters for any occasion by cultivating intra-department interpreters through language educations according to the demands of the prefectural police as well as expanding the commission of outside interpreters.

In addition, in order to communicate smoothly with foreigners visiting Japan from various cultural spheres, the police also provide police officers who request with many opportunities to deepen knowledge on foreign cultures, religions and so on.

Moreover, for responding appropriately to requests and consultations from foreigners, the police are always trying to construct cooperative relationships with the organizations and departments concerned and enhance ties with foreign communities.