

SUPPORT FOR CRIME VICTIMS

1. Police Support for Victims

The police are working to enhance diverse aspects of support for crime victims and their families, or bereaved families. The following are examples of police support for crime victims and their families:

A. Benefit Payments to Victims

The national government makes benefit payments to victims and their bereaved families for serious harms caused by crimes.

B. Providing Information for Crime Victims

The police have prepared a brochure which outlines the investigative proceedings and their support system for crime victims.

C. Reducing Victims' Burden

Crime victims and their families not only suffer physical, emotional, or financial harms as direct results of the crimes, but also undergo a wide range of harms through secondary victimization. Police officers receive training on treatment of victims to reduce their burden. Police stations have rooms that are furnished, lighted, and decorated where victims can consult with police officers in a relaxing atmosphere. The police also provide many other support services for victims including accompaniment to hospitals or to courts upon request.



Special vehicle for supporting crime victims



Accompanying victims to a hospital

D. Providing Counseling for Victims

To help alleviate the emotional injuries of victims, the police, in cooperation with psychiatrists and private counselors, provide counseling services for victims.



Counseling by police officers

E. Securing Safety of Victims

The police take various measures for protection of victims including enhancement of patrols.

2. Cooperation with Private Organizations for Victim Support

Private victim-support groups provide services including counseling and accompaniment to hospitals or to courts, and carry out public awareness-raising activities. The police and private groups work together in order to support victims and achieve their recoveries.