● Bicycle Theft Prevention

# 1. Current State of Bicycle Thefts

Although the number of bicycle theft cases known to the police has been falling since 2002 as a result of the promotion by industry groups of the use of locks that prevent unauthorized unlocking and other actions. You should always take the necessary measures to protect your bicycle, because bicycle thefts still occur frequently all over Japan.

# 2. Bicycle Theft Prevention Registration

The bicycle theft prevention registration system was established for the purpose of preventing bicycle theft and returning your bicycle to you if stolen. It requires bicycle owners to register for bicycle theft prevention under the law (Note 1).

Bicycle theft prevention registration enables the owners of bicycles to be identified and is useful in returning your bicycle to you if stolen.

The ownership of a bicycle can be registered at bicycle distributors (such as bicycle shops, retail shops and home improvement stores) (Note 2).

The expiration date of a bicycle theft prevention registration differs according to each prefecture.

You need to register the ownership of the bicycle in your name not only when you buy a bicycle at a bicycle distributor, but also when you receive a bicycle from your friend or acquaintance.

(Note 1): Article 12.3 of the Act on Promotion of Safe Use of Bicycles and Comprehensive Advancement of Measures for Bicycle Parking

(Note 2): The bicycle theft prevention registration system are operated by associations(such as crime prevention associations and bicycle associations) designated by Prefectural Public Safety Commissions.

# 3. Bicycle Theft Prevention

○ Bicycle theft prevention registration

Identifying the owners of bicycles will be useful in the bicycle theft prevention and returning it to you if stolen.

○ Secure locking

You should always lock your bicycle even when you park for a short period of time.

Using two locks (multiple locks) makes your bicycle resistant to bicycle theft.

○ Selection of bicycle with a lock (key) that prevents unauthorized unlocking

Approximately 30 percent of bicycle thefts occur when the bicycles were locked.

You should select a bicycle with a lock resistant to unauthorized unlocking, such as a lock that conforms to the Japanese Industrial Standards (JIS).