Community police officers assigned to Koban and Chuzaisho make regular visits to houses and offices. During these visits they give advice on crime and accident prevention, listen to residents’ concerns and welcome suggestions for improvement of police services. They also inquire about the family composition and how to contact the resident in an emergency.

(4) Consultation Services for Citizens

A general contact desk for consultations has been established in the Police Administration Department to enable police to carry out swift and certain organizational response to consultations from citizens. In light of the consultation content, the police respond with collaboration among relevant departments, and take necessary steps to relieve the anxieties of persons seeking consultation, including giving warnings to, and arresting, the persons in question.

(5) Koban (Chuzaisho) Liaison Council

There are about 12,000 Koban (Chuzaisho) Liaison Councils nationwide. Each council consists of community residents from various walks of life. Council members express opinions, make requests, and study and discuss community issues with the police to promote community safety activities.

E. Mobile Units of Community Police

Radio-equipped patrol cars are deployed at each PPH, police station, Koban and Chuzaisho. Police officers use them for routine patrol and emergency response. These cars remain in constant radio contact with their police station and the communications command center of the PPH. When an emergency is reported, this rapid response capability plays a major role in the quick resolution of such incidents.

Also, community police deploys boats and helicopters.

F. Emergency Response "Dial 110"

(1) Communications Command Center (CCC)

Reacting to emergency calls such as "Dial 110", CCC in each PPH dispatches police officers at Koban and Chuzaisho, patrol cars, and other mobile police units.

(2) Current State of "Dial 110"

The number of "Dial 110" calls has decreased annually. In 2016, the police received about 9.1 million calls nationwide. This means that on any given day the CCC receives a call about every 3.5 seconds. (Refer to Police Info-Communications on page 36 about Communications Command Systems.)

2. Crime Prevention

Although 2002 was the worst year on record with 2,850,000 reported Penal Code offenses, the number has decreased by 65% as a result of enhanced crime prevention measures carried out by the police along with the efforts of society.

However, the function of neighborhoods as a crime prevention has
deteriorated by weakened community solidarity and widespread anonymity of urban life.

In such a situation, the police are making efforts to promote a “society in which crimes hardly occur”, as well as to prevent the occurrence of crime.

A. The Law-abiding Mentality and the Strong Ties in Society

We must not overlook even the slightest offenses and must urge deep regrets for the offenses. These efforts will nourish people’s law-abiding mentality. Also, we must strengthen the ties in society by a variety of efforts which support those people who feel isolated or alienated from society.

B. Creation of Layers of Voluntary Activities in Crime Prevention

Voluntary activities in crime prevention have involved many citizens and have rapidly developed into a national movement to secure community safety. The number of groups engaged in crime prevention activities was about 48,000 in 2016. The police regard these groups as partners indispensable for preventing crimes.

C. Promotion of Safe and Secure Urban Planning which takes Crime Prevention into Consideration

The police are promoting a safe and secure urban planning which takes crime prevention into consideration in order to create a safer society where people can feel secure and live without fear of falling victim to crime. For example, this promotion includes the installation of security lights and security cameras, and landscaping that does not impede visibility.

D. Encouragement of Sound Growth of Community Safety Industry

The police are encouraging sound growth of the industry of community safety, especially private security businesses, as they play a major role in creating a society in which crimes hardly occur.

3. Countermeasures against Cases Threatening Personal Safety

Concerning cases such as stalking, spousal violence, missing persons, and child, elderly and disability abuse, where immediately securing personal safety is deemed necessary, the police need to recognize the risks and urgency accurately and take the most effective measures to secure the victim’s safety. To appropriately cope with such cases, the police have built a system in Prefectural Police Headquarters (PPH) and police stations to systematically promote prompt and appropriate responses including arresting perpetrators, while giving top priority to the safety of victims.

A. Current State of the Amusement Business

Eating and drinking establishments (cabarets and bars) and amusement business (pachinko...