

Topic III: Acquisition of Illicit Funds and Money Laundering by International Criminal Organizations and Police Countermeasures

(1) Trends in Acquisition of Illicit Funds and Money Laundering by International Criminal Organizations

In order to gain economic benefits more ingeniously and efficiently while evading police crackdowns, international criminal organizations continue to change their forms of crime in response to changes in socioeconomic conditions, including the progress of economic and financial globalization and the spread and progress of information and communication technologies.

(2) Representative Methods for Acquisition of Illicit Funds and Money Laundering by International Criminal Organizations in Recent Years and Police Countermeasures

○ Frauds Using Forged Credit Cards

The police are working to destroy the supply network of forged credit cards by sharing information on crimes using forged credit cards and requesting cooperation for the promotion of security measures including the 100% introduction of integrated circuits into credit cards in order to strengthen cooperation with relevant organizations. In addition, the police are cooperating with relevant organizations in Japan and overseas to promote the crackdown on crimes using forged credit cards.

○ Smuggling of Stimulants

The police are strengthening cooperation with Japanese and overseas related organizations, clarifying the connection point between foreign trafficking organizations and Boryokudan, etc., and destroying the supply network of stimulant drugs through border measures and thorough investigation of the superiors.

○ Money Laundering for Crime Proceeds in Foreign Countries

The police are promoting international measures against money laundering in cooperation with relevant organizations both in Japan and overseas. In addition to analyzing information on suspicious transactions and promoting regulations based on the results of such analysis, the police are promoting understanding and cooperation by introducing cases in which information on suspicious transactions was utilized at training sessions for financial institutions, etc.

Topic IV: Police Efforts toward Realization of Automated Driving

(1) Recent Trend of Automated Driving

The GOJ aims to realize automated driving as early as possible by developing a system based on the "Charter for the Improvements of the Legal System and the Environment for Automated Driving Systems."

(2) Police Efforts toward Realization of Automated Driving

○ Research and Development for Practical Application of Automated Driving Systems

In the second phase of the Cross-ministerial Strategic Innovation Promotion Program (SIP), demonstration experiments will be conducted by domestic and overseas automakers on public roads in a Tokyo waterfront area from the second half of 2019 in order to put automated driving systems into practical use.

The NPA is making preparations for those experiments, by installing and setting up the ITS wireless roadside communication devices in the Tokyo waterfront area, which provides vehicles with useful traffic signal information necessary to realize automated driving, through discussions with automakers, etc., with the aim of enhancing the provision of traffic signal information by ITS wireless roadside communication devices.

In addition, based on requests from private companies, the NPA is looking at domestic and overseas cases and technical problems as researches on the provision of traffic signal information by methods other than ITS wireless roadside communication devices.

○ Review of Legal Systems

Since May 2018, the NPA has been holding a series of meetings with concerned parties, which is called the "Investigation/ examination committee for realizing automated driving in line with the direction of technological developments" to examine the ideal state of the Road Traffic Act with a view to the practical application of automated driving. In December of the same year, the committee compiled a report, presenting a review and conclusion about the different modalities and the driver's duties vis-à-vis automated driving systems. Based on this, in May 2019, at the 198th Ordinary Session of the Diet, the Act Partially Amending the Road Traffic Act was enacted, which stipulates the legal obligations of the drivers using automated driving systems and the record of the operational status of automated driving systems by data recording devices.

