

Section 1 | Road Transport Safety**1 Improvement of Road Traffic Environment**

To address the changes in the social situation such as the problem of a low birthrate and an aging population, there is a need to reform the traffic community to prevent accidents of children and ensure that the senior citizens can go out safely without fear. In view of this, people-first roadway improvements are being undertaken by ensuring walking spaces offering safety and security by building sidewalks on roads such as the school routes, residential roads and urban arterial roads etc.

In addition to the above mentioned measures, the road traffic environment improvement project is systematically carried out to maintain a safe road traffic network by separating it into arterial high-standard highways and regional roads to control the inflow of the traffic into the residential roads. Also, on the roads where traffic safety has to be secured, traffic safety facilities such as sidewalks are being provided. Thus, by effective traffic control promotion and detailed accident prevention measures, a safe traffic environment with a speed limit on the vehicles and separation of different traffic types such as cars, bikes and pedestrians is to be created.

- 1 Improvement of people-first walking spaces offering safety and security
(promoting building of sidewalks in the school routes)**
- 2 Improvement of road networks and promoting the use of roads with high specifications**
- 3 Implementation of intensive traffic safety measures in sections with a high rate of accidents**
- 4 Effective traffic control promotion**
- 5 Improving the road traffic environment in unison with the local residents**
- 6 Promotion of accident prevention measures on National Expressways etc.**
- 7 Application of the Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS)**
- 8 Building a safe and secure environment for bicycles**
- 9 Building a smooth, comfortable and safe road traffic environment**
- 10 Promotion of Traffic Demand Management**
- 11 Promotion of comprehensive parking measures**
- 12 Improving the road traffic environment in preparation for disasters**
- 13 Improving the road traffic environment for road safety**

2 Dissemination and Reinforcement of Traffic Safety Messages

A gradual and systematic road safety training program is conducted according to the physical and mental development stages and life stages from childhood to adulthood using the Road Safety Teaching Guideline (National Public Safety Commission notification No. 15, 1998) etc. In this day of aging society, educational programs are being enhanced to raise traffic safety awareness among senior citizens, to give guidance to the other generations about the characteristics of the elderly people and stress the need to give more consideration to them for their protection. Also, the elementary, junior high and high school students who often use bicycles are being educated about how to use them safely as a foundation for future drivers.

- 1 Gradual and systematic road safety training promotion**
- 2 Effective road safety training promotion**
- 3 Promotion of road safety awareness and educational activities**
- 4 Promotion of proactive efforts by the private organizations concerned with road safety**
- 5 Promoting participation and cooperation of the residents**

3 Ensuring Safe Driving

The driver must be trained and educated to ensure safe driving to ensure safe driving. Therefore, enhancement of training is made for the training of the drivers as well as the persons who want to get a driving license. Especially, improvements will be made to the training given to the elderly drivers who are expected to substantially increase. The driving license system will be upgraded in consideration of the recent traffic situation.

Looking at the changes in the motor carrier business, which are likely to take place, the role and responsibilities of companies and offices towards road safety are being emphasized. Voluntary safe driving control measures by companies and offices are being promoted and motor carrier operator safety measures are enhanced. Also, efforts are taken to prevent transport labor accidents and enhance the “Transportation Safety Management System” for more safety.

- 1 Enhancement of driver training etc.**
- 2 Improvement of the driving license system**
- 3 Promotion of safe driving management**
- 4 Enhancement of motor carrier operator safety measures**
- 5 Transport labor accidents prevention etc**
- 6 Road traffic information service enhancement**

4 Ensuring Vehicle Safety

Measures against accidents caused by the structure of vehicles are taken. Also, with regard to the accidents which happen due to human mistakes such as improper driving etc., proactive measures on vehicle structures will be taken as far as possible to prevent road accidents caused by the vehicle structure.

Moreover, efforts are being made to alleviate the damage resulting from unfortunate accidents due to the vehicle structure. Damage amplification prevention measures such as car fire prevention and measures for easy escape after an accident are also being promoted.

In addition to the evolution and growth of damage alleviation measures which have been effective so far, with regard to the preventive safety measures to prevent accidents, a much more advanced technology will be applied for further enhancement. To promote car safety measures, not only are the safety standards upgraded and improved to effectively link and encompass the regulations and inductive measures, measures to urge automobile manufacturers and research institutes to develop safe cars and measures to urge users to select safe cars are suitably implemented in each stage from the fundamental research to the time they are actually marketed and used.

- 1 Promotion to improve car safety standards**
- 2 Provision of new car assessment data**
- 3 Enhancement of motor inspections and maintenance**
- 4 Enhancement and strengthening of the Automotive recall system**
- 5 Ensuring bicycles' safety**

5 Improving Rescue and Emergency (first-aid) System

In order to be able to deal with accidents on all roads including the national highways and to rescue the casualties and minimize damages, the coordination with the concerned institutions such as the fire and medical institutions is being improved. The training given to rescue workers and the ambulance man, the rescue and emergency (first-aid) system, as well as the emergency medical system are upgraded.

To improve the casualty rescue rate and effectiveness of rescue, first aid education activities are being conducted for the general public besides the improvement of the system to provide quick and advanced emergency care, first-aid treatment etc. by a rescue team which includes a doctor, nurse and paramedic etc on the accident site or on the way to a hospital.

- 1 Improving rescue and emergency medical system**
- 2 Improving an emergency medical system**
- 3 Securing cooperation between first-aid related agencies etc.**

Section 2 | Railway Transport Safety

1 Railway Environment Enhancements

It is necessary to build a foundation of railway traffic safety in the system as a whole by maintaining highly reliable railway facilities such as the railway track and the operation safety equipment in order to ensure the safety of railway traffic. For this reason, along with intensive management of the railway equipment etc., the operation safety equipment is upgraded, the earthquake resistance of railway structures is enhanced and promotions of safety measures are undertaken.

- 1 Inspection and maintenance of railway facilities**
- 2 Maintenance of operation safety equipment**
- 3 Reinforcement of anti-earthquake measures on the railway**

2 Assuring the Safe Operations on the Railways

A safer system will be ensured when the "Transportation Safety Management System" is implemented with the promotion to build a safety management system, in which everyone, right from the top management to the crew on the actual site will work in unison and which is checked by the government.

In order to ensure a safe journey by rail, in addition to enhanced and improved monitoring of the security, the crew and maintenance personnel are being trained to improve their knowledge and skills. Efforts are being made to promote awareness of safety among the whole public.

In addition, in order to enhance the functions to investigate the causes of the accidents, etc., on land, sea, and air (railway, marine, aircraft). and the functions for prevention of their recurrence, a "Japan Transport Safety Board" will be set up as an external organ of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.

- 1 Improving the training and education of the crew and maintenance personnel**
- 2 Improvement of the management of the train service and the crew**
- 3 Spreading knowledge of railway traffic safety**
- 4 Implementation of inspection of the railway operators**
- 5 Upgrading the weather information service etc.**
- 6 Investigation of the causes of railway accidents, etc. and enhancement of the system**

1 Maritime Environment Enhancements

Given the enlargement and higher velocity of ships, diversification of marine waters' usage and complications of maritime traffic, maintenance was carried out on sea routes, ports and harbors, fishing ports and aids to navigation in order to ensure the safe and smooth navigation of ships and safety at ports, harbors and fishing ports. The enrichment of information regarding safety of nautical charts, coast pilots and improvement of the information delivery system using IT is to be attempted.

- 1 Improvement of the transport safety facilities
- 2 Enhancement of traffic regulation as well as the provision of information related to maritime traffic
- 3 Improvement of passenger ship terminals for the aging society

2 Ensuring Safe Operation of vessels

The safe operations of ships are to be ensured by maintenance and enhancement of the knowledge and skills of marine workers, and the establishment of a system related to safe operations.

For that purpose, improvements will be made of the qualifications of mariners, pilots, passenger ship operators, as well as domestic water carriers and operation management system of ships will also be enhanced. In relation to that, enhancement of operation labor audits, countermeasures to prevent the recurrence of serious accidents, and improvements in the transport safety management system, etc. will be promoted and systematic activities for the prevention of accidents of shipmen are also to be carried out.

Moreover, based on the changes in the environment surrounding mariners, improvements will be made to take into consideration the provision of accurate responses to the requests to downsize the public administration and to improve its efficiency with regard to the education and training content of each institution involved in providing instructions for learning operations of ships and navigation training.

Furthermore, in order to enhance the functions to investigate the causes of the accidents, etc., on land, sea, and air (railway, marine, aircraft) and the functions for prevention of their recurrence, a "Japan Transport Safety Board" will be set up as an external organ of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.

- 1 Enhancement of the qualifications of shipmen
- 2 Enhancement of the operation control of ships
- 3 Promotion of countermeasures against accidents of shipmen
- 4 Radical reform in the piloting system
- 5 Enhancement of a system for investigating causes of marine accidents

3 Improvement of Safety Measures for Small Vessels

In order to attempt the prevention of maritime accidents of small ships that constitute a major part of overall maritime accidents, maintenance of an environment enabling safe operations and strengthening of the rescue system is essential. This has to be done in addition to the increase in the awareness among marine leisure enthusiasts and fishermen about their own safety.

For this purpose, improvement of boat parks, orderly usage of the water areas, wearing of life jackets, upgrading of the mobile rescue system using helicopters, etc. are to be promoted.

Furthermore, countermeasures to prevent the casualties of older shipmen and fishing boats are to be promoted based on the basic plan and execution plan for the prevention of the accidents of shipmen.

- 1 Improvement of boat parks and "fisharenas"
- 2 Promotion of measures for the safety of fishing boats
- 3 Promotion of measures for the safety of pleasure boats
- 4 Increasing the life jacket utilization rate
- 5 Prompt receipt of information regarding maritime accidents

1 Ensuring Safe Operation of Aircraft

Preventive safety measures and the delivery and analysis of safety information are to be promoted, which utilizes the “Aeronautical Safety Information Managing and Sharing System”.

Furthermore, improvement of air transport safety is to be achieved by conducting safety audits of air carriers and enhancing the “Transport Safety Management System”.

In order to ensure the safety of foreign aircrafts, it is to enhance coordination with the concerned foreign authorities and ramp inspections.

Additionally, in order to enhance the functions to investigate the causes of the accidents, etc., on land, sea, and air (railway, marine, aircraft) and the functions for prevention of their recurrence, a “Japan Transport Safety Board” will be set up as an external organ of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.

In order to reduce the impact of bad weather on air transport, timely and appropriate announcements regarding aviation weather information supporting the operation of aircrafts and air transport flow management and its qualitative improvements are to be made, along with maintenance for rapid communication with the concerned institutions.

- 1 Promotion of preventive safety measures**
- 2 Implementation of safety audits of air carriers**
- 3 Ensuring safety of foreign aircrafts**
- 4 Enhancement of aviation workers’ skills**
- 5 Enhancement of aeronautical safety personnel education**
- 6 Enhancement of guidance on the prevention of accidents of small aircrafts**
- 7 Promotion of safety measures related to sky leisure**
- 8 Enhancement of safety standards for the transportation of dangerous goods**
- 9 Investigation of the causes of aircraft accidents, etc., and enhancement of the system**
- 10 Enrichment of weather information related to air traffic**

2 Ensuring Aircraft safety

Safety of aircrafts is to be ensured by promoting safety measures like the improvement of technical standards, the enhancement of an information gathering and processing system, and enhancement of an inspection system, etc.

- 1 Improvement of technical standards for ensuring the safety of aircrafts and accessories**
- 2 Enhancement of an information gathering and processing system related to the safety of aircrafts**
- 3 Enhancement of the inspection system of aircrafts**
- 4 Enhancement of a review system related to the maintenance of aircrafts**
- 5 Enhancement of countermeasures against the aging of aircrafts**