Policies of MLIT to the Great East Japan Earthquake

In response to the unprecedented disaster which resulted in the instant loss of enormously countless number of lives and huge assets, we have devoted all our efforts to rescuing and assisting the afflicted people, focusing on lifesaving, and to securing land, sea and air routes for emergency transportation. Continuously, we will aggressively pursue rescue and lifesaving, support to the affected people, securing logistics, restoration of roads, ports, airports, railways, rivers, and other facilities under the jurisdiction of MLIT, securing houses, and assistance to the afflicted municipalities, and will mobilize all our resources for restoration and rehabilitation of the affected communities, and stabilization of lives of the affected people.

I. Securing houses for the affected people

1. Promoting supply of emergency temporary houses, utilization of public houses, etc.
   - Preparations are implemented to supply 30,000 houses in two months, and another 30,000 houses in next 3 months.
   - 53,089 emergency temporary houses were started to build (completed 52,921) (As of June 1).
   - Among the houses available for the affected people, about 8,800 households out of 25,000 public houses available were allocated (as of June 4), and about approx. 970 households out of 5,100 rental houses of Urban Renaissance Agency were allocated (as of June 4).

2. Establishment of counseling counters for housing assistance
   - Center for information on public houses for the affected (from March 22 2011)
     TEL 03-5229-7633
   - Free diagnosis and counseling counter for repairing damaged houses (from March 31 2011)
     TEL 0120-330-712
   - Dedicated counter for counseling on condominiums relating to the earthquake disaster (from March 14 2011) TEL 03-3222-1624

3. Assistance for rebuilding houses
   - Implementation of housing loans for recovery from disaster by Japan Housing Finance Agency

II. Restoration of infrastructure

Roads: In national highways under MLIT's management, full-scale restoration will be promoted to solve the detouring or the one side closed of traffic.

Railways: Endeavors to be made for early restoration.

Airport: For resuming normal operation in Sendai airport, conduct restoration of facilities for the airport operation continuously.

Ports: Increased transportation capacity for emergency goods by re-opening waterways and emergency restoration of quays. Number of quays provisionally available for use at the affected ports (public quays of 4.5m or deeper): 291/373 berths.

Waterway: Damaged pharoses are emergently restored with priority given to the ports for transportation of emergency goods. Removed drifters obstructing the waterways.

Expressway Bus: Strengthened transportation capacity as compared to that before the earthquake between the Tokyo Metropolitan Ares and Tohoku Areas (267%, as of April 21).
Shipping services for remote islands / Ferries: All of four shipping services for remote islands have partially resumed, and middle-long distance ferries operated by Taiheiyo Ferry Co.Ltd. are have complete resumed.

Sewerage: "Full-scale restoration,” to restore the original function and to prevent recurrent disaster, is being conducted. In case it takes time for a sewage-treatment plant before “full-scale restoration,” gradually enhancing simple treatment depending on the situation, after figuring out sufficiently the surrounding environment and the water use around the water outlet. Also, assistance in restoration of damaged large-scale facilities by Japan Sewerage Works Agency is conducted.

Rivers: For the locations which are not completed full-scale restoration, full-scale restoration work will be started after typhoon season of 2011 and complete as soon as possible (by the end of June 2012 at the latest).

Coasts: For the locations requiring emergency response, implement emergency restoration.

III. Assistance to the affected areas

1. Search, rescue and assistance by boats of the Japan Coast Guard
   Deployment of 25 patrol boats, 8 aircrafts.

2. Securing safety in the damaged areas
   - Inspection of dangerous spots for sediment-related disasters (As of March 5, 32,902 spots were inspected out of 33,301 spots of possible danger).
   - Assistance in emergency safety checking of afflicted buildings (inspected 98,212 buildings).

3. Dispatch of staff and machinery to the affected areas (as of June 3)
   - Active dispatch of personnel of MLIT (0 person in action; 24,884 in total)
   - Dispatch of Technical Emergency Control Force (TEC-FORCE) (0 person in action; 18,115 in total)
   - For assistance to municipalities (0 person in action; 9,610 in total) (for assistance to headquarters, drainage, etc).
   - Dispatch of disaster response equipment (As of June 3, 23 units were provided; 30,128 in total).

IV. Response to the accident at Fukushima Nuclear Power Station

(i) Provision of safety information relating to radiation to airports, ports, etc. (to foreign countries also) (by the State and the related organizations)
(ii) Provision of information to overseas tourist agencies
(iii) Setting air exclusion zone
(iv) Monitoring and vigilance in the sea surrounding the areas of evacuation directive, issuance of navigation warning, etc.
(v) Provision of information such as wind velocity and direction and rainfall around the Nuclear Power Station and other meteorological information needed for the brief return of the evacuees.