

# 4 Basic Direction of Promoting Policies in the Reconstruction Stage

## Initiatives in the Reconstruction Stage

The "reconstruction stage" of four years (fiscal 2014-2017) set forth in the Miyagi Prefecture Earthquake Disaster Recovery Plan is an important period during which we will further enhance support for not only those directly affected by the disaster but also those having difficulties in their personal lives or businesses in the wake of the earthquake, and will also upgrade infrastructure toward the reconstruction of Miyagi Prefecture and take practical measures to materialize fundamental "rebuilding" beyond "restoration."

To this end, we will respond appropriately to each individual issue in sectors where recovery is being delayed taking into consideration the progress of restoration/recovery so far. Also, while speeding up our initiatives by building closer relationship with relevant organizations and keeping up with changes in the socioeconomic climates, we will work on the following four "Basic Direction of Promoting Policies" set as centerpieces to realize an earliest possible recovery, or the top priority of the prefectural administration, and steadily implement policies to achieve our future vision.

### Basic Direction of Promoting Policies

- 1 Prompt recovery from the earthquake (Reconstruction stage)
- 2 Stable growth in industrial economy
- 3 Miyagi where people can lead secure lives
- 4 Formation of beautiful and safe prefectural land

## Viewpoints for Promoting Initiatives During the Reconstruction Stage

- 1 Securing necessary financial sources and flexible system operation
- 2 Securing human resources required for recovery
- 3 Realizing "creative recovery" while making the most of the civilian power
- 4 Promoting a robust recovery in cooperation with municipalities
- 5 Efficient and effective prefectural administration
- 6 Promoting wide-area cooperation and the proposed wider regional government system that will boost the growth of the Tohoku region

## Major Initiatives of the Four "Basic Direction of Promoting Policies"

### 1 Prompt recovery from the earthquake (Reconstruction stage)

- In community development, the prefecture will support arrangements for obtaining project approval and collaborate with municipalities to solve problems and accelerate the projects, while paying attention in the community development to securing various functions that support people's lives in the region including local communities.
- The prefecture is fully committed to early transition to a permanent living environment through enhanced support to meet the disaster victims' needs, such as systematic development of public disaster housing and consultations for reconstruction of their houses.
- The prefecture is seeking to swiftly restore social infrastructure that supports the disaster victims' lives and economic activities by implementing all possible measures such as stable material procurement, securing of manpower and outsourcing.
- For the disaster victims to reconstruct their lives and for the affected areas to be restored, reconstructing local industries and ensuring employment are important. The prefecture will help the affected business operators, mainly in the coastal area, restore their facilities/equipment and regain and expand their lost sales channels and business transactions. Efforts to eliminate employment mismatches will also be made.
- To dispel harmful rumors concerning the accident at Tokyo Electric Power's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, the prefecture will keep disseminating information at home and abroad on its safe and secure living environment, tourist destinations and specialties on a continual basis, and will also help the disaster victims make compensation claims.

### 2 Stable growth in industrial economy

- The prefecture will proactively utilize special recovery zone and other schemes for enterprises that will newly set up or add their factories or other facilities in Miyagi Prefecture. The prefecture will also step up its efforts to attract enterprises by using the national subsidies and the prefectural grant program for the establishment of new business facilities. Its efforts also include promoting industries that will lead the next generation and providing entrepreneurship support for job security.
- As the agricultural population decreases and gets older, the prefecture will facilitate participation of diversified farm operators, sophisticate and upgrade the management scale of certified farmers, community-based farm cooperatives and agricultural corporations. Furthermore, the prefecture will nurture management entities that have competitive edges in securing stable income and successors into the future, and push forward with agribusiness through diversification into processing and distribution.
- To turn the fishery into a competitive and attractive industry, the prefecture will drive initiatives for diversification into processing and distribution and measures to secure newcomers. And to further revitalize fishery towns, the prefecture will strengthen the management structures of fishery processing companies and create marine product brands.
- The vertical axis of coastal roads including Sanriku Expressway and the horizontal axis connecting the coastal area and inland area, such as Miyagi North Expressway and Iwanuma-Zao Route, need to be enhanced. Construction and improvement of roads integrated with the community development is also necessary. The prefecture will develop roads that are required for recovery of the affected areas, enhancement of disaster prevention functions and regional promotion according to the schedule and in a planned and steady manner.
- Regarding Sendai Airport, a wide-area transportation hub, the prefecture will push ahead with the integration and commission of the airport operation to the private sector in accordance with the national government's move toward the reform of airport operation. The prefecture will also work to

stimulate passenger and freight demand and step up efforts to expand air routes, thereby enhancing airport functions and revitalizing peripheral areas.

### 3 Miyagi where people can lead secure lives

- As medical institutions were hit by the earthquake and medical professionals are continuing to move out, the prefecture seeks to ensure medical resources required on site. Specifically, the prefecture will bolster cooperation with relevant organizations and set up medical schools to nurture doctors, nurses and other medical professionals who will provide medical services for local residents to ensure a stable healthcare system as needed toward the future.
- In step with the further aging of the population, it has become a challenge to develop a local environment in which people can live without anxiety through cooperation among the health, medical and welfare sectors. For this reason, the prefecture will establish a regional comprehensive support system in cooperation with various types of occupation and secure sufficient numbers of nurses and caregivers who will play the central role.
- As it takes time for the disaster victims to put their life back together, they have been living with stress for a long time regardless of age. Given such circumstances, the prefecture will strengthen the consultation and support system for the disaster victims and foster/ensure human resources who provide support, thereby enhancing seamless psychological care for children and adults.
- To foster human resources who will become the driving force behind the restoration and development of Miyagi, the prefecture will foster children with balanced knowledge, morals and physical health through "creation of a learning platform" in childhood and "aspirational education" provided from elementary, middle and high schools. Along with that, the prefecture will improve the educational environment at schools by introducing ICT (information and communications technology) and other measures.
- To ensure safe and secure local communities, the prefecture will collaborate with local residents, including anticrime volunteers, to restore and enhance the public order system by moving forward with anticrime measures and patrol activities in response to the residents' demand.

### 4 Formation of beautiful and safe prefectural land

- Toward the realization of a smart town (eco town), an idea extended from the community development of the affected areas, the prefecture will support municipalities' initiatives to introduce renewable energies suited to their own regional characteristics and to optimize energy on a regional basis.
- The prefecture will encourage community development in a way that the introduction of renewable energies and energy optimization will enable us to utilize renewable energies in the event of a disaster and lead to the revitalization of local communities and industries.
- The prefecture will develop a "wide-area disaster prevention base," which takes disaster emergency measures promptly and appropriately in the event of a large-scale disaster and functions as a base of operations to protect citizens and relay goods transportation. The prefecture's commitment also includes developing a disaster prevention/reduction system through enhancement of the disaster prevention network and disaster prevention education in cooperation with municipalities.
- Toward the "development of a disaster-resistant community, or the Miyagi model," the prefecture will advance the seawall development project for disaster prevention/reduction while consulting with relevant parties.
- The prefecture will be engaged in the waterfront development to defend against tsunamis and high tides in combination with coastal disaster-prevention forests and in conjunction with the community development in the hinterland, while strengthening the coastal disaster prevention/reduction functions.