

The point of 12th Occupational Safety and Health Programme

“The Occupational Safety and Health Programme” is the medium-term plan which provides the prioritized items to be deal with by the State for preventing work-related accidents and diseases (the Minister for Health, Labour and Welfare formulates every 5 year). The period of 12th Programme is from fiscal year of 2013 to 2018.

Key issues

Number of Casualties (year of 2012: excluding those due to direct causes of the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster)

- Number of fatalities: 1,024 (record low)
- Number of casualties: 117,958 (second consecutive year increase including 2012)
- Accidents at work have been decreasing in long term period, but increasing in tertiary sector.
- Fatal accidents have also been decreasing, but those occurred in construction and manufacturing sector account for more than half to whole fatalities.

Targets	Change number of casualties by sectors		
Sector	2002	2011	increase-decrease rate
Construction	26,299	16,773	-36.2%
Manufacturing	38,323	28,457	-25.7%
Tertiary sector	43,053	50,243	+16.7%
Retail	12,187	12,680	+4.1%
Social welfare	2,411	5,900	+144.7%
Catering	3,725	4,150	+11.4%
Land transportation	15,319	13,820	-9.8%
Total (All sectors)	132,330	117,958	-10.9%

Source: Workers’ deaths, injury and disease report (Excluding number related to the Great East Japan Earthquake)

Point 1 Numerical targets for emphasized countermeasures	In addition to decreasing targets of total accidents at work, the programme sets the numerical targets for each of emphasized countermeasures, and deploys measures taking into account the progress. For example; Numerical target for emphasized sector (20% decrease for retail sector), Numerical target for emphasized diseases (80% or more of workplaces which address the mental health practice)
Point 2 Tertiary sector as the most emphasized area	The programme focuses on the tertiary sector that accidents at work increase and the ratio to overall accidents has become high, and addresses intensively for the retail, social welfare and catering in which the accident occurrence is particularly high.
Point 3 Emphasis on preventing fatal accidents	For construction and manufacturing sector that fatal accidents account for more than half to whole fatalities, the programme focuses on “fall from height accident” and “accident caught in/between machines”.