


Japan's Efforts to Strengthen Counter-Terrorism Capacity

Background: In Asia, the main target of counter-terrorism measures was separatist Islamic extremists in some countries. However, the threat of terrorism in the Middle East and Africa is now spreading to Asia, as seen in rising threats and concerns regarding “home-grown terrorists” who would perpetrate acts of terrorism such as the recent terrorist attack in Dhaka and the so-called “returnees” or militants trained in conflict areas in the Middle East and Africa who would intensify activities of terrorism in their home countries.

Japan's role: Responding to the situation, Japan will play a leading role in further stabilizing the region and thus making “Asia resilient to terrorism” by mobilizing all tools available including ODA.



Japan will provide approximately 45 billion yen over the next three years for Asia as comprehensive counter-terrorism measures consisted of (i) improvement of counter-terrorism capacity, (ii) measures to counter violent extremism conducive to terrorism, and (iii) social and economic development assistance for creating a foundation for a moderate society.

In addition, Japan will help develop 2,000 personnel for counter-terrorism over the next three years.

In implementing this effectively, Japan will cooperate with each country and international organizations. Also, state-of-the-art technology for counter-terrorism developed in Japan such as biometric authentication systems (face recognition, fingerprint identification, etc.) and detection equipment for explosives and drugs will be introduced.

(Areas of implementation)

Improvement of counter-terrorism capacity:

- Border control measures (e.g. capacity-building for border security including areas of airport and port security)
- Capacity-building for law enforcement authorities on criminal investigation, prosecution, etc.
- Improvement of legal systems
- Counter-terrorist financing (e.g. capacity-building for combating money laundering and organized crime (incl. drugs and human trafficking))

Measures to counter violent extremism conducive to terrorism:

- Countermeasures against terrorist propaganda
- Preventive measures against extremism through education and other means
- Community-level educational activities for the youth and women
- Improvement of treatment of criminals (e.g. prisons reforms)

Social and economic development assistance for creating a foundation for a moderate society:

- Efforts for democratization
- Post-conflict measures for stabilizing societies and developing communities
- Measures for refugees and ethnic minorities, etc.