Securing the Supply of Gasoline and Light Oil in the Tohoku Region (Disaster Area) and the Kanto Region: Emergency Measures to Ensure Supply Lines and Establish an Expanded Distribution Network

(As of 16:00, March 22)

In order to secure an effective supply of oil throughout Japan by reducing stocks of oil products held by oil companies, and by promoting smooth coordination between companies and local communities, METI has reduced private sector stockpiling requirements by an additional 22 days, from the initial 3 days. As a result, private sector stockpiling obligations have now been reduced by a total of 25 days, to 45 days from 70 days.

Supply to the Quake-hit Tohoku Region

- **Major increase of tanker trucks (300 vehicles)**
  - 215 vehicles have already been introduced to the Tohoku region, and at least 290 vehicles are expected to be secured.

Mass transfer of gasoline, etc. from western Japan to the Tohoku region

- Supply capacity of 38,000 kl/day is already secured
  * Current supply to the Tohoku region: 22,000 kl/day
  * Operating ratios of refineries: ensure operation at full capacity
  * Suspension of exports: approx. 700,000 kl for the time being
  * Emergency imports: expected to secure 500,000 kl in March and April

Early restoration of oil storage facilities (Shiogama/Hachinohe) on Pacific Coast

- On March 20, the first tanker (2,000kl) docked at the pier. Another two tankers (total of 4,000 kl) are expected to dock.
  * On March 21, approx. 500kl was shipped. On 22, approx. 1,300kl is to be shipped
  * (Hachinohe Oil Storage Facility) On March 21, shipped approx. 400 kl/day of kerosene, etc., from its stocks. After March 22, continue to ship the same quantity.
  * (JX Sendai Oil Storage Facility) shipped approx. 830 drums of kerosene so far.

Designation of key service stations and concentrated supply

- Expansion of the number of emergency key service stations including SSs on highways (178 → 207). Relevant organizations and associations were informed, and intensive supply was begun.

Support for areas around the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plants

- Responding to request from Fukushima pref. government for approx. 600 kl of gasoline, etc., to area residents. This, 200 kl is scheduled to be supplied on March 20.

Securing railway transportation routes

- On March 22, plan to transport approx. 1,300 kl of gasoline, etc., from Negishi to Morioka
- After March 21, due to normalization of railway shipment, transported approx. 6,000 kl/day of gasoline, etc. to Utsunomiya. One portion was transported to the Tohoku region via Utsunomiya. This is to be continued.

Response to requests from disaster areas

- Responded to 500 requests from hospitals etc., approx. 6,500kl of gasoline and light oil have been delivered.

From March 21, shipment to the Kanto region recovered to the same level in an average year.

- Transfer 50,000 kl from stocks in refineries in western Japan to the Kanto region.
  - March 19 to 21: approx. 56,000 kl transferred to the Kanto region.

- Two refineries that had suspended operations (Tonen Kawasaki and Kyokuto Chiba) have already resumed operations. JX Negishi is to resumed operations on March 21.

- Normalization of supply to the North Kanto region.
  - After March 21, railway shipment return to normal (Transport total of approx. 11,000 kl/day of gasoline, etc.)

- Draw on stock in operating refineries in the Kanto region (approx.30,000 kl).
  - March 19-21, draw on an additional 28,000 kl.

- Enhance supply structure via cooperation among companies (provide tanker trucks to other companies etc.)

LP gas supply measures (to the Tohoku region (affected area) )

- Free delivery of gas cylinders and large cookers to hospitals and evacuation areas for cooking has begun.
  - 30,000 cassette cookers, 190,000 cassette gas cylinders have been secured. This is to be continued.

- Designation of key service stations and intensive supply to them (as noted above)

- Expansion of the number of service stations in Tokyo and 6 surrounding prefectures (161 → 187). Relevant organizations and associations were informed, and intensive supply has begun.

Expansion of the number of emergency key service stations including SSs on highways (178 → 207). Relevant organizations and associations were informed, and intensive supply was begun.