prefectural police can also exercise its authority in other prefectures for protecting the life and property of its residents and maintaining the public safety of its prefecture.

## C. Countermeasures against Threats in Cyberspace

Police responsibilities and authorities under the Police Act and other relevant laws include those in relation to cyberspace.

Since dealing with threats in cyberspace has become a major problem for all police divisions, it is necessary to strengthen capabilities of police under a unified strategy.

## (1) Cybersecurity Strategy of the Japanese Police

In response to the changing situation in cyberspace, the NPA formulated a new cybersecurity strategy to deal with threats in cyberspace in order to build a system which effectively uses human and material resources of the police on a cross-divisional basis to appropriately correspond to changes in the social situation, and to tackle such threats through proactive and active efforts. Basic principles of the strategy are as follows:

- Proactive measures based on analyses of changes in situation
- Collaboration among multi-stakeholders
- Cross-border \& cross-organizational cooperation


## (2) Structure

To this end, the NPA, as the leader of all countermeasures against threats in cyberspace, established the DirectorGeneral for Cyber Security and the Director for Cyber Security to organize and coordinate various cyber-related initiatives.

In addition, the NPA-attached organizations, Regional Police

Bureaus and Prefectural Police Headquarters appoint their general directors to facilitate cross-divisional coordination on the situational awareness and various resources.

## 4. Human Resources

## A. Authorized Strength

As of 2015, the total strength of the police reached approximately 294,700 personnel. The total strength of the NPA is approximately $7,700: 2,100$ police officers, 900 Imperial guards, and 4,800 police staff. The total strength of the prefectural police is approximately $287,000: 258,600$ police officers and 28,300 police staff. Nationwide, there are approximately

21,000 female police officers and 12,500 female police staff.

## B.Rank

Police officers are divided into nine ranks: Superintendent General, Senior Commissioner, Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner, Superintendent, Chief Inspector, Inspector, Sergeant, and Police Officer. On top of the nine ranks, the highest position in the Japanese police is held by the NPA Commissioner General.

## Authorized Strength of Prefectural Police (2015)



Commissioner General's Insignia and Police Ranking Insignia


## C. Educational Training

## (1) Educational Training for Recruits and upon Promotion

Newly recruited prefectural police officers attend prefectural police schools and undergo an initial training program. Newly promoted sergeants and inspectors receive educational training to acquire the knowledge and skills to perform their new duties at regional police schools. Those who are promoted to chief inspectors enter the National Police Academy to receive educational training to develop management and leadership skills.

Police officers also receive training, as necessary, in order to acquire the requisite knowledge and skills to fulfill their duties, such as specialized training on criminal forensics and training on foreign language.

## (2) Martial Arts and Shooting

Police officers must attain a high level of skill in judo, kendo, arrest techniques, and shooting. They are required to receive training regularly. Due to their proficiency in martial arts and shooting, Japanese police officers often achieve outstanding records in domestic and international competitions.


Police Training System (since 2007)


