

Summary of Audit Report - 2002

Construction and administration of facilities to prevent damage from large scale earthquakes at ports and harbors

The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport has constructed facilities to prevent damage from large scale earthquakes, including earthquake-resistant reinforced quays and disaster prevention facilities at ports and harbors to ensure that critical materials can be transported at times of disaster, such as in the event of a large scale earthquake. The Board audited the construction and administration of these facilities. The audit findings were as follows. The construction of earthquake-resistant reinforced quays did not proceed in accordance with the basic plan, and the bridges connecting the port-roads were not reinforced against earthquake damage. The Board considered that the port and harbor facilities would not be accessible for the transport of critical materials or function effectively in the event of an earthquake. Regarding the administration of the facilities, the Board considered that since emergency procedures in the event of an earthquake were not fully established and the understanding of the department in charge of ports and harbors and the cooperation and coordination with department in charge of disaster prevention were not sufficient, they may not be able to respond quickly enough in the event of an earthquake and inadequate administration may disrupt effective administrative activities, or the facilities may not function properly. The Ministry is required to actively promote the construction of such facilities on its own or in cooperation with port managers based on an investigation of the priorities for determining the port and harbor projects and other projects that should be implemented, as well as to ensure that the facilities work effectively and to provide advice to the port managers regarding the administration of the facilities.

[Background amount: 150.9 billion yen (The amount of the State subsidies in relation to project costs for the construction of earthquake-resistant reinforced quays at ports and harbors that are planning the construction of such facilities)]