

## Section 10

# Development of Postal Administration

### 1. Efforts of Japan Post

Regarding the postal business, it was stipulated that a new state-run public corporation should be established that would operate in accordance with a policy of autonomous and flexible management under a self-supporting accounting system and a shift from ex ante control through Diet approval of its budget to ex post facto evaluation of the formulation of targets and plans and performance.

Inaugurated in April 2003, Japan Post undertakes autonomous and flexible management and is making efforts to improve existing services and introduce new services toward the achievement of its medium-term management goals. Japan Post is also endeavoring to improve convenience for the public by actively forming tie-ups and links with private companies.

### 2. Entry into the Correspondence Delivery Service

In conjunction with the launch of Japan Post in April 2003, the “Law Concerning Correspondence Delivery by Private-Sector Operators” (so-called Correspondence Delivery Law) went into effect, permitting the entry of private operators into the correspondence delivery business, which previously was monopolized by the state. From April 2003 to March 2004, 41 special correspondence delivery companies entered the correspondence delivery business.

### 3. Promoting the Utilization of the Post Office Network as a Community Base

The convenience of citizens would be strikingly improved if one-stop service could be realized in post offices, which are the most familiar public service providers. For this purpose, the “Law on Provision of Specific Local Government Services at Post Offices” went into force in December 2001 to enable post offices to handle certain administrative matters of local governments.