

Lottery's role and its contribution to local communities in Japan

Japan Lottery Association

Under law, Japanese Takara-kuji lotteries may be organized only by the nation's 47 prefectures and 20 specially designated cities. And roughly 40% of lottery revenue is profit and used as finances for local governments.

Law prescribes that the net lottery proceeds be used only for the promotion of public interests including public projects such as programs supporting international exchanged and cultural activities, exhibitions organized by local governments, steps to cope with graying of society and declining birthrate, encouragement of art and culture, measures to deal with natural disasters, revitalization of local economy, and environmental preservation activities such as those to stop global warming. In recent years, actual use of lottery proceeds has included development of school facilities, construction and improvement of roads, promotion of art and culture, and development of parks.

Proceeds of Green Jumbo and the Local Medical Care Promotion Lottery, which are unique among traditional passive games, are used for predetermined purposes only. In disasters such as severe earthquakes, special all-Japan lotteries are issued for the recovery efforts. To assist the recovery efforts following the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011, Disaster Reconstruction Support Lotteries were issued as the special-purpose All-Japan Lottery, the Green Jumbo Takara-kuji Lottery with expanded purpose, and the Tokyo Metropolitan lottery to support disaster prefectures one after another.



Special all-Japan lottery (Jul 2011)



Ceremony of the presentation for the Japan Red Cross



A blood collection bus for the Japan Red Cross

Takara-kuji Dream Centers in Tokyo and Osaka support the lotteries through constant, broadly targeted publicity. Exhibits including sample tickets, panel displays and video presentations offer easy-to-understand descriptions of the Japanese lottery

system and its history as well as lotteries around the world. Draws for many traditional passive games, Numbers, Miniloto, Loto 6, and Loto 7 are held there.



Draws at Takara-kuji Dream Center



Takara-kuji Dream Center in Osaka

They also hold a variety of concerts and exhibitions. One of these, the 'Lunchtime

Concert”, is planned as a concert by classical musicians during the noon break for everyone’s enjoyment and presented in both Tokyo and Osaka. These are well received in both venues and contribute to local artistic and cultural development.



Lunchtime Concert at Takara-kuji Dream Center in Tokyo