

In the aftermath of the Tohoku Pacific Offshore Earthquake

The Tohoku Pacific Offshore Earthquake of March 11 was the largest earthquake in Japan's recorded history leaving great devastation and large numbers of casualties in its wake. I would like to extend my heartfelt sympathy to the victims in the disaster area.

I would also like to thank our friends from other research institutions around the world for their many messages of concern and encouragement. Your support is much appreciated.

The only significant impairment RIKEN suffered was at our Sendai facility, where there was some damage to the building and to research instruments and equipment. Repairs will be required, but we are most grateful that there were no injuries to RIKEN staff and other personnel.

Of more immediate concern is the considerable damage suffered by a number of universities and research institutions located in the Tohoku region and parts of Kanto. To ensure that this damage does not cause a major setback for scientific research throughout Japan, we at RIKEN will do everything in our power to assist these institutions, minimize the adverse impact of the disaster, and preserve the vitality of the Japanese scientific community.

NOYORI Ryoji
President
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