We are back, but there is still much more to do.

At Yuriage-Minato Shrine, an annual celebration was held.

Naroti City, Miyagi Prefecture (October 21, 2012)

People engage in light exercise to maintain their physical well-being in an evacuation site.

Iriya Elementary School, Shizugawa, Minamisanriku Town, Miyagi Prefecture (March 17, 2011)

Landing of bonito fish

Kesennuma port was rehabilitated by elevating the subsided pier. The port provided Japan’s number one bonito catch for the 16th consecutive year.

Kesennuma City, Miyagi Prefecture (Photo provided by the City of Kesennuma)

A large fishing vessel is launched as students of a fisheries high school in Shimane Prefecture look on.

Nishihama, Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture (November 21, 2012)

A temporary shopping mall built to support local residents,

Onagawa Town, Miyagi Prefecture (April 29, 2012)

A U.S. Army cargo plane arrives at Sendai Airport, which was severely damaged by tsunami.

American soldiers load back-logged supplies onto trucks. Sendai City, Miyagi Prefecture (March 20, 2011)

Rows of cherry trees in full bloom at Yonomori Park, located in the evacuation zone,

Tomioka Town, Fukushima Prefecture (May 19, 2012)

The construction of temporary housing begins with the laying of foundations on the grounds of Rikuzentakata First Junior High School. Rikuzentakata City, Iwate Prefecture (March 19, 2011)

Disaster waste loaded on vehicles bound for Ibaraki Prefecture,

Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture (July 19, 2012)

The Soma Nomaoi is back.

Following the relaxation of access restrictions in April 2012, Soma-Odaka Shrine in Minamisoma City was renovated and its premises were decontaminated. The Soma Nomaoi, a traditional festival that recreates battle scenes of more than 1,000 years ago and a nationally designated important intangible folk-cultural property, was held at the shrine for the first time in two years since the disaster.

Minamisoma City, Fukushima Prefecture (Photo provided by the Soma Nomaoi Executive Committee, Minamisoma City)

We are back, but there is still much more to do.
As emergency recovery measures by the government take effect, there has been steady progress in the restoration of industry and economy in the affected areas.

Although there are ups and downs, prime industries in the affected areas such as manufacturing, fishing, and tourism have been bouncing back.

The indices of business conditions in the three affected prefectures (Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima) now exceed pre-disaster levels, owing to an influx of goods and funds for reconstruction.

**Factories are back in operation.**

Production of high-tech parts and machines in the Tohoku region was halted after the Great East Japan Earthquake, severely affecting manufacturers overseas through disrupted supply chains.

Now factories are back in business. The production index for mining and industry has almost recovered to pre-disaster levels.

**Fish are back in the ports.**

Commercial fishing is back. Indispensable facilities for the fishing industry are rapidly being rehabilitated or replaced. 13,505 fishing boats have been newly registered, being ahead of the restoration plan by 13%. 66% of damaged fish processing factories are now in operation. The fishing industry is producing at 80% of its pre-disaster rate on a value basis.

**Tourists are rejoicing at the beauty of Tohoku.**

Tourists are back visiting the Tohoku region, which has been bestowed with great natural beauty, hot springs, a cornucopia of local delicacies, and friendly people.

Tourism in Japan including the six prefectures affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake is back to pre-disaster levels.