[Email Newsletter from Mayor of Okayama (62) January 4th, 2016 Issue]

Happy New Year. I'm Omori, Mayor of Okayama.

I sincerely hope that you have welcomed New Year full of hope for all of you.

Last year, more than 14,000 runners ran at the first Okayama Marathon successfully held in November. We carried out a social experiment of migratory improvement at Kencho-dori Street and Nishigawa Canal Walk avenue, an establishment of New Civic Hospital, and furthermore, a foundation of ESD Award. We were able to accumulate various actions that lead to further improvement of the attractions of Okayama City and easier life in the city in a wide range of field.

This year, flourishing events for the city are packed including "Okayama Art Summit 2016" and "The second Okayama Marathon" which are holding this autumn. Okayama City will concentrate on making efforts to connect this turnout to revitalize the whole city.

I will promote actions that have a distant look for the future of Okayama City such as the formulation of new comprehensive plans, the new Civic Hall, the plan of trams entering to the Okayama Station Square, the promotion of ESD, extending healthy life expectancy, creating a society in which women shine, and the promotion of education.

I would like to extend my New Year greetings to all of you wishing for your good health and happiness this year and would also like to ask your continuous support and cooperation for Okayama City.