



~ Think Together about the Capital Functions Relocation of Japan ~

Trends in the Diet

House of Representatives

At a meeting of the Special Committee for the Relocation of the Diet and Other Organizations of the House of Representatives held on September 27, Mr. Eiji Nagai was appointed Chairman of the Committee again.

House of Councilors

At the meeting of the Special Committee for the Relocation of the Diet and Other Organizations of the House of Councilors held on August 7, Mr. Tetsuo Kutsukake was newly appointed Chairman of the Committee.

The Readers' Opinions and Impressions Contributed to the "New Era" are Highly Appreciated

In the August issue of "New Era" mailed to some readers, we enclosed questionnaire cards to solicit opinions and impressions about this newsletter, and valuable opinions were sent to us. This cooperation is highly appreciated, and some of the opinions and impressions are introduced here.

Regarding the "New Era" as delivered to subscribers, many people answered that they were "satisfied" or "fairly satisfied." We will continue to edit an attractive newsletter to satisfy the readers.

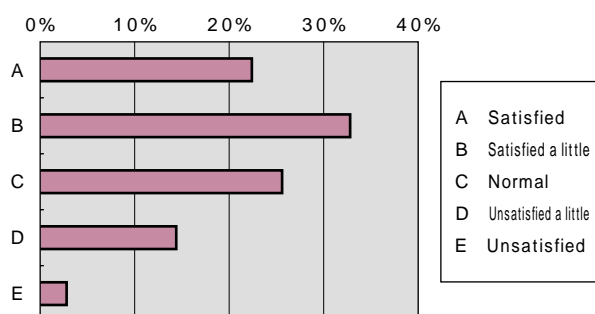
For the question on what articles in the "New Era" were thought to be helpful, many people answered "Trends in the Diet" and "Information concerning investigation and review in the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport (MLIT)."

Regarding subjects to be taken up in the "New Era" in the future, many people desire to know about "Data and arguments concerning the significance and effects of capital functions relocation" in particular. Such information will be provided in the "New Era" published in the future.

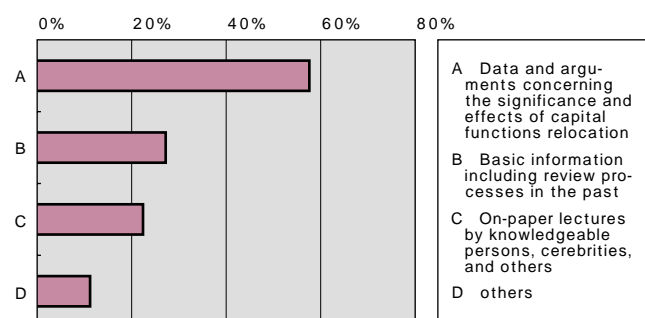
Furthermore, many readers stated that measures should be taken to inform the entire nation about capital functions relocation and that the contents of the magazine should be enriched.

MLIT intends to further enrich the content of the "New Era," and we sincerely request that you continue to read the newsletter regularly.

Impression about the "New Era"



Contents Which Should Be Taken up



Status of Capital Relocation in Brazil

The capital of Brazil was relocated from Rio de Janeiro to Brasilia in 1960, mainly for the purpose of promoting the development of Brazilian inland areas, which had been left underutilized, and to encourage the balanced development of national land and growth of the Brazilian economy. In this issue, Mr. Hiroo Nanjo, an architect familiar with Brasilia, will introduce how Brazil coped with capital relocation.

New Capital Image Seen in Brasilia

Contributed by: Mr. Hiroo Nanjo, an Architect



In Brasilia, the new capital of the Federative Republic of Brazil lying on the Brazilian Central Plateau, a magnificent ceremony was held in April 2000 in commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of its construction. Though Brasilia surprised the world with its Diet Building and Cathedral of modern architectural design, but its construction caused severe inflation, was labeled as an inhuman urban construction with priority given to cars, and had been Severely criticized as "The Most Unsuccessful Plan of the Century."

However, Brasilia has grown to a large city with a population of nearly two million, becoming the most popular city in the South American Continent after only forty years. Its central district, called Plano Pilot, famous for its airplane-style design, was registered as a world cultural heritage site in 1987 to be preserved as one of the cities representing the twentieth century.

Topics 1. Sequence of Events until Capital Relocation

In the middle of the eighteenth century, discussions on capital relocation were started mainly from the point of view of national defense.

In 1889, capital construction at approximately the present location was provided in Article 3 of the Republican Constitution.

In 1946, the intent to construct the new capital was declared in the new constitution.

In 1956, planning, design and construction of the new capital, Brasilia, were promoted by President Kubitschek.

In 1960, the capital was finally relocated after fast construction taking only three and a half years.

Topics 2. Objectives of Capital Relocation

It was considered necessary to construct the new capital at its present location in the Central Plateau, located at about the same distance from major cities in the country, for the purpose of changing the economic structure in which the economic cores were concentrated in cities on the Pacific Ocean coast as well as aiming at the balanced development of national land utilizing the abundant natural resources.



Topics 3. Model of the Capital Function City

The streets of Plano Pilot District, purely focusing on capital functions, can be said to constitute one of the most unusual cities in the world. The unique urban landscape of the capital of the Federal Republic with its Supreme Court, Presidential Office, and Diet Building laid out surrounding the Three Powers Square, and all ministries and agencies of the Federal Government, embassies, and pivotal military facilities standing in orderly lines, can be said to result from the drastic pursuit of rationality of the



Topics 6. What Can We Learn from Brasilia?

It would be meaningless for us to superficially imitate this city on the opposite side of the Earth whose history and social systems are utterly different from Japan. However, it is possible for us to learn from Brasilia as an example of a new city image purely focused on capital functions, modern urban planning, and architecture.



capital functions of a country.

Topics 4. Present Status as a "Life-Oriented City"

The housing sites, in which the people responsible for capital functions live, are located in a 240m square area called Superblock (neighboring housing lots) which have matured into a calm environment full of greenery. This demonstrates another facet of the life-oriented city of Brasilia that is unique in South America, namely in the levels of public security, education, and earnings. The city is connected to surrounding satellite cities by subways, and these areas are growing into an economic urban region independent from the capital function city.

Topics 5. Significance of Designation as a "World Cultural Heritage" site

Brasilia is the youngest cultural heritage site in the world. Among the standards for registration, it was evaluated to be a masterpiece demonstrating human creative talents and a sample of architectural assembly showing important steps in human history. It is a sample of a model city constructed through modern urban planning theory in the twentieth century.



Basic Concept of Capital Functions Relocation to the Northeastern Region

Contributed by: The Council for Establishing a Basic Concept of Capital Functions Relocation to the Northeastern Region

Five prefectures, Miyagi, Yamagata, Fukushima, Ibaraki, and Tochigi Prefectures, established and announced the "Basic Concept of Capital Functions Relocation to the Northeastern Region in July 2000.

The concept encompasses the image and direction of construction of the new city and its sphere in the "Tochigi-Fukushima Region." It also presents an overview of extensive conditions in the future of the whole Northeastern Region that embraces capital functions, such as the support and complementing nature of the "Ibaraki Region" and cooperation with the Tokyo Sphere and Sendai Sphere.

Construction of a Model City to Contribute to the World Entering the Twenty-First Century

The capital functions relocation realizes events of great significance, such as overall reform of government, alleviation of the excessive concentration of activities in Tokyo, and strengthening of disaster preparedness capabilities for creating a new Japan for the twenty-first century in which we citizens can live peacefully and satisfactorily.

In addition to these important significances, we strongly propose that the new city construction for capital functions relocation should establish a model city that contributes to the world entering a new century and to an impressive international contribution in the areas of peace, culture, and environment.

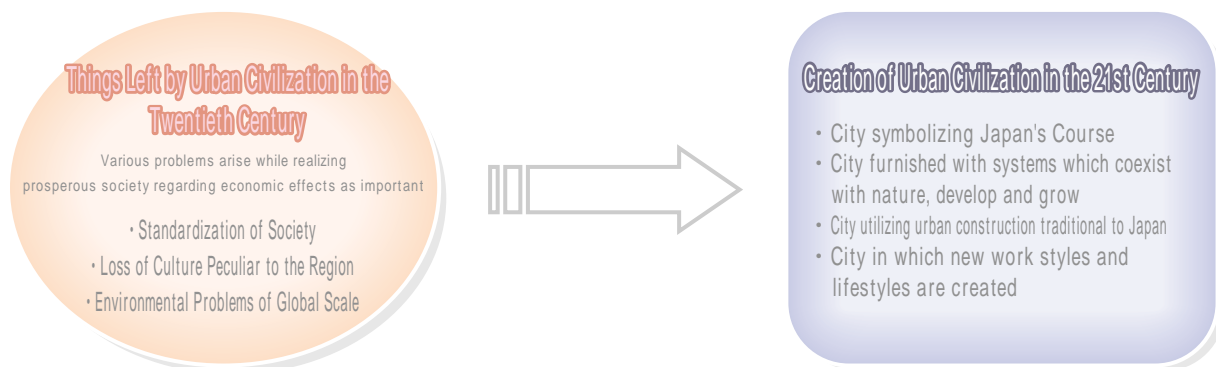
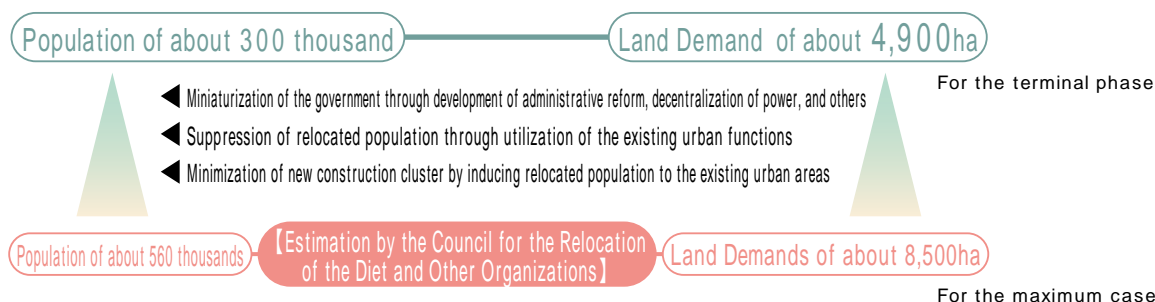


Image of New City



Basic Policy of the New City Sphere Construction



Construction of a City utilizing the characteristics of Tochigi-Fukushima Region

Construction of a new city of a different type is possible in Tochigi-Fukushima Region



(Vast National and Public Land in Nasu Central Region)

In Nasu Central Region, it is possible to construct a symbolic city suitable for the seat of the Diet, the highest organization representing national power, because the region inherits a frontier spirit as reclaimed land since the Meiji Era and possesses dignity suitable for creating a new Japan in the twenty-first century.

Future Image of the Northeastern Region Possessing Capital Functions

The new city sphere will extensively cooperate with not only the greater Sendai Sphere, Joban Route, and Tokyo Sphere but also with other domestic and overseas spheres.

• Cooperation and Function Sharing with the Greater Sendai Sphere

The greater Sendai Sphere will support the new city sphere utilizing its abundant development capability and various high-order urban functions, especially the functions of frontier industries and science research, international transport, international exchange, international resort, and conventions.

• Cooperation and Function Sharing with the Joban Route

The Joban Route will support and complement the new city sphere in its safety control of capital functions against earthquakes and volcanoes, abundant international capability such as Tsukuba Academic City which is responsible for its world-class science research function, its international distribution base at Hitachi-Naka Harbor, and its landing site for the Pacific submarine optical cable.

• Cooperation and Function Sharing with the Tokyo Sphere

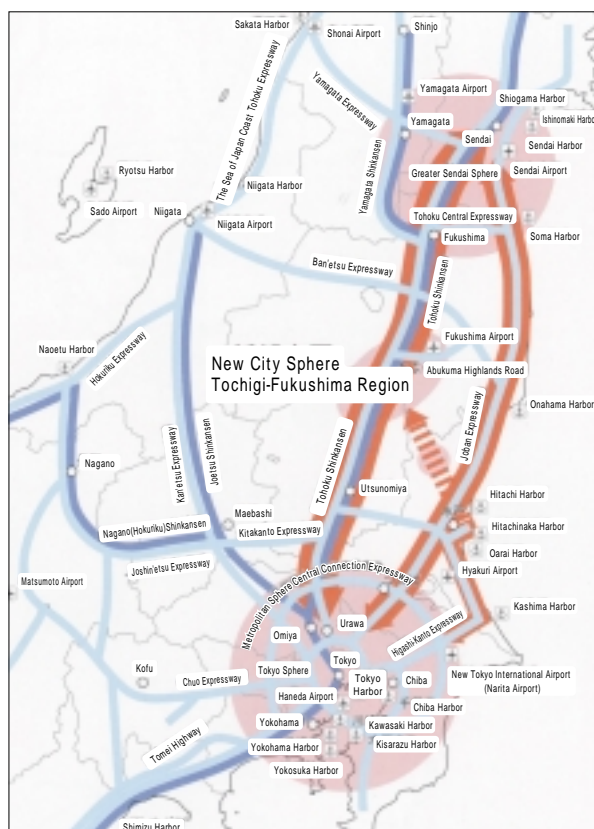
In the new city sphere, capital functions are satisfactorily compatible with the Tokyo Sphere because the it possesses the most advanced urban functions in Japan and will continue to remain the economic and cultural center of Japan and the world.

As mentioned above, the new city sphere is supported by broad areas of cooperation between cities and the relocation of capital functions contributes to national land formation by extensive cooperation as required for the twenty-first century.



(Viewing Eastern Region of Nishi-Shirakawa-Gun from the Skies of Azuma Village)

The eastern region of Nishi-Shirakawa-Gun has a landscape, which can be called the original landscape of Japan, consisting of rural hills with a distant view of the Nasu, Abukuma, and Yatsumizo mountains, and a Diet city suitable for the symbol of the new era can be constructed there as a "forest-clad city" while inheriting Japan's tradition, coexisting with nature, and realizing abundant life style.



For further information, please contact the Secretariat, Northeastern Region Council for Establishing the Basic Concept of the Relocation of the Diet and Other Organizations (Office of Measures for the Relocation of the Diet and Other Organizations, Tochigi Prefecture) +8128-623-2209

★ Topics

Major Recent Activities Related to the Capital Functions Relocation in Each Region

September and December. The Tochigi Prefectural Residents' Council for Promoting the Relocation of the Diet and Other Organizations held "Nasu Region" observation tours for the relocation of the Diet and other organizations.

September 14. Mie Prefectural Economic Organizations' Council for the Relocation of the Diet and Other Organizations started operation of the "Mie-Kio" Capital Function Relocation PR Train (operating on the Kintetsu Line until May 2002).

September 15. Fukushima Prefecture, the Konsoryuu Society of Japan, and Fukushima Prefectural Residents' Council for the Relocation of the Diet and Other Organizations held an international symposium on the near future paradigm "Tree-Clad City" at the site of the Utsukushima Future Exposition.

October 7. The Nabari Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ueno Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Iga District Society of Commerce and Industry Liaison Council held the "Capital Functions to Mie-Kio!" Forum, and speeches were given by the Governor of Mie Prefecture and Mr. Taichi Sakaiya (an author).

Contents of the Internet Fair 2001 to be Changed

The Internet Fair 2001 will be closed on December 31, 2001. Prior to the closing date, the content of the Capital Functions Relocation Pavilion will be changed as described below. Please take a look (The Internet address is <http://www.inpaku.go.jp/>).

Virtual Capital Function City Construction

Various Scenes of a virtual capital function city, constructed based on the opinions and suggestions given by readers since the early part of November 2000, will be published all at once using voice and animation. Please take a lighthearted walk around the new city.



Inpaku Capital Function City Image Contest

Popularity voting will be conducted once again from November 1 to 30 on a collection of excellent works for each month over the past year. We solicit your votes to decide the winning work. Those who have voted already may vote again. Please vote for the work that you think is the best over the past year.

Accessing Various Information

Various information concerning the capital functions relocation has been provided on the MLIT Homepage on the Internet. Please visit this web-site.

Also if you are interested in items in this leaflet and others, please let us know. We will pleasingly send related documents to you. We are awaiting your contact.

We are Waiting for Your Contact

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