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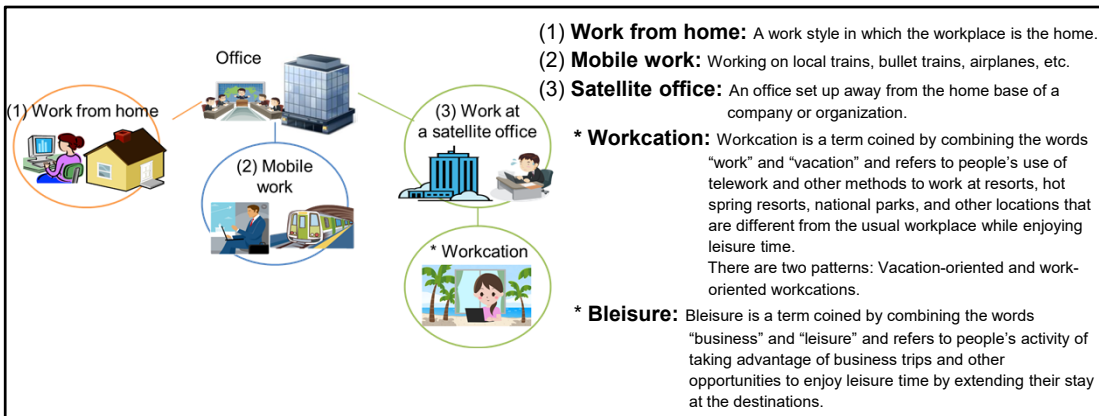
TOPIC

MIC is promoting the spread of telework

1. Telework

Telework is a flexible work style that uses information and communications technology (ICT) to use time and place effectively. Telework is also effective in reforming the way to people work, realizing a better work-life balance, securing the working population in Japan's declining population era, and revitalizing local communities. MIC, in cooperation with related ministries and agencies, promotes various initiatives that will contribute to the spread and promotion of telework.

Telework brings various effects (benefits) in three directions: society, companies, and employees. Telework can contribute to the "Vision for a Digital Garden City Nation" which is promoted by Kishida Administration by spreading the reform of work styles through telework.



2. Telework Days

MIC, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), the Cabinet Secretariat, and the Cabinet Office, in collaboration with related ministries, agencies, and organizations, started conducting Telework Days in 2017. The parties concerned aimed at easing congestion and promoting telework nationwide during the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The government designated the period from July 19 through September 5 in 2021 (the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic year) as Telework Days, calling for the intensive implementation of telework nationwide. A nationwide call for the intensive implementation of telework attracted the participation of 1,531 organizations and about 940,000 people and Telework was spread widely as a national movement.

In addition, Telework Days special event was held online on November 26, 2021 and stakeholders reported on the results of the 2021 Telework Days and had a talk session to discuss the future of telework.

CONTENTS



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Global Strategy Division,
Global Strategy Bureau,
Ministry of Internal Affairs
and Communications (MIC)
2-1-2 Kasumigaseki,
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 100-8926,
Japan
TEL: +81-3-5253-5920
FAX: +81-3-5253-5924

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● Telework Days Special Event

(1) Date

November 26, 2021

(2) Purpose

The implementation of Telework Days started in 2017 to ease congestion during the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games and promote telework nationwide. The Telework Days initiative will end in fiscal year 2021 due to the completion of the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games. At the end of the event, the parties concerned will report on Telework Days 2021 and hold an event to present the future of telework, e.g., Japanese-style telework and workcation, to expand telework further in and after fiscal year 2022.

(3) Program outline

Part 1: Telework Days 2021 Implementation Report

- Opening remarks by Mr. NAKANISHI Yusuke, State Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications
- Report on the implementation results of Telework Days
Reported by MIC and the Tokyo Metropolitan Government
- Presentations by companies implementing Telework Days

Part 2: Considering about the future of Japanese-style telework

- Explanation of the proposal of Taskforce to study the ideal state of telework in the “Post-Corona” era
Reported by MIC
- Unification of telework consultation services
Reported by MHLW
- Workcation policy of the Japan Tourism Agency (JTA)
Reported by JTA
- Talk Session: Creating the Value of Flexible Work
- Closing remarks by Mr. HENMI Satoshi,
Deputy Director-General for Information and Communications Bureau, MIC



Telework Days 2021 poster

3. Announcement of FY2021 Top Hundred Telework Pioneers and Awards of Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications

MIC has been recognizing enterprises and organizations advancing the introduction and utilization of teleworking as telework pioneers and selecting and announcing companies with sufficient achievements as the top hundred telework pioneers annually among them since fiscal year 2015.

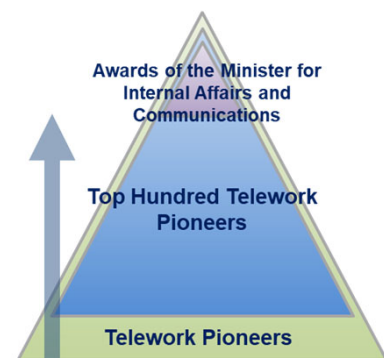
Besides, MIC established the Awards of the Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications in fiscal year 2016 to be given to excellent pioneers among the top hundred telework pioneers every year.

In November 2021, MIC selected telework pioneers, the top hundred telework pioneers, and the recipients of the Awards of the Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications for fiscal year 2021.



Telework Pioneer

Top Hundred Telework Pioneers logo



Selection program for Top Hundred Telework Pioneers

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4. MIC's Efforts to Promote Telework in the Future

Telework is a way of realizing diverse and flexible work styles that effectively use time and place. It is also effective as a countermeasure against novel coronavirus infections. Telework enables people to work from home or in rural areas, which will also help revitalize rural areas and close the gap between rural and urban areas.

The Telework Days program will end in 2021. However, as a coordinator of the teleworking measures being taken by each ministry, MIC will hold the Ministries Concerned Liaison Conference on Teleworking Promotion. At the same time, MIC will continue working on the spread and establishment of telework by providing free consultations on the introduction of telework and holding seminars in cooperation with local chambers of commerce and industry as well as the Japan Federation of Labor and Social Security Attorney's Associations.