

4. Point to promote measures for abolishment of level crossing

It is described in the above that the ultimate measure to eliminate the level crossing accident is to abolish level crossing itself. However, although the relevant parties such as railway operator, road administrator, local residents, etc., are discussing for the abolishment of level crossing based on the above idea, it is considered that there are many level crossings where discussion is not in advance.

Therefore, the patterns and the points () of the process of the cases which resulted to abolish level crossing are summarized as follows.

It is expected to implement concrete measures to prevent accidents referring each case shown in Section 5, in pages 9 to 13, etc.

(a) Individual abolition of the level crossing without crossing gate

➡ The railway operator and the road administrator explained the necessity of abolishment of level crossing, and promoted the understandings and cooperation of the local residents, etc.

(b) Integration and abolishment together with neighboring level crossing

(i) Abolish at the same time as widening the neighboring level crossing.

➡ Improve safety of neighboring level crossing, i.e., prepare walkway or widen level crossing road, and guide the passersby of level crossing.

(ii) Establish bypass route to the neighboring level crossing, and abolish.

➡ To make easy to use neighboring level crossing, by preparing bypass route, and guide the passersby of level crossing.

➡ Local government and railway operator cooperated with each other to prepare bypass route.

(c) Abolishment had been scheduled after completed work for overhead crossing of level crossing and surroundings, but abolished earlier upon the occasion of the occurrence of accident.

5. Examples to realize abolishment of level crossing without crossing gate

Four examples are introduced in the followings, based on the hearing from railway operators and the local governments.

Among these, the case (b) (i) and (b) (ii) part.2 had occurred in Chikusei City, Ibaraki Prefecture. The Chikusei City, responded to the occurrence of the accident with fatality in class four level crossing, in the strong thought that "the City will abolish dangerous class four level crossings in order not to cause the similar accident anymore", promote discussions with local residents as the City took the lead, and realized to abolish not only level crossing where caused the accident with fatality, but also abolished the other class four level crossings where accident had not occurred yet. The discussions on the abolishment are now continued for the class four level crossings still existed in the city.

We consider that the other relevant parties such as railway operators and the local governments, etc., promote the discussions in the relevant parties before accident will occur and implement the concrete measures such as the abolishment, etc., in early stage, referring these activities to abolishment of level crossing.