Railway accident investigation report

Railway operator: East Japan Railway Company

Accident type: Level crossing accident

Date and time: About 10:12, November 2, 2016

Location: Takami-Kita level crossing, class four level crossing without automatic barrier machine nor road warning device, located at around 60,217 m from the origin at Matsumoto station, between Shinano-Moriue station and Hakuba station, single

track, Oito Line, Hakuba Village, Kita-Azumi County, Nagano Prefecture

SUMMARY

On Wednesday, November 2, 2016, while the inbound local 5326M train, started from Minami-Otari station bound for Matsumoto station, Oito Line of East Japan Railway Company, was running between Shinano-Moriue station and Hakuba station, the driver of the train noticed a motorized bicycle entering to Takami-Kita level crossing, class four level crossing, and applied an emergency brake immediately, but the train hit the motorized bicycle.

The driver of the motorized bicycle was dead in the accident.

PROBABLE CAUSES

It is probable that the accident had occurred as the train hit a motorized bicycle because the motorized bicycle entered to Takami-Kita level crossing, class four level crossing without automatic barrier machine nor road warning device, in the situation that the train was approaching.

It is somewhat likely that the motorized bicycle entered to the level crossing in the situation that the train was approaching, in relation with the situation that the approaching train was difficult to see for the driver of the motorized bicycle due to the overgrown weeds until he approached the level crossing beyond the fence of warning level crossing. But it could not be determined the precise situations because the driver of the motorized bicycle was dead in the accident.