

~ Accident with human death caused by the collision between the train and a passerby,
 at the class 4 level crossing ~

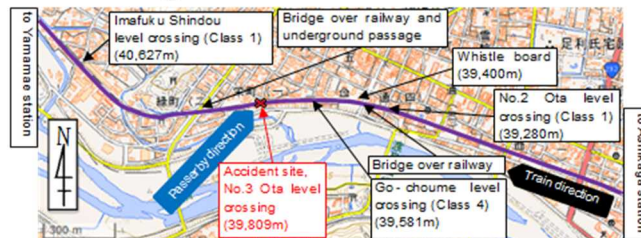
Railway operator : East Japan Railway Company
 Accident type : Level crossing accident
 Date and time : At about 11:03, July 30, 2018
 Location : Ota No.3 level crossing, class 4 level crossing without automatic barrier machine nor road warning device, at around 39,809 m from the origin in Oyama station, between Ashikaga station and Yamamae station, single track, Ryomo Line, Ashikaga City, Tochigi Prefecture

<SUMMARY>

While the inbound Local 444M train, started from Oyama station bound for Takasaki station of the East Japan Railway Company, was running between Ashikaga station and Yamamae station at a velocity of about 83 km/h, the driver of the train noticed a passerby pushing a bicycle was entering Ota No.3 level crossing, then the driver sounded a whistle and applied an emergency brake immediately, but the train hit the passerby.

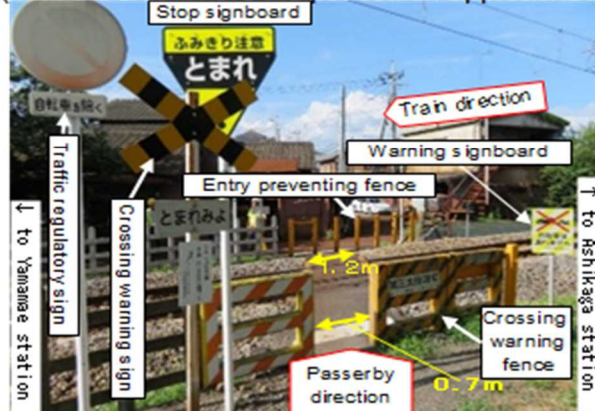
The passerby was dead in the accident.

<Schematic drawing of the area around the accident site>

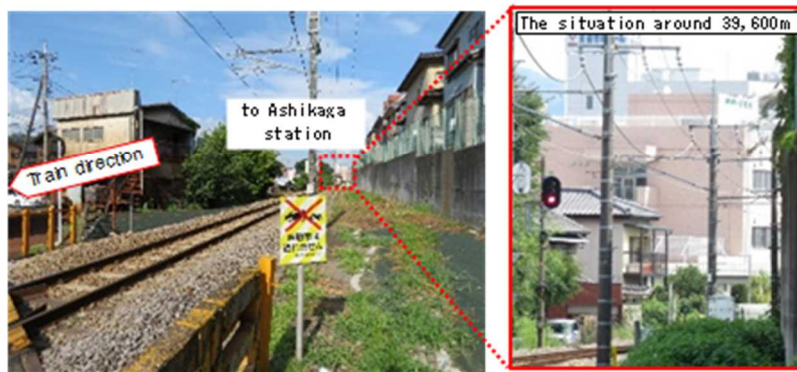


※This figure was quoted from the map (Digital Land Web) published by Geospatial Information Authority of Japan, and revised.

< The situation of No.3 Ota level crossing >
 (from the side where the pedestrian approached)



< The view from the vicinity of crossing warning fence of No.3 Ota level crossing to Ashikaga station >



< The view from the up train to No.3 Ota level crossing >



<PROBABLE CAUSES>

- It is highly probable that the accident occurred as the train hit the passerby pushing a bicycle who entered Ota No.3 level crossing, class 4 level crossing without automatic barrier machine nor road warning device, in the situation that the train was approaching.
- It could not be determined why the passerby entered the level crossing in the situation that the train was approaching the level crossing, because the passerby was dead in the accident, although it is somewhat likely that the passerby entered the level crossing without recognizing the approaching train.

<EXPECTED MEASURES TO PREVENT THE RECURRENCE>

- The class 4 level crossing, that is not equipped with the automatic barrier machine nor the road warning device, should be abolished or should be equipped with the level crossing protection device. The relevant persons such as the railway operators, the road administrators, the regional inhabitants, etc., are expected to discuss on the abolishment or the preparation of the level crossing protection devices, decide the policy as fast as possible, and promote the concrete measures, considering the occurrence of the accident and the situation around the level crossing.