Railway accident investigation report

Railway operator  Central Japan Railway Company
Accident type    Train derailment accompanied with level crossing accident
Date and time   About 06:53, March 2, 2017
Location        Koyabu level crossing, class 1 level crossing with automatic barrier machine and road warning device, at around 332,292 m from the origin in Tokyo station, between Nishi-Okazaki station and Anjo station, double track, Tokaido Line, Anjo City, Aichi Prefecture

SUMMARY
On Thursday, March 2, 2017, while the outbound Local 101F train, started from Toyohashi station bound for Gifu station, Tokaido Line of Central Japan Railway Company, was running between Nishi-Okazaki station and Anjo station at about 120 km/h, the driver of the train noticed a sedan entering Koyabu level crossing, class 1 level crossing, and applied emergency brake immediately but it was too late. The train collided with the sedan and all two axles in the front bogie of the 1st vehicle derailed to right of the track.

The sedan completely demolished and burnt after colliding with the train, poles planted along the track side etc.

The driver of the sedan was dead, and 3 passengers boarded on the train were injured, in the accident.

PROBABLE CAUSES
It is probable that the accident occurred as the train collided with a sedan entering the Koyabu level crossing, class 1 level crossing, where the automatic barrier machine had completed its operation, in the situation just before the train passed, and derailed to right caused by the lateral force in right direction acted on left under part of front head of the 1st vehicle of the train.

It is probable that the forces in right direction had acted to the left under part of front head of the 1st vehicle of the train because the train had been running through as that the sedan collided with the train in the level crossing had been crashed being sandwiched by the train and poles planted in the left side of the train.

It could not be determined the reason why the sedan had entered the level crossing where the automatic barrier machine had completed its operation, because the driver of the sedan was dead in the accident.