"The accident with fatality that the train collided with the standard motor vehicle occurred in the Class three level crossing"

Railway operator : Nagaragawa Railway Co. Ltd.
Accident type : Level crossing accident
Date and time : About 14:38, January 4, 2022
Location : At around 60,087 m from Mino-Ota station, Shimo-Manba No.5 Level Crossing, Class three level crossing equipped with road warning device without crossing gate, between Manba station and Kami-Manba station, single track, Etsumi-south Line, Gujo City, Gifu Prefecture

<SUMMARY>

On Tuesday, January 4, 2022, while the outbound 9 train, started from Mino-Ota station bound for Mino-Shirotori station, Etsumi-south Line of Nagaragawa Railway Co., Ltd., was running between Manba station and Kami-Manba station at the velocity of about 50 km/h, the driver of the train noticed the standard motor vehicle entering the Shimo-Manba No.5 level crossing, Class three level crossing, from left side of the train direction, therefore, sounded a whistle and applied the emergency brake immediately, but the train collided with the standard motor vehicle.

The driver of the standard motor vehicle was dead and the fellow passenger was seriously injured in this accident.

Map of the accident site and periphery

* This figure was made using the Geographical Institute Map, Electrical Country Web, of the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan
<PROBABLE CAUSES>

It is highly probable that this accident was caused by the collision of the train and the standard motor vehicle, because the standard motor vehicle entered the level crossing in the status as the train was approaching, in Shimo-Manba No.5 Level Crossing, the Class three level crossing equipped with the road warning device.

It could not be determined the precise reason why the standard motor vehicle entered the level crossing in the status as the train was approaching, although it is likely that the driver could not notice only the approaching train but also could not notice the flashing of the red flashing lamps and the warning sound, because the driver of the standard motor vehicle was dead and the fellow passenger lost memories of before and after of the collision.

<MATTERS EXPECTED TO PREVENT RECURRENCE>

In order to improve safety of Shimo-Manba No.5 Level Crossing, it is expected for Gujo City to implement the upgrade of Shimo-Manba Level Crossing to the Class one level crossing, which has been planning, according to the planned schedule.

It is important for the railway operator to promote the safety confirmation when passed the level crossing against the users of Shimo-Manba Level Crossing, by the enlightening activities and the installation of the sign board to call attention until to upgrade Shimo-Manba Level Crossing to the Class one level crossing, in cooperation with the Police and Gujo City.

Details can be obtained by the railway accident investigation report in the home page of the Japan Transport Safety Board, i.e., http://www.mlit.go.jp/jtsb