

"The train collided with the passerby of level crossing in the Class four level crossing,
and the passerby was dead"

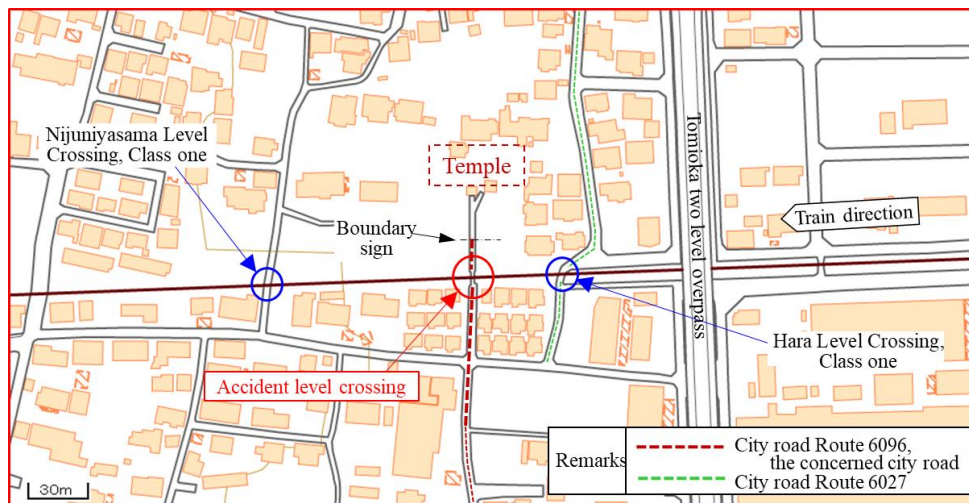
Railway operator : Joshin Dentetsu Co. Ltd.
 Accident type : Level crossing accident
 Date and time : About 10:53, December 30, 2021
 Location : Around 19,628 m from Takasaki station, Seiunji Level Crossing,
 Class four level crossing without the crossing gate nor the road
 warning device, between Higashi-Tomioka station and Joshu-
 Tomioka station, single track, Joshin Line, Tomioka City, Gunma
 Prefecture

<SUMMARY>

On Thursday, December 30, 2021, while the outbound 19 train, started from Takasaki station bound for Shimonita station of Joshin Dentetsu Co., Ltd., was running between Higashi-Tomioka station and Joshu-Tomioka station, the driver of the train noticed a passerby squat down in Seiunji Level Crossing, Class four level crossing, and applied the emergency brake and sounded a whistle, but the train collided with the passerby.

The passerby was dead in this accident.

Rough 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

Status of the accident level crossing viewed from the connected road

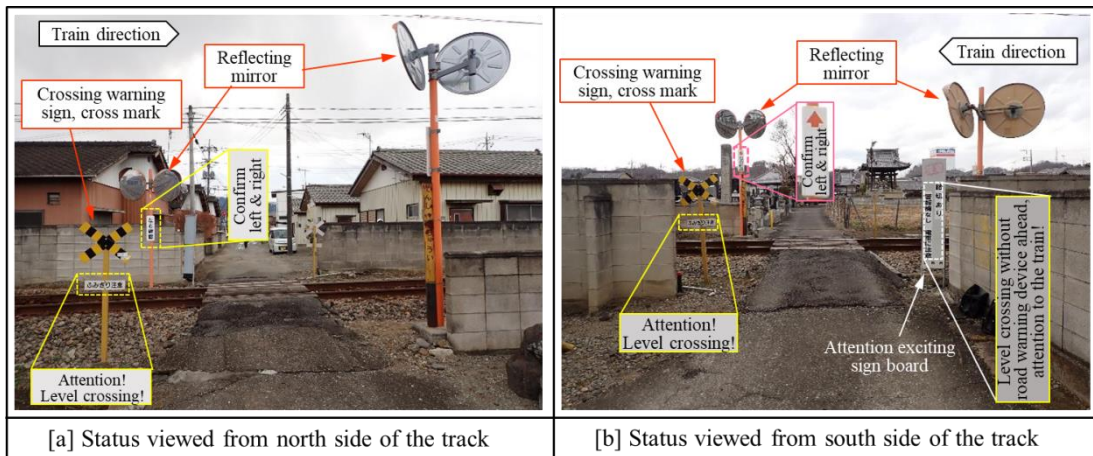
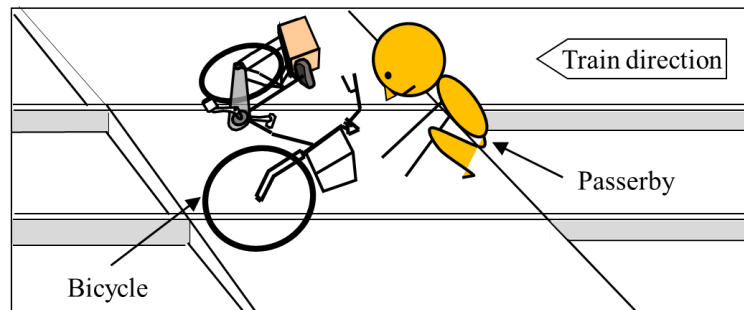


Image figure based on the statement of the driver



* This figure indicates rough layout based on the status at the time of the accident, and is not drawn in the correct scaling, relative sizes, and positional relations.

<PROBABLE CAUSES>

It is probable that this accident was caused as the train collided with the passerby and the bicycle who entered and staying in Seijunji Level Crossing, the Class four level crossing without crossing gate nor road warning device.

It could not be revealed the detailed reason why the passerby was staying in the level crossing because the passerby was dead, although it is likely that the passerby did not notice the approaching train due to be concentrated the consciousness to some actions as the bicycle fell down in the accident level crossing, or the passerby could not move the body due to some causes.

<MATTERS EXPECTED TO PREVENT RECURRENCE>

The Class four level crossing where crossing gate and road warning device are not equipped shall be abolished or install level crossing protection device. The studies for the abolishment of Seijunji Level Crossing were implemented responding to the accident occurred in the past, but the agreement for abolishment could not be resulted. However, even in these situations, it is considered as necessary for the relevant parties such as railway operator, road administrator, manager of the surrounding lands, local residents to promote the discussions for the abolishment, etc., of the level crossing, and implement the concrete measures promptly as soon as possible, because the accident had occurred actually.

In addition, it is expected to prevent the passing through of the Class four level crossing till to implement the concrete measures, because there is the Class one level crossing in the neighborhood that can be used as the detour, although it has been in the status that the passerby can pass through from the City Road to the other City Road via the Class four level crossing and the precincts of the temple.

On the other hand, this accident occurred as the train collided with the passerby staying with his back toward the train in the level crossing. It is required to the passerby of level crossing to pass through without staying in the level crossing. It is necessary for the operator to manage for the moment such as to maintain the pavement in the level crossing in good condition, in order to secure the safe and smooth passage of the passersby of the level crossing.

It is expected to the relevant parties such as the railway operator, the road administrator being in close cooperation, to call attention by the enlightening activities, etc., that to avoid the passage of Class four level crossing as possible will result to the reduction of accidents.

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>