

## Chapter 2 Summary of major investigation activities in 2016

### 1 Statistics of accident investigation activities

In the case of occurrence of aircraft, railway, or marine accidents, the JTSB designates an investigator-in-charge and accident investigators who begin investigations to determine their causes. Since we can never know when or where accidents may occur, the personnel of the Board, including accident investigators, are making continuous efforts to be able to conduct investigation activities immediately when accidents should occur.

Various accidents occurred in 2016.

In terms of aviation, there were 13 aircraft accidents. These included an accident at New Chitose Airport in February, when smoke appeared inside a Boeing 737-800 aircraft operated by Japan Airlines Co., Ltd. while it was taxiing prior to takeoff, as a result of which the emergency evacuation slide was used on the taxiway and some passengers were injured while being evacuated. Another case was an accident at Yao Airport in March, when a privately-owned Mooney M20C crashed after landing and going around. We investigated the causes of 44 accidents in all, including 31 ongoing investigations from the previous year. Beside these, there were 10 aircraft serious incidents involving aircraft, including an incident in December when an Airbus A320-214 aircraft operated by Peach Aviation Co., Ltd. attempted to land on a closed runway at Tokyo International Airport. We investigated the causes of 22 serious incidents in all, including 12 ongoing investigations from the previous year.



Of the above, we have published investigation reports on 28 aircraft accidents and seven serious incidents following completion of the respective investigations.

Of the published investigation reports, we issued recommendations to First Flying Co., Ltd. regarding the “Aircraft Accident involving a Viking DHC-6-400 operated by First Flying Co., Ltd.” and safety recommendations to the Ministry of Land Infrastructure and Transport of the Republic of Korea regarding the “Aircraft Accident involving an Airbus A320-200 operated by Asiana Airlines, Inc.”

(For more details, see Chapter 1 “Summary of Recommendations and Opinions Issued in 2016”, p.4.)

In terms of railways, there were 23 railway accidents in all. These included a derailment between Kumamoto Station and Kumamoto Railway Carriage Depot on the Kyushu Shinkansen of Kyushu Railway Company in April, and a derailment between the Suwa-Jinja-Mae and Kokaido-Mae tram stops on the Sakuramachi branch line of Nagasaki Electric Tramway Co., Ltd. in June. We investigated the causes of 36 accidents in all, including 13 ongoing investigations from the previous year. As for railway

serious incidents, there were two cases including a serious incident in which a moving train entered a section of track on Keisei Electric Railway Main Line that was closed for maintenance work in July. We investigated the causes of four incidents in all, including two ongoing investigations from the previous year.



Of the above, we have published investigation reports on 17 railway accidents and two serious incidents following completion of the respective investigations.

In terms of marine, a total of 738 marine accidents were investigated. These included a collision accident between the container ship SINOKOR INCHEON and the fishing vessel TOSHI MARU in February, and an explosion accident involving the chemical



tanker EIWA MARU 3 in September. We investigated the causes of 1,354 accidents in all, including 617 ongoing investigations from the previous year (excluding cases that proved non-applicable as a result of the initial investigation). Besides these, 117 marine incidents were investigated. We investigated the causes of 178 incidents in all, including 62 ongoing investigations from the previous year (excluding cases that proved non-applicable as a result of the initial investigation).

Of the above, we have published investigation reports on 778 marine accidents and 106 marine incidents following completion of the respective investigations.

Of the published investigation reports, we issued safety recommendations to TIAN CHEN INT'L SHIPPING MANAGEMENT CO., LIMITED (shipping management company) regarding the "Collision Accident involving the Cargo Ship FUKUKAWA and the Fishing Vessel TSUNOMINE MARU". We also issued safety recommendations to HK SAFE BLESSING SHIPPING LTD. (shipping management company) and the relevant authority in the Kingdom of Cambodia regarding the "Sinking Accident of Cargo Ship MING GUANG".

(For more details, see Chapter 1 "Summary of Recommendations and Opinions Issued in 2016" pp.5-7.)

Accident investigators conduct investigations and invite comments from parties relevant to the cause of the accident; accordingly, they make draft recommendations or opinions regarding the measures to be taken to prevent the recurrence of accidents and to mitigate damage caused by accidents. Therefore, they shall endeavor to improve their level of skill and knowledge by participating in national and international training; moreover, they share accident information among international society by attending international conferences.

In the future, we will continue to carry out thorough investigations into the causes of aircraft, railway, and marine accidents, and will publish our investigation reports as soon as possible. Based on the results of our investigations, who will also make recommendations and state our opinions as necessary to related government institutions and parties relevant to the causes of accidents to prevent the recurrence of accidents.