

Railway accident investigation report

Railway operator : West Japan Railway Company

Accident type : Train derailment

Date and time : About 00:33, June 23, 2016

Location : At around 286,695 m from the origin at Kobe station, between Seno station and Hachihommatsu station, double track, San-yo Line, Hiroshima City, Hiroshima Prefecture

SUMMARY

On June 23, 2016, the inbound local 1584M train, composed of four railway vehicles, started from Iwakuni station bound for Shiraichi station, San-yo Line of West Japan Railway Company, departed from Seno station about 31 minutes behind the scheduled time, i.e., 23:59. The driver of the train, while operating the train at about 80 km/h between Seno station and Hachihommatsu station, found earth and sand, etc., on the front track, and applied an emergency brake immediately. But the train hit and went onto the earth and sand etc., flowed onto the railway track, and stopped.

It was found that the all 2 axles in the front bogie of the first vehicle of the train derailed to right, in the investigation implemented after the train had stopped.

There were 124 passengers and 2 train crews, i.e., the driver and the conductor. Among them, the driver of the train was injured.

PROBABLE CAUSES

It is highly probable that the train derailed because the train ran onto the earth and sand, etc., flowed onto the railway track from the collapsed slope by rain water, in the accident.

It is probable that the slope collapsed because the slope became unstable as the rain water around the slope, by the rain fall around the accident site, flowed and concentrated into the road transverse drain, was guided to the slope, due to the drainage in downstream side of the road transverse drain was not installed.