

1 July—Japan Airlines, All Nippon Airways and Japan Air Systems started joint shuttle service between Tokyo and Osaka

6 July—Boeing announced plan to develop 747X ultra-high-capacity passenger aircraft within 6 to 9 months

12 July—Airbus A310 aircraft belly landed at Vienna International Airport injuring 26 passengers

15 July—JR West started electrification of 84.3-km Ohama Line between Tsuruga and Higashi Maizuru with completion scheduled for 2003

21 July—Sightseeing helicopter owned by Blue Hawaiian Helicopters crashed on Maui in Hawaii killing all 7 passengers and crew

25 July—Air France Concorde crashed on takeoff from Roissy-Charles de Gaulle Airport killing 107 passengers and crew and 5 people on ground

25 July—Sendai Branch of JR East opened new JR Sendai Hospital with attached facility for aged on vacant land adjacent to old hospital

31 July—French National Railways TGV from Paris to Nantes hit cow on line while running at 220 km/h badly damaging lead coach and closing line for 3 hours

9 August—Japan Airlines, All Nippon Airways, and Japan Air Systems announced joint Domestic Airlines Cooperation Web to open in April 2001 selling domestic air tickets using Internet

15 August—Terrorist bomb planted on night train exploded in Uttar Pradesh Province, northern India, killing at least 7 people and injuring about 80

16 August—Domestic flight of São Paulo Airlines hijacked by 8 armed men who robbed passengers and crew of R\$6 million carried by bank officials and other valuables

20 August—Freight train carrying natural gas from Mombasa to Nairobi in Kenya derailed and exploded in Nairobi suburbs killing 18 nearby residents

23 August—Airbus A320 of Gulf Air crashed into ocean before landing at Bahrain International Airport killing all 143 passengers and crew

25 August—Japanese Ministry of Transport included approximately ¥70 million in budget for fiscal 2001 to survey Kawasaki Municipal Rapid Transit Rail connecting Shin Yurigaoka on Odakyu Line and Moto-sumiyoshi of Tokyu Toyoko Line

27 August—Central span of Kaoping Bridge in southern Taiwan collapsed injuring 16 people

31 August—Japan Airport Terminal Co., Ltd., which manages and operates passenger terminal buildings at Tokyo's Haneda Airport, announced basic plan for East Passenger Terminal Building. Construction including hotel to start in fall 2001 with opening in late 2003 at total cost of about ¥50 billion

9 September—Iwate-Ichinohe Tunnel under construction by Japan Railway Construction Public Corporation as part of Tohoku Shinkansen between Morioka and Hachinohe broken through from both sides and now ranked as world's longest land tunnel (25.81 km)

11 September—Tokaido Shinkansen paralyzed by torrential rains stranding 52,000 passengers in 74 trains

16 September—Heavy semi-trailer ran over guardrail of National Route 1 in Shizuoka onto JR Tokaido Line and hit by freight train locomotive bringing southbound line to standstill

18 September—Groundbreaking ceremony to reconnect Kyongui Line (Seoul-Shinuiju) between South Korea and North Korea 50 years after Korean War

21 September—Japanese Ministry of Transport approved construction of 4.2-km Tokoname-Kuko (provisional name) line at Central Japan International Airport with operation scheduled to start in March 2005

26 September—Tokyo's Eidan Namboku Line between Tameike-sanno and Meguro (3.9 km) and Toei Subway Mita Line between Mita and Meguro (3.9 km) connected with direct operations to Musashi-kosugi of Tokyu Meguro Line

26 September—Greek ferry sank off Paros in Aegian Sea drowning 62 of 510 passengers and crew

27 September—Attempted hijacker of China Xinhua Airlines Boeing 737 with 143 passengers stabbed to death by security crew member

28 September—Large Taiwanese container ship stranded on north approach to Okinawa's Naha Airport obstructed landing of 72 flights

5 October—JR Central opened new *Doctor Yellow* shinkansen test car to public at Hamamatsu Works in Shizuoka

14 October—Seventeen metropolitan subways and private railways started operation of joint Passnet railway card allowing passage through automatic gates at any station with shared tracks. However, JR East preparing own IC card and not participating in Passnet

14 October—Nagahama Railroad Cultural Hall opened in Nagahama City, Shiga Prefecture in Japan's oldest station building built in 1870s

14 October—At Tokyo reception, Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji mentioned desire to commence work on ¥2 trillion 1310-km high-speed line between Beijing and Shanghai during tenth 5-year plan (2001–05)

14 October—Boeing 777 of Saudi Arabian Airlines heading from Jiddah to London hijacked over Egypt and diverted to Baghdad where 103 passengers and crew released safely

17 October—Train bound for Leeds derailed by track fault in London suburbs killing four people and injuring 80

17 October—JR East announced JR Going Out Internet site for making train and hotel reservations on Tokaido and San'yo shinkansens

17 October—Japan's Scheduled Airline Association submitted independent plan to expand Tokyo International Airport (Haneda) as third metropolitan airport to Ministry of Transport

18 October—US Amtrak announced new *Acela Express* train running at 240 km/h between Washington DC, New York, and Boston to compete with airline shuttle services

21 October—Speed of Asia–Europe Land Bridge increased with 10-hour cut in time from Shanghai to Alashankou on China's western border and 12-hour cut in time from Ürümqi to Beijing

31 October—Boeing 747-400 of Singapore Airlines crashed on takeoff from runway under construction at Chiang-Kai Shek International Airport near Taipei killing 82 passengers

31 October—Russian Antonov 26 passenger plane exploded in air over Angola killing 48 passengers and 6 crew

Milestones

Hajime Morita

Appointed Minister of Transport in second Mori Cabinet on 4 July. Graduated from Faculty of Law of University of Tokyo in 1957 and joined Ministry of Finance. First elected to House of Representatives in June 1980. Served as State Secretary of Home Affairs, State Secretary of Transport, Chairman of Transport Division in Liberal Democratic Party, etc.

Shinya Izumi

Appointed Senior State Secretary of Transport on 4 July. Graduated from Faculty of Engineering of Kyushu University in 1962 and joined Ministry of Transport. First elected to House of Councillors in July 1972. Served as Chairman of Transport in House of Councillors, and Chairman of National Land and Transport Division in New Conservative Party

Yukio Jitsukawa

Appointed State Secretary of Transport on 4 July. Graduated from Faculty of Law of Hosei University in 1967. First elected to House of Representatives in July 1993

Hitoshi Murata

Appointed Chairman of Transport Council on 6 July. Graduated from Kyoto University in 1956. Served as Superintendent Public Prosecutor of Nagoya High Prosecutor's Office, etc., and member of Transport Council since 1996

Shuichiro Yamanouchi

Former Chairman of JR East appointed Chairman of National Space Development Agency of Japan on 10 July. Graduated from Faculty of Engineering of University of Tokyo in 1956 and joined former JNR. Served as Director General of Train Operation Department, Managing Director, etc., becoming Vice-President of JR East in 1987 and adviser to JR East board in June 2000

Financial Results of JR Companies

(¥ billion)

Company	Fiscal Year	Operating Profit/Loss			Non-operating	Ordinary Profit/Loss	Extra-ordinary Profit/Loss	Pre-tax Profit/Loss	Profit/Loss after Tax
		Revenues	Expenses	Profit/Loss					
JR East	1998–1999	1,909.4	1,596.7	312.7	-213.5	99.2	-67.6	31.6	11.9
	1999–2000	1,899.9	1,583.5	316.4	-208.2	108.2	-3.8	104.4	60.3
JR Central	1998–1999	1,106.9	771.4	335.5	-263.3	72.2	-23.7	48.5	12.7
	1999–2000	1,090.4	763.6	326.8	-256.5	70.3	0.2	70.5	41.0
JR West	1998–1999	909.5	796.8	112.7	-62.1	50.6	-50.5	0.0	-5.6
	1999–2000	885.1	786.1	99.1	-56.7	42.3	2.0	44.3	25.6
JR Hokkaido	1998–1999	99.2	131.9	-32.7	34.7	2.0	-96.0	-94.0	-94.2
	1999–2000	97.7	128.1	-30.3	31.9	1.5	1.7	3.3	1.7
JR Shikoku	1998–1999	42.8	52.2	-9.4	8.2	-1.2	-61.8	-63.0	-63.2
	1999–2000	41.5	49.5	-8.0	8.6	0.6	0.9	1.5	0.8
JR Kyushu	1998–1999	159.1	172.1	-13.1	16.5	3.5	-138.8	-135.4	-135.5
	1999–2000	161.1	174.1	-13.0	18.2	5.2	0.0	5.3	2.9
JR Freight	1998–1999	173.8	177.9	-4.2	-3.1	-7.2	7.7	0.5	0.3
	1999–2000	164.5	164.8	-0.3	-3.4	-3.7	0.0	-3.7	-2.8

Note: Some figures for 1998–1999 do not correspond to previous financial results (*JRTR* 21, p. 53) due to errors in previous table.