



## Japanese Railway Scenery 30

Late-evening DMU *Kiha 40* local train approaching Hiushinai Station on JR Hokkaido's Sekihoku main line. The line was first opened in 1923 from Asahikawa to Kamikawa and the rail link between Asahikawa and the Sea-of-Okhotsk coast was finally established in 1932 when the 4329-m Sekihoku Tunnel was completed. Serving one of the coldest and remotest areas in Japan, the line suffers very severe winters and low passenger traffic. JR Hokkaido runs five DMU express services (including one night service) in each direction between Sapporo and Abashiri.

(Photo: M. Mashima Photo Office)

EAST JAPAN RAILWAY  
CULTURE FOUNDATION



¥ 1,000