

政府總部
運輸及房屋局
運輸科



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17 April 2014

Secretary General
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Miss Katherine CHAN)

Dear Miss CHAN,

**Legislative Council Panel on Transport
Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways**

**Meeting on 3 January 2014
Matters to be Followed Up on Construction Safety in Railway
Projects**

In response to Members' requests at the captioned meeting for supplementary information regarding construction safety in railway projects, our reply is as follows:

The Hong Kong section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL) is a major infrastructure project. As compared to other new railway projects, its construction complexity is much greater. It also has more work fronts, plants and machineries, and

greater number of workers. In general, the number of accident reports may vary with the construction cycle.

Between the commencement of construction in January 2010 and November 2013, the total working man-hours committed by the contractors of XRL project has exceeded 63 million. As the project reaches its peak of construction, the working man-hours of the first 11 months of 2013 has already exceeded half of the total figure of that in the preceding three years. Please refer to the Annex for detailed information on the working man-hours and reportable accident figures.

The Government will continue to urge the MTR Corporation Limited to step up safety management in construction sites, raise safety awareness of the labour force, and ensure that safety should always be accorded with the highest priority.

Yours sincerely,

(Jackson SIN)
for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.

Highways Department (Attn: Mr. C.W. CHAN) (Fax: 2714 5297)
MTR Corporation Limited (Attn: Mr. W. Y. TANG) (Fax: 2208 3208)

**Legislative Council Panel on Transport
Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways**

Supplementary Information Provided by MTR Corporation Limited

At the meeting of the Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways held on 3 January 2014, Members noted that more than 100 accidents happened in the past seven months, comparing to a total of 147 accidents occurred in the preceding three years. Members requested MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) to provide information on the related figures of working man-hours.

Spanning 26 kilometers, the Hong Kong section of the XRL is a complex infrastructure project of mega scale. Between the commencement of construction in January 2010 up and end November 2013, the total working man-hours committed by the contractors has exceeded 63 million, which was about the sum of that for the other four new railway projects. As compared to other new railway projects, the construction complexity of the XRL project is much greater. It also has more work fronts, plants and machineries, and greater number of workers. In general, the number of accident reports may vary with the construction cycle.

The Hong Kong section of XRL is now reaching its peak construction period. The working man-hours of the first 11 months of 2013 has already exceeded half of the total figure of that in the preceding three years. Comparing to the early stage of construction, more contracts are now under construction and the size of workforce has also increased significantly covering more work trades and activities. With the gradual commencement of E&M works, more construction activities would take place concurrently at different locations, and there would be more workers and coordination of activities, which may increase the

chance of minor accidents, such as bumping and slippage.

As at end November 2013, the cumulative number of reportable accidents under XRL project is 264. A majority of them are minor in nature, such as slippage, bumping and sprains. The cumulative accident rate per thousand workers is 11.89, which is less than the figure of 44.3 of the construction industry in 2012. MTRCL will continue to work hand in hand with the contractors to promote construction site safety and improve the safety awareness of workers through various means, from regular inspections and safety audits to arrangement of safety meetings, workshops and conferences as well as safety campaigns.

MTR Corporation Limited
April 2014