# 立法會 Legislative Council

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#### **Panel on Transport**

## Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways Special meeting on 13 July 2018

Background brief on issues relating to the alleged substandard steel works at Hung Hom Station under the Shatin to Central Link project

#### **Purpose**

This paper provides background information on issues relating to the alleged substandard steel works at Hung Hom Station under the Shatin to Central Link ("SCL") project. It also summarizes the major views and concerns expressed by members of the Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways ("the Subcommittee") during previous discussion on the subject.

#### **Background**

2. SCL is a territory-wide strategic railway project. With a total length of 17 kilometres, it consists of two sections, namely (a) the Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section, and (b) the Hung Hom to Admiralty Section. The former is the extension of Ma On Shan Line from Tai Wai via Southeast Kowloon to Hung Hom where it will join West Rail Line; while the latter is an extension of the existing East Rail Line from Hung Hom across the Victoria Harbour to Wan Chai North and Admiralty.

#### Members' major views and concerns

3. Since the end of May 2018, there have been media reports about the alleged substandard steel works found at a platform slab of the Hung Hom Station Extension. Members of the Subcommittee expressed grave concern at the meeting on 1 June 2018 about structural safety of construction works under the SCL project. In connection with the substandard steel works at the Hung Hom Station Extension, members expressed strong dissatisfaction

that the MTR Corporation Limited ("MTRCL") rendered confusing information on several occasions and failed to disclose all relevant details. They urged the Administration to set up an independent expert panel to ascertain the structural safety of the slab concerned and to investigate whether MTRCL and its contractors had tried to cover up the substandard works. Members also cast doubt on MTRCL's confirmation that concreting works for the slab concerned were done only after the rectification works had been completed.

- 4. Members noted at the meeting on 1 June 2018 that, at the request of the Administration, MTRCL had undertaken to provide an investigation report and to arrange an independent expert to conduct a loading test to affirm the structural integrity of the platform slab in question. The Administration planned to refer the matter to law enforcement agencies for follow-up actions in case any misconduct was found.<sup>2</sup>
- 5. During deliberations, members were of particular concern about the monitoring regime for railway projects. Members in general questioned the role of the Highways Department and its Monitoring & Verification Consultant in supervising and monitoring the implementation of railway projects. They urged the Administration to step up its monitoring effort and to enhance accountability of MTRCL and the Administration in monitoring the construction of railway projects.

#### **Latest development**

6. In view that the alleged substandard steel works found at a platform slab of the Hung Hom Station Extension were matters of great public importance, the Administration has announced on 12 June 2018 the decision to set up a commission of inquiry under the Commissions of Inquiry Ordinance (Cap. 86) to conduct an independent and comprehensive investigation into the incident. On 10 July 2018, a Commission of Inquiry was appointed by the Chief Executive in Council to inquire into the steel reinforcement fixing works and any other works which cause concerns about public safety in respect of the diaphragm wall and platform slab construction works at the Hung Hom Station Extension under the SCL project implemented by MTRCL. The Commission will also make

http://www.mtr-shatincentrallink.hk/pdf/multimedia-gallery/report/report\_20180614\_e.pdf

The Government received on 15 June 2018 an incident report from MTRCL on the construction works for Hung Hom Station platform under the SCL project. Hyperlink of the full report (English version only): <a href="http://www.mtr-shatincentrallink.hk/pdf/multimedia-gallery/report/report\_20180614">http://www.mtr-shatincentrallink.hk/pdf/multimedia-gallery/report/report\_20180614</a>

Highways Department stated in its <u>press release</u> issued on 15 June 2018 that it had referred the matter to the Police for follow-up actions.

recommendations on suitable measures with a view to promoting public safety and assurance on the quality of works.

7. The Subcommittee has invited the Administration to brief members on the incident at its meeting to be held on 13 July 2018.

## **Relevant papers**

8. A list of relevant papers is in **Appendix I**.

Council Business Division 4
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
12 July 2018

# Issues relating to the alleged substandard steel works at Hung Hom Station under the Shatin to Central Link project

## List of relevant papers

Date of meeting	Meeting	Minutes/Paper	LC Paper No.
1 June 2018	Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways	Administration's paper on progress update of the construction of the Shatin to Central Link (As at 31 March 2018)	CB(4)1151/17-18(05)  http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr17-18/eng lish/panels/tp/tp_rdp/papers/tp_rdp20 180601cb4-1151-5-e.pdf
		MTR Corporation Limited ("MTRCL")'s paper on Progress update of the construction of the Shatin to Central Link (power-point presentation material) (Chinese version only)	CB(4)1188/17-18(03) <a href="http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr17-18/chinese/panels/tp/tp_rdp/papers/tp_rdp2">http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr17-18/chinese/panels/tp/tp_rdp/papers/tp_rdp2</a> 0180601cb4-1188-3-c.pdf
20 June 2018	Council Meeting	Hon Tony TSE raised a question on construction works for Hung Hom Station platform under Shatin to Central Link	http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/2 01806/20/P2018062000399.htm
27 June 2018	Council Meeting	Hon LAM Cheuk-ting raised a question on Shatin to Central Link project	http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/2 01806/27/P2018062700354.htm
10 July 2018*		LegCo Brief on Appointment of a Commission of Inquiry into the	File Ref.: AW-950-020-025-P001 <a href="http://sobfle02.legco.hksar/sharedoc/r&amp;d/Appointment_of_a_Commission">http://sobfle02.legco.hksar/sharedoc/r&amp;d/Appointment_of_a_Commission</a>

Date of meeting	Meeting	Minutes/Paper	LC Paper No.
		platform slab construction works at	of Inquiry into the Diaphragm W all and Platform Slab Construction Works at the Hung Hom Station Extension Under the Shatin to Ce ntral Link Project-e.pdf

<sup>\*</sup>Issue date

# Press release issued by the Government

Date of issuance	Press release
31 May 2018	Press release on Government responds to recent media reports on works at expanded Hung Hom Station under the Shatin to Central Link Project
6 June 2018	Press release on Highways Department ("HyD") requires MTRCL to submit incident report on construction works at expanded Hung Hom Station under Shatin to Central Link Project as soon as possible
9 June 2018	Press release on Transport and Housing Bureau responds to media enquiries on construction works of Shatin to Central Link
11 June 2018	Press release on Transcript of remarks by the Secretary for Transport and Housing
12 June 2018	Press release on Transcript of remarks by the Chief Executive at media session before Executive Council meeting
15 June 2018	Press release on HyD receives incident report from MTRCL on construction works for Hung Hom Station platform under Shatin to Central Link project
20 June 2018	Press release on Transcript of remarks by the Secretary for Transport and Housing
10 July 2018	Press release on Commission of Inquiry into the Diaphragm Wall and Platform Slab Construction Works at the Hung Hom Station Extension under the Shatin to Central Link Project appointed

# Press release issued by the MTR Corporation Limited

Date of issuance	Press release
20 March 2018	Press release on Works at Shatin to Central Link Hung Hom North Approach Tunnels
30 May 2018	Press release on Works at Hung Hom Station under the Shatin to Central Link Project
31 May 2018	Press release on Independent Assurance on the Structural Integrity of Platforms of Hung Hom Station Extension
6 June 2018	Press release on MTR Board Takes Construction Quality of Hung Hom Station Extension Works Very Seriously
12 June 2018	Press release on MTR Corporation Will Fully Cooperate with the Government's Commission of Inquiry on the Shatin to Central Link Project
15 June 2018	Press release on MTR submits report on the steel bar fixing works for the platform slab at the Hung Hom Station extension
21 June 2018	Press release on Capital Works Committee to Review Processes and Procedures within Project Management System

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