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本局檔號 Our Ref. THB(T)CR 2/1016/2016
來函檔號 Your Ref.

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7 August 2017

Ms Doris LO
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms LO,

**Matters Relating to the Customs, Immigration and Quarantine
Arrangements of the Hong Kong Section of the
Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link**

I refer to the letter dated 4 August 2017 from Hon Jeremy TAM to the Chairman of the Panel of Transport, which was forwarded to us on 7 August 2017. Our reply is set out below.

The Government, through the MTR Corporation Limited, procured 9 trains for the Hong Kong Section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link (XRL). The train model is CRH380A, with a total of 579 seats and 2 wheelchair spaces.

Upon the commissioning of the XRL in the third quarter next year, up to 114 daily train pairs (the actual train pairs will be arranged according to the market demand during peak and non-peak seasons and different periods) can be provided for short-haul services (i.e. to Futian, Shenzhen North, Humen and Guangzhou South Stations). For long-haul services,

there will be direct trains to 10 cities (i.e. Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, Xiamen, Fuzhou, Shantou, Wuhan, Changsha, Nanchang and Zhengzhou). Passengers can reach other Mainland cities, such as Guilin, Kunming, Xi'an, Nanjing and Chengdu by interchanging (the main short-haul interchange stations are Guangzhou South and Shenzhen North). After the commissioning of the XRL, we will continue to explore with Mainland authorities additional direct train services to more Mainland cities.

Regarding the fare level of the XRL, there will be First Class and Second Class tickets. There are a total of 68 First Class seats and 511 Second Class seats. The actual operating arrangements, including the train schedule and fare level, are being discussed between the Government and Mainland authorities, and will be announced at an appropriate time.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CWG', is centered on the page.

(Chris NG)
for Secretary for Transport and Housing

c.c.
Director of Highways (Attn.: Mr Alex Chan)

(Fax: 2714 5297)