

中華人民共和國  
香港特別行政區政府  
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
of the People's Republic of China

政府總部  
運輸及物流局

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4 March 2025

Ms Joanne MAK  
Clerk to Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways  
Legislative Council Panel on Transport  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms MAK,

**East Rail Line incident on 5 February 2025**

Thank you for your letter dated 6 February 2025 referring the letter from the Hon Dennis LEUNG Tsz-wing on the captioned matter. At the meeting of the Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways of the Legislative Council Panel on Transport on 7 February 2025, the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) briefed Members of the incident and the preliminary investigation findings, and responded to Members' questions. The consolidated response to the matters raised by the Hon Dennis Leung is as follows.

In the early morning of 5 February 2025 at a location between Tai Wo and Fanling Stations, when an engineering train completed the lifting work and was about to leave, it was found that the superstructure of the crane vehicle could not return to its proper retracted position. For the

sake of prudence and safety, engineering personnel must first ensure that the vehicle was at level condition before they could move the whole engineering train away from the site. That morning, the MTRCL conducted remedial work on the crane vehicle under the premise of ensuring the safety of the railway, passengers and staff. Throughout the period, while maintaining full line service of the East Rail Line, trains had to be diverted under single line with bi-directional operation on a section north of Tai Wo Station, and train services were adjusted accordingly.

The MTRCL has established stringent maintenance regime for all assets, and will ensure that each railway asset has sufficient spare parts. The MTRCL will also regularly inspect trains, including engineering trains. In addition, the MTRCL communicates regularly with the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) and relevant departments, and conducts drills or contingency plans on a regular basis to handle incidents and emergencies.

According to the existing railway incident notification mechanism, the MTRCL is required to notify the Transport Department (TD) within eight minutes of any railway incident which has caused train service disruption of eight minutes or is expected to cause disruption of eight minutes or more. After the captioned incident happened, the MTRCL notified the Government immediately in accordance with the mechanism. Upon receipt of the notification from the MTRCL, the EMSD immediately deployed staff to the scene to conduct investigation, while the TD maintained close contact with the MTRCL on the adjustment of train services, closely monitored the traffic conditions and public transport services in various districts and affected stations, and proactively coordinated with other public transport operators to strengthen bus services, thereby minimising the impact on the travelling public. The Emergency Transport Co-ordination Centre of the TD immediately issued an announcement to the public and the media, and released information on public transport service arrangements through the media and various channels, to enable affected passengers to make early arrangements of their journey. At the same time, the MTRCL implemented crowd control at the affected stations and continually provided the public with the latest information on train services through broadcasting, MTR Mobile and the media during the period when train services were affected. After the captioned incident, the MTRCL collected passengers' views on the dissemination of information and train service arrangements throughout the incident. The TD will also follow up with the MTRCL, with a view to learning from experience and continuously improving the MTRCL's response and service arrangements. The Government and public transport operators will also review from time to time the communication

and coordination work when incidents occur, so as to fully and properly meet the travelling needs of the public.

Yours sincerely,

(Andreina NG)  
for Secretary for Transport and Logistics

cc.:

Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (Attn: Mr Lobee YUEN)

Transport Department (Attn: Mr Felix YIM)

MTR Corporation Limited (Attn: Ms Edwina CHAN)