<u>Settlement of subway of Ho Man Tin</u> <u>Station</u>

A Government spokesman said today (September 20) that the reading recorded in a settlement monitoring checkpoint installed at the subway connecting Chung Hau Street, Fat Kwong Street and Ho Man Tin Station has reached 21 millimeter in the early morning of September 19, which exceeded the pre-set trigger level for works suspension (i.e. 20 millimeter). The piling works of the topside private development project at Ho Man Tin Station have been suspended in the morning of the same day.

The MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) has confirmed that the affected subway is structurally independent to the main station structures. The Buildings Department (BD) has deployed staff to inspect the affected subway and confirmed that they are structurally safe. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has also deployed staff to inspect the Ho Man Tin main station. The building works concerned have not affected the structural safety of railway facilities and safe operation of the railway.

The BD, the EMSD and the MTRCL will continue to closely monitor the situation to ensure structural safety of the railway facilities and safe operation of the railway.

While the related works have been suspended, the BD and the MTRCL will request the registered building professionals responsible for the development project to formulate mitigation measures and adopt a construction method that would alleviate the effects on the structure of railway facilities.

Upon receipt of the corresponding amendment plans of the development project and application for resumption of construction works, the BD will vigorously scrutinise the application with a view to ensuring structural safety of the railway facilities, including consulting the MTRCL and other relevant government departments. The EMSD will also confirm that the MTRCL has put in place stringent monitoring measures to ensure the safety of railway operation. Moreover, if the registered building professionals propose to revise the pre-set trigger level(s) for works suspension, the BD will consider the proposal having regard to the circumstances after consulting the MTRCL and other relevant government departments. When the application for resumption of suspended works has been agreed, the BD and the EMSD will make announcement to the public about the decision.