

**Star-studded MTR safety day for senior citizens
As Elderly says “Thanks” for seats offered**

It was a star-packed event for more than 100 senior citizens who took a special train ride on the Priority Seat theme train on MTR Kwun Tong Line today (30 November 2010).

Helping the elderly with their train journey were super stars Alan Tam, Susan Tse, Raymond Wong, Janice M Vidal, Jade Kwan, Pakho Chau Pak-ho, Joyce Cheng and Mr. The stars had come together for the 16th annual Elderly Programme organised by the MTR Corporation and RTHK Radio 5 to promote safe MTR journeys to elderly passengers.

Prior to the journey, the senior citizens attended a kick-off ceremony at MTR Choi Hung Station where they obtained useful safety tips before heading off for MTR Yau Ma Tei Station. Boasting a dazzling “Thanks for offering me your seat!” badge, the senior citizens took the opportunity to thank passengers who offered seats to them while travelling on the MTR system. The accompanying artistes urged passengers to offer seats to the elderly and those in need.

“We all have elderly friends or family members who may require special care when travelling on the MTR,” said Mr Ivan Lai, Head of Operating – Support and West Region of the MTR Corporation. “The event today does not only provide us with an excellent opportunity to remind elderly passengers to pay special attention to their own safety, especially when they are using escalators, but it also helps to encourage passengers to take care of the elderly travelling on the MTR system.”

Elderly passengers were reminded to always stand on one step while using escalators, keep clear of the edge of steps and hold the handrail. They were also encouraged to take the lift whenever possible, especially when travelling with bulky objects.

“In addition to escalator safety, it is also important that they do not try rushing onto trains when the door chimes are sounding, be aware of the platform gap and take extra care when boarding or alighting trains,” Mr Lai added.

As part of its continuous effort to promote a caring culture, the Corporation had launched specially-designed priority seats to urge passengers to offer seats to the elderly and those in need. Seats painted in red and featuring happy Smiley®World faces on the seat back are now on board three colourful theme trains running on the MTR Kwun Tong, Island and Tsuen Wan lines. The special Priority Seats are being introduced gradually to other MTR trains.

"Public co-operation and support are just as important as the efforts of the MTR in ensuring a safe and comfortable travelling environment for all," Mr Lai said.

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Photo caption:

1. More than 100 senior citizens were reminded to be more aware of their own safety while travelling on MTR in the Elderly Programme jointly organised by the MTR Corporation and RTHK Radio 5 today (30 November 2010).



2. Pakho Chau Pak-ho sets a good example in offering seat to the elderly.

