Breakthrough of 26-km Tunnels Marks New Milestone
For Express Rail Link Project

A major milestone has been achieved in the construction of the Hong Kong Section of Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link project (XRL) with the tunnel breakthrough of the final section of the 26-km tunnel.

Excavation of the southbound track section of the Cross-boundary tunnel was completed on 4 November 2015. The last section, the northern northbound section of the Tai Kong Po to Tse Uk Tsuen tunnel broke through on 12 December 2015. This is an important milestone towards the completion of the XRL project.

Following the final tunnel breakthrough, installation works continue in different tunnel sections for the rail tracks, overhead lines, signalling systems and telecommunications systems.

At present, over 75% of the XRL project has been completed. As always, the Corporation will continue to use its best endeavours and work closely with its contractors to meet the latest completion target in the third quarter of 2018.

To better understand the progress of the XRL project, the MTR Corporation has arranged for the Legislative Council (LegCo) Subcommittee on Matters Relating to Railways to conduct a visit today (13 December) to the construction site of the West Kowloon Terminus (WKT).

Members participating in the visit included the Chairman of the Subcommittee, Mr Chan Han-pan; the Deputy Chairman of the Subcommittee, Mr Wong Kwok-hing; and Mr Michael Tien, Mr Tang Ka-piu, Ms Claudia Mo, Dr Lo Wai-kwok and Mr Christopher Chung, who are Subcommittee members, as well as Mr Tam Yiu-chung, Mr Ip Kwok-him, Dr Helena Wong and Mr Kwok Wai-keung, who are non-Subcommittee members.

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About MTR Corporation

MTR Corporation is regarded as one of the world's leading railway operators for safety, reliability, customer service and cost efficiency. In its home base of Hong Kong, the Corporation operates nine commuter railway lines, a Light Rail network and a high-speed Airport Express link on which more than 5.4 million passenger trips are made on a normal week day. Another 4.9 million passenger trips are made on the rail services it operates outside Hong Kong in the Mainland of China, the United Kingdom, Sweden and Australia. In addition, the Corporation is involved in a range of railway construction projects as well as railway consultancy and contracting services around the world. Leveraging on its railway expertise, the Corporation is involved in the development of transit-related residential and commercial property projects, property management, shopping malls leasing and management, advertising media and telecommunication services.

For more information about MTR Corporation, please visit www.mtr.com.hk.
Photo Caption:

1. Tunnel breakthrough followed by dismantling of the tunnel boring machine.

2. Track laying works for the Express Rail Link were 59% completed by the end of October 2015.
3. Members received a briefing from the representatives of the Corporation on the latest progress of the works at the platform level of the Express Rail Link terminus.