Safety of passengers and MTR staff is the top priority of the MTR Corporation. In view of the use of tear gas in Kwai Fong Station ("KWF") and near an exit of Tai Koo Station ("TAK") on 11 August 2019, the Corporation understands the public’s concerns and has been carrying out intensive cleaning at these two stations since the incidents took place. For prudence, the Corporation is also seeking advice from different professionals and making reference to the practice of overseas railway operators with the aim of providing safe station environments.

During the incident at KWF, station evacuation was carried out having regard to the safety of passengers and station staff. The ventilation system of the station continuously discharged the air inside the station concourse to achieve the dilution effect and replaced it with fresh air from outside the station. Early closure of KWF was arranged that evening followed by intensive cleaning with additional manpower. Cleaning of the station was strengthened including cleaning facilities that are frequently used by passengers such as escalators, entry/exit gates, lifts and ticket issuing machines. Cleaning of the station’s fans and ventilation facilities was also enhanced.

In regards to TAK, police had fired tear gas near Entrance/exit C of the station. The ventilation system of the station was immediately activated to enhance air flow and prevent the gas from affecting passengers and MTR staff. Intensive cleaning was also carried out at TAK after service hours on that night especially in the area near Entrance/exit C. Maintenance staff have also replaced the filters of the air-conditioning system of the station.

Making reference to the experience of overseas railway operators which had handled similar incidents, the Corporation has been carrying out intensive cleaning using water and liquid soap at the relevant stations after service hours every night this week. According to the advice of the relevant professionals that the Corporation has talked to, they are of the view that the measures adopted by the Corporation are appropriate. Nevertheless, the Corporation will continue to stay in touch with relevant professionals and various government departments to see if any other further follow-up action is required to enhance assurance for our passengers and staff.

- End -
About MTR Corporation

Every day, MTR connects people and communities. As a recognised world-class operator of sustainable rail transport services, we are a leader in safety, reliability, customer service and efficiency.

MTR has extensive end-to-end railway expertise with more than 40 years of railway projects experience from design to planning and construction through to commissioning, maintenance and operations. Going beyond railway delivery and operation, MTR also creates and manages dynamic communities around its network through seamless integration of rail, commercial and property development.

With more than 40,000 dedicated staff*, MTR carries over 12 million passenger journeys worldwide every weekday in Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Australia and the Mainland of China. MTR strives to grow and connect communities for a better future.


*includes our subsidiaries and associates in Hong Kong and worldwide

Photo Caption:

1. Intensive cleaning including cleaning of fans and ventilation facilities is being carried out at KWF after service hours every night this week.
2. Cleaning of the facilities frequently used by passengers at KWF including entry/exit gates and lifts as well as nearby areas has been enhanced.

3. Besides the intensive cleaning at TAK, maintenance staff have also replaced the filters of the air-conditioning system at the station.