

Condemnation of Vandalism at MTR Stations

In the light of recent repeated instances where stations facilities were vandalised, MTR staff were harassed and the safety of MTR staff and passengers was threatened, including the latest incident which took place at Kwai Fong Station last night (22 August 2019), MTR Corporation (“the Corporation”) is taking all necessary action to uphold safety, including taking appropriate legal actions and making suitable regulation on station and train service operations if the situation so warrants. The Corporation once again strongly condemns all acts of violence and illegal activities.

During the incident at Kwai Fong Station yesterday, MTR staff were surrounded and verbally abused by protestors, graffiti was sprayed inside and outside the station and station facilities including entry gate were vandalised. Regrettably, two entrances/exits of the station had to be temporarily closed this morning as a result of the incident, impacting on the travelling public. The Corporation strongly condemns such irresponsible acts which undermined the safety of MTR staff and passengers. We support proper enforcement of the law against these illegal activities and reserve the right to take suitable legal actions and seek suitable legal relief from the court including, if appropriate, injunctions to ensure that the safe and proper operations and use of our network can be assured.

During the incident at Kwai Fong Station, protestors wrongly alleged that the Corporation has not responded to their concerns which include, inter alia, follow up actions on the firing of tear gas in or near Kwai Fong and Tai Koo stations respectively. The Corporation has endeavoured to provide information to the public on the matter through a number of press releases, and relevant information has also been posted up in the two stations for the information of nearby residents. Furthermore on 12, 13 and 20 August 2019 respectively, MTR staff explained what we have done to people who gathered in the two stations, with on-site discussions lasting for hours until around 2 a.m. to 4 a.m. in the morning. Our staff were unfairly subject to a lot of verbal abuse during these on-site meetings.

As there will be upcoming protest activities, depending on the actual circumstances, the Corporation will make necessary regulations on station and train operations. If fights, vandalism or other acts of violence occur, and under high risks or emergency situations, train service to and from the concerned stations may be stopped immediately, and /or the station may be closed, with little or no prior notice. The Police may need to enter stations to take suitable law enforcement action when necessary.

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In order to ensure the safety of passengers and MTR staff under these circumstances, if inconvenience is caused to passengers, the Corporation appeals for the understanding of the public.

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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 13 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.

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

*includes our subsidiaries and associates in Hong Kong and worldwide