

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-TLB001**

**(Question Serial No. S026)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (POON Kwok-ying)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Logistics

Question:

(1) As mentioned in part (e) of the reply, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) made 86 improvement recommendations on 52 items that required follow-up actions to the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) in 2025. What areas were the issues mainly related to (e.g., train compartments, permanent way, power supply, signalling system)? Which of these issues are still being rectified at present, or occurred repeatedly in the past?

(2) As mentioned in part (f) of the reply, the MTRCL's outsourced work primarily involves processes that are relatively repetitive and less technically demanding. What specific tasks are included? Is the EMSD aware of any posts that were previously taken up by MTRCL's directly employed staff but are now assigned to outsourced staff?

Asked by: Hon LAM Wai-kong

Reply:

Further to Reply Serial No. TLB012:

(1) The items that required follow-up actions with improvement recommendations made, as identified by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) during the "comprehensive and direct assessment" exercises in 2025, covered passenger trains, engineering vehicles, permanent way, signalling system, electrical system, etc. The major areas include: implementation and record keeping of repair and maintenance work procedures; assessment of the impact of equipment breakdowns on services; asset life assessment for engineering vehicle sub-systems; and emergency and incident handling preparedness. The MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) has been implementing the improvement recommendations made by the EMSD, with some items already completed, for example, incorporating the impact of engineering vehicle sub-system failures into MTRCL's regular assessment plan, and strengthening the follow-up work after drills for emergencies and incidents, etc. The remaining items are expected to be completed progressively within the next 6 to 12 months. During the previous audits, the EMSD did make improvement recommendations on issues concerning repair and

maintenance records. In view of this, the MTRCL has drawn up clearer working instructions, strengthened the review of its repair and maintenance records, and supervised the proper completion of repair and maintenance records by its staff. Besides, the EMSD has requested the MTRCL to strengthen the application of technology to optimise the workflows of repair and maintenance works, including the adoption of a new enterprise asset management system and the digitalisation of repair and maintenance records. The EMSD will continue to monitor the progress and effectiveness of the MTRCL in implementing the improvement recommendations.

- (2) According to the information provided by the MTRCL, the outsourced maintenance works primarily involve tasks that are relatively repetitive and less technically demanding, including maintenance of air-conditioning, ventilation and lighting systems, platform screen doors, and other building services systems at certain stations and railway facilities. Besides, the MTRCL will also arrange its outsourced staff to carry out the professional work prescribed under statutory requirements, including maintenance of lifts and escalators and fire-fighting equipment at the stations. The EMSD does not maintain information regarding the MTRCL's posts that have been converted from direct employment to outsourcing. However, the EMSD is aware that the MTRCL has continuously adopted a stringent maintenance regime developed in line with international standards. Regarding the outsourced repair and maintenance work, while MTRCL's contractor staff must acquire the required qualifications and certifications, the MTRCL staff are also responsible for supervising the contractors to ensure that the maintenance work carried out by contractor staff and term workers comply with relevant safety and quality standards.

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