<u>Subsidy of Public Transport Fare</u> <u>Subsidy Scheme for February ready for</u> collection from March 16

The Transport Department (TD) today (March 14) reminded members of the public that commuters will be able to collect the public transport fare subsidy for February under the Public Transport Fare Subsidy Scheme (the Subsidy Scheme) at over 1 800 locations in the territory from this Saturday (March 16).

"Based on the actual expenses of commuters under the Subsidy Scheme in February, the total amount of subsidy for this month is around \$120 million, involving over 1.9 million beneficiaries. It is believed that the smaller amount of subsidy in February as compared to that in January is attributable to the Lunar New Year holidays as well as fewer calendar days and working days in February," the TD spokesman said.

As regards the subsidy for January, the TD spokesman added that as of March 12, around 1.85 million commuters had collected around \$161 million of subsidy, which accounts for around 87 per cent of the total subsidy amount. As the subsidy for each month is valid for collection within three months and that there are still around 0.5 million commuters who have not collected the subsidy for January, the TD recommended members of the public to collect their subsidy for January as soon as possible and before May 15.

Commuters can collect their subsidy via the following channels:

- the Subsidy Collection Points installed at (1) all MTR stations and Light Rail Customer Service Centres; and (2) designated ferry piers and public transport interchanges (please refer to the annex for the locations);
- any outlet of 7-Eleven, Circle-K and Wellcome supermarket;
- through the Octopus App; and
- the Octopus Service Points

Commuters may check their record of public transport expenses and subsidy amount through the website of the Subsidy Scheme (www.ptfss.gov.hk), the Octopus App and the hotline of the Subsidy Scheme (2969 5500). Details of the Scheme are available at the website of the Scheme. For further enquiries, please call 1823.