Transcript of remarks by STH

Following is the transcript of remarks by the Secretary for Transport and Housing, Mr Frank Chan Fan, at a media session after attending the Legislative Council Panel on Transport special meeting today (August 31):

Reporter: But shouldn't that be something the Government should be well aware of, how the MTRC supervises its projects, instead of not knowing, like with so many unknowns right now? Doesn't that indicate there is something wrong with the supervision mechanism on the Government's side, on the Government's part?

Secretary for Transport and Housing: We are open to all kinds of possibilities, including whether or not and how we would be able to be aware of what's happening in the past. Basically, we are of the view that there are very likely deception and hiding of facts in the process. This is something not within the system, because all management systems are basically based on trust and of course there are checks and balances. But somehow the system doesn't work this time and we will look into that, as to how the MTR (Corporation) as well as the Government team should improve in future.

(Please also refer to the Chinese portion of the transcript.)