

7,492 places for British nationality

A total of 7,492 places will be open for application in the second phase of the British Nationality Scheme from 3 January next year.

In the Legislative Council subcommittee on nationality, Deputy Secretary for Security Keith Kwok said the application period would last for three months until 2 April 1994.

Among the 7,492 places, 3,992 were unused places or drop-out quotas from the first phase which were brought forward to the next stage, he said.

Kwok said the rest of the 3,500 were designed for specified occupational groups.

He said those occupational groups which attracted little demand in the first phase would have a reduced quota to be added to the places for more in demand groups.

But Kwok said full citizenship to 25 war widows was not possible because there was no provision for the group in the British Nationality (Hong-kong) Act 1990.

Legislators Jimmy McGregor and Martin Barrow urged the Government to launch a compassionate appeal to the British parliament to let the widows have citizenship rights.