

2,000 live on unstable hillsides

LAST week's heavy rain has prompted legislators to call for safety checks at squatter camps located on dangerous slopes.

United Democrat legislator Chan Wai-yip said a recent Omelco Lands and Works Panel had discussed squatters living on dangerous slopes.

It was revealed 2,000 squatters were living on slopes vulnerable to landslides.

Mr Chan said he got the impression Government departments were passing the buck among themselves on when to resettle these squatters.

He has urged the Government to resettle them quickly.

Fellow legislator Fung Kin-kee believed the administration had taken preventative measures at those slopes because there had been few reports of landslides in squatter areas since the heavy rain last Friday.

He said he would urge the Government to inspect these slopes more carefully in view of the upcoming rainy season. He said the Government's list of dangerous slopes should not be disclosed because it would lead to unnecessary fear among residents.

Legislator James To said the Government should announce the list so residents could take appropriate measures.