

2 April 1990

100,000 residents request removal of clothes racks

A CONCERN group, armed with 100,000 signatures of public housing estate residents, yesterday asked the Housing Authority to replace clothes racks with clotheslines.

The group - the Hong-kong People's Council on Public Housing Policy - handed three joss-sticks to the authority, as a reminder of the three who fell out of their windows and died while using these racks.

A survey, conducted by the group at four public housing estates in Wong Tai Sin, found 80 percent of residents saying that the existing design was dangerous.

The group noted that users had to lean out far too much to insert bamboo sticks, heavy with wet laundry, in slots on the walls across. It blamed the authority for ignoring the hazard of tipping over.

A representative of the

group, Lam Mui-fun, said that the group would also submit a copy of the signatures to Omelco on Wednesday.

Over 80 percent of the residents said the existing system could be improved. Forty percent said they dried their laundry inside.

The group asked the authority to install a safer design, akin to a clothes line, at all existing and future public housing estates.