

20 March 1990

Ambulance officers now seek pay parity

By WONG JOON SAN

FIRE Services Department ambulance officers yesterday petitioned Government House seeking pay parity with fire officers who are earning about \$3,000 a month more.

Hongkong Fire Services Department Ambulance Officers Association chairman, Mr Choy Chik-wah, said an ambulance officer started at point four (\$9,435) and could go up to point 18 (\$19,375) on the Disciplined Services Master Pay Scale, while a fire officer started at point six (\$10,650) and could go up to point 23 (\$23,240).

"We want the Government to bring the ambulance officers grade on par with the fire officers grade," he added.

Mr Choy said the association also wanted the Government in the meantime to grant two salary points to ambulance officers, similar to the ones granted to Customs and Excise Department inspectors and Correctional Services officers under the Rennie Committee Report.

He explained that officers of these two disciplinary services had received the two points because they had no directorate grade one in their departments and they did not have any combined rank.

(Combined rank means overlapping of ranks, such as a senior fire station officer who earned a salary between point 19 to 23 with fire officers who earned a salary between point six to 23.)

"Since ambulance officers have exactly the same criteria, they should be given similar adjustments," Mr Choy said.