

12 successful candidates eye Legco seats

By KENT CHEN

SIX of the United Democrats' winners in the municipal councils elections could become office holders at all three levels of the Government's advisory mechanism.

Among the 27 newly-elected municipal councillors, 12 are eyeing the 18 Legislative Council seats on offer for universal suffrage in September.

Six of these Legco hopefuls are United Democrats who also sit on district boards. They are Mr Lau Kwong-wah, Mr Stephen Ng Ming-yam, Mr Albert Chan Wai-yip, Mr Man Sai-cheong, Mr Li Wah-ming and Mr Johnston Wong Hong-chung.

A seventh Legco aspirant of the liberal party, the Reverend Fung Chi-wood, earlier lost in the March district board polls but secured a seat in Regional Council on Sunday.

Besides the United Democrats, veteran Urban Councillors Mr Brook Bernacchi and Mrs Elsie Tu are also prepared to contest the Legco direct elections.

In the pro-Beijing stronghold of Kowloon City East, a member of the Liberal Democratic Federation, Mr Pao Ping-wing, defeated Mr Tsang Kin-shing, a member of the Hongkong Alliance in Support of the Patriotic Democratic Movement in China.

Mr Pao is likely to be one

of the federation's Legco nominees in that constituency.

In Shamshuipo East, the chairman of the Association for Democracy and People's Livelihood, Mr Frederick Fung Kin-kee, beat Mr Li Yau-wai by 9,944 to 1,304.

Mr Fung will team up with another member of the association, economist Dr Law Chung-kwok, to contest the Legco Kowloon West constituency.

Mr Tso Shiu-wai last night said it was highly likely he would join the Legco race, following his victory in Tuen Mun East.

He said he felt more confident after defeating a United Democrat challenger at the Regional Council level.

Mr Tso said he planned to stand as an independent in September but would join the Federation for the Stability of Hongkong, formed by community leaders in the New Territories.

But two other Legco hopefuls, Mr Peter Chan Chi-kwan of Kowloon City West, and Mr Tony Kan Chung-nin of Sha Tin East, were defeated on Sunday.

After being unseated by the United Democrats' Chiang Sai-cheong, Mr Chan yesterday pledged to continue to fight for a Legco seat.

Mr Kan, on the other hand, lost to another United Democrat, Mr Johnston Wong Hong-chung, by a narrow margin of 11,381 to 11,475 votes.