

300 demarcators joining list of Royal petitioners

ABOUT 300 land demarcators will become the first group of government servants to petition the Queen on their six-year-old salary revision and better promotion prospect battle.

These civil servants are attacking the Secretary for the New Territories for adopting "delaying tactics" and will hold an urgent meeting very soon to discuss further action.

"The most imminent one is, of course, to make use of the coming Queen's visit to voice our grievances," said chairman of the Demarcators Association (New Territories Administration) Hubert Tsang yesterday.

Mr Tsang mentioned that they were informed by the Secretary for the New Territories late last month

that he had received the proposals from the Secretary for Civil Service over their pay revision.

"But the Secretary for the NT said he had rejected the proposals on the ground that he was not prepared to accept them at this stage," said Mr Tsang.

"Every member in this grade is extremely annoyed at the rejection, especially the proposals from the Civil Service Branch were never made known to us," he added.

The association has applied for revision as early as in 1969, and despite a number of meetings held with the Secretary for the New Territories during the span of the years, their request came to a standstill.

They even staged a peaceful picketing outside the Colonial Secretariat office last July with still

another round of fruitless effort with the officials.

At the same time, the association, with the Special Duty Division and the New Territories Administration, had submitted three different sets of proposals to the Civil Service Branch.

The demarcators are demanding a new scale of \$1,150 to \$2,040 with nine increments, and \$2,285 to \$2,785 with four increments for the senior grades.