

Taxis  
Provident Fund

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## Call for drivers' fund

A TRANSPORT concern group yesterday called for the introduction of a comprehensive welfare fund scheme for self-employed minibus and taxi drivers.

The chairman of the Joint Conference on Minibus and Taxi Affairs, Mr Choi Kwok-hung, said these drivers rented their vehicles on a daily basis and faced pressure paying rentals.

To meet them, they worked long hours and risked speeding during rush periods, thus causing accidents.

Many suffered occupational diseases such as stomach problems and stress.

Mr Choi said other

Southeast Asian countries, such as Singapore and Taiwan, also had a car hire system, but drivers had forms of protection.

"Singaporean drivers benefit from the central provident fund and death or permanent disability benefits, and Taiwan drivers are covered by the labour insurance scheme," he said.

He said the Government should take the lead in setting up a comprehensive welfare fund scheme for self-employed drivers with contributions coming from the minibus and taxi industries as well as the community.