

## **Insurance News Snippets**

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#### In This Issue:

### I. What's Happening at NIA

- Manthan 2024- National Insurance
   Academy's annual technomanagement and cultural fest
- 2. Sneha Gokarn, Alumnus of NIA (batch of 2005-07) appointed as CEO and Principal Officer of Gallagher India.
- II. Regulatory DevelopmentsIII. Industry Flash FiguresIV. Topical ArticleV. Insurance News

#### I. WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NIA

1. Manthan 2024- National Insurance Academy's annual techno-management and cultural fest Manthan, conducted on 24th & 25th February 2024.

The theme for this year was "CELESTE... from the world beyond!!"

With more than 2000 registrations across a mix of business and cultural events, we had students coming from different campuses pan-India. Some of these include Symbiosis Institute of International Business (Pune), VIT (Pune), ISB&M (Pune), NIBM (Pune), NICMAR (Pune), NALSAR (Hyderabad), National Institute of Technology (Agartala), WeSchool (Mumbai), NL Dalmia (Mumbai), SRCC (Delhi), Sikkim Skill University (Sikkim), BIMTECH (Greater Noida) and many more.

The two vibrant days of Manthan had 21 Management & Cultural competitions like Manager of the Year, Insurance Product Development, Marketing Competition, Fireless Cooking, Roadies, Dancing, Tshirt Painting, Photography, Videography and many more.

The star nights of Mathan were graced by the presence of comedian Rakesh Addlakha and the symphony of The Kabir Cafe.

All of this was made possible because of our wonderful sponsors, who played a pivotal role in making Manthan 2024 a huge success! We are truly thankful to our *Platinum Sponsor*-Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd.; *Gold Sponsors*- National Insurance Co. Ltd., SBI General Insurance Co. Ltd., HDFC Ergo General Insurance, the New India Assurance Co. Ltd. and United India Insurance Co. Ltd.; *Education Loan Partner*- Bank of Maharashtra; *Housing Finance Partner*- LIC Housing Finance Ltd.; *Associate Sponsors*- Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Co. Ltd., Union Bank, GIC Re, Chola MS General Insurance Co. and Care Health Insurance; *Music Partner*- Muzigal Academy; *Food Partner*- Punjabi Chaap Corner; and *Social Media Partner*-Social Squad.







## 2. Sneha Gokarn, Alumnus of NIA from the Batch of 2005-2007 has been appointed as CEO and Principal Officer of Gallagher India.

Sneha Gokarn, an esteemed alumna from the National Insurance Academy's (NIA) Batch of 2005-2007, has been appointed as the CEO and Principal Officer of Gallagher India. This notable achievement brings immense pride to the NIA community. Gokarn's leadership role signifies the caliber and excellence instilled by NIA's educational programs. Her appointment highlights NIA's commitment to producing industry leaders who excel in their respective fields. As a leading figure in Gallagher India, Gokarn is poised to make significant contributions to the insurance sector, further enhancing NIA's reputation for producing top-tier professionals.



#### II. REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

#### 1. Circulars:

a. Modifications to the Master Circular to Unclaimed Amounts of Policyholders dated 17th November 2020

Click here for the circular:

https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=4422274

### 2. Regulations:

a. Exposure draft IRDAI (Corporate Governance) Regulations, 2024

https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=4387997

b. Exposure Draft of IRDAI(Registration, Capital Structure, Transfer of Shares & Amalgamation of Indian Insurance Companies) Regulations, 2024

https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=4389529

c. Exposure Draft (Rural, Social sector and Motor Third party obligations) Regulations, 2024

https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=4398080

d. Exposure Draft IRDAI (Actuarial, Finance and Investment Functions of insurers)
Regulations, 2024

https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=4413549

e. Exposure Draft Guidelines on Collateralized reinsurance transactions for placement of reinsurance business with CBRs

https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=4432973

f. Exposure Draft IRDAI (Bima Sugam - Insurance Electronic Marketplace) Regulations, 2024

https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=4414913

g. Obligatory Cession for the financial year 2024-25

https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=4442504

#### 3. Press Release:

a. Re-Constitution of Expert Committee on Implementation of Ind AS\_ IFRS in Insurance sector

https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=4421385

- b. Order in the matter of Dealmoney Insurance Broking Private Limited <a href="https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=4456104">https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=4456104</a>
- c. Order In the matter of Confiance International Reinsurance Brokers L.L.C., Labuan, Malaysia

https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=4441843

### III. INSURANCE INDUSTRY FLASH FIGURES FOR JANUARY 2024

For monthly insurance industry data, click on:

1. <u>Life Insurance</u> (Source: LI Council)

2. Non-Life Insurance (Source: GI Council)

### IV. TOPICAL ARTICLE

### Earlier you Start Investing, Wealthier You Become

Robert Kiyosaki expressed it well when he remarked, "It's not how much money you make, but how much money you keep, how hard it works for you, and how many generations you keep it for."

Financial planning is a continuous process that requires discipline, diligence, and adaptability. By following the principles and implementing sound financial strategies, you can take control of your finances and work towards achieving financial security and freedom. The financial planning and financial discipline should be made a significant element of our lifestyle at the earliest to have secured financial future.

Investing should always begin early in life in order to build up a corpus for a rainy day. Starting with a sizable investible fund and fancy investment avenues is not necessary; what matters most is forcing yourself to make regular investments, that is, setting aside a certain amount on a regular basis, which will help you develop a feeling of financial discipline over time. You get richer the earlier you start investing. If the person has started investing early, he will be able to take more risk because of his age and scope of increase in future income. In case of occurrence of losses, he has more time to make up for losses.

Investments are essential to tackle inflation. If the inflation rate is assumed to be 6%, then value of today's Rs.100000 will be Rs. 94340 after one year, Rs. 89000 after two years Rs. 83960 after three years and after seven years the value of Rs.100000 will be Rs.66510 only. Therefore, it become indispensable to invest saving at the higher rate in order to beat the inflation rate. If one starts investing early, then the benefits of compounding can be reaped. The power of compounding can be demonstrated with the help of given table. If an investor invests Rs.1000 per month over a period of 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years at the following interest rates:

	If Rs.1000 invested monthly (Amount in			mount in Rs.)
Years	8%	10%	15%	20%
5	73967	78082	89682	103454
10	184166	206,552	278657	382364
15	348345	417,924	676863	1134295
20	592947	765697	1515955	3161479
25	957367	1337890	3284074	8626708
30	1500295	2279325	7009821	23360802

With compounding, the increased investment amount attracts an even higher interest amount. Over the years, with such increments, investor can earn substantial returns.

The variety of investment avenues available in the market must be evaluated in order to select the best investment path. When making an investment decision, an individual must consider a number of criteria, including age, amount of investible funds, risk profile, current and anticipated future financial obligations, family size, education, awareness level, and work stability. There are numerous investment options available such as direct equity, mutual funds, fixed deposits, recurring deposits, PPF, NPS, ULIPs etc. and many more innovative financial market instruments. While selecting the right investment option, one has to assess his risk tolerance, financial goals, existing assets, liquidity requirements, tax related implications, age, income stability and orientation towards financial products.

There are many asset allocation strategies available which have been used by financial planners to undertake asset allocation for their clients. The one of the popular strategy "100 minus Age strategy" is very well acknowledged by most of the risk averse investors. John C Bogle recommended the 100 minus Age strategy, which states that, the proportion of debt/fixed income securities should be equal to age of the investor. For example, if an investor is 35 years old, then out of his total investments, 35% should be invested in debt securities or fixed income securities wherein the safety of funds, liquidity and stability of returns are high. With his increasing age his investment in debt securities should increase.

At the early-stage investor is able to take risk and he can afford to invest in securities with high risk and high returns too, but as he approaches to the age of retirement, the risk bearing capacity of person starts declining. Therefore, when a person ages, he should begin allocating a larger percentage of his assets to debt instruments with steady yields. It signifies that in order to get the benefits of large returns, investing in equities and equity-linked products should be initiated at an early age.

Insurance companies offer a range of products that cater to the needs of various retail investors, including those who are risk averse and uncomfortable making direct stock market investments. Investments in these funds are made in a range of securities that are dispersed among numerous sectors and industries.

The diversification of portfolio reduces the risk as all securities/stocks may not move in the same direction as well as in the same proportion at the same time. Therefore, it is always advisable to add a type of product which is suitable as per person's investment strategy. The professional fund management of the funds always helps investor to minimize risk associated with investment. Investing early in life allows you to have a longer time horizon, which helps with compounding and wealth creation. Therefore, investing early makes it easier to build wealth. Having the right financial planning done at a young age will help you have a better life after retirement, as life after retirement has many different difficulties. Investing early can help you reach your future goals, build wealth and plan for retirement. Remember, the earlier you invest, the more wealth you will have.

(By Dr. Shruti Nagar, Faculty Member, National Insurance Academy, Pune)

#### V. INSURANCE NEWS

## Parliamentary panel recommends lowering of GST on health insurance, term policies

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance has recommended that GST on health insurance, particularly for senior citizens, should be lowered. It has simultaneously pitched for a level-playing field between public and private sector insurance companies in terms of TDS on GST and participation in government-run insurance schemes.

To read the whole article click on:

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/parliamentary-panel-recommends-lowering-of-gst-on-health-insurance-term-policies/article67817938.ece

# IRDAI proposes to raise free-look period for returning insurance policies to 30 days

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has proposed to increase the free-look period – the time during which policyholders can return insurance policies that they may find unsuitable after purchase – from 15 days to 30 days.

To read the whole article click on:

https://www.moneycontrol.com/investor-education/insurance/classroom/irdai-proposes-to-raise-free-look-period-for-returning-insurance-policies-to-days-17453111.html

# IRDAI greenlights Axis Bank's ₹1,612 crore infusion into Max Life Insurance, pending CCI nod

Max Financial Services Limited (MFSL) has announced that insurance regulator IRDAI has approved the capital infusion of ₹1,612 crore by Axis Bank into the company's material subsidiary, Max Life Insurance.

To read the whole article click on:

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/irdai-greenlights-axis-banks-1612-crore-infusion-into-max-life-insurance-pending-cci-nod/article67820565.ece

## Kotak Mahindra Bank gains as CCI clears Zurich Insurance to buy 70% in general insurance arm

Zurich Insurance will acquire a 51 percent stake in Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company through a combination of fresh growth capital and share purchase.

To read the whole article click on:

https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/stocks/kotak-mahindra-bank-gains-as-cci-clears-zurich-insurance-to-buy-70-in-general-insurance-arm-12208331.html

# Government-run insurance company launches pilot project to provide crop insurance to small tea growers

A government-run insurance company has launched a pilot project to provide crop insurance to small tea growers. The small tea sector, which contributes around half of India's total tea production, has been demanding for long that they should be brought under the ambit of the crop insurance scheme.

To read the whole article click on: <a href="https://www.telegraphindia.com/west-bengal/government-run-insurance-company-launches-pilot-project-to-provide-crop-insurance-to-small-tea-growers/cid/1999016">https://www.telegraphindia.com/west-bengal/government-run-insurance-company-launches-pilot-project-to-provide-crop-insurance-to-small-tea-growers/cid/1999016</a>

## IRDAI proposes obligatory insurance coverage in gram panchayats across India

Insurance regulator IRDAI has proposed to make insurance coverage, including life, health and motor, obligatory on the part of insurance companies in gram panchayats across the country in order to achieve the objective of "insurance for all".

To read the whole article click on:

https://indianexpress.com/article/insurance/irdai-proposes-obligatory-insurance-coverage-in-gram-panchayats-across-india-9149841/

## LIC's group yearly renewable premium rises by 137% in Apr-Jan FY24

The state-owned Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) posted a 137.16 per cent year-on-year (Y-o-Y) growth in group yearly renewable premium in the April-January period of FY24. The premium rose to Rs 1,486.76 crore from Rs 626.90 crore in the year-ago period.

To read the whole article click on:

https://www.business-standard.com/finance/insurance/lic-s-group-yearly-renewable-premium-rises-by-137-in-apr-jan-fy24-124020701642\_1.html

## Agriculture minister launches Sarathi portal for insurance products, helpline to resolve crop insurance-related grievances

Agriculture Minister Arjun Munda launched portal 'SARATHI' that aims to provide a comprehensive suite of insurance products including PMFBY, tailored explicitly for farmers and the rural population of India. To strengthen the grievance redressal mechanism of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), the minister also launched the Krishi Rakshak portal and helpline number 14447 to enable farmers to lodge their concerns.

To read the whole article click on:

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/107525784.cms?from=mdr&utm\_source=contentofinterest&utm\_medium=text&utm\_campaign=cppst

## IRDAI proposes revising coverage across sectors to secure insurance for all

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India has proposed raising mandatory coverage under Rural, Social Sector and Motor Third Party Obligations' norms in an effort to achieve the objective of "insurance for all".

To read the whole article click on:

https://www.business-standard.com/finance/insurance/irdai-proposes-revising-coverage-across-sectors-to-secure-insurance-for-all-124020800308\_1.html

## IRDAI to revamp insurers' underwriting obligations to serve social goals

The insurance regulator has released an exposure draft for the proposed IRDAI (Rural, Social Sector and Motor Third Party Obligations) Regulations, 2024, after discussions with the insurance industry.

To read the whole article click on:

https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/87176/Type/eDaily/India-IRDAI-to-revamp-insurers-underwriting-obligations-to-serve-social-goals

## Wipro acquires Aggne for \$66 mn to boost capabilities in insurance sector

Wipro has acquired a 60 per cent stake in US-based insurtech Aggne Global for \$66 million to strengthen its competitive advantage in the insurance sector, particularly in the property and casualty (P&C) insurance space. Founded in 2019, Aggne is incorporated in the US and India, with offices in Tampa, Florida, and Hyderabad, India. The company has 230 employees based in India and the United States

To read the whole article click on:

https://www.business-standard.com/companies/news/wipro-acquires-aggne-for-66-mn-to-boost-capabilities-in-insurance-sector-124021301280\_1.html

### IRDAI chief asks insurance firms to underwrite disruptions to grow biz

The insurance regulator has urged the industry to collectively underwrite disruptions in the sector to make the vision of 'Insurance for All' a reality way before 2047.

To read the whole article click on:

https://www.business-standard.com/finance/insurance/irdai-chairman-asks-insurance-companies-to-underwrite-disruptions-124021301534\_1.html

## IRDAI to revamp policyholder protection rules

The insurance regulator issued an exposure draft of the proposed IRDAI (Protection of Policyholders' Interests and Allied Matters of Insurers) Regulations, 2024 which consolidates and will supersede eight existing regulations.

To read the whole article click on:

https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-

Article/id/87239/Type/eDaily/India-Regulator-to-revamp-policyholder-protection-rules

### PB Fintech gets IRDAI nod to sell reinsurance product

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has granted in-principle approval to Policybazaar Insurance Brokers (Policybazaar), for upgradation of license from direct insurance broker (Life & General) to composite insurance broker.

To read the whole article click on:

https://www.business-standard.com/markets/capital-market-news/pb-fintech-jumps-as-unit-gets-irdai-nod-to-sell-reinsurance-products-124021900420\_1.html

## IRDAI issues new circular to help speedy disbursal of unclaimed insurance money

The Insurance coverage Regulatory & Building Authority of India (IRDAI) has amended the Grasp Round on Unclaimed Quantities of Policyholders because of an upward thrust in unclaimed quantities with the insurers elevating regulatory issues

To read the whole article click on:

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/wealth/insure/irdai-issues-new-circular-to-help-speedy-disbursal-of-unclaimed-insurance-money/articleshow/107812366.cms?from=mdr

## IRDAI mulls requiring collaterals for business with cross-border reinsurers

The IRDAI is considering the introduction of collaterals in the Indian insurance industry, specifically for reinsurance transactions with Cross Border Reinsurers (CBRs).

To read the whole article click on:

https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-

Article/id/87315/Type/eDaily/India-Regulator-mulls-requiring-collaterals-for-business-with-cross-border-reinsurers

## 25% urban Indians have no life insurance, GenZ least secure financially: Survey

Despite high awareness, term plan ownership is low among urban Indians, shows a Max Life Insurance survey. The Max Life Insurance India Protection Quotient 6 survey was done in partnership with Kantar. The survey was conducted among 4,700 urban Indians across 25 cities. IPQ is the degree to which Indians feel protected from future uncertainties. IPQ 6 survey.

To read the whole article click on:

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/wealth/personal-finance-news/25-urban-indians-have-no-life-insurance-genz-least-secure-financially-survey/articleshow/107961378.cms

?utm\_source=contentofinterest&utm\_medium=text&utm\_campaign=cppst

### Number of M&A deals falls in the Asia region in line with global trend

According to the report "Insurance Growth Report 2024" by the global law firm, Clyde & Co., The number of mergers and acquisitions (M&As) in the insurance industry in Asia Pacific fell by 13% to 52 in 2023.

To read the whole article click on:

https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/87374/Type/eDailyAsia-Pacific-Number-of-M-A-deals-falls-in-the-region-in-line-with-global-trend

Please share your feedback at <a href="http://niapune.org.in/in-feedback">http://niapune.org.in/in-feedback</a>