



In this issue:

I. - National Insurance Academy Hosts the 27th Annual C. D. Deshmukh Memorial Seminar 2026

-National Insurance Academy celebrated the 77th Republic Day

II. Regulatory Developments

III. Industry Flash Figures

IV. Topical Article

V. Insurance News

I. WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NIA

1. National Insurance Academy Hosts the 27th Annual C. D. Deshmukh Memorial Seminar 2026

The 27th Annual C. D. Deshmukh Memorial Seminar was successfully organized by the National Insurance Academy, Pune on 19 January 2026. The seminar was conducted on the theme "I.M.P.A.C.T. 2047 - Insurance Mobilisation for Protection through Availability, Care and Trust: Advancing Life Insurance Inclusion for Viksit Bharat 2047", aligning with the national vision of Insurance for All by 2047

The seminar commenced with the Inaugural Session, beginning with a welcome address by Mr. B. C. Patnaik, Director, NIA, who highlighted the relevance of the seminar theme in addressing India's persistent protection gaps across life, health, pensions, and annuities. This was followed by a special address by Mr. Dinesh Pant, Managing Director, LIC of India, emphasizing inclusive growth, product simplicity, and affordability. The keynote address by Mr. R. Doraiswamy, CEO & MD, LIC of India, focused on the evolving role of life insurance in nation-building and financial resilience.

The Chief Guest, Mr. Swaminathan S. Iyer, Member (Life), IRDAI, underscored regulatory initiatives supporting innovation, trust, and customer-centricity. The session concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Mr. V. Balagopal, Chair Professor (Life), NIA.

The technical sessions featured three high-impact panel discussions. Panel I deliberated on strategies for bridging the protection gap across metro, urban, semi-urban, and rural markets through customer-centric product-market fit, focusing on need-based product design, embedded insurance, and data-driven insights. Panel II examined optimizing distribution for life, health, and annuity business, highlighting omnichannel strategies, bancassurance, digital advisory capabilities, and productivity enhancement. Panel III explored leveraging artificial intelligence for care and trust, with discussions on AI-enabled onboarding, claims management, fraud detection, and balancing automation with human judgment to enhance customer confidence. The seminar witnessed active participation from senior industry leaders, regulators, insurers, consultants, academicians, and students, fostering meaningful dialogue and knowledge exchange. The event concluded with a vote of thanks followed by networking over high tea.









2. National Insurance Academy (NIA) celebrated the 77th Republic Day

The National Insurance Academy (NIA) celebrated the 77th Republic Day with great enthusiasm on 26th January 2026. The event was graced by the presence of esteemed Director, faculty members, staff, and students, making it a memorable occasion. The celebration commenced with the hoisting of the national flag by Mr. B.C. Patnaik, Director, NIA. The national anthem was sung with great pride, filling the atmosphere with a sense of unity and patriotism. On this occasion, Mr. B.C. Patnaik addressed the gathering and delivered an inspiring speech, emphasizing the significance of Republic Day. He highlighted the values enshrined in the Indian Constitution and the responsibilities of citizens in upholding them. His speech resonated with the audience and instilled a deep sense of national pride. Mr. V. Balagopal, Chair Professor (Life Insurance), Principal Dr. Komal Singh along with other faculty members and staff, were present to mark the occasion. Their presence added to the solemnity and grandeur of the celebration. The students of NIA showcased various performances, displaying their enthusiasm and dedication through engaging activities that honored the day's significance.







II. REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

1. Circular:

- a. Implementation of 1600 Series TRAI directions

<https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=8446575>

2. Press Release:

- a. Minutes of 132nd Meeting of Authority

<https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=8505402>

- b. Reconstitution of Reinsurance Advisory Committee (RAC)

<https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=8626390>

3. Order:

- a. Order in the matter of M_s Wealthkart Insurance Broking Private Limited

<https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=8625607>

- b. Order in the matter of M_s Topspot Insurance Broking Private Limited

<https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=8652963>

III. INSURANCE INDUSTRY FLASH FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 2025

For monthly insurance industry data, click on:

1. [Life Insurance](#) (Source: LI Council)
2. [Non-Life Insurance](#) (Source: GI Council)

IV. TOPICAL ARTICLE

Earlier you started 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 becomes 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:

Years	If Rs.1000 invested monthly (Amount in Rs.)			
	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.

Mutual funds 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 mutual 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 mutual which is suitable as per person's investment strategy. The professional fund management of the mutual fund 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.

(Contributed by Dr. Shruti Nagar, Faculty Member, National Insurance Academy)

V. INSURANCE NEWS

India's insurance market expected to grow at 6.9% rate over 2026-30, higher than US and China-Swiss Re

Backed by a resilient economic growth, increasing risk awareness and supportive regulatory reforms, India's insurance market is expected to grow in real terms at a 6.9 per cent compound annual growth rate over 2026 to 2030, higher than major emerging and advanced insurance markets, said reinsurance company Swiss Re.

Read more at:

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/indias-insurance-market-expected-to-grow-at-69-rate-over-2026-30-higher-than-us-and-china-says-swiss-re/article70522635.ece>

Finance Ministry notifies rules for 100% FDI in Insurance sector

The finance ministry has notified the Indian Insurance Companies (Foreign Investment) Amendment Rules, 2025, aligning them with the 100% foreign investment limit in the sector approved by Parliament in December 2025.

Read more at:

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/insure/finance-ministry-notifies-rules-for-100-fdi-in-insurancesector/articleshow/126281397.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

Health insurance claims jump 11% YoY to Rs 94,248 crore in FY25, cashless settlements dominate

India's health insurance sector saw an 11 percent jump in claim payouts in FY25, with general and health insurers paying Rs 94,248 crore for 3.26 crore claims covering 58 crore lives under 2.65 crore policies, according to the recent annual report by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).

Read more at:

<https://www.moneycontrol.com/banking/health-insurance-claims-jump-11-yoy-to-rs-94-248-crore-in-fy25-cashless-settlements-dominate-article-13751065.html>

Unclaimed Deposits, Shares, And Insurance: How To Check And Claim Your Money

A total of Rs 1 lakh crore is lying unclaimed in the Indian financial system. The fund is lying in the form of bank deposits, mutual funds, and insurance, and is unknown to their rightful owners for several reasons; thus, they are lying unclaimed. The huge sum is futile as neither the authority keeping such funds nor the entitled owner can use it. The government has recently announced the initiative "Your Money, Your Right".

Read more at:

<https://www.outlookmoney.com/personal-finance/unclaimed-deposits-shares-and-insurance-how-to-check-and-claim-your-money>

IRDAI is moving to regulate insurance commissions

IRDAI's move to tighten control over insurance commissions is rooted in hard data that shows a widening gap between distributor payouts and actual business growth. Despite sharp increases in commissions across life, general and health insurance segments in FY25, policy issuance and premium growth remained muted, prompting the regulator to reassess how distribution costs impact policyholders and the industry's long-term sustainability.

Read more at:

<https://www.cnbc18.com/business/irdai-insurance-commissions-data-regulation-explained-19810454.htm>

What cyber insurance really covers in everyday digital and ID fraud cases

Cyber insurance sounds like the kind of thing sensible families should have. Everyone is on digital platform, parents are paying bills on apps, children are buying subscriptions, grandparents are getting messages from "bank support" numbers. So when an insurer says, "We cover digital fraud and identity theft," it feels like a neat safety net.

Read more at:

<https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/personal-finance/what-cyber-insurance-really-covers-in-everyday-digital-and-id-fraud-cases-13757190.html>

LIC revival drive for Lapsed policies

Life Insurance Corporation of India has launched a special revival drive to help policyholders reinstate their lapsed life insurance policies by paying overdue premiums, often with concessions on late fees. This initiative enables customers to restore risk cover and policy benefits, ensuring continued financial protection for their families.

Read more at:

<https://libraryintranet.niapune.org.in/newsheadlines/upload/Business%20Standard%202026-01-08%2010-00-09.pdf>

Over 97% of bank accounts were insured at FY25 end

Nearly 41.5% of total deposits by value and 97.6% by number of accounts at commercial and cooperative banks were insured by Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) as of March 2025, according to latest data released by the Reserve Bank of India.

Read more at:

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/over-97-of-bank-accounts-were-insured-at-fy25-end/articleshow/126381028.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

Bajaj Group completes acquisition of 23% stake in insurance ventures from Allianz

Bajaj FinServ, together with Bajaj Holdings & Investment Ltd and Jamnalal Sons Pvt Ltd, has completed the acquisition of 23 per cent stake in its insurance subsidiaries – Bajaj General Insurance and Bajaj Life Insurance – from Allianz SE, for ₹12,190 crore and ₹9,200 crore respectively.

Read more at:

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/bajaj-group-completes-acquisition-of-23-stake-in-insurance-ventures-from-allianz/article70487531.ece>

Majority of actuaries are working on providing climate and sustainability advice

More than 80% of actuaries participating in a recent study conducted by the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries (IFoA) have said that their professional involvement in climate change and sustainability work has increased in recent years.

Read more at:

<https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/94099/Type/eDaily/Global-Majority-of-actuaries-are-working-on-providing-climate-and-sustainability-advice>

India to emerge as world's fastest growing insurance market-Swiss Re

Global reinsurer Swiss Re has projected that the Indian insurance industry will grow at a compound annual rate of 6.9 per cent between 2026 and 2030, making India the fastest-growing insurance market globally, ahead of China, the US, and Western Europe.

Read more at:

https://www.telegraphindia.com/business/india-set-to-become-fastest-growing-insurance-market-globally-says-swiss-re-report-prnt/cid/2143484#goog_rewarded

IPO-bound PhonePe scales up lending & insurance biz

To reduce reliance on its payments vertical, PhonePe is scaling its lending and insurance businesses, which now contribute 11.55% of revenue as the fintech giant prepares for its April 2026 public listing.

Read more at:

<https://www.financialexpress.com/business/news/ipo-bound-phonepe-scales-up-lending-amp-insurance-biz/4122694/lite/>

India's Insurance Distribution Shifts Towards Omnichannel Model: CareEdge

India's insurance distribution ecosystem is undergoing a structural shift from a largely agent-led model to a broad-based omnichannel framework, as insurers increasingly rely on banks, brokers, digital platforms and alternative channels to drive growth, according to a report by CareEdge Ratings.

Read more at:

<https://www.businessworld.in/article/india-s-insurance-distribution-shifts-towards-omnichannel-model-careedge-591034>

Economic Survey Calls for Lower Distribution Costs To Make Insurance Affordable

The Economic Survey 2025-26 on Thursday flagged a high distribution model of the insurance sector that has inflated the cost of protection and limited its reach despite a growth in premium collection and insurance density. Similar concerns have also been voiced in the past by the insurance regulator IRDAI and the Department of Financial Services.

Read more at:

<https://www.deccanchronicle.com/amp/nation/economic-survey-calls-for-lower-distribution-costs-to-make-insurance-affordable-1933595>

Please share your feedback at <http://niapune.org.in/in-feedback>

