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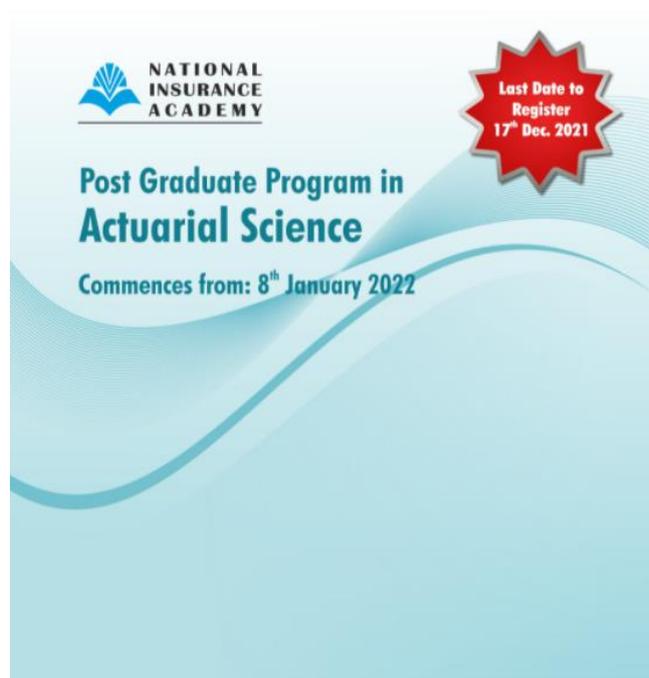
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***I. WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NIA***

**1. Post Graduate Programme in Actuarial Science**

National Insurance Academy is now offering weekend course on Post Graduate Program in Actuarial Science. The course shall enable the industry practitioners and fresh graduates to understand the core principles of actuarial science with practical applications. The course commences from 08 January 2022. Last date of registration is 17 December 2021.

For more details, refer: <https://niapune.org.in/online-programmes/certification-courses/post-graduate-program-in-actuarial-science#brochure>



**2. PGDM Student's Visit to SAMPARC Balgram and NAB Lions Home for the Ageing Blind**  
National Insurance Academy has always been a torchbearer for social causes. In order to inculcate the same values among the PGDM students, a one-day visit was planned to Social Action for Manpower Creation (SAMPARC Balgram) and NAB Lions Home for the Ageing Blind.

SAMPARC helps provide suitable shelter, care and protection to the underprivileged, neglected and orphaned children who come from poor and tribal backgrounds. The organisation is actively involved in the education and vocational training of all these children and has brought up more than 11,000 children. Apart from this, it also conducts a Community Rehabilitation program that focuses on women's empowerment vocational training for youth and livelihood activities.

NAB Lions Home for the Ageing Blind is the benefactor to more than 70 visually challenged elders, providing them with a healthy life, vocational skills and other amenities from past 4 decades for free. The residents are also actively involved in activities like weaving, knitting, tailoring, making candles, and incense sticks etc. The home also aims to motivate and solidify the very spirit of the residents, thereby aiding them to live a self-sufficient life with dignity and confidence.





## **II. REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS**

### **1. Health Products:**

a. Health Products for 2021-22. Click here for the products:  
[https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew\\_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4544&flag=1](https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4544&flag=1)

### **2. Insurance Marketing Firms:**

a. List of Insurance Marketing Firms as on November 2021. Click here for the list:  
[https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew\\_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo2744&flag=1](https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo2744&flag=1)

## **III. INSURANCE INDUSTRY FLASH FIGURES FOR OCTOBER 2021**

For monthly insurance industry data, click on:

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

## *IV. TOPICAL ARTICLE*

### **Key Indicators of Financial Health of Non-Life Insurance Companies**

Renowned psychologist Barry Schwartz in his landmark research argued that more choices make people less likely to take action, and eventually lesser satisfied with their decision. The said holds true while making a buying decision for a non-life insurance policy too. At present, there are 31 Non-Life Insurance companies in India which makes it difficult for the Indian customers to choose from the number of options available. Moreover, the customers need to be sure of not just the insurance product, premium growth and market share of the company, but also its financial health in order to ensure that their claim gets paid as and when it is due.

According to experts, annual reports are an important source for quantitative analysis which indicate the company's overall performance and financial health. Within the annual report, financial ratios provide a gist of the relevant financial information while touching each aspect of the business. They indicate stability of the company and help people to understand the financial health of the company. The financial health of a non-life insurance company can be understood from two perspectives: (i) ability to settle claims, which is measured by Solvency ratio; and (ii) adequacy of profits, which is measured by Combined Ratio, Underwriting Balance Ratio, Operating Profit Ratio and Net Earnings Ratio.

**Solvency Ratio** is calculated as per the IRDAI guidelines. All the insurance companies must maintain, at all times, solvency ratio of 150% or 1.50. Higher solvency ratio indicates that a company is better equipped to pay off its debts and survive in long run.

**Combined Ratio** compares the outgo of the company with its income. Combined ratio of more than 100% indicates that the outgo of the company is more than income, which is not a profitable condition from the insurance business operations.

A positive **Underwriting Balance Ratio** indicates that the company is in a better financial position and does not have to rely on investment income.

**Operating Profit Ratio** indicates the overall operational efficiency of the non-life insurance company.

**Net Earnings Ratio** indicates the overall profitability of an insurance company after accounting for the underwriting profit/loss, investment income and tax.

The table below gives company wise gist of these important ratios for the first quarter of financial year 2021-22. The data will help in understanding the current state of health of the Indian non-life insurance companies.

| Company                 | Solvency Ratio | Combined Ratio | Underwriting Balance Ratio | Operating Profit Ratio | Net Earnings Ratio |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Acko                    | 2.31           | 225.44%        | -1.76                      | -167.84%               | -109.94%           |
| Aditya Birla Health     | 1.61           | 153.00%        | -0.63                      | -56.00%                | -14.00%            |
| AICL                    | 1.88           | 212.15%        | -0.11                      | 15.44%                 | 0.00%              |
| Bajaj Allianz           | 3.40           | 103.40%        | 0.01                       | 21.00%                 | 23.60%             |
| Bharti Axa              | 1.51           | 135.00%        | -0.19                      | 14.00%                 | 24.00%             |
| Care Health             | 1.81           | 140.00%        | -0.50                      | -44.00%                | -24.00%            |
| Cholamandalam MS        | 1.786          | 120.88%        | -0.12                      | 15.27%                 | 0.00%              |
| ECGC                    | 21.66          | 343.42%        | -1.63                      | -56.34%                | 26.98%             |
| Edelweiss               | 1.83           | 189.00%        | -0.72                      | -63.00%                | -60.00%            |
| Future Generali         | 1.56           | 117.00%        | -0.16                      | 0.00%                  | 2.00%              |
| GoDigit                 | 1.81           | 107.90%        | -0.1                       | 0.89%                  | 3.71%              |
| HDFC Ergo               | 1.69           | 124.95%        | -0.21                      | -5.11%                 | -2.65%             |
| ICICI Lombard           | 2.76           | 121.00%        | -0.19                      | 1.00%                  | 6.00%              |
| Iffco Tokio             | 1.63           | 111.42%        | -0.11                      | 0.86%                  | 3.97%              |
| Kotak                   | 1.75           | 126.00%        | -0.17                      | -7.00%                 | -5.00%             |
| Liberty                 | 2.81           | 121.00%        | -0.09                      | 4.00%                  | 8.00%              |
| Magma HDI               | 1.82           | 121.50%        | -0.17                      | 6.60%                  | 6.50%              |
| Manipal Cigna Health    | 1.65           | 158.00%        | -0.67                      | -61.00%                | -49.00%            |
| National                |                | 144.63%        | -0.45                      | -23.05%                | -21.95%            |
| Navi                    | 2.28           | 256.00%        | -0.19                      | 31.00%                 | 174.00%            |
| Niva Bupa               | 1.65           | 130.00%        | -0.43                      | -28.00%                | -28.00%            |
| Raheja QBE              | 2.59           | 158.08%        | -0.66                      | -28.44%                | -43.99%            |
| Reliance                | 1.65           | 111.00%        | -0.13                      | 8.00%                  | 7.00%              |
| Royal Sundaram          | 1.97           | 118.30%        | -0.13                      | 10.70%                 | 14.10%             |
| SBI                     | 2.10           | 125.71%        | -0.13                      | 4.21%                  | 11.34%             |
| Shriram                 | 3.63           | 115.37%        | -0.04                      | 34.57%                 | 45.34%             |
| Star Health             | 1.65           | 121.14%        | -0.19                      | -15.96%                | -10.23%            |
| Tata AIG                | 2.32           | 110.00%        | -0.07                      | 16.00%                 | 17.00%             |
| The New India Assurance | 2.00           | 113.96%        | -0.15                      | -270.00%               | 120.00%            |
| The Oriental            | 1.54           | 151.87%        | -0.41                      | -23.93%                | -22.93%            |
| United India            | 0.83           | 137.30%        | -0.37                      | -21.12%                | -20.15%            |
| Universal Sompo         | 2.07           | 101.15%        | -0.03                      | 15.85%                 | 12.03%             |

Source: Public Disclosure of Non-Life Insurance Companies

(By Ruchika Yadav, Research Associate, NIA)

## **V. INSURANCE NEWS**

### **China: Regulator publishes new regulation for insurance holding companies**

China's insurance regulator issued amended requirements for the risk management and investment activities of insurance groups, to step up supervision and prevent risks in the sector, reported Reuters.

The rules are an update on an earlier version in 2010 to keep pace with significant changes in the development of insurance groups and the external environment over the years, according to a statement on the website of the CBIRC.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article/id/78722/Type/eDaily/China-Regulator-publishes-new-regulation-for-insurance-holding-companies>

### **UP to bring maximum farmers under crop insurance scheme**

The Yogi Adityanath government is set to mobilise the farming community by launching a state-wide drive from December 1 to bring the maximum number of farmers under the Central crop insurance scheme -- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).

The flagship scheme entails coverage and financial support to farmers in the event of crop failure due to natural calamities, pests and diseases.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.dailypioneer.com/2021/state-editions/up-to-bring-maximum-farmers----under-crop-insurance-scheme.html>

### **Crop insurance claims over Rs 3,300 crore pending due to payment failure, delay in state subsidy**

Over Rs 3,300 crore is pending in payment to farmers across India in crop insurance claims since 2018-19 under the government's flagship crop insurance scheme, due to 'payment failure' and delay in state subsidy.

An amount of Rs 3,372.72 crore out of claims worth Rs 66,460 crore in the last three years under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), was pending as on November 25, 2021.

This is according to a reply given by Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar in the Lok Sabha November 30. Of this, Rs 1,087.35 crore was pending for financial year 2020-2021.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/agriculture/crop-insurance-claims-over-rs-3-300-crore-pending-due-to-payment-failure-delay-in-state-subsidy-80459>

## **What does Global Coverage in a health insurance plan entail?**

After nearly two years of closure, several Indians now feel that they are fit to travel overseas now without posing risks to others around them. On the other hand, even the world is beginning to open up again since daily new covid cases are going down. As of November 11, 2021, only 572,992 new cases have been reported worldwide. A few months before that, in July 2021, around 54 million tourists crossed overseas borders. So, now could be the time to go for overseas travel once again. As you venture out into the world, it becomes a must to have access to pre-planned quality healthcare. For that, a health insurance plan in India can provide you with considerable support.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/brand-post/what-does-global-coverage-in-a-health-insurance-plan-entail-101638275968779.html>

## **Insurance mis-selling: Five factors to distinguish advisors from salespersons**

A lot of people complain on social media about being victims of insurance mis-selling, especially from their family members or friends. They want to continue buying from financial advisors but don't know how to find a good one.

It is no secret that the insurance business runs on commissions. Whether you buy your policy through a financial advisor/ insurance agent or an online portal, in the end, the entity making the sale earns a hefty cut on your premium amount. That is why it is easy to assume that anyone who's selling you a policy works with a single motive of commissions. However, this might not be the case always.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/personal-finance/insurance-mis-selling-five-factors-to-distinguish-advisors-from-salespersons-7775471.html>

## **Omicron Reminder : You Should Buy Term Insurance Before Premiums Go Up**

Though the deadliness of Omicron, the new Covid-19 pandemic variant, is not fully known, going by what happened during the second wave, it should serve as a reminder that life is uncertain, reinforcing the importance of life insurance.

The Omicron variant, which has put governments the world over on high alert, may have made people aware about the importance of health insurance, but life insurance is equally important. After all, the first and second waves of Covid claimed the lives of so many breadwinners.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.outlookindia.com/website/story/business-news-omicron-reminder-you-should-buy-term-insurance-before-premiums-go-up/403271>

## **New Zealand: Climate change to push property insurers to adopt granular pricing**

Climate change will impact future weather events to varying degrees, and is expected to affect future insurance premiums, says the Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ) in its November 2021 Financial Stability Report.

In some locations where adverse weather events become more frequent or intense, insurance cover might become more expensive or unavailable, as it would no longer be commercially viable. This has material implications not only for insurers, but also households and businesses (e.g. property values and ability to manage risk), banks (e.g. availability of mortgages), and governments (mitigation and relocation), says the report.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article/id/78711/Type/eDaily/New-Zealand-Climate-change-to-push-property-insurers-to-adopt-granular-pricing>

## **Embedded Value: Review your life insurance needs every 10 or 15 years**

The need for life insurance protection through different types of life insurance plans is a dynamic proposition that changes not only with the age of the life assured but also with his or her financial status. A policy purchased at the beginning of one's career may become not only redundant in its features but also grossly inadequate in respect of the sum assured by the time the policyholder reaches the middle of his working life.

The sum assured is the amount payable to the family on death of a policyholder. But need analysis by policyholders at different stages of career is advisable as certain policies become inadequate to take care of the purpose for which policies are bought. Some additional policies need to be taken to match one's progress into different life stages and higher financial status.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.financialexpress.com/money/insurance/embedded-value-review-your-life-insurance-needs-every-10-or-15-years/2378531/>

### **Hong Kong: Regulator to develop Open API framework**

The Hong Kong Insurance Authority (IA) is exploring the development of an Open API (Application Programming Interface) Framework to enable greater collaboration among insurers, third-party service providers (TSPs), and regulators.

Mr Tony Chan, Associate Director, Policy and Development, of the IA, said this in a keynote address in a symposium organised by the Actuarial Society of Hong Kong.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/78698/Type/eDaily/Hong-Kong-Regulator-to-develop-Open-API-framework>

### **Australia: SMEs adjust business models for COVID but many lag in updating insurance**

Two-thirds of Australian Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) have altered their business models as a result of COVID-19, yet, only around one-third of those SMEs have made changes to their business insurance, according to findings of the 2021 Vero SME Insurance Index COVID-19 research.

Vero, one of Australia's biggest general insurers, surveyed 1,500 Australian SME business owners/ decision makers to gain insight into how the pandemic has affected their business operations, insurance purchasing behaviours and perceptions of the insurance industry.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/78697/Type/eDaily/Australia-SMEs-adjust-business-models-for-COVID-but-many-lag-in-updating-insurance>

## Five aspects to consider before buying a ULIP

In these unpredictable times of a global pandemic, it is important to have a financial plan that can not only secure you financially but also protect your family in the unfortunate event of your absence. The latter can be resolved by purchasing a life insurance policy, while the former can be achieved by focussing on long-term wealth creation. Both these goals together can be achieved by investing in a single investment avenue viz. Unit-Linked Insurance Plan or ULIP.

To read the whole article click on: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/markets/bonds/five-aspects-to-consider-before-buying-a-ulip/articleshow/87946376.cms>

## Beyond the Pandemic: Technology as an enabler for Healthcare

In the COVID-19 era, many businesses witnessed a fundamental shift in the way they interacted with their consumers and also led that shift largely working from home. Healthcare sector, however, continued to deliver from its workplace under extremely stressed working conditions.

The pandemic created an unprecedented strain on the healthcare infrastructure in India. The exponential spike in the number of infected cases severely tested the entire system. What makes it tougher for India is its low per capita availability hospital beds (1.2 per 1,000 population vs. WHO guideline of 3.0 per 1,000) and exacerbated by a shortage of healthcare workers (physicians @ 50% and nurses @ 30% lower than WHO guideline). This major gap between demand and supply has left many seeking care in despair.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.financialexpress.com/healthcare/healthtech/beyond-the-pandemic-technology-as-an-enabler-for-healthcare/2378175/>

## Life Insurance Policy: How to File Insurance Claims on Maturity, in Case of Death

Life is uncertain but having a good insurance policy can give you a sense of security amidst this chaos. Choosing the best policy, according to your requirements, needs through market research and comparison of policy details of different providers. This includes a comparison of the cost, coverage, exclusion and other details. However, one key aspect which often misses our attention is the process of claiming the policy in case of a mishap. Now, an insurance policy can only be

claimed in two situations- in the event of death of the policyholder or completion of the maturity period. Here, we look at the process of claiming the policy in both cases.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.news18.com/news/business/life-insurance-policy-how-to-file-insurance-claims-on-maturity-in-case-of-death-4473587.html>

## **Watch out for fake motor insurance policies**

Most known insurance frauds are usually about the insurance company being defrauded by customers. Saying a white lie about your high blood pressure in a health insurance proposal form, or allowing your garage to exaggerate the accident damage to your car in the claim form are common unethical practices. The insurance industry has suffered because of it and it comes back to roost as higher premium rates for everybody in the long run.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.thehindu.com/business/watch-out-for-fake-motor-insurance-policies/article37729221.ece>

## **Japan: Sumitomo Life expected to maintain high mortality and morbidity margins**

Sumitomo Life Insurance, among the top five life insurers in Japan, is expected to maintain substantial mortality and morbidity margins, underpinned by the company's strategic focus on the higher-margin medical and nursery care, known as "third sector", products and its substantial in-force business, says Fitch Ratings.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article/id/78680/Type/eDaily/Japan-Sumitomo-Life-expected-to-maintain-high-mortality-and-morbidity-margins>

## **Panel suggests building International Financial Services Centres into aviation, marine and trade credit hubs**

A committee has submitted its report to the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) proposing several key areas and recommendations to develop the IFSC as a global hub for insurance and reinsurance activities.

To read the main recommendations of the IFSC Insurance Committee, click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/78676/Type/eDaily/India-Panel-suggests-building-International-Financial-Services-Centres-into-aviation-marine-and-trade-credit-hubs>

## **GoDaddy cyber-attack yet another 'wake up call' to insurance industry - CyberCube**

The recent cyber attack on internet domain registrar and web hosting company GoDaddy serves as yet another "wake up call" to the insurance and reinsurance industry, according to cyber analytics firm CyberCube.

The incident, which was discovered on 17 November 2021, was a single point of failure (SPoF) cyber attack that saw 1.2 million active and inactive WordPress customers have their email addresses and customer numbers exposed.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.insurancetimes.co.uk/news/godaddy-cyber-attack-yet-another-wake-up-call-to-insurance-industry-cybercube/1439599.article>

## **A step-by-step guide to choosing the right health insurance plan**

After the onset of Coronavirus, the Indian populace began to take health insurance more seriously than ever and today the impact of the pandemic is making people realize that insurance is no more a priority but a necessity. Again, among different health insurance plans, the demand for family health insurance plans have risen in India. Choosing the best health insurance plan for you and your family can be time-intensive, but you got to invest the right amount of time into it. Rushing to buy and picking the wrong health insurance plan can be costly for you in the long run.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/brand-post/a-step-by-step-guide-to-choosing-the-right-health-insurance-plan-101637838456000.html>

## **Bajaj Allianz partners TropoGo for Drone Insurance**

Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has partnered TropoGo, deep-tech start-up for the distribution of its new Drone Insurance cover.

The policy will cover both the vehicle and its payload as well as third party liability. The policy can be extended to cover BVLOS (Beyond Visual Line of Sight) and night flying.

To read the whole article click on: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/bajaj-allianz-partners-tropgo-for-drone-insurance/articleshow/87908025.cms>

## **How to make claim with multiple health insurance policies**

Now a days it is common for people to have multiple health insurance policies such as corporate, individual plan, family floater plan, critical illness, top-up plan and super top-up plans. While multiple policies enhance your ability to tackle any medical emergency, however, it also creates confusion when the actual need for filing the claim arises.

To read the whole article click on: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/wealth/insure/health-insurance/how-to-make-claim-with-multiple-health-insurance-policies/articleshow/87755253.cms>

## **Taiwan: COVID-19 impact on non-life market is limited**

Taiwan has managed for the most part to keep the COVID-19 pandemic under control, relative to its peers, and registered real GDP growth of 3.1% in 2020, notes AM Best.

In the Best's Market Segment Report, titled, "Market Segment Outlook: Taiwan Non-Life Insurance", the global credit rating agency says that the pandemic had limited impact on Taiwan's non-life insurance market, which experienced direct premium written (DPW) growth of 6.2% in 2020, driven by growth in the motor and fire insurance business lines.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article?id=78665&Type=eDaily>

## **NFHS survey: Health insurance coverage rises, officials credit Ayushman Bharat**

Summary findings from the fifth edition of the National Family Health Survey, showed a 12.3 percentage point increase over the previous edition of the survey in the coverage of health insurance to 41% of households surveyed, an indication of the impact of the government's flagship Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (AB-Pmjay), that was launched in September 2018.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/nfhssurvey-health-insurance-coverage-rises-officials-credit-ayushman-bharat-101637781745265.html>

### **IndiaFirst Life launches e-Term Plus Plan with 7 innovative coverage options**

IndiaFirst Life Insurance has announced the launch of their e-Term Plus Plan. The term plan is a non-linked, non-participating, individual pure risk premium, life insurance plan.

The company says that the plan is designed to protect the certainties of life by promising the policyholders' loved ones a financially secured and fulfilled future.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.financialexpress.com/money/indiafirst-life-launches-e-term-plus-plan-with-7-innovative-coverage-options/2374597/>

### **Australia: Lloyd's Disaster Risk Facility launches parametric cyclone insurance in the north**

The Lloyd's Disaster Risk Facility (DRF) has unveiled an innovative parametric cyclone insurance product for retail clients based in Northern Australia. The new solution, 'Redicova' (pronounced 'ready cover') is led by Beazley with initial reinsurance support from AXA XL, Hiscox and RenaissanceRe who are all members of the DRF at Lloyd's.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/78653/Type/eDaily/Australia-Lloyd-s-Disaster-Risk-Facility-launches-parametric-cyclone-insurance-in-the-north>

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