



December 2022, Volume 4, Issue 12

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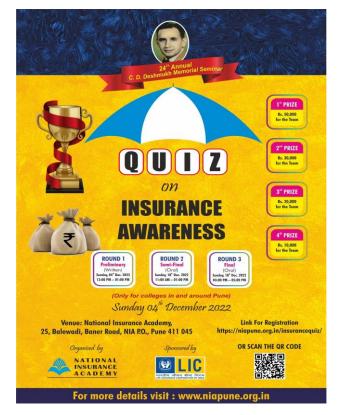
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I. WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NIA

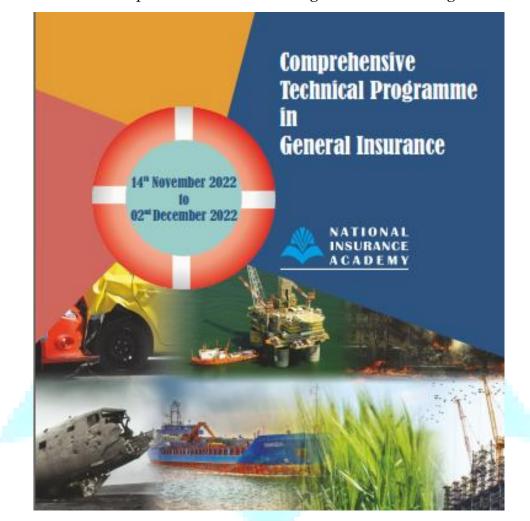
1. Quiz on Insurance Awareness

As a part of the 24th Annual Sir CD Deshmukh Memorial Seminar, National Insurance Academy, Pune organized an Inter-college "Insurance Awareness Quiz" competition on 04 December 2022 (Preliminary Round) and 18 December 2022 (Semi-Final and Final Round). The competition aimed to gather bright students from different Colleges/Institutes and provide them a platform to participate and win the competition by showcasing their talent and knowledge on Insurance.



2. Comprehensive Technical Programme in General Insurance

National Insurance Academy organized a 3-week Comprehensive Technical Programme in General Insurance from 14 November 2022 to 02 December 2022. The programme was attended by 33 foreign participants from Tanzania, Nepal and Bhutan. The programme imparted practical learning to equip the participants with knowledge of principles and practices of general insurance, as well as the best practices in Underwriting and Claims management.



II. REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

1. Circulars:

a. NAV declaration when quarter end is a holiday. Click here for the circular:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4903&fla g=1

b. Reinsurance Treaty Agreements covering Fire and Engineering Lines of Business – prohibition of provisions that make for broad market price tariffs. Click here for the circular:

www.niapune.org.in

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4898&fla g=1

c. Insurance cover for new-borns/infants under Health insurance policies. Click here for the circular:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4879&fla g=1

d. Upload of Motor Third Party data in IIBI's portal. Click here for the circular:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4872&fla g=1

e. Extension of timelines for filing of Health Quarterly Returns to the Authority. Click here for the circular:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4870&fla g=1

f. Clarification with respect to NDS-OM - Investments - Master Circular. Click here for the circular:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4869&fla g=1

2. Exposure Draft:

a. Exposure Draft on Long-Term Fire Insurance products. Click here for the

exposure draft:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4874&fla g=1

b. Exposure Draft on Long-Term Motor Products covering both Motor T P Insurance and Own Damage Insurance. Click here for the exposure draft:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4873&fla g=1

3. Annual Report:

a. Annual Report 2021-22. Click here for the Annual Report:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4901&fla g=1

www.niapune.org.in

4. Regulations:

a. IRDAI (Regulatory Sandbox) (Amendment) Regulations 2022. Click here for the regulation:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4897&fla g=1

b. IRDAI (Registration of Indian Insurance Companies) Regulations 2022. Click here for the regulation:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4893&fla g=1

c. IRDAI (Other Forms of Capital) Regulations, 2022. Click here for the regulation:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4892&fla g=1

d. IRDAI (ALSM of General Insurance Business) Regulations 2022. Click here for the regulation:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4884&fla g=1

e. IRDAI (ARA for Life Business) Regulations 2022. Click here for the regulation:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4883&fla g=1

f. IRDAI (Appointed Actuary) Regulations 2022. Click here for the regulation:

https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=PageNo4882&fla g=1

g. IRDAI (Insurance Intermediaries) (Amendment) Regulations 2022. Click here for the regulation:<u>https://www.irdai.gov.in/ADMINCMS/cms/whatsNew_Layout.aspx?page=Page_No4885&flag=1</u>

III. INSURANCE INDUSTRY FLASH FIGURES FOR NOVEMBER 2022

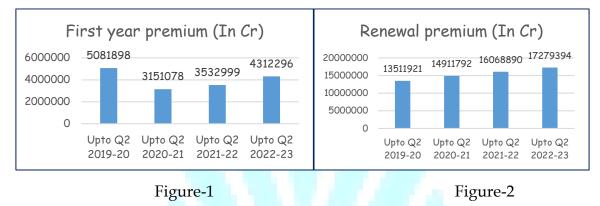
For monthly insurance industry data, click on:

- 1. <u>Life Insurance</u> (Source: LI Council)
- 2. Non-Life Insurance (Source: IRDAI)

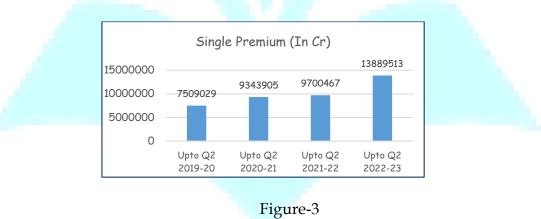
IV. TOPICAL ARTICLE

Life Insurance Industry: Positives at the end of Q-2 in FY 2022-23

The Life Insurance industry has picked up its pace and almost digested the impact of Covid-19. The New Business premiums are growing and the impact of Covid waves have gone, which is quite evident from the decrease in the Death claim amount paid by the Life Insurance industry upto Q2 in the current financial year.

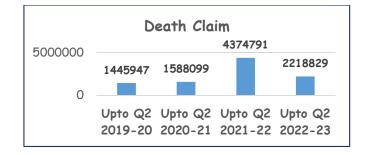


The First-year premiums (Figure-1) have shown a growth of 22.06% over the LY upto the same period and the renewal premiums (Figure-2) have registered a growth of 7.53% during the same period.



Single premiums (Figure-3) have registered a whooping growth of 43.18% over the Last year during the same period.

Ongoing through the Death Claim payouts (Figure-4) Life Insurance industry paid during the Last year up to Q-2, the impact of 3rd wave of Covid-19 was quite severe. Life Insurance industry paid Rs 4374791 Crore of Death claims but with the life coming back to normalcy, the Death claim amount paid has declined 49.28% to Rs 2218829 Crore during the same period this FY.





Source- Public disclosures of Life Insurance companies (By Mr Sandeep Pandey, Research Associate, NIA)

V. INSURANCE NEWS

Is year 2022 a pre-cursor to long-term insurance industry growth?

The Indian economy continued to show remarkable resilience amid challenging few years, driven by a triad of factors – progressive policy reforms, strong macroeconomic fundamentals, and an aggressive digital push. This display of economic strength has prompted financial pundits to estimate that India will become the 3rd largest economy by 2030. As India sprints towards this aspiration, the insurance sector will play a vital role in fueling its global ambitions.

Toreadthewholearticleclickon:https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/company/corporate-trends/is-year-2022-a-pre-cursor-to-long-term-insurance-industry-growth/articleshow/96586577.cms

Should You Relook At Your Health Insurance In Light Of New Covid Variant?

The resurgence of a new Covid-19 variant in China has understandably left all worried. The second wave in the middle of 2021 was severe in India and led to massive shortage of beds and oxygen cylinders alike, making the cost of Covid-19 treatment extremely prohibitive.

While medical experts say there is no need to panic yet, it might make sense to revisit your existing health policy in light of the Covid-19 scare.

Notably, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) has also asked insurers to give discounts on renewal premiums to those who have taken three shots of the Covid-19 vaccine. IRDAI has also asked insurers to settle Covid-19 claims at the earliest with minimum paperwork. To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.outlookindia.com/business/should-you-relook-at-your-health-insurance-in-light-of-new-covid-variant--news-249263</u>

Busting some myths about buying insurance online

THERE ARE Many myths surrounding buying an insurance policy online. However, contrary to the belief held in many quarters, buying insurance online is simple, easy and convenient. Here, we dispel a few myths associated with buying life insurance online.

Reality: Today, the online process of buying life insurance has been simplified a lot. One can select from a range of tools including premium calculators, chatbot and WhatsApp support to seamlessly buy life insurance online. Online purchase journeys have been made user friendly and in the near future, overall quality of service will only increase.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.financialexpress.com/money/your-money-</u> <u>busting-some-myths-about-buying-insurance-online/2931030/</u>

Insurance 2022: Consumer-friendly rules, tech adoption major trends — what's in store for 2023?

The year 2022 has perhaps been one of the most important ones for the insurance industry as it gained decent growth momentum. While the COVID-19 pandemic was a significant blow to the global economy, it led to a deeper realisation of the need for insurance among consumers. In the last two years, the insurance sector has witnessed consistent growth, especially in the health and life insurance segments. Also, there has been acceleration in the digital journey of the insurance industry.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.cnbctv18.com/personal-finance/year-ender-</u>2022-insurance-sector-consumer-friendly-rules-technology-trends-outlook-for-2023-15526691.htm

Employee Pension Scheme – All You Need To Know

Those who have joined the workforce recently must have come across the terms Employee Pension Scheme (EPS) and Employee's Provident Fund (EPF). However, newcomers could be confused if they don't understand them clearly and see these deductions in salary. The EPS scheme was introduced in 1995 to help employees in the organised sector. Those eligible for the EPF scheme are also entitled to EPS.

Both EPS and EPF are governed by the Employee's Provident Fund Organization (EPFO). The EPS scheme is to provide pension to employees of the organised sector as a way of social security after their retirement at 58 years. While EPF applies to all organisations with over 20 employees, the EPS scheme is applicable to those who are members of EPFO.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.outlookindia.com/business/employee-pension-</u> <u>scheme-all-you-need-to-know-news-248787?prev</u>

Pension Regulator Suggests Bringing Gig Workers Into Pension Fold: Report

The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has recommended the central government to include gig workers in India's pension fold. Presently, gig workers are not enrolled in the National Pension Scheme (NPS), the voluntary pension service scheme in India. Supratim Bandyopadhyay, Chairman of PFRDA, told Reuters that the regulator's proposal aims to bring 90 per cent of the country's workforce into the NPS by automatically enrolling gig workers to the pension scheme.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.outlookindia.com/business/pension-regulator-</u> <u>suggests-bringing-in-gig-workers-to-pension-fold-report-news-248643</u>

Now get more insurance options at your bank: More bank-insurer partnerships will ensure better customer access

While several trends will play out in the near term in the Indian insurance sector, one that will make a noteworthy impact on the industry is the recent easing in distribution norms. With a vision of 'Insurance For All by 2047,' the regulator recently announced a score of measures, including raising of the maximum limit of tie-ups with insurers for corporate agents from the existing three to nine. This move will alter the bancassurance landscape, heralding a new era of customer centricity in the sector.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/banking-finance/your-money-now-get-more-insurance-options-at-your-bank-more-bank-insure-partnerships-will-ensure-better-customer-access/2928631/</u>

LIC may look at composite licence after passage of Insurance Laws (A) Bill

The country's largest insurer LIC may take a call on composite licence clause after the passage of Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill in Parliament, sources said.

As per the proposed Bill, an applicant may apply for registration of one or more classes/subclasses of insurance business of any category or type of insurer.

However, reinsurers are prohibited from seeking registration of any other class of insurance business. A composite licence will allow insurers to undertake general and health insurance via a single entity.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.dailypioneer.com/2022/business/lic-may-look-</u> <u>at-composite-licence-after-passage-of-insurance-laws--a--bill.html</u>

'Sachet economy' is leading to financial empowerment

It is an undisputed fact that access to financial products and services can upgrade the lives of citizens, especially at the last mile. When people are able to borrow capital, get insured, or save money in formal financial institutions, they are able to live better lives. Yet the fact also remains that a major part of Bharat is still underserved and underinsured. For India to achieve a sustainable growth, greater financial inclusion is crucial. Towards this purpose, the fintech companies have largely been instrumental in providing greater access to financial products like credit, savings, investment, micro-insurance.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/voices/sachet-</u> economy-is-leading-to-financial-empowerment/

Covering Senior Citizen parents with Office Group Medical Insurance only could be disastrous – Here's why

Most employers in India offer Group medical insurance policies to their employees as an additional perk. While such policies offer sufficient support to employees and their families, covering your senior citizen parents with only group plans could prove to be disastrous in case of a health emergency. To read the whole article click on:

https://www.financialexpress.com/money/insurance/senior-citizen-parents-office-groupmedical-insurance-for-family-pros-and-cons-explained/2926369/

Global: Insurers' total systemic risks are rising, per IAIS study

An analysis by the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS) concludes that systemic risk in the insurance sector is moderate on aggregate and low relative to that of the banking sector; however, insurers' total systemic risk scores are trending upward.

The IAIS says this in its "2022 Global Insurance Market Report (GIMAR), outlining the key outcomes of its 2022 Global Monitoring Exercise (GME)".

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-</u>NewsLetter-Article?id=83226&Type=eDaily

Women & insurance

Since the pandemic, the share of life insurance policies bought by women has been increasing. In 2021-22, of 2.91 crore individual policies sold, the number of policies bought by women was 1.01 crore, or around 35% of the total policies sold, having risen from 32.3% in 2019-20. The share of policies bought by women within the total number of policies bought from private insurers stood at 29%, and from the state-owned LIC, at 36%. More literate states have a higher share of life insurance cover bought by women.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.financialexpress.com/opinion/women-amp-insurance/2926071/</u>

Why we need to relook at how insurers & reinsurers are taxed

The word 'insurance' gathered significant attention when the world was hit by the Covid-19 pandemic. Globally, people realised the importance of insurance covers to protect one's life, health and assets in case of unforeseen events. With a proportionately smaller amount of premium, the insurance companies cover relatively high risks or losses of the insured in the form of claims. When it comes to claims, each policyholder expects to recover the maximum from the insurance companies to cover their losses or expenses. Similarly, a fair consideration is required towards the expectations of the insurance industry, which has played a pivotal role in safeguarding people in case of unanticipated happenings.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.deccanherald.com/business/business-news/why-we-need-to-relook-at-how-insurers-reinsurers-are-taxed-1174993.html</u>

Persistency ratio must improve for life insurance customers: CEOs at BFSI

In order for life insurance customers to attain maximum benefits, it is crucial for the persistency ratio to be far higher than its current level, top executives of the industry said at the Business Standard BFSI Insight Summit.

The persistency ratio is a metric that measures the number of policyholders who continue paying renewal premium and is gauged at varying stages in the life of a policy. A higher persistency ratio is seen as an indicator of an insurance product that caters satisfactorily to the needs of a customer.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.business-</u> <u>standard.com/article/specials/persistency-ratio-must-improve-for-customers-to-gain-fully-</u> ceos-122122200841_1.html

Now, an insurance plan to protect your drone

New India Assurance said it has launched a product to offer insurance cover to drones, becoming the first public sector player to enter the segment.

The unmanned aircraft system (UAS/UAV/RPAS/drone) insurance will cover large aircraft to solo flying gliders. Coverage will be offered to drone owners, operators and manufacturers, the company said.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/business/now-an-insurance-plan-to-protect-your-drone-463550</u>

New pension scheme with assured returns by May-June

The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority will roll out the world's first minimum assured return scheme (MARS) by May-June under the National Pension System (NPS), guaranteeing 4-5 per cent annual returns on the pension corpus for ten years, its Chairman Supratim Bandyopadhyay said.

The minimum annual contribution for MARS would be Rs 5,000 per annum and the upper age for subscribers would be below 50 years, keeping in mind the retirement age of 60, he said. To read the whole article click on: https://indianexpress.com/article/business/banking-and-finance/new-pension-scheme-with-assured-returns-by-may-june-8337612/

Life insurance: How NRIs can buy a term plan

Non-resident Indians (NRIs), who want to ensure financial stability of their families in their absence, can now easily buy a term insurance policy as the process to obtain the cover has been made easier. Advanced processes like telemedical check-ups coupled with the existing processdriven improvements across the sector like video verification and eKYC have removed the need for physical presence as a prerequisite. These relaxation in processes will improve the ease of buying protection products for NRIs.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.financialexpress.com/money/insurance/life-insurance-how-nris-can-buy-a-term-plan/2921333/</u>

Care Ratings predicts 12% to 15% growth in general insurance premium

Lower health insurance payouts post Covid, increase in prices of group insurance and easing of solvency requirements for crop insurance will support growth for general insurance companies in the next fiscal, rating agency Care said.

The rating agency expects gross direct premium of general insurance companies to grow by 12% to 15% in the medium term with private insurers continuing to outperform government owned insurers.

Toreadthewholearticleclickon:https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/insure/care-ratings-predicts-12-to-15-growth-in-general-insurance-premium/articleshow/96374703.cms

48th GST Council Meet: GST Not Applicable On No Claim Bonus Offered By Insurance Companies

The 48th Meeting of the GST Council was held on 17th December 2022 through Video Conference, under the chairpersonship of the Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman. The council recommended that no claim bonus by insurance companies will not attract GST.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.livelaw.in/news-updates/48th-gst-council-</u> meet-gst-not-applicable-on-no-claim-bonus-offered-insurance-companies-217211

Paytm, HDFC ERGO launch insurance policy to protect mobile transactions

One97 Communications (OCL), that owns the brand Paytm, has launched "Paytm Payment Protect", a group insurance plan, in association with HDFC ERGO General Insurance to insure transactions made through UPI across all apps and wallets.

With this new insurance offering, users can now secure themselves against mobile fraudulent transactions up to 10,000.

Toreadthewholearticleclickon:https://www.financialexpress.com/money/insurance/paytm-hdfc-ergo-launch-insurance-policy-to-protect-mobile-transactions/2920026/

How can blockchain technology provide impetus to healthcare 5.0 in 2023

Blockchain is a lot more than crypto and crypto is a lot more than blockchain. So, what is a blockchain if not crypto? IBM describes it thus: "Blockchain is a shared immutable ledger for recording transactions, tracking assets, and building trust."

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.financialexpress.com/blockchain/how-can-blockchain-technology-provide-impetus-to-healthcare-5-0-in-2023/2918267/</u>

Why smart contracts can change the operative landscape of Web3.0

Imagine you bought a car, and then bought insurance – however the insurance stated that it will only cover 70% damage caused to the car incase of any accidents. Now you do end up meeting with an accident however, the car was damaged by 80%. And now to claim insurance, you will have to go through arbitration and other legal issues. Now imagine a scenario, if a simple piece of code monitored the data and automatically transferred \$250,000 to your account if the damage was to a certain level.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.financialexpress.com/blockchain/why-smart-</u> contracts-can-change-the-operative-landscape-of-web3-0/2918890/

Health insurance: Get wellness perks for a healthy lifestyle

Health insurers are increasingly offering customers wellness programmes such as sports club and gym membership, yoga classes and periodical health check-ups. The insurers reward policyholders who take part in these wellness programmes in the preceding policy period with

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discounts on health insurance premiums or by increasing the sum assured at the time of renewals. However, these discounts are not linked with the No Claim Bonus offered by insurers.

Toreadthewholearticleclickon:https://www.financialexpress.com/money/insurance/health-insurance-get-wellness-perks-for-a-healthy-lifestyle/2917851/

Think of cyber insurance as a strategic business decision

The cyber insurance market has been valued at roughly \$12 billion and could triple to more than \$29 billion by 2027. Cyber insurance, unlike automobile and some other forms of insurance, has not yet been made mandatory, but it's set to become indispensable to companies involved in merger or partnership negotiations, or in raising money from investors.

Buying the right cybersecurity coverage has become a matter of urgent discussion for CISOs, CEOs and CFOs as a way to navigate what has become a potential minefield. Cyber risk assessment is a relatively new science, as stand-alone cyber insurance policies have only existed since around 2015. Before that, organizations had largely depended on conventional policies to cover cyber breaches.

Toreadthewholearticleclickon:https://www.scmagazine.com/perspective/ransomware/think-of-cyber-insurance-as-a-strategic-business-decision

Is the rural market a gold mine for the Insurance industry?

India's latest insurance penetration figures (penetration is the ratio of gross written premium to gross domestic product) stands at around 4.2% as of 2021. While this has been increasing for some time, the increase in penetration has been driven largely by urban India rather than rural India. A vast majority of the population is either uninsured or underinsured as a direct result of this. Home to around 700 million people spread across some 600,000 villages, rural India today provides a unique opportunity for insurers. As per the 2022 IRDAI annual report, 22% of the premiums come from life insurance and 16% of the premiums come from general insurance. To read the whole article click on: <u>https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/voices/is-the-rural-market-a-gold-mine-for-the-insurance-industry/</u>

Each corporate agent can now market products of up to 27 insurers

A corporate agent may now be associated with up to 27 insurers -- that is nine each in the three branches, that is, life, health and general insurance companies.

This follows new rules notified by the IRDAI that previously allowed corporate agents to market the products of one insurer from each of the three branches. The goal is to increase insurance penetration in the country.

To read the whole article click on: <u>https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/83212/Type/eDaily/India-Each-corporate-agent-can-now-market-products-of-up-to-27-insurers</u>

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