



In This Issue:

I. What's Happening at NIA

Research Report on "A Perception of the Middle- and High-Income Millennials about the Need for Pension and their Retirement Preparedness"

II. Regulatory Developments

III. Industry Flash Figures

IV. Topical Article

V. Insurance News

I. WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NIA

Research Report on "A Perception of the Middle- and High-Income Millennials about the Need for Pension and their Retirement Preparedness"

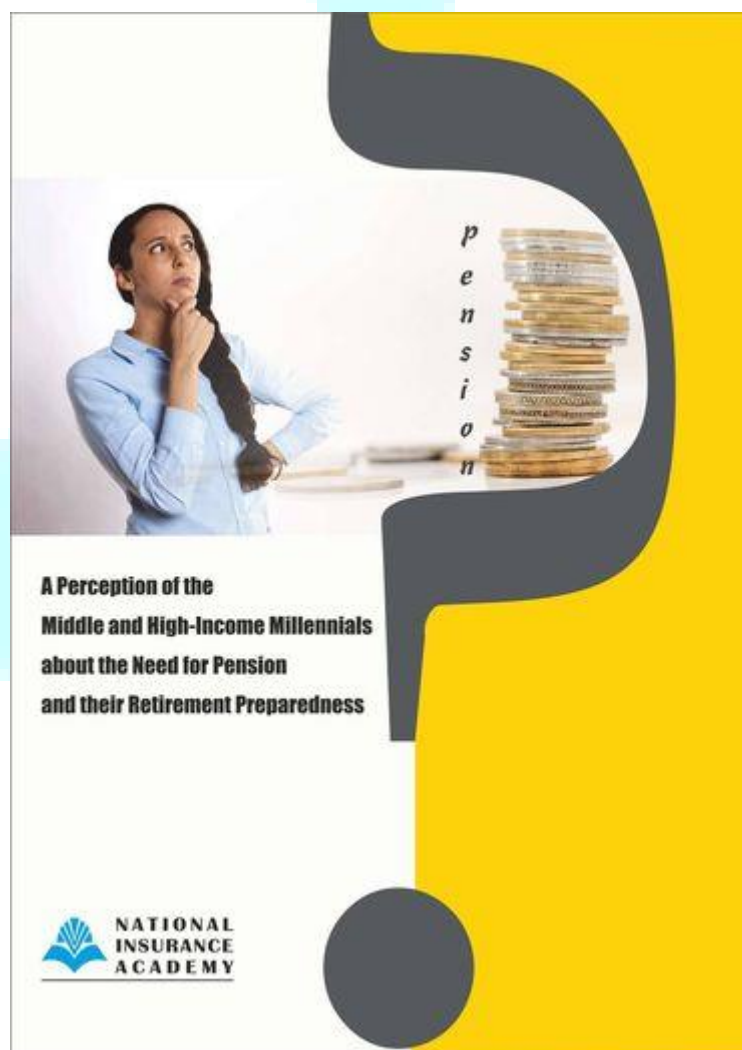
According to Swiss-Re report 2021, the number of people with age 60 years and above (elderly) is expected to double by the year 2050 due to the improved quality of healthcare with accelerated use of technology and innovations in genetic engineering and stem cell therapy. As per the report by International Institute for Population Sciences, the share of elderly in the total population of India is projected to reach nearly 20% by 2050 with 319 million elderly persons. As nearly 89% of labour force is not covered under any formal retirement benefits and the current penetration of pension within elderly is very low (nearly 25%), a huge potential is available for pension business in India.

On this backdrop, realizing the importance of active retirement planning in minimizing the adverse effects of population aging, a research team from NIA, under the guidance of Mr. G. Srinivasan, has carried out a research study on the topic "A Perception of the Middle- and High-Income Millennials about the Need for Pension and their Retirement Preparedness".

The study highlights the important aspects of pension planning of millennials including their awareness level, need to protect for the future and their preparedness. It also brings out their preferred sources of investment as well as the types of intermediaries from whom they are willing to buy the pension products.

The study provides some suggestions to enhance the financial preparedness of the millennials for their old age and to increase the pension and annuity penetration in the Indian market. It also discusses revamping of pension products including NPS taking into account the customer needs as well as the future market trends.

Read the full report at: <https://niapune.org.in/research-and-publication/research-reports>



II. REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

1. Circulars:

a. Use and File Procedure for Life Insurance Products. Click here for the circular:

<https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=3524812>

b. Insurance claims relating to Cyclone Biparjoy. Click here for the circular:

<https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=3520434>

c. Reporting of Cyber Security Incidents by Regulated Entities. Click here for the circular:

<https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=3510831>

2. Press Release:

a. Risk Based Supervisory Framework. Click here:

<https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=3552628>

b. Life Insurance products approvals made easy. Click here:

<https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=3540909>

c. Insurance Companies to settle Biparjoy Claims on Fast Track. Click here:

<https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=3523200>

3. Guidelines:

a. Remuneration of Directors and Key Managerial Persons of Insurers. Click here:

<https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=3562210>

b. Insurance Claims of Victims of recent train accident tragedy in Balasore, Odisha. Click here: <https://irdai.gov.in/web/guest/document-detail?documentId=3479142>

III. INSURANCE INDUSTRY FLASH FIGURES FOR MAY 2023

For monthly insurance industry data, click on:

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

IV. TOPICAL ARTICLE

Life Insurance Industry: Key Indicators

With the motive 'Insurance for all by 2047', the Life insurance industry is truly following the path envisioned by the insurance regular IRDAI. The gross Life insurance First year premium

registered a double-digit growth of 17.76% in the FY 2022-23 and the total first and renewal premium collection was 12.75% more than the previous FY 2021-22 (Table-1).

Table 1. Premium Schedule (In Crore)			
Premiums earned - Net	FY 2022-23	FY 2021-22	Growth
First year Premium (A)	109570.56	94036.46	16.52%
Single premium (B)	261253.23	220851.33	18.29%
Total (A+B)	370823.79	314887.79	17.76%
Renewal premium (C)	410026.61	377684.9	8.56%
Total premium (A+B+C)	780850.4	692572.69	12.75%

The total quantum of claims paid by the Life insurance in the FY 2022-23 were Rs 495831.85 Crores. The impact of prevailing normalcy can be seen after covid, with a 37.48% decline in the Death claims payments (Table-2).

Table 2. Insurance claims (In Crore)			
Particulars	FY 2022-23	FY 2021-22	Growth
Claims by death	45323.20	72488.47	-37.48%
Claims by maturity	213427.25	239585.47	-10.92%
Annuities / Pension payment	20690.00	18248.74	13.38%
Others	216391.40	171630.48	26.08%
Total	495831.85	501953.16	-1.22%

The online distribution channels are also slowly making their presence felt in the sale of Life insurance policies. Life insurance industry is primarily dominated by the offline channels e.g. Agents, Corporate Agents, Brokers etc., which sells the products through personal interactions. They still command more than 95% of the total business generated in a year (Table-3).

Table 3. Life Insurance Industry Distribution Channel's share: Individual Business contribution FY 2022-23		
Distribution Channel	FPI	Policies
Individual agents	52.77%	76.68%
Corporate Agents-Banks	32.80%	14.42%
Corporate Agents -Others	2.32%	1.82%
Brokers	3.02%	2.23%
Micro Agents	0.11%	1.06%
CSC	0.06%	0.41%
Direct Business	0.03%	0.03%
Online (through company website)	1.01%	0.66%
Online (others)	7.65%	2.49%
POS	0.03%	0.06%
IMF	0.16%	0.11%
Web Aggregators	0.04%	0.01%
Total	100.00%	100.00%

Insurance industry is playing a vital role in providing better employment opportunities and many more people are joining the industry for better lifestyle. 8.86 lakhs joined the Life insurance industry as agents in the FY 2022-23. The total commission distributed during FY 2022-23 was Rs 39676.64 Crore, which was 15.56% more than the previous FY 2021-22 (Table-4).

Table 4. Commission (In Crore)			
Particulars	FY 2022-23	FY 2021-22	Growth
Direct - First year Premium	21894.52	17810.81	22.93%
- Renewal Premium	16181.70	15203.83	6.43%
- Single Premium	1600.42	1320.03	21.24%
Total	39676.64	34334.67	15.56%

Persistency Ratios are one of the metrics of success for an insurance sector to judge the stickiness of their customers and their acceptance of the product and services rendered by the

insurance companies. The persistency ratios in FY 2022-23 are showing a positive response over the earlier FY, whether it's 13th month or 61st month (Table-5).

Insurer	Policy Basis					Annualized Premium Basis				
	13 Month	25 Month	37 Month	49 Month	61 Month	13 Month	25 Month	37 Month	49 Month	61 Month
Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance	78.38	63.85	57.77	53.91	44.58	86.76	71.79	65.65	63.34	53.63
Aegon Life Insurance	74.00	70.00	65.00	62.00	54.00	84.00	65.00	55.00	53.00	41.00
Aviva Life Insurance	60.00	54.00	51.00	56.00	42.00	75.00	59.00	53.00	47.00	44.00
Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance	77.60	65.60	56.40	52.20	44.10	82.40	71.90	66.40	62.10	49.20
Bharti AXA Life Insurance	64.00	46.80	26.80	35.40	37.10	69.40	53.20	44.30	43.50	43.00
Canara HSBC Life Insurance	72.00	63.10	57.90	55.90	47.80	75.30	66.00	65.10	63.20	52.00
Pramerica Life Insurance	78.04	70.74	65.38	49.93	46.64	77.34	70.50	65.75	49.50	44.59
Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance	67.70	53.20	53.10	49.20	37.90	75.30	56.50	56.20	52.30	41.60
Exide Life Insurance										
Future Generali Life Insurance	69.27	53.72	41.70	32.24	24.95	74.60	58.09	40.84	28.55	22.66
HDFC Standard Life Insurance	81.60	70.01	61.43	54.64	47.66	87.49	78.72	72.40	63.98	52.26
ICICI Prudential Life Insurance	76.30	68.50	63.80	55.50	47.50	85.40	77.10	71.50	63.90	65.80
Ageas Federal Life Insurance	69.08	56.79	55.99	50.84	36.53	78.05	67.39	63.76	55.43	38.80
India First Life Insurance	72.80	60.18	57.14	48.96	39.54	81.48	69.97	66.24	58.58	44.17
Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance	80.20	67.70	63.90	60.00	53.40	85.20	72.70	67.20	63.00	50.50

LIC of India	64.28	56.97	56.90	51.05	49.86	77.09	69.93	70.05	63.53	61.80
Max Life Insurance	84.00	70.00	61.00	55.00	49.00	83.00	68.00	60.00	57.00	51.00
PNB Met Life Insurance	77.26	66.90	60.21	53.27	44.96	80.04	66.93	56.80	50.78	45.29
Reliance Nippon Life Insurance	75.30	58.90	55.10	50.50	45.20	82.00	59.80	55.70	51.90	44.20
Sahara India Life Insurance										
SBI Life Insurance	78.29	68.79	65.82	59.98	48.47	84.75	75.31	74.37	69.88	56.07
Shriram Life Insurance	46.20	29.00	24.60	20.20	18.00	56.50	45.10	41.40	33.90	29.20
Star Union Daiichi Life Insurance	70.26	56.40	53.44	47.45	31.67	76.04	59.56	57.15	51.87	31.26
Tata AIA Life Insurance	83.33	74.06	61.85	59.96	54.76	88.11	79.56	75.02	70.60	65.69

With the regulatory support and the industry's willingness to create Awareness, Affordability and Accessibility of their products and services, the first milestone of doubling the insurance penetration by 2027 is going to be achieved.

Source: Life Insurance Industry's Q4 (2022-23) Public Disclosures

(By Mr Sandeep Pandey, Research Associate, NIA)

V. INSURANCE NEWS

Japan: Non-life insurers' profitability to recover

The domestic underwriting profitability of Japanese non-life insurance groups is expected to recover to pre-pandemic levels beginning in the financial year ending March 2024 (FYE24), says Fitch Ratings.

Explaining this forecast in its report, titled "Japanese Non-Life Insurance Dashboard: FYE23 Results", Fitch says that the Japanese regulator changed the rule on "deemed hospitalisations" in late September 2022 and the government has also eased pandemic-related

restrictions since May 2023. Fitch assumes natural catastrophe losses will remain at the historical average in FYE24.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article/id/84991/Type/eDaily/Japan-Non-life-insurers-profitability-to-recover>

China: Non-life insurers see claims grow faster than premium income

An analysis of premiums and claims in the P&C insurance sector in the years 2012-2022 indicates that the growth of property insurance claims was generally higher than that of premium income. From 2012 to 2022, property insurance premiums increased by 138%, while property insurance claims rose by 222.3%.

The overall profitability of property insurance companies was not spectacular, and underwriting losses occurred often.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article/id/84995/Type/eDaily/China-Non-life-insurers-see-claims-grow-faster-than-premium-income>

Australia: Affordability is main reason young people lack private health insurance

The main reason people aged 20-35 in Australia do not take out private health insurance is the inability to afford it, as 53% of respondents indicated in a survey commissioned by the Private Health Insurance Intermediaries Association (PHIA).

Yet the survey results also show that 57% of the respondents have their own private health insurance policy while 43% do not.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article/id/84973/Type/eDaily/Australia-Affordability-is-main-reason-young-people-lack-private-health-insurance>

South Korea: Non-life market improves performance of long-term insurance line of business.

AM Best is maintaining its 'Stable' outlook on South Korea's non-life insurance segment, citing improved performance of the long-term insurance line of business and greater stability in auto profitability.

In a new Best's Market Segment Report, "Market Segment Outlook: South Korea Non-Life Insurance", AM Best states that long-term insurance, the largest business line in the non-life industry, maintained stable growth of approximately 4% in 2022 due to continued expansion of the recurring premium base and strong new business generation from health products.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article/id/84972/Type/eDaily/South-Korea-Non-life-market-improves-performance-of-long-term-insurance-line-of-business>

Singapore: Singlife is 1st Southeast Asian insurer to adopt UN-backed Principles for Responsible Investment

Leading homegrown financial services company Singlife announced that it has become a signatory of the United Nations (UN)-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI). Singlife is the first insurer in Southeast Asia to join the leading global network for institutional investors who are committed to integrating environmental, social and governance (ESG) considerations into their investment practices and ownership policies.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article/id/84976/Type/eDaily/Singapore-Singlife-is-1st-Southeast-Asian-insurer-to-adopt-UN-backed-Principles-for-Responsible-Investment>

Singapore: United Overseas Insurance's operating performance seen as very strong

The operating performance United Overseas Insurance (UOI) is regarded as very strong, supported by consistently favourable underwriting results and a five-year average return-on-equity ratio of 6.4% (2018-2022), says AM Best.

UOI's underwriting performance remained highly profitable in 2022 given its low loss ratio and net acquisition expenses, which benefit from favourable inwards reinsurance commissions. Overall net profit declined by 37% in 2022, primarily due to lower investment

profits driven by investment market volatility. Notwithstanding, the company's investment returns remain favourable and are an important contributor to overall earnings.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article/id/84961/Type/eDaily/Singapore-United-Overseas-Insurance-s-operating-performance-seen-as-very-strong>

Australia: General insurers to repay 5.6m consumers \$544m

The Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) is calling on all general insurers to remove unnecessary pricing complexity and fix their systems, practices and controls so they can deliver on the pricing promises they make to their customers.

ASIC has released the report titled “When the price is not right: Making good on insurance pricing promises”, which reveals that ongoing pricing failures will see general insurers repay A\$815m (\$544.4m) to more than 5.6m consumers across 6.5m policies.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article/id/84958/Type/eDaily/Australia-General-insurers-to-repay-5-6m-consumers-544m>

New Zealand: Financial services receive guide on the reporting of climate-related risks

The Financial Services Council (FSC) of New Zealand has published a guide on climate-related analysis and disclosure for the life insurance, health insurance and fund management sectors.

The guide, titled “Climate Scenario Narratives for the Financial Services Sector”, is issued at a time of new regulation and reporting obligations related to climate issues. Over the last two years, the country has seen the passing of the Financial Sector (Climate-related Disclosures and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2021, the External Reporting Board (XRB) developing standards and guidelines, Government emissions plans and significant international activity.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article/id/84969/Type/eDaily/New-Zealand-Financial-services-receive-guide-on-the-reporting-of-climate-related-risks>

Regulator tightens monitoring of insurers' alternative investment fund portfolios

The IRDAI has issued new guidelines for insurance companies investing in Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) to improve the monitoring of such investments.

In a circular dated 28 June, the regulator lays out specific requirements for insurers regarding their investments in AIFs.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/84993/Type/eDaily/India-Regulator-tightens-monitoring-of-insurers-alternative-investment-fund-portfolios>

National Insurance Awareness Day: IRDAI seeks to improve insurance coverage through 'Bima Vahaks'. Details here

The biggest factor that impedes the penetration of insurance in India is the lack of awareness about insurance. The penetration of life insurance in India is estimated at somewhere between three and five per cent while the knowledge of general insurance seems to be lower. India celebrates “National Insurance Awareness Day” on June 28 every year to review the country’s existing insurance coverage.

The gap between the insured and the uninsured continues to widen with the increasing population, which means that the IRDAI has to compulsorily take aggressive steps to tackle burgeoning ignorance among the people.

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) recently issued draft guidelines for the establishment of “Bima Vahaks”. These guidelines aim to establish a dedicated distribution channel in every gram panchayat (village administrative unit) to improve insurance coverage and promote awareness among the population.

To read the whole article click on: <https://mintgenie.livemint.com/news/personal-finance/national-insurance-awareness-day-irdai-seeks-to-improve-insurance-coverage-through-bima-vahaks-details-here-151687780081916>

Free health insurance for all! THIS state announces Rs 5 lakh health cover for 12.5 crore people

Maharashtra government has announced that its flagship health insurance scheme will cover all people in the state. Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde also announced that the health insurance cover of the Mahatma Jyotirao Phule Jan Arogya Yojana (MPJAY) prevalent in the state, has been increased from Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 5 lakh.

After attending a state Cabinet meeting, Shinde said, "The health insurance scheme will cover the entire 12.5 crore population of the state."

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.zeebiz.com/personal-finance/insurance/news-free-health-insurance-for-all-this-state-announces-rs-5-lakh-health-cover-for-125-crore-people-242226>

Navigating Health Insurance: Tips to Prevent Claim Rejection and Manage Disputes

Over the period of time, insurance has become an inevitable need and synonymous with financial security for the population. Ever since the pandemic hit the world and the medical expenses became upheaval, people understood how insurance is one of the most important financial decisions in life. Protection from unforeseen financial losses and contingencies is provided by insurance. It is a risk-management strategy that is a contract for insurance between two parties which states that one will guarantee the other's protection against risks and losses. However, apart from the obvious benefit of financial protection, insurance also safeguards the insured from medical treatment inflation in case of hospitalization.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.financialexpress.com/sponsored/navigating-health-insurance-tips-to-prevent-claim-rejection-and-manage-disputes/3137268/>

India's average health insurance claim is Rs 42,000; 15% exceed Rs 100,000

The average cost of health insurance claims in India is Rs 42,000, with 15% of these claims exceeding Rs 100,000, revealed a study by a research report by SecureNow, a Delhi-based insurance broker.

Just 0.2 percent were for amounts greater than Rs 1 million, while 85 per cent claims were for less than Rs 100,000. This highlights the need for policyholders and insurance providers to consider potential high-cost scenarios, such as hospitalizations exceeding five days and costing over Rs 5 lakh, when designing coverage options.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.business-standard.com/finance/personal-finance/india-s-average-health-insurance-claim-is-rs-42-000-15-exceed-rs-100-000-123062800399_1.html

Coming soon: A digital platform that standardises health insurance claims processes, says IRDAI chairman Debasish Panda

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI), National Health Authority (NHA) and the life as well as general insurance councils are working towards on-boarding insurers onto the National Health Claims Exchange, IRDAI chief Debasish Panda has said.

This will facilitate smoother health insurance claim settlement processes as well as prudent underwriting, he said. Greater adoption of technology by the industry would also help in increasing efficiencies and reducing cost. "In this direction, National Health Authority, IRDAI and the Insurance Councils are working towards on-boarding insurers on the National Health Claims Exchange to support seamless claim settlement as well as prudent underwriting," Panda said.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/personal-finance/mc-exclusive-coming-soon-a-digital-platform-that-standardises-health-insurance-claims-processes-says-irdai-chairman-debasish-panda-10860751.html>

Regulator strengthens advisory panel on insurance ombudsman system

The IRDAI has made a key change to an order on reconstituting the advisory committee responsible for reviewing the Insurance Ombudsman's performance.

The major change is the replacement of the head of the department, policyholder's protection, and convener grievance redressal department, IRDAI, as the new head of the committee.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article/id/84960/Type/eDaily/India-Regulator-strengthens-advisory-panel-on-insurance-ombudsman-system>

National Insurance Awareness Day: Empowering individuals with comprehensive health insurance

The National Insurance Awareness Day in India, observed on June 28 serves as a timely reminder of the importance of securing one's health and financial well-being. As medical expenses continue to rise and healthcare becomes increasingly complex, having comprehensive health insurance coverage is essential.

Health insurance provides individuals and families with financial protection against unexpected medical expenses. It safeguards against the exorbitant costs of hospitalization, surgeries, and specialized treatments. With the rising prevalence of lifestyle diseases, communicable and non-communicable diseases and the unpredictable nature of health-related emergencies, having health insurance is no longer a luxury but a necessity. It offers peace of mind, ensuring access to quality healthcare without the burden of significant out-of-pocket expenses. Every year the National Insurance Awareness Day emphasizes the significance and benefits of Insurance, addressing common misconceptions, and highlighting the need for increased awareness and proactive participation in securing insurance in India.

To read the whole article click on:
<https://www.financialexpress.com/money/insurance/national-insurance-awareness-day-2023-empowering-individuals-with-comprehensive-health-insurance/3145548/>

Most common dilemma faced by young health insurance buyers and how to tackle them

Buying Health Insurance at an early age reaps numerous benefits, both in terms of money and securing one's health. Contrary to the popular misconception that young people do not need to spend on Health Insurance, many youngsters are coming forward to secure their health and finances by investing in medical insurance.

Today, where health risks are increasing at an alarming rate, we cannot predict when a medical emergency will strike. It is better to be prepared by investing in a suitable Health Insurance plan that provides comprehensive coverage. This is where many young people stumble upon various doubts and confusions.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.indiatoday.in/impact-feature/story/most-common-dilemma-faced-by-young-health-insurance-buyers-and-how-to-tackle-them-2398452-2023-06-27>

Why You Need Your Own Health Insurance Even With Employee Coverage

When it comes to health insurance, many believe having coverage through their employer is sufficient. However, this assumption can be a costly mistake. Even if you have employee insurance cover, it is essential to consider getting a separate health insurance policy.

Here is why having your own medical insurance is essential, even if your employer provides coverage.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.outlookindia.com/business/why-you-need-your-own-health-insurance-even-with-employee-coverage-news-297923>

Reinsurance market sees orderly renewals at mid-year

After a turbulent 1 January renewal season, which saw a major shift in reinsurer appetite, a sense of order returned to renewals at the mid-year, says Aon in its "Reinsurance Market Dynamics - June and July 2023" report.

Building on 1 January, property catastrophe pricing and retentions at mid-year increased compared to the same period in 2022, although pressure on pricing and terms and conditions eased somewhat compared with 1 January. Capacity was more readily available and some reinsurers showed a greater willingness to grow, says Mr Joe Monaghan, global growth leader at Reinsurance Solutions, Aon, in the report.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article?id=84990&Type=eDaily>

Global: Investors' demand for better returns hardens reinsurance market

Reinsurance rates are up across the board, especially in the short-tail lines (property and property catastrophe), panelists told participants at the 39th Annual Insurance Conference of S&P Global Ratings (S&P) on 20-21 June 2023.

Rather than only being a response to loss trends, panellists said this harder reinsurance market is driven by investors wanting to see a better return on their capital, according to a statement released by S&P. This means the increases are more sustainable than usual.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-NewsLetter-Article/id/84966/Type/eDaily/Global-Investors-demand-for-better-returns-hardens-reinsurance-market>

Provide insurance cover to foot soldiers of elephant task force, say Karnataka forest dept officials

After the Karnataka Forest Department directed its field officers of protected areas to provide insurance cover to visitors at eco-tourism sites, senior forest officials have felt that forest watchers, who are employed with the elephant task force in different districts on a daily wage basis, also be provided insurance cover.

Elephant task forces have been created by the state government in Hassan, Chikkamagaluru, Kodagu, Mysuru, Chamarajanagar, Ramanagara and Bannerghatta to mitigate occurrences of man-elephant conflicts.

Forest watchers are hired on a temporary basis. Senior officers stated that foot soldiers of the task force risk their lives in mitigating man-animal conflict and hence they need to be covered with insurance.

To read the whole article click on: <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/bangalore/provide-insurance-foot-soldiers-elephant-task-force-karnataka-forest-dept-8692924/>

Cash-rich life insurers buy more zero-coupon bonds

Life insurers are snapping up more and more zero-coupon bonds to better match their assets and liabilities, and customise cash flows, Bloomberg has reported.

Zero-coupon bonds, also called strip bonds – securities in which the principal and coupon payments are sold and traded separately – were first issued in India in 2010 with little success, but volumes are now surging as insurers seize an ever-larger proportion of the market. The total face value of strips traded in India jumped to INR1.3tn (\$15.8bn) in the fiscal year ended 31 March 2023, from INR380bn three years earlier, Clearing Corporation of India data show.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article/id/84967/Type/eDaily/India-Cash-rich-life-insurers-buy-more-zero-coupon-bonds>

Digit Life enters insurance space with maiden product group term plan

Digit Life Insurance, which is the newest licensee to get the regulatory approval to enter the life insurance space, said it has begun operations with the launch of a group term plan as its maiden product.

The company, promoted by Canadian NRI Prem Watsa's Fairfax Financial Holdings and Kamesh Goyal of Go Digit General Insurance, said that it began operations within two weeks of receiving the license from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) on June 9.

To read the whole article click on: https://www.business-standard.com/finance/personal-finance/digit-life-enters-insurance-space-with-maiden-product-group-term-plan-123062600546_1.html

The role of insurtech in harnessing technology for inclusive insurance

Insurance is, at its core, an exercise in risk management. It is financial protection for an individual, a family, or a business in the face of uncontrollable adverse situations. Unfortunately, the most vulnerable sections of the society have the least protection.

While complex models have been developed to enable risk mitigation & risk transfer for economic growth, they largely serve the upper echelons of the society. The socio-economically disadvantaged populace is excluded on account of unavailability, unaffordability and inaccessibility of the right insurance products.

Financial inclusion – access to the right financial products – has been recognized as a key contributor to poverty alleviation, and major strides in this direction have been made across emerging economies. In India, Jan Dhan and UPI have transformed banking and transactions for the poor, and MFIs have provided the capital required to create enterprise and employment. Inclusive insurance is now required to help the poor mitigate and transfer risk, and drive long term financial stability.

To read the whole article click on: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/voices/the-role-of-insurtech-in-harnessing-technology-for-inclusive-insurance/>

Life insurance companies bet on new products to drive premium growth after 2 per cent year-on-year growth

Life insurance companies are betting on new products to drive premium growth after a modest 2 per cent year-on-year growth in individual-rated new business in April and May.

Data collected from the industry shows that the total amount of individual-rated new business for the year-to-date period in May was Rs 10,613 crore compared with Rs 10,402 crore in the corresponding period the previous year. While the private sector has grown 5 per cent, there was a 3 per cent contraction for LIC.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.telegraphindia.com/business/life-insurance-companies-bet-on-new-products-to-drive-premium-growth-after-2-per-cent-year-on-year-growth/cid/1947655>

Your Money: Get a loan against your life insurance policy

Life insurance helps to safeguard individuals and their family against financial risks because of untimely death. Life insurance policies can also be pledged to avail loans during any financial emergency. Individuals can pledge only their traditional plans, like endowment or money-back plans. Term plans are not eligible and even for unit-linked insurance plans (Ulips), some insurers do provide loans, while others deny giving any loans.

Once an individual has decided to take a loan against the policy, there are a few other parameters that need to be fulfilled. Investors will get the loan amount only after they have paid the premiums for at least three consecutive years. So if the policy has been in existence for less than three years, the policyholder might not get the loan.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.financialexpress.com/money/insurance/your-money-get-a-loan-against-your-life-insurance-policy/3141677/>

IRDAI allows insurers to offer group Ulips & combi plans without prior approval

Life insurers can now launch group unit-linked insurance policies (ULIPs) and life-and-health-insurance combined (combi) products without prior approval from the insurance regulator.

The move will facilitate the quicker launch of products in line with the goal of the use-and-file framework introduced last year.

To read the whole article click on: <https://www.asiainsurancereview.com/News/View-Newsletter-Article/id/84942/Type/eDaily/India-IRDAI-allows-insurers-to-offer-group-Ulips-combi-plans-without-prior-approval>

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

