PERFORMANCE OF LIFE INSURANCE: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR IN INDIA

Dr. Archana Tripathi

Insurance is a useful financial tool in which clients pay a smaller payment to the insurer in exchange for protection against a larger, unknown loss that would occur if they had not taken out insurance. Insurance hasn't been able to prevent or minimise the expenses of losses. However, the insurance principle argues that the loss of a few is shared by many. Insurance is a combination of assurance and service. It is a guarantee made to the insured that he or she will fulfil a stated duty in the future, according to the terms of the insurance policy. It is also a service provided by the insurance to the insured when the need arises. As a result, the life insurance industry's viability is largely dependent on the insured's absolute good faith. Life and non-life insurance are the two types of insurance that are commonly used. Life insurance protects the insured against the financial consequences of unforeseeable and undesirable events. Non-life insurance protects the insured against a variety of risks such as accidents, property damage, burglary, and other liabilities. Insurance contracts or policies are used to make insurance available to the general population. Present paper purports to examine the performance of life insurance in India.

INTRODUCTION

Travel and tourism prompted the development of insurance. Insurance provides protection and security against losses and other types of hazards that result in loss exposure. The insurance motivation is 'Yogakshemam Vahamyaham,' which translates to 'Your Welfare is My Responsibility.' As a result, insurance is a device that protects a person from a variety of hazards. It shields man against risk and uncertainty in both his personal and professional lives. One of the most important functions of insurance is to spread losses among a wide number of people by pooling resources. It should be remembered that insurance does not eliminate risk; rather, it reduces the amount of money lost if it occurs. As a result,

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insurance refers to a contract in which one party agrees to indemnify another party against any loss or pay to that party an agreed sum of money if a specific event occurs in exchange for a monetary payment (Khan,2013).

Insurance is a contract between two parties in which one agrees to indemnify or compensate the other for any financial loss sustained by the latter (the insured) in exchange for a monetary payment known as a 'premium.' In other terms, the 'insurer' is the entity who agrees to pay for the losses. The 'insured' is the party whose loss causes the 'insurer' to pay the claim. Premium refers to the contract's consideration or the amount paid by the insured to the 'insurer.' The 'policy' is the name given to the insurance contract. From the perspective of an individual, insurance is a financial arrangement in which the individual might exchange a relatively small certain cost (premium) for a huge uncertain financial loss. An insurance system's foundation is the predictability of a loss.

The backbone of a country's risk management system is insurance. Risk is an unavoidable component of our existence. Insurers provide a wide range of products to businesses and individuals in order to provide risk protection and financial security. They are also a source of long-term finance for infrastructure and long-term projects, and they play an essential role in the country's financial intermediation chain. They also help to stabilise the markets by smoothing out any swings through their financial market activity. The insurance industry is separated into three categories: life, health, and nonlife insurance. Individuals, families, and enterprises confront risks such as early mortality, income depletion due to retirement, health risks, property loss, legal liabilities, and so on. In order to address these risks, insurance companies provide life insurance, pension and retirement income insurance, property insurance, legal liability insurance, and so on. They also provide a variety of specialty items to satisfy the demands and requirements of both corporations and individuals. These companies also provide property and liability insurance, employee compensation, and marine insurance to businesses. Insurance does have an impact on economic growth. Insurance has a number of effects on an economy's growth and development. The availability of insurance can lessen the effects of

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risk by offering products that assist businesses and individuals in minimising risk's implications, which has a good impact on industrial expansion because entrepreneurs can cover their risks. As a result, a strong and competitive insurance business is seen as critical for economic growth and development. However, the insurance firms' contribution is also contingent on their ability to pool risks effectively (Bhat, 2005).

In their analysis, Ranade and Ahuja (1990) highlighted evolving strategies in light of deregulation and private sector participation into the insurance industry. They defended the need for private sector participation by claiming that it would improve operational efficiency and increase the density and penetration of life insurance in the country. According to Balachandran (2001), the insurance sector is rapidly expanding and increasingly becoming customer-driven and customer-centric. He also believes that when insurance goods are appealing to customers, the insurance business would flourish in the market and achieve its goals of profit and income production. With the advent of private businesses, Mittal and Sharma (2001) believe that competition in the insurance sector will increase. As a result of foreign domination in life insurance collaboration, products that are common in industrial countries may be replicated, and they may not be effectively matched with the normal requirements of Indian customers. If properly regulated and promoted, the liberalisation of the insurance business might be a boon to the Indian economy by giving enough chances for growth in the form of challenges. According to Singh (2001), increased competition in the sector of life insurance will result from the admission of additional private companies. In the market, foreign firms will contribute their management, financial, and technical power, resulting in better products and services. As a result, in order to be more competitive, Indian players, both public and private, should embark on a conceptual revolution in order to build competitive plans and tactics that can be implemented effectively. The shift of the insurance business from a state monopoly to a competitive market, according to Gupta (2001), provides interesting difficulties to competitors and consumers. The newcomers will be able to put their unique hypotheses and experiences from international marketplaces to the

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test. The LIC of India, on the other hand, must justify its worth in a competitive market. As a result, consumers will have a wider range of options for meeting their demands. According to Vittal (2001), the Indian insurance industry is currently experiencing difficulties. As competition increases, the Indian insurance business will be forced to meet global norms. It also opens up the possibility of introducing a high level of creativity and innovation to the insurance industry. Srivastava and Srivastava (2001) analysed the financial significance of the insurance business, its contribution to the Indian economy, as well as the insurance industry's transitory possibilities and problems as a result of liberalisation and the opening up of the sector to private companies.

Life insurance is a financial arrangement that allows a person to plan for the continuation of his or her income in the event that unforeseen events (such as illness, accident, death, or old age) disturb or destroy his or her ability to make a living. The insurance business is concerned with the protection of human life, human-created assets, human disability, and commercial obligations held by humans with a clear value. Assets and human life provide benefit and income to the owner and his or her family members, and the loss of assets or human life, for whatever reason, stops the and income to the owner and family members, resulting in a drop in living standards, quality of life, and future growth of the associated family members. Insurance is a risk-pooling, risk-spreading, and risk-sharing tool that helps to mitigate such negative repercussions. As a result, the life insurance industry complements the government's efforts in social management. Life insurance provides protection against early death and payout in old age, allowing you to live comfortably. Similarly, in general insurance, the property can be covered for any eventuality, such as fire or earthquake. Human beings have no control over the uncertainty caused by fire, accident, death, disease, or handicap in their lives. He may be reimbursed monetarily through insurance, but not emotionally. The financial reward not only gives you peace of mind, but it also drives you to work harder. If the breadwinner dies, the effects are similar to the destruction of property and goods the family would suffer a lot. It could result in a drop in living standards or begging from relatives, friends, or neighbours. The

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family's economic independence is weakened. Insurance is the only method to help them and give them with sufficient care when they are in need. Life insurance provides both protection and financial opportunities, whereas general insurance solely protects human life and property. Life insurance allows for systematic savings since once a policy is purchased, the premium must be paid on a regular basis or the money would be forfeited. In business, a significant amount of money is spent on real estate, such as buildings, plants, and machinery. These properties may be destroyed as a result of negligence, and if they are not insured, no one will want to invest a large sum of money in the business or industry. The insurance lowered the risk of business losses due to fires, accidents, and other factors. The employer is responsible for the employees' well-being. The employer is responsible for the employees' well-being. Death, incapacity, and old age are all being planned for. Although these can be insured by individual life insurance, due to disease or age, an individual may not be insurable. However, his insurance will be covered by the group policy, and the price for group insurance is relatively modest. Premium payments will be considered permissible expenses (Khan, 2013).

PERFORMANCE OF INSURANCE SECTOR:

Since the liberalisation of the insurance sector in India in 2000, the industry has seen significant changes. The sector has gone through periods of fast growth, as well as periods of growth deceleration and increased competition. Consumer demand and rising competition among the players have also prompted a number of product and operational changes. Changes in the regulatory environment also had a significant impact on the industry's development. The life insurance market flourished at breakneck speed in the first decade after the insurance industry was liberalised, thanks to innovative products and aggressive distribution development. However, this frenetic growth brought with it difficulties such as product design, market behaviour, complaint handling, and the need to change course for the industry's long-term health. Several legislative reforms have been implemented in recent years, and life insurance companies have embraced a slew of new customer-centric procedures. In India,

the insurance business has gone through a cycle of strong expansion and moderated growth. The next wave of growth will be of a new character and complexity, driven by players who use innovation to influence market dynamics. Indian insurers are well-positioned to pick and disseminate creative ideas since they have over a decade of experience and knowledge of customer behaviour and economics. However, this would necessitate a fundamental shift in mentality among insurers on the significance of innovation in attaining profitable development. Insurers will need to align their people strategies in order to foster a culture of developing new ideas and putting them into action with the best resources available.

Life insurance protects a person from the risks outlined in the policy while also allowing them to invest. There were 165358.196 thousand life insurance policies in place in India in 2004-05. The number of policies in force has been steadily increasing throughout the years, reaching a high of 287857.32 thousand in 2012-13.The number of life insurance policies in force experienced a compound rate of growth of 7.15 percent per annum in post IRDAI phase (Table 1).

Year	Offices	Agents	First Year (Including Single Premium) (Rupees Crore)	Total Premium Underwritten (Rupees Crore)	Products launched	Policies in Force (Policies in 000)
2000-01	2199	115715	9707.43	34898.47		
2001-02	2306	476902	19857.28	50094.46	94	
2002-03	2445	1038785	16942.45	55747.55	116	
2003-04	2612	1556817	19788.32	66653.75	94	
2004-05	3001	481250	26217.64	82854.80	56	165358.19
2005-06	3865	1423839	38785.54	105875.76	55	183108.83
2006-07	5373	1993199	75649.21	156075.84	208	194164
2007-08	8913	2520492	93712.52	201351.41	168	198168
2008-09	11815	2937435	87331.08	221785.47	196	217684.70
2009-10	12018	2978283	109893.91	265447.25	359	235064.88

Table 1: Various Indicators of Life Insurance Sector in India

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2010-11	11546	2639392	126398.18	291638.64	244	253223.79
2011-12	11167	2358885	113966.03	287072.11	143	271273.62
2012-13	10285	2122757	107361.08	287202.49	118	287857.32

Source: Insurance Regulator and Development Authority of India Annual Reports (2000-2013)

Total life insurance premium is shown in Table 2. Public sector constituted 70.67 per cent in total life insurance premium during 2011-12 while the share of LIC was recorded 74.39 per cent in 2007-08. The share of private sector was recorded 25.61 per cent in 2007-08 which increased to 29.32 per cent in 2011-12. Among the insurers in private sector, the main players were ICICI Prudential, SBI Life, HDFC Standard, Max Life, Birla Sunlife, Bajaj Allianz and Reliance Life.

Insurer	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	%
Aegon Religare	-	31,21	165,65	388,61	457.32	0.15
Aviva	1891.88	1992.87	2378.01	2345.17	2415.87	0.84
Bajaj Allianz	9725.31	10624.52	11419.71	9609.95	7483.80	2.60
Bharti Axa	181.41	360.41	669.73	792.02	774.16	0.26
Birla Sun Life	3272,19	4571,80	5505.66	5677.07	5885.36	2.05
Canara HSBC	-	296.41	842.45	1531.86	1861.08	0.64
DLF Pramerica	-	3.37	38.44	95.04	167.01	0.05
Edelweiss Tokio	-	-	-	-	10.88	0.00
Future Generali	2.49	152.60	541.51	726.16	779.58	0.27
HDFC Standard	4858.56	5564.69	7005.10	9004.17	10202.40	3.55
ICICI Prudential	13561.05	15356.22	16528.85	17880.63	14921.58	5.19
IDBI Federal	11.90	318.97	571.12	811.00	736.70	0.25
India First	-	-	201.60	798.43	1297.93	0.45
ING Vysya	1158.87	1442.28	1642.65	1708.95	1679.98	0.58

Table 2: Total Life Insurance Premium

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Kotak Mahindra	1691.14	2343.19	2868.05	2975.51	2937.43	1.02
Max Life	2714.60	3857.26	4850.54	5812.63	6390.53	2.22
Met Life	1159.54	1996.64	2536.01	2508.17	2677.50	0.93
Reliance Life	3225.44	4932.54	6604.90	6571.15	5497.62	1.91
Sahara	143.49	206.47	250.59	243.41	225.95	0.07
SBI Life	5622.14	7212.10	10104.03	12945.29	13133.74	4.57
Shri Ram	358.05	436.17	611.27	821.52	644.16	0.22
Star Union Dai-ichi	-	50.19	530.37	933.31	1271.95	0.44
Tata AIA	2046.35	2747.50	3493.78	3985.22	3630.30	1.26
Private Total	51561.42	64497.43	79369.94	88165.24	84182.83	29.32
LIC	149789.99	157288.04	186977.31	203473.40	202889.28	70.67
Industry Total	201351.41	221785.47	265447.25	291638.64	287072.11	100

Source: IRDAI, Handbook on Indian Insurance Statistics, 2011-12.

Premium underwritten by life insurers is shown in Table 3. There has been increasing trend in premium underwritten by life insurers over the period of 2003-04 to 2014-15. The share of public sector in premium underwritten has declined from 95 per cent in 2003-04 to 73.05 per cent in 2014-15 while the share of private sector in premium underwritten increased from 5 per cent in 2003-04 to 26.95 per cent in 2014-15.

Year	Public Sector	Private Sector	Total
2003-04	63533.43	3120.33	66653.75
	(95%)	(5%)	(100%)
2004-05	75127.29	7727.51	82854.80
	(91%)	(9%)	(100%)
2005-06	90792.22	15083.53	105875.76
	(86%)	(14%)	(100%)
2006-07	127822.84	28218.75	156041.59
	(82%)	(18%)	(100%)
2007-08	149789.99	51561.42	201351.41
	(74%)	(26%)	(100%)

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2008-09	157288.04	64503.22	221791.26
	(71%)	(29%)	(100%)
2009-10	186077.31	79369.94	265447.25
	(70%)	(30%)	(100%)
2010-11	203473.40	88131.60	291604.99
	(70%)	(30%)	(100%)
2011-12	202889.28	84182.83	287072.11
	(71%)	(29%)	(100%)
2012-13	208803.58	78398.91	287202.49
	(73%)	(27%)	(100%)
2013-14	236942.30	77340.90	314283.20
	(75%)	(25%)	(100%)
2014-15	239667.65	88433.49	328101.14
	(73%)	(27%)	(100%)

Source: Compiled from Annual reports of IRDAI of different years

Gross direct premium income of non-life insurers is shown in Table 4.. Public sector constituted about half of the share in gross direct premium income from nin-life insurance during 2013-14 and 2014-15. The share of private sector was recorded about 2/5th while the rest share goes to stand alone health insurance and specialized insurers. Overall, market share was recorded highest for New India (15.6 per cent) followed National (13.28 per cent), United (12.62 per cent), Oriental (8.75 per cent), ICICI Lombard (7.89 per cent), Bajaj Allianz (6.18 per cent) and HDFC (3.76 per cent) in 2014-15.

Table 4: G	Gross Direct	Premium	Income of Non-	-Life Insurers	(Rs. Lakh)
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	Total Premium		Market Share (%)		
	2013-14	2014-15	2013-14	2014-15	
P	ublic Sector I	nsurers			
National	1022288	1124189	13.18	13.28	
New India	1154006	1320939	14.88	15.60	
Oriental	712785 7	40794	9.19	8.75	
United	970893	1069026	12.52	12.62	
Sub-Total	3859972	4254948	49.77	50.24	
Private Sector Insurers					
Royal Sundaram	143704	156920	1.85	1.85	

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Reliance	238882	271584	3.08	3.21
IFFCO-Tokio	293092	332997	3.78	3.93
Tata AIG	236271	271414	3.05	3.21
ICICI Lombard	685616	667780	8.84	7.89
Bajaj Allianz	451645	522985	5.82	6.18
Cholamandalam	185511	189043	2.39	2.23
HDFC Ergo	290699	318221	3.75	3.76
Future Generali	126256	143825	1.63	1.70
Universal Sompo	54045	70111	0.70	0.83
Shriram	151059	149652	1.95	1.77
Bharti Axa	142316	145707	1.84	1.72
Raheja QBE	2324	2163	0.03	0.03
SBI	118757	157690	1.53	1.86
L&T	25378	33171	0.33	0.39
Magma HDI	42493	47360	0.55	0.56
Liberty Videocon	12982	28386	0.17	0.34
Sub-Total	3201030	3509009	41.27	41.44
Stan	dalone Healt	h Insurers		
Apollo Munich	69247	80313	0.89	0.95
Cigna TTK	34	2183	0.00	0.03
Max Bupa	30885	37266	0.40	0.44
Religare	15231	27580	0.20	0.33
Star Health	109108	146919	1.41	1.73
Sub-Total	224505	294261	2.89	3.47
Specialized Insurers				
ECGC	130373	136240	1.68	1.61
AIC	339501	273970	4.38	3.24
Sub-Total	469874	410210	6.06	4.84

Source: Compiled from Annual reports of IRDAI of different years

New life insurance policy issued is shown in Table 5. Overall, new life insurance policies issued by insurers have increased by 54.36 per cent during 2003-04 to 2012-13. The growth of new life insurance in public sector grew by 36.39 per cent while the growth

in private sector was recorded 346.62 per cent in the corresponding period. However, annual growth rate in new life insurance has shown declining trend in the recent past.

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Year	Public	Growth (%)	Private	Growth (%)	Total	Growth (%)
2003-04	269.68		16.58		286.26	
2004-05	239.78	-11.09	22.33	34.68	262.11	-8.44
2005-06	315.90	31.75	38.71	73.35	354.61	35.29
2006-07	382.29	21.02	79.22	104.65	461.51	30.15
2007-08	376.12	-1.61	132.61	67.39	508.73	10.23
2008-09	359.13	-4.52	150.11	13.20	509.24	0.10
2009-10	388.63	8.21	143.62	-4.32	532.25	4.52
2010-11	370.38	-4.70	111.14	-22.62	481.52	-9.53
2011-12	357.51	-3.47	84.42	-24.04	441.93	-8.22
2012-13	367.82	2.88	74.05	-12.28	441.87	-0.01

Table 5: New Life Insurance Policy Issued (in lakh)

Source: IRDAI, Various Annual Reports

Compliance of obligations by insurers is shown in Table 6. During 2013-14 t0 2014-15, LIC had compliance rural policies as per mandated norms. However, private sector has lesser degree of compliance in rural sector. Similarly, compliance in non-life insurance was reported higher against the mandatory provision in both public sector and private sector. There has been higher number of policies as against mandatory provision in social sector both in life insurance and non-life insurance sector.

Table 6:	Compliance of Obligations by Insurers
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Life Insurers	R	ural Sector	Social Sector		
	``	d No of Policies as a Total Policies 25%)	(Mandated 20 Lakh lives)		
	2013-14	2014 – 15	2013-14	2014 - 15	
Public Sector (LIC)	25.4 25.65		118.87	205.96	
Private Sector (23)	25.6 23.09		109.07	97.40	
Non-Life	Direct Prer	(Mandated Gross nium as a percent of Premium 7%)	(Mandated 5.50 Laki lives)		

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Public Sector (4)	12.39	11.96%	2,167.08 lakh	2570.53 lakh
Private Sector (22)	11.83	11.98%	300.17 lakh	262.03 lakh

Source: IRDAI Annual Report 2013-15

Market share of Life Insurance Companies is shown in Table 7.. There has been decreasing trend in the share of public sector in life insurance business over the period of 2003-4 to 2012-13. LIC accounted or 95.32 per cent in life insurance business in 2003-04 which decline to 72.70 per cent in 2012-13. This is because of the fact that the policy of globalization and economic liberalization which allowed entry of private sector in life insurance business. The share of private sector increased from 4.68 per cent in 2003-04 to 27.30 per cent in 2012-13 in life insurance business in India. Even share of private sector was recorded significantly high in 2010-11 and 2009-10.

Table 7: Market Share of Life Insurance Companies (in Percentage)

Year	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Public (LIC)	95.32	90.67	85.75	81.90	74.39	70.92	70.10	69.77	70.68	72.70
Private	4.68	9.33	14.25	18.10	25.61	29.08	29.90	30.23	29.32	27.30

Source: IRDAI, Various Annual Reports

Trend in Health Insurance Premium is shown in Table 8. There has been an increase of 82.18 per cent in Health Insurance over the period of 2010-11 to 2014-15. The amount of Health Insurance premium was reported Rs. 11031 crores in 2010-11 which increased to Rs. 20096 crores in 2014-15. However, share of public sector in health insurance accounted 64 per cent in 2014-15 while it was recorded 61 per cent in 2010-11. There has been decline of the share of private sector during the corresponding period. However, about 22 per cent share in health insurance accounted for private sector in 2014-15. About 14 per cent share goes to stand alone health insures.

Market Share	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Public Sector Non-Life Insurers	6689	8015	9580	10841	12882
%	(61%)	(61%)	(62%)	(62%)	(64%)
Private Sector Non-Life Insurers	2850	3445	4205	4482	4386
%	(26%)	(27%)	(27%)	(26%)	(22%)
Stand-Alone Health Insurers	1492	1609	1668	2172	2828
%	(13%)	(12%)	(11%)	(12%)	(14%)
Total Non-Life Industry	11,031	13,070	15,453	17,495	20,096

Table 8: Trend in Health Insurance Premium (Rs. Crore)

Source: IRDAI, 2015.

Number of persons covered under health insurance is shown in 9. There has been an increase of 13.61 per cent in the coverage of persons under health insurance scheme during 2010-11 to 2014-15. However, health insurance coverage is still found to be low in India as compared to developed countries. During 2014-15, 2880 lakh persons were covered under health insurance in India. Out of total persons covered under health insurance, government employees accounted for 74.41 per cent in 2014-15. Group Insurance other than government also accounted for 16.77 per cent while individual health insurance comprises of 8.82 per cent. There has been decline in the share of individual health insurance over the period of 2010-11 to 2014-15.

Class Of Business	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Government	1891	1612	1494	1553	2143
Group (Other Than Govt.)	226	300	343	337	483
Individual	418	206	236	272	254
Total	2535	2118	2073	2162	2880

Table 9: Number of Persons Covered Under Health Insurance (In Lakh)

Source: IRDAI Journal, 2015

Classification of health insurance premium is shown in Table 10. Out of total health insurance premium, Group Insurance other than government sector accounted for 44 per cent in 2014-15 while insurance premium from individual comprised of 44 per cent. Thus, health insurance premium earned from government sector accounted for 12 per cent. There has been significant decline in the share of government in health insurance premium while there has been significant increase in individual health insurance premium over the period of 2010-11 to 2014-15.

Class Of Business	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Government	2198	2225	2347	2082	2425
	(20%)	(17%)	(15%)	(12%)	(12%)
Group (Other Than Govt.)	4952	5948	7186	8058	8899
	(45%)	(46%)	(47%)	(46%)	(44%)
Individual	3881	4897	5919	7355	8772
	(35%)	(37%)	(38%)	(42%)	(44%)
Total	11031	13070	15453	17495	20096

Table 10: Classification of Health Insurance Premium (Rs. Crore)

Source: IRDAI Journal, 2015

CONCLUSION

The opening of the market and insurance sector to private and foreign businesses has resulted in significant changes in India's insurance industry. It has challenged LIC's stronghold in life insurance as well as GIC and its subsidiaries' hegemony in non-life insurance. These two government insurers' market share has also decreased, although not as much as projected. The global financial crisis reversed the trend, and these corporations' market domination is practically unchallenged even today. Private players are getting better in terms of professionalism, technology, product range, and operational efficiency, but they are still falling short of the world standard. In India, people still prefer government-owned businesses to private businesses. This is due to the after-sales service and the existing private players' profit-driven mentality. Overall, data analysis demonstrates that, despite advances, there is still LIC dominance in life insurance and private players in the non-life market. Despite the fact that health insurance has a huge scope and business potential, we still lack expertise in the field. Underinsurance and inadequate

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insurance must be addressed in a systematic manner in order to realise the full potential of insurance, which may offer a social safety net for individuals and liquidity for the nation as a whole. Life insurance's future growth is dependent on policies that provide pure protection, offer a variety of options, are simple to understand, and are customer-centric, with an emphasis on continual service improvement. The structure of both the public and private sectors is shown in this overview of the life insurance players operating in the Indian life insurance market. The timing of private insurers' entry into the life insurance sector is a key factor in determining their break-even point. Some insurers have accumulated a decade of market experience, and many of them have reached the point where they are profitable after recouping their high initial operating costs. Furthermore, the extent and character of foreign partners' participation and interaction with domestic players will have a substantial impact on our country's life insurance business outlook. Domestic enterprises can play a huge role in completing their activities and tasks to the best satisfaction of all stakeholders in the insurance sector by leveraging their global exposure in the insurance business and achieving international business standards. The timing of private insurers' entry into the life insurance sector is a key factor in determining their break-even point. Some insurers have accumulated a decade of market experience, and many of them have reached the point where they are profitable after recouping their high initial operating costs. Furthermore, the extent and character of foreign partners' participation and interaction with domestic players will have a substantial impact on our country's life insurance business outlook. Domestic enterprises can play a huge role in completing their activities and tasks to the best satisfaction of all stakeholders in the insurance sector by leveraging their global exposure in the insurance business and achieving international business standards.

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