

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *154**

TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023/MAGHA 24, 1944 (SAKA)

BIMA SUGAM PORTAL

***154. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce new platform for insurance services named as “Bima Sugam”, if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to limit the administrative expense and agent commission upto 30 per cent in the new policy for insurances, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the initiatives taken by the Government to protect the interest of General Insurance Agents and Life Insurance Agents when this new policy is implemented in insurance sector;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to introduce any new scheme in insurance sector so as to promote the private sector, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess its impact on the livelihood of the General Insurance Agents and Life Insurance Agents when the new scheme is introduced for the insurance services and if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

ANSWER

**THE FINANCE MINISTER
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)**

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement as referred to in reply to part (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. *154 for 13.2.2023 regarding 'Bima Sugam Portal' raised by Shri N.K. Premachandran, Hon'ble Member of Parliament

(a) to (e): Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has been established under IRDA Act, 1999, to protect the interests of holders of insurance policies, and to regulate, promote and ensure orderly growth of the insurance industry. Its regulations apply uniformly to both public and private sector entities.

IRDAI has stated that it conducts public consultations for all the regulations before notification and suggestions/ comments received are examined and considered. After such consultations, the proposed regulation is put up in public domain on IRDAI website inviting comments which are also examined and considered.

As regards Bima Sugam portal, IRDAI has informed that in order to address the existing protection gap in India across life, health and general insurance businesses and based on consultations held with various stakeholders and subject matter experts, a need has emerged for setting up an insurance market infrastructure where the insurers, distribution networks and the policyholders would virtually meet across a seamless digital platform. Bima Sugam would be such platform which is expected to improve accessibility and ease of insurance purchase to policyholders on one hand and serve as a readymade digital platform for insurers and distribution network on the other.

IRDAI has further informed that it had issued an exposure draft on amendments proposed to Expenses of Management and Commission Regulations for seeking comments of all stakeholders. Pursuant to the consultation process, the draft regulations were overhauled factoring the comments received and IRDAI again issued exposure drafts of these two regulations on 23rd November, 2022 seeking fresh comments from all stakeholders.
