

Presidential Address



Shri V.K. Sharma

***at the
61st Annual Conference***

At Ernakulam

On 20th August, 2016



Insurance Institute of India
‘G’ Block, Plot No.C-46, Bandra-Kurla Complex,
Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

at the 61st Annual Conference on 20th August, 2016 at Ernakulam - Kochi.

Chief Guest Mr. Mathew Varghese - Former Member (IRDAI), Dy. Chairman (Board of Education), CEOs of Insurance Companies. Chairman – Ernakulam Insurance Institute, Council Members, Secretaries of the Associated Institutes, Prize Winners, Colleagues from Insurance Institute of India and other dignitaries present here Ladies and Gentlemen.

I extend a warm welcome to all of you to this 61st Annual conference and 119th Council Meeting of Insurance Institute of India.

I am pleased to know that this year the Annual Conference and Council Meeting is hosted by Ernakulam Insurance Institute which is coinciding with the Golden jubilee of the host Institute. My best wishes to them.

The Ernakulam Insurance Institute has completed its 50 years of existence which by itself is a great achievement.

Ernakulam district formed on 1st April 1958 carving areas of erstwhile Travancore-Kochi-Malabar kingdoms. Kochi is the most modern city of Kerala where the best shopping, markets and bazars are located. From time immemorial Arabs, Chinese, Dutch, British and Portuguese seafarers followed the sea route to Kochi and left their impressions in the town.

Ernakulam District, which has an area of 895.3 Sq. K.M. can be divided geographically as Highland, Midland and Coastal area. The borders of the district are the Arabian Sea in the West, Thrissur District in the North, Idukki District in the East and Alappuzha and Kottayam District in the South. Periyar, Kerala's second largest river flows through all the taluks except Muvattapuzha. Majority of islands in Kerala are in Ernakulam district which was from the different parts of old Cochin-Travancore-Malabar area. All these islands are believed to have been formed from the soil accumulated due to soil erosion of highlands.

Cherai Beach, a picturesque beach located on the north-end of the Vypeen island is ideal for swimming. Lined with luscious green coconut groves and paddy fields, this sandy beach is a unique one. Dolphins are occasionally seen here.

I would like to brief you about the current activities of the Institute, besides conducting various examinations for the Insurance professionals in the country right from the basic level to the advance level in life and non-life streams of Insurance.

Technology and changes complement each other. The Institute has made effective use of available technology and has revamped its website and portal. Most of the activities of the Institute are integrated in web portal. The use of web portal in the examination system has proved to be largely beneficial for the candidates for registering in the examinations, getting study material and getting results etc. It has helped in increasing the efficiency.

The Institute conducts Licentiate, Associateship and Fellowship Examinations covering more than 50 subjects. The Institute also conducts examinations for specialized diplomas in Fire, Marine, Health, Life Insurance Underwriting & Foundation of Casualty Actuarial Science, Certificate course on Foundation of Casualty Actuarial Science and Certificate Programme in Advanced Insurance Marketing. The Professional Examinations are conducted offline in India at More than 71 centres and in 14 Overseas centres. The Online system of Professional Examination was successfully conducted in 132 Indian Centres. The Diplomas/Certificates were issued for 17402 candidates

The Membership of the Institute is through its Associated Institutes. At present the Membership strength is more than 3 lakh. There are more than 39400 Associates and 24000 Fellows of Insurance Institute of India. Approximately 80,000 candidates register for examination annually.

After the IRDAI came into existence in the year 2000, private sector participation in the Indian Insurance business was allowed. Owing to the decent insurance education and examination methodology established by

the III, IRDAI has engaged the III to develop course content, conduct pre-recruitment test for Insurance Agents and pre-licensing exam for surveyors.

Insurance Institute of India is recognized by Insurance Regulation and Development Authority of India as a training center for pre/renewal licensing training for Brokers, Insurance Marketing Firms (IMF) Corporate Agents and to conduct exam for PO/SPs of Corporate agents.

The Institute is a member of the Institute for Global Insurance Education (IGIE) co-founded by American Institute of Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriters (U.S.A.), Chartered Insurance Institute (U.K.) and the Insurance Institute of Canada. The Institute is also a member of International Insurance Society (IIS), LOMA & LIMRA. The Institute is supporting institution of United Nations Environment Program – Finance Initiative (UNEP-FI) and has an observer status of International Association of Insurance Supervisors.

The American Institute for Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters, U.S.A. grants one exemption in their prestigious CPCU designations to the Fellows (Non-Life) of Insurance Institute of India.

The Chartered Insurance Institute, U.K. grants subject wise exemptions to the Associates and Fellows of Insurance Institute of India in their ACII Programme.

Life Office Management Association, U.S.A. grants 2 exemptions in their FMLI designation to the Fellows of Insurance Institute of India.

Insurance Institute of Canada grants 3 exemptions to Associates and 4 exemptions to Fellows of Insurance Institute of India in their CIP programmes consisting of 10 subjects.

The Institute encourages research by floating essay writing competition. I congratulate the winner of the awards for various competitions for the year 2016.

In order to promote academic research, the Institute has established a system to provide Research grants/awards for candidates pursuing doctoral

studies in the domain of Insurance. The research grant is provided to candidates who have registered for PhD. In any recognized university in full time mode.

The Institute is also catering to the needs of Insurance personnel at various levels through its College of Insurance.

The College of Insurance which is the training wing of the Insurance Institute of India conducted 15 Regulatory programme. 6 International Programmes, 37 Calendar programme & 42 Customised programmes during the year In all 353 candidates for Regulatory programme; 150 candidates for International programme; 489 candidates for Calendar programme and 1349 candidates for Customised programmes participated.

In the various International program sponsored by GIC on various dates a) International General Insurance Program b) International Program on Liability Lines – GIC Re c) International Program on Reinsurance – GIC Re d) International Program on Takaful Insurance e) International Program on Oil and Energy f) Reinsurance Management – International Program g) Reinsurance Treaty Issues and Challenges (Focus Reinsurance treaty designing. In all 141 candidates attended.

An International Seminar on the theme ‘‘Moving Beyond Mainstream Insurance’ was conducted on the occasion of Diamond Jubilee celebration on 26th August, 2015 at the Taj Hotel.

A Seminar was organized by the College of Insurance on 14th November 2015 on the topic Life Insurance Underwriting – Current issues and Challenges

A seminar on Securing Subrogation Rights was organized by Insurance Institute of India on 26th November, 2015 in III auditorium as a part of College of Insurance 50th anniversary celebration.

The Institute conducted an International Seminar on Reinsurance in collaboration with the National Insurance Trust Fund (NIFT) on 8th December 2015 at Colombo.

The Insurance Institute of India conducted a seminar at Christ University on 9th January, 2016 on the topics Insurance i) Insurance Penetration - The growing challenges and ii) Insuring Natural Catastrophe – Insights from Chennai Floods for the students of Christ University of Bengaluru

Insurance Institute of India also conducted a National Seminar on 'Role of Insurance in Financial Inclusion' on 28th and 29th March, 2016 in association with the Department of Commerce, Osmania University, at Hyderabad.

The Institute conducted an Academic Research on the 'Design and performance of Industrial Insurance Policy' for the GIC Re which was launched in January 2016. A "Landscape study on Mutuals and co-operatives in India' for the Insurance Co-operatives and Mutual International Federation (ICMIF) is in the final stage of completion.

Two Research projects – on the "Insurance needs of the Logistics and Warehousing Industry" and on using insurance to support the Indian housing industry are going on. As an approved Research Centre of Mumbai University, iii is also conducting research at Ph.D level.

A total of 14 National Seminars and 36 Local seminars were conducted by various Associated Institutes during the year.

The number of associated institutes undertaking these activities is minimal as compared to the other active associated Institutes. The associated institutes are the backbone of the Institute and it is necessary that all of you should actively participate in the various activities of the Institute.

I would request the representatives of all associated institutes present here to be more proactive and help the Institute in spreading of insurance education and awareness in the country and to continue with their various educational activities on a war footing.

There will be a very heavy competition in the near future and lot of demand for skilled professionals in the insurance sector. The Institute and its Associated Institutes can make effective and concrete use of this opportunity to develop a strong workforce by imparting insurance education and training to them.

Friends, the Insurance Institute of India has a much bigger role to play in the coming years. The road ahead is filled with challenges and opportunities. It purely depends on us how we make the most of it. However, it is equally necessary to remember that for an organizations to sustain in the competitive environment it is necessary to keep moving forward by upgrading themselves consistently.

Future plans of Insurance Institute of India/College of Insurance

The Institute is in the process of introducing Insurance subjects at the undergraduate and post graduate level of study in selected Universities and autonomous Colleges. The Institute is also going to introduce Diploma courses in Re-insurance, Information and Communication Technology and combating Insurance Fraud.

The Institute will be converting all the remaining examination under the on-line MCQ format by June 2017.

Further, the Institute will be signing a MoU with the Financial Regulatory Department of Myanmar soon to set up Insurance Institute in Myanmar.

The College of Insurance is starting a one-year Post Graduate Diploma in Insurance Marketing in Association with the University of Mumbai from the next Academic Year.

Before I conclude my address I would like to thank all the Members on the Council of the Institute, Members of the Administration Committee and Board of Education, Members of the Audit Review Committee and various sub-committees, the office bearers and members of associated institutes, examination paper setters, examiners, members of editorial board of the journal of the Institute and others who are directly or indirectly assisting the Institute.

I would like to thank the Chief Guest Mr. Mathew Varghese – Former Member (IRDAI) for accepting the invitation and gracing the occasion.

I would also take this opportunity to thank the Insurance Institute's Secretariat and other officials for making the necessary arrangements for

this Conference and making this mega event successful. I am aware that an event of such magnitude truly requires untiring efforts of many people.

I once again welcome you all to the Conference and hope your stay in Ernakulam is comfortable and you will carry pleasant memories of this great city when you return home.

Thank you.