

Title: Address of Chairman

Reference No.:e-Vahan Bima Date:06/01/2016

Address of Chairman, IRDAI during the Launch of e-Vahan Bima on 02-01-2016

- 1. Hon'ble Minister of IT & Panchayati Raj, Hon'ble Minister of Transport, Government of Telangana, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to address on the launch of the e-Vahan Bima in the State of Telangana, a joint initiative of the Government of Telangana, IRDAI and IIB.
- 2. I congratulate Government of Telangana for being the 1st state in the country in accepting emotor insurance policies in the state.
- 3. This is the age of e-commerce and IRDAI has been proactive in this field. Today internet is accessed by most of the citizens through various channels including mobile phones. The need of the hour is for the insurance sector to match with the e-commerce requirements of the society.
- 4. I must mention here that e-commerce provides an excellent platform to bring efficiency in the Insurance sector. It helps in several synergetic activities not only within the insurance sector but also outside the same. It is here that the interface with the Governmental agencies and the value they bring in, play a critical role.
- 5. The current initiative of e-Vahan Bima while bringing convenience to the citizens will also serve as a good platform for the promotion of e-commerce. While the general perception is that e-commerce can be used by the informed lot, the relevance is much more to the inclusive segments of the society.
- 6. As a part of its development mandate, IRDAI is committed to take forward the concept of financial inclusion particularly to the semi urban and rural population of the country for which

e-commerce could be the driving force. The sale of simple products on the existing platforms of the State Government and Central Government such as the Common Service Centres is the need of the hour. The experience of recent floods at Chennai underlies the need to bring Insurance into the lives of every individual and, to facilitate such a large measure, the usage of IT platform is the way forward.

- 7. This e-Vahan Bima which has been initiated in the State of Telangana with the support from the State Government is the first of the several initiatives that the IRDAI has taken with the Government of Telangana. We have seen that the recent successful expansion of the Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Yojana and Pradhan Manri Suraksha Bima Yojana underlies the role that Governments can play by pro-actively supporting such larger causes in Insurance. Likewise, this initiative from the Government of Telangana would be a role model to take the access to insurance to a much larger plane within the State.
- 8. In this regard, I would urge all the stakeholders within this State to embrace the various initiatives that we have taken such as Insurance Repository System and take advantage of the existing and new distribution network channels such as Insurance Marketing firms, Common Service Centres, Point of Sale persons among several others. No doubt, we may face challenges as we go by but those would give us an opportunity to further strengthen the systems.
- 9. The large number of distribution models available in the Insurance sector can also be leveraged by various Government promoted individuals/institutions such as Pollution check centers, e-seva centers, SHGs etc. This would be of mutual benefit to these agencies as well as to the Insurance Industry.
- 10.I thank the Hon'ble Ministers for their presence here on this important occasion and hope their continued support for the future initiatives. I must also compliment the IRDAI team, IIBI team, Transport & Police departments of Telangana Government for demonstrating the way forward by the successful launch of e-Vahan Bima.