

Irdai raises minimum driver insurance cover to ₹15 lakh

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Insurance regulator Irdai has raised the minimum insurance cover for owner-driver to ₹15 lakh for a premium of ₹750 per annum, a move to provide some succour to road accident victims.

Currently, the capital sum insured (CSI) under this section for motorised two-wheelers and private cars/commercial vehicles is ₹1 lakh and ₹2 lakh, respectively.

However, a few general insurers have been offering add-on covers under package policies with higher CSI over and above the stipulated on payment of additional premium.

The regulator directed all general insurers to provide a minimum CSI of ₹15 lakh under Compulsory Personal Accident (CPA) cover for owner-driver under Liability Only to all classes of vehicles at the premium rate of ₹750 per annum for annual policy.

This rate will be valid until further notice, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) said in a circular.

“A higher CSI may be pro-

vided over and above ₹15,00,000 through Optional Covers under Liability Only and under Section III of Package Policies/ Bundled Covers on payment of additional premium at the option of the insured,” it said.

This move by the regulator of enhancing the capital sum insured of Compulsory Personal Accident Cover for owner – driver to ₹15 lakh is a step in the right direction, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance MD and CEO Tapan Singhel said.

“I believe it's important to have an appropriate personal accident cover, for an effective financial support to the policyholders and their family members if she/he is disabled or succumbs to injury due to an accident. This will address the issue of underinsurance to some extent. We as a company support and welcome this move,” he added.

Insurers may start issuing such covers effective from the date of receipt of this circular even while ensuring that the filing for these is done under File and Use Guidelines on or before October 25, 2018, the circular added.