

Insurance on Female Lives

A. Financial Underwriting

- i. Female lives will be classified into four categories. Female students / children (below 25 years), currently under Female Category III, will be considered separately and will be allowed insurance cover at par with male students / children.
- ii. Self-employed women (currently under Female Category III) who are filing income tax returns will be included in Female Category I.
- iii. Definition of women falling under Female Category II is revised as women with unearned income and filing income tax returns instead of women with unearned income attracting income-tax.
- iv. Female Category III will be divided into three sub-categories (currently 5 categories)
 - Married Women
 - Single Women (aged 25 years and above) - Widows
- v. The current upper limit of Rs. 10 lakhs (Rs. 30 lakhs if graduate and possess passport or credit card or driving licence or having medi-claim cover) applicable to married women falling under Female Category III is increased to Rs. 15 lakhs (Rs. 40 lakhs if graduate and possess passport or credit card or driving licence or having medi-claim cover).
- vi. Insurance cover will be allowed to married women falling under Female Category III if they have their own earned or unearned income (not filing income tax returns) over and above insurance cover on the basis of their husbands' income / insurance:
 - Rs. 1 lakh if illiterate or educated up to 8th standard, and
 - Rs. 5 lakhs if educated up to 9th standard or above
- vii. The upper limits mentioned against item No. v above will be inclusive of insurance that can be given on the basis of own income of married women falling under Female Category III.
- viii. Maximum allowable SA under Table No. 89 to married women falling under Female Category III is increased from Rs. 1 lac to Rs. 2 lacs (from Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 15 lakhs if the lady is a graduate and possesses passport or credit card or driving licence or is having medi-claim cover).
- ix. Maximum allowable SA under Table Nos. 106, 107, 108 to married women falling under Female Category III who are graduates and possess passport or credit card or driving licence or are having medi-claim cover is increased from Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 15 lakhs. For other married women falling under female category III, the existing maximum cover under Table Nos. 106, 107 & 108 of Rs. 5 lacs remains unchanged.
- x. Widows falling under Female Category III, who receive compensation from employers or claim under insurance policies on the life of their deceased husbands or get lump sum amount from some other source will

be allowed insurance cover up to Rs. 10 lacs under Single premium basis.

xi. Widows falling under Female Category III and getting family pension will be offered insurance (under plans other than Table Nos. 43, 52, 58, 88, 133, 150, 164, term rider & CI rider) on regular premium basis up to Rs. 2 lacs.

xii. Widows mentioned under item Nos. x & xi above will be allowed Deferred Annuities (without life cover) and Immediate Annuities without any limit.

xiii. There will be no restrictions regarding minor children, age at entry and educational qualification for allowing cover as mentioned under item Nos. x to xii above.

xiv. Maximum insurance under female category - I is as under: -

Age Group	Max. SA Allowable as Multiple of average income
Upto 30 yrs	22 times
31 to 40 yrs	17 times
41 to 50 yrs	12 times
51 yrs & above	10 times

xv. Maximum insurance under female category - II is as under: -

Age Group	Max. SA Allowable as Multiple of average income
Upto 30 yrs	22 times
31 to 40 yrs	17 times
41 to 50 yrs	12 times
51 yrs & above	10 times
Max total risk coverage - Rs. 1 crore	

B. Medical Underwriting

For medical underwriting the present practice of allowing insurance cover to pregnant ladies if the proposal is received within the first 24 weeks of pregnancy will continue. However, sonography report will not be called for.

Complete guidelines applicable to female lives are given below:

Female Category -I (Married, single or widow)

The following sections of women are taken as Category I females for the purpose of insurance:

i. Women with earned income by virtue of employment in institutions eligible for insurance cover under Non-Medical (Special) Scheme and employed with Government, Quasi Government, reputed commercial institutions even if NMS is not introduced.

ii. Women employed in commercial institutions are considered as Female Category I for the purpose of granting insurance cover subject to submission of Addendum to the proposal duly signed by the proposer and fulfillment of the following conditions:

a. Minimum educational qualification - SSC or equivalent

examination passed
b. Standard age proof
c. Evidence of employment in the prescribed Addendum
d. Minimum service with present employer - one year
e. Firm / company / financial institution - established more than 3 years ago

iii. Professionals such as Doctors, Lawyers, Chartered Accountants, Architects, Engineers, Physiotherapists, etc., and any insurance agent or carrying on any agency provided she satisfies conditions stated at ii (a) & (b) above.

iv. Other Self-employed women filing income tax returns such as Tailoring, Embroiding, Beauticians - (beauty parlour), Caterers, Baby sitting, Typist, Data keying jobs, Giving tuitions, Self employed with ownership of shops, business premises, etc. subject to fulfilling the following conditions:

- a. Minimum education qualification - HSC (12th pass) with professional qualification, wherever applicable
- b. Standard age proof or Non-Standard Age Proof-I (NSAP-I)
- c. Should be filing income tax returns since last two years
- d. Proof of income to be taken from copies of ITR for last three years (two years if started filing income tax returns since last two years)

Proof of Income - for item Nos. i to iii

- a. Total rated up SA (TRSA) up to Rs. 15 lacs - No income proof required
- b. TRSA between 15 & 25 lacs - Form No. 16 / 16 A or CA's certificate or PFQ
- c. TRSA more than Rs. 25 lacs - Form No. 16 / 16 A or Copies of ITRs for last three years

Proof of income for item No. iv - copies of ITRs for any amount of TRSA

For Category I females the rules regarding financial underwriting will be as applicable to male adult lives.

Female Category II (Married, single or widow)

Women with unearned income / having sizeable personal properties and / or investments yielding income and filing income tax returns are treated as Category II females. Proof of income for this category of women will be copies of ITRs for last three years (two years if they have just started filing returns). A certificate from Chartered Accountant can be accepted only if PAN has been allotted and the same is mentioned in the certificate. The income shown should exclude income of other family members, income from capital gains and one time income such as those arising from sale of properties / ornaments etc.

However, if the women falling under Female category II are technically qualified and are taking active part in the day to day running of their partnership / proprietary business they can be considered as female category I if recommended by the MM / SDM with evidence. Such proposals will be underwritten at CUS.

In addition to the above, while considering insurance on female Category II, the following conditions are required to be met with:

- i. Other members of the family are adequately insured.
- ii. The female life to be assured has good educational and social background
- iii. MHR by the competent authority should clearly indicate the source of income and social status of the life proposed.

Female Category III

Women not covered by category I or Category II above is treated as Category III females for the purpose of insurance.

This category is divided into three sub-categories as shown below:

- a. Married Women
- b. Single Women (aged 25 years and above)
- c. Widows

Married Women:

- a. Without income

Total insurance cover up to a maximum of Rs. 15 lakhs, but not exceeding husband's insurance in force for full sum assured may be granted. The underwriter should however examine whether the income of her husband can support the total insurance on his own life as well as on his wife's life and on the lives of his dependent children, and also have regard to other aspects such as social status of the family, moral hazard etc before deciding the amount of insurance that can be granted on such a proposal. Insurance in excess of Rs. 15 lakhs up to maximum of Rs. 40 lakhs but not exceeding husband's insurance can be considered on merit at the Divisional / Zonal Office level if the proposer produces proof of being a graduate and possessing either passport or credit card or driving licence or having medi-claim cover.

- b. With own income

Self-employed married women not filing income tax returns Employed but not fulfilling eligibility conditions for Category I Women Unearned income but not filing income tax returns Maximum cover equal to 7 times of average annual income subject to an upper ceiling of

- Rs. 1 lakh if illiterate or educated up to 8th standard, and
- Rs. 5 lakhs if educated up to 9th standard or above

The above cover will be subject to MHR by Development Officer or a Club member agent of DM and above (for direct agents MHR by ABM(S)/BM)

Other conditions applicable to married women falling under Female Category III:

- Maximum age entry restricted to 60 years
- Table Nos. 43, 52, 58, 88, 133, 150, 164, term rider and CI are
- Not allowed
- Maximum allowable SA under Table No. 89 - Rs. 2 lacs (Rs. 15 lakhs if the lady produces proof of being a graduate and possessing either a passport or credit card or driving licence or having medi-claim cover)
- Maximum allowable SA under Table Nos. 106, 107, 108 - Rs. 5 lacs (Rs. 15 lakhs if the lady produces proof of being a graduate and possessing either passport or credit card or driving licence or having medi-claim cover)
- Total insurance to married women, whether from husband's income or their own income, will not exceed Rs. 15 lacs (Rs. 40 lacs if producing

proof of being a graduate and possessing either passport or credit card or driving licence or having medi-claim cover).

Single Women between ages 25 and 50 years

- a. Without income - No insurance cover to be allowed.
- b. With own income Self employed but not filing income tax returns
Employed but not fulfilling eligibility conditions for Category I women
Unearned income but not filing income tax returns Maximum cover equal to 7 times of average annual income subject to -Rs. 1 lakh if illiterate or educated up to 8th standard -Rs. 5 lakhs if educated up to 9th standard or above

Other conditions applicable to single women falling under Female Category III:

Special MHR by Development Officer or club member agent of DM and above (for other direct agents MHR by ABM(S)/BM)
Table Nos. 43, 52, 58, 88, 133, 150, 164, term rider and CI are not allowed

Widows

- a. Widows without any income - No insurance cover will be allowed
- b. Widows who have received compensation from employers or claim underinsurance policies on the life of their deceased husbands or get lump sum from some other source -Maximum cover of Rs. 10 lakhs under Table Nos. 48, 140, 152, 162, 166 and 168 on Single Premium Basis
- c. Widows getting family pension -Maximum cover of Rs. 2 lakhs under plans other than 43, 52, 58, 88, 133, 150, 164, term rider and CI subject to providing proof of receiving pension.
- d. Widows mentioned under item Nos. b & c above, can be allowed without any limit Deferred Annuities (without life cover) and Immediate Annuities
Note: There will be no restrictions regarding minor children, age at entry and educational qualification for allowing cover as mentioned under item Nos. b, c, & d above.
- e. Widows having their own income Self employed but not filing income tax returns
Employed but not fulfilling eligibility conditions for Category I women
Unearned income but not filing income tax returns Maximum cover equal to 7 times of average annual income subject to
 - i. Rs. 1 lakh at Branch office level
 - ii. A further cover of Rs. 1 lakh at Divisional Office level on merit of the case and adequacy of income

Other conditions applicable to widows falling under Female Category III and having their own income:

Special MHR by Development Officer or club member agent of DM and above (for other direct agents MHR by ABM(S)/BM)
Age at entry is less than 50 years and age proof produced is standard
The life to be assured has a minor child or children
The life to be assured is literate and educated at least up to 9th Std
Table Nos. 43, 52, 58, 88, 133, 150, 164, term rider and CI will not be allowed

Female students/ children (below 25 years)

Female students will not be included under Female Category III. They have been classified into a separate group. The insurance on their lives will be accepted at par with male students / children. Insurance cover to them will be allowed provided the proposing parents have their own income and are sufficiently covered. It should also be ensured that equivalent cover has been taken on the lives of all children (especially male children). Insurance cover will depend on family income, parents' insurance, insurance on the lives of other family members and class / professional course which is being pursued. All other conditions applicable to male students aged up to 25 years will be made applicable to female students / children.

Insurance to Pregnant women:

- Insurance to pregnant ladies is allowed if the proposal is submitted within 24 weeks of pregnancy.
- Proposal will not be entertained under Non-medical scheme
- Full medical report (FMR) for authorized medical examiner/DMR/TPA should be obtained as per existing rules
- All other reports as per special report chart except chest X-Ray and CTMT are to be called for
- Report from the attending gynecologist in Form No. 3341 (Revised) certifying that the lady is under his/her care will be required
- Last check up report from the attending obstetrician / gynecologist will be required
- Reports of any medical tests done during pregnancy will be required to be submitted.
- Additional report like Sonography to be called for if opined by DMR/ZMR after reviewing the attending gynecologist's report and other medical tests submitted.
- The pregnant women should be falling under Female Category I & II only.
- Maximum cover during the period of pregnancy will be restricted to Rs one crore. The insurance cover granted should be reasonable in relation to the proposer's income.
- Proposals for cover in excess of Rs. one crore during the period of pregnancy could be considered only after referring to the reinsurer.
- Pure Term Insurance plans and plans having higher term insurance element will not be entertained.
- Special Moral Hazard Report by the competent authority in Form No 3251 should be obtained in all cases irrespective of the sum proposed or SUC. In no case the proposal is to be entertained on the basis of the ACR.
- Proposals from pregnant ladies who had a normal full time confinement and normal delivery and without any past history of abnormal delivery or abortion (miscarriage) due to septic will be accepted on the same terms as for a woman not pregnant.
- Proposals from pregnant ladies with past history of complications or caesarian section to be accepted with a single extra of Rs. 2 per thousand (instead of lien of Rs. 500, i.e., - imposing of Clause 4A- Form No 3124A

Last Updated on 30th Sep-2008