

# Life insurance policies set to come in electronic format from July

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**NEW DELHI:** If you are buying life insurance policies after July, chances are that you may get them in digitised format. Moreover, existing policy holders may no longer be required to keep paper records of their policies.

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority in a recent meeting with executives of life insurance companies has asked them to tie up with all insurance repositories to be able to offer electronic policies to customers.

The electronic account will do away with the need for know your customer (KYC) norms including address and identity proof for

**THE TOTAL NO. OF LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES IN INDIA IS 400 MN, OUT OF WHICH ONLY 65,000 E-INSURANCE A/Cs HAVE BEEN CREATED SO FAR**

every purchase and will bring in the benefits of demat including automatic reminders for premium, an industry expert said.

Finance minister P Chidambaram had introduced the insurance repository system last year and asked the regulator to make digitisation compulsory for both life and non-life insurance policies within a timeframe.

At present, Database Management, Central Insurance Repository, SIICIL Projects, CAMS Repository Services and Karvy Insurance operate as repositories.

But several insurers currently do not offer the facility of electronic policy. In fact, Reliance Life Insurance and IndiaFirst Life Insurance are among the few insurers that have tied up with all five repositories.

“Electronic format will make it easier for customers to monitor multiple policies in a single demat account,” Reliance Life Insurance CEO Anup Rau told *HT*.

However, with Internet penetration at a minimal in most parts of the country, an e-policy may not be feasible.