

Kotak Life Insurance consolidates its presence in West Bengal

- ◆ *Opens a new full-fledged branch in Howrah*
- ◆ *Plans to expand to 160 offices across the country by year-end*
- ◆ *To focus on deeper penetration in West Bengal for larger share of the insurance market*

Howrah, September 7, 2007: Kotak Mahindra Old Mutual Life Insurance Limited (Kotak Life Insurance) today announced the launch of its new branch office at Howrah. This is Kotak Life Insurance's 5th branch office in Kolkata after Chowringhee, Gariahat Road, Kakurgachi and Park Street. **Mr. Pankaj Desai, Executive Director, Kotak Life Insurance**, inaugurated the branch office located at 49, Dobson Road, 3rd Floor, Howrah.

This move is part of the Company's strategy to set up a robust multi-point distribution network to cater to the mass market in the country. With this new addition, Kotak Life Insurance now has 87 branches across 56 important locations across India.

Speaking at the inauguration, **Mr. Pankaj Desai** said, "Today we have launched our new branch at Howrah and in the course of this financial year, we will expand our footprint in other centres in the region. I am confident that we will continue to be one of the net winners in the Life Insurance space in Howrah given our first class service, strong suite of products and deep relationships with intermediaries. The Howrah branch will also cater to several adjoining areas like Liluah, Chandannagore, Bandel, Bagnan, Sankrail, Shibpur, Uluberia and Burrabazar".

The Company plans to recruit and train over 1000 new life advisors in Howrah, who will focus on providing need-based financial advice to the customers in the region.

Kotak Life Insurance is planning to keep up the growth rate through its Core Strategy of stronger client relationships, focused product development and leveraging internal synergies of the Kotak Group. Kotak Life Insurance is also heavily investing in training and development and strongly believes that a well-informed sales force is critical to forge a long-lasting relationship with customers.

About Kotak Life Insurance's Performance and Products

For the quarter ending 30th June '07, the Company's Adjusted Premium Equivalent (APE), a standard measure in the Industry that takes Single Premium Income at 10%, has grown from Rs. 68.13 crores (in the quarter ending 30th June '06) to Rs. 107.23 crores, a growth of 57%. Kotak Life Insurance also saw its Total Premium Income jump from Rs 123.66 crores to Rs. 205.1 crores in the same period, a growth of 66%.

Last month, the Company launched its first Direct Marketing Branch at Mumbai with the aim to develop a closer bond with its valued customers and respond better to their needs by providing them with more effective and efficient services.

Recently, the Company announced the launch of two innovative offerings from its stable viz. Kotak Platinum Advantage Plan and Kotak Eternal Life Plans.

'Kotak Platinum Advantage Plan', which offers capital protection, embedded investment advice, life cover and aggressive market linked growth options in one life insurance plan. It also offers the flexibility to adjust the risk profile and tenure of investments based on evolving needs that come with various stages in a person's life. A unique blend of safety and returns, Platinum Advantage Plan allows customers to park their monies either in the Shield Account (which offers a guaranteed amount on maturity), or opt for the Dynamic Account (which allows access to more aggressive investment options) depending on his risk profile. Alternatively, he can opt for a combination of both the accounts which provides the comfort of a guarantee underpin with the opportunity to take some additional aggressive market exposure.

‘Kotak Eternal Life Plans’ is a new-generation participating whole life policy that provides enhanced protection (till the golden age of 99), a high cover at lower premiums, the opportunity to create wealth, and comprehensive cover options. This new offering has two variants viz. Premier Shield and Classic Shield. The Premier Shield is a first-of-its-kind offering in the industry. This allows an increasing premium option keeping pace with the customer’s income even while offering affordable protection right from start. Other key Features of Kotak Eternal Life Plans include complete safeguard against uncertainties of Accidental Disability (available only in the Eternal Life Premier Shield), Critical Illness (benefit offered as Rider) and Lumpsum Cash at the end of the Premium Payment Term. Through Kotak Eternal Life Plans, customers get a lifetime of protection with a few years of premium payment.

Since inception, Kotak Life Insurance has been the market leader in the Guaranteed Fund space. Kotak Life Insurance Capital Guarantee feature is an ideal offering from the Company aimed at smart capital market investors. Products like Kotak Safe Investment Plan and Kotak Flexi Plan are all designed on these platforms.

Kotak Headstart Child Plans, which is designed not only to protect the child but also provide financial security in the future, even in case of the insured parent’s unfortunate death. Ever since being launched, Headstart has already been received with great enthusiasm across the country.

Headstart Child Plans comes with an innovative offering and a first-of-its-kind in the Indian Life Insurance Industry - the Dynamic Floor Fund (DFF). The fund strives for long term capital growth while providing capital protection in cases of volatile market behavior. This fund is ideally suited to the more risk-averse investor whose priority is capital preservation but who still wants to participate in actively managed upside market growth. It helps customers who may find it difficult to take a view on the markets and may not be in a position to efficiently switch from one fund to another to balance risk and return.

About Kotak Mahindra Old Mutual Life Insurance

Kotak Mahindra Old Mutual Life Insurance is a joint venture between Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd., its affiliates and Old Mutual plc. Kotak Mahindra Old Mutual Life Insurance is one of the fastest growing insurance companies in India and has shown remarkable growth since its inception in 2001. Kotak Mahindra believes in offering its customers a lifetime of value. A commitment that has made it a leading financial services group employing around 12,300 people in its various businesses and has a distribution network of branches, franchisees, representative offices and satellite offices across 320 cities and towns in India and offices in New York, London, Dubai, Mauritius and Singapore. The Group services around 2.9 million customer accounts.

Originating in South Africa in 1845, Old Mutual plc is an international savings and wealth management company based in the UK. Among the top 50 largest companies in the FTSE100, the group has a balanced portfolio of businesses offering Asset Management, Life Assurance, Banking and General Insurance Services in over 40 countries, with a focus on South Africa, Europe and the United States, and a growing presence in Asia Pacific. Old Mutual plc employs approximately 53,000 employees worldwide and is listed on the London and Johannesburg stock exchanges.

For more information, please visit, www.kotaklifeinsurance.com

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