New Child Financial Checklist

A practical checklist for Indian families entering a new financial stage

When this checklist becomes relevant

A new child changes more than your monthly budget. One income may pause or slow down, medical and childcare costs begin to rise, and future goals suddenly stop feeling theoretical. This checklist is useful when you are planning for a baby, expecting one, or adjusting in the first year after birth. It helps you focus on the decisions that matter most before random purchases, product pushes, and family advice start crowding out better judgment.

Review the immediate cash-flow impact

- ☐ Estimate how income changes during maternity, paternity, or caregiving leave.
- ☐ Update monthly expenses for doctor visits, delivery-related outgo, childcare support, and recurring baby costs.
- ☐ Check whether the emergency fund still works after the expected change in household cash flow.

Strengthen protection before adding new investments

- ☐ Review family health insurance and confirm room for maternity and newborn-related needs where relevant.
- ☐ Recheck term insurance adequacy for both parents, including the unpaid economic value of a homemaker spouse.
- ☐ Confirm that one serious medical event or one income loss would not destabilise the entire household.

Organise nominations and household records

- ☐ Update nominee details where appropriate across bank accounts, investments, and insurance policies.
- ☐ Make sure both parents know where important financial documents, login access details, and policy papers are kept.
- ☐ Review whether a basic will or guardian nomination discussion now needs to begin.

Start education planning with realism, not panic

□ Do not rush into buying any product merely because it uses the word “child” or “education”.

□ First define the broad goal: schooling support, college funding in India, or flexibility for a wider ambition later.

□ Choose a contribution level that fits the household’s actual capacity without weakening retirement and emergency planning.

Avoid the common first-year mistakes

□ Do not reduce long-term retirement savings too quickly unless the cash-flow pressure is genuinely unavoidable.

□ Do not treat gifts received for the child as a substitute for proper planning.

□ Do not let short-term emotion push the household into expensive insurance-cum-investment products without scrutiny.

A practical next step

If you would like help reviewing these questions in the context of your own household, you may connect with Koorma Investor Services through www.koormainvestor.com or write to koormainvestor@gmail.com.

Disclaimer

This checklist is for general educational and informational purposes only. It is intended to help individuals and families organise financial priorities, risks, and decision points in a structured manner. It should not be treated as personalised investment advice, legal advice, tax advice, insurance advice, or a recommendation to buy, sell, hold, switch, or act on any specific financial product or mutual fund scheme. Suitability depends on your income stability, liabilities, dependants, liquidity needs, risk profile, time horizon, tax position, and goals. Please consult the appropriate qualified professionals before taking action. Mutual fund investments are subject to market risks. Read all scheme-related documents carefully.