

Q: In various ways government of India can support the children who lost their parents due to pandemic. Explain (200 words)

A: The COVID-19 pandemic has caused 30 million deaths worldwide. This number has far surpassed any other human calamity till now. No nation has been left unscathed. The impact has been worst on children who have lost their parents / guardians to the pandemic.

These children need to be taken care of urgently for their physical and mental well-being. Some measures taken by the Government such as PM CARES for children which provides insurance, monthly payments and lumpsum payments at age of 23 are positive steps. The scheme also provides for complete financing of education in school with interest waiver for higher education.

U.P.S.C.

Further steps to be taken:

- Mental well being - regular interactions with psychiatrists and psychologist
- Health care benefits to be extended
- Regular checks on nutrition and ensuring positive availability of cooked food, milk and other necessary items
- Making district collector / SP in charge of keeping checks on orphaned children
- Setup 'Bachpan Sahayaks' from neighbourhood to ensure social support

Children are the future of the society and the nation. The loss of parents is one of critical impact on the well being of the child. Hence, the State must step in for its young citizens to ensure their physical and mental wellbeing, thereby protecting their Right to Life and Liberty under A.21 of the Constitution of India.