

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1279
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.07.2021

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ORPHANS

1279. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of children orphaned (deaths of both parents), the number of children whose either of the parents have died during the second phase of COVID-19 (from 1st April, 2021 to 30th June, 2021) across the country, the State/UT-wise details thereof;
- (b) whether Government formulated any plan for financial and other assistance to orphans, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has formulated any plan for financial and other assistance to children whose either of parents have died, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c) The children orphaned (deaths of both parents), and children whose either of the parents have died during COVID 19, may be considered as children in need of care and protection subject to the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. The Act and Rules made thereunder mandate a safety net of service delivery structures along with institutional and non-institutional care for these children. The responsibility of the implementation of the Act rests with the States/UTs. As per information provided by States/UTs data of orphan children who have lost their parents to Covid since April 2021 to 28.05.2021 is Annexed. The Ministry is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Child Protection Services (CPS) in partnership with the State Governments/UT Administrations for delivering the institutional and non-institutional care as stipulated under the JJ Act. As per the scheme guidelines, maintenance grant of Rs.2000/- per child per month is available for non-institutional care of children in need of care and protection along with the provision maintenance grant of Rs.2160/- per child per month for Children living in Child care Institutions.

Hon'ble PM has announced PM CARES for children scheme to support children who have lost both parents or surviving parent or legal guardian or adoptive parents due to COVID-19 pandemic. The scheme provides support for education and health and will create a corpus of Rs 10 lakh for each child when he or she reaches 18 years of age. This corpus will be used to give a monthly financial support/ stipend from 18 years of

age, for the next 5 years to take care of his or her personal requirements during the period of higher education and on reaching the age of 23 years, he or she will get the corpus amount as one lump-sum for personal and professional use. The scheme is accessible through an online portal i.e. **pmcaresforchildren.in**. The portal has been introduced to all the States and UTs on 15.07.21. Any Citizen can inform the administration regarding a child eligible for support under this scheme through the portal.

The Ministry has asked States and UTs to take immediate action for care and protection of children adversely impacted by COVID 19, in accordance with the provisions of the JJ Act 2015 and Rules thereunder, while leveraging the facilities funded under the Child protection Services scheme. The Ministry has also issued advisories and guidelines for encouraging COVID appropriate behaviour, monitoring of Child Care Institutions and coping strategies during COVID times for mental health support to children and care givers. A guideline providing a responsibility matrix defining the role of primary duty holders has also been shared with the States/UTs.

Annexure

Annexure to part (a) to (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No.1279 for 29.07.2021 by Shri Sushil Kumar Modi regarding Financial Assistance to Orphan.

As per information provided by States/UTs data of children who have lost both or either of parents to Covid or have died because of any reason from April 2021 to 28.05.2021 is as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of orphaned children
1	A&N Island	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	119
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4	Assam	3
5	Bihar	0
6	Chandigarh	0
7	Chhattisgarh	16
8	Dadra Nagar Haveli & Daman Diu	2
9	Delhi	1
10	Goa	0
11	Gujarat	45
12	Haryana	0
13	Himachal Pradesh	13
14	J&K	8
15	Jharkhand	11
16	Karnataka	09
17	Kerala	09
18	Ladakh	0
19	Lakshadweep	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	73
21	Maharashtra	83
22	Manipur	1
23	Meghalaya	1
24	Mizoram	0
25	Nagaland	0
26	Odisha	10
27	Puducherry	2
28	Punjab	20
29	Rajasthan	19
30	Sikkim	0
31	Tamil Nadu	8
32	Telangana	23
33	Tripura	0
34	Uttar Pradesh	158
35	Uttarakhand	8
36	West Bengal	3
	Total	645