

No. CW-II-30/28/2022-CW-II (e-100878)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Women and Child Development  
(Child Welfare-II Section)

Room No. 310, A- Wing,  
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001  
Dated: 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2023

To,  
The Principal Secretaries/Secretaries,  
WCD/SJE/Social Welfare,  
(All States/ UTs)

**Subject: PM CARES for Children Scheme – Registration of new Cases - Reg.**

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to say that the PM CARES for Children Scheme, launched on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2021 for the Children, aims to support children who have lost both the Parents or legal Guardian or Adoptive Parents or Surviving Parent to COVID-19 pandemic during the period starting from 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020. The objective of the Scheme is to ensure comprehensive care and protection of Children in a sustained manner, and enable their well being through health insurance, empower them through education and equip them for self-sufficient existence with financial support on attaining the age of 23 years.

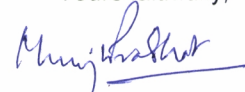
2. It is to mention here that on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020, the World Health Organisation had declared the worldwide outbreak of the pandemic caused by new coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and since then children who had lost both parents due to COVID-19 were covered under PM CARES for Children Scheme for the extension of benefits under the Scheme (para 5 of the guidelines). However, the World Health Organisation in its fifteenth meeting of the International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR) Emergency Committee held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023 declared that COVID is now an established and ongoing health issue which no longer constitutes a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC). WHO has declared end to COVID-19 as a global health emergency through its Statement on the fifteenth meeting of the IHR (2005) Emergency Committee on the COVID-19 pandemic on 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2023.

3. In view of above, all States/UTs are hereby informed/advised to cover only those children who are eligible as per para 5 of the scheme guidelines starting from **11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 (the date on which WHO has declared and characterized COVID-19 as pandemic)** till **5<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 (the date on which WHO has declared end of COVID-19 as pandemic)** duly verified by the concerned District Magistrates to this Ministry for extending benefits under the Scheme through the portal. It may also be ensured that ex-gratia relief of ₹ 50,000 has been paid to the next of kin of those who died of COVID-19.

4. In view of above, it is requested that new cases after 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 may not be sent for consideration under PM CARES for Children Scheme. Further, it is requested to expedite the approval of pending cases at the level of DMs in the States/UTs.

5. This issues with the approval of competent authority.

Yours faithfully,



(Manoj Kumar Prabhat)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

**Copy for information and necessary action to:**

District Magistrates  
(All States/ UTs)

**Copy for information to:**

1. Sr. PPS to Secretary, Women and Child Development, A-Wing, 6th Floor, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
2. Sr. Technical Director, NIC, MWCD, Room No.625, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi for information and necessary action.