

Considering the pandemic, priority should be given to the laws and procedures for care and protection of orphaned children. Discuss (200 words)

Children are the important assets for a nation for its well being and future.

Currently there are around 31 million orphaned children as per statistics of UNICEF in 2018.

Worsening this the pandemic is adding up abandoned children. It is the duty of government to protect those children. For protection government has framed certain laws and procedures.

Laws, Procedures

The Indian Constitution ensures

Securing a tender age of children from being abused through Directive Principles Article 39(e).

There are several options to protect the stranded and orphaned like

→ informing about child in toll free Childline number 1098

- Intimating about child to concerned district protecting officer
- Informing about child to Child Welfare Police officer or in nearest police station
- Getting help by dialling 112

Once the respective agency reaches the child, they produce child before Child Welfare Committee within 24 hrs who will decide about next requirements of child.

Sampurna Behena Case

Supreme Court held that every child care institution must be registered under Juvenile Justice (Care and protection of children) Act, 2015. In Bachpan Bachao Andolan case Supreme Court mandated atleast one police officer must be trained in juvenile case in each police station.

Way Forward : Government should ensure the livelihood of those children who did not get a right home. In this aspect the moves of Madhya Pradesh government to give free ration and ₹5000 pension with free education is welcomed.