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## Mukhyamantri Bal Ashirwad Yojana | Madhya Pradesh | 28 Sep 2024

### Why in News?

In the wake of the [Covid-19 pandemic](#), thousands of children in Madhya Pradesh faced the devastating loss of their parents.

- The state government promised **financial aid** and **free education** for **Madhya Pradesh's Covid orphans**, but many of these commitments remain unfulfilled, leaving the children in distress.

### Key Points

- In May 2021, the then-Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced that children who lost their family's sole earning member to **Covid-19** would receive **Rs.5,000 per month** and **free education**.
- This initiative aimed to provide some relief to the affected families and ensure that the children could continue their education without financial burdens.
  - Despite these promises, many beneficiaries have not received financial assistance for over a year.
- The government had introduced two schemes for these children: the **Sponsorship Scheme** and the **Mukhyamantri Bal Ashirwad Yojana**. Under these schemes, each child was entitled to **Rs. 5,000 per month**.
  - However, the disbursement of funds has been inconsistent, with many children not receiving any money since January 2023.
- The children were also promised [Ayushman Bharat cards](#) to cover their healthcare costs.
  - However, many of these cards have not been activated, leaving the children without the promised medical support.