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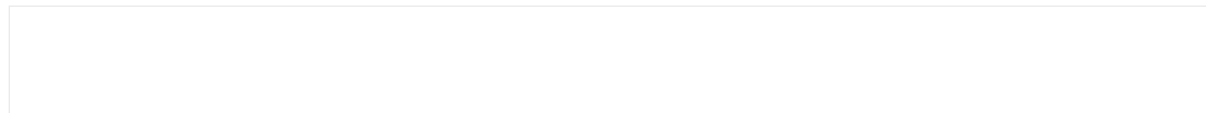
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No Smartphone For Online Classes, Punjab Girl Allegedly Commits Suicide

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All India | Reported by Mohammad Ghazali, Edited by Deepika Pundir | Updated: June 08, 2020 07:33 pm IST



Schools and colleges across the nation were closed in March ahead of nationwide lockdown.

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New Delhi: Upset about not having a smartphone to use for online classes, a Class 11 student from Punjab allegedly committed suicide on Friday. According to the police, the 17-year-old girl hung herself in her house in the state's Mansa district.

The victim, who was the daughter of a farm labourer, had been asking for a smartphone for the last couple of weeks but because of their poor financial condition, the family could not buy her one.

According to the girl's father, she was under stress and so ended her life, the investigating officer said.

"She kept asking us for a smartphone but I am a farm labourer and couldn't buy it. Hence she ended her life," Jagseer Singh, father of the victim said.

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Class 11 student hung herself in her house: Police
- The victim was the daughter of a farm labourer
- Family could not buy a smartphone due to poor financial condition

In February, Chief Minister Captain Amarinder Singh had said that he has not been able to fulfill his promise of distributing smartphones to the youth because of the coronavirus outbreak that emerged in China.

Earlier this month, a Class 10 student in Kerala's Malappuram district had set herself on fire as she was unable to attend online classes. She had neither a TV nor a smartphone.

Schools and colleges across the country were closed in March ahead of a nationwide lockdown imposed by the central government to slow the spread of the coronavirus pandemic.

(If you need support or know someone who does, please reach out to your nearest mental health specialist.)

Helplines:

AASRA: 91-22-27546669 (24 hours)

Sneha Foundation: 91-44-24640050 (24 hours)

Vandrevala Foundation for Mental Health: 1860-2662-345 and 1800-2333-330 (24 hours)

iCall: 022-25521111 (Available from Monday to Saturday: 8:00am to 10:00pm)

Connecting NGO: 18002094353 (Available from 12 pm - 8 pm)



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