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13th, June, 2022

Topic: Scheme in Education Sector

Importance: Himachal HPAS Prelims and Mains

What is the news?

- Smartphones to be given to 10 thousand meritorious Himachal students.

Under which scheme?

- As part of the 'Digital Saathi – Baccho ka Sahara, Phone Humara' phone donation campaign launched last July for poor students who cannot afford a smartphone.

What classes will be included?

- Smartphones would be distributed to meritorious students

of Class X and XII for the academic session 2020-21.

Why did this campaign take place?

- During the COVID-19 pandemic, the way education was delivered had changed as classes were conducted online and mobile phones or computers had become a necessity. As per a rough estimate, about 10% of students of government schools were without smartphones and there were about 14,000-15,000 below poverty line (BPL) students currently studying in Classes X and XII, who were to be provided smartphones on a priority.
- Under the campaign, the donors (individuals and corporate) were invited to donate a mobile phone for poor students to ensure that their education was not hampered due to lack of mobile and contribute to a child's online learning, said State Project Director of Samagra Shiksha Virender Sharma.
- Mobile phones have been made available to students in need at the school level. Now, we are back to the offline mode of education and therefore the initiative is not running in campaign mode but people interested in donating mobile can visit the Digital Saathi portal www.hpdigitalsaathi.in to give mobile phones which would be distributed to needy students to help in learning purpose.

(Source: The Tribune)

Some More HP News:

- At the conclusion of Janjehli Tourism Festival 2022, 'Saraj Plag Hiking' was organized for the first time on

Monday. *It has been entered in the India Book of World Records.*

- In this unique event giving the message of environmental protection, 345 men and women collected 1176.26 kg plastic waste while trekking about 12 km from Bhulah to Shikari Devi.

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