



strawberry fields
HIGH SCHOOL

SUMMER ISSUE 2022

THE
PULSE
Rhythm of Young Thought.

THE CARBON ISSUE



PRESENTING THE 13th SDG

EDITORS:

Ishitta Groverr
Mehak Mehra
Mehakpreet Kaur
Twishaa Sehgal
Vedaa Anand

DESIGNERS:

Kaashvi Kapoor
Kaira Mahajan
Kashika Mahajan

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

02

“What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”
- Dr Jane Goodall

It's been three decades of warming up of the planet; three decades of warnings; three decades of delayed action. The world listened, but it didn't hear. The world listened, but it did not act. And now, climate change is wreaking havoc on the world - there have been occurrences of extreme weather conditions, food insecurity, rising sea levels, and temperatures. Here goes out an appeal to this generation of conscious leaders and youth, we can make the essential changes needed to combat this crisis.

The United Nations, through its set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) calls for sustainability in all three spheres – social, economic, and environmental. The success of these goals largely depends upon the 13th SDG - Climate Action. Climate change and sustainability are essentially inseparable. Achievement of one requires the achievement of the other. If steps are not taken to counter the climate crisis, it will amplify the existing threats – paving way for greater inequalities, poverty, disease, and hunger.

Through the Summer Edition 2022 of The Pulse, we aim to reiterate awareness regarding this pressing issue.

By: Mehak Mehra (12-C)



03 DOOMSDAY

Circa 2053 A.D: Glaciers in the Himalayas have melted, the plains of the Ganga and the Brahmaputra rivers are flooded, and the city of Mumbai is submerged under water, the deserts of Rajasthan have extended up to Punjab, the mangroves of Sundarbans have become extinct.

This scenario may sound like a doomsday prediction for the future but, can this become the reality?

It could if we don't take action right now. Disasters caused due to global warming could take over the world quite rapidly and terminate our existence. We may think that this is not a threat to us, since we have plenty of years until that happens, but the truth is, there is no time to wait. It is predicted that by the year 2035 serene islands like the Maldives and Fiji will be submerged underwater. Barack Obama once said, "Climate Change is no longer some far-off problem; it is happening here, it is happening now."

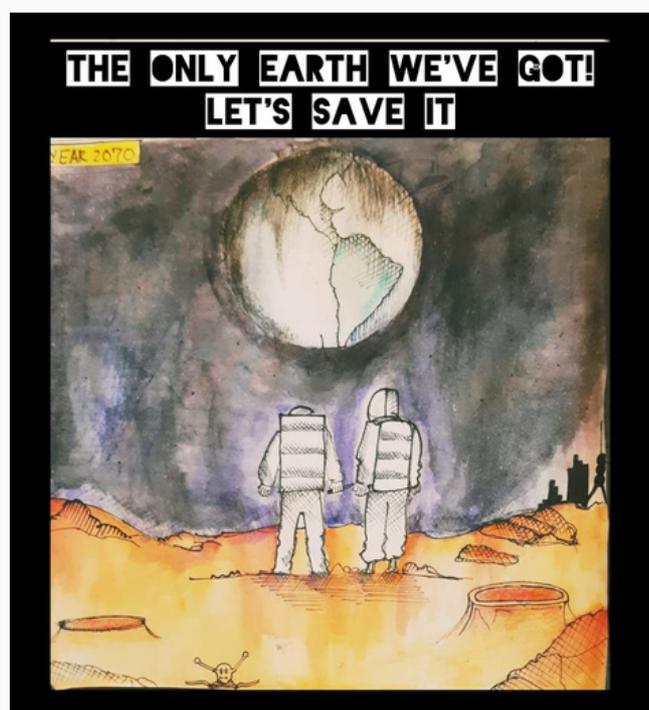
The global goals that are being pursued by The UN involve goals such as the SDG13 which aims to focus on climate action. Thus, the UN is one of the primary organizations working towards improving climatic conditions. The UN's efforts concerning climate change are carried out via its agencies - UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and World Meteorological Organisation (WMO). Created in 2014, The Green Climate Fund (GCF), is a global financial fund, focused on investments related to mitigation and adaptation initiatives, following the Paris Agreements' goal of keeping climate change below 2 degrees Celsius.



India too is dealing with climate change every day. Remember the cyclones “Nisarga” and “Amphan”, and how severe they were. Some NGOs working in India towards this cause are:

1. Balajee Sewa Sansthan (BSS India): Headquartered in Dehradun, Balajee Sewa Sansthan was founded in 2002. BSS has been quite vocal about issues related to the environment while promoting the use of sustainable equipment that works on renewable resources such as solar energy. They have tied up with many big names such as Phillips, D-Light India, etc. to promote smokeless stoves and solar lanterns in Uttarakhand.

2. Technology Informatics Design Endeavour (TIDE): Having experience in over 250 projects based on modern technology, energy efficiency, and conservation, the Technology Informatics Design Endeavour (TIDE) is one of the most innovative NGOs working for climate change in India. Their focus is on creating a better environment in terms of sustainability through revolutionary technology. Their undertakings have brought about an astonishing drop in the use of firewood, each year.



By : Siddhartha Jain (9-C)

Climate change has become the buzzword today and we keep on hearing about the various measures being taken to mitigate the same. But, will these measures be enough to prevent the picture of doomsday as predicted earlier?

The truth is, this planet belongs to each one of us and till we all realize our responsibility toward preserving the environment and conserving resources, doomsday might not be far off.

05

Let us all pledge to do our best to ensure that our future generations inherit a much greener planet than the one on which we live. Rather than merely slogan chanting, let us make climate change, action-oriented.

By: Bisman Singh (9-B)
(AN ARDENT ENVIRONMENTALIST)

Sources referred to:

- <https://www.giveindia.org/blog/5-ngos-working-for-climate-change-in-india/>
- <https://thalesetd.medium.com/organizations-fighting-climate-change-a-quick-guide-2e700d96dc52>



By: Mannat Goyal (IBDP yr 1)



A CRY

06

Mother Nature has been very kind,
But for our luxuries, we have turned blind.
We the people are the very reason,
For bringing the drastic change in the season.

For our own selfish greed,
We forgot mother nature's need,
Global warming is a cause of concern,
From our mistakes, we must learn.

Glaciers are melting very fast,
At this speed, they shall not last,
The whole ecosystem is being disturbed,
And the future of the next generation is being curbed.

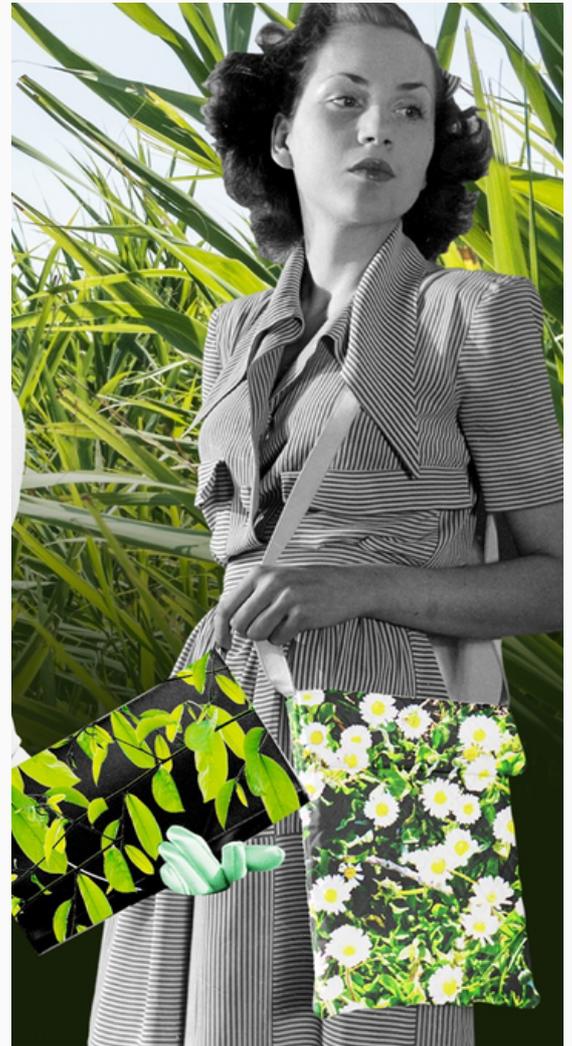
Mother Earth is dying,
And she's sadly crying,
Hope we soon hear her plea,
And make the earth as it used to be.

By: Avisya Seengal (10-D)



The rise of social media influencers and trends has brought in a huge increase in “fast fashion”. If you are not sure what the term, fast fashion means, think of it this way: when was the last time you bought something because it was trendy? How many times did you wear it, before it was not in style anymore, shapeless, or worn out? Probably not a lot of times, for most cases, and you probably don't feel too guilty about not wearing it because it was so affordable. This is Fast Fashion – mass-production of cheap, disposable clothing. Countless new collections per year make us feel constantly out of date and encourage us to keep buying more.

Trends are changing so quickly that we cannot keep up. We continue to purchase just to stay up to date. As a result, garment quality is declining every year, and our clothes look faded, shapeless, or worn out in just a few wears. Fast fashion brands such as H&M, Zara, Shein, and Gap introduce a new product, from



design to shelf within 5-7 days, and drop 700-1000 new products every day. These products come from mass manufacturing and exploitation of human workers in underdeveloped countries. They provide no evidence of providing a living wage or safe, abuse-free work conditions. This mass manufacturing of products by huge brands is the true cause of climate change. These companies also encourage “throwaway culture” - ditch the old pieces, get new ones.’ All these factors are major contributors to the climate change crisis and exploitation of the working class.

The solution to this is sustainable fashion. This involves the manufacture of textiles that are constructed, and marketed responsibly and consciously, that acknowledge and account for their environmental and socio-economic impacts. This is ideally done across a garment’s full life cycle, from creation to disposal.



Responsible designers understand that everything they make has influence — from the materials they use to the way they treat the people producing their goods. Clothing, designed and manufactured in an environmentally conscious way with human and animal rights in mind, is sustainable fashion.

By: Saanvi Goyal (10-C)

THE CLUTCHES OF GLOBAL WARMING

“Only when the last tree has died, the last river has been poisoned and the last fish has been caught, will we realize we cannot eat money.”

Is that mortifying enough to bleed the wound of trajectory in our blood? Is that distressing to an extent where we can finally surge above all stereotype clutches of society and talk about climate change as something that matters and is not merely spoken about? Well, if yes, then that's shipshape because we are not far from living in a world with a climate several degrees higher than the pre-industrial era of the 1800's.

The story of humankind and our relationship to the earth may be seen as a continuing adventure or a tragedy shrouded in mystery. The choice is in our hands. Scientists around the world have soberly stanching the notions of this detrimental paradox for years now, but let me just ask you a simple question, even if you don't believe in climate change or global warming, wouldn't you prefer to breathe in a cleaner environment?



Our climate is changing around us faster than ever predicted. The arctic is really melting, the polar bears are really in trouble, and the sea is really rising with ice-melts. No, it's not all a fancy little fairy tale, it is really happening. From more frequent and extreme storms to unprecedented heatwaves, we're feeling the impacts of human-caused global warming. While it is naïve and unpretentious to assume that something on such a large scale can be overthrown, as is always said, "Today is the tomorrow that you were worried about yesterday."



By: Mrinalini Srivastava (IBDP yr 2)

People in the middle east are imploring for water enough to quench their parched gullets, countries lying in higher latitudes, are pining for grub and groceries to cater for one meal, regions in the South are losing their innate habitat due to wastewater systems and various natural buffers.

Healing the planet starts in your garage, in your kitchen and at your dining room table. Take a look at your electric bill. Reduce water waste, eat the food you actually buy.

The angel has landed. It has sunk itself behind all worldly things for it has been spooked by the soot and grime and dirt that surrounds its being, its personage is drenching in alpine feverishness. It had thought of this place called Earth as something taintless and sorcerous but alas, it finds it nothing other than obnoxious. Let's take a pledge and let us save our planet from the dreadful clutches of global warming.

By: Twishaa Sehgal (12-B)

THE MYTH OF INFINITY

With a finite world and infinite greed,
With our house embellished,
But a home that bleeds.

We dance, singing ignorance is bliss,
While fires dance on trees that crackle and hiss.
Why procrastinate till our planet is gone?
Why be entrapped by an endless tenebrosity?
An eternal wait for dawn?

But what pains me most is that,
We pilfer from those who are yet to be born
So, I fall into the melting glaciers for then no one can tell,
If the water is from my eyes or the water in which I fell.

By: Vedaa Anand (Alumna)



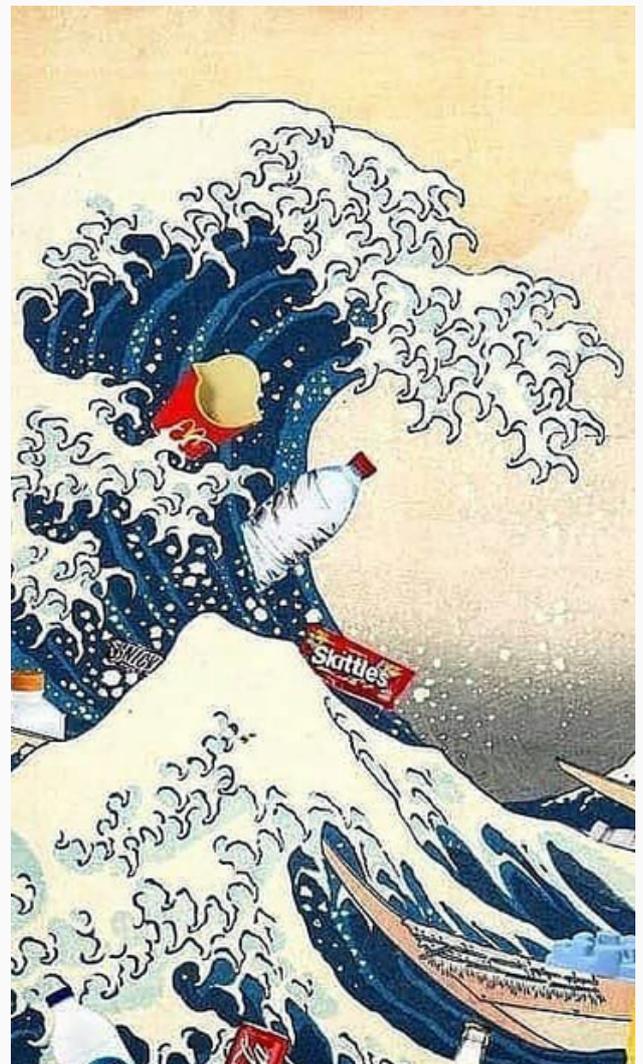
CLIMATE CHANGE

12

Long-term changes in temperature and weather patterns are referred to as climate change. Since the 1800s, human activities — the combustion of fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas— have been the primary cause of climate change. Climate change is impacting human lives and health in a variety of ways. Clean air, safe drinking water, a plentiful supply of nutrient-rich food, and a safe place to live, are all at risk.

Climate change is slowly and steadily affecting this planet. Only around a quarter of the power is generated using renewable energy sources like wind and solar sources. The majority is still produced using fossil fuels. Cutting down forests to create farms or pastures, or for other reasons, is another cause of emissions. Destruction of trees reduces nature's capacity to keep emissions out of the atmosphere. We have learned through careful attention in Science class, that trees absorb carbon dioxide and give out oxygen.

As a result of climate change, more hot days and heat waves are occurring almost everywhere on Earth; 2020 is one of the warmest



years ever recorded. Meanwhile, rainfall also fluctuates in response to temperature changes. As a result, storms become more intense and frequent. They cost billions of dollars and devastate homes and communities by causing flooding and landslides.

13

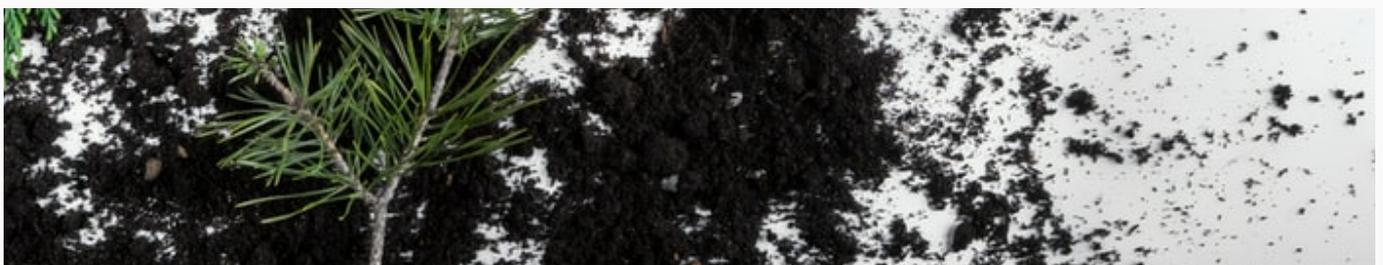
Devastating sand and dust storms that carry billions of tonnes of sand over continents can be sparked by droughts. As deserts spread, there is less space for agriculture which leads to a loss of food, labour, and lives. Additionally, due to changing weather patterns, resistant strains of communicable diseases are taking over and creating a health crisis as well.

It is obvious that climate change is a big problem today, but there are some steps we can take from increasing it further.

- The number one thing we can do is raise awareness, the more people that know about this, the larger the impact we can make.
- There is a dire need to use only energy-efficient electric appliances such as LED lights and dishwashers.
- Using motorized transport sparingly and preferring to bike or walk will both improve your health and fitness and assist the environment. Consider using a bus or train for lengthier trips. Whenever applicable, carpool as well.
- Lastly, reduce, reuse, repair, and recycle. Buy fewer goods, shop second-hand, fix what you can, and recycle as much as you can to conserve the environment.

Climate change is a scary, natural disaster that is headed our way very quickly. The effects of climate change are taking a toll on the people, animals, plants, and environment of our beautiful planet. Climate change is affecting our generation and will be even more burdening on the coming one. Preventive measures should be considered now to save the Earth from the global crisis that is otherwise, imminent.

By: Neeti Bansal (10-D)



'LADY TARZAN': JHARKHAND'S JAMUNA

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Jamuna Tudu is an Indian environmental activist, known for her action against the timber mafia and for saving nearly 50 hectares of forest land in Jharkhand.

Born in a small village in Odisha, Jamuna grew up among lush green forests, helping her father in planting and cultivating saplings. When she turned 18, she was married to a contractor residing in Jharkhand. When Jamuna shifted to her new home, she was shocked to discover a forest full of tree stumps. These were the Maturkham jungles which were famous for their sal and teak trees. Most of them had been ravaged by a regional, timber smuggling mafia. The mafia had threatened the residents into silence.

Not one to be silenced, Jamuna Tudu could not bear to see the forests in their ravaged condition. Tudu decided to assemble the women of the town, and protest against the mafia. She had a tough time convincing and uniting these women, owing to their fear of the reigning mafia. Five women joined hands with her as they established the 'Van Suraksha Samiti'. They used to review the forests every day, carrying wooden sticks, and a water bottle. Also accompanying them on their mission were a few dogs. They would scare the intruders using bars, spades, and arrows and seize their saws. In the coming months, they were able to get complaints registered under forest protection laws and even managed to put a few of the criminals behind bars.

Success wasn't easy. Her path was laden with struggles. From threats to attacks on her husband and home, she faced it all, with unwavering faith and courage. Since then, Jamuna and her club of 10,000 forest protectors spread across 300 towns, have saved many forests.

She has been honoured with the 'Padma Shri' for her remarkable contribution. The Niti Aayog selected her for the Women Transforming India Award 2017. Hailing from an ordinary Indian family, Jamuna Tudu fought to become the brave 'Lady Tarzan' whom everyone admires today.

As Jamuna says, "Only if our jungles exist can humanity thrive."

By: Bharti Mehra (II-C)

Sources referred to:

- <https://www.trickytravellers.com/post/jamuna-tudu-lady-tarzan-of-india-tricky-travellers>
- <https://www.theoptimistcitizen.com/meet-the-lady-tarzan-from-jharkhand-who-saved-forests-from-illegal-loggers/>



ਮਨੁੱਖ ਦੇ ਇਹ ਅਸਥਾਈ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਨੇ ਕੀਤਾ ਕੰਮ ਬੜਾ ਭੈੜਾ,
ਕੁਦਰਤੀ ਸੁੰਦਰਤਾ 'ਚ ਬਦਲਾਵ,
ਉਦਯੋਗੀਕਰਨ ਦਾ ਭਾਵ,
ਮਤਲਬ ਇਹ ਕਿ ਮਨੁੱਖਤਾ ਨੇ ਪਰਿਆ ਆਪਣੇ ਭਵਿੱਖ ਦੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਨੇਹਰਾ।

ਮੌਸਮੀ ਤਬਦੀਲੀ ਨੂੰ ਰੋਕਣ ਦੇ ਹਨ ਅਨੇਖੇ ਤਰੀਕੇ ਅਨੇਕ,
ਇਸ ਸਮੱਸਿਆ ਨੂੰ ਸੁਲਝਾ ਪਾਵਾਂਗੇ, ਜੇਕਰ ਯੋਗਦਾਨ ਭਾਵੇ ਹਰੇਕ।

ਏ.ਸੀ. ਕਰੋ ਬੰਦ,
ਓਜ਼ੋਨ ਦੀ ਵਧਾਓ ਕੰਧ;
ਆਪਣੀ ਗੱਡੀ ਕਰੋ ਬੰਦ,
ਕਾਰਪੂਲ ਦਾ ਕਰੋ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ।

ਇਸ ਦੀ ਸਿੱਖਿਆ ਵੰਡੋ ਭਰਪੂਰ,
ਪੇੜ ਲਗਾਣ ਦਾ ਬਣਾਓ ਅਸੂਲ;
ਕਿਸੀ ਵੀ ਚੀਜ਼ ਨੂੰ ਨਾ ਵਰਤੋਂ ਫਜ਼ੂਲ,
ਸਗੋਂ ਕਰੋ ਰੇਸੀਕਲੇ ਅਤੇ ਰੀਯੂਜ਼।

ਮੌਸਮੀ ਤਬਦੀਲੀ ਨੂੰ ਰੋਕਣ ਲਈ ਲਗਾਣੀ ਪਉਰੀ ਜਾਣ,
ਪੇੜ ਲਗਾਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਹੱਥ ਹਨ ਭਗਵਾਨ ਦੇ ਸਮਾਨ।

ਮਨੁੱਖ ਕਰ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ ਧਰਤੀ ਨੂੰ ਗਰਮ,
ਮੌਸਮੀ ਤਬਦੀਲੀ ਨੂੰ ਰੋਕਣਾ ਬਣਾਓ ਆਪਣਾ ਧਰਮ।

By: Riasat Singh Khosa



जलवायु परिवर्तन

“मनुष्य अभी भी इस दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा चमत्कार है और इस धरती की सबसे बड़ी समस्या भी।”

— सारनॉफ

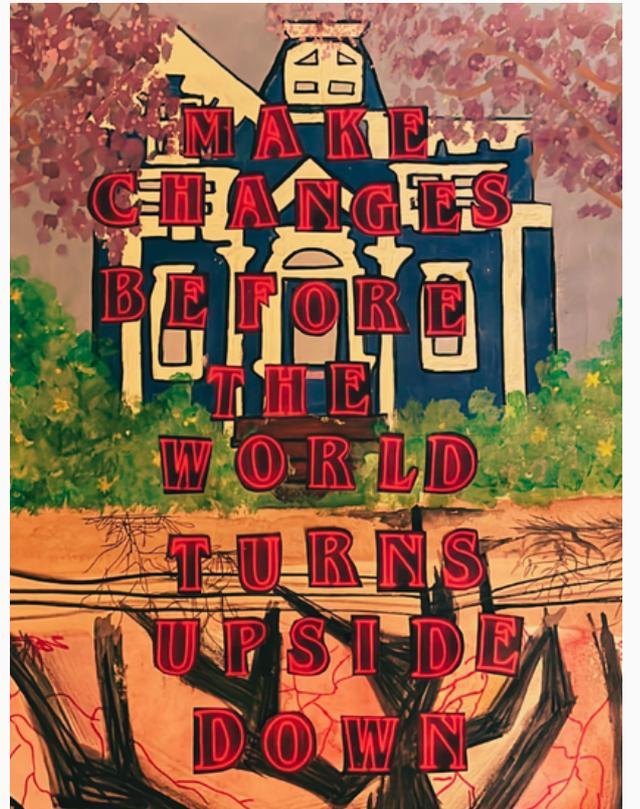
जलवायु परिवर्तन विश्व की आज सबसे गंभीर समस्या बन चुकी है। पिछले कुछ दशकों में मानवीय गतिविधियाँ पृथ्वी पर ग्रीनहाउस प्रभाव को बाधित कर रही हैं। यहाँ तक की सात सबसे गर्म वर्ष सभी 2015 के पश्चात दर्ज किए गए हैं। और इसमें 2021 भी शामिल है। विश्व की सभी जगहों में दिन और अधिक गर्म होते जा रहे हैं और वे गर्मी की तीव्र लहरों के साक्षी हैं। यू.एन. के मुताबिक आर्कटिक वैश्विक औसत से दुगुनी गति से गर्म हो रहा है।

जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारण बाढ़ और सूखे जैसे चरम स्थितियों की घटनाएँ भी बढ़ती जा रही हैं। इसके साथ-साथ तूफानों की संख्या में भी वृद्धि हुई है और वे अधिक विनाशकारी हो गए हैं। इससे न केवल आर्थिक नुकसान होता है उपितु जन-हानी भी होती है। यह समस्याएँ एक और समस्या को उत्पन्न कर रही है - पानी की कमी। इस कारण खेतों में सूखा पड़ जाता है जिसके कारण कृषि उत्पाद में भी कमी आती है।

पिछले दो दशकों में समुद्र के गर्म होने की गति बहुत ही चिंताजनक है। जैसे ही समुद्र गर्म हो रहे हैं, उनके स्तर भी बढ़ रहे हैं। इस कारण वर्ष मुंबई, मियामी और ओसाका जैसे तटिए शहरों के डूबने का खतरा है। इसके साथ कार्बन डाइऑक्साइड के कारण सागर अधिक अम्लीय होते जा रहें है जिससे समुद्री जीवों और कोरल-रीफ को बड़ा खतरा है। और यह सभी वैश्विक भूख में बड़ी भूमिका निभायेंगे। जल-जीवों के मरने के कारण और सूखों के कारण खाद्य आपूर्ति में भी कमी आने की संभावना है।

अभी तक तो इन सब की होने की सिर्फ संभावना है, किन्तु यदि हम ने अपनी जीवन शैली में बदलाव नहीं लाए तो वह दिन दूर नहीं की यह हमारी हकीकत होगी। हमे हमारी आने वाली पीढ़ी के लिए एक सुंदर और रहने योग्य पृथ्वी छोड़नी है।

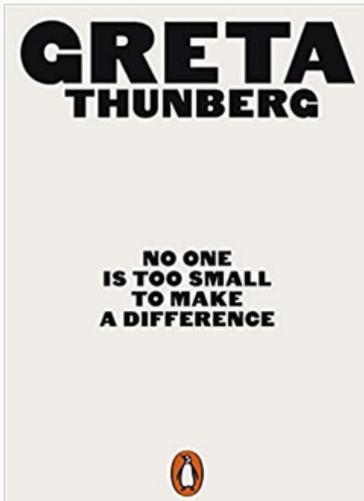
By: महक मेहरा (12-C)



By: Amanat Chawala (9-D)

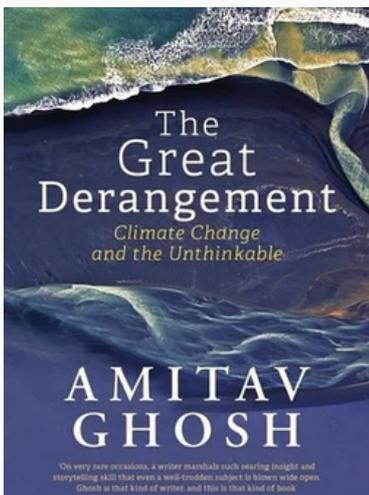
RECOMMENDED READS

18



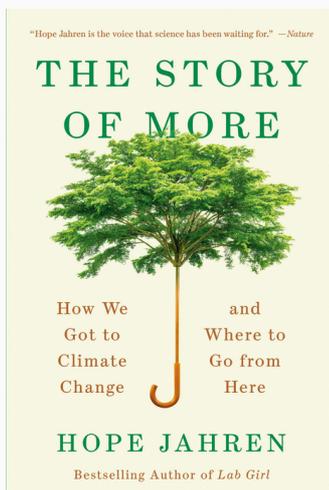
'No One is Too Small to Make A Difference' by Greta Thunberg.

This is a collection of stirring speeches, by the famous climate activist. The book is a rallying cry to 'wake up and smell the catastrophe', to ameliorate our environment, and most of all, to truly "Act as if our house is on fire because it is."



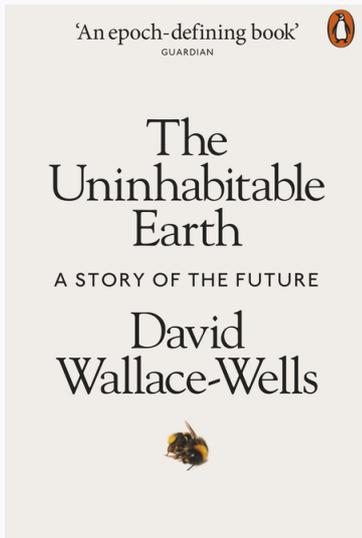
'The Great Derangement' by Amitav Ghosh

This work by the award-winning author is his first non-fiction book in nearly a decade where he refers to our reluctance to face up to the reality of how climate change shall forever alter life as we know it. I am in concord with Amitav Ghosh when he says 'Climate change is like death, no one wants to talk about it.'



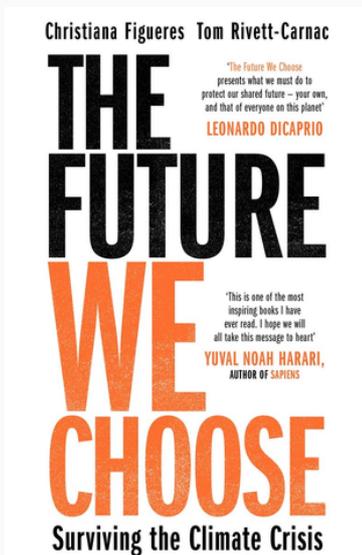
'The Story of More' by Hope Jahren

The writing is captivating as ever, as the author peruses a 50-year timeline of climate change and guides us onto the path of living on a finite planet. This famous line by the author has had an immense impact on me and I am certain it shall, on you too, "The fact that we are of a group with food, shelter, and clean water obligates us not to give up on the world that we have compromised. Knowledge is responsibility."



'The Uninhabitable Earth' by **David Wallace-Wells**

The writer, through his work, speaks of the combination of events that is to lead to our demise. Still, he brings to us a speck of hope, saying “I know there are horrors to come. But those horrors are not yet scripted.”



'The Future We Choose' by **Christiana Figueres**

This is a cautionary, yet optimistic novel about the fate of humanity. Carefully outlining two possible scenarios for our planet, two juxtaposing worlds, the author presents her readers with one choice.

By: Vedaa Anand (Alumna)

ALUMNI

PERSPECTIVE 20

Bisman Deu, our very own alumna, is a passionate public speaker and environment enthusiast. After graduating from Strawberry Fields in 2016, she went on to study Economics and Politics at the University of Warwick. She has been working as a strategy consultant for three years now.

At age 15, Bisman invented "Green Wood", a low-cost material made of rice waste which could be used to build housing for the underprivileged. The product also reduced rice burning in North India, a major contributor to pollution across the region.



Bisman is not only passionate about sustainability and innovation but is also an ardent supporter of women rights and women empowerment which led her to start her own campaign, 'Colour the World Pink', that aims at promoting entrepreneurship and leadership among girls with an attempt to bridge the ambition gap.

The link given below leads to an engaging podcast with Bisman, in conversation with Ishitta Grover, from Voice – The Podcast Club.

By: Ishitta Grover (IBDP yr1)

<https://d3ctxlq1ktw2nl.cloudfront.net/staging/2022-6-27/278285211-22050-1-924077edc651b.m4a>