

To the World Leaders of Today,

I am sure there is little need left for anyone to further elucidate on the threats the environment faces in this day and age. Right from air pollution to ozone layer depletion to global warming and climate change, the environment is affected by a plethora of problems seeking to be resolved.

Recent events, rallies, talks and general increase in awareness about such situations have steered people away from the general apathy that they possessed until a few years ago. They have allowed us to create change and to try and incite it in others.

The infinite, limitless universe symbolizes hope. But that hope fades from vision as each day passes. The hope I cling on to, for myself, for my family, for my friends living across the street and on the opposite end of the world, is snatched away from me with every polluting factory opened, every ton of waste dumped into the ocean and every day passed without action taken.

The people at the head of the administrations of different countries and organizations are expected and required to be the ones most accountable as they are the ones who set the tone and tenor for every action we take in society. The actions they take, the rules they create are supposed to be the guidelines along which people are to live their lives.

There is no societal contract if the law and people in power don't uphold it. The motivation to do our part, the fire in us to make a difference, all seem futile without a worthwhile impact; and you can help make that impact exponential.

However much we impress the need of personal lifestyle changes upon people, the matter of the fact remains that policy change needs to be brought about for substantial improvement in the current environmental condition.

Air pollution is a major problem that poses a direct threat to people's health in most underdeveloped and/or developing countries. Major steps such as disallowing diesel vehicles, increasing standards and stringently inspecting different fuels used in vehicles to check environmental compatibility could go a long way.

Organizations in the world comprising of several nations, with pooled resources have an even greater potential to make change. Penalising MNCs and Fortune 500

companies and introducing deterrents to prevent them from actions that have an adverse effect on the environment will surely prove effective.

To impact the world as a whole, grave actions need to be taken. Even as a student, I realize that hasty implementation of policies on a global scale is not possible and will have negative repercussions. Nevertheless, there has to be a start somewhere.

The world is amazing and one. Help us treat it right.

-Tusha