

30 YEARS OF BLAH BLAH BLAH

~Nirupama Sai

Sri Venkateswara College, Delhi University

Image source: www.seznamzpravy.com



Greta Thunberg, a Swedish youth activist campaigning against climate change had recently been invited to speak at the Youth4Climate event in Italy, where she gave a thundering but sceptical speech on the hypocrisy and inaction of world leaders towards climate change.

Back in August, the United Nations released the IPCC report which highlighted how Climate change is widespread, rapid, and intensifying, and some trends are now irreversible, at least during the present time frame. The alarming nature of the report and the visible effects of climate change and global warming this past year has led many people to become more aware of the debilitating crisis that is leading our planet to destruction. Speaking on how

an action must be taken instead of empty flashy words and dialogues, Greta Thunberg stressed that, "There is no planet B ... Change is not only possible but necessary but not if we go on like we have until today."

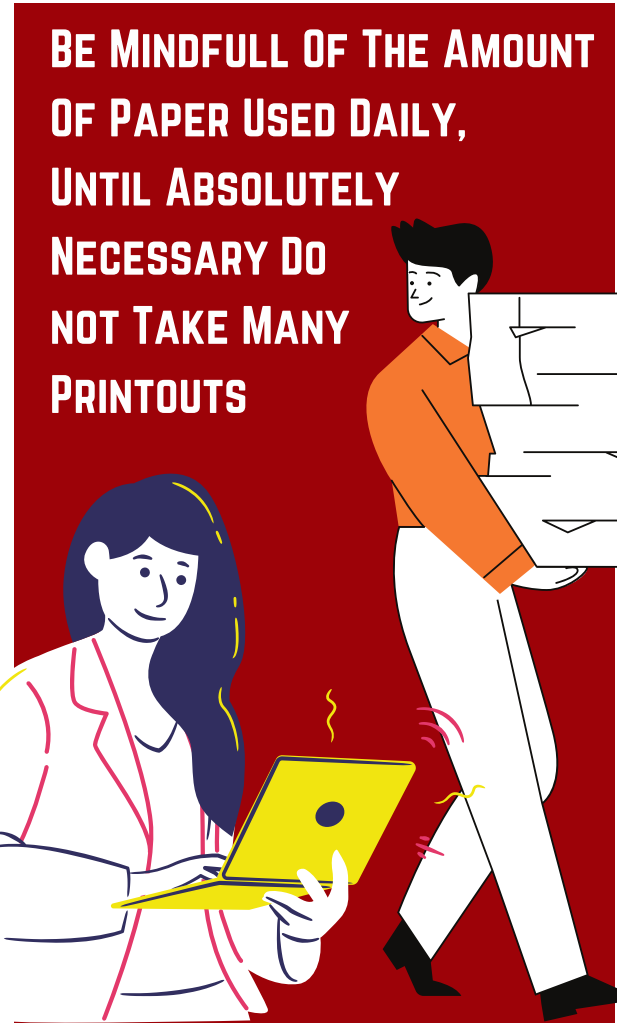
She mocked world leaders, their dishonest promises and failure to tackle global warming, and in her speech, she criticised them for making youngsters dream of big things like a green economy and many other lucrative promises since the last 30 years, ever since the landmark 1992 Rio de

Janeiro Earth Summit. She alleged that these world leaders 'cherry-picked' youngsters for high-profile summits, propagating an image about their concern for the future, but their negligence has only confirmed that they are apathetic to these issues.



Image source: teenvogue.com

Mentioning that science did not lie and our emissions are rising, Thunberg echoed with the IPCC experts say that strong and sustained reductions in emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases, could quickly make air quality better, and in 20 to 30 years global temperatures could stabilize.



Concluding her speech, Thunberg insisted that it is only action and not procrastination that can change the current situation of the world and that it is time we take the action instead of those with power. Her speech comes before the COP26 Climate Summit in Glasgow, UK on 31st October wherein countries that signed the 2015 Paris Agreement must deliver their pledges and limit their emissions to 1.5 °C.

