



THE TIERRE SCOOP

HMUNEA' 17

Organized by:

Harithkram-The Environment Society

"Beyond the Boundaries"

Day 1- 21st Sept' 17- Issue 1





HMUNEA'17

Inaugural Session

Dr. Vandana Shiva
Environmentalism and
Founder, NAVDANYA

The Opening Ceremony for HMUNEA'17 began with a lamp lighting ceremony by the Chief Guest, Dr. Vandana Shiva, along with the Principal and senior members of the staff. Talking about her experience with nature, Shiva talked about the various atrocities we, as humans are implicating upon mother Earth. She spoke about how, because of our greed and nature, we end up exploiting what we have.

Her talk revolved around the fact that we have created a hierarchy of the sciences, putting mechanised sciences way above the holistic ones. Our mindset is revealed- we do not treat environment to be serious enough an issue to be discussed, and it is through conferences like these that awareness can be created among the younger crowd.

The ceremony ended with the promise of a new tomorrow, a better world, and an added zeal of enthusiasm amongst the delegates.



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A STAR ABOVE THE CITIES

-Tanuj khandelwal



Gazing with wonder how 'big' the cities have become,
That a few light years ago, we were friends.
Now that they throng pollution, they have turned rough and rude
to the ones who loved them; the stars above the cities.

I have seen the flowering lands,
the unfailing vista of panoramas, the noble winding flows
since long.

Now that the air is thick and choking, I turn to gaze
with my usual wonder how severely blur my vision is becoming.

I no longer look; not being able to either,
into the mirrors
on the face of my lost friends
that lordly had clear and fresh water in them.

What would these poets below write for the stars that dance on these
screens?

Water that is no longer reflecting!

The cities that held green, seems, hold enemies in them. Humans.

My friends, these cities, are ruled and ruined in the wars.

Wars in the guise of development.

Occupied. Wasted. Exploding in expansion.

Noble promises made and broken; so often that promises are now
mere statements.

Was our friendship meant for long?

Would the enemies ever loosen the gripped throat of my friends?

Would they sustain?



-A star above the cities



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Jungle of the ruins

-Aditi Mishra

City-dwellers of the world, a shout-out to you all

For waking up to believe that *today* is going to be a great day.

Alarms go off, standstill of dreams, the world that was momentarily paused
and devoid of destruction, resumes to fall apart, again.

Routines, schedules, meetings and appointments are basically all that keeps
you up and about all day long.

WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram handles feature your "I-have-a-knack-for-
photography" captures.

Day progresses by - some accomplish deadlines while some tend to heavy
hearts.

Cheers to victory and a bandage of hope,
Silence engulfs the night.

Hope, we abide by when everything seems to be crumbling down

Yet you restrict that feeling to a mere figure of speech?

From the tring of alarms to the beeps of smart phones, we evolved.

But did we really move forward in all directions?

Maybe we left behind and over-looked one tiny little detail? Wee little duty
towards the promise of a better tomorrow?

Little - an understatement running out of time.

Clocks ticking and guilt-ridden conscious somehow convinces us to do better
and to do "my bit".

Latin America adopted Bus Rapid Transit while leading travel magazines
publish their '10 ways to' on environmental causes.

West needs to retrofit according to some. "It is expensive!" they exclaim.

You read, you realize, you implement.

Maybe you decide to walk over taking a cab, all your favourites tunes tuned in
while giant mountains of trash keep your company along the way

Maybe you step out to "get some fresh air" and the stench of rotten garbage
doesn't get to you much.

Maybe..

However, we're individuals later but a family of the earth first.

To be able to get by today while maintaining a certain level for tomorrow is
sustenance.

Maybe it is time to create sustainable cities where poison doesn't thrive.

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SOLACE ON PAPER, CRISIS ON GROUND -Pushpendra Chourdiya

Let's not measure the outcome by the number of resolutions passed but by the number of lives improved.

400,000 people finding refuge in Ukiah, Bangladesh are the stateless people of Myanmar, fighting for life. In the present regime of Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, the Rohingya Muslims are forced to dwell into different countries on the call of ethnic cleansing in the Rakhine state of Buddhist dominant Myanmar. Amidst this human epidemic, bigger powers are busy preparing themselves to answer with fire and fury on the daily testing of nuclear missile by frenzy monarch of North Korea.

All these incidents in past one month have strained the UN chief to urge global leaders, to repair a world of piece and create world of peace. Cities, which are hub for ideas, commerce, culture, science, and lots more, have become the epicenter of catastrophic demands. On 25th September 2017 when the world turns 2 (after the UN's announcement of 17 sustainable development goals), the pledge to bring solace and harmony seems unheard by a large sect of our urbanizing cities. Today 50% (3.5 billion people) of world population resides in cities with on 3% land and a major populace resides in slums (828 million people). Our cities already consume 80% of global material and produce 75% of carbon emissions.

Robots, driverless tractors, bullet trains, nuclear missiles- all these new boots stitched in the name of urbanization have also navigated a path for crime, climate change and other vulnerable issues. Rapid urbanization has links with poverty, public health, migration etc. It's high time now and we need to look upon modernizing villages as a lender of last resort. Besides developing cities, let us also develop rural education, health and land. In order to curtail the ever burgeoning migrations rates we have to strengthen the roots of villages. Inclusive education and health, resilient waste management and sustainable use of limited resources is the sober solution in the status quo which can derive the 2030 urbanized cities.

Save, Stabilize and rapidly Strengthen

We cannot overcome any challenge in solidarity.

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