

# *The Indian* EXPRESS

## **‘Forests of the world under siege’**

By: **Express News Service** | Mumbai | March 9, 2015



### **Quest asked students of Mumbai schools: Is destruction of the world’s forests inevitable as our need for land and food grows?**

Man or humankind as a whole, has always been expanding. Every year, roughly 19 million babies are born all over the world and in about 3 months later, these 19 million new-borns would create demand for more food and all kind of life essentials. That’s right; we expand at that kind of rate. No wonder China that boasts as the country with most population had to result with something like one child policy to sustain. To make matter worst, as medicinal knowledge increase, our mortality rates are also steadily decreasing. Diseases or illness that would have kill people once are now curable to say the least. Basically, less people are dying due to illness while more get to live to old age, increasing the population even more as well as the need for foods and land. As of

now, forests all over the world are being destroyed. Even the biggest forest as of this time, the Amazon forest is under siege. Being largest in the world it is also known as the lung of the world. **-Adwait Bhostekar, IX-D, St. Francis High School (Vasai)**

To gain new experiences and transforming the existing information is the one of the process of learning. It’s easy to carry for the children to learn because it’s obtained from the parents due to repeated observational learning. Children will appreciate what their parents did without judging them because they are the best role models and closed with them. By that, children have an ability to learn more from observing what others did. Children learn good or bad from what they watch,

how they communicate with others, their lifestyle and way of living. They might cope with it fast because they spend most of their time with them. Children may tend to copy the information which is the most characteristic of human due to children are into the phase that they rapidly copy the behavior of their parents. If the children spend their time with others besides the parents, they may adopt many habits from the society. They might learn good moral values and if their neighborhood and society members have some bad qualities it influences them negatively. **-Imran Khan, IX-B, St. Xavier's High School, Kashigaon**

In ancient time, people used to live as clans in small areas of land that they claim as their own. These clans live independently of each other without even knowing of their existence .but as need for food and resources increase, their land get bigger. At some point, they get so huge that some clans started to clash for the first time in their history. Then come the age of exploration when people are racing to get more land beyond the sea. After the age of conquest, knowing that their land would not grow more, people start setting their sight on the forest. One of the causes for this deforestation is without doubt, the logging activity, be it legal or illegal. A handful of international logging companies are cutting down the rainforests at record rates every year. As much as I do not want to admit it, at this pace, destruction of world's forest is inevitable. **-Jay Monpra, IX-D, St. Francis high school (Vasai)**

The problem that our planet wasn't meant to fit 8 billion humans and all the other life we have here and the Earth isn't going to grow fast enough to fit 8 billion people in 12 years and what happens after 8 billion? As medicinal knowledge increased, the mortality rate steadily decreased – which is a great thing in many ways. Illnesses that would have killed people a hundred years ago are easily cured. Birth complication that would have meant the death of the baby and the mother are easily overcome. Basically, less people

die and more people live to a ripe old age than in years gone by. This means, our need for land and food is growing along with our population. Every day, forests are cut down to make space for condos or maybe just for wood. There are ways that we can slow the destruction such as reusing old abandoned buildings or destroying them to make new buildings but these alternatives are both costly and hard which means no one is willing to do them. **-Mukul Gaikwad, IX-A, St. Mary's High School, Mira**

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For hundreds of years the upper class of society have indulged in lavish extravaganzas of gourmet foods as forms of celebration, mourning and just plain living; However, did these lavish beings, or even us mere mortals in the middle class, ever think about what exactly we are eating? Everybody should grow more of their own food because it can help you save money, increase the overall health of your family in numerous ways and the additional benefit of growing your own

food having become fashionable in recent years. Everyone should grow more of their own food because it is an easy money saver. Growing your own food helps to save money because “your grocery bill will shrink as you begin to stock your pantry with fresh produce from your backyard.”<sup>1</sup> With a recommended 5 servings of fruit and vegetables per day and produce prices going through the roof, there has never been a better time to invest in an inexpensive packet of seeds for a vegetable garden and enjoy high quality produce, with the added incentive of saving much money per year. **-Pallavi Khetre, IX-B, St. Mary's High School, Mira**

The world's forest play an important role such as regulating climates and provide habitat for many species on earth. The global rate of forest destruction have increased since 1980's and the World Resources Institute estimated that deforestation is averaged 16.9 million hectares annually and if this continue, there would be no forests remaining by sometime between the years 2040 and 2060. If the green natural resources is destroyed, we will face many serious consequences such as global warming, disaster or even extinction. Firstly, it's knowledgeable that now people have to suffer the climate change resulted by the greenhouse effect caused by carbon dioxide. Generally, carbon dioxide is absorbed by trees which can prevent the greenhouse effect. However, those filter machines are reducing continually and this will caused many troubles in which there is global warming. This will lead to climate change that will caused some trouble such as warmer temperature, wind direction change and higher sea level. Furthermore, a lot of carbon dioxide can pollute the environment and harmed the global health. **-Pratik Tambe, IX B, St. Xavier's high School, Kashigaon**

The society is like an age old engine begging more oil to be spoiled in its rusting piston. The oil over here defines the place of trees. Even a small chit like the one used in secret ballot system for

voting would require thousands and lakhs of trees to be cut down.

Then what about in just one semester. The trees are living was proved by an Indian. Now-we Indians itself are proving the earth a dead planets as these plants are the inner soul of the planet.the earth is 4.6 billion years old, scaling it to 46 years, humans have been here for 4 hours, the industrial revolution started 1 minute ago and in this 1 minute we've destroyed more than half of the world's forest . You have less than 1 minute remaining, pace your steps because your countdown has begun already!- **Rudra Chogale, IX-H, St.Joseph's High School, New Panvel [SSC]**

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