

Hyderabad Schools March against Climate Change

Skipping School to Save the Earth...#FridaysforFuture



**DEMAND ACTION!! MARCH WITH US HYDERABAD
@CITIZENSFORHYD #FFF_HYDERABAD**

**STUDENTS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE
KBR PARK MAIN GATE, MARCH 15, 9 AM
STUDENTS LEAD, ALL CAN JOIN**

89 COUNTRIES, 1057 PLACES, MORE THAN 1 LAKH STUDENTS AND STILL COUNTING.....

Students in towns and cities across the world are set to miss school and go on strike on March 15th, 2019 in a fight against climate change. They are inspired by Greta Thunberg, a 15 year old Swedish school girl, who has protested against government inaction regarding climate change.

The movement has spread rapidly. On Friday, 15 March, strikes by school children have been planned in hundreds of cities across the world. **More than a lakh students will be on strike. This will be the largest strike of its kind in the world to date.**

Our Hyderabad students are also joining this movement at KBR Main Gate as a part of the global demonstration. The students/young people say:

- *“What we need our politicians and our government to understand is that everything they do today comes at a price for future generations.”*
- *“We are not doing this for fun, but because we don’t have a choice.”*
- *“The adults have failed us and we now need to take things in our own hands.”*
- *“The future of our planet is looking really bleak, and all the politicians are asleep. We have to wake them up, and I think thousands of kids on the streets will do just that.”*
- *“Political ‘will’ in India is more inclined towards projects for elections rather than long term sustainability. This has to change.”*

What are the Hyderabad Students on Strike demanding from the State of Telangana?

Climate change is already impacting millions of small farmers, agriculturalists, poor women, fishers, and urban people everywhere in India, in the form of droughts (Maharashtra), floods (most recently, Kerala) heat stress (Andhra Pradesh and Telangana), sea level rise (West Bengal and most other states), and erratic and intense downpours all over the country.

The strikers around the world have slightly different demands, but the common theme is that they want their governments to aggressively cut **their greenhouse gas emissions**.

For Hyderabad the students have the following demands which they want KTR and other ministers to start taking action on.

Finalise the Master Plan: The back and forth on this issue has been happening for quite some years even as destruction in the name of infrastructure continues. The chief minister and his ministers who deal with urban affairs need to set a timeline and adhere to it strictly. “We want action and implementation.” The following guidelines should be followed while drafting the Master Plan:

- a) Climate change as the number one priority. Economic development and project proposals cannot take precedence over the environment, as is currently the case.
- b) We are for development but it has to be sustainable and not short-sighted development. “We are here for generations to come, not interested in 5-year planning like governments” say the students. Building more flyovers is short-sighted planning.
- c) It has to be pro—people and not just cater to the city’s elites. It needs to take into account all the segments of society and hence be accommodative of the city’s majority population. Mass transit systems, bicycle paths, pedestrian walkways, and public spaces need to be developed on a large scale rather than only facilitate the movement of private vehicles which cater to only a small and more privileged part of the population.

Till this Master Plan is finalised, all major projects like the “Strategic Road Development Plan” that are destroying the environment have to be immediately stopped. Unplanned growth is what is going to affect and destroy the environment. The authorities are answerable to the students. The following is their take on projects that directly impact young people, which they want the state to take note of:

- *No flyovers on the Ecosensitive Zone of KBR Park*
- *Conserve the Eco Sensitive Zone for Mrugavani National Park in Chilkur*
- *Conserve the Eco Sensitive Zone of Pranahitha wildlife sanctuary, Karimnagar*
- *Do not convert any forest land to urban parks*
- *Preserve Bison polo grounds; Drop the plan to construct new Secretariat*

Please join us, this Friday, 15 March, at KBR Park Main Gate. All are welcome.

The event is organised by schools across Hyderabad and supported by the citizen movement: **“Citizens for Hyderabad.”**

For Further details please contact:

Kaajal Maheshwari, volunteer moderator at “Citizens for Hyderabad,” 95500 32000

Arpit Sharma, Fellow teacher at “Teach For India,” 97851 02668