



Carbon
Footprint

SHARPSHOT | DREAMSTIME.COM

Wake up and smell the carbon!

Fifty years ago, there was only one problem the world had to deal with - the nuclear bomb. Today's youth are growing up in the shadow of three bombs any of which can go off any moment, leading to a radical, traumatic change in our lives. First is nuclear threat, second is the burden of debt and lastly, environmental change.

Text: Amisha Shahra

As we continue to increase the carbon levels in the atmosphere to an anomalous level, we never know when the next carbon molecule can tip over some ecosystem and trigger off an abnormal climate change - like melting the Siberian tundra and releasing all of its methane or drying up the Amazon or melting all the sea ice in the North Pole in summer. And once one ecosystem collapses it can bring about unpredictable changes in all others.

Some people think cutting carbon levels means denying ourselves of the things we enjoy - no shopping, no fun.

But I see it differently.

Tackling climate change isn't about self denial, it's about reinvention; reinventing towns and cities, redesigning the way they work and changing the way we all manage our lives.

Of all homes, offices, healthcare centres, etc there are only a handful that are taking tackling climate change seriously. Things may be changing, but they're changing far too slowly. I'm not asking people to see their city through new eyes;