Dear Eco-Club School Principal,

As you are aware, the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic poses a cruel choice to the mankind. It has revealed the vulnerabilities and strengths of every set-up and has made us learn some important lessons.

Already burdened with the problem of pollution and growing population, the situation makes us further vulnerable during COVID-19-like pandemics. It is also a well-established fact that air pollution is a silent killer that affects our lungs and causes serious health problems, especially, in the elderly and children. Similar are the repercussions and challenges w.r.t. the water pollution and waste management. The COVID-19 lockdown has taught us the importance of living a simple life and respecting the indigenous ways.

The World Environment Day is already around the corner on June 5th which is the United Nations' flagship day for promoting worldwide awareness and action for the environment. Over the years, it has grown to be the largest global platform for environmental public outreach.

It is worth appreciating that UNEP has declared the theme for this year as – "Biodiversity".

There is no better time to come together for the planet than now. Climate action, environment protection and biodiversity conservation have to go side by side. We must understand that we share the earth with other life-forms also and we need to devise effective tools for a secure co-existence. While, sensitization and public participation have a major role to play.

May I, therefore, request you to kindly conduct the following online activities at your school level to mark the celebration of world Environment Day 2020:

- Disseminate messages amongst your students on environment protection and biodiversity conservation while also not ignoring the protection from COVID-19, the deadly pandemic.
- To organize online essay competition at school level to apart from other online activities on the environment theme.

It would be highly appreciated if the report in respect of celebration of the World Environment Day by your school may be submitted by email at ecoclub.delhi@gov.in.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,

(Arun Mishra)