

Denmark Diplomat's 'Green, Trashy Delhi' Remark

Why In News

- Denmark's diplomat to India, **Freddy Svane** shared a video on X, showing garbage dump outside the embassy building. "I hope somebody will listen to this and take action," Svane said. Hours after the Denmark diplomat raised the issue, the city's civic body cleaned up the area.
- The video shows the **Danish diplomat standing on a road**, with the wall of Denmark embassy to his right.



What It Is All About

- "Welcome to great, green, and trashy New Delhi," Freddy Svane said as he showed the road full of garbage. "Here we have the Danish embassy and we have the Greek embassy over there. This should be a service lane but it is full of trash and people and people come here to do whatever they like to do here," he said. Svane said he hoped somebody would take action on this. "**No more nice words just action.** My friends, dhanyawaad," the Denmark's diplomat to India said. The video ended with a 360-degree shot of garbage dumped near the embassy building.



- He shared the video with the caption: **“Lovely and green New Delhi. Many words but no action. Saddened by this”**. The diplomat tagged the official X account of the Royal Danish Embassy in India, Delhi Chief Minister’s Office, and the Delhi Lieutenant Governor.
- He **had tagged Delhi Chief Minister** Arvind Kejriwal and Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena in the video.
- The **NDMC did not delay in taking up the Ambassador’s appeal**, which gained traction on social media, and cleaned up the lane Wednesday only.



नई दिल्ली नगरपालिका परिषद

New Delhi Municipal Council

- **“I am very proud and so pleased that the NDMC took action within minutes,”** Svane told the media after the cleaning operation.
- By then, various X users had liked, commented and reshared Svane’s post. One of them thanked the Danish ambassador for **“sharing the truth”**.
- This is not the first time that a foreign representative has raised an issue caused by the lackadaisical approach of local authorities. **Last year, Singapore’s High**

Commissioner to India Simon Wong flagged a spelling error in the signboard of the Embassy of Singapore on X, and the New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) later resolved the issue.



- Lieutenant Governor **Vinai Kumar Saxena** voiced similar concerns earlier in March, prompting the envoy's appeal for action.
- Saxena had posted pictures of the national capital's civic problems, highlighting his responsibility to alert the chief minister to these problems.
- In response to the comments, **Arvind Kejriwal** thanked Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena for bringing attention to the problems in the South Delhi neighborhood of Sangam Vihar. Kejriwal promised to solve the flaws that were found and acknowledged the significance of doing so within a week.