

### **Denmark Foreign Minister Mr. Jeppe Kofod visited Barapullah DESMI Waste Water Management Project Site, New Delhi**

Mr. Jeppe Kofod, Foreign Minister, Denmark visited the Barapullah DESMI Project Site on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020 to understand the challenges in the area of waste water management and to discuss the scope of Danish technologies and collaboration with research institutions which may be engaged in this area. He was accompanied by Dr. Renu Swarup, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India.

Minister Mr. Jeppe Kofod has shown great interest and commitment for establishing Indo-Danish partnership with strong underpinning for strengthening the collaboration in area of waste water management and green transition.

Considering sewage and sludge management as an important environmental issue, the DBT, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India has initiated a novel holistic clean-up project in collaboration with DESMI EnviRO-CLEAN A/S, Denmark in January, 2019 at Sun Dial Park in Sarai Kale Khan area of South Delhi, Delhi.

The aim of the project is to trap the floating debris from the drain and convert it into value added products and to prove the sustainability of the process with suitable gasification/carbonization technology to mitigate waste of mixed feedstock, collected from rivers or lakes besides reducing the damage to the local environment. About 150 kg to 200 kg floating debris were collected on daily basis, however, from February 2019; the waste mater collection has grown up to 5.0 tonnes/day.

The Barapullah drain is one of the main water transport ways in New Delhi that collects water from various smaller water drains from all over the city. It is mainly used for waste water and sewage transport. Because of the high population density, water scarcity and size of the waste water flow, the Barapullah drain is an excellent location for research in the area of waste water management.

The demo projects aims to reduce the percentage of floating debris in Barapullah drain, generation of sustainable energy source at the site, and to develop valuable products and technologies that can benefit local environment and community. It also focuses on issue like

local employment generation, getting engaged in cleaning of Indian rivers. In general, project's research output will help in developing water, energy and waste sector of India, and support local manufacturing industry engaged in Make in India initiative.

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