



WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

(Department of Environment, Govt. of West Bengal)

Paribesh Bhawan

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MEMO NO.: 371 -365-WPB-SEE-K.O.-GEN/2006

DATE: 05-05-2008

DIRECTION

WHEREAS, **M/S. DURGAPUR CHEMICALS LIMITED (DCL)** (hereinafter referred as the Industry) manufactures caustic soda using mercury cell in its factory at Village - Raturia, P. O. – Durgapur, Dist. – Burdwan, PIN – 713 215

WHEREAS, the industry continuously discharges mercury, a highly toxic metal beyond the permissible limit from its final outlet to Tamlah Nullah, a discharge canal ultimately discharging to river Damodar.

WHEREAS, the industry was given several opportunities to contain the mercury level within the permissible limit with necessary treatment, recycling of mercury bearing effluent, restructuring of drainage network for facilitating the same.

WHEREAS, in a hearing conducted by the Member Secretary of the Board on 31st July 2007, Mr. A. K. Upadhyay, Managing Director of the Industry personally assured the Board to comply with the discharge standard within one month from the date of hearing (within 31st August, 2007).

WHEREAS, monitoring conducted by the Board after August, 2007 showed continuous noncompliance of mercury discharge standard and in some other cases by a large margin.

WHEREAS, the Chairman, West Bengal Pollution Control Board personally heard the matter calling Mr. A. K. Upadhyay, Managing Director, of the Industry for a hearing on 05-05-2008.

WHEREAS, the Managing Director of the industry could not assure the Board about the compliance of mercury discharge standard before August, 2008.

NOW THEREFORE, in due consideration of the facts and circumstances as stated above, the level of mercury recorded in the downstream water of effluent discharge point of M/S. DCL to Tamlah Nullah and also the serious environmental implication of discharge of toxic metal mercury or its compounds to any water body at high concentration, **M/S. DURGAPUR CHEMICALS LIMITED**, having its Chlor Alkali Plant at Durgapur is hereby directed as follows:

1. The industry will immediately stop discharge of mercury containing effluent (more than 0.01 ppm of mercury) to Tamlah Nullah or any other water bodies.

2. The discharge of mercury in the effluent outlet will be regularly monitored by the Board from the afternoon of 06-05-2008 to verify the compliance of direction No.1 above.
3. In case of noncompliance of direction No.1 above, the Board will be at liberty to issue any regulatory order including closure of the entire operation of the industry for safeguarding the human health.

This order has been issued by the Board under the Provision of Section 33A of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, after taking necessary approval from the Competent Authority.

Order

Sd/-

(Dr. D. Chakraborty)

**Chief Scientist & Head-Technical Cell
West Bengal Pollution Control Board**