WHEREAS, M/s. Ispat Damodar Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as the industry) located at Vill.-Nabagram, P.O.- Digha, P.S.- Neturia, Dist.- Purulia, Pin – 723 121 is a sponge iron, ferro alloy & M.S. Ingot manufacturing industry.

AND WHEREAS, the industry has 2X100 TPD Rotary Kilns, 4X7.5 MVA Sub-merged Electric Arc Furnaces (SEAFs), 2X4 MT/heat & 1X8 MT/heat Induction Furnaces, Captive Power Plant of 8.5 MW using AFBC boiler and WHRBs. The Rotary Kilns are provided with GCT and ESP as air pollution control devices (APCDs) and connected to a common stack of height 45m from G.L. 2X4 MT Induction Furnaces are provided with spark arrestor, bag filter as APCD and the 1X8 MT Induction furnace is provided with only bag filter and all the 3 furnaces are connected to a common stack of height 30m from G.L. Three(3) SEAFs are provided with separate bag filters as APCD and connected to stack of height 30m from G.L. The 4th SEAF is provided with bag filter, heat exchanger as APCD and connected to a stack of height 30m from G.L.

AND WHEREAS, a compliant was received from Shri K.P. Singhdeo, MLA again against the sponge iron industries located around Panchet Hill at Raghunathpur sub-division of Purulia district alleging severe air pollution in the surrounding areas.

AND WHEREAS, the industry was inspected by officials of WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (hereinafter referred to as the Board) on 21/07/2015. During inspection both the Rotary Kilns, 3 nos. SEAFs and Captive power plant were found in operation. High emission was noticed through the stack of SEAF 2, 3 & 4 during inspection. Huge fugitive emission was also noticed from SEAF section. Internal road condition especially in sponge iron division was found to be poor. Large amount of solid wastes was found to be stored in an adjacent land. Green belt development in and around the industry was found to be inadequate.

AND WHEREAS, earlier the industry was called for a hearing on 31/10/2014 following a complaint lodged by Shri K.P. Singhdeo, MLA against the sponge iron industries located around Panchet Hill at Raghunathpur sub-division of Purulia district. Subsequently the industry was directed on 28/11/2014 to submit a Bank Guarantee of Rs. 10.00 lakh and a Pollution Cost of Rs. 2.00 lakh. The industry submitted the BG and PC amount. BG is valid upto 26/12/2015.

AND WHEREAS, the industry was again called for hearing on 12/05/2015 for failing to comply with the environmental norms as well as Board’s directions and the industry was directed to take necessary measures for improving the efficiency of the air pollution control systems attached to all units within 31/08/2015.

AND WHEREAS, the ‘Consent to Operate’ for 2 nos. Rotary Kilns, 3 nos. Induction Furnaces is valid up to 31/10/2015, Consent to Operate for 1st & 2nd SEAF is valid upto 31.10.2016 and for 3rd & 4th SEAF is valid upto 31/12/2015, CFO for the CPP is valid upto 31.12.2015.
AND WHEREAS, the industry was called for a technical hearing on 21/08/2015 at the head office of the Board due to violation of environmental norms as recorded above.

AND WHEREAS, the Director of the industry appearing in the hearing agreed with the above mentioned observations of the Board. He submitted that they have installed Opacity meter for the Rotary Kilns for continuous stack monitoring and will initiate necessary action for sending the online data to the State Board as early as possible. He also submitted that they have already disposed about 35000 MT solid wastes in abandoned open cast coal mine and rest quantity will be cleared within a period of six months. He mentioned that they have planted almost 1500 saplings in and around the industry’s premises in this rainy season.

NOW THEREFORE, considering the violations recorded above and the submission made by the industry, the Board hereby directs M/s. Ispat Damodar Ltd. located at Vill.-Nabagram, P.O.-Digha, P.S.- Neturia, Dist.- Purulia, Pin – 723 121 as follows:

1. That, the industry shall always operate with proper functioning of pollution control system in order to comply with the particulate emission standard.

2. That, the industry shall take necessary measures for improving the efficiency of the air pollution control system attached to SEAFs at the earliest.

3. That, under no circumstances the industry shall store any solid wastes in open space outside the factory premises. They shall take urgent steps for complete removal of solid wastes stored in the adjacent land at the earliest.

4. That, the industry shall improve the condition of internal roads at the earliest.

5. That, the industry must comply with all the directives issued by the Board vide Memo No. 1044-4A/ WPB/CE-II/GEN/2008 dated 01/06/2012.

6. That, 50% of the existing Bank Guarantee of Rs.10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakhs) i.e. Rs.5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakhs) stands forfeited.

The Environmental Engineer, Asansol Regional Office of the Board is requested to keep strict vigil on the industry. If the industry is again found to be non-complying, the Board may take stricter regulatory action against the industry.

This direction is issued in exercise of the powers conferred under provisions of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules made thereunder as amended, after being approved by the competent authority.

By Order,

Sd/-
Chief Engineer
Operation & Execution Cell
West Bengal Pollution Control Board