WHEREAS, M/s. Rashmi Cement Ltd. (Unit-III) (Steel & Power Division) [hereinafter referred to as the industry] located at Vill.- Jitusole, P.O.+P.S.+Dist.- Jhargram, Pin-721 507 is engaged in manufacturing of sponge iron, ferro alloys and ingot/billet. The industry has Rotary Kilns (10x100 TPD, 1x350 TPD), SEAF (3x9 MVA) and induction furnace (1x8 MT). The DRI Kilns are connected with individual WHRB, the captive power generation capacity is 15 MW. The industry has no AFBC/CFBC for generation of power. The coal char is being utilized in AFBC/CFBC boiler of M/s Orissa Metaliks Pvt. Ltd. (Unit-I) and ash is being used for filling of morrum khadan. The industry has installed online continuous emission monitoring system for the stacks of Rotary Kilns.

AND WHEREAS, a mass compliant is received by SDO Office, Jhargram Sadar regarding spreading of solid waste generated from the unit within nearby agricultural land of Bagmuri village thereby causing pollution and other environmental nuisance.

AND WHEREAS, the industry was inspected by the official of the West Bengal Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred to as the Board) on 24/01/2019. During inspection, it was observed that a large land area adjacent to one side of its present unit premises was being used as indiscriminate dumping ground of dolochar generated from the unit. This newly used land was not surrounded by boundary wall. Huge agricultural area surrounds the said unit. It was informed by the representative of the unit that presently this land is being used by the unit for low land filling by its generated solid waste. It was also observed that the unit has stored huge quantity of iron ore fines in open area.

AND WHEREAS, the Consent to Operate of the unit is valid up to 31/12/2021. As available in the office record the unit does not possess the Authorization for Hazardous waste.

AND WHEREAS, the industry was called for a hearing on 03/03/2020 for non-compliance of environmental norms as observed during inspection by the Board official as well as mass public complaint against the industry.

AND WHEREAS, the Deputy Magistrate & Deputy Collector, Jhargram & 2nd Officer, SDO, Jhargram Sadar was present during the hearing on behalf of the Sub Divisional Officer, Jhargram Sadar, Jhargram. The district authority of Jhargram visited the said iron factory on 06/12/2019 and observed that indiscriminate dumping of solid waste by the industry on the agricultural field and evidences of the deposition of coal dust/ash (black in colour) on different surfaces like leaves of plant/trees, roads and the boundary wall of the Jhargram University.

AND WHEREAS, the complainants also raised similar allegation against the industry regarding dust pollution and infertility of agricultural land due to indiscriminate dumping of solid waste about dumping of different solid waste. They also complained that surface water of pond located nearby irrigation canal, used by the villagers, is being covered with coal dust and causing several skin diseases.

AND WHEREAS, the Director of the industry appeared in the hearing and submitted the following:-

1. They have disposed the accumulated coal char/dolo char to the land purchased by the unit and will immediately remove coal char/dolo char from the agricultural land and assured of no such accumulation in future. They have also stated that henceforth, no solid waste like dolo char, coal char, iron ore fines will be disposed outside the factory premises.

2. They have assured to restore the quality of the soil of the agricultural land to its initial condition. The work will be done in consultation with district authority / local villagers.
3. They have assured to install Automatic continuous ambient air quality monitoring stations at the suitable location within the Baghmuri villages in consultation with the district authority/local villagers and the data so generated will be brought to the public domain by uploading the same in their website.
4. They are committed to undertake large-scale afforestation programme for development of greeneries in and around the factory premises to achieve 33% of the total area as per condition of Environmental Clearance.
5. They have assured to take necessary steps for cleaning the irrigation canal and for making a diversion of the said canal to facilitate for cultivation.
6. They have further assured for plantation of Sal trees on the Govt. land in consultation with the district authority. They have further committed to conduct health camp in the local village in consultation with district authority/local villagers and also may arrange for drinking water for the local villagers.

AND WHEREAS, the Technical Committee is opined that the disposal of coal and dolo char is basically transferring the environmental problem from the factory premises to another area without addressing the environmental issues arising out of indiscriminate disposal of coal and dolo char.

NOW THEREFORE, considering the above, M/s. Rashmi Cement Ltd. (Unit-III) (Steel & Power Division) located at Vill.- Jitusole, P.O.+P.S.+Dist.- Jhargram, Pin-721 507 is hereby directed as follows:-

1. That, the industry shall always operate with efficient pollution control system so as to comply with the environmental norms.
2. That, the industry shall immediately remove coal char and dolo char from the agricultural land and ensure no such accumulation in future.
3. That, the industry shall immediately restore the quality of soil of the agricultural land to its former condition for cultivation. This job will have to be done after consultation with the concerned district authority and local villagers.
4. That, under any circumstances, the industry shall not dispose any solid waste like dolo char, coal char, ESP dust outside the boundary wall of the factory premises.
5. That, the industry shall store its iron ore fines under covered shed.
6. That, the industry shall take necessary steps for proper handling and management of its coal and dolo char.
7. That, the industry shall install automatic continuous ambient air quality monitoring station at the suitable location within the Baghmuri villages in consultation with the district authority/local villagers.
8. That, the industry shall take necessary steps to bring the data analysis report in public domain.
9. That, the industry shall take necessary steps for closing its main gate at the main road side towards proposed Jhargram University and to open a gate at another side for entrance and exit purpose.
10. That, the industry shall take necessary steps to clean the irrigation canal for free flow of water in the canal and to make a diversion of the said canal to facilitate for cultivation.
11. That, the industry shall develop green buffer zone along the inside periphery of the factory premises covering at least 33% of total area and shall build a green buffer zone in between the Jhargram Road and their unit.
12. That, the industry shall take necessary steps for plantation of Sal trees on the Govt. land in consultation with the district authority.
13. That, the industry shall conduct a health camp for health check up of the local villagers in consultation with district authority/local villagers.
14. That, the industry shall arrange for drinking water for the local villagers.
15. That, the industry shall appoint a HR Manager to liaison with the local people of the village.
16. That, the industry shall submit detailed future plan under CSR activities in consultation with concerned local authority as well as local villagers.
17. That, the industry shall submit an Environmental Compensation (EC) of Rs. 50,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty lakhs) only, within ten (10) days from the date of issuance of this direction, by Demand Draft in favour of WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD payable at Kolkata for non-compliance of environmental norms. The EC amount will be utilised to meet up the cost in regard to agriculture land, drinking water, surface water etc. through district authority.
18. That, the industry shall execute a **Bank Guarantee** (proforma enclosed) of **Rs. 50,00,000/-** (Rupees Fifty lakhs) only valid for twelve (12) months within fifteen [15] days from the date of issuance of this direction in favour of the **WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD** (Corporation Bank IFSC Code **CORP 0000663**) as an assurance to comply with the above direction as well as environmental norms.

The Asst. Environmental Engineer & In-charge, Haldia regional office of the Board will be requested to conduct an inspection of the industry within **July 2020** along with stack monitoring for all the stacks connected to Rotary Kilns, SEAFs as well as fugitive emission monitoring and submit a report at the earliest. If the industry is again found to be non-complying with the Board’s direction, the Board will take strict regulatory action like forfeiture of BG, closure with disconnection of electricity of the industry.

This direction is issued in exercise of the powers conferred under the provision of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules made thereunder after being approved by the Competent Authority.

The delay in issuing the order is due to the declaration of lockdown period by the State Government.

By Order,

**Sd/-**

Chief Engineer

Operation & Execution Cell

West Bengal Pollution Control Board