WHEREAS, M/S. ARYAVRATA STEEL PVT. LTD. (hereinafter referred as the industry) operates its sponge iron unit having 3 X 50 TPD rotary kilns at P. O. – Montipa Mohanpur (near Lodhasuli), P. S. – Jhargram, Dist. – Paschim Medinipur was called for hearing on the basis of the report of inspection carried out by the WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (hereinafter referred as the Board) revealing gross noncompliance.

WHEREAS, the inspecting team monitoring the functioning of the three sponge iron units in the area to assess their environmental performance as there is serious public resentment against the operation of the units causing environmental degradation of the surrounding areas.

WHEREAS, it was observed during the inspection that the industry was operating two of the three rotary kilns without proper functioning of the ESP linked to the rotary kilns for controlling emission of particulate matter. It was also recorded that one field of ESP was not in operative condition making the capacity of the ESP being reduced by a significant margin. In fact, high level of emission both from stacks of the rotary kilns as well as fugitive emission was recorded. Photographs of black smoke emission from the stack of the rotary kilns and also high fugitive emission were taken during the inspection, which are depicted below:
WHEREAS, it was also observed that the house keeping of the industry is very poor and the unit has not satisfactorily complied with the six points directives issued by the Board for controlling fugitive emission. The industry is yet to construct concrete road which is one of the vital points to control fugitive emission from re-suspension of dust during movement of vehicles. Besides, the water sprinkling arrangement to arrest was very much inadequate as also the dry defogger.

WHEREAS, during the day of inspection, the pollution abatement system was functioning so inefficiently that the inspecting Board officials had to issue direction for stopping operation of the industry, which was also recorded in the inspection book.

WHEREAS, considering the serious environmental non-compliance of the industry in question as observed and recorded by the inspecting officials of the Board, M/S. ARYAVRATA STEEL PVT. LTD. is hereby directed as under:

1. That, the industry should immediately stop operation of the sponge iron unit (including three rotary kilns) pending taking sufficient steps for upgradation of the emission control system and compliance of the six points directives for controlling fugitive emission in a meaningful manner.

2. That, the industry should submit a pollution cost of Rs.1.00 Lakh (Rupees One Lakh) within fifteen days from the date of issuance of this direction by Demand Draft payable at Service Branch at Kolkata/Bankers Cheque for operating the rotary kilns with willful inefficient functioning of the ESP.

3. That, the industry should also submit a Bank Guarantee (proforma enclosed) of Rs.2.00 Laks (Rupees Two Laks) valid for twelve [12] months within fifteen days from the date of issuance of this direction in favour of the WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD to ensure that this non compliant attitude of the industry is not repeated in future causing environmental degradation in the area.

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

The Superintendent of Police, West Bengal Police, Dist. – West Midnapur is requested to ensure that the industry should stop operation of its sponge iron division (including three rotary kilns) till further order from the Board. He is also requested to ensure that the local police station should submit a compliance report to the State Board within seven days from the receipt of this Memo.

Environmental Engineer, Haldia Regional Office of the State Board is requested to take necessary steps for proper execution of this direction for stop operation of sponge iron unit (including three rotary kilns) involving the local police station and Nodal Police Officer of the concerned district.

By Order,

Sd/-

(Dr. D. Chakraborty)
Chief Scientist & Head – Technical Cell
West Bengal Pollution Control Board