WHEREAS, M/s. Durgapur Thermal Power Station (D.V.C.) (hereinafter referred to as the industry), located at P.O. & P.S.- Durgapur, Dist.- Burdwan, Pin – 713 307 is a coal based thermal power plant of capacity 1X140 MW and 1X210 MW.

AND WHEREAS, a public complaint was lodged by the villagers of Angadpur area to the WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (hereinafter referred to as the Board) against the industry causing environmental pollution in the locality. The Sub- Divisional Magistrate, Durgapur submitted a letter Vide Memo No. 649/Con/Dgp dated 08/04/2013 to the Board regarding mass complaint for dust pollution caused by the Damodar Valley Corporation, Durgapur Thermal Power Station. A complaint was also lodged by Sri Bipadataran Bagdi, Secretary, Angadpur High School against the said industry.

AND WHEREAS, following the above mentioned mass public complaint, the industry was inspected jointly by the official of the Durgapur Regional Office of the Board along with Shri T. Bhattacharjee, Dy. Magistrate, Durgapur SDM Office on 09/04/2013. During inspection the following observations were made by the inspecting officials:

- During inspection unit-3 (140 MW) & unit-4 (210 MW) of the industry were found in operation.
- Power Generation of unit-4 was 155 MW. The unit-3 was lit up in the morning hour of 09/04/13
- High emission was observed from both the stacks of unit-3 & unit-4.
- ESP for unit-3 was not in operation (as the boiler of this unit was in oil support) and ESP for unit-4 was in operation but 4 nos. fields were not functioning.
- It has Sewage Treatment Plant for its township but no solid domestic waste collection and disposal facility was observed.
- Fly ash and bottom ash, generated due to combustion of coal was evacuated from the plant in the form of slurry with the help of ash slurry pump and disposed of into the existing ash ponds.
- Presently wet fly ash disposal facility is in existence in the plant. However, works for dry ash disposal facility is going on.
- Ash ponds are located close to the Angadpur High School and residents of Ward No. 37 of Durgapur Municipal Area.
- Ash Dykes and approach road for ash ponds were found full of dry ash. Ash was evacuated from ash pond and conveyed for filling up of abandoned OCP coal mine.
Deposition of ash particle was observed at Angadpur High School and locality of Ward No. 37 of Durgapur Municipal Corporation that may be due to ash evacuation and conveying by dumper from ash ponds as well as high air blown towards locality.

Besides Angadpur High School, deposition of dust/ash particle was also observed at Angadpur Jr. Basic School, Angadpur PHC, and roofs of nearest buildings.

Insufficient plantation was observed along the periphery of the ash pond area.

Ash ponds as well as ash dykes were not built or maintained properly. Top of the ash dyke was not covered with earthen layer or plantation as usually done.

AND WHEREAS, stack samplings were conducted during inspections on 06/12/2012 & 08/03/2013 and the industry could not meet the permissible limit for particulate matter on both occasions. The results are tabulated below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sampling date</th>
<th>Sampling point</th>
<th>Concentration of PM (mg/Nm$^3$)</th>
<th>Permissible limit (mg/Nm$^3$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06/12/2012</td>
<td>Boiler no. 3</td>
<td>452.39</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boiler no. 4</td>
<td>1109.85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/03/2013</td>
<td>Boiler no. 3 (Pass A)</td>
<td>608.39</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boiler no. 4 (Pass A)</td>
<td>233.71</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The industry also failed to meet the liquid effluent discharge standard on 05/10/2012, 06/12/2012 & 16/01/2013 in respect of TSS (302.00 mg/l, 394.00 mg/l & 262.00 mg/l against the permissible limit of 100 mg/l) and on 05/10/2012 in respect of Iron (2.397 mg/l against the permissible limit of 1 mg/l).

AND WHEREAS, the industry was earlier called for a hearing on 24/04/2009 & 30/08/2011 due to improper management and disposal of fly ash and also failure to comply with the particulate emission norms. During the hearing on 24/04/2009, they committed that the commissioning of dry fly ash collection system would be completed by December 2009, but the work is not yet completed.

AND WHEREAS, the industry was called for a hearing on 17.04.13 at the head office of the board for the non-compliance as mentioned above.

AND WHEREAS, the complainants appeared in the hearing and alleged that the fly ash generated from M/s. DTPS is seriously affecting the atmosphere of the village. They also alleged that evacuation of fly ash from the ash ponds caused further increase of secondary emission of dust particles affecting the villagers. They complained of ash deposition in the residential as well as school buildings.

AND WHEREAS, the representatives of the industry appearing in the hearing agreed with the above mentioned observations of the Board. They submitted that they are planning to take immediate action such as wetting of the ash dyke in the vicinity of Angadpur village, increasing the frequency of plying of water tankers, plantation of saplings along the ash dyke area adjacent to Angadpur, Arjunpur & Purusha villages. Regarding commissioning of dry fly ash collection system, the industry submitted that they would require time up to December 2013.
NOW, THEREFORE, considering the non-compliance of environmental norms as also directions issued by the Board and strong public resentment against the industry, M/s. Durgapur Thermal Power Station (D.V.C.), located at P.O. & P.S.- Durgapur, Dist.- Burdwan, Pin – 713 307 is hereby directed as follows:

1. That, the industry shall complete the commissioning of dry fly ash collection system positively by December 2013.
2. That, the industry shall ensure compliance of emission standard in respect of particulate matter by continuous and efficient functioning of the pollution abatement system in all units and will also comply with the effluent discharge standards.
3. That, the industry shall ensure that boilers are operated with oil support for minimum possible time.
4. That, the industry shall always keep the ash in ash ponds wet so as to minimize the carriage of ash with fast blowing winds.
5. That, the industry shall make adequate water sprinkling arrangement for minimizing the secondary dust emission during the excavation operation of ash pond. Ash may be transported in adequately covered vehicles so that there is no spillage of ash during transportation. Water to be sprinkled in the ash conveying road and ash handling area regularly using water tankers fitted with sprinklers.
6. That, the industry shall cover the ash pond areas which are not in use with earthen layer to avoid spreading of fly ash.
7. That, the industry shall cover the top of the ash dyke with earthen layer and plantation along the dyke to be made.
8. That, the industry shall establish a buffer zone between ash pond and nearest locality through extensive plantation.
9. That, the industry shall ensure that no secondary emission of dust is occurred during the excavation, loading & unloading and transportation of ash for ultimate disposal.
10. That, the industry shall execute a Bank Guarantee (proforma enclosed) of Rs. 10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten 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 as an assurance to comply with the above direction.

The Environmental Engineer, Durgapur Regional Office of the State Board is requested to keep vigil over the industry and if the industry is found to violate the direction of the Board, stricter regulatory order will be issued.

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

By Order,

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