DIRECTION

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 having 2X100 TPD Rotary Kilns, 4X7.5 MVA Sub-merged Electric Arc Furnaces (SEAFs), 2X4 MT/heat & 1X8 MT/heat Induction Furnaces, 4.5 MW AFBC boiler and 4 MW 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 bag filter and all the 3 furnaces are connected to a common stack of height 30m from G.L. The 3 nos. SEAFs are provided with separate bag filters as APCD and a separate 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 public complaint was lodged by Shri K.P. Singhdeo, MLA against the sponge iron industries located around Panchet Hill at Raghunathpur sub-division of Purulia district. He has pointed out that the virgin forest of the Hill and the Garpanchkot resort (WBFDCL) are getting affected due to operation of the sponge iron industries. The aerial distance of the sponge iron units are within 4-5km from the Garpanchkot Resort and located on eastern side of the Resort as well as the Hill.

AND WHEREAS, inspection of the industry was carried out by the officials of WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (hereinafter referred to as the Board) on 11/09/2014. During inspection both the Rotary Kilns, 4 nos. SEAFs and Captive power plant were found in operation. High visible emission was noticed through the stacks of SEAF 1 & 2. Internal road condition especially in sponge iron division was found to be poor. Large amount of solid wastes (fly ash, bottom ash of AFBC boiler) was found to be stored in an adjacent land. Green belt development in and around the industry premises was found to be inadequate. Opacity meter for continuous monitoring of stack emission was not found to be installed during inspection. Frequent high stack emission was observed in earlier occasions also and during stack monitoring on 03/07/2014, the value of particulate emission obtained in respect of SEAF 1 was 322.53 mg/Nm$^3$ against the permissible limit of 150 mg/Nm$^3$ and in respect of Rotary Kilns was 327.02 mg/Nm$^3$ against the permissible limit of 100 mg/Nm$^3$. A show cause notice was issued to the industry on 04/09/2014 by EE, Asansol Regional office. The industry is yet to be fully complied with the sixteen point directives issued by the Board on 01/06/2012.

AND WHEREAS, the industry was earlier called for a hearing on 21/11/2013 following a public complaint received from the villagers of Nabagram, P.O.- Digha, P.S.- Neturia, Dist.- Purulia. Subsequently a direction was issued to the industry on 31/12/2013 with imposition of a Bank Guarantee of Rs. 2.00 lakh. The industry submitted the BG amount which is valid upto 10/01/2015.

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 was valid upto 31.10.2014 and for 3rd & 4th SEAF is valid upto 31/12/2015, CFO for the CPP is valid upto 31.12.2015. Hazardous Waste Authorisation of the industry is valid upto 30/11/2014.
AND WHEREAS, the industry was called for a hearing on 31/10/2014 at the head office of the board as a public complaint was lodged by Shri K.P. Singhdeo, MLA against the sponge iron industries located around Panchet Hill at Raghunathpur sub-division of Purulia district and for the non-compliance of environmental norms as observed during inspection by the Board officials.

AND WHEREAS, the Managing Director of the industry appearing in the hearing submitted that they have recently installed Opacity meter for continuous stack monitoring. He also submitted that failure of stack sample in respect of SEAF I & Rotary Kilns had occurred due to damage of bags of the bag filters attached to SEAF 1 and malfunctioning of APCD attached to Rotary Kilns which will be rectified very soon. He stated that they would take steps for Green belt development around the factory premises, disposal of accumulated solid wastes in abandoned open cast coal mine and repairing of the internal roads.

NOW, THEREFORE, considering the non-compliance as observed during inspection by the Board officials, the Board is hereby pleased to direct 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 shut down of its manufacturing activity whenever the pollution control system fails to function due to whatever reason and the same will be intimated to the Board.
3. That, the industry shall make necessary arrangement for disposal of accumulated solid wastes at the earliest. Under no circumstances the industry shall store any solid wastes in open space outside the factory premises.
4. That, the industry shall improve the condition of internal roads at the earliest.
5. That, the industry shall initiate extensive tree plantation in and around the factory premises.
6. That, the industry shall comply with all the directives issued by the Board vide Memo No. 1044-4A/WPB/CE-II/GEN/2008 dated 01/06/2012.
7. That, the industry shall submit a compliance report to the Asansol Regional Office of the Board at the earliest.
8. That, the existing Bank Guarantee of Rs.2,00,000/- (rupees two lakh) executed by the industry will be forfeited.
9. That, the industry shall execute a Bank Guarantee (proforma enclosed) of Rs. 10,00,000/- (Rupees ten lakh) 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 directions.

The Environmental Engineer, Asansol Regional Office of the State Board is requested to keep strict vigil over the industry and if the industry is found running violating the Board’s direction, the Board will be at liberty to take stricter action including closure of the industry with disconnection of electricity.

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 after being approved by the Competent Authority.

By Order,

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