WHEREAS, M/s. Rashmi Cement Ltd. (Steel & Power Division) [hereinafter referred to as the industry] located at Vill.- Jitusole, P.O.+P.S.+Dist.- Jhargram, Pin-721 507 is a Sponge Iron unit having DRI Kiln 10X100TPD, 1X600TPD, & 1X 350TPD. The unit also has 03 nos. SEAF of capacity 9 MVA each and 01 no. Induction furnace of capacity 8 TPH. DRI Kilns are connected with individual WHRB and ESP. All other emission sources are connected with Bag Filter as air pollution control system.

AND WHEREAS, the industry was jointly inspected by the official of the West Bengal Pollution Control Board (hereinafter referred to as the Board) along with SRO-II & TA, Jhargram and BL & LRO, Jhargram on 07.09.2021 following a mass complaint received from Salboni Gram Panchayet against the industry, which was forwarded by the office of the District Magistrate, Jhargram. The complainants alleged during inspection regarding dumping of different types of solid waste generated from the sponge iron unit within its newly acquired land adjacent to their agricultural land resulting complete destruction of fertility of soil and unfit for agriculture. They also alleged that surface water of nearby pond, which is regularly used by the local villagers, is being covered with dust generated from the industry resulting in skin diseases and other health related problems. They complained about the contamination of the nearby pond as well as their agricultural land due to discharge of storm water carrying iron ore fines etc.

AND WHEREAS, the following observations were made by the inspecting officials during inspection:

- The total project area of M/s Orissa Steel & Power Pvt. Ltd. (sister concern of the unit) was not earmarked by boundary wall as in between the project area of the said unit, local agricultural land was also present. Paddy cultivation was grown in the said agricultural land by the villagers in this rainy season.
- Heap of iron ores, coal was stored in the open area with tarpaulin cover within their project site adjacent to the agricultural land and also no boundary wall was present in between the agricultural land and open storage area of the industry.
- It was also observed during inspection that due to heavy rain, huge quantity of storm water was being discharged from the project area which was flowing through the nearby cultivated land due to absence of proper drainage system.
- The industry has not yet developed the irrigation canal for free flow of water in the canal and to make a diversion of the said canal to facilitate for cultivation as per the earlier direction issued by the State Board on 15.06.2020.
- The industry has not yet commissioned automatic continuous ambient air quality monitoring station at the suitable location within the Baghmuri villages in consultation with the district authority/local villagers as per the earlier direction issued by the State Board on 15.06.2020.
- It has been observed that Baghmuri village is situated approx. 01(one) KM away from the project area of M/s Orissa Steel & Power Pvt. Ltd. There is possibility of carryover of dust by wind from flue gas stacks of the industry containing particulate matter (PM) as well as from
open dumping of raw materials by the industry to adjacent agricultural land as well as to village also.

- Coal char of the unit has been utilized in AFBC/CFBC boiler of M/s Orissa Steel & Power Pvt. Ltd(Unit-I), Khragpur, Paschim Medinipur and ash has been used for filling of morrum khadan.

AND WHEREAS, the industry has failed to meet the emission discharge standard on various occasions in last one year. The details are given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of Sampling</th>
<th>Sample collected from</th>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value obtained (mg/Nm³)</th>
<th>Permissible limit (mg/Nm³)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01.09.2021</td>
<td>Rotary Kiln-1&amp;2 (100TPD each)</td>
<td>PM</td>
<td>111.9</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27.04.2021</td>
<td>Rotary Kiln-1&amp;2 (100TPD each)</td>
<td>PM</td>
<td>38.44</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27.01.2021</td>
<td>Rotary Kiln-3,4&amp;5 (100TPD each)</td>
<td>PM</td>
<td>79.83</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.10.2020</td>
<td>Rotary Kiln-12 (600 TPD)</td>
<td>PM</td>
<td>34.14</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AND WHEREAS, the industry was called for a hearing on 29.10.2021 at the head office of the State Board for non-compliance of environmental norms as well as directions issued by the State Board.

AND WHEREAS, Shri Sudhin Giri, Asst. L.A.O, Jhargram was present on behalf of the District Magistrate, Jhargram during the hearing and submitted the following:

- The expansion project area of M/s Orissa Steel & Power Pvt. Ltd. (sister concern of the unit) has not been fully (four sides) earmarked by boundary wall.
- There is no proper drainage system in the project area.
- The industry has abstracted huge ground water for their industrial purpose as well as domestic purpose resulting in decreasing of the ground water level in the locality.
- The project area of M/s Orissa Steel & Power Pvt. Ltd is highly pollution potential area as the expansion project of the said unit is going on.
- There are many Sal trees in the project area. He requested the State Board to look into the matter so that the industry will not cut down the fully grown Sal trees in that area.

AND WHEREAS, Shri Ramkrishna Mandal, BL&LRO, Jhargram was also present during the hearing and said that no restoration work of the damaged agricultural land has been done by the industry. He also said that the industry will approach the Irrigation Dept., Govt. of West Bengal for making a diversion of the irrigation canal to facilitate for cultivation of the local villagers under River Kansabati Project. He mentioned that a survey report has been submitted to the ADM&DL&LRO, Jhargram regarding construction of an approach road from Gardo more to the factory entrance.

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

1. Construction of remaining part of the boundary wall of their expansion project will be completed at the earliest.
2. Raw materials like iron ore fines are kept under covered shed. He assured that no solid waste like dolo char, coal char, iron ore fines will be disposed outside the boundary wall of the factory premises.
3. A rainwater harvesting system has been installed.
4. 3(three) nos. sensor based ambient air quality monitoring stations has been installed at the village of Baghmuri, Krish Garden and Jowalbhanga and the same are properly functioning.
5. No Sal trees will be cut down within the expansion project area.

6. Necessary steps to be taken regarding cleaning of the irrigation canal and to make a diversion of the said canal to facilitate for cultivation.

7. 4 nos. submersible pumps have been installed in Jitusol and Baghmuri village for drinking water facility for the local villagers.

8. They have conducted health camps for health check up of the local villagers.

9. He requested the State Board to intervene the matter for necessary approval from the office of the District Magistrate, Jhargram for the construction of the approach road from Gardo more to their factory entrance.

10. An action taken report regarding status of Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) as per EC conditions would be submitted to the State Board at the earliest along with a copy to the office of the District Magistrate, Jhargram.

AND WHEREAS, Shri Ramkrishna Mandal, BL&LRO, Jhargram was requested during hearing to look into the matter of the following:

- Assessment of plantation of trees (at least 33% of total project area) as made by the industry as per condition of Environmental Clearance and send a report to the State Board accordingly.
- Assessment of the work for cleaning of the irrigation canal to be made by the industry for free flow of water in the canal to facilitate for cultivation of the local villagers.
- Assessment of the work for restoration of the quality of soil of the damaged agricultural land made by the industry. If any private land will be found to be damaged, the owner of the said land will be compensated by the industry.

AND WHEREAS, after assessment of the work for restoration of the quality of soil of the damaged agricultural land, the district authority will send a proposal including details of expenditure for such work to the State Board. The expenditure for the said work will meet from the forfeited amount of the Bank Guarantee as submitted by the industry.

AND WHEREAS, Shri Sudhin Giri, Asst. L.A.O, office of the District Magistrate, Jhargram was requested to expedite the matter regarding necessary approval for construction of the approach road from Gardo more to the factory entrance so that re-suspension of dust at the main road can be eliminated.

NOW THEREFORE, considering the above, M/s. Rashmi Cement Ltd. (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 functioning of pollution control system so as to comply with the environmental norms in respect of stack emission.

2. That, the industry shall complete construction of remaining part of the boundary wall of their factory premises including the expansion project area.

3. That, the industry shall ensure that no accumulation of coal char and dolo char into the adjacent agricultural land.

4. That, the industry shall optimize regarding storing of raw materials like fine iron ores, coal etc. within the unit premises so that no possibility of carryover of dust by wind to the adjacent agricultural land as well as to the village also.

5. That, the industry shall take necessary steps for restoration of the quality of soil of the agricultural land to its former condition for cultivation in consultation with the concerned district authority and local villagers.

6. 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.
7. That, the industry shall immediately take necessary steps for construction of boundary wall in between the agricultural land and open raw material stock yard of the industry so that no possibility of flow of fine iron ores, dolomitic dust by rain water to the adjacent agricultural land.

8. That, the industry shall always store its iron ore fines under covered shed.

9. That, the industry shall share the URL with the State Board for enabling to see air quality data generated from the installed automatic ambient air quality monitoring stations. The same will be shared with the office of District Magistrate, Jhargram.

10. That, the industry shall take necessary steps to bring the air quality data analysis report in public domain.

11. That, the industry shall immediately take necessary steps to clean the irrigation canal for free flow of water in the canal in consultation with concerned district authority.

12. That, the industry shall make a diversion of the irrigation canal to facilitate for cultivation of the local villagers under River Kansabati Project in consultation with the Irrigation Department, Govt. of West Bengal.

13. That, the industry shall develop three tier plantation along the inside periphery (within 15 mtrs. from the boundary wall of the unit) of the factory premises covering at least 33% of total area as per EC conditions.

14. That, the industry shall take necessary steps for plantation of Sal trees on the Govt. land in consultation with the district authority.

15. That, the industry shall not cut down any fully grown Sal trees in the expansion project area without obtaining permission of District Forest Officer.

16. That, the industry shall expedite the matter regarding construction of the approach road from Gardo more to the factory entrance so that re-suspension of dust at the main road would be eliminated.

17. That, to mitigate re-suspension of dusts on the roads, the industry shall take appropriate steps for introduction of sufficient water spraying arrangement.

18. That, the industry shall immediately submit an action taken report regarding status of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) as per EC conditions along with a copy to the office of the District Magistrate, Jhargram.

19. That, the industry shall always comply with the conditions as laid down in the Environmental Clearance during the running of the existing project as well as the expansion project.

20. That, the industry shall either extend the existing Bank Guarantee of Rs. 50,00,000/- (Rupees fifty lakh) which is lying with the Board for further one year or to submit a fresh Bank Guarantee (Proforma enclosed) of the same amount i.e. Rs. 50,00,000/- (Rupees fifty lakh) in favour of the WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (Union Bank of India IFSC Code UBIN0906638) as an assurance to comply with the environmental norms.

21. That, the amount will be forfeited from the existing Bank Guarantee to be proposed by the district authority for restoration of the quality of soil of the damaged agricultural land made by the industry.

22. That, the industry shall submit an Environmental Compensation (EC) of Rs. 10,00,000/- (Rupees ten lakh) 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 gross environmental norms as was observed during inspection as well as the earlier direction issued by the State Board.

State Water Investigation Directorate (SWID) is requested to assess the matter that whether the industry is abstracting ground water as per permission given by them to the industry. SWID is also requested to survey of the said project area whether the ground level of that area is decreasing due to excessive abstraction of ground water by the industry and submit a detailed report to the State Board accordingly.
After 3 (three) months from hereof, a review meeting will be held at the head office of the State Board involving all concerned for assessment of the compliance of the environmental norms as well as the above mentioned directions of the State Board.

The Asst. Environmental Engineer & In-charge, Haldia regional office is requested to keep a strict vigil on the industry. He is also requested to submit a comprehensive report after 3 (three) months from hereof regarding environmental compliance as well as Board’s direction. 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.

By Order,

Sd/-

Chief Engineer

West Bengal Pollution Control Board