



SPEED POST
March 6, 2018

No.: B-33014/163/2017/IPC-II/

18132

To

~~The Director (Operations)
M/s Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited
Visakhapatnam Steel Plant
(Administrative Building)
Visakhapatnam - 530031, A.P.~~

Sub.: Revocation of Closure Directions issued under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 regarding Non-connectivity of on-line effluent and emission monitoring system.

Ref.: Letter No. B-33014/3/2017/IPC-II/1494, dated 06.04.2017 (dispatched on 22.04.2017)

WHEREAS, integrated steel plants and sponge iron units are identified as one of the 17 categories of highly polluting industries which have been discharging environmental pollutants directly or indirectly into the ambient air and water, having potential threat to cause adverse effect on the water and air quality;

WHEREAS, the Central Government has notified the standards for discharge of environmental pollutants from various categories of industries under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the rules framed there under;

WHEREAS, there is need to inculcate habit of self-monitoring within the industries for complying with the prescribed standards and this can be achieved by the methods like installing online effluent and emission monitoring devices;

WHEREAS, for strengthening the monitoring and compliance through self-regulatory mechanism, online source emission and effluent monitoring systems need to be installed and operated by the industries on 'polluter pays principle';

WHEREAS, a direction under section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 was issued on February 05, 2014 to all the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/ Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) for installation of online emission monitoring system w.r.t. PM and SO₂ parameters & online effluent monitoring system w.r.t. pH, BOD, COD and TSS in iron & steel industries;

WHEREAS, effluent parameters phenol and cyanide were added for online installation in iron and steel plants with by-product recovery type coke ovens;

WHEREAS, considering the requests/ representations received from industries/ industrial associations/ SPCBs / PCCs, an extension of time up to June 30, 2015 for installation of online monitoring systems was granted vide direction dated March 02,

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M/s Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited, Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

2015 under section 18 (1) (b) of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981;

WHEREAS, a letter vides dated May 29, 2015 was issued by the Chairman CPCB to all the SPCBs/ PCCs informing that no further extension of time will be given after June 30, 2015 and withdrawal of consent to operate along with forfeiture of bank guarantee of non-complying units;

WHEREAS, concerned SPCB/ PCC issued directions under section 33A of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and section 31A of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 to install the online monitoring system by June 30, 2015 and to submit bank guarantee of 100% of the cost of online emission & effluent monitoring system;

WHEREAS, the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India, vide Notifications No. S. O. 157 (E) of 27.02.1996 and S. O. 730 (E) dated 10.07.2002, has delegated the powers vested under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986) to the Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, to issue directions to any industry or any local body or any other authority for violations of the standards and rules notified under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 and amendment thereof;

WHEREAS, Show Cause Notice under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act 1986, was issued on July 23, 2015 to all integrated iron & steel plants and sponge iron units to show-cause as to why the unit should not be closed down if, the unit has not complied fully with the directions issued w.r.t. installation of online emission & effluent monitoring system by June 30, 2015. Further it was directed to submit documentary evidence regarding status of installation and connectivity;

WHEREAS, **M/s Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited, Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, Visakhapatnam, A.P.** had failed to install online monitoring system and provide 24x7 online connectivity to CPCB server for effluent and emission monitoring system till February 28, 2017. Therefore, in exercise of powers vested under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, M/s Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited, Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, Visakhapatnam, A.P. was directed on 6.4.2017 to close down its operation with immediate effect due to non-compliance of the notice issued on July 23, 2015 and installation and providing 24x7 online connectivity to CPCB server for effluent and emission monitoring system as per guidelines of CPCB.

WHEREAS, representations from the industry vide letter dated 05.05.2017, 29.07.2017 is received in response to aforesaid closure Directions. In reference to that, letter dated 06.07.2017 and 13.09.2017 was communicated to the industry for submission of compliance report on completion of work.

WHEREAS, unit was inspected by CPCB, RD- Bangalore on 20 /21 .09.2017 and found non-compliant with emissions from 2 stacks.



WHEREAS, vide CPCB letter dated 22.12.2017 (email dated 01.10.2018) the unit was asked to submit emission test report from a Govt. EP recognized laboratory for stacks found exceeding norms - stacks No. 11 attached to power plant I & II, and stack no. 16 attached to CRMP Flux Kiln 5; Time schedule for construction of guard pond and marine outfall to discharge treated effluent and 100 % fly ash utilization; Compliance status of Hazardous waste generation / collection / disposal and maintenance of proper records. To dispose hazardous waste to TSDF and maintain proper records.

WHEREAS, the unit vide unit letter dated, 04.12.2017 and 10.01.2018 communicated that the unit had installed online monitoring system (OCEMS) and its connectivity with CPCB Server has been established and submit emission analysis report. Further, industry has also informed that, the works on guard pond, 100 % utilization of fly ash are under progress and expected to completed by January 2020.

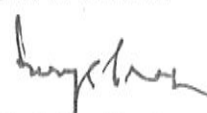
WHEREAS, the response has been examined and it is noted from IT Division report dated 06.02.2018 that the connectivity of the OCEMS installed by the unit has been established with CPCB Server.


WHEREAS, a meeting of the committee for revocation of closure directions was held on 28.02.2018 at CPCB, Delhi and in view of above three-member committee recommended for revocation of closure order dated 06.04.2016.

NOW, therefore in view of above, the closure direction dated April 06, 2017 issued u/s 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to M/s Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited, Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, Visakhapatnam, A.P. is hereby revoked with the following conditions:

1. The industry shall operate with valid consent under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, & Authorization under H&OW (M&TBM) Rules, 2016 and submit the same to CPCB within one month.
2. The industry shall ensure continuous data transmission from online emission and effluent monitoring systems to CPCB and SPCB.
3. The industry shall submit quarterly progress report of guard pond construction and fly ash utilization and hazardous waste disposal as stated in letter Ref. No. VSP/W/EnMD/06, dated 10.01.2018.

However, any expansion of the existing project in future shall be intimated to CPCB/SPCB and applicability /scope of the installation of OCEMS will be subjected to further verification.


[S. P. S Parihar]
Chairman

 08/11/18

Copy to:

1. The Chairman
A P Pollution Control Board
D.No.33-26-14.D/2, Near Sunrise Hospital, Pushpa Hotel Centre,
Chabunvari Street, Kasturibaipet,
Vijayawada-520010, A.P.
2. The District Magistrate
Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
3. The Joint Secretary (CP Division)
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
Prithvi Wing, 2nd Floor, Room No. 216
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 110003
4. The Chairman
APSPDCL
D. No.: 19-13-65/A, Srinivasapuram
Tiruchanuur Road, Tirupati - 517503
Chittor, AP
5. The Regional Director (South)
Central Pollution Control Board
1st & 2nd Floors, Nisarga Bhavan,
A-Block, Thimmaiah Main Road,
7th D Cross, Shivanagar,
(Opp. Pushpanjali Theatre)
Bengaluru-560010 (Karnataka)
6. The Divisional Head- IT, CPCB, Delhi
7. The Divisional Head- IPC-VI, CPCB, Delhi


[A. Sudhakar]
Member Secretary

