

Action Taken Report in light of the directions issued by the Hon'ble NGT (PB), New Delhi in O.A No. 205 of 2022 dated 22.04.2022 in the matter of Rana Singh Chouhan Vs State of Jharkhand

In light of the directions issued by the Hon'ble NGT (PB), New Delhi in O.A. No. 205 of 2022 in its order dated 22.04.2022 in the matter of Rana Singh Chouhan Vs State of Jharkhand, with regard to the grievance as alleged by the petitioner against M/s Kathotia Coal Mines which is as below:-

“Kathotia Coal Mines Hindalco Ltd., is illegally transporting coal through Ambey Mining Pvt., Ltd. from NH- 75 to Rajhara Coal Mines site by use of 100s of HYWA vehicles through narrow 10 feet wide road in thickly populated area day and night causing severe air and noise pollution. The dust generated is creating breathing problems for the inhabitants of the locality and is also damaging the green trees. Big trees have been illegally cut. Excessive coal mining has also led to huge mountains/heaps of coal dumps and water level has also depleted in the surrounding area resulting in shortage of drinking water causing hardships to the inhabitants and animals.”

Accordingly, a Joint Committee as constituted by the Hon'ble NGT comprising of the following members was constituted to ascertain the factual position:

- i. Mr. Gopal Kumar, Regional Officer, JSPCB Regional Office, Ranchi.
 - ii. Mr. G. P. Singh, Scientist 'D', Central Pollution Control Board, Regional Directorate, Kolkata.
 - iii. Mr. S. P. Kujur, Additional Directors of Mines, Govt. of Jharkhand.
 - iv. Sri, Surjeet Kumar Singh, Additional Collector, Dist. - Palamu, Govt. of Jharkhand.
1. The Joint Committee has conducted the inspection of M/s Kathotia Coal Mines Hindalco Ltd, located at Tehsil Daltanganj, Dist.- Palamu on 24.06.2022 as per the direction issued by the Hon'ble NGT in O.A. No. 205/2022 vide its order dated 22.04.2022. The copy of Committee's Report which is submitted by the Regional Officer, JSPCB Regional Office, Ranchi vide letter No. 454 dated 14.07.2022. On the basis of the inspection, the Committee made the following recommendations:
- i. Proper water sprinkling and lighting arrangement should be maintained along the transportation road.
 - ii. Wherever possible develop proper plantation and green belt.

- iii. Overloading as well as spillage from the loaded vehicle must not be allowed as per Rules.
- iv. The unit should provide Continuous Online PM10 Analyzer near Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transportation areas (Colliery More to Rajhara Railway Siding) and connect it to JSPCB and CPCB server and ensure its continuous operation with an objective to ensure that the ambient air quality in the area must meet the standard ambient air quality.
- v. Monitoring of quarterly Ground Water Level from third party and Piezometer detail of every month shall be submitted to the Concerned Department.

The copy of the Committee's Report submitted by the Regional Officer, JSPCB Regional Office, Ranchi vide letter no. 454 dated 14.07.2022 is enclosed herewith as **Annexure 1**.

2. Based on the recommendation made by the Joint Committee, the Board has issued a Show Cause Notice to the Unit vide Board's letter no. B-1727 dated 26.08.2022 for implementation of the recommendations of the said Joint Committee.

The copy of the Board's Ref. No. B-1727 dated 26.08.2022 is attached as **Annexure – 2**.

3. The Unit has submitted its reply to the Board vide letter dated 30.08.2022. Based on the reply submitted by the Unit, the Regional Officer, JSPCB Regional Office, Ranchi was requested vide Board's letter no. B-1787 Ranchi, dated 02.09.2022 to inspect the above said Unit with respect to the reply submitted.

The copy of the Board's Ref. No. B-1787 dated 02.09.2022 is attached as **Annexure – 3**.

4. The Regional Officer, JSPCB Regional Office, Ranchi vide letter ref. no. 733 dated 20.09.2022 has submitted the inspection report to the Board. The details of which is as follows: -

S.N.	Observations	Current Status	Remark
1.	Proper Water Sprinkling and lighting arrangement should be maintained along the transportation road	Manual Water sprinkling is being done through mobile water sprinklers. No lightning arrangements have been made along the road.	The unit has submitted that improvement of lighting and their installation shall be completed within 30 th September, which (timeline) may be further decided from H.O Level.
2.	Overloading as well as	During inspection the	

	spillage from the loaded vehicles must not be allowed as per Rules and developed tree plantation wherever possible.	mining operation was found closed, therefore same could not be verified. No new plants are planted along or nearby approach road.	
3.	The unit should provided Continuous Online PM10 Analyzer near Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transportation areas (Colliery More to Rajhara Railway siding) and connect it to JSPCB and CPCB server and ensure its continuous operation with an objective to ensure that ambient air quality in the area must meet the standard ambient air quality.	No Continuous Online PM10 Analyzer near Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transportation area has been installed.	The unit has submitted that Online PM10 Analyzer will be installed Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transportation areas (Colliery More to Rajhara Railway siding) within 60 Days, which (timeline) may be further decided from H.O Level.

The copy of the Board's letter no. B-733 dated 20.09.2022 is enclosed herewith as **Annexure - 4**.

5. In light of the above, the Competent Authority, JSPCB by exercising the powers conferred under section 33(A) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under section 31(A) of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981) has issued directions to the Unit vide Board's Ref. No. B - 2142 dated 08/10/2022 The details of which are as follows: -
- (i) To maintain proper lightning along the transportation route especially during transportation of coal.
 - (ii) To ensure periodic water sprinkling so that emission during transportation should be minimized.
 - (iii) To avoid over loading of transportation vehicles and to ensure covered transportation.
 - (iv) To install PM10 Analyzer near Rajhara Thana between the narrow transportation route (from Colliery more to Rajhara Railway siding) and connect it to JSPCB and CPCB server by 31.10.2022.

- (v) To ensure quarterly monitoring of ground water level from third party and submit report to concerned departments.
- (vi) To ensure monthly monitoring of Pizeometer and submit report to concerned departments.
- (vii) To develop proper plantation and green belt wherever possible and submit the report to the Board by 31.10.2022 along with number of plants.

The Copy of the Board's Ref. No. B - 2142 dated 08/10/2022 is attached as **Annexure – 5**.


(Yatindra Kumar Das)
Member Secretary,
SPCB, Jharkhand

52 (32)

Annexure - 1



झारखण्ड राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण पर्वद
JHARKHAND STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL OFFICE, C.T.I. COLONY, E-1, DHURWA, RANCHI

Ref no.- 454

Ranchi, Date :- 14.7.2022

From ,
Gopal Kumar,
Regional Officer,
Ranchi.

To,
The Member Secretary
Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board
Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand

Sub: Compliance of the directions issued by the Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi in O.A. No.-205/2022 dated-22.04.2022 regarding.

Ref: H. O Memo No. B-1033 Dated 30.05.2022

Sir,

With reference to above subject, this is to inform you that Factual report of the committee appointed by the Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi in the matter of O.A. No.-205/2022 dated-22.04.2022 (Rana Singh Chouhan Vs State of Jharkhand) is enclosed for your information and necessary action.

Encl: As above.

Yours faithfully

14/07/2022
(Gopal Kumar)

Regional Officer, Ranchi

7/20/22
S. M. Bhusari
Sajjan
15/7/22

3673
31/7/2022



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**Factual Report of Committee appointed by the Hon'ble
National Green Tribunal in the matter of *Rana Singh
Chouhan vs State of Jharkhand (Original Application
No.205/2022) vide order dt.22.04.2022***

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal is currently hearing **in the matter of Rana Singh Chouhan vs State of Jharkhand (Original Application No.205/2022) vide order dt.22.04.2022** in which the petitioner **Rana Singh Chouhan, village Padwa P.O- Rajhara, Distt.- Palamu** has complained that Kathotia Coal Mines Hindalco Ltd., is illegally transporting coal through Ambey Mining Pvt., Ltd. from NH- 75 to Rajhara Coal Mines site by use of 100s of HYWA vehicles through narrow 10 feet wide road in thickly populated area day and night causing severe air and noise pollution. The dust generated is creating breathing problems for the inhabitants of the locality and is also damaging the green trees. Big trees have been illegally cut. Excessive coal mining has also led to huge mountains/heaps of coal dumps and water level has also depleted in the surrounding area resulting in shortage of drinking water causing hardships to the inhabitants and animals.

The Tribunal, vide its order dt.22.04.2022 constituted a 4-person committee to verify the factual position on the ground. The Joint Committee comprising of representatives of CPCB and State PCB, Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Jharkhand and District Magistrate, Palamu, Jharkhand.

Committee members are as follows:-

- I. Sri S.P Kujur, Additional Director of Mines, Representative of Department of Mines and Geology

- (2)
- (2)
- II. **Sri Surjeet Kumar Singh, Additional Collector, Representative of District Magistrate, Palamu**
 - III. **Sri G.P Singh, Scientist "D" Representative of Central Pollution Control Board**
 - IV. **Sri Gopal Kumar, Regional Officer, Representative of Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board**

The committee conducted its visit to the Site on 24.06.2022. This report presents the findings emerging observations made and Telephonic discussions held with the petitioner and the respondent during the field visit, and perusal of related documents by the committee. We then summarise key points that emerged from field observations.

2. BASIC INFORMATION REGARDING PROJECT

Initially Kathotia Open Cast Coal Mines (0.80 MTPA) granted to M/s Usha Martin Ltd. Located in village Kajri, Garikhas, Palhekhurd, Sika, Sakhui and Batsara, Tehsil-Daltonganj, Dist-Palamu vide EC letter No-11015/2006-IA.II(M) Dated-10th June, 2006 later the Mine lease transfer to the M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd., Mumbai, Maharashtra Vide Letter No-J1_015/61/2006-IA-II.(M) Dated-16th April, 2015 The lease area of the project is 938.27 Ha of which 55.98 Ha is agriculture land and 882.29 ha is wasteland of total lease area, Area for excavation is 687.93 Ha., 4.0 ha. for storage of Top Soil dumps, 73.97 Ha for OB dumps, 2.0 Ha for infrastructure, 1.0 Ha. for Roads, 40.09 ha. for storage of Greenbelt, 3.50

Ha for tailing pond, and 125.51 ha is undisturbed land. The project is located near to koel River flow at a distance about 500 metre. Mined Coal is Transporting through Rajhara Siding.

3. FIELD OBSERVATIONS

3.1 Major issues/Petitioner's Allegation:

3.1.1 Allegation #1:

Kathotia Coal Mines Hindalco Ltd., is illegally transporting coal through Ambey Mining Pvt., Ltd. from NH- 75 to Rajhara Coal Mines site by use of 100s of HYWA vehicles through narrow 10 feet wide road in thickly populated area day and night causing severe air and noise pollution. The dust generated is creating breathing problems for the inhabitants of the locality and is also damaging the green trees. Big trees have been illegally cut.

Observations by the Committee:

- i. No mining was going on at the time of inspection. It was reported by Project proponent that due to exhaust of mineable land the mining had to be stopped.
- ii. As the mining was not going on at the time of inspection, the actual status of air and noise pollution in the area near the narrow road cannot be assessed accurately and need to be monitored in the real situation. However poor quality of ambient air quality cannot be ruled out as Kathotia Coal Mines Hindalco Ltd. is transporting coal by use of HYWA vehicles through narrow 10-12 feet wide Road between the Colliery More

to Rajhara Railway Siding about 700-800 metre road in thickly populated area.

- iii. There are chances of Accidents, Air and Noise pollution of Panda village but there is no alternate route for transportation of coal as reported. The committee is of the view that the mining authorities in association with the concerned department should think of widening the road or opt for any other road to avoid this narrow road and proper arrangement of water sprinkling for suppression of dust and proper lighting arrangement should be made to ensure proper visibility. Also there is no record on Forest Department for cutting of big trees.

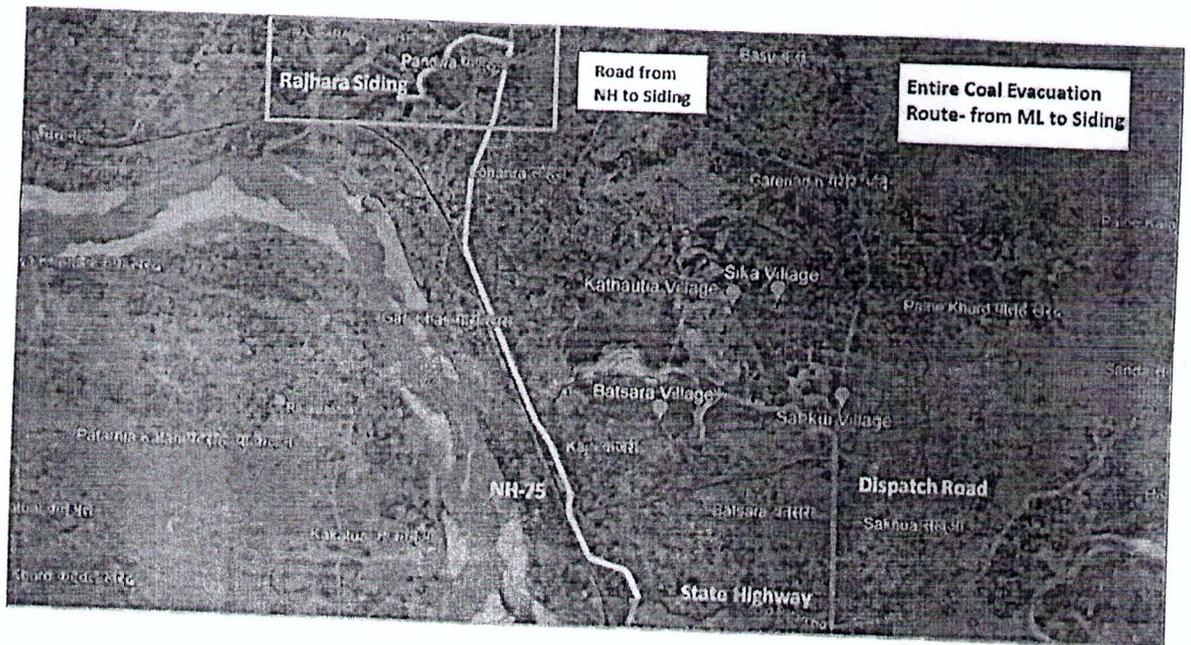


Figure 01 Coal Transportation Route

3.1.2 Allegation #2:

Excessive coal mining has also led to huge mountains/heaps of coal dumps and water level has also depleted in the surrounding area resulting in shortage of drinking water causing hardships to the inhabitants and animals.

Observations by the Committee:

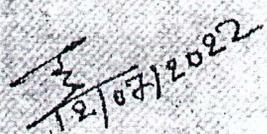
- i. The Committee has visited the site and observed that there is OB (overburden) and also concurrent filling is being done by the unit.
- ii. Coal production data for the past two years (2020-21= 46327 and 2021-22= 365522) shows that there is no excessive coal mining. On an average the unit has produced of FY 2020-2021 less than 127 tons of coal per day and for FY 2021-2022 less than 1000 tons per day which is much less hence no excessive coal mining and dump is found.
- iii. The unit has present data of Ground Water Table monitoring of last one year, there is no significant change in water table has been observed. (Data of ground water table is attached).
- iv. The unit has also submitted no objection certificate (NOC) for ground water abstraction (Attached). Coal mining details of last two Year is attached.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS: -

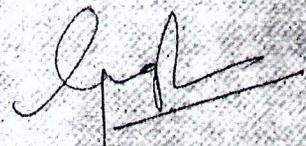
Based on the above findings, the committee recommends as follows:-

- 4.1 The unit should provide continuous online PM10 Analyser near Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transporting areas (Colliery More to Rajhara Railway siding) and connect it to JSPCB and CPCB server and ensure its continuous operation with an objective to ensure that ambient air quality in the area must meet the standard ambient air quality.
- 4.2 Monitoring of quarterly Ground water level from third Party and Pizeometre detail of every month shall submit the report to the Concern departments.

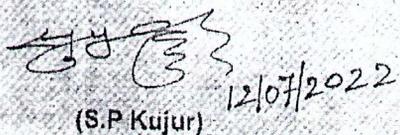
- 4.3 Proper water sprinkling and lighting arrangement should be maintained along transportation route.
- 4.4 Wherever possible develop proper plantation and green belt.
- 4.5 Overloading as well as spillage from the loaded vehicle must not be allowed as per rule.


12/07/2022

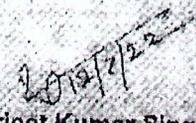
(Gopal Kumar),
Regional Officer,
JSPCB, Ranchi



(G.P. Singh)
Scientist "D", RD Kolkata


12/07/2022

(S.P. Kujur)
Additional Directors of mines
Govt. of Jharkhand


20/12/2022

(Surjeet Kumar Singh)
Additional Collector,
District- Palamu

**JHARKHAND STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, HEC COMPLEX, DHURWA, RANCHI 834004
Telephone: 0651-2400850 (Fax)/ 2400851/2400852/2401847/2400979/240013

Ref. No.: - 43...17.27

Ranchi, Dated: - 26/8/2022

From,

Y.K.Das
Member Secretary

To,

The Project Officer,
Kathautia Open Cast Coal Mines
M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd.,
P.O.- Naudiha, Dist- Palamu- 822123,
Jharkhand

Sub:- Show Cause notice under section 33A of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1974 and under section 31A of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and in light of the directions issued by the Hon'ble NGT(PB) in its order dated 22.04.2022 in O.A No. 205/2022 in the matter of Rana Singh Chouhan Vs State of Jharkhand- Reg.

Sir,

With regard to the subject stated above, it is to inform that a four-member Joint Committee was constituted by the Hon'ble NGT(PB) in its order dated 22.04.2022 in O.A No. 205/2022 in the matter of Rana Singh Chouhan Vs State of Jharkhand. The said Joint Committee has conducted an inspection on 24.06.2022 with respect to the grievances presented before the Hon'ble NGT by Mr. Rana Singh Chouhan and other residents of the village Padwa, P.O.- Rajhara, Dist.- Palamu, Jharkhand. During the said inspection the following observations/ recommendations were made which are as follows:

1. Proper water sprinkling and lighting arrangement should be maintained along the transportation road.
2. Overloading as well as spillage from the loaded vehicle must not be allowed as per Rules and develop tree plantation where ever possible.
3. The unit should provide Continuous Online PM10 Analyzer near Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transportation areas (Colliery More to Rajhara Railway Siding) and connect it to JSPCB and CPCB server and ensure its continuous operation with

an objective to ensure that the ambient air quality in the area must meet the standard ambient air quality.

Now, therefore, in light of the above you are given an opportunity to be present in person on 30.08.2022 at 11:00 A.M in the office chamber of the member Secretary to explain why closure order shall not be issued against your unit.

Thanking You

Yours sincerely

Sd/-

(Y.K.Das)

Member Secretary

Memo No... B-17.27

Ranchi, Dated: 26/8/2022

Copy To: The Regional Officer, Regional Office, JSPCB, Ranchi for information and necessary action.

(Y.K.Das)

Member Secretary

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झारखण्ड राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण पर्षद
JHARKHAND STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

T.A. DIVISION BUILDING (GROUND FLOOR), H.E.C., DHURWA, RANCHI -834004

Phone.: 0651-2400851/2400852/2400979/2401847, Fax-0651-2400850/138.

Web site : www.jspcb.nic.in; e-mail : ranchijspcb@gmail.com

पत्रांक:-b-1787

राँची, दिनांक:- 02/09/2022

प्रेषक,

संजय कुमार श्रीवास्तव,
शाखा प्रमुख, राँची।

सेवा में,

क्षेत्रीय पदाधिकारी,
क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय,
झारखण्ड राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण पर्षद, राँची।

विषय:- M/s. Kathautia Open Cast Coal Mines of M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd., P.O.-
Naudiha, Dist.-Palamau-822123 द्वारा कारण पृच्छा के आलोक में समर्पित जबाब का
सत्यापन कर स्थल निरीक्षण प्रतिवेदन भेजने के संबंध में।

महाशय,

उपर्युक्त विषयक सम्बन्ध में आपको सूचित करना है कि M/s. Kathautia Open Cast Coal
Mines of M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd., P.O.-Naudiha, Dist.-Palamau-822123 द्वारा कारण पृच्छा
के आलोक में जवाब समर्पित किया गया है। (छायाप्रति संलग्न)

अतः अनुरोध है कि समर्पित जवाब के आलोक में शीघ्र स्थल निरीक्षण प्रतिवेदन मुख्यालय को
भेजने का कष्ट करें।

अनु०:- यथो०।

विश्वासभाजन
संजय श्रीवास्तव
02.09.22
(संजय कुमार श्रीवास्तव)
शाखा प्रमुख, राँची
Kah



झारखण्ड राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण पर्वद

JHARKHAND STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL OFFICE, C.T.I. COLONY, E-1, DHURWA, RANCHI

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Annexure - 4

पत्रांक.....733.....

दिनांक.....20/9/2022.....

प्रेषक,

गोपाल कुमार,
क्षेत्रीय पदाधिकारी, राँची,

सेवा में,

शाखा प्रमुख,
राँची।

विषय:— Kathautia Open Cast Coal Mines of M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd., Po- Naudiha, Dist.-Palamau-832123 द्वारा कारण पृच्छा के आलोक में समर्पित जबाब का सत्यापन कर स्थल निरीक्षण प्रतिवेदन भेजने के संबंध में।

प्रसंग : मुख्यालय पत्रांक-बी.-1787 दिनांक-02.09.2022

महाशय,

उपर्युक्त विषयक के आलोक में Kathautia Open Cast Coal Mines of M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd., Po- Naudiha, Dist.-Palamau-832123 द्वारा कारण पृच्छा के आलोक में समर्पित जबाब का सत्यापन कर स्थल निरीक्षण प्रतिवेदन संलग्न कर आवश्यक कार्रवाई हेतु मुख्यालय भेजी जा रही है।

अनु०-यथो०

विश्वासभाजन

20/9/2022

(गोपाल कुमार)

क्षेत्रीय पदाधिकारी, राँची।

Son Kashi
21.09.22

503)

21/9/22

22/9/2022

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Inspection report of Kathautia Open Cast Coal Mines of M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd. P.O Naudiha, Dist-Palamu , in the light of H.O Letter No. B-1787 dated-02.09.2022

Inspection report in the light of reply of show cause notice submitted by the unit dated 30/08/2022, Kathautia Open Cast Coal Mines of M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd. P.O Naudiha, Dist-Palamu has been inspected by Gopal Kumar, Regional Officer, Sumit Kumar Jha, CE, RO, Ranchi. Dated 09.09.2022 in presence of Mr. Rakesh Shukla, Assistant Manager and Mr. Shytan Chakarwarthy , Assistant Manager.

The status of compliance of observations made by the Committee are as follows:-

Sl. No.	Observations	Current Status	Remark
1	Proper Water Sprinkling and lighting arrangement should be maintained along the transportation road	Manual Water sprinkling is being done through mobile water sprinklers. No lightning arrangements have been made along the road.	The unit has submitted that improvement of lighting and their installation shall be completed within 30 th September, which (timeline) may be further decided from H.O Level.
2	Overloading as well as spillage from the loaded vehicles must not be allowed as per Rules and developed tree plantation wherever possible.	During inspection the mining operation was found closed, therefore same could not be verified. No new plants are planted along or nearby approach road.	
3	The unit should provided Continuous Online PM10 Analyzer near Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transportation areas (Colliery More to Rajhara Railway siding) and connect it to JSPCB and CPCB server and ensure its continuous operation with an objective to ensure that ambient air quality in the area must meet the standard ambient air quality.	No Continuous Online PM10 Analyzer near Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transportation area has been installed.	The unit has submitted that Online PM10 Analyser will be installed Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transportation areas (Colliery More to Rajhara Railway siding) within 60 Days ,which (timeline) may be further decided from H.O Level.

Sumit K. Jha
14/09/2022
(Sumit Kumar Jha)
Regional Officer
Regional Office, Ranchi

Gopal Kumar
14/09/2022
(Gopal Kumar)
Regional Officer
Regional Office, Ranchi



झारखण्ड राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण पर्वद
JHARKHAND STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

T.A. DIVISION BUILDING (GROUND FLOOR), H.E.C., DHURWA, RANCHI -834004

Phone.: 0651-2400851/2400852/2400979/2401847, Fax-0651-2400850/138,

Web site : www.jspcb.nic.in; e-mail : ranchijspcb@gmail.com

Ref. No. B-2142

Ranchi, dated: 08/10/2022

From,

Yatindra Kumar Das,
Member Secretary.

To

Kathautia Open Cast Coal Mines
of M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd.
At-Vasundhara Mega, Mart,
2nd Floor, Near Argora Chowk,
Dist.-Ranchi-834002.

**Sub:- Direction issued u/s 33A of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and
and u/s 31A of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1984-regarding .**

**Ref.: (i) Board's letter no. B-1727 dated 26.08.2022.
(ii) Your letter no. Nil dated 30.08.2022.**

Whereas, a matter is pending before the Hon'ble NGT (PB), New Delhi in O.A. No. 205 of 2022. The Hon'ble NGT in its order dated 22.04.2022 has constituted a committee comprising of representatives of CPCB and State PCB, Director, Dept. of Mines & Geology, Govt. of Jharkhand and District Magistrate, Palamu, Jharkhand. More-over the committee was directed to undertake site visits, look into the grievances of the applicant and take requisite action by following due process of law.

Whereas, the report of the joint committee was submitted vide Ref. No. 454 Ranchi, dated 14.07.2022. The recommendation of which are as follow:-

"4.1 The unit should provide continuous online PM10 Analyser near Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transporting areas (Colliery More to Rajhara Railway siding) and connect it to JSPCB and CPCB server and ensure its continuous operation with an objective to ensure that ambient air quality in the area must meet the standard ambient air quality.

4.2 Monitoring of quarterly Ground water level from third Party and Piezometer detail of every month shall submit the report to the Concern departments.

4.3 Proper water sprinkling and lighting arrangement should be maintained along transportation route.

4.4 Wherever possible develop proper plantation and green belt.

4.5 Overloading as well as spillage from the loaded vehicle must not be allowed as per rule."

Whereas, in light of the above a show cause notice was issued to the unit vide Board's letter no. B-1727 dated 26.08.2022 on the following points:-

"1. Proper water sprinkling and lighting arrangement should be maintained along the transportation road.

[Signature]

2. Overloading as well as spillage from the loaded vehicle must not be allowed as per Rules and develop tree plantation where ever possible.

3. The unit should provide Continuous Online PM10 Analyzer near Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transportation areas (Colliery More to Rajhara Railway Siding) and connect it to JSPCB and CPCB server and ensure its continuous operation with an objective to ensure that the ambient air quality in the area must meet the standard ambient air quality.”

Whereas, show cause reply was submitted by the unit vide letter dated 30.08.2022. The details of which is as follows:-

1. Proper water sprinkling and lighting arrangement should be maintained along the transportation road?

In compliance of this, HIL has taken several steps, to curb down on the fugitive emissions, during coal transportation. HIL has already converted the earthen road into black top road, so that dust generation is minimized. Moreover, HIL has deployed water tankers that ply to and fro from Rajhara Police Station to Rajhara Railway Siding, for dust suppression.

We are in the process of increasing the lighting arrangement from the Thana to the Railway Siding, i.e. along the transportation road from NH to the Railway Siding, and shall complete the installation within 30th September 2022, i.e. within one month. (Supporting Photographs are attached herewith as Annexure-1)

2. Overloading as well as spillage from the loaded vehicle must not be allowed as per Rules and develop tree plantation wherever possible?

In compliance of this, Hindalco Industries Limited has taken effective steps to ensure zero spillage by adopting following means.

*a. **Tarpaulin Covering of Truck.** Each and every coal truck is being properly covered by tarpaulin before dispatch. The photographs of the dispatch trucks from the mines is as shown below.*

*b. **Sealing/Lock:** Each and every coal transport truck is being covered and properly sealed with the use of plastic/wire seals to avoid uncovering of tarpaulin in the route. The photographs are shown below.*

*c. **Water Sprinkling:** To avoid the dust problem in the area, HIL has provided water truck mounted with water sprinklers in the transport route.*

*d. **PUC Certificate:** Periodic checking of PUC Certificate of each truck engaged in the coal transportation has in place.*

We have already planted fruit bearing trees, viz. mango and guava and also non fruit bearing trees like Kadam, Sisham and Neem and are also in the process of establishing greenbelt and plantation wherever possible by planting local species of plants along the transportation road.

3. The unit should provide Continuous Online PM10 Analyzer near Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transportation areas (Colliery More to Rajhara Railway Siding) and connect it to JSPCB and CPCB server and ensure its continuous operation with an objective to ensure that the ambient air quality in the area must meet the standard ambient air quality?

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In compliance of this, the Online PM 10 Analyser is being installed near Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transportation areas (Colliery More to Rajhara Railway Siding) and connect it to JSPCB and CPCB server within 60 days.

Whereas, in light of the reply submitted by the unit the Regional Officer, JSPCB Regional Office, Ranchi was requested to send the inspection report w.r.t. the reply submitted by the unit vide Board's letter no. B-1787 Ranchi, dated 02.09.2022.

Whereas, the Regional Officer, JSPCB Regional Office, Ranchi has submitted the inspection report vide letter no. 733 dated 20.09.2022. The details of which is as follows:-

S.No.	Observations	Current Status	Remark
1.	Proper Water Sprinkling and lighting arrangement should be maintained along the transportation road	Manual Water sprinkling is being done through mobile water sprinklers. No lightning arrangements have been made along the road.	The unit has submitted that improvement of lighting and their installation shall be completed within 30 th September, which (timeline) may be further decided from H.O Level.
2.	Overloading as well as spillage from the loaded vehicles must not be allowed as per Rules and developed tree plantation wherever possible.	During inspection the mining operation was found closed, therefore same could not be verified. No new plants are planted along or nearby approach road.	
3.	The unit should provided Continuous Online PM10 Analyzer near Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transportation areas (Colliery More to Rajhara Railway siding) and connect it to JSPCB and CPCB server and ensure its continuous operation with an objective to ensure that ambient air quality in the area must meet the standard ambient air quality.	No Continuous Online PM10 Analyzer near Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transportation area has been installed.	The unit has submitted that Online PM10 Analyzer will be installed Rajhara Thana between the Narrow transportation areas (Colliery More to Rajhara Railway siding) within 60 Days, which (timeline) may be further decided from H.O Level.

Now, therefore, in light of the above, the Competent Authority in exercise of the powers conferred under section 33A of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under section 31A of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 is pleased to issue the following directions:-

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1. To maintain proper lightning along the transportation route especially during transportation of coal.
2. To ensure periodic water sprinkling so that emission during transportation should be minimized.
3. To avoid over loading of transportation vehicles and to ensure covered transportation.
4. To install PM10 Analyzer near Rajhara Thana between the narrow transportation route (from Colliery more to Rajhara Railway siding) and connect it to JSPCB and CPCB server by 31.10.2022.
5. To ensure quarterly monitoring of ground water level from third party and submit report to concerned departments.
6. To ensure monthly monitoring of Piezometer and submit report to concerned departments.
7. To develop proper plantation and green belt wherever possible and submit the report to the Board by 31.10.2022 along with number of plants.

In case of failure to comply with the above-mentioned directions legal action may be initiated against the Unit.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


(Yatindra Kumar Das)
Member Secretary