

NGT mandated Inspection report

M/s Nilachal Iron and Power Ltd, Seraikela, Jharkhand

Joint committee members constituted at the behest of Hon' NGT, New Delhi made site visit and inspected M/s Nilachal Iron and Power Ltd, Kandra, Sareikela, Jharkhand on 29th March 2022 for causing air pollution and construction of steel plant without obtaining Environmental clearance(EC). Committee members included Sri Arava Rajkamal – Deputy Commissioner, Seraikela kharsawan, Shri Sandeep Roy- CPCB, Kolkata, Sri Jitendra Prasad Singh- RO, JSPCB, Jamshedpur and Dr Raju Kumar, Expert member, SEIAA, Ranchi, Jharkhand. Inspection was conducted as per the terms of reference issued by Honourable NGT against O.A. No. 426/2021 (Dasai munda of Jharkhand adivasi Jankalyan Morcha, Ratanpur, Seraikela kharsawan and ors Vs State of Jharkhand) vide its order dated 25.01.2022.

Background

1. Honourable NGT constituted a joint committee as above based on the grievance in the application filed by Sri Dasai munda , Ratanpur,Seraikela kharsawn and others regarding alleged "Inaction of authorities in taking steps to control air pollution caused by operation of the industry for many years violating environmental norms . Also it is alleged that toxic emission from the industry is also causing serious health hazard and damage to crops as well as to environment. Complainant has also mentioned that construction work of 600 TPD sponge kiln, 15 x3 MT Crucible steel melting shop and CCM has been started without obtaining EC.
2. The company had obtained its 1st EC vide MoEF letter no. J-11011/662/2008-IA II (I) dated 24-12- 2009. CTE from Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board was also obtained vide JSPCB Memo No. 1839. / Fax No. 06512224135 dated 22-01-2010. Pursuant to obtaining EC/CTE company erected 550 TPD DRI plant (2x100 TPD, 1x350 TPD) and Coal Washery during 2010-2011 and started production after obtaining CTO. The validity of EC expired in 2016.
3. Company has also erected 10 MW WHRB based captive power plant and has submitted application for CTO to JSPCB.

4. Company's operation was suspended between 2012 to 2015 due to adverse falling market matrix and other dependent variables. Operation was restarted in 2016. There was also change of ownership and management in 2018.
5. As covid-19 pandemic emerged as major obstacle for development in the region, people of surrounding villages have very few means for any sustainable livelihood. The company submitted that in order to support the livelihood of poor villages in the surrounding villages, in anticipation of EC, the company gave employment on humanitarian grounds and started functioning.
6. Company again applied for fresh EC with MoEF, New Delhi vide its letter dated 10.07.2020 as it decides to expand the existing steel plant to Integrated Steel Plant through installation of 1800 TPD (3x600 TPD) DRI kilns along with Beneficiation Plant for Iron ore (1x0.6 MTPA), Pellet Plant (1x0.6 MTPA), Steel Melting Shop (2x25 T + 4x15 T Induction Furnaces) with matching LRF & CCM, Rolling Mill (0.35 MTPA), Ferro alloy Plant (4x16.5 MVA), Briquette plant for Chrome Ore (1x30 TPH), Oxygen plant (100 TPD) and 75 MW (50 MW WHRB based + 25 MW AFBC based) Captive Power Plant within the existing plant premises and the land adjacent to the plant premises. Since company has obtained TOR, completed draft EIA EMP study report and based on this JSPCB, Ranchi successfully conducted Public hearing on 27th September 2021. Now application is pending with MOEF, New Delhi for grant of EC.

Observations

1. Ambient air pollution caused due to production activities, loading and unloading of raw materials and plying of heavy vehicles on both kuccha and pucca roads adds to air pollution in and around factory was visible. Though it was insignificant. This was made possible as company recently refurbished ESP at a cost of Rs. 2.0 crores that became obsolete in course of time as its operation was suspended for long. 600 pieces of new bags have replaced old bags from 10 number of bag filter modules fitted to coal circuit, CD building, finished product house and blending unit. > 80 numbers of water sprinklers are placed along road side and other vulnerable areas of the Plant for dust suppression. Company has further deployed 03 water tankers (5KL of each) for the purpose. Besides company has planted > 900 tree saplings during monsoon within premises.
2. 5 Soil samples were collected from agricultural plots of village Ratanpur located around plant premises for identifying degree of soil pollution caused by Industry. Samples have

been analyzed by District Vigyan Kendra, Searikela kharsawan for its physico-chemical characteristics vis a vis soil pollution caused for emissions from NIPL Ratanpur. Soil test results do not show any significant impact on soils of nearby agricultural fields. This is evident from soil test report attached (Annexure 1).

3. Company has completed its construction and erection of SMS, CCM, Rolling mill (RM) and Rotary kiln (partly) without obtaining EC and CTE. It is presently under trial run. JSPCB, Jamshedpur vide its letter no. 860 dated 12.05.2021 has directed company to stop the construction works of SMS, CCM, Rolling mill and Rotary kiln until EC and CTE is obtained from competent authorities. Reminder for same was also sent vide letter no. 205 dated 23.03.2022(Annexure 3).
4. Committee tried to locate and reach Mr Dasai Munda and others of Jharkhand Adivasi Jan Kalyan Morcha, Jharkhand to understand and record his views in person vis a vis petition to Honorable NGT, New Delhi. But task could not be accomplished for lack of complete address of the complainant.

Recommendations

1. Installation of water sprinklers - Water tankers, fixed type sprinklers, potable water sprinklers besides fog based dust suppression are less in number and is not commensurate with scale of operation. This adds to air pollution. Company need to strengthen the existing dust control system in place.
2. **Haul roads**- Haul roads within premises is made of mix of boulders and loose soil. It adds to fugitive emission for plying of heavy vehicles at high frequency. All roads to be made pucca.
3. **Keep multiple handling of input and output materials to minimum**- This will reduce fugitive emission considerably and the resultant dust pollution.
4. **Dense green belt development**- Negligible planation is visible along boundary, haul roads and other areas within premises. Saplings to be planted at 2x2 M grid distance such that minimum 33% of project area is occupied by greenery. Reinforcing green belts with grass, herb and shrub coupled with sustained maintenance are very effective barrier against fugitive emission generated during process and handling of materials. This will contain dusts within premises and will protect nearby inhabitants as also the surrounding ecology.

5. Develop dense grass/vegetation on all bare lands- All available bare lands within premises to be thickly grassed/vegetated and properly maintained. This will reduce dust getting air borne and its resultant impact.

6. Installation and Interlocking of Online ambient air system with operation of water sprinklers- Minimum 2 no of online AAQM systems to be commissioned in the downstream of pre dominant wind direction/problem areas. 1st to be installed where dust concentration is maximum(within premises) and second where this is brought within CPCB norm (habitations). Operation of water sprinklers in the area to be interlocked with Online system such that sprinklers starts as dust concentration exceeds norms and stops as it is brought within norms. Chemical dosed water spray should be done for dust suppression on kuccha roads

7. Dedicated team for controlling dust emission- A dedicated team led by an officer not less than Manager rank to be deployed at site for controlling fugitive emission/other pollutions generated in the area.

8. Awareness campaign- To be conduct at least once in 6 months among employees and other stakeholders highlighting importance of clean environment.

9. Obtain EC- Company to expedite process of grant of EC following due process of the law as it has already filed EC application for its expansion project with MOEF, New Delhi and public hearing has been conducted successfully.

Signature of members of committee



(Arwa Rajkamal)

**Deputy commissioner
Seraikela kharsawan**



(Sandeep Roy)

**Scientist D
CPCB, Kolkata**



(Jitendra Prasad Singh)

**Regional officer
JSPCB, Jamshedpur**



(Dr. Raju Kumar)

**SEIAA, Ranchi
Jharkhand**

कार्यालय: जिला कृषि पदाधिकारी, सरायकेला-खरसावाँ

पत्रांक.....124.....

दिनांक.....11/04/2022.....

प्रेषक,

जिला कृषि पदाधिकारी,
सरायकेला-खरसावाँ।

सेवा में,

क्षेत्रीय पदाधिकारी,
झारखण्ड राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण (पर्यावरण)
जमशेदपुर।

विषय :- मेसर्स नीलाचल आयरन एण्ड पावर लि० कान्हा चौका रोड़ कान्हा
जिला-सरायकेला-खरसावाँ के आस पास के भूमि का विश्लेषण (मिट्टी नमूना का जाँच)
प्रतिवेदन समर्पित करने के संबंध में।

प्रसंग :- भवदीय का पत्रांक 285 दिनांक 08.04.2022

महाशय,

उपर्युक्त विषयक प्रसांगाधिन पत्र के आलोक में आपको सूचित किया जाता है कि उपरोक्त कम्पनी के आस-पास से मिट्टी नमूना संग्रह कर जाँच किया गया है, संबंधित मिट्टी का जाँच कृषि विज्ञान केन्द्र के माध्यम से किया जा चुका है।

अतः उक्त जाँच प्रतिवेदन इस पत्र के साथ संलग्न कर आवश्यक कारवाई हेतु भेजी जा रही है।

सादर सूचनार्थ समर्पित।

अनुलग्नक : यथोक्त।

विश्वासभाजन

जिला कृषि पदाधिकारी

सरायकेला-खरसावाँ।

ज्ञापांक.....124..... दिनांक.....11/04/2022.....

प्रतिलिपि :- उपायुक्त, सरायकेला-खरसावाँ को सादर सूचनार्थ समर्पित।

जिला कृषि पदाधिकारी

सरायकेला-खरसावाँ।



KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA, SARAIKELA-KHARSAWAN
BIRSA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, RANCHI
(JHARKHAND)



No. 05/KVK/SA-KH/BAU

Date :- 11.04.2022

From,

Sr. Scientist & Head
KVK, Saraikela-Kharsawan

To,

The District Agriculture Officer
Saraikela-Kharsawan

Subject :- Soil Testing Report of Beneficiaries of Kandra Nilanchal Steel and Iron
Company area.

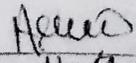
Sir,

SOIL TESTING REPORT OF BENEFICIARIES OF KANDRA NILANCHAL STEEL AND IRON COMPANY AREA											
BLOCK - GAMHARIA, DISTRICT -SARAIKELA-KHARSAWAN, JHARKHAND											
Sl No	Name of Farmer	Village	Khata No.	Plot No.	Soil PH	EC	OC	N	P	K	Soil Type
1	Mr. Surendra Tudu	Raipur	61	833	5.35	0.15	0.05	136	8.435	274.5	Sandy Loam
2	Sunzram Majhi	Raipur	46	617	4.41	0.25	0.03	128	4.563	104.7	Sandy Clay Loam
3	Dinesh Tudu	Raipur	46	24	4.93	0.15	0.04	125	3.459	102.9	Sandy Loam
4	Suven Tudu	Raipur	64	970	4.41	0.1	0.03	128	4.342	103.8	Sandy Clay
5	Lakshman Tudu	Raipur	63	891	5.23	0.13	0.06	132	3.735	97.04	Sandy Clay Loam

Comments on general status of soil fertility- Light acidic soil to make improvement for application of dolomite @3 Q/ha

Indicate doses of Chemical/Organic/Bio-fertilizers - As per does of N.P.K for Jharkhand State and unlimited organic manures

Yours faithfully


11-04-2022
(Arvind Mishra)
Sr. Scientist & Head



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JHARKHAND STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL OFFICE-CUM-LABORATORY, MB/15 NEW HOUSING COLONY
ADITYAPUR, JAMSHEDPUR.

Web Site- jspcb.org/ Phone- 0657-2383241/ Fax- 0657-2383905

Ref. No:.....

Dated-.....

From,

J.P. Singh
Regional Officer.

To,

M/s Nilanchal Iron & Power Ltd,
At- Ratanpur, Kandra-Chandil Road,
Block- Gamharia, Dist- Saraikela Kharsawan.

Sub:- Regarding construction of SMS, CCM, Rolling Mill & Rotary Kiln without E.C. & CTE.

Ref. - Out letter No.- 860 dt- 12-05-2021

Sir,

With reference to subject noted above, it is to inform you that you were directed to stop the construction works of SMS, CCM, Rolling Mill & Rotary kiln as EC & CTE not obtained for installation of the same. Vide letter No.- 860 dt- 12.05.2021. But you have not submitted the compliance report of the same.

Therefore, you are hereby directed to stop the installation of the plant until you obtained E.C. & CTE from the Board. Otherwise, action under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 may be initiated against you. Submit the compliance of direction within three days.

Encl :- As above.

Yours faithfully

Sd/-

(J.P. Singh)

Regional Officer.

Memo No :- 205-----/Jamshedpur, dated-23-3-2022-----

Copy to – The Member Secretary, Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board, Ranchi for information and necessary action.

J.P. Singh
23.03.2022
(J.P. Singh)

Regional Officer.



JHARKHAND STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL OFFICE-CUM-LABORATORY, MB/15 NEW HOUSING COLONY
ADITYAPUR, JAMSHEDPUR.

Ref. No:

Dated-.....

From,

Regional Officer
Jamshedpur.

To,

The Director,
M/s Nilachal Iron & Power Ltd.,
At- Ratanpur, Kandra Chandil Road,
Gamharia, Dist- Saraikela Kharsawan.

Sub :- Regarding construction of SMS, CCM, Rolling Mill & Rotary kiln without obtaining E.C & CTE and heavy dust emission from the existing rotary kiln.

Sir,

With reference to the subject noted above, surprise inspection has been carried out on complain received from various sources on 12.05.2021 by under sign and S.T. During inspection, it was found that heavy dust emission is being emitted through the cap of the rotary kiln. It was also found that construction of SMS, CCM & Extra rotary kiln is going on without E.C & CTE .

Therefore, following direction is being issue :-

1. Stop the construction of SMS, CCM, Rolling Mill & Extra rotary kiln with immediate effect.
2. Take necessary maintenance work to stop dust emission from the rotary kilns.

Submit compliance report of above direction within a week. Otherwise, action under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974; the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 will be initiated against you.

Yours faithfully

Sd/-

(J.P. Singh)

Regional Officer

Memo No--860-----/Jamshedpur, dated--12/05/2021-----

Copy to The Member Secretary, Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board, Ranchi for information and necessary action.

Recd.
18/05/21
N.I.P.L.

JP Singh
12.5.2021
(J.P. Singh)
Regional Officer