

New Coal based Technology

2007. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether energy experts have suggested a new coal based technology named the Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC)—an efficient and environmentally safer alternative for power generation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKANE): (a) and (b). The Expert group constituted for evaluating the various coal gasification processes and to identify technology suitable for high ash Indian coals has been actively engaged in evaluating the techno-economics of the three generically different coal gasification processes involved in the Integrated Coal Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC), technology for power generation. Considering the merits and demerits of the three coal gasification processes presently available, Fluidised and Moving Bed Gasification process technologies have been found suitable for high ash Indian Coals and for power generation through IGCC system.

Flight No. 408 from Varanasi to Khajuraho

2008. SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian Airlines Boeing VTEAJ Flight No. 408 took off from Varanasi for Khajuraho on 17 September, 1990 could not land there;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) the number of persons travelling in that aircraft;

(d) whether there was any casualty;

(e) the responsibilities fixed on the staff; and

(f) the steps taken to avoid such occurrences in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARMOHAN DHAWAN) : (a) to (f). On 17.9.1990, a Boeing-737 aircraft VT-EAJ while operating flight IC-408 with 64 passengers on Board took off from Varanasi but had to overfly Khajuraho and Agra due to snag in the hydraulic system. There was no casualty or injury to any passenger.

The incident was investigated by the Permanent Investigation Board of Indian Airlines and was referred to the Boeing Co. The Boeing Co. have considered this failure as an isolated case and have not made any recommendation in this regard. The Indian Airlines has therefore, concluded that no further action was necessary in the matter.

Pending Power Project of West Bengal

2009. SHRI SANATKUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of the West Bengal power projects pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) the steps being taken for early clearance of these power projects; and

(c) what assistance the Union Government propose to give to the West Bengal