

The NTPC is said to be seeking consultancy services in the areas of effluent and solid waste management and pollution monitoring and control.

Clean coal. Given India's heavy dependence on coal for thermal power generation, interest in clean-coal technologies has been growing. As new generating installations are built, particularly privately-financed ones, there will be a trend towards modernized combustion processes: stage burners, reburning and fluidized-bed combustors, as opposed to the pulverized coal systems now in use. There will also be demand for post-combustion emission control technologies, including flue-gas scrubbing systems and fly-ash utilization programs.

It has been demonstrated that the washing of coal can actually pay for itself, wherever coal has to be transported more than 1,000 kilometres.

The Canadian Energy Research Institute (CERI) of Calgary has a cooperative research program in place with India's Tata Energy Research Institute.

Box 3.7:

The Asian Development Bank (AsDB)

The AsDB has provided over US\$ 1 billion in loans for power generation projects in India. It is supporting the Ib Valley project in Orissa with US\$ 50 million from its private sector window, and is expected to provide US\$ 190 million in loan and equity funds for the 500 MW Balagarh Thermal Power Project in West Bengal. It is also involved, with a US\$ 275 million loan, in Powergrid's efforts to rationalize and improve regional and national transmission networks, and provides funding for non-conventional power development through MNES and IREDA.