Layout of Steam Power Plant

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Essentials of Steam Power Plant Equipment

A modern steam power plant comprises of the following components :

- 1. Boiler
- (i) Superheater (ii) Reheater
- (iii) Economiser (iv) Air-heater.
- 2. Steam turbine
- 3. Generator
- 4. Condenser
- 5. Cooling towers
- 6. Circulating water pump
- 7. Boiler feed pump
- 8. Wagon tippler
- 9. Crusher house
- 10. Coal mill
- 11. Induced draught fans
- 12. Ash precipitators
- 13. Boiler chimney
- 14. Forced draught fans
- 15. Water treatment plant
- 16. Control room
- 17. Switch yard.

The layout of a modern steam power plant comprises of the following four circuits :

- 1. Coal and ash circuit.
- 2. Air and gas circuit.
- 3. Feed water and steam flow circuit.
- 4. Cooling water circuit.

Coal and Ash Circuit. Coal arrives at the storage yard and after necessary handling, passes on to the furnaces.

Ash resulting from combustion of coal collects at the back of the boiler and is removed to the ash storage yard through *ash handling equipment*.

Air and Gas Circuit. Air is taken in from atmosphere through the action of a forced . Passes on to the furnace through the *air preheater*, where it has been

heated by the heat of flue gases which pass to the chimney *via* the preheater. The flue gases after passing around boiler tubes and superheater ,economiser, and finally through the air preheater before being exhausted to the atmosphere.

Feed Water and Steam Flow Circuit. Condensate is first heated in a closed feed water heater through extracted steam from the lowest pressure extraction point of the turbine. It then passes through the *deaerator* and a few

more water heaters before going into the boiler through *economiser*.

In the boiler drum and tubes, water circulates due to the difference between the density of water in the lower temperature and the higher temperature sections of the boiler. Wet steam from the drum is further heated up in the superheater for being supplied to the prime mover.

Functions of some important parts

1. Boiler. Water is converted into wet steam.

2. *Superheater.* It converts wet steam into superheated steam.

3. *Turbine.* Steam at high pressure expands in the turbine and drives the generator.

4. **Condenser.** It condenses steam used by the steam turbine. The condensed steam (known as *condensate*) is used as a feed water.

5. *Cooling tower.* It cools the condenser circulating water. Condenser cooling water absorbs heat from steam. This heat is discharged to atmosphere in cooling water.

6. *Condenser circulating water pump.* It circulates water through the condenser and the cooling tower.

7. *Feed water pump.* It pumps water in the water tubes of boiler against boiler steam pressure.

8. *Economiser.* In economiser heat in flue gases is partially used to heat incoming feed water.

9. *Air preheater.* In air preheater heat in flue gases (the products of combustion) is partially used to heat incoming air.