

Ministry of Power

Steps being taken by the Government for meeting Summer Electricity Demand in the country

Surplus Power to be offered for sale in Energy Exchange; Planned Maintenance of Power Plants to be shifted to Monsoon Season

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The Government is taking all necessary steps to ensure that the electricity demand in the upcoming summer season is met. To ensure this, the Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy Shri R. K. Singh has held a series of meetings, emphasizing the need for ensuring Zero load shedding during the summer season.

In a meeting held in the Ministry in 3rd week of March this year, it was stressed that adequate advance planning should be done by all stakeholders, so as to prevent a situation in which one state has surplus power while another state faces power shortages.





Partial Outages of Thermal Power Plants being brought down

Another meeting has been held today, April 2, 2024 in which the Union Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy reviewed the power capacity status of all thermal power plants experiencing partial outages, with the aim of ensuring maximum availability of thermal capacity on bar. It was informed that the quantum of capacity under partial outages has come down and measures have been suggested in order to further reduce them.





Review of Non-Operational Thermal Power Capacity

The Minister also held a meeting today with generation companies and reviewed the status of 5.2 GW of non-operational thermal capacity.

Planned Maintenance of Power Plants to be shifted to Monsoon Season

The Minister has directed to review the undertaking of planned maintenance of 1.7 GW in the month of April and 6 GW - 9 GW in the month of June. It has been decided that efforts are to be made to schedule / shift the planned outages of thermal units to the monsoon season.

New Capacity Additions to be Speeded up

Besides these, capacity additions in coal, hydro, nuclear, solar and wind would be monitored, so as to expedite their commissioning.

Surplus Power with Captive Generating Stations to be Utilized

It has also been decided to explore the possibility of harnessing any surplus power which may be available with captive generating stations.

Surplus Power to be offered for sale in Energy Exchange

It was also pointed out that all thermal generating stations must offer their un-requisitioned / surplus power in power exchanges, as mandated by the recently notified rules. It has been directed that compliance needs to be monitored regularly and notices issued for violation of directions.

Uniform Technical Minimum Loading of 55% of unit capacity for all coal-based thermal power plants

NTPC raised the issue of infeasible power scheduling by various Discoms. The Minister directed that uniform technical minimum loading of 55% of Unit capacity may be mandated for all coal-based power generators as has been implemented for Inter-State Generating Stations and Regional Load Despatch Centres. This is aimed at ensuring technical minimum conditions while issuing schedules and for the safety and reliability of the grid.

Operationalization of gas-based capacity to be reviewed, Need for Section 11 directions to be examined

The Power Minister has directed that a meeting is to be conducted with all developers of gas-based power projects as well, to review the operationalization of gas-based capacity during the summer season. The Ministry will examine whether directions under Section 11 of The Electricity Act, 2003, under which the appropriate government may specify that a generating company shall, in extraordinary circumstances operate and maintain any generating station in accordance with the directions of that Government, needs to be issued to gas-based power plants, on similar lines as done for imported coal-based power plants, in order to ensure their operationalization during the upcoming summer season.

Section 11 Directions to be extended till September 2024, for Imported-Coal-Based Power Plants

It has also been decided that, considering the energy provided by imported coal-based power plants, the directions under Section 11 may be extended up to 30th September, 2024.

Union Power Secretary Shri Pankaj Agarwal; senior officers of CEA, NTPC, Grid India, Gencos, PFC and NRVN were part of the deliberations in the meetings chaired by the Union Minister.

Background

For the upcoming summer season, the Indian Metrological Department (IMD) has projected higher-than-normal maximum and minimum temperatures across the country, except over some isolated areas of Northwest, Northeast, Central and Peninsular India. The electricity demand would also hence be higher than in previous years, which is reflected also in the rising trend of peak demand in recent months, during both solar hours and non-solar hours.

The peak energy demand grew by 12.7% from 2,15,888 MW in 2022-23 to 2,43,271 MW in 2023-24, while the peak demand met grew by 13.9% from 2,10,725 MW in 2022-23 to 2,39,931 MW in 2023-24.

Relative to the year 2022-23, the energy requirement grew by 7.5% in 2023-24 and the energy availability grew by 7.8%, resulting in a reduction in total energy shortfall from 0.5% in 2022-23 to 0.2% in 2023-24.

Power Supply Position during 2023-24

Growth in Peak Demand / Peak Demand Met

Monthwise Growth in 2023-24 Over 2022-23

Month	2023-24				2022-23				Growth	
	Peak Demand	Peak Met	Surplus / Deficit (-)		Peak Demand	Peak Met	Surplus / Deficit (-)		Growth in Peak Demand	Growth in Peak Met
	MW	MW	MW	%	MW	MW	MW	%	%	%
April-23	2,16,142	2,15,972	-170	-0.1	2,15,888	2,07,231	-8657	-4.0	0.1%	4.2%
May-23	2,21,718	2,21,423	-295	-0.1	2,05,996	2,04,474	-1521	-0.7	7.6%	8.3%
June-23	2,24,106	2,23,292	-814	-0.4	2,12,341	2,11,726	-615	-0.3	5.5%	5.5%
Max. Qtr-1	2,24,106	2,23,292	-814	-0.4	2,15,888	2,07,231	-8657	-4.0	3.8%	7.8%
Average Qtr-1	2,20,655	2,20,229	-426	-0.2	2,11,408	2,07,810	-3598	-1.7	4.4%	6.0%
July-23	2,09,039	2,08,952	-87	0.0	1,92,363	1,90,355	-2008	-1.0	8.7%	9.8%
August-23	2,38,824	2,36,295	-2528	-1.1	1,96,611	1,95,226	-1385	-0.7	21.5%	21.0%
September-23	2,41,271	2,39,931	-1340	-1.4	2,00,351	1,99,501	-850	-0.4	21.4%	20.3%
Max. Qtr-2	2,41,271	2,39,931	-1340	-1.4	2,00,351	1,99,501	-850	-0.4	21.4%	20.3%
Average Qtr-2	2,30,378	2,28,393	-1985	-0.9	1,96,442	1,95,027	-1414	-0.7	17.3%	17.1%
October-23	2,22,160	2,21,539	-620	-0.3	1,87,041	1,86,900	-141	-0.1	18.8%	18.5%
November-23	2,04,777	2,04,568	-209	-0.1	1,88,481	1,87,346	-1135	-0.6	8.6%	9.2%
December-23	2,13,793	2,13,620	-173	-0.1	2,06,489	2,05,101	-1387	-0.7	3.5%	4.2%
Max. Qtr-3	2,22,160	2,21,539	-620	-0.3	2,06,489	2,05,101	-1387	-0.7	7.6%	8.0%
Average Qtr-3	2,13,577	2,13,243	-334	-0.2	1,94,004	1,93,116	-888	-0.5	10.1%	10.4%
January-24	2,23,516	2,22,327	-1189	-0.5	2,12,559	2,10,725	-1834	-0.9	5.2%	5.5%
February-24 #	2,22,721	2,22,003	-718	-0.3	2,11,215	2,09,767	-1448	-0.7	5.4%	5.8%
Mar. 2024 (Till 31-Mar) * #	2,21,793	2,21,701	0	0.0	2,09,671	2,09,017	-654	-0.3	5.7%	6.1%
Max. Qtr-4	2,23,516	2,22,327	-1189	-0.5	2,12,559	2,10,725	-1834	-0.9	5.2%	5.5%
Average Qtr-4	2,22,648	2,22,010	-636	-0.3	2,11,148	2,09,816	-1332	-0.6	5.4%	5.8%
Max. 2023-24	2,41,271	2,39,931	-1340	-1.4	2,15,888	2,10,725	-5163	-2.4	12.7%	13.9%
Average 2023-24	2,21,814	2,20,969	-845	-0.4	2,01,251	2,01,447	-1803	-0.9	8.1%	9.7%

Growth in Energy Requirement / Availability

Monthwise Growth in 2023-24 Over 2022-23

Month	2023-24				2022-23				Growth	
	Energy Requirement	Energy Availability	Surplus / Deficit (-)		Energy Requirement	Energy Availability	Surplus / Deficit (-)		Growth in Energy Requirement	Growth in Energy Availability
	MU	MU	MU	%	MU	MU	MU	%	%	%
April-23	1,30,414	1,30,082	-332	-0.3	1,34,781	1,32,028	-2752	-2.0	-3.2%	-1.5%
May-23	1,36,846	1,36,504	-343	-0.3	1,35,765	1,35,156	-609	-0.4	0.8%	1.0%
June-23	1,40,520	1,40,276	-244	-0.2	1,34,060	1,33,263	-796	-0.6	4.8%	5.3%
Sub Total : Qtr-1	4,07,780	4,06,862	-919	-0.2	4,04,605	4,00,448	-4158	-1.0	0.8%	1.6%
July-23	1,40,618	1,40,419	-199	-0.1	1,28,689	1,28,255	-434	-0.3	9.3%	9.5%
August-23	1,52,176	1,51,324	-852	-0.6	1,30,855	1,30,390	-465	-0.4	16.3%	16.1%
September-23	1,41,827	1,41,299	-528	-0.4	1,27,226	1,26,914	-312	-0.2	11.5%	11.3%
Sub Total : Qtr-2	4,34,623	4,33,043	-1578	-0.4	3,86,769	3,85,558	-1211	-0.3	12.4%	12.3%
October-23	1,39,832	1,39,441	-391	-0.3	1,14,068	1,13,944	-124	-0.1	22.6%	22.4%
November-23	1,19,421	1,19,308	-113	-0.1	1,12,350	1,12,137	-213	-0.2	6.3%	6.4%
December-23	1,23,264	1,23,131	-133	-0.1	1,21,488	1,21,109	-379	-0.3	1.5%	1.7%
Sub Total : Qtr-3	3,82,517	3,81,879	-637	-0.2	3,47,906	3,47,191	-715	-0.2	9.9%	10.0%
January-24	1,34,995	1,34,359	-635	-0.5	1,27,054	1,26,302	-752	-0.6	6.2%	6.4%
February-24 #	1,27,344	1,27,098	-246	-0.2	1,18,824	1,18,292	-533	-0.4	7.2%	7.4%
Mar. 2024 (Till 31-Mar) * #	1,39,205	1,39,164	-41	0.0	1,27,701	1,27,520	-182	-0.1	9.0%	9.1%
Sub Total : Qtr-4	4,01,544	4,00,621	-923	-0.2	3,73,580	3,72,113	-1467	-0.4	7.5%	7.7%
Total : 2023-24	16,26,462	16,22,405	-4058	-0.2	15,12,860	15,05,310	-7550	-0.5	7.5%	7.8%

* Source : NLDCL # Provisional

The total electricity generated grew by 7.1% from 1,621 billion units in 2022-23 to 1,736 billion units in 2023-24.

Growth in Total Generation			
Month	Generation 2023-24	Generation Prev. Year 2022-23	Growth in 2023-24 Over 2022-23
	(BU)	(BU)	(%)
Apr-23	140.548	142.138	-1.1
May-23	147.315	146.102	0.8
Jun-23	149.985	143.919	4.2
Qtr.-1	437.849	432.158	1.3
Jul-23	149.062	138.078	8.0
Aug-23	161.167	139.769	15.3
Sep-23	150.448	136.939	9.9
Qtr.-2	460.677	414.785	11.1
Oct-23	148.913	123.740	20.3
Nov-23	128.815	121.837	5.7
Dec-23	132.715	131.099	1.2
Qtr.-3	410.443	376.676	9.0
Jan-24	144.072	136.356	5.7
Feb-24	136.703	127.122	7.5
Mar-24 *	146.208	134.510	8.7
Qtr.-4	426.983	397.988	7.3
Total	1,735.952	1,621.608	7.1

* Source : Daily Generation Report

As regards coal-based electricity alone, the total energy generated grew in 2023-24 by 10.0% relative to 2022-23. Out of this, the energy generated from domestic coal-based power plants grew by 6.5% while that generated from imported-coal-based power plants grew by as much as 104.0%.

Growth in Generation from Domestic Coal Based Stations and Imported Coal Based Stations during 2023-24 Over 2022-23

Month	2023-24			2022-23			Growth in 2023-24 Over 2022-23		
	DCB Generation	ICB Generation	Total Coal Based Generation	DCB Generation	ICB Generation	Total Coal Based Generation	Growth in DCB Generation during 2023-24 Over 2022-23	Growth in ICB Generation during 2023-24 Over 2022-23	Growth in Total Coal Based Generation during 2023-24 Over 2022-23
	(BU)	(BU)	(BU)	(BU)	(BU)	(BU)	(%)	(%)	(%)
	1+3+2	2	3	4+6+5	5	6	7	8	9
Apr-23	100.895	5.131	106.026	100.598	5.046	105.644	0.3%	1.7%	0.4%
May-23	99.998	6.035	106.033	98.462	3.985	102.447	1.6%	51.5%	3.5%
Jun-23	97.939	5.385	103.325	95.439	4.424	99.863	2.6%	21.7%	3.5%
Qtr.-1	298.833	16.552	315.384	294.499	13.454	307.953	1.5%	23.0%	2.4%
Jul-23	93.406	4.804	98.210	86.443	2.814	89.257	8.1%	70.7%	10.0%
Aug-23	97.332	6.639	103.972	85.360	2.948	88.307	14.0%	125.2%	17.7%
Sep-23	95.443	7.949	103.393	84.919	3.807	88.726	12.4%	108.8%	16.5%
Qtr.-2	286.182	19.392	305.574	256.721	9.569	266.290	11.5%	102.7%	14.8%
Oct-23	101.933	9.419	111.351	81.018	2.615	83.633	25.8%	260.1%	33.1%
Nov-23	92.130	7.130	99.260	86.855	3.161	90.016	6.1%	125.6%	10.3%
Dec-23	93.425	7.263	100.689	95.044	3.634	98.678	-1.7%	99.9%	2.0%
Qtr.-3	287.488	23.812	311.300	262.918	9.410	272.328	9.3%	153.1%	14.3%
Jan-24	103.787	7.921	111.708	98.917	2.676	101.593	4.9%	196.0%	10.0%
Feb-24	96.433	7.227	103.660	92.070	2.542	94.612	4.7%	184.3%	9.6%
Mar-24 (Upto 31-Mar) *	104.543	7.960	112.502	100.112	2.973	103.085	4.4%	167.7%	9.1%
Qtr.-4	304.763	23.108	327.870	291.100	8.191	299.291	4.7%	182.1%	9.5%
Total	1,177.265	82.864	1,260.130	1,105.237	40.624	1,145.862	6.5%	104.0%	10.0%

Source : Monthly Generation Report, CEA

Note : DCB and ICB Generation of Mar-2023 have been taken on prorata basis of Monthly Generation.

* Provisional

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