GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF POWER RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2394 ANSWERED ON 21.03.2023

INCREASED POWER DEMAND AMIDST HIGH TEMPERATURES

2394 SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA:

Will the Minister of **POWER**

be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to meet the increased demand for power due to a record 203 days of heat waves experienced in 2022;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government plans to formulate any policy to tackle the recurring problem of power outages during summers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) to (d) : Indian power system has already met a record power demand of 211.6 GW in June, 2022. During the current year 2023, the power demand is expected to be around 229 GW during the summer period. Following steps have been taken for meeting the increased demand for power:

- (i) Measures have been taken to ensure the availability of the generation capacity. The generators shall complete the maintenance work of their plants well before the period of high demand. No planned maintenance will be taken during the high demand period (say April & May, 2023).
- (ii) Monitoring and Coordination with Ministries of Coal and Railways, on a regular basis, for increase in the production and dispatch of coal as much as possible.
- (iii) All generators have been asked for timely import of Coal for blending purposes so that adequate coal stock is maintained in the plant.
- (iv) All captive coal blocks have been asked to maximize the coal production to supplement the coal supply from domestic coal companies (CIL and SCCL).

(v) Additional arrangement for gas for running gas based stations has been planned from GAIL, during high power demand months.

(vi) Imported Coal Based (ICB) plants have been issued statutory directions to stock coal and generate power during high demand period.