CEB depending on thermal power

Prevailing drought causes power-cut fears

By Antony Nowis

With constant water levels already in force in several major Colo-basins, concern is mounting about possible power cuts, especially in view of the rising temperatures in the last couple of months. The Coal and Electricity Board (CEB) has had to take steps by releasing water levels from the hydro-electric reservoirs, in order to provide the necessary thermal power production. In the last three months, the water levels in the hydro-electric reservoirs have been falling, with the water level in the Kandy Reservoir dropping from 11.5 feet to 8.5 feet. The water level in the Weerawila Reservoir has also been dropping, with the water level falling from 13.0 feet to 11.0 feet.

The power levels have dropped, with the power production from hydro-electric sources being reduced from 40% to 20%. The thermal power generation has increased from 20% to 50%. The government has been forced to import coal, with the price of coal doubling in the last three months.

The situation is expected to worsen in the coming months, with the water levels in the reservoirs expected to fall further. The government has been forced to import coal, with the price of coal doubling in the last three months.

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