



GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE

PRESS RELEASE

The attention of Government has been drawn to issues of public disorder that has led to the potential loss of lives and property destroyed in the city of Makeni emanating from an attempt by EDSA to relocate of a 1.65 Mega Watts thermal power generator, owned and operated by the Authority, to Lungi in the North-Western Region following stakeholder consultations.

It should be noted that Makeni City and its environs is 100 percent powered by the Bumbuna hydro-electric power and only seeks recourse to standby generators during the 10-day usual downtime when the Bumbuna Hydro is up for maintenance.

The public is aware that Government, through the Ministry of Energy, is poised to improve the energy sector in the country amidst the COVID-19 pandemic in the country.

In line with this determination, the Minister of Energy has successfully launched district electrification projects in Kabala, Kambia and Moyamba. Similar launches will soon be done in Bonthe and Pujehun.

Government wishes to assure residents of Makeni city and its environs of its commitment to maintaining its regular power supplies without any disruption as this stopgap measure is taken to address the energy challenges in other parts of the country.

Residents are therefore advised to stay calm and exercise restraints as the relocation of one of the standby generators will by no means affect their regular power supply.

We wish to reiterate that any attempt by anyone or group of persons to undermine the public peace will face the fullest force of the law.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mohamed Rahman Swarray'.

FOR: MOHAMED RAHMAN SWARRAY

Minister of Information and Communications

18th JULY 2020