

Nicolas Maduro says power grid still under attack



Caracas, March 11 (RHC)-- Electrical systems in Venezuela have been targeted by more cyberattacks, President Nicholas Maduro has said.

After an attack at the Guri hydroelectric power plant left much of the country without power last Thursday night, Venezuelan authorities managed to restore power to many parts of the country. However, the country's grid took another hammering on Saturday, with many of the restored systems knocked out once again, the country's president said.

According to Maduro, the systems had been nearly 70 percent restored when "we received another attack, of a cybernetic nature, at mid-day on Saturday, that disturbed the reconnection process and knocked out everything that had been achieved until noon."

The Venezuelan leader said authorities have proof that the revolution's enemies are carrying out high-tech... attacks against the power systems. Additionally, "one of the sources of generation that was working perfectly" was also sabotaged, he added, accusing domestic "infiltrators of attacking the electric company from the inside."

Authorities are now trying to restore the systems manually, while struggling to "diagnose why the computerized" systems failed on such a massive scale.

Earlier, unconfirmed reports suggested that 95 percent of the crisis-stricken country was again without power, after Sidor Substation in Bolivar state had reportedly exploded, spewing clouds of black smoke into the sky. The substation had been sustaining the country's power supply since the Guri plant -- which produces 80 percent of the country's power -- failed.

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