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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

परमाणु ऊर्जा नियामक परिषद

ATOMIC ENERGY REGULATORY BOARD

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PRESS RELEASE

AERB shuts down operation of some of the medical diagnostic X-Ray facilities at Nashik, Maharashtra, owing to non-compliances

The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has suspended the operation of some of the medical diagnostic facilities at Nashik, Maharashtra, which were not complying with the specified regulatory and radiation safety requirements. During surprise inspections conducted by AERB officers on 22/09/2016, 4 diagnostic X-ray equipment owned by 6 facilities in the city have been sealed. The sealed equipment included radiography and C-Arm units. AERB has also issued warnings to 2 facilities in the city to comply with the specified regulatory and safety requirements within thirty days. The inspections are ongoing at the time of this press release

The equipment sealed were found to be operating without complying with the mandatory requirement of obtaining the requisite license/ registration from AERB, as per the provisions of the Atomic Energy (Radiation Protection) Rules, 2004. Though the X-ray equipment are of low radiation hazard potential, it is important that they are installed and operated in accordance with the radiological safety requirements specified by AERB.

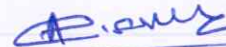
AERB's action at Nashik comes on the heels of its drive initiated against the errant medical diagnostic facilities that are operating in violation of the regulatory and safety requirements. AERB had earlier initiated similar action against a number of medical X-ray diagnostic facilities in Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, Jaipur, Raipur, Chennai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Pune, New Delhi, Kolkata, Gaya, Patna, Lucknow, Kanpur, Jammu and other cities. AERB will be continuing similar action in other places in the country as well.

License/Registration issued by AERB for operation of medical diagnostic X-ray equipment can be easily obtained through its convenient and user-friendly web based e-licensing system (e-LORA), which is available on the AERB website (www.aerb.gov.in). Presently, AERB does not charge any fees for issuance of license/registration for operation of any radiation equipment, including medical x-ray equipment.

Though the country has a large number of medical diagnostic X-ray facilities many of them have not been registered with AERB. Compliance by the X-ray facilities to the provisions of the Rules as well as the specified safety requirements is important to ensure radiation safety for the persons operating these equipment as well as the patients who make use of them. AERB has undertaken a series of outreach programmes for medical diagnostic X-ray facilities through advertisements in the print media and awareness programmes, for compliance with the requirements. Conducting surprise inspections and closure of the non-compliant facilities / equipment is a part of these efforts by AERB.

AERB is therefore advising all those medical diagnostic X-ray facilities that are presently operating in the country, without the valid Licence / Registration from AERB to immediately obtain the Licence / Registration, by filing an application through AERB's internet based e-licensing system (e-LORA).

AERB also advises the public not to patronize the X-ray facilities which are not having valid Licence / Registration issued by AERB.



(A.U. Sonawane)