

TELEPHONE : (O) 2550 0018 (Direct)/ 25990606

FAX : (022) 2550 0018 / 25562344

E-MAIL: harikumar@aerb.gov.in

वेबसाइट/WEBSITE: www.aerb.gov.in



भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

परमाणु ऊर्जा नियामक परिषद

ATOMIC ENERGY REGULATORY BOARD

नियामक भवन/NIYAMAK BHAVAN,

अणुशक्तिनगर/ANUSHAKTINAGAR,

मुंबई/MUMBAI-400 094



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PRESS RELEASE

AERB's enforcement action against medical X-ray Facilities at Delhi and Kolkata owing to non-compliance to Regulatory requirements

The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has suspended the operation of some of the medical diagnostic facilities at Delhi and Kolkata, which were not complying with the specified regulatory and radiation safety requirements. In a series of surprise inspections held at two cities simultaneously during September 22 & 23, 2015, AERB has sealed 9 diagnostic X-ray equipment located in five centers in Delhi and 4 equipment at three centers in Kolkata. AERB has also issued warnings in relation to 84 X-ray equipment at these facilities (9 in Kolkata and 75 in Delhi), with a direction to ensure compliance with the specified regulatory and safety requirements within thirty days.

The Inspections are still ongoing in these cities at the time of issuing this press release.

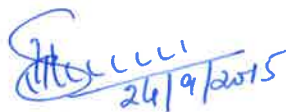
The equipment sealed were found to be operating without obtaining the requisite license or registration from AERB and not conforming to the safety requirements as per the provisions of the Atomic Energy (Radiation Protection) Rules, 2004. AERB issues the requisite Licence/Registration after ensuring that the equipment and installation conform to the specified safety requirements.

The action of AERB in these cities is in continuation with its on-going drive initiated against facilities operating diagnostic X-ray equipment in contravention to the provisions of the Atomic Energy (Radiation Protection) Rules, 2004. Similar inspections and enforcement actions were undertaken by AERB earlier at Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Jaipur, Raipur, Pune, Nagpur, Mumbai and Navi Mumbai, where several errant facilities were sealed.

Though the country has a large number of medical diagnostic X-ray facilities, many of them have not been registered with AERB. AERB has initiated a number of steps to improve compliance by the X-ray facilities to the provisions of the Rules as well as the specified safety requirements in the recent times. This is important to ensure radiation safety for the persons operating these equipment as well as the patients who make use of them. In order to ease the procedures for filing of applications and obtaining the Registration/Licence, AERB has launched a state - of- art e-licensing system (e-LORA) on AERB website at www.aerb.gov.in. AERB has started a series of outreach programs for these facilities emphasizing the importance of obtaining the requisite registration and license. The program of surprise inspections and closure of the non-complaint facilities/equipment in the country is coming on the back of such efforts from AERB.

AERB is therefore advising all those operating medical diagnostic X-ray facilities to obtain Licence / Registration through e-LORA in order to avoid regulatory actions against their facilities.

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


(S. Harikumar)