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भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
परमाणु ऊर्जा नियामक परिषद  
ATOMIC ENERGY REGULATORY BOARD

डॉ. ए. यू. सोनावणे  
प्रमुख, नियामक मामले एवं  
संचार निदेशालय

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**AERB Signs MoU with Government of Karnataka for establishing  
Directorate of Radiation Safety (DRS) for medical X-ray facilities**

Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on December 22, 2018, with the State Government of Karnataka towards formation of the Directorate of Radiation Safety (DRS) for medical X-ray facilities located in Karnataka. The DRS will be under the control of Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka.

The MoU was signed by Mr. Jawaid Akhtar, Principal Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare of Karnataka and Dr. A.U. Sonawane, Head, Directorate of Regulatory Affairs and Communication, AERB in presence of Commissioner, Health and other senior officials of State Government.

Medical diagnostic X-ray equipment are being used extensively in the healthcare sector throughout the country. In case the medical X-ray equipment is not properly installed and used, it may pose radiological risk to the patient and the staff. Though these 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.

The objective of formation of the DRS is to authorise the DRS of Karnataka to carry out radiation safety inspections of the medical diagnostic x-ray equipment, i.e. general radiography, dental x-ray machine, fluoroscopy, Cathlab, CT equipment installed in the State as well to spread awareness on radiation protection & applicable regulations by organising training and awareness programmes.

AERB has been taking many steps towards ensuring that users of medical diagnostic X-ray equipment comply with the requirements of Atomic Energy (Radiation Protection) Rules, 2004, promulgated under the Atomic Energy Act, 1962. Notable steps by AERB, in this direction are web-based system of issuance of Licences (eLORA), to adhere to "Minimum Government, Maximum Governance" through, surprise regulatory inspections and awareness through media, such as newspapers, radio jingles, AV tools and through formation of DRS in various states. This year, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has also formed DRS for medical x-ray facilities.

  
(A.U.Sonawane)