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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 machines at different cities in Gujarat owing to radiation safety Non-compliances

Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) is a regulatory body constituted under the Atomic Energy Act, 1962, with the mission to ensure that the use of ionizing radiation and nuclear energy in India does not cause undue risk to the health of people and the environment. AERB regulates the facilities/institutions using radioactive sources and Radiation Generating Equipment in medicine, industrial and research applications. Medical diagnostic X-ray machines (such as Computed Tomography, Radiography and Fluoroscopy) are the most widely used applications of radiation in medicine.

The provisions of Atomic Energy (Radiation Protection) Rules, 2004 [AE(RP)R, 2004], stipulate that the medical diagnostic X-ray machines operate with compliance to radiation safety and regulatory requirements and obtaining requisite Licence from AERB.

To verify compliance to the said Rules, AERB carried out surprise inspections during October 9-11, 2018, and inspected 48 X-ray facilities (both government and private institutions) at Surat, Vadodara, Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar, Rajkot, Jamnagar and Porbandar.

AERB has sealed fourteen X-ray machines in eleven institutions, found non-compliant. Twenty institutions have been issued with warnings against operation with a directive that they comply with the specified regulatory and safety requirements within thirty days.

AERB has routine outreach programmes informing people about the regulatory and safety requirements. As part of this, AERB has recently broadcasted a Radio Jingle in Ahmedabad and Surat during this month, for disseminating information of safety requirements. Besides, AERB routinely issues advertisements in the print media and conducts awareness programmes. The campaign of surprise inspections and suspension of the non-compliant facilities is coming on the back of such efforts from AERB.

In order to make the process of filling of applications and obtaining the AERB Licence simple, AERB has in place a web based e-licensing system (e-LORA). AERB also does not charge any fees for obtaining the requisite Licence. Owners of medical diagnostic X-ray facilities in the country, are advised to immediately obtain valid Licence from AERB 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 issued by AERB.

for
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