

**ONE DAY DISCUSSION MEET ON “THE NUCLEAR PERSPECTIVE :  
LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT & CULTURE FOR NUCLEAR SAFETY”  
FOR INDUSTRY LEADERS**

**JUNE 11, 2026**

**Summary of Address by Chairman, AERB**

Shri A.K. Balasubrahmanian, Chairman, AERB, highlighted the significance of the discussion meet, noting that it served as an important forum to facilitate meaningful interaction between the regulator and the industry, enabling alignment towards the shared objective of safe and responsible use of nuclear technology.

Nuclear safety was emphasized as a non-negotiable and lifelong commitment, extending during the entire lifecycle of a facility, including the post operational phase.

The fundamental principle of nuclear safety, which is ensuring that radioactive materials remain contained within the fuel matrix under all conditions, was highlighted. The critical importance of continuous cooling of nuclear fuel was also stressed, noting that a reactor never completely “shuts down”, thereby requiring constant vigilance and robust safety management. This concept defines the essence of nuclear safety and guides all Regulatory frameworks, design philosophies and operational practices in the nuclear sector.

The global nature of nuclear safety was highlighted, observing that while facilities are geographically localized, the consequences of any incident can transcend national boundaries. This underscores the need for international cooperation, adherence to consensus standards, and continuous learning from global operating experience, aptly captured in the guiding philosophy: “Safety Everywhere, Safety Always.” (“सुरक्षा सर्वत्र, सुरक्षा सर्वदा”).

A key focus of his address was on the two fundamental pillars of nuclear safety management:

1. Technical Foundation, which includes robust design, systems, structures, components, and adherence to codes and standards, and
2. Human and Organizational Dimension – encompassing leadership, management systems, competency development, and safety culture.

True safety is achieved only through the integration of these pillars, where technology provides capability and people ensuring control and continuous improvement.

In light of upcoming nuclear expansion and developments following the SHANTI Act, the increased responsibility on all stakeholders to uphold uncompromised safety standards was highlighted, with particular emphasis on strengthening leadership, quality management systems, competence, and safety culture.

The address concluded by reiterating the importance of continuous dialogue, knowledge sharing, and collaboration, reaffirming AERB's commitment to supporting the industry and enabling safe and sustainable growth of the nuclear sector.

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