PRESS RELEASE

AERB shuts down operation of some of the medical diagnostic X-Ray facilities in Trivandrum, Kerala

The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has carried out surprise inspections in 12 Government and Private Medical diagnostic X-ray facilities in Trivandrum, Kerala. This is part of the AERB campaign to bring about increased compliance to regulatory requirements of the medical diagnostic facilities across the country. The non-compliant institutions faced sealing of equipment or warning depending on their severity. AERB sealed five equipment (two Computed Tomography (CT) equipment and three portable X-ray equipment) in two hospitals and issued warning to ten others.

The X-ray equipment sealed were found to be operating without complying with the mandatory requirement of obtaining the requisite license and 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. The requisite Licence/Registration is granted after ensuring that they conform to regulatory requirements, which ensure radiation safety of x-ray technologists, radiological medical practitioners, patients and general public.

AERB is therefore advising all the x-ray medical diagnostic facilities that are presently operating in the country, without valid Licence / Registration from AERB to immediately obtain the same, 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)