Agreement with NABL for Accreditation of QA Agencies towards recognition of QA reports issued by them.

Diagnostic Radiology practice having varied modalities such as Computed Tomography, Radiography & Fluoroscopy, Mammography, Interventional Radiology etc. has spread widely across the country and has an immense stake in the health care sector. As ionising radiation is utilised for diagnosis of ailments inside the human body, the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) issues Licence for their operation from radiation safety point of view. Ensuring consistent performance of the diagnostic X-ray equipment during its useful life plays an important role for the safety of the patients undergoing the procedures as well as the operators and the medical practitioners associated with their operation. Quality Assurance (QA) of the equipment therefore forms an important component of this widely used modality of diagnosis. AERB had therefore authorised the QA Agencies to facilitate the end-users for performing the QA of the diagnostic X-ray equipment.

Since, National Accreditation Board for Calibration and Testing Laboratories (NABL) has the mandate for accreditation of radiological calibration and testing laboratories in India, AERB signed an agreement with NABL on February 16, 2021 to accredit Quality Assurance (QA) Agencies offering QA services to the diagnostic radiology facilities. As a result of which all the QA Agencies will have to obtain NABL accreditation in a phased manner & the QA reports issued by NABL accredited agencies will only be recognised by AERB.

The meeting convened via virtual platform wherein, Shri. D. K. Shukla, Executive Director, AERB and Shri. N. Venkateswaran, CEO, NABL signed the agreement.