Shri G. Nageswara Rao, Chairman, AERB made a Presentation to the Senior Level Management and middle level officers of NTPC through Videoconferencing on 16.09.2020 at 1500 hrs which was attended by over 1500 officers.

The Presentation was on “Strategies for Assured Safe and Reliable Performance”. Shri Rao covered various aspects of Safety like Safety Management Systems, Safety Principles and Practices, Operating Experience and the lessons learned, Characteristics of good safety culture in an organisation. He emphasised the need for Safety in Design, the principle of Defence in Depth and a strong safety culture to take care of any untoward / abnormal situations. Shri Rao stressed that the human, organisational and technological factors play a major role in safe and reliable
performance. He focussed his attention on the Concept of Safety Management System (SMS) which encompasses hazard identification, risk management, performance measurement, continual improvement, fixation of responsibility for establishing SMS and allocating resources.

He touched upon the insights gained and lessons learned from the accident at nuclear power plant in Chernobyl, Ukraine which was one of the most significant accident in the nuclear industry. He also mentioned about the airline accident at Kozhikode airport, India in which 22 lives were lost.

Shri Rao then explained the emphasis and priority of AERB towards Safety right from siting of a facility until its decommissioning. He said that AERB follows graded approach in regulation of various facilities under its purview. He emphasized that fostering a culture for safety is what makes the organisation a great place to work. Shri Rao talked about the challenges in improving safety performance and how AERB is looking forward to achieving a zero accident.

Shri Nageswara Rao concluded that complex technologies like nuclear power, aviation technologies have to give strong emphasis to safety in design, high reliability and quality. He said that humans play a key role and are the final element to achieve safety.

Shri Rao thanked Shri Gurdeep Singh, CMD, NTPC and other senior colleagues who made it possible for such a virtual interaction. He thanked all the officers and staff of NTPC for sparing their valuable time during this interaction.

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