

ग्राम तक न्यूज़

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शनिवार, 27 सितंबर 2025

AERB Hosts Colloquium on Importance of Safety Culture for New Nuclear Sector Entities



Mumbai– The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB), in association with the Indian Energy Forum (IEF) and the Indian Nuclear Society (INS), organised a special colloquium aimed at raising awareness on the significance of safety culture in the nuclear sector. The event, held in hybrid mode in Mumbai, attracted more than a hundred participants physically, with several other professionals and experts joining virtually from across the country.

The colloquium was conceived with the objective of sensitising new and emerging entities in the nuclear industry about the indispensable role of safety culture in the operation of nuclear power plants and allied facilities. The initiative comes at a crucial time when India is preparing for a multi-fold expansion of nuclear energy contribution in its overall energy mix.

Keynote Address by AERB Chairman

In his keynote lecture on “Developing, Sustaining and Strengthening Safety Culture”, the Chairman, AERB, laid strong emphasis on the fact that safety culture is not a mere regulatory requirement but the very foundation of nuclear safety. He stressed that the success of nuclear installations depends not only on robust technology and regulatory frameworks but also on the mindset, values, and commitment of the workforce at all levels.

Highlighting that safety culture requires constant nurturing, he observed:

- Leadership commitment is vital for cultivating a safety-first approach.
- Human and organisational factors are the building blocks of safety practices.
- A sustainable culture of safety requires continuous learning, self-assessment, and adherence to best practices.

Industry Leaders Emphasise the Timeliness of the Colloquium

The colloquium also witnessed insightful addresses from eminent leaders of the energy and nuclear sector.

Dr. R. B. Grover, Chairman, Nuclear Group, Indian Energy Forum, lauded the initiative and pointed out that as nuclear energy is poised for greater adoption in India, the preparedness of new entities to adopt a safety-first culture will define the credibility and success of the sector.

Shri R. V. Shahi, President, Indian Energy Forum, stressed that the timing of the colloquium is highly appropriate, as the nuclear industry is entering a phase of transformation with new players and technologies. He expressed confidence that AERB's proactive efforts would help shape a strong ecosystem where safety and operational excellence go hand in hand.

Shri V. K. Manchanda, President, Indian Nuclear Society, reflected on the future trajectory of nuclear energy in India, predicting a multi-fold increase in its contribution to the national grid. He reiterated that such growth is possible only when safety culture becomes ingrained at every organisational level, from policymakers to plant operators.

Concluding Remarks by Dr. Anil Kakodkar

The colloquium concluded with remarks by Dr. Anil Kakodkar, Chancellor of Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI) and Member, Atomic Energy Commission. Dr. Kakodkar congratulated AERB for taking the initiative to reach out to professionals, industry stakeholders, and new entrants in the nuclear field.

He highlighted that safety culture cannot be enforced by regulations alone but must evolve as a set of personal values and beliefs. According to him, when individuals internalise safety as a way of life, the entire organisation naturally achieves excellence in safe operations. Dr. Kakodkar's reflections reinforced the message that safety is not just about systems and processes, but about people, ethics, and values.



Broader Impact of the Colloquium

The colloquium served as a platform to share experiences, exchange ideas, and build a collective vision for a safer nuclear future. By bringing together regulators, industry professionals, researchers, and emerging players under one roof, the event succeeded in:

- Creating awareness on the global best practices in nuclear safety.
- Highlighting the expectations of regulatory bodies from new entrants.
- Encouraging collaboration between established nuclear entities and upcoming organisations.
- Emphasising safety culture as a continuous process, not a one-time effort.

The discussions also highlighted that India's ambition to increase the share of nuclear energy in its energy basket must go hand in hand with an uncompromising commitment to safety, transparency, and accountability.

A Step Towards a Safer Nuclear Future

The AERB-IEF-INS colloquium is expected to pave the way for more such capacity-building initiatives in the nuclear sector. As the industry prepares for significant expansion, the message from the event was clear: safety culture is the backbone of nuclear energy, and it must be cultivated with sincerity, leadership, and constant vigilance.

With active participation from experts, regulators, and industry leaders, the event underscored that India's nuclear journey will be defined not only by technological advancements but also by the strength of its safety culture.

- सितंबर 27, 2025

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