

3 Nestle officials on notice for 'promoting infant milk substitute'

SUNIT DHAWAN
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

ROHTAK, OCTOBER 28

The court of Rohtak Chief Judicial Magistrate Lokesh Gupta today summoned three Nestle India officials and a distributor in a case pertaining to alleged violations of the Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act.

Those summoned were Indranil Ray, quality assurance manager, Nestle India Ltd, Patti Kalyan, Kiwana Road, Samalakha, Panipat; B Murli, company secretary, Nestle House, Jacaranda Marg, DLF City Phase-II, Gurgaon; Dharmendra Hansraj Kotak, sales manager, Nestle India Ltd, Connaught Circus, New Delhi; and Jai Prakash Gupta, Sat Narain and Co, New Grain Market, Rohtak.

The four have been told to appear in the court on January 6. The CJM issued the orders on hearing a criminal complaint filed by the Deputy Civil Surgeon (Health), Rohtak, under the Infant Milk Substitutes Act, 1992, as amended in 2003

To appear in Rohtak court on January 6

- The company has violated the law by allegedly promoting infant milk substitutes, feeding bottles as its products bear pictures that undermine breastfeeding
- Three Nestle products that are in contravention of the provisions under Sections 3 and 6 of the Act are — Pre Nan, Nan Pro and Lactogen 1
- Three Nestle India officials and a distributor have been told to appear in court on January 6

(IMS Act).

The complainant had submitted that provisions contained in Sections 3 and 6 of the IMS Act had been violated by the company.

Complainant's counsel HC Dhankhar pointed out that a health team raided Sat Narain and Co, New Grain Market, Rohtak, on July 13, 2012. Various infant milk substitutes found stocked on the company's premises were examined and three products, which contravened the provisions of the IMS Act, were seized.