



**Breastfeeding
Promotion Network of India**
(Registered Under Societies Registration
Act XXI of 1860, Delhi R.No. S-23144)
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September 5, 2019

BPNI/2019/IMS Act/06

To,
Dr. Harsh Vardhan
Hon'ble Minister
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Government of India
Delhi -110011

Sub: Request for Action against the violators of *Infant Milk Substitutes Feeding Bottles, and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act 1992, and Amendment Act 2003.(IMS Act)(FTS : 1446104-13 August 2019)*

Dear Dr. Harsh Vardhan Ji,

This is to thank you profusely for having initiated the enquiry into the complaint regarding funding of research work by the baby food companies to 5 hospitals and studies approved by ICMR.

Please find attached the news story of Times of India suggesting that ICMR has completed the enquiry and recommended initiating prosecution against the violators. We would request MOHFW to initiate this.

Further to our earlier complaint, we have found four cases of similar violations by the subsidiary companies of Nestle and Abbott. Details are given in the Annexure 1 - 4.

Our analysis shows that these actions attract section 9.2 of the IMS Act.

We look forward to a positive response.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Arun Gupta
Central Coordinator BPNI

CC: For information and Necessary action

**Ms. Preeti Sudan, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare,
Dr. Balram Bhargava, Secretary DHR & Director General, ICMR**

Encl. aa

As a policy, BPNI does not accept funds of any kind from the companies manufacturing baby foods, feeding bottles etc. and from organization/industry having conflicts of interest.



Annexure 1-4 List of studies funded by baby food companies/subsidiaries

**1. CTRI/2015/10/006330 [Registered on: 29/10/2015] - Trial Registered Prospectively
Last Modified On 13/04/2017**

Randomized, Parallel Group, Multiple Arm Trial : Public Title of Study Oral Nutrition Supplementation study in childrens.

Source of Monetary or Material Support>

Abbott Nutrition Abbott Healthcare Pvt Ltd 8th Floor, Hallmark Plaza, Sant Dyaneshwar Marg,
Bandra (E) Mumbai - 400051 India

**2. CTRI/2016/12/007621 [Registered on: 29/12/2016] - Trial Registered Prospectively
Last Modified On 05/07/2019**

A study of Human Milk Composition in Indian Mothers
Scientific Title of Study
Human milk composition in Indian mothers.

Source of Monetary or Material Support>

Abbott Nutrition Research and Development (ANRD, India) S-15, Syngene International Ltd., Biocon Park, Plot No. 2 & 3, Bommasandra IV Phase, Jigani Link Road, Bangalore – 560 099,
Karnataka

3. **CTRI/2014/11/005199**)Registered on: 13/11/2014, last modification on 21/05/2019.
Link: <http://ctri.nic.in/Clinicaltrials/pmaindet2.php?trialid=10390&EncHid=&userName=nestec>

Title of the study: **Study of milk composition from adequately nourished and undernourished mothers**

Source of Monetary or Material Support>

Nestec Ltd. CH-1800 Vevey, Switzerland Nestec is a subsidiary company of Nestle.

4. **CTRI/2018/12/016645**) Registered on: 13/12/2018, last modification 09/01/2019.
Link:http://ctri.nic.in/Clinicaltrials/pdf_generate.php?trialid=28393&EncHid=&modid=&compid=%27,%2728393det%27

Title of the study: **Infant Feeding Practice and Gut Comfort: A Multi-country, Cross-sectional Observational Study**

Source of Monetary or Material Support>

Nestec Ltd. CH-1800 Vevey, Switzerland