



BPNI/ IMS Act/2022/032

September 2, 2022

**Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar,
Hon'ble Minister of State, MoHFW,
Government of India,
Nirman Bhawan,
New Delhi-110011**

Sub: Illegal Activity and sale of “Neolacta” Continues

Dear Madam,

The Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI) is a 30 -year old national non- profit organisation working on protection, promotion and support of breastfeeding in India. BPNI has been notified in the official Gazette to monitor the compliance with the *Infant Milk Substitutes Feeding Bottles, and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act 1992, and Amendment Act 2003*. Ever since BPNI has been monitoring and reporting its violations to the Government of India.

Since BPNI has been at the forefront for advocacy and training on policy and programmes related to supporting women for breastfeeding, we like to bring to your attention the illegal sale of mother's milk by 'Neolacta Lifesciences.' They are doing commercial processing and selling mother's milk.

In a response to the Parliament question 2225, on “Commercialisation of Mother's Milk”, recently you had stated as:

“(a) to (f): Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has informed that Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and Rules and Regulations do not cover the commercial processing/selling of human milk.

Ministry of Ayush has informed that State Licensing Authority of Karnataka has issued Ayush license regarding mother's milk. In this regard, Ministry of Ayush has directed State Licensing Authority of Karnataka vide letter dated 04.07.2022 to withdraw license issued to a company regarding mother's milk as Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani (ASU) drug, with immediate effect.

As per the national guidelines on Lactation Management Centre (LMC) in Public Health Facilities, Donor Human Milk (DHM) cannot be used for any commercial purpose. It is to be provided to the newborns/infants admitted in the health facility where Comprehensive Lactation Management Centre (CLMC) is situated, after all procedures enlisted in the guidelines are followed. Donation of human breast milk is to be done freely and voluntarily without any monetary benefits to the donor and with an understanding that the donated milk may be used free of cost to feed the new-borns/infants of another mother admitted in the hospital.”



**Breastfeeding
Promotion Network of India**

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BPNI has noted:

- a) Illegal activity and sales of Neolacta continues under the Ayush licence AUS993. We have the evidence of purchase on 01-09-2022.
- b) The Website of the said product is active as on 29-08-2022. (Attached proof in PDF)

Therefore, we request you for stringent action to ensure that the said company does not process and sell mother's milk, and also shuts down its website.

We would appreciate a line of response about the action taken.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Arun Gupta
Central Coordinator BPNI

Copy for information and necessary action

- **Shri. Sarbananda Sonowal, Cabinet Minister, Ministry of Ayush, GOI**
- **Shri.Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, GOI**
- **Shri. Rajesh Bhushan, Secretary, MOHFW and Chairperson FSSAI, GOI**
- **Shri. Arun Singhal, CEO FSSAI, GOI**