

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2225
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th JULY, 2022**

COMMERCIALIZATION MOTHER'S MILK

2225. SHRI MANISH TEWARI:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) allows for commercial selling of mother's milk;
- (b) if not, whether it is a fact that some units are selling mother's milk through dubious AYUSH licenses;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether some commercial companies are using NGOs and associated health workers in rural areas to engage rural women in commercialising mother's milk, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether this is against the national guidelines on lactation management centres; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the steps being taken by FSSAI to prevent this?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE**

(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)

(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.

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