

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 7
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2nd FEBRUARY 2024**

SETTING UP OF HUMAN MILK BANKS

7. SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that human milk banks are in prevalence in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up such banks for providing/supplying free of cost milk to sick and prematurely born infants in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has prepared any guidelines for such banks and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

- (a) to (e): As per the National Guidelines on Lactation Management Centre (LMC) in Public Health facilities, Government has established Comprehensive Lactation Management Centres (CLMC) to ensure availability of safe, pasteurized Donor Human Milk and Lactation Management Units (LMU) for facilitating expression of mother's own milk, for feeding of sick, preterm and low birth weight babies admitted in Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICU) and Special Newborn Care Units (SNCU).

These guidelines provide operational and technical guidance for establishment and management of LMCs, so that donor human milk is expressed, collected, processed and dispensed free of cost for feeding of infants admitted in government health facilities.

As per the reports received from the States/UTs for the FY 2023-24 (up to Q3), 50 Comprehensive Lactation Management Centres and 38 Lactation Management Units are currently operational across the country in 14 States/UTs. Government provides support through the National Health Mission for setting up of Lactation Management Centres based on the proposals received from the States/UTs in their Annual Programme Implementation Plans.
