

# India has highest number of pre-term babies

Chennai, Feb 3:

India has the highest number of pre-term babies, according to the 2010 data from the World Health Organisation. Around 35,19,100 babies are born premature every year in India — thrice the numbers in China, which stands at 11,72,300.

To reduce the premature mortality rate, Bengaluru-based Neolacta Life Sciences makes two mother's milk-based products.

"This is one of the three companies all over the world, and the only one in Asia that produces mother's milk-based products," says Saurabh Aggarwal, MD, Neolacta Life Sciences. Saurabh's family is from Australia, where they had their own dairy farm and an engineering company. Putting the knowledge of the two fields together, Neolacta makes their own equipment to provide two products — fortifier and the 70 calorie.

"The rate of prematurity is increasing across the world because of various factors like change in lifestyle, having babies at a later stage in life,

and even environmental changes. The reason we chose to set up our plant in India is we want to be committed to the intact survival of pre-mature babies here," he says. Neolacta products are for babies in the NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) environment.--