

(This document comprises news clips from various media in which Balmer Lawrie is mentioned, news related to GOI and PSEs, and news from the verticals that we do business in. This will be e-mailed on every Monday.)

## **Coverage of Balmer Lawrie Financial Results**

### **Balmer Lawrie PAT grows 14% in FY'12; announces 280% dividend**

State-run Balmer Lawrie and Company today posted 14 per cent rise in profit after tax to Rs 138 crore for the year ended March, 2012, compared to Rs 121 crore in the previous year. The gross income also increased by 14 per cent to Rs 2,450 crore in 2011-12 from Rs 2,148 crore in the previous year, the company said in a release.

Though the manufacturing businesses showed weaker profitability trends as compared to the previous year, the company overall delivered a good performance riding on the growth and profitability of the logistics businesses, the release said. "In view of the excellent performance of the company, the board of directors has recommended a dividend of 280 per cent for the FY 2012-13," it said.

The PSU under the Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry is involved in industrial packaging, lubricants, performance chemicals, logistics infrastructure, tea and refinery.

*Economic Times - 26.05.2012*

[http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2012-05-26/news/31860967\\_1\\_pc-rise-industrial-packaging-dividend](http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2012-05-26/news/31860967_1_pc-rise-industrial-packaging-dividend)

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*The Hindu Business Line - 26.05.2012*

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/article3459406.ece>

### **Balmer Lawrie FY12 net profit up 14%**

Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd., a Mini Ratna Category – I PSE with diversified business portfolios, has announced good results for the year ended 31st March, 2012. The results were approved by the Board in its Board Meeting held in Kolkata on 26th May, 2012.

The gross income increased by 14% to Rs. 2450 cr for the year ended 31st March 2012 from Rs 2148 cr in the previous year. The net income also registered a growth of 14% to clock 2337 cr as compared to 2050 cr last year. While the Profit before Tax (PBT) saw a modest increase of 5% to Rs190 cr from Rs181 cr last year, the Profit after Tax (PAT) grew by 14% to Rs1.38bn from Rs1.21bn in the previous year. Though, the manufacturing businesses showed weaker profitability trends as compared to the previous year, the Company overall delivered a good performance riding on the growth & profitability of the Logistics businesses.

*India Infoline - 28.05.2012*

<http://www.indiainfoline.com/Markets/News/Balmer-Lawrie-FY12-net-profit-up-14-percent/5426860593>

(Note: Balmer Lawrie's financial results have also been published in other newspapers & online media.)

### **Top executives of PSU banks are outside service rules**

The country's top civil servants are subject to service/conduct/disciplinary rules, but top honchos

### **PSUs Maharatna and Navratna' CSR budgets not fully spent**

At a time the government is planning to make it mandatory for all companies to set aside 2%

of government-owned banks are not.

In response to a query under the Right to Information (RTI) Act by B. Madhuri of New Delhi, the Department of Financial Services in the finance ministry, said:

"It is confirmed that there are no service rules or conduct rules or disciplinary/appeal rules for CMDs/EDs (chairman and managing director/executive director) of nationalised banks other than the "terms and conditions".

The "terms and conditions" that the department of financial services refers to are nothing but those governing pay and perquisites of CMDs and EDs and do not govern their conduct and the decision-making process while in office.

*Zee News - 19.05.2012*

[http://zeenews.india.com/business/news/finance/top-executives-of-psu-banks-are-outside-service-rules\\_47909.html](http://zeenews.india.com/business/news/finance/top-executives-of-psu-banks-are-outside-service-rules_47909.html)

### **Financial inclusion nearing completion in state**

The financial inclusion programme in the state has gained ground with banks covering 1875 of the mandated 1877 unbanked villages with a population of over 2000. By the end of March this year, banks have extended facilities for banking in 1875 villages through opening brick and mortar branches in 54 villages, appointment of banking correspondents in 1738 villages and mobile van banking in 83 villages.

In the remaining two villages, Andhra Bank and Indian Bank are likely to complete the financial inclusion programme (FIP) soon.

*Business Standard - 24.05.2012*

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/financial-inclusion-nearing-completion-in-state/475181/>

### **Chennai Port to have air freight station near airport**

The Chennai Port Trust plans to build an air freight station (AFS) near the airport under public-private-partnership mode. The Port Trust owns 2.13 acre of land about 2 km from the Anna International Airport.

"We intend to develop this land to commercially benefit the port. One of the avenues we intend to explore is the commissioning of an AFS," said an official of the Port Trust. Incidentally, the country's first AFS, which is a concept based on

of their previous year's profit for corporate social responsibility (CSR) activity, data shows that maharatna and navratna public sector undertakings (PSUs) have not been able to fully spend their CSR budget.

Data released by the ministry of heavy industries & public enterprises show that the five maharatnas - ONGC, Coal India, IOC, NTPC and SAIL - managed to spend just 49% of the combined budget for three years beginning 2009-10. The spending budget for most PSUs is updated till end September 2011. The combined spending of the navratnas was higher at 65%. But at least five of these 21 PSUs managed to spend less than 25% of the CSR budget of the three years. National Aluminium Ltd, or Nalco, was the only one that managed to fully spend its Rs 31.55 crore budget.

*The Economic Times - 23.05.2012*

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/psus-maharatna-and-navratna-csr-budgets-not-fully-spent/articleshow/13415505.cms>

### **Railways revamps private freight terminal policy**

After the tepid response to its private freight terminal (PFT) policy, the railways have revamped it. They've simplified the revenue sharing clause by delinking it from the wholesale price index. The PFT owner is to pay the railway zone concerned half the prevailing per-tonne terminal charge leviable at their goods shed or Rs 20, whichever is higher. At present, the terminal handling charge for freight cargo in a railway goods shed is Rs 40 a tonne. Under the new policy, new PFTs will be sharing revenue after five years and existing ones after two years of the notification.

*Business Standard - 25.05.2012*

<http://business-standard.com/india/news/railways-revamps-private-freight-terminal-policy/475316/>

### **TransAfrica Launches A Dedicated Indo-Africa Freight Corridor Service**

In a unique conglomeration of exporters, importers and trade majors, TransAfrica service was inaugurated at The Hilton, Mumbai on April 20, 2012, by the promoters of the service M/S Transocean Express Logistics Pvt Ltd., a leader in innovative freight forwarding and SCM services in India and Omega Logistics (Africa) Ltd, a Group Staymain enterprise, having leadership position in hinterland and reverse logistics to landlocked destinations in African regions of their presence with widely

the idea of providing airlines nodes near the production centres, was commissioned at Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) four years ago. Faced with congestion at the Chennai air cargo complex, the air cargo user community suggested the AFS to hold imported goods. Currently, there are two AFSs – CWC and Indev.

*The Hindu Business Line - 21.05.2012*

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/logistics/article3442458.ece>

### **Rising demand in rural economy helps logistics firms grow by 25 per cent**

Indian logistics firms grew at over 25 per cent in fiscal 2011-12 led by a large-scale outsourcing of logistics services by manufacturing and services sectors and a steady rise in rural consumption. At a time the domestic economy was grappling with slowdown fears, logistics majors like Blue Dart, Arshiya, DTDC and Allcargo Global reported a robust growth.

The growth comes at time when the sector has been witnessing a paradigm shift, with many small-scale and large-scale firms looking to improve presence in the 3PL (third-party logistics sector) market. 3PL players are outsourced to provide an integrated end-to-end logistics solutions such as warehousing, transportation and inventory management, ensuring safe delivery and storage of goods.

*The Economic Times - 26.05.2012*

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/indl-goods/svs/packaging/rising-demand-in-rural-economy-helps-logistics-firms-grow-by-25-per-cent/articleshow/13499756.cms>

### **Indian tea exports to Chinese market increasing steadily**

The aroma of Indian tea has wafted into the birthplace of the beverage across the Great Wall of China, where the GeNext is beginning to savour it as a preferred alternative to the home-grown variety. Though China remains the world's largest producer of the beverage, it produces green leaf tea while the younger generation in the country is tasting new flavours of globalisation and turning towards the black tea grown in India.

"Young Chinese people find in black tea a lifestyle quotient, as they associate it more with the British or American way of life. It's more of a psychological thing that is driving this shift from green tea to black tea," said Ajay Kichlu, a veteran tea taster and director of Chamong Tee. The Kolkata-based company, which has started exporting black tea to China, expects to ship half-a-million kg of the beverage this year.

India is the leading producer of black tea, with an

acclaimed clientele and years of professional experience in serving conference and tramp carriers, global freight forwarders, shippers, merchant consignees and UN military aid missions.

*Logistics Week - 24.05.2012*

<http://logisticsweek.com/logistics-2/2012/05/transafrica-launches-a-dedicated-indo-africa-freight-corridor-service-2/>

### **Tea prices soar, production dips**

In the last one month, packaged tea prices have witnessed an unprecedented rise. "Last month, we announced Rs 12 increase per kg for various categories of tea and are forced to announce another hike of Rs 12 per kg.

Never before have the tea prices jumped so fast," said Parag Desai, executive director, Gujarat Tea Processors & Packers, which sells tea under the Wagh Bakri brand name. Desai said that the tea prices at the auction are touching the roof due to which companies are forced to announce the raise. Good premium tea prices have now jumped from Rs 292 per kg to Rs 316.

India's annual tea consumption is currently around 800 mn kg and production last year was close to 980 mn kg. The country exported close to 180 mn kg of tea last year.

*The Times of India - 22.05.2012*

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ahmedabad/Tea-prices-soar-production-dips/articleshow/13367894.cms>

### **Rupee is world's 10th worst-performing currency**

Despite a 10.57 per cent fall since March 1, the Indian rupee is not the worst-performing currency vis-à-vis the dollar. It is the tenth-worst, after the currencies of Myanmar, Malawi, Brazil, Nepal, Swaziland, Namibia, Lesotho, South Africa and Bhutan.

Among the worse-performing countries, BRICS peers Brazil and South Africa have seen their currencies fall by 15.38 per cent and 10.61 per cent, respectively, against the dollar since March 1. However, unlike the rupee, the decline of the Brazilian real is a well-thought-out strategy to help exporters. South Africa, though, has concerns similar to those of India – widening current account deficit being one.

India's other partners in the BRICS bloc – Russia and China – have also lost ground against the dollar since March 1. The Russian rouble has fallen by 6.64 per cent against the

annual output of 985 million kg, while China's annual production of green leaf tea is much higher at 1,500 million kg. Exporters expect to sell up to 10 million kg of black tea this year in China, where the demand is estimated to rise rapidly to 100 million kg by 2015.

*The Economic Times - 26.05.2012*

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/indian-tea-exports-to-chinese-market-increasing-steadily/articleshow/13498184.cms>

### **BHEL redraws HR policy**

***BHEL wants to prepare its employees for a succession planning in the coming years***

BHEL is in the process of reorienting its HR policy to prepare its employees to counter the competition put up by multinational firms, besides preparing them for a succession planning in the coming years.

The reorientation has been spurred by the fact that about 11,000 of its employees comprising around 22 per cent of its total staff strength are retiring over the next five years. The company has started working on a succession planning initiative, which will focus on grooming the remaining 19,000 employees who have less than five-year experience. "These young people will take over the baton from the senior people who will be retiring. We will prepare them according to the competition and challenges which the power sector, especially our segment, is expected to see," BHEL's Director (Human Resources) R Krishnan told Business Standard.

*Business Standard - 23.05.2012*

<http://business-standard.com/india/news/bhel-redraws-hr-policy/165740/on>

dollar, but the tightly controlled yuan (renminbi) has only depreciated by 0.43 per cent. Among the Asian currencies, the rupee is clearly the worst-performer. It was the biggest loser in 2011-12 as well, depreciating by 12.37 per cent.

*The Hindu Business Line - 21.05.2012*

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/banking/article3443030.ece>

### **Mr. Alope Kumar Banerjee takes charge as Director (Finance), ONGC**

Mr. Alope Kumar Banerjee has taken over as Director (Finance) of ONGC on 22.05.2012 subsequent to his Presidential appointment to the coveted post.

He has close to three decades of rich and diversified experience. A finance professional par excellence, he has varied experience in Financial Management and Strategic Planning in upstream Oil and Gas Industry with specialization in Corporate Accounts, Corporate Budget, Cost Management, Risk Analysis & Financial Planning, Procurement of Contracts, Performance Benchmarking & Evaluation, Audit, Corporate Governance, Insurance, etc.

*sarkaritel.com*