

(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 Financial Results

**THE TELEGRAPH CALCUTTA**  
FRIDAY 17 AUGUST 2012

**Balmer Lawrie**  
■ Calcutta, Aug. 16:  
Balmer Lawrie has posted a 2 per cent rise in net profit at Rs 45.63 crore in the first quarter ended June against Rs 44.91 crore a year ago.

**The Bengal Post**  
Kolkata, Wednesday, August 15, 2012

**Balmer Lawrie net rises 2pc**  
Kolkata: Balmer Lawrie posted a 2 per cent rise in net profit to ₹45.63 crore in the first quarter ended June 30. Total income rose 13 per cent to ₹683 crore. — BP

**THE FINANCIAL EXPRESS**  
KOLKATA | FRIDAY | AUGUST 17 | 2012

**Balmer Lawrie Q1 net up 2% y-o-y**  
Mini Ratna company Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd, on Tuesday reported a 2% increase in its profit after tax at Rs 45.63 crore for quarter to June FY 13 against a PAT of Rs 44.91 crore during the corresponding period last fiscal. Total income was up 13% q to q, while it grew 12.5% y o y to Rs 683 crore. The company recorded its best profit before tax at Rs 65.66 crore for the quarter although it was up only 2% y o y. The company attributed the modest profitability to the general slow down of the economy, which has affected most of its manufacturing businesses, according to a company statement.

### Balmer Lawrie PAT

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/Balmer-Lawrie-PAT/speednewsbytopic/keyid-1186417.cms>  
The Times of India

### Balmer Lawrie & Company Q1 net up 2 pc at Rs 45.63 crore

[http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2012-08-14/news/33201385\\_1\\_psu-balmer-lawrie-net-profit-previous-corresponding-period](http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2012-08-14/news/33201385_1_psu-balmer-lawrie-net-profit-previous-corresponding-period)  
The Economic Times

### Balmer Lawrie Q1 net up marginally

<http://in.news.yahoo.com/balmer-lawrie-q1-net-marginally-122337850--finance.html>  
Yahoo.com

### Balmer Lawrie Q1 net up 2 pc at Rs 45.63 cr

<http://news.in.msn.com/business/article.aspx?cp-documentid=250528499>  
MSN News

### Balmer Lawrie Q1 net up 2 pc at Rs 45.63 cr

[http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/wire-news/balmer-lawrie-q1-net2-pc-at-rs-4563-cr\\_745463.html](http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/wire-news/balmer-lawrie-q1-net2-pc-at-rs-4563-cr_745463.html)

Money Control

(The news was covered by PTI and IANS and featured in many other online publications)

### **CARE assigns fundamental grade of 4/5 to Balmer Lawrie**

CARE Equity Research has assigned a fundamental grade of 4/5 to Balmer Lawrie & Company Ltd (BLCL), which indicates 'Very Good Fundamentals'.

BLCL is a Central Public Sector undertaking with a 'Mini RatnaI' status. It is a diversified, multi-location and multi-product medium-sized company manufacturing steel barrels, greases & lubricants & performance chemicals and carrying out various service-based activities such as logistics management, tours & travels, project engineering & consultancy in oil & infrastructure sector, container freight and tea blending & packaging. It is almost a debt-free company with steady financial performance during the last three years.

*Money Control - 14.08.2012*

[http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/care-research/care-assigns-fundamental-grade45-to-balmer-lawrie\\_744988.html](http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/care-research/care-assigns-fundamental-grade45-to-balmer-lawrie_744988.html)

### **Government plans to sell land bank of sick PSUs**

With the government's plan of selling stake in sick public enterprises going awry, it is now considering unlocking the land bank of these companies to generate revenue. The ministry of heavy industries has circulated a note to set up a Public Sector Land Development Authority (PSLDA), which will identify excess land with sick units that can be sold for commercial use. According to official estimates, the close to 60 sick PSUs in the country together hold about 20,000 hectare of vacant land. "The idea is that PSLDA will identify the excess land and bid them to be developed commercially," a senior government official, who did not want to be named, said.

The proceeds from sale of such land, over 100 acre of which belongs to HMT, NTC, Hindustan Photofilms and ITI and is in the metros, will either go to the government or be used to resurrect state-owned firms. "The revenue generated could be ploughed back for revival of sick firms," the official said, adding that PSLDA would be on the lines of the Rail Land Development Authority, which develops vacant land in its possession for commercial use to generate revenue through non-tariff measures.

*The Economic Times - 16.08.2012*

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/government-plans-to-sell-land-bank-of-sick-psus/articleshow/15509308.cms>

### **India Inc's Q1 net down 14% as growth slows**

While a majority of Indian companies have witnessed a decline in their net profits during the quarter ended June, the bigger ones have shown better resilience in managing the current economic slowdown. Of the 1,154 companies that have announced their results so far, about 56% have announced a decline in net profit for the first quarter on a yearly basis, an analysis by Crisil

### **PSU oil companies losing Rs 450 cr a day on sale of diesel, LPG**

State-owned oil firms are losing Rs 450 crore per day on sale of diesel and cooking fuels as a fall in the rupee and rise in international oil prices has widened fuel losses. Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) sell diesel, domestic cooking gas (LPG) and kerosene for PDS sales at Government-controlled rates which are way below cost. The oil firms have seen losses on diesel sales widen to Rs 15.55 per litre this fortnight from Rs 13.65 a litre they were losing in the first half of August, official sources said.

Besides, they are losing Rs 29.97 a litre on kerosene and Rs 231 on sale of every 14.2-kg LPG cylinder. The losses are besides close to Rs 3.8 per litre loss on the sale of petrol. Losses on diesel have soared to Rs 305 crore per day from about Rs 275 crore, they said, adding that at current rates the three firms may end the fiscal with a record revenue loss of Rs 167,468 crore.

*The Hindu Business Line - 16.08.2012*

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/article3779605.ece>

### **Exports down 14.8 % in July**

The economic slowdown and the contraction in world trade has started taking a toll on India's overseas shipments with exports registering the sharpest fall of 14.8 percent in the last three years declining to \$22.4 billion in July, putting a question mark on achieving the \$350 billion target set for this fiscal.

The demand for Indian goods has gone down

Research showed. This, however, does not include the PSU oil marketing & refining companies, banks and NBFCs.

Another report by leading domestic broking house Motilal Oswal Securities pointed out that on an aggregate basis, net profit of 30 sensex companies was up 14% year-on-year (YoY) during Q1, while the corresponding number for 49 of the 50 nifty companies was 16%. The analysis did not consider the numbers announced by BPCL. Of late, analysts have started excluding the numbers from oil & marketing majors like Indian Oil, HPCL, BPCL and some other PSU companies from the sector because of the lack of clarity on subsidy burden and other policy issues that have affected their revenues.

*The Times of India - 20.08.2012*

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/India-Incs-Q1-net-down-14-as-growth-slows/articleshow/15564373.cms>

### **Inter-ministerial panel chalks out strategy to boost tourism**

In a bid to give a boost to tourism sector, government has decided to finish the exercise to rationalise visa regime within two weeks and expedite development of facilities at 19 World Heritage Sites.

At a meeting of the inter-ministerial coordination committee for tourism sector convened by Prime Minister's Office (PMO), it was also decided that a sub-committee consisting of secretaries of Tourism, Rural Development and Labour ministries be set up to identify employment potential in tourism and hospitality sectors.

This committee will make recommendations regarding specific training and skill development requirements and prepare an action plan. It was also decided that the Culture Ministry will expedite the development of essential facilities like tourist facilitation and information centres, souvenir shops and toilet facilities at 19 World Heritage Sites managed by ASI.

*Zee news - 17.08.2012*

[http://zeenews.india.com/news/nation/inter-ministerial-panel-chalks-out-strategy-to-boost-tourism\\_794088.html](http://zeenews.india.com/news/nation/inter-ministerial-panel-chalks-out-strategy-to-boost-tourism_794088.html)

### **941 foreigners avail VoA facility in July**

The government's Visa on Arrival (VoA) scheme has registered a growth of 14.75 per cent with a total of 941 foreign tourists availing the facility in July this year as against 820 issued during the same period last year.

The Government has extended VoA facility to 11

dramatically in its traditional markets of U.S. and Europe that are showing no signs of reviving. "The world trade contraction is getting worse. The worst fear of European sovereign debt crisis is really impacting the world trade. The appetite for Indian goods has come down substantially in the U.S. We are faced with tough times in the coming days," Commerce Secretary S. R. Rao told reporters here.

The continued slide in the economic growth also had its reflection in the numbers with imports declining by 7.61 per cent to \$37.9 billion in July, leaving a trade deficit of \$15.5 billion.

*The Hindu - 14.08.2012*

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/article3771209.ece>

### **Amadeus bets big on India's 'smart' class**

Have you Amadeus-ed it? That's what the world's leading travel technology provider hopes to add to the lexicon of the Indian traveller by 2020. Amadeus has major plans for the Asia Pacific region - and India in particular - at a time when Europe faces an economic crisis. The Madrid-based global distribution company landed in India in 1995, eight years after it was formed, and is aiming to be an indispensable search-and-deliver tool for travellers in the country.

"Asia-Pacific is an exciting place to be. India and China are gaining economic muscle. The next big things will come from Asia-Pacific - that's where the money is and that's where the population is," said David Brett, president, Amadeus Asia-Pacific at the picturesque hilltop office of Amadeus near Cannes, France. India is the biggest market for outbound tourism, he said, pointing out that India's 300-million strong middle-class will be a boost to the tourism industry.

*The Times of India - 17.08.2012*

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata/Amadeus-bets-big-on-Indias-smart-class/articleshow/15525169.cms>

### **Google to acquire Frommer's travel guidebooks**

Google Inc. is buying the Frommer's line of travel guidebooks, the latest move to amass a trove of publishing content that could strengthen the largest Internet search company's push to become a major online travel broker.

countries to facilitate hassle-free tourist movement into the country. The maximum number of tourists availing the facility were from Japan (247) followed by Indonesia (167), New Zealand (161) and Philippines (149), according to a Tourism Ministry data. The Incredible India campaign has attracted a total of 5.25 lakh tourists to the country in July.

*The Hindu Business Line - 13.08.2012*

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/travel/article3763556.ece>

### **Port development: Challenges and the way forward**

Former Finance Minister and newly-appointed President of India, Pranab Mukherjee, underlined the importance of port development in the country in his last Budget by provisioning the issuance of tax-free bonds up to Rs 5,000 crore and announcing reduction of withholding tax on external commercial borrowings.

In the next five years, India expects investments to the tune of Rs 1.5 lakh crore in the port sector. Most of this investment will be under the public-private-partnership (PPP) model, mainly foreign capital.

*The Hindu Business Line - 19.08.2012*

[http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/logistics/article3795858.ece?ref=wl\\_industry-and-economy](http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/logistics/article3795858.ece?ref=wl_industry-and-economy)

### **European container lines to hike freight rates for Asian shippers**

Come September and Asian shippers, including those from India, will be required to cough up higher freight on services being offered by major European container lines across various trade lanes even as the economic crisis in the western world impacts trade volumes between Asia, Europe, North America and other parts of the world, according to shipping industry sources.

From September 1, Denmark-based Maersk, the world's largest container line, will implement a general freight increase of \$250 per TEU and \$500 per FEU on all shipments from the Far East to the Indian sub-continent, including India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Taking a cue from Maersk, Emirates too has announced a freight increase of \$200 per TEU on shipments between the Far East/ South-East Asia and the Indian sub-continent.

*The Hindu Business Line - 16.08.2012*

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/logistics/article3779537.ece>

The sale by John Wiley and Sons Inc. comes nearly a year after Google's \$151 million purchase of Zagat Survey, which offers reviews of restaurants, hotels and nightclubs in cities around the world. Google and Wiley and Sons did not announce financial terms for the deal, which is expected to close shortly.

*Mint - 14.08.2012*

<http://www.livemint.com/2012/08/14083305/Google-to-acquire-Frommer821.html>

### **Concor to focus on warehousing, run freight terminals**

Despite the sluggish trend in export-import (Exim) trade, Container Corporation of India (Concor) reported more than six per cent growth in the volume of containers handled in the first quarter of current fiscal.

The market leader with a share of more than 75 per cent in container train business, Concor is diversifying into private freight terminals and increase focus on warehousing.

*The Hindu Business Line - 19.08.2012*

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/logistics/article3795856.ece>

### **Assocham proposes Rs 10,000-cr infra development fund for Bengal**

Assocham has suggested forming of a Rs 10,000 crore infrastructure development fund for West Bengal. Assocham also offered to prepare a detailed policy framework for realising growth potential of West Bengal.

In a strategy paper for the State released on Monday, the industry body said to facilitate private investments and obtaining support from the Central Government for infrastructure development the State needs to have a separate department. It further said the infrastructure fund be set up jointly by the State and the federal Government.

Assocham felt the State urgently required creating clusters for the manufacturing sector. It said that the industry body was for "developing infrastructure in West Bengal for reducing the transaction costs of trade".

*The Hindu Business Line - 13.08.2012*

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/states/article3762599.ece>