

(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.)

Balmer Lawrie in News

The Telegraph
26 September, 2014



Sinha in Calcutta on Thursday. Picture by Kishor Roy Chowdhury

Balmer focus on logistics

ASTAFF REPORTER

Calcutta, Sept. 25: Public sector Balmer Lawrie is planning to spend Rs 165 crore to develop the cold chain infrastructure to strengthen its logistics business.

Chairman and managing director Virendra Sinha said the company had earmarked the amount to develop temperature-controlled warehouses in different parts of the country to cater to the demand of pharmaceutical, poultry and dairy sectors. He was speaking at the company's 97th AGM here today.

The company is eyeing the National Capital Region, Hyderabad and Mumbai to set up warehouses. The units are likely to come up within the next fiscal.

Sinha said the company was making progress on a multimodal logistics hub with Visakhapatnam Port Trust. The joint venture, involving an investment of over Rs 200 crore, is likely to be ready next fiscal.

Balmer Lawrie is engaged in the production of greases, lubricants, chemicals and industrial packaging. It also offers logistics and tours and travel services.

Business Line

26 September, 2014

Balmer Lawrie to invest ₹165 cr

Will build warehouses in NCR, Hyderabad and Mumbai

OUR BUREAU

Kolkata, September 25

Balmer Lawrie & Co Ltd has planned to create a cold chain infrastructure at a cost of ₹165 crore.

Virendra Sinha, CMD of Balmer Lawrie told reporters after the company's AGM that the company would set up three temperature-controlled warehouses in the national capital region, Hyderabad and Patalganga near Mumbai.

The planned investment would be to strengthen the company's logistics business network across different regions in the country. "The proposed end-to-end cold chain services would cater to the needs of pharmaceuticals, dairy prod-



Virendra Sinha

ucts, meat and poultry items players", he added.

One warehouse will come up later in this financial year. The two others will follow in the next fiscal.

"We have got land in Hyderabad as well as in the NCR. We are likely to obtain land in Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation soon for the third infrastructure.

Each warehouse will have a capacity of around 3,000

cubic metres of storage space. In the second phase, we plan to roll out four more such warehouses in Chennai, Kolkata, NCR and Bangalore" Sinha explained.

He also said the proposed ₹220-crore multi-modal logistic hub project in partnership with the Vijag port trust was underway.

Joint venture

The project, on 55 acres, will house container freight station, railway sidings, an ICD, an air-freight station and a truck terminal. The proposed 60:40 joint venture would build, manage and operate the hub. It is expected to be ready by end of the second quarter of the next financial year, he said.

The company has also decided to make finished leather chemicals in its Chennai plant portfolio through a technical tie-up with an Italian company.

Balmer focus on logistics

http://www.telegraphindia.com/1140926/jsp/business/story_18874265.jsp#.VCUBaPmSxA4

The Telegraph - 25.09.2014

Balmer Lawrie to create cold chain infrastructure

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/balmer-lawrie-to-create-cold-chain-infrastructure/article6446078.ece#.VCQaw9GmILw.gmail>

The Hindu Business Line - 25.09.2014

Balmer Lawrie to invest ₹165 cr

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/balmer-lawrie-to-invest-165-cr/article6446631.ece>

The Hindu Business Line - 25.09.2014

Hindustan Times

26 September, 2014

Balmer Lawrie registers turnover worth ₹2843

KOLKATA: Balmer Lawrie registered a turnover of ₹2843 crore in 2013-14, representing a growth of about 3% over the previous year. However, Profit Before Tax decreased marginally to ₹220 crore as against ₹224 crore in the preceding year. The Company issued Bonus Equity Shares in May 2013. The board of directors recommended a dividend at the rate of ₹18 per share, which corresponds to 180% for the financial year 2013-14 as against 176% in 2012-13. **HTC**

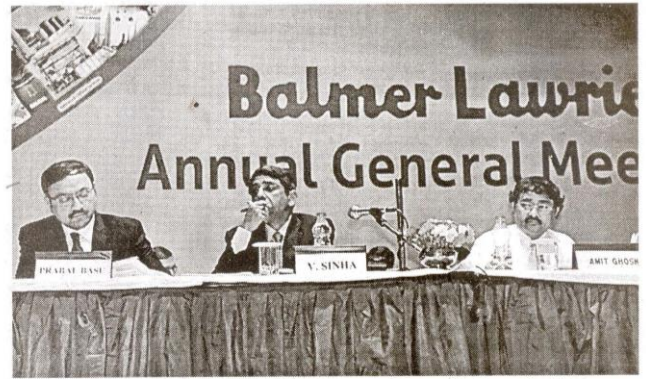
The Statesman
26 September, 2014

BALMER LAWRIE POSTS HIGHEST TURNOVER

Kolkata, 25 September: Balmer Lawrie & Co Ltd, which had its 97th annual general meeting here today, recorded its highest ever turnover of Rs 2,843 crore in 2013-14 representing a growth of about three per cent over the previous year. However, profit before tax decreased marginally to Rs 220 crore as against Rs 224 crore in the preceding year, according to a company release. "The company maintained a stable financial position, despite the prevailing adverse market conditions during 2013-14," the release said.

The board of directors recommended a dividend at the rate of Rs 18 per share which corresponds to 180 per cent for the financial year 2013-14 as against 176 per cent in 2012-13. **SNS**

Dainik Vishwamitra
26 September, 2014



बामर लॉरी एंड कंपनी की वार्षिक आम सभा में अध्यक्ष व प्रबंध निदेशक वीरेन सिन्हा (बीच में) तथा प्रबाल बसु व अमित घोष।
-विश्वमित्र

बामर लॉरी के कारोबार में वृद्धि

कोलकाता, २५ सितम्बर (नि.प्र.)। भारत सरकार के अधीन उपक्रम बामर लॉरी एंड कंपनी लिमिटेड की ९७वीं वार्षिक आम बैठक आज कोलकाता में हुई। इस अवसर पर कंपनी के चेयरमैन ने बताया कि पिछले वित्तीय वर्ष २०१३-१४ में बाजार की खराब स्थिति के बावजूद चालू वित्तीय वर्ष में तीन फीसदी वृद्धि दर के साथ २८४३ करोड़ का कारोबार किया। कंपनी ने मई २०१३ में डिविडेंड के रूप में बोनस शेयर जारी किये। कंपनी के निदेशक मंडल की ओर से प्रति शेयर १८ रुपये का लाभांश भी दिया गया।

Jansatta

27 September, 2014

बीएल की सालाना सभा संपन्न

कोलकाता, 26 सितंबर (जनसत्ता)। देश की अग्रणी कंपनी बॉमर लॉरी (बीएल) की सालाना आम सभा (एजीएम) गुरुवार को महानगर के जीडी बिड़ला सभागार में आयोजित की गई। यह कंपनी की 97वीं एजीएम थी, जिसमें इसके सभी शेयरधारकों ने हिस्सा लिया। एजीएम को संबोधित करते हुए बीएल के चेयरमैन व प्रबंध निदेशक वीरेंद्र सिन्हा ने कहा कि उनकी कंपनी अभी लॉजिस्टिक बिजनेस पर जोर दे रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि इसके तहत कोल्ड चैन इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर के विकास पर 165 करोड़ रुपए खर्च किए जाएंगे। उन्होंने कहा कि कंपनी हैदराबाद व मुंबई में वेयरहाउस का निर्माण करेगी। उन्होंने इसी वित्तीय वर्ष में दोनों यूनिट के शुरू हो जाने की उम्मीद जताई।

Salam Duniya
26 September, 2014

बामर लॉरी तैयार करेगा कोल्ड स्टोरेज

कोलकाता : बामर लॉरी एंड को. लिमिटेड तापमान नियंत्रित गोदाम स्थापित करने की योजना बना रहा है। इसके लिए 165 करोड़ रुपये खर्च किये जायेंगे। कंपनी के चेयरमैन व मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर वीरेंद्र सिन्हा ने गुरुवार को वार्षिक आम सभा में कहा, पहले चरण में हैदराबाद, हरियाणा के धरुहरा और नवी मुंबई में ये गोदाम तैयार किये जायेंगे। इनके निर्माण पर 65 करोड़ रुपये खर्च होंगे। इनमें न केवल हरी सब्जियां बल्कि रेडी टू ईट फूड रखे जायेंगे। उन्होंने कहा, इन गोदामों के जरिये खाद्य पदार्थों को दुकानों तक पहुंचाया जायेगा। सिन्हा ने कहा कि दूसरे चरण में 4 गोदाम तैयार किये



एजीएम के मौके पर कंपनी के सीएमडी वीरेंद्र सिन्हा व अन्य

जायेंगे-दिल्ली, बंगलुरु, चेन्नै और कोलकाता में। इन पर 100 करोड़ रुपये खर्च होंगे। हैदराबाद में बनने वाले गोदाम के लिए जमीन का अधिग्रहण हो चुका है जबकि हरियाणा में प्रस्तावित गोदाम को कंपनी की बैठक में हरी झंडी दे दी गयी है। पहले चरण के तहत पहला गोदाम इसी वित्त वर्ष में तैयार करने की योजना बनायी गयी है और 2 गोदाम अगले वित्त वर्ष तक बनाने का लक्ष्य रखा गया है।

(Note: The AGM was also covered by other print, online and electronic media)

'It is time to cleanse the nation': PM tells ministries to cut garbage and pollution as he seeks Bollywood support for 'Swachh Bharat' mission

For the first time in the history of India, Gandhi Jayanti will not be a holiday for government staff, who will have to report to work to take the 'Swachh Shapath'. On September 20 Cabinet Secretary Ajit Seth directed all central government secretaries to ensure that every employee takes the pledge on October 2, the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. The text of the pledge will soon be sent to all the departments.

Besides this, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken several steps to implement one of the biggest public campaigns for cleanliness. The minutes of the meeting between Modi and 20 secretaries reveal that a new law may be enforced

Sebi breather for PSUs

The 78 listed central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) have got another six months to comply with market watchdog Sebi's guidelines on appointment of at least a woman director on their board. The Sebi has also provided similar relief to PSUs on appointment of independent directors. CPSEs, which had to show compliance on October 1 earlier, can now do so by April 1.

Large CPSEs may also get relaxation from the stringent norms on related party transactions (RPTs), according to experts. In its earlier norms, Sebi had tightened the procedures for intra-group transactions or RPTs by making prior approval of the audit committee mandatory for all material RPTs. Sebi has now changed the definition for RPTs and exempted

to ensure cleanliness. The prime minister has asked the law ministry to amend existing laws or to analyse whether a new Act is required to act against those who litter. The prime minister also directed the Finance Ministry to explore a taxation policy to keep a check on those who pollute.

Daily Mail - 23.09.2014

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/indiahome/indianews/article-2767132/It-time-cleanse-nation-PM-tells-ministries-cut-garbage-pollution-seeks-Bollywood-support-Swachch-Bharat-mission.html>

Only 32 PSUs have complied with 20% procurement norm: Govt

Only 32 out of 146 PSUs have complied with the mandatory 20 per cent procurement of products and services required by them from micro and small enterprises till now, the government today said. The government is looking at amending public procurement policy to incorporate provisions against PSUs who fail to meet the mandatory at least 20 per cent procurement by April 2015.

"As far as procurement policy is concerned, it is true that several PSUs are not complying with the required procurement. Only 32 PSUs have complied with the 20 per cent mandatory procurement out of 146 PSUs. According to the policy, (20 per cent procurement) it will be mandatory from April 2015. We are thinking of amending the policy to incorporate provisions against PSUs who do not comply with the mandatory procurement norm after April, 2015," MSME Minister Kalraj Mishra told reporters at the 100 days press conference here.

Business Standard - 23.09.2014

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/only-32-psus-have-complied-with-20-procurement-norm-govt-114092301052_1.html

Govt mulls viability gap funding for aviation sector

The government is considering a provision for providing viability gap funding (VGF) to encourage airlines to offer connectivity to remote regions, civil aviation minister Ashok Gajapathi Raju said on Tuesday after a meeting with CEOs of major carriers like Tata-SIA, Spicejet, Jet Airways and IndiGo. "There is a proposal for viability gap funding to encourage airlines towards remote area connectivity, especially in the northeastern region. We don't want to compromise on regional connectivity," Raju said.

Incidentally, the North East Council used to provide VGF, but payments have been irregular since 2012. In separate letters to the ministry last week, airlines like Jet Airways, Spicejet and the yet-to-start Vistara had expressed opposition to

mandatory prior approval for certain RPTs. Now the audit committee can grant omnibus approval for RPTs proposed to be entered into by the company, subject to conditions, like where the transaction value doesn't exceed R1 crore and has a shelf-life of not more than a year.

The Financial Express - 24.09.2014

<http://www.financialexpress.com/news/sebi-breather-for-psus/1292126>

PSU boards lose 86 independent directors in 4 months

In less than nine months of 2014 a record 108 independent directors on PSU boards have either resigned or were not re-appointed, thanks primarily to the recent change in government at the centre. This is the highest number of cessations of independent directors in any particular year since 2006, from when data is available. The previous high was 97 in 2013, data from Indianboards.com showed.

Being the largest shareholder in PSUs, it is the prerogative of the government to appoint independent directors but such large number of resignations also puts a question mark on the issue of corporate governance at PSUs, industry watchers said. The newly enacted companies act that does not allow any special immunities to independent directors on PSU boards may have also contributed to this trend, they said.

Times of India - 24.09.2014

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/PSU-boards-lose-86-independent-directors-in-4-months/articleshow/43289763.cms>

Govt Relaxes LTC Rules to Allow Employees to Fly to NE, J&K

All central government employees, who were not entitled to air travel, can now fly to Jammu and Kashmir, Northeastern states, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands as per new Leave Travel Concession (LTC) rules. "Government servants not entitled to travel by air may be permitted to travel by air (to select destinations) in economy class," the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) said in an order issued today.

Such employees can travel from Kolkata and Guwahati to any place in the Northeastern region. They have been allowed to travel from Kolkata, Chennai and Bhubaneswar to Port Blair and from Delhi and Amritsar to any place in Jammu and Kashmir, it said. "Journey for

the government's proposed new route policy for remote/regional regions, arguing that the move will push the industry deeper into losses and lead to overcapacity in regions which have very low demand. The government's new policy mandates that by end-2016 airlines will have to match capacity deployed on 30 trunk routes with that deployed in the rest of the country - more specifically, the regional and remote routes.

The Financial Express - 24.09.2014

<http://www.financialexpress.com/news/govt-mulls-viability-gap-funding-for-aviation-sector/1292104>

Railways' fees for direct ticket booking terminals higher, say travel agents

Travel agents want the Indian Railways to relax the financial terms of a scheme that allows them to set up ticket booking facilities with direct access to the seat reservation database. Access - Recently, the Railways firmed up a policy, called Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendra (YTSK), that will allow rail travel agents to book tickets by setting up such terminals. At present, travel agents can access the rail passenger reservation system to book tickets only through the servers of IRCTC, the Railways' public sector subsidiary that front-ends online booking. Railway rules prohibit ticket booking agents from physically going to the reservation counters. This was done to de-clog the counter from travel agents and make these available only for passengers.

The Hindu Business Line - 28.09.2014

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/industry-and-economy/logistics/railways-fees-for-direct-ticket-booking-terminals-higher-say-travel-agents/article6454989.ece>

Port cargo handling rejig call

A government panel has recommended ensuring that shore handling of vessels be done by a single agency to improve the profitability of ports owned by the Centre. "The stevedoring and shore handling of vessels in major ports should be carried out by a single agency as far as possible," a ministry of shipping committee has recommended.

Unlike about 200 non-major ports, there are multiple agencies for shore handling and stevedoring at major ports at present. "The non-major ports have by and large a system of having one agency looking after all the work of landing/loading of ships and shore handling of cargo in their port; this gives a more focused approach to market the port," the committee said. The recommendations are aimed at protecting the interests of major ports amid their market share nosediving to 57 per cent in 2013-14 from 91 per cent in 1994-95.

these non-entitled employees from their headquarters up to Kolkata, Guwahati, Chennai, Bhubaneswar, Delhi, Amritsar will have to be undertaken as per their entitlement," the DoPT said. The government servants entitled to travel by air can avail this Leave Travel Concession (LTC) from their headquarters, the order said.

Outlook India - 26.09.2014

<http://www.outlookindia.com/news/article/Govt-Relaxes-LTC-Rules-to-Allow-Employees-to-Fly-to-NE-JK/861637>

SpiceJet announces holiday season sale for travel between Oct 28-Dec 15, Jan 15-Mar 31

Low-cost carrier SpiceJet today announced a holiday season sale that will let its customers avail of upto 50 per cent discount on available fares for travel between October 28 and December 15 this year and January 15 and March 31 next year. The offer is available for bookings made between today till Saturday midnight, a press release from the airline said. The release said the offer is valid on SpiceJet's entire domestic network for travel on direct, via as well as onward flights. However, fares vary from sector to sector depending on the travel distance. International sectors do not feature in this sale, it said. According to it, fare charged under this offer are non-refundable and non-changeable (taxes and fees are refundable).

Net Indian - 25.09.2014

<http://netindian.in/news/2014/09/25/0003067/0/spicejet-announces-holiday-season-sale-travel-between-oct-28-dec-15-jan-15->

Ports under shipping ministry plan to go paperless

Taking a cue from the government's call to make it easier to do business in the country, ports under the shipping ministry plan to go paperless, a move that will not only reduce logistics costs but also cut bureaucratic delays faced by exporters and importers.

A senior government official said the idea is to do away with the requirement of manual stamping at each point for moving containers, which adds to delays in cargo evacuation. The new mechanism will first be tried out at the Nhava Sheva Container Terminal at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust over the next two months. If successful, the 'go-paperless' initiative will be extended to all the other major ports under the shipping ministry, the official said.

The Economic Times - 29.09.2014

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/shipping/-/transport/ports->

The Telegraph - 28.09.2014

http://www.telegraphindia.com/1140929/jsp/business/story_18883591.jsp#.VCji2PmSxA4

Government to exempt vessels carrying exim cargo from duty on fuel

In a bid to boost coastal trade, the government has decided to exempt vessels carrying exim cargo from paying customs duty on marine fuel, a top official said on Tuesday.

"A decision has been taken that the coastal vessels which are carrying exim cargo or containers will be given duty free fuel ... It suddenly cuts down fuel cost in coastal shipping," Shipping Secretary Vishwapati Trivedi said.

The country at present levies about 25 per cent customs duty on marine fuel. Removal of tax would draw big container ships to Indian coasts which are spread across 7,500 km area, Trivedi said. The quick decision making in the current policy scenario of the current government has been very encouraging for the shipping industry, he said addressing a FICCI summit on infrastructure.

IBN Live - 23.09.2014

<http://ibnlive.in.com/news/government-to-exempt-vessels-carrying-exim-cargo-from-duty-on-fuel/501338-3.html>

[under-shipping-ministry-plan-to-go-paperless/articleshow/43765362.cms](http://www.shipping-ministry-plan-to-go-paperless/articleshow/43765362.cms)

Dr A K Manocha assumes charge as Chairman & Managing Director of IRCTC

Dr A K Manocha has assumed charge as Chairman & Managing Director of the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC), stated a release. Prior to this, he was working as the CAO/FOIS in Northern Railway.

Travelbiz Monitor - 23.09.2014

<http://www.travelbizmonitor.com/dr-a-k-manocha-assumes-charge-as-chairman--managing-director-of-irctc-25345>

PESB recommends Manoj Mishra for NFL's CMD post

The Public Enterprises Selection Board has recommended STC's Director Finance Manoj Mishra for the top post in National Fertilizers Ltd.

Business Standard - 23.09.2014

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/pesb-recommends-manoj-mishra-for-nfl-s-cmd-post-114092300895_1.html