

**POOR DEMAND IMPACTED JKLC'S PROFITABILITY**

JK Lakshmi Cement registered a production and sales growth of 20% and 15% respectively in Apr-Jun'15 Over Apr-Jun'14 aided by the commissioning of Durg plant in Mar'15. Despite a healthy increase in volume, subdued market conditions dragged the Gross Sales down to Rs.663.03 crore in Apr-Jun'15 from Rs.668.94 crores in Apr-Jun'14. The costs were higher due to impact of higher volumes. The lower cement prices and higher cost has brought down the PBIDT to Rs.55.04 crore in Apr-Jun'15 from Rs.115.98 crore in Apr-Jun'14. The company bore the additional burden of interest and depreciation to the tune of Rs.37.58 crore on account of commissioning of Ist Phase of Company's Greenfield cement plant of 1.7 million Tonnes at Durg in March 2015. Resultantly company incurred a loss of Rs.34.91 crore at PBT level in Apr-Jun'15 as against profit of Rs.49.65 crore in Apr-Jun'14. After providing tax, the losses at PAT level stood at Rs.23.48 crore in Apr-Jun'15 as against profit of Rs.40.46 crore in Apr-Jun'14. Company has shown Rs.5.45 crore as an exceptional items which represent additional expenditure incurred on stabilisation of its Green Field plant at Durg.

Company continues its focus on reduction of the cost. It has further brought down the coal consumption to 685 K.Cal/kg of clinker in Apr-Jun'15 from 714 K.Cal/kg of Clinker in Apr-Jun'14 at its Sirohi plant. Company's operating efficiencies are amongst the best with its coal consumption as the lowest in the industry.

The work on company's two split location plants is progressing satisfactorily. Gujarat's second Grinding unit is expected to come into stream by the end of the financial year 2015-16. The work at Udaipur Unit, the subsidiary company, is also progressing well.



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