

EARNINGS

UB Q4 profit drops 20% on higher expenditure

Bangalore: India's largest beer maker **United Breweries Ltd** posted a 20.5% drop in its fourth quarter net profit to Rs26.15 crore because of increased expenditure that offset higher sales. Revenue in the three months to 31 March rose 23.6% over a year ago to Rs573.15 crore. Higher packing material, staff and advertising and sales promotion costs pushed up total expenditure during the quarter by 33.9% to Rs533.48 crore.

Company officials were not available immediately for comment. For the full year, United Breweries, which makes the Kingfisher brand, clocked a 51.3% rise in net profit to Rs94.59 crore on a 17.6% increase in net sales to Rs1,997.23 crore.

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