

UBL profit up 53% in March quarter

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UNITED Breweries Ltd (UBL), the beer company of Vijay Mallya's UB Group, has posted a 53 per cent rise in net profit to Rs 40 crore in the fourth quarter of 201-11, as compared with Rs 26.1 crore in the same period last year.

The rise is attributed to a one-time income of Rs 20.9 crore during the quarter, along with sound growth in sales numbers. Net sales rose 46.5 per cent to Rs 839.5 crore during this period as compared with

Rs 573.15 crore last year.

Operating profit increased 80.5 per cent to Rs 71.6 crore against Rs 39.7 crore in the same period last year. The company registered a 73 per cent rise in net profit in 2010-11 to Rs 168 crore as compared with Rs 97 crore in 2009-10. It also posted other income of Rs 73.1 crore in 2010-11, contributing to the overall net numbers. Net sales rose 41 per cent to Rs 2,778.8 crore in 2010-11 against Rs 1,973.1 crore reported in 2009-10.

"UBL had a sound 2010-11, with volumes growing at the highest rate in the

last four years. Sales volume has increased by 23 per cent, driven by 27 per cent growth in strong beer and 16 per cent increase in mild volumes against an industry average of nine per cent," the company said.

It increased its market share due to the rise in sales numbers. "For the full year, our market share stands at 54 per cent against 51 per cent in the corresponding period last year," it said. Similarly, it attained market share of 56 per cent during the fourth quarter (January-March) of 2010-11.