

West Coast Paper Q2 net inches up to Rs 23 crore

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WEST Coast Paper Mills (WCPM) reported a marginal 1.26% rise in its net profit at Rs 23.19 crore for the second quarter (Q2) ended September 30, 2009, compared to a Rs 22.90 crore net in the previous corresponding quarter. The higher profit follows a 4.47% growth in WCPM's July-September net sales to Rs 169.63 crore (Rs 162.36 crore).

An SK Bangur Group firm with interests in paper, paper boards and telecom cables, WCPM, in a media statement issued after the board meeting held in Mumbai on Friday said working results for the quarter as well as the first half of the year was satisfactory compared to the corresponding period of the previous year despite sluggish paper market conditions.

While other operating income during the quarter under review stood at Rs 90.25 lakh compared to Rs 74.34 lakh in the earlier corresponding quarter, total income from operations at Rs 170.53 crore during Q2 was also higher as against Rs 163.10 crore in the earlier corresponding period. Depreciation cost stood at Rs 4.81 crore in the quarter and interest and finance charges at Rs 2.01 crore. Profit before tax was also up at Rs 27.05 crore during the quarter as against Rs 25.90 crore in the year-ago period. Since revenue, profit and assets from telecommunication cables is less than 10% of the combined results for the reported periods, segment reporting is not required.

West Coast Paper Mills is in the process of enhancing its production capacity to 320,000 tonne per annum entailing an investment of about Rs 1,300 crore. The entire project loan has been disbursed by the lenders. The expansion programme is in advanced stage of implementation. The pulp mill has been installed and commissioning activities have started. Paper machine will be commissioned in the last quarter of the current year.

