



**KUMAR MANGALAM BIRLA**  
Chairman, Aditya Birla Group

**We are 'last man standing', will be 'first man forward':**

*While admitting that an "extended pause in reforms" and some other policy moves have clouded the business sentiments in India, Birla says that Aditya Birla Group delivered a "solid performance" in 2011-12 despite a choppy global economy and its turnover grew by 14 per cent to cross \$40 billion. He said, "Over the years, we have through determined and deliberate effort come to be in this position of being the 'Last Man Standing', almost across each of our businesses. And when we do face a downturn today, from our position of strength, the message I want to convey is that, the last man standing has the best chance at being the first man forward. The first man forward to consolidate market positions, to show superior performance in each industry and get a few steps ahead of competition." Birla would be among the few business leaders to have expressed confidence of continued growth momentum despite a gloomy economic scenario prevailing currently. "India's economy is poised delicately. The extended pause in reforms, together with some recent retrograde policy moves, have clouded business sentiment," he said.*

## Hindalco to be Watched after FY2012 Results

Hindalco Industries reported 38% growth in consolidated net profit to ₹ 3397 crore on 12% growth in revenue from operations to ₹ 80821.40 crore in the year ended March 2012 (FY 2012) over the year ended March 2011 (FY 2011). The company said the increase in net profit was primarily attributable to strong performance of its US unit Novelis and copper business in India. The top line growth was driven by better product mix and depreciating rupee, Hindalco said. The result was announced after market hours on 27 June 2012.

Hindalco Industries said that despite economic headwinds during the year, the balanced portfolio approach, low cost operation and strong value added businesses resulted in commendable performance. With the low cost advantage and formidable global presence in aluminium downstream, Hindalco is well set for being the Last Man Standing and the First Man Forward, Hindalco said.

Hindalco Industries' US based wholly owned subsidiary, Novelis Inc., reported strong operating results in FY 2012 despite challenging market conditions globally. The premium product portfolio, long-term customer base and focused business model enabled Novelis to produce solid results for the year.

The board of Hindalco Industries has recommended dividend of ₹ 1.55 per share for FY 2012.

Hindalco Industries also said that the company has completed issuance of Secured Redeemable Non-convertible Debentures amounting to ₹1500 crores on private placement basis at the coupon of 9.55% per annum. The proceeds of the issue will be used, for general, business purposes including capital expenditure, working capital, refinancing of existing debt. The debentures are proposed to be listed on WDM segment of National Stock Exchange of India, Hindalco said.

### Segment Performance

Of the total annual revenues of ₹80,821 crore, aluminium business contributed ₹ 62,119 crore, up 11 percent over the last year. Earnings before Interest and Taxes (EBIT) for aluminium business for FY12 remained flat at ₹ 4,495 crore compared to ₹4,469 crore in FY11. Strong growth in Novelis EBIT was offset by lower EBIT in Indian aluminium business. Copper business revenue is higher at ₹18,379 crore, a rise of 16 per cent from ₹15,887 crore in FY11, mainly on account of higher copper LME and by-product credits. EBIT of ₹ 1,119 crore vs. ₹ 1,082 crore in FY11 was on the back of superior performance of custom smelting operations in India.

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