

Britannia Surges 60% Since March; MD Sells ₹68.4-crore Shares in FY21

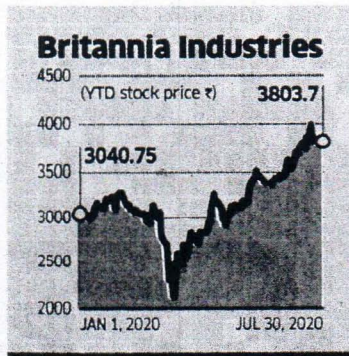
Ashutosh Shyam & Jwalit Vyas

ET Intelligence Group: Britannia is currently the best performing FMCG stock in India with a gain of over 60% since the March lockdown.

The company's managing director Varun Berry has been using this opportunity to sell a portion of his holdings. He has sold ₹68.4 crore worth shares since the beginning of FY21 according to stock exchange filings. Over the past year, he has sold shares worth ₹105 crore.

Answering an ET query, Berry said that the proceeds from the share sale will be utilised towards the next set of company ESOPs.

Berry, who has been responsible for a major turnaround in the fort-



unes of the Wadia group company, had 1.09 lakh shares at the beginning of April. Since then he has been allotted another 1.73 lakh shares

of the company. But he now owns only 93,632 shares worth approximately ₹35.6 crore.

Shares of Britannia have seen a dream run over the past few months as a nationwide lockdown led people to consume more packaged food. In the June quarter, the company's sales volume grew by 21.5% year-on-year, highest in the past five years. Its revenue grew by 26.7% and net profit rose by 118%. The company's stock is trading near-record high price and valuation. At Wednesday's closing price of ₹3,814.1 on the BSE, the stock was traded at 50 times estimated FY21 earnings.

Since Berry took over in January 2013, the stock has gained 16 times. He was re-appointed as managing director in May 2018 for a term of five years.