

ECONOMY IN THE PANDEMIC AND BEYOND

Resurgence to the New Normal



ANISH KUMAR DAN

Sustainability Disclosure Practices in India - A Study of Select Listed Companies

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Abstract

In terms of sustainability, traditional disclosure does not provide the necessary information to all stakeholders, mainly addressing the company's shareholders' expectations. As a result, organisations need to disclose more non-financial information, which implies social and environmental issues. Thus, the aim of this paper is to explore the sustainability reporting practices to gain an awareness of the policies adopted by the companies. The study concentrates on top 5 companies (based on market capitalisation) from National Stock Exchange of India (Nifty 50) as on 31.3.2021. Moreover, instead of observing diverse sustainability reporting guidelines in one research, this paper focuses on the current most popular guidance, the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). With this focus, it is more likely to achieve a relevant comparability among the firms' sustainability reporting.

Keywords: Sustainability report, economics disclosure, environmental disclosure, social disclosure, GRI-G4

JEL Classifications: C02, G18

INTRODUCTION

Since the end of the 1990s, sustainability reporting has become an increasingly relevant topic in business and academia. However, literature is still limited in quantity and no major reviews of the latest developments have thus far been presented.

Sustainability means meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Corporate reporting in recent times faces a series of challenges as companies are expected to reassess their strategy for information disclosure. Within a global economic environment that is continuously evolving, there is a strong need for an internationally coordinated action as the financial and non-financial information

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Death, anxiety, slowdown and pay-cut are the regular headlines of dailies during pandemic period. It is truly challenging to measure the loss of human resource due to COVID-19 virus. The psychological adverse effects of pandemic also caused people to work with poor efficiency level. Economic slowdown was inevitable and reduction in salary was an obvious effect. However, this pandemic has injected some new concepts into our lifestyle. WFH, online platform, OTT media, telemedicine turn out to be inseparable part of our life. Such new lifestyle under threat also taught us to be empathetic, adaptable, disciplined, and creative. Hope individuals and organisations will take away this learning from this disaster and the positivity of crisis will ensure new sunrise in new normal conditions. This edited volume is consists of 23 articles, contributed by prominent academicians and researchers from the field of commerce, finance, management, and economics. The articles are written in eloquent and structured way on the topics related to pandemic affected economy and the aftermath. The contributors dealt with pre and post pandemic conditions in areas like decision making of Indian industries from agro-based, manufacturing and service sectors; strategies of start-ups, giant firms, MSMEs, PSUs; downfalls of tourism business; roller coaster drives of stock exchanges; to mention a few.

About the Author

Anish Kumar Dan is Assistant Professor in Commerce and Member, IQAC at Bangabasi College, Kolkata and Guest Faculty, PG Department of Commerce, University of Calcutta. He has obtained 1st Class 2nd rank in M. Com (2001) from University of Calcutta. He is a recipient of National Scholarship for graduation result and Gold medal from CAACU for post-graduation rank. He also obtained his M. Phil and Ph. D degrees from the University of Calcutta.



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