Turkish Online Journal of Qualitative Inquiry (TOJQI)
Volume 12, Issue 5, July 2021: 3705-3718

Research Article

VOLUNTARY DISCLOSURE PRACTICES IN SELECT NIFTY NON-FINANCIAL COMPANIES

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Abstract

The aim of the article is to investigate the voluntary disclosure practices of select non-financial Nifty 50 listed companies. The eight variables were considered for the study later; based on that, 74 constructs were developed. Automobiles, information technology, energy, fast-moving consumer goods and metal industries were considered for the study. The voluntary disclosure data was collected from published financial statements of the companies. The study period was confined to 2010-2020. Collected data was analyzed and scores were identified by dividing from the maximum score-74. Further data was also analyzed through descriptive statistics. The study identified the growth of voluntary disclosure practice in Indian companies and also various suggestions were provided based on the findings. In turn, the study will be helpful for investors to understand the level of voluntary disclosure practices by companies.

Key words: voluntary disclosure, Nifty 50, Non-financial, financial statements, descriptive statistics.

Introduction

Corporate disclosure is essential for accounting information users to make sound evaluation and growth prospects. Additionally, corporate disclosure assists to mitigate the knowledge discrepancy between management and outside stakeholders. The management operates as an ambassador both for shareholders, as the management is supposed to act throughout the stockholders' collective interest and also to educate stakeholders via appropriate disclosure. Any failure of those would result in increased agency costs as part of either legal or audit expenses. There are two types of disclosures: voluntary and required. Mandatory disclosures are made in accordance with the requirements of the regulators. Through requiring financial disclosures, regulatory bodies as well as businesses seek to decrease agency expenses (Jenson & Meckling, 1976). Financial records are fundamental for the effective operation of financial markets. Transparent disclosures aim to encourage liquidity position, lowering transaction costs (Damsetz, 1968). Effective disclosure has been shown to decrease the cost of capital. While large organizations attempt to change the world of investing through raising their level of openness, the structure of disclosure varies by country according to the intrinsic accountancy environment (Gray, 1988). Some nations may encourage

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secrecy, while others strive for greater transparency. These cultural distinctions between countries are extensively studied in literature. Globalization has increased product market and capital market demands, and companies in sophisticated countries in the United States prefer to enhance their disclosure standards in preparation for an international listing (Khanna, Palepu & Srinivasan, 2004).

Voluntary Disclosure

The regulatory authorities require specific disclosures to safeguard stakeholders' interests, those who often get to be a matter of simple compliance, with a lot of companies disclosing whatever is required but not providing useful information voluntarily. Companies' voluntary but also transparent disclosure of information assists subscribers of the accounting statements in making decisions. Competition is among the main reasons besides companies' refusal to disclose confidential data. Comprehensive disclosures, being more than one technique, may profit competitors. Additionally, companies face resource and time constraints when it comes to systematic and extensive disclosures. (Fick, 2010).

Another critical component of disclosure practices seems to be management's assessment of a business's growth. There is indeed a critical need for further interconnected disclosure approach that combines forward-looking reports and some other disclosures (Hutton, 2004). Financial statements evolve as a result of global and market reforms, but rather capital, human labor, and product market increased pressure always contribute to the adoption of globalized world accounting practices by companies in emerging economies such as India (Narayanswamy R., 2007).

Voluntary disclosures of info in company annual reports have expanded tremendously but have been a source of interest for researchers (Cooke 1989; Skinner 1994; Courtis 1999; Hossain and Adams 1995). Voluntary disclosure is the practise of revealing information in excess of that required by regulatory bodies or government entities in various countries. According to Stanga (1976), effective disclosure would develop a stronger connection between such a company with expert analyst; would attempt to mitigate price volatility in securities; and will aid in the elimination of insider trading and associated legal issues. Business voluntarily disclose information for various reasons. Certain companies make voluntary disclosures to differentiate their products from those of competitors (Ismail 2001), although some believe such disclosures of financial accounting would assist in raising extra financing (Craven and Marston 1999). Subramanyam and Wild (2014) identified four motivational reasons for voluntary disclosures: legal liability, expectations, signalling, and expectation management. Additionally, agency theory helps explain how managers reveal information voluntarily, and competitive market dynamics may occasionally incentivize managers to disclose additional details (Firth 2012). Improved transparency policies benefit brands by enhancing their reputation and goodwill, preventing fraud, and avoiding litigation and fines (Narayanaswamy 2011).

Literature review

The following section discusses basic research about various views on disclosure, including components in voluntary disclosures, as well as the consequences of voluntary disclosures, which formed the basis for this research. Different studies trace the development of financial statements by elucidating why corporations make disclosures. According to Jenson and Meckling (1976), researchers established agency theory, the board of management functions as that of the investors' representative, conducting business in the shareholders' better interests. Investors must watch the board. This results in agency problems, which could be significantly reduced by management's efforts to improve transparency.

Trueman (1986) noted that in dynamic marketplaces, firms seek to distinguish themselves among respective counterparts. One method to do that is by disclosing more information than its peers, a strategy dubbed the signalling theory. Verrecchia (1983) stated that corporations seeking increased openness should create a balance between openness and sensitivity, a concept dubbed proprietary cost theory. Aboody and Kasznik (2000) coined the term "stock compensation theory," which implies that a firm will choose to disclose additional information in order to increase its worth. The social dimension of corporate disclosures evolved in the 2000s (Craig, 2006), with both the premise of businesses' desire to function in such a larger society and thus must engage this by disclosing information about the firm's corporate responsibility performance.

The stakeholder theory, on the other hand, encompasses all stake holders (e.g. customers, vendors, employees and the community at large). Numerous research examined the various features of voluntary disclosures. The frequency of voluntary disclosure elements employed by the researcher varied between twenty (Naser & Nuseibeh, 2003) to as much as one hundred and twenty (Naser & Nuseibeh, 2003). (Gray, Meek, & Roberts, 1996). Additionally, studies examining certain sectors' voluntary disclosure procedures have been developed (Malone, Fries, & Jones, 1993; Zarb & Riddle, 2007). Numerous research is based on specific categories of voluntary disclosures. "by increasing and Tauringana (2007) examined several studies on corporate strategy, focusing on the statement of financial position. According to Chan and Watson (2011), knowledge about the differentiation strategy was useful in determining the worth of the organization's various segments.

Zarb and Riddle (2007) compiled an array of optional non-financial companies listed that included forward-looking comments about, among other things, a company's strategy and the macroeconomic situation. Kang and Gray (2011) conducted a study to construct a valuation scorecard that quantifies the degree of intellectual disclosure, prompted by significant way for intangible things in today's experience and understanding business environment. They determined that the data was valuable. Abdolmohmmadi (2005) discovered that ten categories of intellectual property disclosure items are strongly and substantially linked with market valuation in US markets. Human resource management is a significant invaluable property in such a business, so organisations evaluate and report these in such a variety of ways in their financial statements.

Nekhili, Boubaker, and Lakhal (2012) investigated R & D information to be facilitated by publicly traded companies in France and discovered a positive correlation between disclosure with firm value. Faisal, Tower, and Rusmin (2012) investigated organisations' environmental disclosure practices and utilised the sustainable development score to determine if organizations that disclosed sustainable practices added shareholder value. Goel and Misra (2017) investigated the relationship between sustainability reporting methods and firm profitability using a self-constructed paradigm comprising multiple sub parameters. Academics have expressed an interest in developing nations' transparency and disclosure procedures. Bhatia and Tuli (2017) discovered that Brazilian corporations are upgrading their sustainability disclosures in accordance with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) criteria. Ho and Shun Wong (2001) conducted an analysis of the effect of governance disclosure upon a company's value. In the financial transparency area, Lev and Penman (1990) examined managers' profit predictions and their impact on stock market returns, concluding it's one of the methods large firms communicate with the markets. Lopes and Rodrigues (2007) investigated the influence of economic instrument fair-value disclosures, incorporating foreign currency information.

Objective of the study

To determine the level of voluntary disclosure of select Nifty non-financial companies.

Methodology adopted for the study

The study considered select non-financial companies of Nifty 50 index. Out of non-financial companies 5 sectors were selected for the study which includes Auto mobile, Information Technology, Energy, Consumer Goods and Metal Measuring the level of scores of companies. Ultimately, 10 years' financial reports were considered for the study.

Table 1 - Measuring the level of voluntary disclosure

Voluntary disclosure parameter	Scores
General Voluntary Disclosure	15
Business Operation Voluntary Disclosure	10
Forward Looking Voluntary Disclosure	10
Social and environmental Voluntary Disclosure	10
Corporate Governance Voluntary Disclosure	8
Intellectual property voluntary Disclosure	10
Stock Markets Voluntary Disclosure	6
Foreign Exchange Voluntary Disclosure	**5**
Total Score Assigned	**74**

Source: Researcher Compilation

The disclosure score is computed by dividing an exact scores assigned to companies in each category by maximum scores. The formula is provided below.:

Disclosure Score = Actual Score / Assigned Score * 100.

The disclosure score was further analyzed through Descriptive statistics among the industries were comprised.

Study Results

Table 2 Voluntary disclosure among Automobile Sector

		Bajaj	Eicher	Hero	Mahindra	Maruti	Tata	Total
2010-2011	n	33	34	40	42	35	42	74
	%	44.60	45.95	54.05	56.76	47.30	56.76	100
2011-2012	n	33	34	44	41	36	42	74
	%	44.60	45.95	59.46	55.41	48.65	56.76	100
2012-2013	n	33	34	44	43	37	43	74

	%	44.60	45.95	59.46	58.11	50.00	58.11	100
2013-2014	n	32	33	48	43	36	43	74
	%	43.24	44.60	64.87	58.11	48.65	58.11	100
2014-2015	n	34	36	47	43	38	46	74
	%	45.95	48.65	63.51	58.11	51.35	62.16	100
2015-2016	n	34	38	48	44	39	45	74
	%	45.95	51.35	64.87	59.46	52.70	60.81	100
2016-2017	n	33	38	48	43	41	46	74
	%	44.60	51.35	64.87	58.11	55.41	62.16	100
2017-2018	n	32	38	47	43	42	46	74
	%	43.24	51.35	63.51	58.11	56.76	62.16	100
2018-2019	n	33	42	47	45	42	45	74
	%	44.60	56.76	63.51	60.81	56.76	60.81	100
2019-2020	n	33	43	47	47	48	48	74
	%	44.60	58.11	63.51	63.51	64.87	64.87	100

Source: Researchers Compilation

Table 3 - Companies Descriptive Statistics for Scores considering 10 years.

	Bajaj Auto Ltd.	**Eicher Motors Ltd.**	**Hero MotoCorp Ltd.**	**Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.**	**Maruti Suzuki India Ltd.**	**Tata Motors Ltd.**
Mean	33	37	46	43.4	39.4	44.6
Median	33	37	47	43	38.5	45
Standard Deviation	0.667	3.464	2.582	1.647	3.950	2.011
Minimum	32	33	40	41	35	42
Maximum	34	43	48	47	48	48

Source: Researchers Compilation

Table 2 and 3 shows values range between 25 to 50, representing the voluntary disclosure procedures for select nifty 50 company's non-financial statements. Between 2010 and 2011, automobile firms' voluntary disclosure practices scored 44.59, 45.95, 54.05, 56.76, 47.30, and 56.76 percent in Bajaj auto Ltd., Eicher motors Ltd., Hero Motocorp Ltd., M & M Ltd., Maruti Suzuki India Ltd, and Tata motors Ltd., respectively. According to the study, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. and Tata Motors Ltd. both obtained 56.76 percent out of 74 (100 percent), although Bajaj Auto Ltd. scored 44.59 percent out of 74. (100 Percent). Conversely, voluntary disclosure practices in the vehicles sector were 44.59, 58.11, 63.51, 63.51, 64.86, and 64.86 percent in Bajaj auto Ltd., Eicher motors Ltd., Hero Motocorp Ltd., M&M Ltd, Maruti Suzuki India Ltd, and Tata motors Ltd., respectively. Tata Motors and Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. both scored 64.86 percent. Furthermore, it is discovered that Bajaj auto Ltd. scored only 44.59 percent on the divergent.

Additionally, the study discovered that Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. shown excellent development in scores between 2010 and 2020, increasing from 47.30 percent to 64.86 percent of the allotted score. It makes it very evident that Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. has made considerable strides in its voluntary disclosure processes. Significant changes in how firms share information have happened over the research period. While regulatory authorities have enhanced mandatory disclosure requirements, firms continue to provide benefits in relation to what is required. Numerous automobile manufacturers have upgraded their annual statements' transparency and disclosure standards. Additionally, Eicher motors Ltd., Maruti Suzuki India Ltd., Hero MotoCorp Ltd., Tata motors Ltd., and Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. all score greater than 50% in 2020, however Bajaj auto Ltd. scores less than 50%. Indeed, businesses have improved the quality, transparency, accuracy, and reliability of their reporting.

Table 4 - Voluntary disclosure among Information Technology Sector

		HCL Technologies Ltd.	**Infosys Ltd.**	**Tata Consultancy Services Ltd.**	**Tech Mahindra Ltd.**	**Wipro Ltd.**	**Total Score Assigned**
2010-2011	n	39	47	44	41	47	74
	%	52.70	63.51	59.46	55.41	63.51	100
2011-2012	n	39	50	44	42	47	74
	%	52.70	67.57	59.46	56.76	63.51	100
2012-2013	n	41	51	44	42	48	74
	%	55.41	68.92	59.46	56.76	64.87	100
2013-2014	n	40	50	45	42	49	74
	%	54.05	67.57	60.81	56.76	66.22	100
2014-2015	n	40	50	46	43	49	74
	%	54.05	67.57	62.16	58.11	66.22	100
2015-2016	n	41	50	46	42	49	74
	%	55.41	67.57	62.16	56.76	66.22	100
2016-2017	n	41	50	46	43	50	74
	%	55.41	67.57	62.16	58.11	67.57	100
2017-2018	n	44	50	46	44	50	74
	%	59.46	67.57	62.16	59.46	67.57	100
2018-2019	n	41	50	45	43	50	74
	%	55.41	67.57	60.81	58.11	67.57	100
2019-2020	n	42	50	46	44	50	74
	%	56.76	67.57	62.16	59.46	67.57	100

Source: Researchers Compilation

Table 5 - Companies Descriptive Statistics for Scores considering 10 years.

	HCL Technologies	**Infosys Ltd.**	**Tata Consultancy**	**Tech Mahindra Ltd.**	**Wipro Ltd.**
Mean	40.8	49.8	45.2	42.6	48.9
Median	41	50	45.5	42.5	49
Standard	1.476	1.033	0.919	0.966	1.197
Minimum	39	47	44	41	47

Maximum	44	51	46	44	50

Source: Researchers Compilation

Table 4 and 5 shows scores ranging from 35 to 60, indicating that a select Nifty 50 – Information technology sector companies provide sustainability information to a high degree. Notably, there are some businesses with low ratings. Voluntary disclosure practices of IT companies achieved 52.70, 63.51, 59.46, 55.41, and 63.51 percent in HCL Tech, Infosys, TCS, Tech Mahindra, and Wipro, respectively, during 2010 and 2011. The study discovered that among the selected IT companies, Infosys and Wipro both scored 63.51 percent out of 74 (100 percent), whereas HCL technologies scored only 52.7 percent out of 74. (100 Percent). Similarly, in the year 2019-2020, voluntary disclosure procedures at HCL Tech, Infosys, TCS, Tech Mahindra, and Wipro were determined to be 56.76, 67.57, 62.16, 59.46, and 67.57 percent, the companies Infosys and Wipro earned the highest, both at 67.57 percent. Additionally, it is discovered that HCL technologies earned only 56.76 percent of the divergent.

Additionally, the survey discovered that almost all technology companies experienced exceptional growth during the study period. It demonstrates unequivocally that all information technology companies have made great progress toward voluntary disclosure practices. Certain information technology corporations have increased their voluntary disclosure procedures in annual reports. Furthermore, HCL Tech, Infosys, Tech Mahindra, and Wipro all score above 50%; in reality, IT companies have improved performance, transparency, relevance, and accuracy of their reporting and established standards for disclosing information in annual reports. The Infosys company has established a standard for information disclosure.

Table 6 - Voluntary disclosure among Energy Sector

		Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	**GAIL (India) Ltd.**	**Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.**	**NTPC Ltd.**	**Oil & Natural Gas Corporation**	**Power Grid Corporation of India**	**Reliance Industries Ltd.**	**Total Score Assigned**
2010-2011	n	38	41	41	37	22	39	50	74
	%	51.35	55.41	55.41	50.00	29.73	52.70	67.57	100
2011-2012	n	39	41	41	36	32	40	50	74
	%	52.70	55.41	55.41	48.65	43.24	54.05	67.57	100
2012-2013	n	39	41	41	36	28	38	50	74
	%	52.70	55.41	55.41	48.65	37.84	51.35	67.57	100
2013-2014	n	39	40	40	37	40	38	50	74
	%	52.70	54.05	54.05	50.00	54.05	51.35	67.57	100
2014-2015	n	40	41	40	40	40	40	51	74
	%	54.05	55.41	54.05	54.05	54.05	54.05	68.92	100
2015-2016	n	42	41	40	38	40	39	51	74
	%	56.76	55.41	54.05	51.35	54.05	52.70	68.92	100
2016-2017	n	43	42	40	38	40	39	51	74
	%	58.11	56.76	54.05	51.35	54.05	52.70	68.92	100
2017-2018	n	42	42	40	37	40	39	51	74
	%	56.76	56.76	54.05	50.00	54.05	52.70	68.92	100

2018-2019	n	41	44	42	37	40	39	51	74
	%	55.41	59.46	56.76	50.00	54.05	52.70	68.92	100
2019-2020	n	44	44	45	39	40	43	53	74
	%	59.46	59.46	60.81	52.70	54.05	58.11	71.62	100

Source: Researchers Compilation

Table 7 Companies Descriptive Statistics for Scores considering 10 years.

	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	**GAIL (India) Ltd.**	**Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.**	**NTPC Ltd.**	**Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.**	**Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.**	**Reliance Industries Ltd.**
Mean	40.7	41.7	41	37.5	36.2	39.4	50.8
Median	40.5	41	40.5	37	40	39	51
Standard Deviation	2.003	1.337	1.563	1.269	6.563	1.430	0.919
Minimum	38	40	40	36	22	38	50
Maximum	44	44	45	40	40	43	53

Source: Researchers Compilation

The table 6 and 7 provides scores ranging from 20 to 60, indicating the voluntary disclosure practices of select Nifty 50-Energy sector companies. Voluntary disclosure procedures in the energy sector achieved 51.35, 55.41, 55.41, 50.00, 29.73, 52.70, and 67.57 percent in BPCL, GAIL, IOCL, NTPC, ONGC, POWER-GRID, and Reliance Industries, respectively, between 2010 and 2011. According to the research, Reliance Industries received the highest amongst energy companies with 67.57 percent out of 74 (100%) whereas ONGC received only 29.73 percent out of 74 (100 percent). Likewise, during 2019 and 2020, BPCL, GAIL, IOCL, NTPC, ONGC, POWER-GRID, and Reliance Industries disclosed voluntary disclosure practices of 59.46, 59.46, 6081, 52.70, 54.05, 58.11, and 71.62 percent, respectively. Reliance Industry was discovered to have the highest score, 71.62 percent. Additionally, it was discovered that NTPCL earned only 52.70 percent of the assessment.

Additionally, the research reveals that ONGC's ratings increased by 29.73 percent to 54.05 percent of the allotted score between 2010 and 2020. It demonstrates unambiguously that ONGC has made tremendous progress in its voluntary disclosure processes. Companies' disclosure practices have seen remarkable modifications. Even though regulatory bodies have strengthened mandated disclosure, businesses continue to offer information in addition to mandatory disclosure. Indeed, businesses have improved the quality of their financial statements.

Table 8 - Voluntary disclosure among FMCG Sector

	Asian Paints Ltd.	Britannia Industries Ltd.	Hindustan Unilever Ltd.	ITC Ltd.	Nestle India Ltd.	Titan Company Ltd.	Total Score Assigned
2010-2011	40	37	37	46	36	41	74
	54.05	50.00	50.00	62.16	48.65	55.41	100.00
2011-2012	41	36	38	46	35	41	74
	55.41	48.65	51.35	62.16	47.30	55.41	100.00
2012-2013	42	36	38	47	35	41	74
	56.76	48.65	51.35	63.51	47.30	55.41	100.00
2013-2014	41	37	38	46	36	42	74
	55.41	50.00	51.35	62.16	48.65	56.76	100.00
2014-2015	47	37	38	46	39	43	74
	63.51	50.00	51.35	62.16	52.70	58.11	100.00
2015-2016	43	39	37	45	38	43	74
	58.11	52.70	50.00	60.81	51.35	58.11	100.00
2016-2017	43	39	37	45	38	43	74
	58.11	52.70	50.00	60.81	51.35	58.11	100.00
2017-2018	43	43	38	45	37	44	74
	58.11	58.11	51.35	60.81	50.00	59.46	100.00
2018-2019	45	43	36	45	37	45	74
	60.81	58.11	48.65	60.81	50.00	60.81	100.00
2019-2020	49	43	39	47	39	46	74
	66.22	58.11	52.70	63.51	52.70	62.16	100.00

Source: Researchers Compilation

Table 9 Companies Descriptive Statistics for Scores considering 10 years.

	Asian Paints Ltd.	Britannia Industries Ltd.	Hindustan Unilever Ltd.	ITC Ltd.	Nestle India Ltd.	Titan Company Ltd.
Mean	43.4	39	37.6	45.8	37	42.9
Median	43	38	38	46	37	43
Standard Deviation	2.836	2.944	0.843	0.789	1.491	1.729
Minimum	40	36	36	45	35	41
Maximum	49	43	39	47	39	46

Source: Researchers Compilation

The table 8 and 9 presents scores ranging from 30 to 65, from the select Nifty 50 FMCG companies that practice voluntary disclosure. In the year 2010-11, voluntary disclosure practices by FMCG companies obtained 54.05, 50.00, 50.00, 62.16, 48.65, and 55.41 percent in Asian paints, Britannia Industries, Hindustan Unilever, ITC, Nestle India, and Titan Company respectively. In the study, it was found that among FMCG companies, ITC company scored the highest with 62.16 percent out of 74 (100 Percent) and Britannia and Hindustan Unilever scored only 50.00 percent out of 74 (100 Percent). Similarly, in the year 2019-2020, the voluntary disclosure practices of FMCG companies were found to be 66.22, 58.11, 52.70, 63.51, 52.71, and 62.16 in Asian Paints, Britannia Industries, Hindustan Unilever, ITC, Nestle India, and Titan Company respectively. It was found that Asian Paints scored the highest, 66.22 percent. On the divergent, it is also found that Nestle and Hindustan Unilever companies scored only 52.70 percent.

Further, in the study, it was found that Asian paints have shown exceptional growth in scores from 54.05 percent to 66.22 percent of the assigned score in 2010 and 2020. During the selected study period, remarkable changes have taken place in disclosing information by companies. Even mandatory disclosures have been improved by regulatory bodies, but companies still provide information apart from compulsory disclosure. It is observed that selected automobile companies have increased their sustainability disclosure practices in annual reports. In fact, companies have increased quality, transparency, appropriateness and reliability in reporting.

Table 10 - Voluntary disclosure among Metal Sector

	Coal India Ltd.	**Hindalco Industries Ltd.**	**JSW Steel Ltd.**	**Tata Steel Ltd.**	**Vedanta Ltd.**	**Total Score Assigned**
2010-2011	13	37	45	26	43	74
	17.57	50.00	60.81	35.14	58.11	100.00
2011-2012	13	38	45	28	43	74
	17.57	51.35	60.81	37.84	58.11	100.00
2012-2013	24	38	46	27	44	74
	32.43	51.35	62.16	36.49	59.46	100.00
2013-2014	25	38	47	25	44	74
	33.78	51.35	63.51	33.78	59.46	100.00
2014-2015	25	38	46	30	43	74
	33.78	51.35	62.16	40.54	58.11	100.00
2015-2016	25	37	46	29	43	74
	33.78	50.00	62.16	39.19	58.11	100.00
2016-2017	25	37	46	28	43	74
	33.78	50.00	62.16	37.84	58.11	100.00
2017-2018	26	38	46	30	46	74
	35.14	51.35	62.16	40.54	62.16	100.00
2018-2019	27	36	47	33	47	74
	36.49	48.65	63.51	44.59	63.51	100.00
2019-2020	27	39	51	39	48	74
	36.49	52.70	68.92	52.70	64.86	100.00

Source: Researchers Compilation

Table 11 Companies Descriptive Statistics for Scores considering 10 years.

	Coal India Ltd.	Hindalco Industries Ltd.	JSW Steel Ltd.	Tata Steel Ltd.	Vedanta Ltd.
Mean	23	37.6	46.5	29.5	44.4
Median	25	38	46	28.5	43.5
Standard Deviation	5.354	0.843	1.716	4.035	1.897
Minimum	13	36	45	25	43
Maximum	27	39	51	39	48

Source: Researchers Compilation

The table 10 and 11 shows that scores range between 10 to 60, showing the voluntary disclosure procedures of select Nifty 50 – Metal companies. Certain firms maintain a specific score. Voluntary disclosure procedures of metal firms grew by 17.57, 50.00, 60.81, 35.14, and 58.11 percent at Coal India, Hindalco Industries, JSW Steel, Tata Steel, and Vedanta Industries, respectively, between 2010 and 2011. JSW Steel Industries received the highest score of 60.81 percent out of 74 (100%) in the survey, whereas Coal India Industries received merely 17.57 percent out of 74 (100 percent). Likewise, in 2019-20, voluntary disclosure procedures inside the metals sector were determined to be 36.49, 52.70, 68.92, 52.70, and 64.86 percent at Coal India, Hindalco Industries, JSW Steel, Tata Steel, and Vedanta Industries, respectively. JSW Steel was reported to have the greatest score, 68.92 percent. Additionally, it was discovered that Coal India achieved only 36.49 percent of the divergent.

Additionally, the study found that between 2010 and 2020, Coal India climbed from 17.57 percent to 63.49 percent of the allotted score. Throughout the research period, notable changes in how industries disclose information have occurred. Even though regulatory organizations have strengthened mandated disclosure, businesses continue to offer features with regard to mandatory disclosure. It is noted that certain metal industries have improved their disclosure of voluntary disclosure in annual reports. Indeed, the metal industries have improved the performance, accountability, consistency, and efficiency of their reporting.

Conclusion

The study examined the voluntary disclosure practices among select Nifty 50 non-financial companies in India. Among non-financial companies, automobiles, information technology, energy, fast-moving consumer goods, and metal companies were selected for the study. Auto mobile companies scored ranged between 25 to 50. Tata Motors and Maruti Suzuki India Ltd have disclosed more information voluntarily compared with other companies in the automobile industry. Information Technology companies ranged between 35 to 60 score points. Infosys and Wipro companies have provided extensive information voluntarily. The energy sector score ranged between 20 to 60. Reliance industries have provided diverse information voluntarily compared to other companies in the industry. Fast moving consumer good scores ranged between 30 to 65 among the industries. Asian Paint has disclosed varied information voluntarily. Ultimately, the metal industry score ranged between 10 to 60, among that JSW steel company provided information extensively compared with other companies in the industry.

An Select non-financial companies have shown a phenomenal growth in disclosing voluntary information in their financial statements. In the study period, it is clearly found that every company has improved their level of providing voluntary disclosure. Among information technology companies, have shown remarkable growth in disclosing information voluntarily. JSW Steel scored the highest compared with all other companies. The study found extensive growth in voluntary disclosure practices of non-financial companies. Enhanced voluntary disclosure practices will reduce asymmetry of information for investors. The company's financial statements also show transparency and reliability to investors. This helps companies to have strong wealth creation in support of a vibrant capital market in an emerging country like India.

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