



# Extent of Corporate Sustainability Disclosure in India: A Study with Special reference to the Economical Aspect of GRI Standards

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**Abstract** – The study aims to examine and analyse the present corporate sustainability reporting practices of corporate India based on GRI standards 2016. Our study is confined to the reporting of Economical Aspect as prescribed in the latest GRI Standard. For the purpose of the study, we thoroughly examined the sustainability reports of 37 Indian companies during 2016-17 to 2019-2020. The selection of the sample companies was based on their "Core & Comprehensive Status" as outlined in the GRI's comprehensive table. Using an unweighted disclosure checklist comprised of 13 economic aspect parameters; our study assesses the compliance level of corporate sustainability reporting of economical aspect as guided by GRI standards. The result shows that the minimum disclosure is of 16.67% which is extremely low level of disclosure while the maximum score is 100% indicating full compliance of GRI standard. The average disclosure score (73.02%) indicates a moderately satisfactory level of disclosure in Indian context. The study shows a wide variation in economical aspect disclosure which is evident from the range of 83.33%. Based on these research findings, it can be inferred that there still exists considerable scope for improvement in reporting the economic aspects by companies in India.

**Keywords** – GRI Standards, Corporate Sustainability Reports, Annual Reports, Economic Aspects, India

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Economic sustainability is a holistic approach to economic development that considers the long-term consequences of economic activities on social, environmental, and cultural factors.

It strives to achieve a balance between economic growth and the preservation of natural resources, social equity, and cultural heritage. Economic sustainability involves creating economic value out of whatever project or decision you are undertaking. Economic sustainability means that decisions are made in the most equitable and fiscally sound way possible while considering the other aspects of sustainability.

"Economic sustainability refers to practices that support long-term economic growth without negatively impacting social, environmental, and cultural aspects of the community." – University of Mary Washington, Economic Sustainability

The main principles of economic sustainability:

### 1. Efficient Resource Use

Economic activities should be conducted in a way that minimizes the use of resources and maximizes their value. This includes using renewable resources, reducing waste, and adopting energy-efficient technologies.

### 2. Social Equity

Economic growth should be shared equitably among all members of society. This means ensuring that everyone has access to education, healthcare, and other essential services.

### 3. Environmental Protection

Economic activities should not harm the environment. This includes reducing pollution, conserving biodiversity, and protecting natural habitats.

### 4. Cultural Preservation

Economic development should respect and preserve cultural heritage. This includes protecting traditional customs, languages, and art forms.

### 5. Long-Term Planning

Economic decisions should be made with the long-term in mind. This means considering the impacts of economic activities on future generations.

Economic sustainability is essential for achieving sustainable development. It is a way to ensure that economic growth can continue without causing irreparable damage to the environment or society.

Since the 1970s, the concept of sustainability has evolved to encompass the well-being of humanity on Earth; leading to the most frequently cited definitions of sustainability and sustainable development. The United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development defines sustainable development as "development that fulfils the needs of the present without jeopardizing the ability of future generations to fulfil their own." This definition encompasses three interconnected objectives: environmental, economic, and social aspects. Since 1987, there has been a noticeable surge in the incorporation of sustainable development principles across various fields. This trend is apparent through the growing volume of articles on sustainable development and the



proliferation of journals specializing in economic engineering.

Researchers from diverse backgrounds have contributed empirical research to gain deeper insights into areas relating to social and environmental aspect of sustainability. In this context, an attempt has been made to study sustainability disclosure with regard to economic aspect by Indian corporate.

## II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

There have been numerous studies on sustainability reporting with reference to the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) in foreign countries in the past decades. These studies have examined various aspects of sustainability reporting, including the extent of disclosure, the quality of disclosure, and the factors that influence disclosure practices. Some selected relevant literatures have been reviewed in this context.

Orazalin & Mahmood (2019) investigated the extent and determinants of sustainability performance disclosures (SR) based on GRI guidelines of 146 companies listed on the Kazakhstan Stock Exchange for the years 2013-2015. The study found that the average SR index is 9.88 percent, indicating that SR practices in Kazakhstan are at an early stage of development. Stand-alone reporting, reporting language, firm profitability, firm size, and auditor type significantly influence the extent, nature, and quality of SR practices.

Putri et al, (2020) examined the dominant sustainability indicators in each industry classification based on sustainability reports. They analysed sustainability reports of 28 listed Indonesian GRI G4-based companies for the year 2016-2017. A checklist of 91 indicators of economic, environmental, and social impacts from GRI G4 guidelines was used to assess the quality of disclosure. The study uses K-means clustering analysis to identify the dominant indicators in each industry classification. Stakeholder theory and legitimacy theory were used to explain the theoretical framework. It was found that there are significant differences in the quality of disclosure on each GRI G4 indicator in the sustainability reports of companies listed on the IDX in 2016-2017 in each industry characteristic. The dominant indicator expressed in the financial industry is an economic indicator. In the mining, transportation and infrastructure industries, various industries, and basic and chemical industries, the dominant indicators to be disclosed are environmental indicators.

Johansson & Zametica (2019) assessed the relationship between sustainability reporting quality and financial performance, measured in terms of return on assets (ROA) and firm value, assessed by Tobin's Q, within the Swedish manufacturing industry. The study analyzes data from 30 manufacturing companies over the period spanning 2015 to 2017. A comprehensive checklist, comprising 92 items

encompassing economic, environmental, and social aspects, was employed for analysis. It was found that there is a positive relationship between the quality of sustainability reports and ROA at a 5% significance level. The study provided statistical evidence of improvement in the quality of sustainability reports with enhanced financial performance.

Kaur & Das (2015) examined and compared the level of sustainability reporting of 53 private mining companies and 47 public mining companies in India. The study used a disclosure index GRI Guidelines for measuring the disclosure level. Independent t-test was used to compare the disclosure practices of private and public mining companies. The study showed that there is a high variation in the disclosure practices of Indian private and public sector mining companies. Public sector mining companies disclose more information on sustainability issues than private sector mining companies.

Dutta et al, (2011) examined the applicability of the concept of Triple Bottom Line Reporting (TBLR) in line with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Guidelines. They attempted to examine the extent of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) disclosure by Indian companies under GRI, to examine the present status of sustainability-based reporting as per Karmayog, and to make a comparative study of GRI-based companies under Karmayog CSR activities. The study considers three parameters: people, environment, and profit. The sample consists of 19 Indian companies selected following random sampling method. Content analysis was used to measure the disclosure level. The findings revealed that the extent of CSR disclosure by Indian companies under GRI is moderate. The present status of sustainability-based reporting as per Karmayog is low. There is a significant difference in the CSR disclosure practices of GRI-based companies under Karmayog.

The following important observations have also been highlighted regarding disclosure practices especially in foreign context.

- Tanimoto and Suzuki (2005) found that Japanese companies were more likely to disclose environmental information than economic or social information.
- Ho and Taylor (2007) found that Australian companies were more likely to disclose sustainability information in their annual reports than in stand-alone reports.
- Staksson and Steimle (2009) found that German companies were more likely to disclose sustainability information in response to stakeholder pressure than to regulatory requirements.
- Cardoso et al. (2014) found that Brazilian companies with higher levels of environmental and social disclosure tended to have a higher potential for pollution and a greater impact on people's lives.
- Stoma et al. (2017) found that Polish companies were more likely to disclose sustainability information in



their sustainability reports than in their integrated reports.

- Orazalin and Mahmood (2019) found that Kazakhstani companies were more likely to disclose sustainability information in English than in their native language.
- Waiznaik and Pactwa (2019) found that Polish companies were more likely to disclose their own sustainability indicators than GRI indicators.
- Putri et al. (2020) found that Indonesian companies in the financial industry were more likely to disclose economic indicators, while companies in other industries were more likely to disclose environmental indicators.
- Setyorini and Ishak (2012) found that Indonesian companies were more likely to disclose social and environmental information than economic information.

In Indian context, the studies on disclosure practices of Indian companies in line with GRI Standards are very limited. In this backdrop, an attempt has been made to examine and analyse the present corporate sustainability reporting practices of corporate India based on GRI standards with Special reference to the Economical Aspect of disclosure.

### Objectives of the Study

The objective of the research is to empirically measure and analyze the extent of Corporate Sustainability Reporting in India based on GRI Standards on economical aspect.

## III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In order to examine the economic aspect of disclosure based on GRI Standards, the present study has used sustainability reports of 37 sample companies for the years 2016-2017 to 2019-2020. The sample consists of all companies available on GRI database having status of 'Core' and 'Comprehensive' In the next step, an economic aspect of disclosure checklist comprised of 13 information items was prepared based on GRI Content Index. Dichotomous scoring approach was used to measure the extent of disclosure.

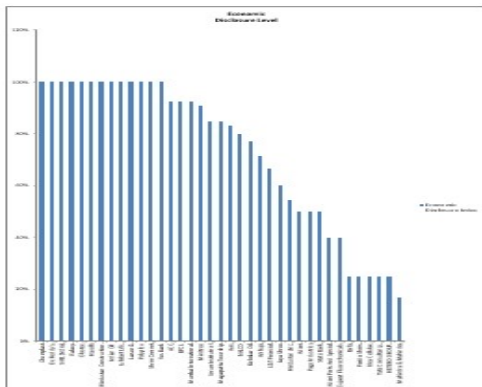


Figure 1: Economic disclosure level

## 1. Empirical Results Relating to the Extent Of Economical Disclosure

Economical GRI disclosure score of all 37 sample companies is reported in the Table 1 and presented in Chart 1.

Table 1 Economic Disclosure Score of Sample Companies (in Descending Order)

| Sl. No | Name of the Company  | Company Code | Economic Disclosure Level |
|--------|--|--------------|---------------------------|
| 1      | ChemplastSanmar Limited  | C 8          | 100%                      |
| 2      | Dr. Reddy's Laboratory   | C 9          | 100%                      |
| 3      | GAIL (India) Limited   | C 11         | 100%                      |
| 4      | Galaxy Surfactants Ltd.  | C 12         | 100%                      |
| 5      | Gloster Limited  | C 13         | 100%                      |
| 6      | Havells  | C 15         | 100%                      |
| 7      | Hindustan Construction Company Limited                         | C 16         | 100%                      |
| 8      | Indian Oil   | C 19         | 100%                      |
| 9      | Jubilant Life Sciences Ltd                                     | C 21         | 100%                      |
| 10     | Larsen & Toubro  | C 24         | 100%                      |
| 11     | Polyplex   | C 29         | 100%                      |
| 12     | Shree Cement Limited   | C 31         | 100%                      |
| 13     | Yes Bank   | C 34         | 100%                      |
| 14     | ACC Limited  | C 1          | 92%                       |
| 15     | BPCL   | C 7          | 92%                       |
| 16     | Mumbai International Airport                                   | C 37         | 92%                       |
| 17     | Mindtree   | C 26         | 91%                       |
| 18     | Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd.                             | C 30         | 85%                       |
| 19     | Magarpatta Township Development & Construction Company Limited | C 36         | 85%                       |
| 20     | Axis Bank  | C 5          | 83%                       |
| 21     | NALCO  | C 27         | 80%                       |
| 22     | Kirloskar Oil Engines  | C 22         | 77%                       |
| 23     | Ambuja Cements   | C 4          | 71%                       |
| 24     | L&T Financial Services   | C 23         | 67%                       |
| 25     | Jaya Shree Textiles  | C 20         | 60%                       |
| 26     | Hindustan Zinc Limited   | C 17         | 55%                       |
| 27     | Adani Power  | C 3          | 50%                       |
| 28     | Page Industries Limited  | C 28         | 50%                       |
| 29     | State Bank of India  | C 32         | 50%                       |
| 30     | Adani Ports And Special Economic Zone Ltd.                     | C 2          | 40%                       |
| 31     | Gujarat Fluorochemicals Limited                                | C 14         | 40%                       |
| 32     | Birla Cellulose  | C 6          | 25%                       |
| 33     | Farida Shoes Private Limited                                   | C 10         | 25%                       |
| 34     | Idea Cellular Ltd  | C 18         | 25%                       |
| 35     | Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)                                | C 33         | 25%                       |
| 36     | Hetero Group of Companies                                      | C 35         | 25%                       |
| 37     | Mahindra & Mahindra Limited                                    | C 25         | 17%                       |

## 2. Analysis of the Extent relating to the Disclosure score in Economic Category of Information

With a view to making analysis, the economic aspect of disclosure scores has been classified into different groups. Such classification has been presented in Table 2

Table 2 Frequency Distribution of Economic GRI Standards Disclosure Score

| Disclos<br>ure<br>Scores | Sample Companies |              | Cumulative Sample Companies |          |                |          |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|----------|----------------|----------|
|                          | Number           | %            | More than Type              |          | Less than Type |          |
|                          |                  |              | Number                      | %        | Number         | %        |
| Col. (1)                 | Col. (2)         | Col. (3)     | Col. (4)                    | Col. (5) | Col. (6)       | Col. (7) |
| Above 90%                | 17               | 46%          | 17                          | 46 %     | 20             | 54%      |
| 80% - 90%                | 3                | 8%           | 20                          | 54 %     | 17             | 46%      |
| 70% - 80%                | 3                | 8%           | 23                          | 62 %     | 14             | 38%      |
| 60% - 70%                | 1                | 3%           | 24                          | 65 %     | 13             | 35%      |
| 50% - 60%                | 2                | 5%           | 26                          | 70 %     | 11             | 30%      |
| 40% - 50%                | 3                | 8%           | 29                          | 78 %     | 8              | 22%      |
| 30%- 40%                 | 2                | 5%           | 31                          | 84 %     | 6              | 16%      |
| 20% - 30%                | 5                | 14%          | 36                          | 97 %     | 1              | 3%       |
| 10% - 20%                | 1                | 3%           | 37                          | 100 %    | 0              | 0%       |
|                          | <b>37</b>        | <b>100 %</b> |                             |          |                |          |

The information presented in Table 2 reveals the following:

- The maximum number of companies (17) representing 46% of sample companies have extent of economic disclosure above 90%.
- 62% companies have disclosed more than 70% GRI standards information.
- Only one company has disclosed below 20%.

## 3. Analyses of the Extent of Disclosure in Economic Category of GRI Standards Information

For making further analysis, some descriptive statistics have been calculated using the Economical aspect of disclosure scores which are presented in Chart 2 and Table 3.

Table 3 Table showing descriptive statistics of Economic Information

| Information      | Economic Aspect |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Disclosure Items | 13              |
| Sample Size      | 37              |
| Mean             | 73.02%          |
| Maximum          | 100.00%         |
| Minimum          | 16.67%          |
| Range            | 83.33%          |
| SD               | 28.65%          |

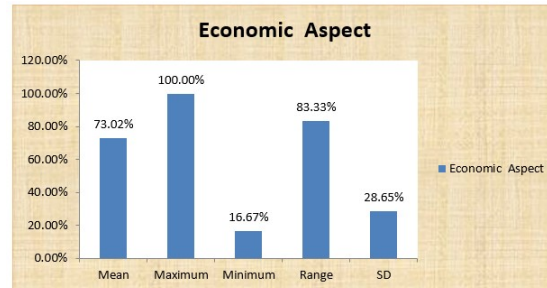


Figure 2: Economic Aspect

From the information presented in Table 3, we have the following important observations in respect of overall economic disclosure reporting by our sample companies

- Extent of GRI standards disclosures varies from 16.67% to 100.00% yielding a range of 83.33%.
- Mean Disclosure of 73.02 per cent indicates that average level of GRI standards economic information disclosure is moderate.
- Minimum disclosure of 16.67 per cent is very low.
- Maximum disclosure 100 is per cent. 13 out of 37 sample companies representing 35% have disclosed all information relating to economic aspect.
- A wide variation is observed in the extent of economic disclosure which is evident from range of 83.33% and standard deviation of 28.65%.

## IV. LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE

As per Hewaidy and Al Mutawaa (2010), compliance levels are categorized into four distinct tiers. A disclosure level of 80 percent or more is classified as a high level of compliance. The intermediate range falls between 60 and 79 percent, while compliance within the range of 40 to 59 percent is considered low. Any figure below 40 percent signifies a substantial disparity between the prescribed disclosure requirements and the IFRS standards. We have used this compliance level to examine the disclosure level in our sample companies. However, this study has opted for a three-tier compliance classification, as illustrated in the subsequent figure, due to the absence of items falling below the 40 percent threshold.

The Compliance level is shown in the following figure.

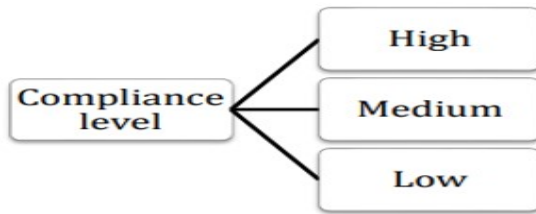


Figure 3: Different level of compliance.

Based on the previous studies, the researchers divide the compliance level into three levels as discussed above during the period 2019-2020:

Table No 4 Table showing the compliance level.

| Sl. No                           | Level of Compliance        | Disclosure Category | Number of Sample Companies |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1                                | High Level of Compliance   | Above 80%           | 21                         |
| 2                                | Medium Level of Compliance | Between 61% and 80% | 4                          |
| 3                                | Low Level of Compliance    | Below 60%           | 12                         |
| <b>Total Number of Companies</b> |                            |                     | <b>37</b>                  |

Table No 5 Table showing the Level of compliance of sample companies.

| Level of Compliance | Number of information items | Frequency  | Percentage     |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Yes (Reported)      | 13                          | 248        | 51.56%         |
| No (Not reported)   | 13                          | 70         | 14.55%         |
| Not Applicable      | 13                          | 163        | 33.89%         |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>13</b>                   | <b>481</b> | <b>100.00%</b> |

From the above table we found that 51.56% of economic aspect has been disclosed by 37 sample companies during the period 2019-2020 followed by 14.55% has not disclosed the economic information and 33.89% of economic information are not applicable to our sample companies.

From the above table we found that 21 out of 37 sample companies representing 57% have high level of

compliance followed by 32% (12 out of 37 sample companies) have low level of compliance and 4 companies comprising 11% have moderate level of compliance.

Table No 6 Table showing the disclosure category of sample companies based on economic aspect of GRI Standards

| Sl. No | Name of the Company  | Company Code | Economic Disclosure Index | Disclosure Category |
|--------|--|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1      | ChemplastSanmar Limited  | C 8          | 100%                      | High                |
| 2      | Dr. Reddy's Laboratory   | C 9          | 100%                      | High                |
| 3      | GAIL (India) Limited   | C 11         | 100%                      | High                |
| 4      | GalaxySurfactants Ltd.   | C 12         | 100%                      | High                |
| 5      | Gloster Limited  | C 13         | 100%                      | High                |
| 6      | Havells  | C 15         | 100%                      | High                |
| 7      | Hindustan Construction Company Limited                         | C 16         | 100%                      | High                |
| 8      | Indian Oil   | C 19         | 100%                      | High                |
| 9      | Jubilant Life Sciences Ltd                                     | C 21         | 100%                      | High                |
| 10     | Larsen & Toubro  | C 24         | 100%                      | High                |
| 11     | Polyplex   | C 29         | 100%                      | High                |
| 12     | Shree Cement Limited   | C 31         | 100%                      | High                |
| 13     | Yes Bank   | C 34         | 100%                      | High                |
| 14     | ACC Limited  | C 1          | 92%                       | High                |
| 15     | BPCL   | C 7          | 92%                       | High                |
| 16     | Mumbai International Airport                                   | C 37         | 92%                       | High                |
| 17     | Mindtree   | C 26         | 91%                       | High                |
| 18     | Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd.                             | C 30         | 85%                       | High                |
| 19     | Magarpatta Township Development & Construction Company Limited | C 36         | 85%                       | High                |
| 20     | Axis Bank  | C 5          | 83%                       | High                |
| 21     | NALCO  | C 27         | 80%                       | High                |
| 22     | Kirloskar Oil Engines  | C 22         | 77%                       | Medium              |
| 23     | Ambuja Cements   | C 4          | 71%                       | Medium              |
| 24     | L&T Financial Services   | C 23         | 67%                       | Medium              |
| 25     | Jaya Shree Textiles  | C 20         | 60%                       | Medium              |
| 26     | Hindustan Zinc Limited   | C 17         | 55%                       | low                 |
| 27     | Adani Power  | C 3          | 50%                       | low                 |
| 28     | Page Industries Limited  | C 28         | 50%                       | low                 |
| 29     | State Bank of India  | C 32         | 50%                       | low                 |
| 30     | Adani Ports And Special Economic Zone Ltd.                     | C 2          | 40%                       | low                 |
| 31     | Gujarat Fluorochemicals Limited                                | C 14         | 40%                       | low                 |
| 32     | Birla Cellulose  | C 6          | 25%                       | low                 |
| 33     | Farida Shoes Private Limited                                   | C 10         | 25%                       | low                 |
| 34     | Idea Cellular Ltd  | C 18         | 25%                       | low                 |
| 35     | Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)                                | C 33         | 25%                       | low                 |
| 36     | Hetero Group of Companies                                      | C 35         | 25%                       | low                 |
| 37     | Mahindra & Mahindra Limited                                    | C 25         | 17%                       | low                 |



Table No 7 Table showing applicability and non-applicability of GRI standards/sub-standards

| Name of Company  | Company Code | Economic Aspect                           |   |                       |
|--|--------------|---|---|-----------------------|
|  |              | No. of Standards/sub-standards applicable | No. of Standards/sub-standards not applicable | Total Economic Aspect |
| ACC Limited  | C 1          | 13  | 0   | 13                    |
| Adani Ports And Special Economic Zone Ltd.                     | C 2          | 5   | 8   | 13                    |
| Adani Power  | C 3          | 10  | 3   | 13                    |
| Ambuja Cements   | C 4          | 7   | 6   | 13                    |
| Axis Bank  | C 5          | 6   | 7   | 13                    |
| Birla Cellulose  | C 6          | 4   | 9   | 13                    |
| BPCL   | C 7          | 13  | 0   | 13                    |
| Chemplast Sanmar Limited                                       | C 8          | 12  | 1   | 13                    |
| Dr. Reddy's Laboratory   | C 9          | 8   | 5   | 13                    |
| Farida Shoes Private Limited                                   | C 10         | 4   | 9   | 13                    |
| GAIL (India) Limited   | C 11         | 13  | 0   | 13                    |
| Galaxy Surfactants Ltd.  | C 12         | 6   | 7   | 13                    |
| Gloster Limited  | C 13         | 8   | 5   | 13                    |
| Gujarat Fluorochemicals Limited                                | C 14         | 5   | 8   | 13                    |
| Havells  | C 15         | 12  | 1   | 13                    |
| Hindustan Construction Company Limited                         | C 16         | 5   | 8   | 13                    |
| Hindustan Zinc Limited   | C 17         | 11  | 2   | 13                    |
| Idea Cellular Ltd  | C 18         | 4   | 9   | 13                    |
| Indian Oil   | C 19         | 13  | 0   | 13                    |
| Jaya Shree Textiles  | C 20         | 5   | 8   | 13                    |
| Jubilant Life Sciences Ltd                                     | C 21         | 13  | 0   | 13                    |
| Kirloskar Oil Engines  | C 22         | 13  | 0   | 13                    |
| L&T Financial Services   | C 23         | 6   | 7   | 13                    |
| Larsen & Toubro  | C 24         | 13  | 0   | 13                    |
| Mahindra & Mahindra Limited                                    | C 25         | 6   | 7   | 13                    |
| Mindtree   | C 26         | 11  | 2   | 13                    |
| NALCO  | C 27         | 10  | 3   | 13                    |
| Page Industries Limited  | C 28         | 8   | 5   | 13                    |
| Polyplex   | C 29         | 11  | 2   | 13                    |
| Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd.                             | C 30         | 13  | 0   | 13                    |
| Shree Cement Limited   | C 31         | 5   | 8   | 13                    |
| State Bank of India  | C 32         | 6   | 7   | 13                    |
| Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)                                | C 33         | 4   | 9   | 13                    |
| Yes Bank   | C 34         | 6   | 7   | 13                    |
| Hetero Group Of Companies                                      | C 35         | 4   | 9   | 13                    |
| Magarpatta Township Development & Construction Company Limited | C 36         | 13  | 0   | 13                    |
| Mumbai International Airport                                   | C 37         | 12  | 1   | 13                    |

Disclosure variation among the sample companies occurs due to number of standards applicable for

disclosure depending upon its nature of operation as given in above table no:7

Table No 8 Table showing the calculation of Percentage mean scores based on economic disclosure scores

| Company Name                               | Sector  | Industry       | Per. % | Per. % |
|--|---|----------------|--------|--------|
|  |   |                | Score  |        |
| Mumbai International Airport               | Air Line service                                | Service        | 0.92   | 0.82   |
| Mindtree                                   | Consumer Service                                |                | 0.91   |        |
| Hindustan Construction Company Limited     | Construction of dams, tunnels etc               |                | 1      |        |
| Magarpatta Township                        | Real estate and construction services           |                | 0.85   |        |
| ppDevelopment & Construction Company Ltd   |   |                |        |        |
| Dr. Reddy's Laboratory                     | Healthcare Products                             |                | 1      |        |
| Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)            | IT services, consulting, and business solutions |                | 0.25   |        |
| BPCL                                       | Oil & Gas Company                               | REFINERIES     | 0.92   | 0.92   |
| GAIL (India) Limited                       | OIL DRILLING AND EXPLORATION                    |                | 1      |        |
| Indian Oil                                 | Oil & Gas Company                               |                | 1      |        |
| Kirloskar Oil Engines                      | Oil & Gas Company                               | Energy Utilite | 0.77   | 0.62   |
| NALCO                                      | Mining  |                | 0.8    |        |
| Adani Power                                | Thermal Power                                   | 0.5            |        |        |
| Hindustan Zinc Limited                     | Mining  | 0.55           |        |        |
| Yes Bank                                   | Banking   | Finance        | 1      | 0.63   |
| Axis Bank                                  | Banking   |                | 0.83   |        |
| Mahindra & Mahindra Limited                | FINANCE - LEASING & HIRE PURCHASE               |                | 0.17   |        |
| State Bank of India                        | Banking   |                | 0.5    |        |
| L&T Financial Services                     | FINANCE - LEASING & HIRE PURCHASE               |                | 0.67   |        |
| Havells                                    | Equipment                                       | Manufacturing  | 1      | 0.70   |
| Shree Cement Limited                       | CEMENT - MAJOR                                  |                | 1      |        |
| ChemplastSanmar Limited                    | Chemicals                                       |                | 1      |        |
| ACC Limited                                | CEMENT - MAJOR                                  |                | 0.92   |        |
| Farida Shoes Private Limited               | Leather Products                                |                | 0.25   |        |
| Polyplex                                   | Metals  |                | 1      |        |
| Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd.         | Health products and Pharmaceuticals             |                | 0.85   |        |
| Gloster Limited                            | Textiles and Apparel                            |                | 1      |        |
| Idea Cellular Ltd                          | Equipment                                       |                | 0.25   |        |
| Ambuja Cements                             | CEMENT - MAJOR                                  |                | 0.71   |        |
| Gujarat Fluorochemicals Limited            | Chemicals                                       |                | 0.4    |        |
| Jaya Shree Textiles                        | Textiles  |                | 0.6    |        |
| Hetero Group Of Companies                  | Health products and Pharmaceuticals             |                | 0.25   |        |
| Page Industries Limited                    | Apparel   | 0.5            |        |        |
| Galaxy Surfactants Ltd.                    | Chemicals                                       | 1              |        |        |
| Birla Cellulose                            | Textiles and Apparel                            | 0.25           |        |        |
| Jubilant Life Sciences Ltd                 | Construction of dams, tunnels etc               | 1              |        |        |
| Larsen & Toubro                            | Construction and engineering                    | Others         | -      | 0.70   |
| Adani Ports And Special Economic Zone Ltd. | Infrastructure                                  |                | 0.4    |        |



### Test of Hypothesis

To study the industry wise sustainability disclosure practices of Indian companies; the companies reporting in line with GRI Standards for the year 2019-2020 were grouped into specific industry.

Percentage mean scores were obtained to study industry wise sustainability disclosure practices. This has been shown in Table No:8 below:

With reference to the objectives of the study and to know whether the disclosure practices of selected Indian companies among industries differ significantly from each other or not; the following hypothesis has been framed,

**H0:** There is no significant difference in the disclosure scores of the industries.

**H1:** There is a significant difference in the disclosure scores of the industries

Table No 9 Table showing ANOVA from SPSS ANOVA.

| ANOVA           |                |    |             |      |      |
|-----------------|----------------|----|-------------|------|------|
| Mean Disclosure |                |    |             |      |      |
|                 | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F    | Sig. |
| Between Groups  | .296           | 5  | .059        | .671 | .648 |
| Within Groups   | 2.733          | 31 | .088        |      |      |
| Total           | 3.029          | 36 |             |      |      |

We computed one-way ANOVA comparing the mean disclosure of the industry groups. The above table gives the result of the analysis of the hypothesis It shows that there is no statistically significant difference in the mean disclosure score of the industries,  $F(5, 31) = .671, p > .05$ . Therefore, the null hypothesis cannot be rejected. This result implies that Indian companies do not give much consideration to their industries characteristics while disclosing information in their sustainability reports in regard to economic aspect.

### V. CONCLUSION

The study shows the evidences of low to high level of economic disclosure by sample firms. The findings show that the minimum disclosure is of 16.67% which is extremely low level of disclosure while the maximum score is 100% indicating full compliance of GRI standard. The average disclosure score (73.02%) indicates a moderately satisfactory level of disclosure in Indian context. The study found a wide variation in economical aspect disclosure among the companies. Analyses of the extent of economic disclosure under economic performance; namely financial implications and other risks and opportunities due to climate change (GRI 201.2) have not been disclosed by 19 companies representing 51%, defined benefit plan obligations and other retirement plans

(GRI 201.3) have not been disclosed by 14 companies representing 38% and financial assistance received from Government (GRI 201.4) have not disclosed by 18 companies comprising 49%. Test of hypothesis confirms that there is no significant difference in the disclosure scores of the industry groups. The policy makers should bring the provisions to encourage the Indian companies for reporting the economic aspects in line with GRI Standards so that stakeholders can take prudent economic decision based on the satisfactory level of information.

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