FINANCE INDIA © Indian Institute of Finance Vol. XXXVII No. 2, June 2023 Pages – 335 - 358

Money Laundering and its Impact on Financial Indicators

G. ILANKUMARAN* V. DARLING SELVI** V. GOVINDARAJA***

Abstract

Money laundering is a worldwide phenomenon known to impact the economy globally. As per analyst reports available, 2-5 percent of the worldwide economy is likely to lose due to money laundering every year. Previous studies show that not many studies have been conducted on the impact of money laundering on the economy, which has empirical relevance. This study attempts to detail a select set of money laundering indicators for a country and correlate them with a country's financial stability parameters. The researchers have considered six countries such as Denmark, Brazil, Ghana, Singapore, Mexico, and Vietnam, to measure the money laundering indices and compare the same with the countries' financial indicators. The financial indicators consist of Return on Assets, Return on Equity, Liquid Assets Ratio, and Interest Margin to Gross Income. The conclusion derived from the analysis is that the financial indicators do not influence Money laundering.

JEL Code : F37; O19; C51; K49

Keywords : Correlation; Financial Indicators; Money Laundering; Indices; KYC; India

I. Introduction

BY DEFINITION, "MONEY laundering is the illegal process of making a large amount of money generated by an offense like drug trafficking or terrorist funding. It appears to have come from a legal source, and the money from such activity is considered unlawful". In the process "launders" it to make it look clean. Money laundering is the process of camouflaging the proceeds of offense and integrating it into the legal, and financial system. Before the offense proceeds are laundered, it is controversial for the offender to use the forbidden amount because they are not able to explain where it

Submitted January 2021; Accepted November 2022

^{*} Associate Professor, Alagappa University, Alagappa Institute of Management, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu, 630003, INDIA.

^{**} Assistant Professor of Commerce, Rani Anna Government College For Women, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu, 627008, INDIA.

^{***} Doctoral (Ph.D.) Research Scholar, Alagappa University, Alagappa Institute of Management, Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu, 630003, INDIA.

8.2 *Scope of the study*

the scope of the future study lies in the exploration of comparing Anti Money Laundering indices with the Money Laundering Indices.

8.3 Implications of the study

As money laundering is a consequence of almost all profit-generating crimes, it can occur practically anywhere in the world. Generally, money launderers tend to seek out countries or sectors in which there is a low risk of detection due to weak or ineffective anti-money laundering programs. The main implication resulting from this study is that the financial indicators whether it is good or bad have nothing to do with the money laundering practices among the countries. Hence policymakers and researchers can view money laundering practices from another point of view.

References

Agarwal, J.D., (1991), "Black Money: Some dimensions", *Finance India*, Vol. V, No. 1, March 1991.

Agarwal, J. D. and Aman Agarwal, (2002), "Liberalization of Capital Flows, Banking System & Trade: Focus on Crisis Situations"; Invited paper for *International Review of Comparative Public Policy*, titled "International Financial Systems and Stock Volatility Volume 13, pp. 151-212.

Agarwal J. D, (2004), "Volatility of International finance market: Regulation and finance supervision", *Finance India*, Vol. XVIII No. 1, March 2004, pp. 15-36

Agarwal, J. D. and Aman Agarwal, (2004), "India AML Progress Analyzed", USA Patriot Act Monitor, August 2004.

Agarwal J. D. and Aman Agarwal, (2004), "International Money Laundering in the Banking Sector", *Finance India*, Vol. XVIII No. 2, March 2004, pp. 767-778

Agarwal, J.D., (2004a), "Financial Developments in the World Economy" *Finance India* Vol. XVIII, Special Issue, 2004

Agarwal, J.D., (2004b), "Volatility of International Financial Markets: Regulation and Financial Supervision", *Finance India*, Vol. XVIII No. 1, March 2004.

Agarwal, J. D. and Aman Agarwal, (2005), "Globalization and International Capital Flows", *Finance India*, Vol XIX, No. 1, March 2005, pp. 65-93

Agarwal, J.D. and Aman Agarwal, (2006), "Money Laundering: New Forms of Crime Victimization (Current Trends and Modus Operandi)", *Finance India*, Vol. 19 No 4, December 2006.

Alkhalili, Mohannad, Mahmoud H. Qutqut, and Fadi Almasalha, (2021), "Investigation of Applying Machine Learning for Watch-List Filtering in Anti-Money Laundering", *IEEE ACCESS*, Vol. 9, pp.18481–96.

Aluko, A. and M. Bagheri, (2012), "The impact of money laundering on economic and financial stability and on political development in developing countries: The case of Nigeria", *Journal of Money Laundering Control*, Vol. 15, No. 4, pp. 442-457.

Aurasu, A. and A.R. Aspalella, (2018), "Forfeiture of criminal proceeds under anti-money laundering laws: a comparative analysis between Malaysia and

© Indian Institute of Finance

United Kingdom (UK)", Journal of Money Laundering Control, Vol. 21 No. 1, pp. 104-111.

Baron, R. M. and D.S. Kenny, (1986), "The moderator-mediator variable distinction in social psychological research: Conceptual, strategic, and statistical considerations", *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, Vol. 51, pp.1173–1182.

BIS, (2021), "Ranking money laundering and terrorist financing risks around the world", *Basel Institute on Governance*, Basel AML Index 10th Public Edition.

Botes, V. and A. Saadeh, (2018), "Exploring evidence to develop a nomenclature for forensic accounting", *Pacific Accounting Review*, Vol. 30 No. 2, pp. 135-154.

Buchanan B., (2004), "Money laundering – A global obstacle", *Research in International Business and Finance*, Vol. 18, pp.115–127.

Capasso, S., (2004), "Financial markets, development and economic growth: Tales of informational asymmetries", *Journal of Economic Surveys*, Vol. 18, No. 3, pp. 267–292

Demetriades, Panicos, and Radosveta Vassileva, (2020), "Money laundering and Central Bank Governance in the European Union", *Journal of International Economic Law*, Vol. 23, pp. 509–33

Ebikake, E., (2016), "Money Laundering: An Assessment of Soft Law as a Technique for Repressive and Preventive AML Control", *Journal of Money Laundering Control*, Vol. 19, No. 4, pp. 346–375

Ferwerda J., (2009), "The Economics of Crime and Money Laundering: Does Anti-Money Laundering Policy Reduce Crime?", *Review of Law & Economics* Vol. 5, No. 2, pp.903–929

Ferwerda J., A. V. Saase, B. Unger and M. Getzner, (2020), "Estimating money laundering flows with gravity model-based simulation", *Sci Rep*, Vol. 10, No. 1 pp. 1–11.

FATF, (2000), "Basic Facts about Money Laundering", Financial Action Task Force

FATF, (2020), "Money laundering", Financial Action Task Force (FATF), Paris.

Geiger H. and O. Wuensch, (2007), "The fight against money laundering, An Economic Analysis of a Cost-Benefit Paradoxon", *Journal of Money Laundering Control*, Vol. 10, pp. 91-105.

Gilmour, Nichola, (2020), "Illustrating the incentivized steps criminals take to launder cash while avoiding government anti-laundering measures", *Journal of Money laundering Control*, Vol. 23, pp. 515–26.

Grujiæ, M. and M. Šikman, (2020), "Certain manifestation forms and proving money laundering in the emerging market", Acta Economica, Vol. 18, No. 32, pp. 175-201.

Harvey, J., (2008), "Just how effective is Money Laundering Legislation?", *Security Journal* Vol. 21, No. 3, pp. 189–211.

He, Ping, (2010), "A typological study on money laundering", Journal of Money laundering Control 13: pp. 15–23.

Herl, H. E., E.L. Baker and D. Niemi,(1996), "Construct validation of an approach to modeling cognitive structure of U.S. history knowledge", *The Journal of Educational Research*, Vol. 89, pp. 206–218.

Hu, L.-T. and P.M. Bentler, (1999), "Cutoff criteria for fit indices in covariance structure analysis: Conventional criteria versus new alternatives", *Structural Equation Modeling*, Vol. 6, pp.1–55.

© Indian Institute of Finance

356

Hülsse R. and D. Kerwer, (2007), "Global standards in Action: Insights from Anti-money Laundering Regulation", *Organization* Vol.14, pp. 625-642.

IMF, (2011), "Anti-money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism" (AML/CFT) Report on the review of the program's effectiveness, International Monetary Fund, Washington, DC

Judd C.M. and D.A. Kenny, (1981), "Process analysis: estimating mediation in treatment evaluations", *Eval Rev* 1981, Vol. 5, No. 5, pp. 602-19.

Jullum, M., A. Løland, R.B. Huseby, G. Ånonsen and J. Lorentzen, (2020), "Detecting money laundering transactions with machine learning", *Journal of Money Laundering Control*, Vol. 23, No. 1, pp. 173-186.

Kannan S. and K. Somasundaram, (2017), "Autoregressive Based Outlier Algorithm to Detect Money Laundering Activities", *Journal of money laundering control*, Vol. 20, pp. 1-7,

Le Khac N.A. and M.T. Kechadi, (2010), "Application of data mining for antimoney laundering detection: a case study". In: 2010 IEEE international conference on data mining workshops. IEEE, Sydney, pp 577–584.

Levi, M., and P. Reuter (2006), "Money Laundering." Crime and Justice, Vol. 34, No. 1, pp. 289-375.

Levi, Michael, Peter Reuter, and Terence Halliday (2018), "Can the AML system be evaluated without better data?", *Crime Law Soc Change* Vol. 69, pp. 307–28.

MacCallum, R. C., M.W. Browne and H.M. Sugawara, (1996), "Power analysis and determination of sample size for covariance structure modeling", *Psychological Methods*, Vol. 1, pp. 130–149

Naheem, Mohammed Ahmad, (2016), "Money laundering: A primer for banking staff", International Journal of Disclosure and Governance Vol. 13, pp. 135–56.

Nhien An Le Khac, Sammer Markos and M.Teharkechadi, (2010), "A Data Mining Based Solution For Detecting Suspicious Money Laundering Cases in an Investment Bank", Second International Conference on Advances in Databases, Knowledge, Data Applications, IEEE, pp. 235-240.

Nobanee, Haitham, Haitham Nobanee and Nejla Ellili, (2017), "Anti-Money Laundering Disclosures and Banks' Performance", *Journal of Financial Crime*, Vol. 25, No. 1, pp. 1-14

PankajRichhariya, Prahankk Singh and Endu Duneja, (2012), "A Survey on Financial Fraud Detection Methodologies", *International Journal of Commerce Business and Management*, Vol. 45, pp. 15-22.

Pavlidis, George, (2020), "Financial information in the context of anti-money laundering Broadening the access of law enforcement and facilitating information exchanges", *Journal of Money Laundering Control* Vol. 23, pp. 369–78.

Pedhazur, E. J, (1982), "Multiple regression in behavioral research: Explanation and prediction", Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc., New York

Pellegrina, L.D. and D. Masciandaro, (2009), "The risk-based approach in the new European anti-money laundering legislation: a law and economics view", *Review of Law and Economics*, Vol. 5 No. 2, pp. 931-952

Pol, R. F., (2019a), "Anti-Money Laundering Ratings: Uncovering Evidence Hidden in Plain Sight." *Journal of Money Laundering Control*, Vol. 22, No. 4, pp. 836–857.

Preethi Bansal, C.S. Sharma and Amit Kumar Singh, (2021), "Moderating impact of Foreign Financing, Government Ownership, Firm Liquidity and Size

© Indian Institute of Finance

on Leverage – Performance relationship: An Indian Evidence", *Finance India*, Vol. XXXV No. 2, June 2021, pp. 349-374.

Quirk, K. J., T.Z. Keith and J.T. Quirk, (2001), "Employment during high school and student achievement : Longitudinal analysis of national data", *The Journal of Educational Research*, Vol. 95, pp. 4-7.

Ravenda, D., M.M. Valencia, M.A. Josep and G.B. Josep, (2017), "Accrual management as an indication of money laundering through legally registered Mafia firms in Italy", *Accounting, Auditing & Accountability Journal*, Vol. 31 No. 1, pp. 286-317.

Raweh, B. A., C. Erbao and F. Shihadeh, (2017), "Review the literature and theories on anti-money", *Asian Development Policy Review*, Vol. 5, No. 3, pp. 140–147.

Raza, Muhammad, Zhan Qi Subtain, and Sana Ruba, (2020), "Role of money mules in money laundering and financial crimes discussion through case studies", *Journal of Financial Crime* Vol. 27, pp. 911–31.

Sikarwar, Tarika Singh and Shikha Goyal, (2021), "A SEM Approach: Determinants of Capital Structure", *Finance India*, Vol. XXXV No. 4, June 2021, pp. 1077-1101

Simser, Jeffrey, (2013), "Money laundering: Emerging threats and trends", *Journal of Money laundering Control*, Vol. 16: pp. 41–54.

Shaikh, Abdul Khalique, Malik Al-Shamli, and Amril Nazir, (2021), "Designing a relational model to identify relationships between suspicious customers in anti-money laundering (AML) using social network analysis (SNA)", *Journal of Big Data*, Vol. 8, pp. 1–20.

Smita, Datta and Anindita Chakraborty, (2020), "Tests of the FAMA and French Three Factor Model with reference to Industry Cost of Equity: Evidence from India", *Finance India*, Vol. XXXIV No. 2, June 2020, pp. 379-394.

Sultana, Shirin, (2020), "Role of financial intelligence unit (FIU) in antimoney laundering quest: Comparison between FIUs of Bangladesh and India", *Journal of Money Laundering Control*, Vol. 23 No. 4, pp. 931-947.

Teichmann, F., (2020), "Recent trends in money laundering. Crime", *Law and Social Change*, Vol. 73, No. 2, pp. 237-247.

Tiwari M. A. Gepp and K. Kumar, (2020), "A Review of Money Laundering Literature, the State of Research in Key Areas", *Pacific Accounting Review*, Vol. 32, No. 2, pp. 271-303.

Ullman, J. B., (2001), "Structural equation modeling", In B. G. Tabachnick & L. S. Fidell (Eds.), "Using multivariate statistics ", Allyn & Bacon, Needham Heights, MA, USA.

Walker, John, (1999), "Measuring the Extent of International Crime and Money Laundering", paper presented in conference at Budapest, Hungary, June 9, 1999

Yeoh, P., (2014), "Enhancing Effectiveness of Anti-Money Laundering Laws through Whistleblowing", *Journal of Money Laundering Control*, Vol. 17 No. 3, pp. 327-342.

Zhang Z., C. Zheng, C. Kim, S. Van Poucke, S. Lin and P. Lan, (2016), "Causal mediation analysis in the context of clinical research", *Ann Transl Med* 2016; Vol. 4, No. 21, pp. 425.

358