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A Study on Multi-Criterion Analysis of ESG Variables on Financial Performance : Evidence from BRICS Nations

SARVANI KOCHERLAKOTA* SUDHA VEMARAJU** PAVAN GOPARAJU***

Abstract

This paper aimed to test the impact of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) on financial performance (FP) as they became more crucial during the pandemic. We collected the selected BRICS nations' ESG for 143 companies' data. Convenient sampling is applied to collect the data for analysis. We used different multi-criterion decision and econometric models to test the stated hypotheses. The techniques used are from the unit root system from the E-Views 12 platform. The study's results indicated that the ESG and FP are normally distributed, have no unit root relationship, and are stationary. Findings indicated that investment in ESG factors would positively impact the select sample's FP. The study shows that Economic, Social and Governance variables positively influence and have long-term equilibrium on FP. The study provides insights into the existing ESG literature specific to BRICS nations. Further, findings can guide regulators, policymakers, shareholders and government.

JEL Code : F20, F21, F23, F36, F63

Keywords: Financial Performance; Social; Environment; Governance;

BRICS; ECG

I. Introduction

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND Governance are synonyms for corporate social responsibility in this contemporary world that gained momentum in academia. It is a qualitative measure that discloses the data of CSR practices adopted by the companies. Past researchers focused on understanding the implications of CSR activities and FP (Bae, Ghoul, Guedhami, Kwok and Zheng, 2019). But, ESG enables a more robust effort to quantify sustainability. ESG increases the net worth of business and earnings per share of the companies. ESG focuses on ethics, financial sense and

^{*} Assistant Professor, Amrita Viswa Vidhyapeetham, Amravati Campus, Kuregallu Village, Mangalagiri (M), Guntur, Andhra Pradesh 522503, INDIA.

^{**} Associate Professor, GITAM (Deemed-to-be University), GITAM School of Business-Hyderabad, Rudraram, Patancheru Mandal, Hyderabad, Telangana 502329, INDIA.

^{***} Deputy Vice President & Regional Head, AXIS Finance Limited, Plot No. 72, Road No. 9, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad-500033, Telangana, INDIA.

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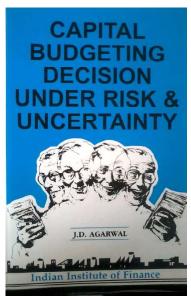
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Prof. J.D. Agarwal, Ph.D. (Delhi School of Economics); Hony. Ph.D. (TFI, Uzbekistan); Hony. D.Litt., Doctorem Honoris Causa (SZIU, Hungary), ITP (LBS London)



Prof. Agarwal, Distinguished Professor of Finance, is the founder Chairman & Director of Indian Institute of Finance (IIF), Founder Chairman, IIF Business School (IIFBS), Founder Chairman, IIF College of Commerce and Management Studies (IIFCCMS) & Editor-in-Chief of Finance India. He is a leading economist & financial expert. In the past he has taught at Shri Ram College of Commerce (Delhi University), Delhi School of Economics, Indian Institute of Technology IIT Delhi, Ahmadu Bello University,

Nigeria & Cleveland State University, USA. He has written over 18 books (authored over 5600 pages), edited over 130 volumes of Finance India (edited more than 50,000 pages), published more than 211 research papers, authored more than 38 book reviews, 500 case studies & working papers. He has been supervisor of several Ph.Ds, M.Tech (Systems & Management) dissertations, MBA & M.Sc. (Finance) dissertations & SRTP research projects by senior government officials sponsored by GoI on study leave at IIF. Numerous Government policies like Budget time change to Fornoon, Education Cess, Money Laundering Act (FEMA), KYC Norms & many others have been based on his works. His news, analysis & comments on economic & financial issues appear on AIR, TV & National Dailies. Dr. Agarwal's ex-students include two Cabinet Ministers, a Former Judge in Supreme Court of India, Ex Chief Election Commissioner of India; Ex-Secretary Defense Finance, GoI; Ex CEO, Noida Authority & FCI, dozens of IAS/IPS/IRS, CEOs of Banks, FIs & PSUs, leading CAs, CS, CFOs, COOs, Lawyers, Vice-Chancellors and Deans of Foreign & Indian Universities, Media Personalities and successful Entrepreneurs.

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