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QUALITY, READABILITY, AND NARRATIVE ASPECTS OF MD&A REPORTS: LITERATURE REVIEW AND FUTURE RESEARCH POTENTIAL

Dr. Vijay Singh*; Himani Singla**

*Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce, Indira Gandhi University, Meerpur–Rewari (Haryana), INDIA Email id: vijay.commerce@igu.ac.in

**Ph.D Scholar, Department of Commerce, Indira Gandhi University, Meerpur–Rewari (Haryana), INDIA Email id: himani.comm.rs@igu.ac.in

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ABSTRACT

This article provides significant insights on what has been done so far in the field of Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) and discuss the implications of MD&A disclosures for investors and financial analysts and future research potential in the respective area. Systematic Literature Review method is adopted for the MD&A studies as to categorize them into four different themes: An overview of MD&A structure; Quality of the MD&A disclosures & its forecast ability; Readability of MD&A reports and Narrative of MD&A disclosures. Also, future scope of the research is also discussed. It is found that the MD&A reports are really contributing in decision making of the shareholders and financial analysts in terms of predicting the future accounting results, earning per share, sales and explains going concern opinion according to existing researches, thus demanded to audit the MD&A reports as well to enhance the authenticity. Recent studies have included Artificial intelligence (AI) tool in their studies to provide more reliable results and more future researches can be done with the help of AI.

KEYWORDS: *Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A), MD&A Disclosures, Investors, MD&A Disclosure Quality.*

INTRODUCTION

Investors in the stock market generally invest on the basis of information provided by the companies. The authenticity and quality of corporate information provided through interim and annual reports have been significant concerns as far as investors trust is concerned. During 1960s, many frauds and scams came into light, due to which investors had to lose their money that created mistrust, suspicion and uncertainty among investors. By considering those financial scandals & frauds, a specific disclosure tool is introduced to protect the interest of the investor as-Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) of Financial Condition and Results of Operation in terms of disclosing vital information of the company (Bernd Hüfner, 2007). Moreover, it shows the capital structure and liquidity, results of operation, any other material changes in the financial transactions, forward-looking statements, which is required to be disclosed from the eyes of the managers of the company (SEC, 2019). Although the concept of MD&A originates in 1968 as part

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of the Guides for Preparation and Filling of Registration Statements, but in 1974, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has introduced it in the corporate annual reports just to provide more insights about the company's operations and non- financial information. Later on, in 1980, many amendments has been done for formally requirement for the discussion of issues and trends relating to liquidity, capital resources and the results of operations (Schroeder & Gibson, 1990). Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) believes that MD&A helps in supplementing the financial information to the "Investors and other users to assess the financial condition and results of operations of the registrant, with particular emphasis on the registrant's prospects for the future" (SEC 1989; Cole & Jones, 2004). As a part of corporate annual report, Many improvements has been suggested to SEC for enhancing the credibility and reliability of the MD&A report so that investors can be protected from any kind of scams in terms of nondisclosure of information and Insider Trading. Adding of Risk related disclosure and a formal audit of MD&A report have also been advised by various professionals during 1990s. These kind of proposal help regulators in framing more policies in the stake of investors to save them from any misleading information (Schroeder & Gibson, 1990). Gradually, after 1995 many European and Asian countries have started to present and discuss MD&A in their corporate annual reports. SEC has worked tirelessly to address the shortcomings of the MD&A reporting to bring more transparency and information centricity to keep the interest of the investors and other stakeholders (SEC, 2002; SEC, 2003; SEC, 2019).

With the starting of this century, SEC has placed the MD&A as a disclosure tool provides the investors with an opportunity to get the insights into the company from the manager's perspectives and can understand the short and long term analysis of the business. This concept is raised as investors started to face difficulties in getting and understanding the accounting language and interpret them in a meaningful result. Thus, to overcome such problem, MD&A provides specific, material and analytical information about the company from the views of the top officials and becomes an important channel of communication between the companies and the investors (Brown & Tucker, 2011). SEC has also focused on discussing the future oriented information that can materially affect the company's liquidity, capital resources more in the MD&A reports rather than discussing the past trends, events and happening (Muslu et al., 2015).

MD&A is not confined just only a mean of communication between investors and the company, it disclose the high quality of the company's information to the public, so that the overvaluation of the company's stock price can be stopped and the risk of stock market crashes and high cost of the capital can also be avoided (Lee & Chae, 2018). Also, it has been evidently proved that MD&A disclosures not only helping the investors but an average analyst in doing a better job of forecasting earnings (Barron & Kile, 1999).

By considering so much importance of the MD&A, every aspect of the MD&A report is important in itself. Thus, this study systematically collects, analyzes, and discusses various studies published only in top journals covering the four aspects of the Management Discussion and Analysis disclosures. It has covered a wide range of literature for almost thirty years (1990-2020). For this research paper, more than fifty research papers related to MD&A are taken into consideration. This attempt covers the research studies published from 1990 (Cole, 1990, Journal of Corporate Accounting and Finance) to the recent studies (Qian, 2020, Discourse and Communication) that have been published in internationally recognized peer-reviewed journals. We have selected these studies considered as published in reputed journals globally as per the Australian Business Deans' Council (ABDC) list. So, we described twenty-nine papers as exhibited in Table 1, categorized as per their themes (*Structural overview and usefulness, quality of disclosures, readability, and narratives of the MD&A reports*). Therefore, it has been organized into four categories as described in **Table 1**

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TABLE 1: THE STUDY SAMPLE WAS OBTAINED VIA A SEARCH OF RESEARCH ARTICLES ON MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS PUBLISHED IN JOURNALS ON THE ABDC LIST AFTER 1989

Author(s)

Journal

Panel 1: Summary of empirical research papers, describing the structural overview and usefulness of MD&A in chronological order in **Table II**

1	(Cole, 1990)	Journal of Corporate Accounting and Finance
2	(Bryan, 1997)	The Accounting Review
3	(Holder-Webb, 2007)	Advances in Accounting Behavioral Research
4	(Sun, 2010)	The Accounting Review
5	(Lindrianasari et al., 2017)	Corporate Ownership and Control
6	(Lee and Park, 2018)	European Accounting Review
7	(Durnev and Mangen, 2020)	Journal of Accounting and Economics

Panel 2: Summary of empirical research papers, describing the Quality of disclosures and Prophecy with regard to MD&A in chronological order in **Table III**

8	(Clarkson et al., 1994)	Contemporary Accounting Research		
9	(Clarkson et al., 1999)	Contemporary Accounting Research		
10	(Barron and Kile, 1999)	Contemporary Accounting Research		
11	(Cole and Jones, 2004)	Journals of Accounting, Auditing & Finance		
12	(Hufner, 2007)	Society and Business Review		
13	(Cohen et al., 2008)	Current Issues in Auditing		
14	(Li, 2010)	Journal of Accounting Research		
15	(Davis and Tama-Sweet, 2011)	Contemporary Accounting Research		
16	(Cole and Jones, 2014)	Journals of Accounting, Auditing & Finance		
17	(Muslu et al., 2015)	Management Science		
18	(Mayew et al., 2015)	The Accounting Review		
	3: Summary of empirical research paper of the second sec	apers, describing the Readability of MD&A reports in		
19	(Schroeder and Gibson, 1990)	Accounting Horizons		
20	Kinnersley and Fleischman, 2001)	Journal of Public Budgeting, Accounting & Financial Management		
21	(Moreno and Casasola, 2016)	Journal of Business and Technical Communication		
22	(Yusuf and Jordan, 2017)	Public Budgeting & Finance		
23	(Li, 2008)	Journal of Accounting and Economics		
24	(Lee, 2012)	Contemporary Accounting Research		

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24 (Kinnersley and Fleischman, 2001)

Journal of Public Budgeting, Accounting & Financial Management

Panel 4: Summary of empirical research papers, describing the Narrative of MD&A disclosures in chronological order in **Table V**

25		(Brown and Tucker, 2011)	Journal of Accounting Research
26		(Caserio et al., 2016)	Lecture Notes in Information Systems and Organization
	27	(Caserio et al., 2019)	Management Decision
	28	(Qian, 2020)	Discourse and Communication

a. Empirical studies on the Structural Overview and Usefulness of MD&A

Management discussion and analysis is a significant document which provides information from the viewpoint of the managers which discusses both financial and non-financial information at one place in the annual report. This section discussed the studies related to the constructive outline related to the MD&A

TABLE 2: SUMMARY OF EMPIRICAL RESEARCH PAPERS, DESCRIBING THE STRUCTURAL OVERVIEW AND USEFULNESS ON MD&A IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

Author Name	Title of the Study	Sample and tools	Findings
(Year) Cole, 1990	MD&A Trends in Standard & Poor 's Top100 Companies	S&P 100 companies. Content analysis is done on the selected companies' MD&A.	Almost 70% of the companies are providing various disclosures in the MD&A section of their annual reports like forward looking information, environment factors, inflation, financial conditions, change in sales etc.
Bryan, 1997	Incremental information content of required disclosures contained in management discussion and analysis	getting the association	The findings reveal that the MD&A discussion for future operations and anticipated capital spending is linked to the firm's financial performance and investment choice for the next year.
Holder-Webb, 2007	The question of disclosure: Providing a tool for evaluating Managements' Discussion and Analysis	1989-1994 from the compustat database.A	An index is formulated to measure the quality of the MD&A disclosures and further regression can be analyzed from those variables. Thus, it is a benchmark for the investors, analysts and others to
Sun, 2010	Do MD&A Disclosures Help Users Interpret	568 manufacturing firms for the period 1998-2002 to check the association of MD&A disclosure on favorable disproportionate inventory increment and the firms' future financial performance.	There is positive association between the disclosure of the favorable disproportionate inventory increment and the firm's profitability and sales growth of the next three years

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		1	
Lindrianasari	Management discussion	823 companies from the	The findings are showing the fantastic
et al., 2017	and analysis, corporate	period 2011-2013 listed on	results that the capital market reacts
	governance perception	Indonesia stock Exchange	strongly to the MD&A disclosures. When
	index and market reaction	to know the extent of	more disclosures are in MD&A, more
		MD&A disclosure impact	increasing in the trading volume and stock
		on the stock market.	return.
Lee and Park,	The Impact of Audit	24669, a firm year	The expertise of the auditors and
2018	Committee Financial	observation from 2001-	accountants helps to maintain the upward
	Expertise on Management	2012 for getting the	MD&A tone. Thus, good knowledge and
	Discussion and Analysis	relationship between the	skills of auditors improves the quality of
	(MD&A) Tone	MD&A tone and the	MD&A reports.
		auditors' expertise over	
		the MD&A reports.	
Durnev and	The spillover effects of	142843 firm year	There is a positive relationship between
Mangen, 2020	MD&A disclosures for	observations from 1996-	the one form's investments with its rival
	real investment: The role	2016 for analyzing the	MD&A tone. Also, it is found here that
	of industry competition	spillover effect of MD&A	investment is more when the firms and its
		tone over investment	rivals are operating in an industry where
		efficiency.	entry cost is low.

b. Quality of disclosure and their power of prophecy

For every investor, it is required to have accurate (symmetry) and transparent information about the company for making their decisions worthy and prosperous in rational manner. All such kind of required features are available in a good quality MD&A report. The studies in this section discussed that are based on measuring the quality of MD&A disclosures and how these disclosures have the power to make investors and analysts able to forecast the firms' future performance.

TABLE 3: SUMMARY OF EMPIRICAL RESEARCH PAPERS, DESCRIBING THE QUALITY OF DISCLOSURES AND PROPHECY HAVE BEEN DONE ON MD&A IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

Author Name (Year)	Title of the Study	Sample and Tools	Findings
Clarkson et al., 1994	The Voluntary Inclusion of Forecasts	300 companies for period 1989-1991 with total 905	If the companies are earning good and have positive news and information, then the
	in the MD&A section of Annual Reports	firm observations to check the relationship	possibility of forecasts increases but this possibility of forecasts reduces due to entry
	of Annual Reports	between the firm's	of new competitors.
		performance and decision to forecasts.	
Clarkson et al.,	Evidence That	300 firms for the year	MD&A disclosures is the firm's overall
1999	Management	1991-1992 from the	disclosure package as it is a source of both
	Discussion and	Toronto Stock Exchange	new and useful information for various
	Analysis (MD&A) is a	to check the disclosure	stakeholders of the companies.
	Part of a Firm's	quality and its usefulness	
	Overall Disclosure	to the stakeholders.	
	Package		

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Barron and Kile, 1999 Cole and Jones, 2004	MD&A Quality as Measured by the SEC and Analysts ' Earnings Forecasts The Usefulness of MD & A Disclosures in the Retail Industry	550firmobservationsfrom the year1987-1989tocheck the associationbetweentheMD&Aqualityandanalysts'forecastsabout the firms'performance.RegressionisRegressionisruntocheck the historical andforwardlookinginformationrelatedMD&Adisclosuresimpactthe retailIndustryperformance.	Good MD&A quality enhances the prediction accurately with less dispersion. Good earnings forecast can be supported by the previous work and not many changes occur in the subsequent period. Historical information is considered also as vital information for the prediction. Changes in future sales and profitability are strongly linked to MD&A factors. We can demonstrate that multiple MD&A factors have significant explanatory power by concentrating on a particular sector.
Hufner, 2007	The SEC's MD&A: Does it meet the informational demands of investors?- A conceptual evaluation	A conceptual study is done on the SEC regulations (2003) item 306, 307.	The perspective of the managers and investors are conflicting regarding the disclosures and this makes the MD&A doubtful as whether here are really helpful for the investors. Thus, it is required to audit the MD&A reports from the auditors as they can play a vital role in improving the quality of the MD&A disclosure.
Cohen et al., 2008	Management's Discussion and Analysis: Implications for Audit Practice and Research	A review of fortune 500 companies in the year 2003.	MD&A quality is positively associated with the firms' size, financial performance, favorable earnings and vice-versa.
Li, 2010	The information content of forward- looking statements in corporate filings-A naïve bayesian machine learning approach	Around 13 billion Forward looking statements from 140000 10-Q & 10-K SEC filings for the period 1994-2007 to categorize the tone and content forward looking statement from MD&A.	This study implies that MD&A tone of the unhealthy financial firms in one year is exactly opposite to the performance of the same year, but this case is not with the healthy firms. Also, this study supports the management impression theory as managers of unhealthy firms during a period of financial difficulty and creates questions on the credibility of MD&A narratives.
Davis and Tama- Sweet, 2011	Managers 'Use of Language Across Alternative Disclosure Outlets : Earnings Press Releases versus MD&A	23017 quarterly firm observations from the year 2011 to get the optimistic & pessimistic tone of the MD&A narrative in the press release and the annual reports.	If managers want less negative reaction on the stock market, then they use less pessimistic language in the press release than MD&A reports. But, pessimistic language more used in MD&A time is really helpful in more accurately predicting firms' future performance

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Cole and Jones,	The Quality of	760 firms for the capital	It is perceived that the management does not
2014	Management	expenditure and 752	incorporate the historical information that
	Forecasts of Capital	firms for store opening	can improve the capital expenditure and
	Expenditures and	forecasts analysis on the	store opening forecasts. Thus, forecasts are
	Store Openings in	five attributes of MD&A	not statistically significant for all the
	MD&A	for the forecasting of	available information as historical
		firms performance	information is missing.
Muslu et al.,	Environment Forward-	44,708 10-K filings from	A more forward looking statement of
2015	Looking MD&A	5,705 firms for the 1993	MD&A disclosures improves the
	Disclosures and the	and 2009 period to assess	informational environment and supports the
	Information	the factors impacting the	SEC calls. Also the firms having abnormal
	Environment	forward looking	forward looking information regarding the
		statements of the MD&A	stock returns, more strongly reflects the
		disclosures.	future earnings of the firms.
Mayew et al.,	MD&A Disclosure	Firms that filed for	MD&A and management's opinion tone
2015	and the Firm's Ability	bankruptcy for the period	provide an incremental predictor of
	to Continue as a Going	1995-2012, to check the	bankruptcy. Also, MD&A disclosures can
	Concern	relationship between the	help to predict the bankruptcy of any firms
		MD&A disclosures,	before three years of its bankruptcy.
		auditor's opinion.	

c. Empirical studies on the readability of MD&A reports

MD&A is a medium of communication for the managers to investors & other stakeholders in textual form. As a result, having such reports in a simple and understandable style is uncommon in general. That is why; those studies which are analyzing the readability of the MD&A portion of annual reports are covered in this section.

TABLE 4: SUMMARY OF EMPIRICAL RESEARCH PAPERS, DESCRIBING THEREADABILITY OF MD&A REPORTS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

Author Name (Year)	Title of the Study	Sample and Tools	Findings
Schroeder and Gibson, 1990	Readability of Management's Discussion and Analysis	40 firms' MD&A readability for the year 1986 is compared with the president's letter and financial statement footnotes by using the Flesch readability Score	There is no statistically difference between the readability score of MD&A reports and the president letter. However, it is noticed that the president's letter is more read by the users than the MD&A reports.
Kinnersley and Fleischman, 2001	The Readability of Government's Letter of Transmittal Relative to Public Company Management's Discussion and Analysis	The readability is evaluated by the state and local government's letter of transmittal relative to MD&A of public traded companies through Flesch index of reading ease	It is evidently found here that 4 out of 5 measures are indicating that both MD&A and letter to transmittal can be read only by the college graduates. And the reason behind poor readability is Complex words.

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Li, 2008	Annual report	55,719 firm-years from the	Firms with poor performance show their
	readability, current	period 1993-2003 from	MD&A and annual reports are hard to read.
	earnings, and	CRSP-compustat database	It is evidently proved that the managers
	earnings persistence.	by using Fog index.	strategically change the information
			disclosed to maintain the image of the
			company
Lee, 2012	The Effect of	5372 firms report for the	Longer and complex words of the 10Q of
	Quarterly Report	period 2001-2007 through	the companies (including MD&A) reports
	Readability on	Fog index, measuring the	makes difficult to understand the earning
	Information	readability score of pre and	related information timely. Thus, investors
	Efficiency of Stock	post filling information	reacts less on the information that is hard to
	Prices.	reaction on the stocks	read and understand for processing it.
Moreno &	A Readability	A longitudinal study is	The results are showing that the readability
Casasola, 2016	Evolution of	done on the two Spanish	of the MD&A reports are difficult to read
	Narratives in Annual	companies by converting	but is it improving over the years.
	Reports: A	the Flesch readability	
	Longitudinal Study	formula according to the	
	of Two Spanish	Spanish language instead	
	Companies	of English.	
Yusuf & Jordan,	Accessibility of the	MD&A reports of 50 U.S.	Accessibility of MD&A reports is
2017	Management's	government companies are	questioning the usefulness of MD&A
	Discussion and	extracted to assess the	reports as most of these reports are
	Analysis to Citizen	readability for the year	published after 6 months or more of closing
	Users of	2009 and 2012 by using the	of the financial year. Second, the readability
	Government	Flesch reading index.	of the MD&A reports is not easy to read and
	Financial Reports		understandable and not meeting
			informational demands of the citizen users.

d. Empirical study on the narrative of MD&A disclosures

Managers are the internal part of the organization as they are directly associated with the operations of the business. Hence, they have more information about the company than any other employee of the organization. Thus, through MD&A report, when they discuss their views about the company to the stakeholders, keep their narration simple and clear. It should not create any confusion and doubt about any point to the investors i.e. repetition of the same information should be avoided. This section has reviewed four studies that are focusing on the narrative part of the MD&A disclosures.

TABLE 5: SUMMARY OF EMPIRICAL RESEARCH PAPERS, DESCRIBING THENARRATIVE OF MD&A REPORTS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

Author Name	Title of the Study	Sample	Findings
(Year)		~~~ r ~~	
Brown and	Large-Sample	The sample is taken for the	that firms with year on modification are not
Tucker, 2011	Evidence on Firms'	period 1997-2006 from the	much except the firms having a large
	Year-over-Year	EDGAR database. It has	economic change. Investors incorporate
	MD&A	been started from 1997 as	more MD&A change information than the
	Modifications	from 1996 almost all	financial analysts. Also with the years only
		companies in the U.S. have	the length of the MD&A reports increased,
		started to fill their annual	not the quality of disclosures. Hence the
		reports electronically.	usefulness of the MD&A report is not
		- · ·	acceptable.

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Caserio et al.,	Management	Extract 996 U.S.A. firms'	Managers are not trying to hide the financial
2016	Discussion and	annual reports from the	distress. Rather, managers of high
	Analysis in the U.S.	year 1995-2011, from the	bankruptcy risk firms bend the truth in order
	Financial	EDGAR database which	to assure the stakeholders towards a better
	Companies: A Data	files for the bankruptcy.	future.
	Mining Analysis		
Caserio et al.,	Management	Two subsamples are taken	The healthy firm's disclosures are useful
2019	discussion and	from the U.S. firms for the	enough to explain current year performance
	analysis : a tone	period 2002-2011 as	as well as predict the next financial year
	analysis on U.S.	healthy and unhealthy	performance. But in the case of unhealthy
	financial listed	firms.	firms, the managers are using impression
	companies		management strategies as using more
			positive words and future oriented language
			than healthy firms.
(Qian, 2020)	A critical genre	118 MD&A reports and	It is found here that the lexicon features are
	analysis of MD&A	around 2 billion words are	unique to the MD&A reports. Also, the
	discourse in	studies here for the year	professional culture of MD&As is embodied
	corporate annual	2018 from global 500	through identity enculturation, human-
	reports		oriented value, cooperation awareness and
			self-serving manner.

DISCUSSION

This research has identified four themes from the prior literature. In the following sections, we collate the themes and discuss the overall results of four aspects of the MD&A reports along with the gaps identified from the reviewed studies.

SEC has introduced MD&A disclosures as a role of communication between the company and its various stakeholders from the eyes of managers which has been developed and maintained by the companies very well.

- MD&A variables are positively associated with the future (short term) sale, earning per share and capital expenditure, but not with the future cash flows (Hufner, 2007; C. Cole, 1990). Even, the stock market also reacts with the MD&A disclosures provided by the companies in their annual reports i.e. better the MD&A disclosures better the responses come from the capital market.
- Auditing the MD&A reports by the audit committees becomes important and it has been evidently observed that financial experts have the ability and incentive to enhance the role of audit committees, which resulted in upward management tone in MD&A section (J. Lee & Park, 2018; Lindrianasari et al., 2017).
- Information disclosed in the MD&A is relevant for the investors in their decision making or not is questionable, as using of impression management theory by the managers. But certainly, such situation arises when the managers of the companies do not follow their duties ethically.
- When everything is going right, managers of the firms disclose information in a good format that fulfills the sole purpose of the MD&A reports and vice-versa (Bryan, 1997; Caserio et al., 2016; Qian, 2020).
- Understanding of the MD&A reports are directly associated with the readability and narration of the MD&A disclosures. The findings of the studies recommend to improve the presentation and language format of the earning reports to make it easy to understand and read by the investors.

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- The complex narrative makes the quality of MD&A poor and it might be due to managers of the firms (having not so satisfactory performance), try to hide the poor results and thus make the MD&A reports so complicated that it is hard to read by the investors. (Lee, 2012; Moreno and Casasola, 2016; Schroeder and Gibson, 1990).
- MD&A can also help in predicting the bankruptcy of any firm at least three years before the filing of the bankruptcy(C. J. Cole & Jones, 2014; Mayew et al., 2015).
- MD&A disclosure are having more abnormal forward looking information filing the stock returns, reflects more future earning information (Muslu et al., 2015b). It means, to solve the problem of less information disclosed can be sorted with the forward looking information that improves the information environment (Clarkson et al., 1994, 1999; Muslu et al., 2015a). Hence, MD&A offers numerous benefits for the companies and its stakeholder subject to provide true and reliable information in MD&A report in understandable manner.

Agenda for Future Researches

The empirical results of these studies are based on the MD&A reports of the U.S. based companies thus, these results cannot be generalized to other countries having a different set of regulations, socio-economic environment and culture.

- The research work on the investigation of text mining of MD&A reports remains to be done in comprehensive manner and that will help in improving the level of MD&A reports. Also, the word similarity can be checked between the MD&As of healthy and unhealthy companies in order to find out possible mimetic isomorphism behaviors(Caserio et al., 2016, 2019).
- For assessing the quality of MD&A disclosures, an index was created by Holder-Webb, 2007) but, MD&A disclosures are adopted by various nations across globally as per their own reporting standards. Thus, different MD&A disclosure indexes can be framed according to the different region or nation for further research (C. Cole, 1990; Lindrianasari et al., 2017; Sun, 2010).
- MD&A's readability can be checked readability by applying various methods and then generalization may be made for more precise results(Moreno & Casasola, 2016; Schroeder & Gibson, 1990).
- Also this research paper has reviewed only the twenty nine paper and consider only the four aspects related to the MD&A reports. Thus, further research can be done by considering more papers by including more themes for getting a more accurate role of MD&A reports in the financial markets foe various stakeholders.

CONCLUSION

The information disclose in the MD&A report of the company is value relevant as it can help in predicting the future accounting results, earning per share, sales and explains going concern opinion according to existing researches. Also, MD&A reports are good source and provide numerous information for stakeholders about the business's future prospects, allowing them to make informed judgments. Thus, the presentation and the linguistic format of MD&A reports needs to be improved with regard to investors to understand and read them easily and that should be basic and straightforward. Further, the analysis of MD&A reports is shifted towards using of Artificial Intelligence (AI) techniques to understand and making effective forecast of companies' earnings. By using AI techniques, information provided in the MD&A report on the real time basis can be analyzed which results into avoidance of misleading information and uncertainty for the smooth transmission of information about the company in capital market (Shin, 2019). Moreover, a sentiment analysis of the MD&A reports can be analyzed which directly makes a key role in

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understanding the firm's performance at present and future plans. Positive sentiments & certain words are indicators of good firm's financial condition and a huge scope of research is created these latest growing technologies (Caserio et al., 2016, 2019).

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