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## Notice for the PhD Viva-Voce Examination

Ms Samreen Ayesha (Registration Number: 1810073), PhD scholar at the School of Commerce, Finance and Accountancy, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore will defend her PhD thesis at the public viva-voce examination on Thursday, 4 April 2024 at 10.00 am in Room No. 044, Ground Floor, R & D Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru - 560029.

<b>Title of the Thesis</b>	:	<b>Risk and Return Analysis of Socially Responsible Equity Investment for Optimum Portfolio</b>
<b>Discipline</b>	:	<b>Commerce</b>
<b>External Examiner (Outside Karnataka)</b>	:	<b>Dr M Dhanabhakya</b> Professor Department of Commerce Bharathiar University, Coimbatore Tamil Nadu
<b>External Examiner (Within Karnataka)</b>	:	<b>Dr Bhaskaran S</b> Professor and Head Department of Business Administration Dr Ambedkar Institute of Technology (Autonomous) Mallathalli Bengaluru - 560056 Karnataka
<b>Supervisor</b>	:	<b>Dr Karthigai Prakasam C</b> Associate Professor and Head Department of Commerce School of Commerce, Finance and Accountancy CHRIST (Deemed to be University) Bengaluru-560029 Karnataka

The members of the Research Advisory Committee of the Scholar, the faculty members of the Department and the School, interested experts and research scholars of all the branches of research are cordially invited to attend this open viva-voce examination.

**Place:** Bengaluru  
**Date:** 22 March 2024

  
**Registrar**

## ABSTRACT

The sustainable development goals of industry, innovation and infrastructure aims at building sustainability by paving way for socially responsible investing. Socially responsible investing identifies investment avenues that considers social and environmental responsibilities along with financial return. The question of risk and return relationship and whether socially responsible investment outperforms conventional investment has been keen area of interest to empirically drive investors in order to establish an optimal portfolio for socially responsible equity investments.

The aim of the study is identifying Equity investments which are Socially Responsible from listed Equity investments in India, to examine whether socially responsible equity investments outperformed conventional equity investments, to assess the socially responsible and conventional equity investments across different sectors based on the risk adjustment metrics for establishing a Socially Responsible Optimal Equity portfolio using Sharpe Index Optimization Model, predicting variance of the portfolio by using Fama french model and to design an equation for generating portfolio return for other socially responsible investments. The study identified socially responsible companies which adhered to sustainability reporting and disclosures of ESG from the total companies listed in BSE and NSE. The sample period lies between 2012 to 2022. Correlation analysis and t-test using E-views software have been conducted. Socially responsible equity companies showed significant strong positive relationship of risk and return than conventional companies. The SRI have yielded greater returns than conventional company in various sectors which makes a better investment vehicle for investors to build optimal socially responsible equity portfolio.

Keywords: SRI, ESG, conventional investments, sustainability, GRI.

### Publications:

1. **Samreen Ayesha**, Dr Karthigai Prakasam C, Socially Responsible Investment and its Performance: A Systematic Review, Shodh Sarita, an international bilingual peer reviewed refereed journal, vol 7, Issue 28, October to December 2020, Pg Nos 88-99.
2. **Ayesha, S., Chellaswamy, K. P. (2023)**, Socially Responsible Investment in a Rising Populism Environment, vol 8, No. 5, ISSN: 2525-3654.