

OPERATIONAL ISSUES OF ACCOUNTING STANDARDS IN INDIA

Vibhu Sharad Pathak*

ABSTRACT

Accounting standards were principally formulated to render translucency in operations and support better exposure so that reporting is accurate and probative to right decision making. Account concepts, principles and practices evolved with these objects. As a matter of fact, accounting standards are further than a frame; they're analogous in nature to laws. Accounting standards are also important in resolving the conflicts between groups of different interests. Accounting standards serve as an important medium in resolving the disagreeing interests. Accounting standards command credibility among various groups of different interests. They seek to insure that the users of financial statements get believable information about the organisation. In malignancy of this, there have been multitudinous cases of commercial frauds where investors were deceived of crores of rupees, levies were finessed and misappropriation accepted. All this called for reforms in the standards so as to make it more telling and tone-regulating. These reforms called for emendations in affiliated laws. This needs proper understanding in terms of whether account is aligned to materiality, translucency, full exposure and support for operations. How effective are Accounting standards in conducting translucency through exposure and correctness in reporting are examined from a commercial perspective. The financial Statements of corporates (Profit and Loss Account & Balance distance) were to be made transparent and effective in terms of functional support for the business and decision support for the stakeholders. The current study examines the reforms in terms of accounting standards grounded on the views of Chartered Accountants, Cost Accountants and Company registers. Being professionals, the experimenter analyses their perspectives on effectiveness in reforming Accounting standards. This makes the study applicable.

Keywords: Accounting, Standards, Stakeholders, Transparency, Information, Effectiveness, Reforms, Standards.

Introduction

Account is called "language of business" because it's made for reporting financial information to different stakeholders of a business. Accounting standards are the practices of the controller/ account body that are to be observed in the medication and contribution of financial statements. Similar standards need to convey encyclopedically comprehensible information under standardized exposure morals. Accounting standards are the statements of law of practice of the controller/ account bodies that are to be observed in the medication and contribution of financial statements. In non professional terms, Accounting standards are the written documents issued by the expert institutes or the nonsupervisory bodies covering various aspects of contribution and exposure of account deals. According to the free wordbook in Farlex, the term account standard is defined as a principle's that governs current account practice and that's used as a reference to determine the applicable treatment of complex deals. The utility of counting information is judged in terms of the extent to which it supports the stakeholders in their decision making process Interpretation of financial statements in terms of Disclosure, Materiality, Correctness and Accuracy tell upon the effectiveness of Accounting standards to support functional opinions. This renders validity to Accounting standards and the study examines how effectively this is made possible through good account practices which have been reformed from time to time. The

* Assistant Professor Guest Faculty, Government Kamla Modi Girls College, Neem Ka Thana, Rajasthan, India.

perspectives of professionals in Account, going and company administration form the base for such an examination. ICAI initiated way to borrow IFRS since 2012 in a phased manner. This was to align our Accounting standards with global morals. Still, we faced several constraints in terms of enforcing the same and relinquishment was delayed. There were issues in terms of periodicity of reporting, confederated reforms not in place and incapability to work out, with clarity, concepts of full exposure.

Development in Accounting

Accounting is a veritably old profession and was well known in the early civilization of the Egyptians, the Greeks and the Romans. Table and scrolls that have survived to the present day show that account was substantially concerned with records of stewardship that is, with recording the various transfers and dealings of a master. The unresistant collection of business data and numbers persisted through numerous centuries. It was only towards the close of the last century that counting assumed a more dynamic role in business and profitable exertion. Since also radical changes have taken place and it's certain that in this age of rapid technological change further development will do. Although, it's still necessary for counting to give an literal record of business sale of a company, it's now accepted that account can also be a veritably precious aid to operation. A duly designed account system can do far further than furnishing record of stewardship. Certain account ways have been developed which give means of controlling cost, establishing reasonable standards of performance for product, deals, profit etc. The transition for counting from unresistant to an active role has naturally been accompanied by rise in the status of those responsible for keeping the business records. The need for accountants as distinct from book keepers has come about substantially because of the changes in the business world itself. Companies have come much larger and more complex, and competition between enterprises and countries has become keener. The need for effectiveness has led to a demand for better and further up to date counting information, and has placed for lesser liabilities upon accountants.

Meaning and Purpose of Accounting Standards

Accounting resembles a language where some rules are definite and some are not. There are numerous areas in which difference of opinions exists about the manner of recording a particular sale. But it's anticipated that a shrewd accountant should be suitable to separate between a 'good' account practice and a 'bad' account practice. Just as languages evolve and change in response to the changing requirements of the times, so do the account rules. Some rules which are presently in parlance may have to be modified to suit the changing business environment. The rules and conventions of account are generally appertained to as 'principles'. The term 'principle' is used to communicate "a general law or rule as a companion to action, a settled ground or base of conduct or practice". Therefore, an account principle is simply a companion to action. Accounting principles don't exactly define how each business event should be recorded. There are numerous matters in account practice, which differ from enterprise to enterprise. These differences are ineluctable because a single set of rules cannot be applied to enterprises of different nature. An accountant has freedom to use his discretion to record a particular event. This freedom is to be used within the confinements of the 'generally accepted account principles'. The stoner of the account statements may not know the precise meaning of a particular item unless he knows the environment. For illustration, the term 'cost' has several connotations. The 'cost' of a auto includes the purchase price plus cost of major repairs minus the residual value. Now, the exact cost cannot be reckoned till the auto is vended. It isn't possible to stay for a long period for catching on the cost because counting statements are to be set every time. In such a situation, an accountant is impelled to do on the base of estimates. He has to make an estimate about the anticipated life of the auto and the residual value it may cost. The delicacy of the figure of 'cost' will depend upon the validity of the accountant's estimate. These estimates are private and may differ from person to person. But indeed also, a general agreement on the description of the term 'cost' may be arrived at.

Financial Reporting

Every business has to prepare its financial statements on yearly base and submit it to various agencies related with the business. Analogous users of accounts include owners, top position operation, members or shareholders of the business, bankers, duty authorities, creditors, investors etc. It's clarified by the council that all obligatory AS shall apply in respect of general purpose financial statements of the existent/ bodies where analogous statements are statutorily demanded to be checked under any law. It's reiterated that the Institute issues Accounting standards for use in contribution of general purpose financial statements issued to the public by analogous marketable, artificial or business enterprises as may be specified by the Institute from time to time and subject to the attest function of its members. The term "General Purpose financial Statements" includes Balance distance, Statement of Profit and Loss

and other statements and explanatory notes which form role thereof, issued for use of shareholders members, creditors, workers and public at large. It's also made clear that obligatory status of an account standard implies that it will be the duty of the members of the Institute to examine whether the Accounting Standard is complied with in the contribution of financial statements covered by their examination. In the event of any divagation from the Accounting Standard, it will be their duty to make respectable exposures in their examination reports so that the users of financial statements may be alive of analogous diversions. General purpose financial statements complying with accounting standards should present fairly the financial position, financial performance and cash overflows of an organisation. This information will be useful to owners, investors, creditors, judges, workers, regulators and others in making and assessing opinions about the allocation of scarce profitable resources. When pots and other organisations act up with accounting standards, their general purpose financial statements should be more analogous than they would differently be. This allows investors and other users of the financial statements to more compare the organisations. Financial statements also give one means by which the operation and governing body of an organisation are responsible to those who give resources to the organisation. The provision of information for responsibility purposes is a particularly important aspect of financial reporting by public sector organisations and not- for- profit realities in the private sector. While reading the financial statements, only statements do not give the full and clear picture about the financial position of the association. The notes adjoined to financial Statements and Significant Account programs attached to the statements give a truly clear picture about the financial position and one comes to know the detailed position and account treatment of various particulars appearing in financial statements. Disclosure of analogous significant Account programs is demanded and obligatory due to the vittles of AS- 1 and corresponding Disclosure requirements specified in various Accounting standards. As per recent developments it may be notified that listed companies will have to reinstate their financial statements if their adjudicator comes up with adverse commentary i.e. examination qualifications. In analogous case, the top executive officer or top financial officer of a company will bear the cost of the fresh examination. The Commission on exposures and Accounting standards has recommended that stock exchanges be authorised to 'prima- facie' act on any 'material' qualification made by an adjudicator to seek a translation of the company's accounts. This will give adjudicators final say- so on a company's accounts as compared to the current practice of making a note of their good reflections. As per the offer, while filing their periodic reports companies will have to submit a declaration before the exchange giving details about the examination qualifications, if any. The stock exchange can also seek farther inputs from the company and the adjudicator.

Reporting Requirements as per Accounting Standards

Accounting standards issued by the ICAI have legal recognition through the Companies Act, 2013, whereby every company is demanded to act up with the Accounting standards and the statutory adjudicators are demanded to report whether the Accounting standards have been complied with or not. Also, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) as per the vittles of Preparation of Financial Statements and Auditor's Report of Insurance Companies Regulations, 2000 requires insurance companies to follow the Accounting standards issued by the ICAI. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and the Reserve Bank of India also bear compliance with the Accounting standards issued by the ICAI from time to time. One significant difference between GAAP and IFRS rests in the amount of detail each go into in explaining various principles. Restrictions and rules are more open to interpretation, making them more unclear. Also, IFRS was created by an account board called the International Accounting standards Board (IASB) in 2001. They were basically a continuity of the International Accounting standards which were the original principles created by IASB. IFRS has hypotheticals, principles, and constraints just as GAAP; still they are much more introductory and open to interpretation. Those which have little to no experience with international companies will have to spend significant amounts of time and money on espousing these new principles. Not only will business and pots have to train their workers, but advanced- position education courses will also need to be changed. Colleges and institutions will have to modify courses that are offered in order to give scholars respectable and over- to- date information. They must support the international standards because they will be more salutary in their post graduate times. Still, there could be a significant impact on forthcoming council graduates, if sodalities and universities fail to do this.

Role of Chartered Accountants in Implementation of Accounting Standards

The Chartered Accountants indeed play a veritably vital role in the expression and perpetration of accounting standards. They're involved in the process of accounting standards right from the expression stage till the perpetration stage. At the time of formulating the accounting standards, the

Accounting standards Board (ASB) invite the views of the exercising Chartered Accountants (i.e. adjudicators). The adjudicators convert and encourage the enterprises within the dimension of their inspection to misbehave with the requirements of accounting standards while preparing financial statements. However, the adjudicators guide them duly by knowing their difficulty, if the enterprises encounter any difficulty in the perpetration of an account standard. However, the members of the Institute shoot their commentary to the Institute, if the accounting standards are complex or if they bear some modification. The ASB also takes way to revise and amend the accounting standards consequently. When the premonitory accounting standards are made obligatory, it's the duty of the adjudicators to insure that the applicable accounting standards are complied with in the medication and contribution of financial statements. However, he's duty bound, while discharging his attest function, if an adjudicator notices that an enterprise under his inspection has not complied with an account standard. It seems that some degree of laxity does live on the role of adjudicators in exercising their duties while reporting on the resistance with the accounting standards.

Conclusion

As per primary check it's set up that the request controller, SEBI and standard maker ICAI have impacted significantly the financial statements in respect to exposure requirements, investors 'protection, cash inflow statement, compliance with preemption law, checked financial statements, exposure of material developments and hand stock option plan, etc. Further, it's also set up that some differences between the guidelines of SEBI and clauses of IFRS and IAS have also been refocused out by the repliers. These are in respect of investor protection, cash inflow statement, exposure requirements, contribution of financial statements and preemption law. Hence, it's suggested that a serious study is needed to be given to the differences by the concerned authorities in the interest of all the stakeholders. As the study has set up that there's significant discord in account practices, it's due to some solid obstacles. The main challenge is, as per the responses of accountant, original accounting standards and the second is government programs followed by large account enterprises. The difference in the objects of financial statement is also set up as the significant challenge. The coming chain in Adjustment is taxation authorities and providers of backing installations. Currency volatility is also considered as the challenge by the repliers. So, to bring the harmony and uniformity in account practices, these challenges should be addressed seriously and considered in the same preference.

References

1. Ahadiat, N., & Stewart, B. R. (1992). "International geographic segment reporting standards, a case for the Harmonization of accounting and reporting practices." *The International Journal of Accounting*, 27.
2. Bandyopadhyay, S. P., Hanna, J. D., & Richardson, G. (1994). "Capital market effects of American-Canadian GAAP differences." *Journal of Accounting Research*, 32.
3. Chandler, R. A. (1992). "The international Harmonization of accounting: In search of influence." *The International Journal of Accounting*, 27.
4. Dopunik, T. S. (1987). "Evidence of international Harmonization of financial reporting." *The International Journal of Accounting*, Fall, 47-67.
5. Ghosh, T. P. (2008) "Accounting Standards and Corporate Accounting Practices", Taxmann Allied Services (P) Ltd.
6. Kishore, Ravi M. (2007) "Advanced Accounting with Accounting Standards", Taxmann Allied Services (P) Ltd.
7. Lowe, H. D. (1967). "Accounting aid for developing countries." *The Accounting Review*, April, 42
8. Morris, R. D., & Parker, R. H. (1999). "International harmony measures of accounting policy: comparative statistical properties." *Accounting and Business Research*, 29(1), 73- 86.
9. Nobes, C. W. (1998). "The future shape of Harmonization: Some responses." *European Accounting Review*, 7(2), 323-330.
10. Rawat, D.S. (2005) "Students' Guide to Accounting Standards", Taxmann Allied Services (P) Ltd.
11. Srivastava, R. K. & Singh Rakesh (2006). "The Harmonization Advantage" *The Management Accountant*, February. pp. 101-103.

