ABSTRACT

This study attempts to find whether tax avoidance is valuable and relevant to accounting information in Asian companies. The role of CSR disclosure to whether strengthen or weaken this relationship is also studied. This study comprised of a panel data of 1723 observations out of Asian companies from 10 selected countries in 5 years (2015-2019). The association of tax avoidance and value relevance is also tested based on their CSR disclosure score (ESG score). The data is processed with EViews and Stata through Panel Least Square Regression and Quantile Regression. The analysis shows that tax avoidance is value-relevant in Asian companies through the interaction with book value, but not through EPS. This result is found at firms, especially with high environment score, high social score and low governance score. This study also found no proof that CSR disclosure moderates tax avoidance could increase value relevance in a way for firms that possess certain CSR disclosure characteristics. High environment score and high social score could be utilized as an incentive to make tax avoidance value relevant towards accounting information.

Keywords: tax avoidance, value relevance, corporate social responsibility disclosure, Asian companies.