

Asymmetric Relationships Between Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Globalization, and Human Development in India: Evidence From Non-Linear ARDL Analysis

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Asymmetric relationships between Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Globalization, and Human Development in India: Evidence from Non-Linear ARDL Analysis

Jayanti Behera¹ and Dukhabandhu Sahoo²

Abstract

The objective of the paper is to examine the asymmetric relationships between ICT, globalization, and human development in India by analyzing the annual data from 1991 to 2019 through the non-linear autoregressive distributed lag (NARDL) model. The result shows that positive and negative changes in globalization lead to a decline in human development in the long run, consistent with the literature. Further, a positive change in mobile density increases human development in the long run. A decline in internet density has a positive impact on human development in the long run, and it needs further investigation. In the short run, a positive shock in globalization with one lag has a positive impact on human development. Moreover, a previous year positive and negative shocks in internet density have a positive effect on human development while the previous two years positive and negative shocks in internet density have a negative effect on human development in the short run. It is also found that the global financial crisis 2008 has a negative impact on human development. Thus, it is suggested that India has to promote both globalization and ICT judiciously and consciously in order to improve the human development.

Keywords: ICT; Globalization; Human development; NARDL

JEL Classification: O47, F00, I32, C51

1. Introduction

Since the last quarter of the 20th century, information & communication technology (ICT) has been playing a significant role in economic development across economies in the world. The widespread dissemination of the mobile, telephone, internet, and broadband networks-all reveal how prevalent this technology has become (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, OECD 2004). It has changed the way in which the people communicate with each other, how they find the required information, work, perform business activities,

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interact with government agencies, and how they manage their social lives (Roztock et al. 2019). It increases productivity and economic growth by reducing transaction and communication costs (Erumban and Das 2020) and by investing in human and physical capital (Maurseth 2020). It also plays a major role in contributing towards the United Nations sustainable development goals (SDGs) (Tjoa and Tjoa 2016), particularly in contributing to SDG 9 i.e., to build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation. According to recent United Nations data, 96 percent population of the world lived within reach of a mobile-cellular signal, while 90 percent population accessed the internet through a third-generation (3G) network in 2018. Moreover, due to the big revolution in the ICT sector, a paradigm shift has been taking place in human development (Yakunina and Bychkov 2015). The revolution of ICT is considered as the main driving force for globalization (Ogunsola 2005) by promoting trade, investment, and business both domestically and internationally. It contributes to the globalization process by contributing to infrastructure for trans-world connections (Faye 2000). Globalization is important for human development because it influences its three dimensions, income, health, and education. And the interaction of globalization and ICT considered as an important tool for human existence (Ogunsola 2005). Many developing countries like Africa and India are using ICT as a powerful tool in order to eradicate poverty, reduce health hazards and mortality, and to increase universal education and sustainable development (United Nations Development Programme, UNDP 2004).

India, one of the fast-growing economies in the world, is the largest exporter of ICT related services since the 1990s. The information technology (IT) and IT enabled services, which are the components of ICT contribute nearly 8 percent to the gross domestic product (GDP) of India and provide employment opportunities to nearly four million people in 2018 (Seconded European Standardisation Expert in India, SESEI 2019). Moreover, the Government of India has launched the *Digital India* programme in 2015 to make ICTs a key policy strategy to transform the country into a digital economy by providing infrastructure, access to technology, and government services to citizens. According to a recent report of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), the total internet subscribers base increased by 743.19 million in 2020 from a total of 636.729 million in the country in 2019, and the total base of broadband subscribers increased by 687.44 million in 2020 from a total of 563.31 million in 2019 (Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, TRAI 2020). It is also estimated that a 10 percent increase in broadband could increase economic growth by 1 percent in India (Upadhyay 2021). Additionally, it is also expected that by 2025, India's core digital sectors

like IT and business process management, electronics manufacturing, and digital communication services could increase the GDP level to \$355–\$435 billion. The newly developed digitizing sectors such as education, healthcare, financial services, agriculture, energy, retail, logistics, government, and labour markets could contribute \$10–\$150 billion of incremental economic value in 2025, and approximately 60–65 million job opportunities could be generated through the productivity surge by 2025 (Kaka et al. 2019).

Despite the strong and rapid growth of the IT sector in India, people who are living in rural areas (and especially the poor people) have limited access to ICTs in terms of accessibility of internet, mobile and computer facilities for which they face the problem of incomplete/asymmetric information in their daily life (Rao 2005). Therefore, India is still lagging behind the other developed as well as developing countries in terms of ICT contribution to human development. On the other hand, there are a significant amount of studies that are only based on ICT and economic growth (Kurniawati 2021; Sahoo et al. 2021; Tripathi and Inani 2020; David and Grubler 2020; Haftu 2019; Zhang and Danish 2019; Niebel 2018; Toader et al. 2018; Ghosh 2017; Hwanga and Shin 2017; Albiman and Sulong 2017; Hofman et al. 2016; Salahuddin and Alam 2016; Farhadi et al. 2012). Also some studies like David and Grobler 2020; David 2019a, 2019b; Asongu and Roux 2017; Gupta et al. 2019; Gholami et al. 2010; UNDP 2004, focus on ICT and human development. Moreover, a couple of studies in literature had tried to study globalization and human development (Tsai 2007; Cieřlik 2014; Sapkota 2011; Figueroa 2015; Ajija and Kusreni 2011; Sabi 2007). In India, though a large number of studies are undertaken on ICT and economic growth (Erumban and Das 2016; Sahoo 2012; Krishna et al. 2018; Singh 2015; Veeramacheneni et al. 2008) a few studies are carried out on ICT and human development (Neogi 2020; Sahay and Walsham 2017; Jensen 2007). However, most of the previous studies theoretically tried to examine the relationship between ICT and socio-economic development in the process of globalization in developing countries (Simba 2004; Ogunsola 2005; Alexandru et al. 2007). A study by Simba (2004) has discussed how ICT in the wake of globalization affects the health information system (health) in developing countries. It is found that the developing countries nourish their health by applying ICT with the help of globalization. Similarly, another study by Ogunsola (2005) has tried to measure how the ICT affects developing countries with the help of the globalization process. In India, particularly in Bangalore, Narayan (2010) has shown the contribution of ICT sector towards globalization

and urban economic growth. But this study is limited to economic growth rather than human development.

To date, there have been no empirical studies that analyse the relationships between ICT, globalization, and human development in India. Though a very few studies like Narayan (2010) are there, it takes 1) international trade and capital (FDI) to measure globalization KOF globalization index (which is a recent one and widely used; 2) economic growth rather human development; 3) this study is limited to one city (Bangalore) of India rather the country as a whole; and 4) time period 1980–2004. This paper has answered the relevant research questions, i.e., how does ICT through globalization affect human development in India? Does there exist any asymmetric relationships between ICT, globalization, and human development? It is also essential to know whether the increase in investment in ICT enhances the socio-economic development of India. Therefore, the objective of the paper is to examine the asymmetric relationships between ICT, globalization, and human development in India from 1991 to 2019. The originality of the paper is based on three things. Firstly, this paper has studied the relationships between ICT, globalization, and human development in India for the first time. Secondly, this paper has employed the latest method, i.e., the NARDL model which has not been adopted in the previous studies to account for the non-linear or asymmetric relationship between ICT, globalization, and human development and thirdly, this paper has used the latest data (i.e. from 1991 to 2019) which can give an updated scenario for policymakers.

This paper is organized in the following manner: Section 2 discusses the review of the literature on ICT, globalization, and human development. Section 3 presents the data sources and method. Section 4 includes the result and discussions while Section 5 concludes with some policy suggestions.

1.2. Some Stylized Facts on Indian Economy

Since the objective of the study is to examine the asymmetric relationships between ICT, globalization, and human development in India from 1991 to 2019, so it is pertinent to have some idea about the status of these variables over the period of time. Figure 1 shows the trends of mobile density (MD), internet density (ID) and KOF globalization index (KOFGI) of India. From this figure, it is clear that the MD and ID have increased at an increasing rate from 2004 onwards, but after 2011, MD has declined. It increased again from 2015 onwards. This is because of the launch of Reliance Jio SIM on 27 December 2015 which intended to

provide free mobile services (cheapest data and free voice calls) to all Indians. MD remained higher than ID. Though ID follows a fluctuating trend in recent years, i.e., from 2014 onwards, but there was a sudden increase after 2015 because of the launch of the programme *Digital India* by the Government of India which provided digital infrastructure and digital empowerment to the citizens. India's performance in the globalization index has quite satisfactory but after 2008 onwards it follows a declining trend due to the 2008 global financial crisis. Figure 2 displays the trend of the human development index, and it follows an upward trend throughout the period.

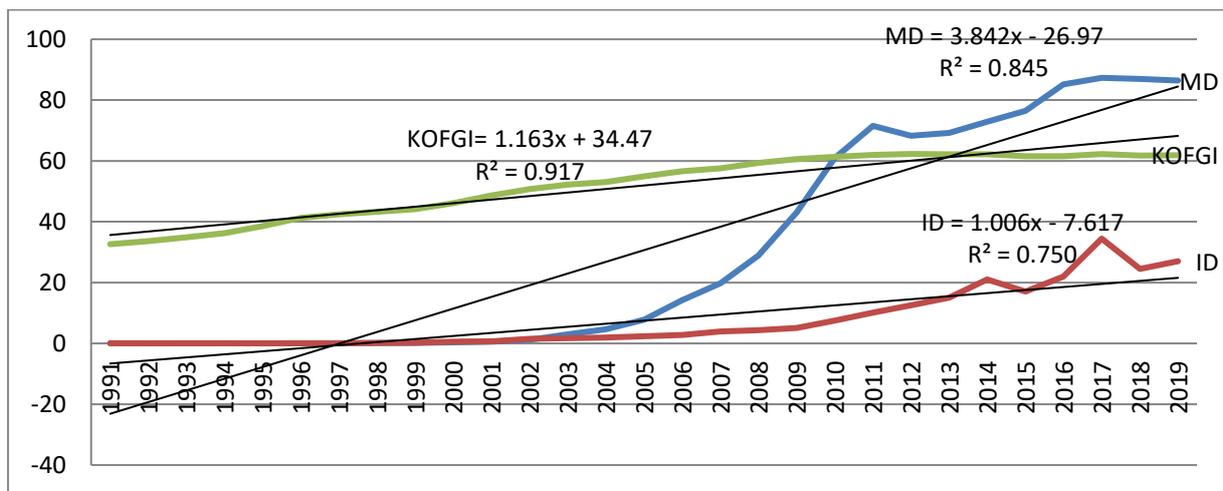


Fig. 1 Trends of Mobile Density, Internet Density, and KOF Globalization Index

Source: Author's illustration based on WDI and ETH Zurich KOF data.

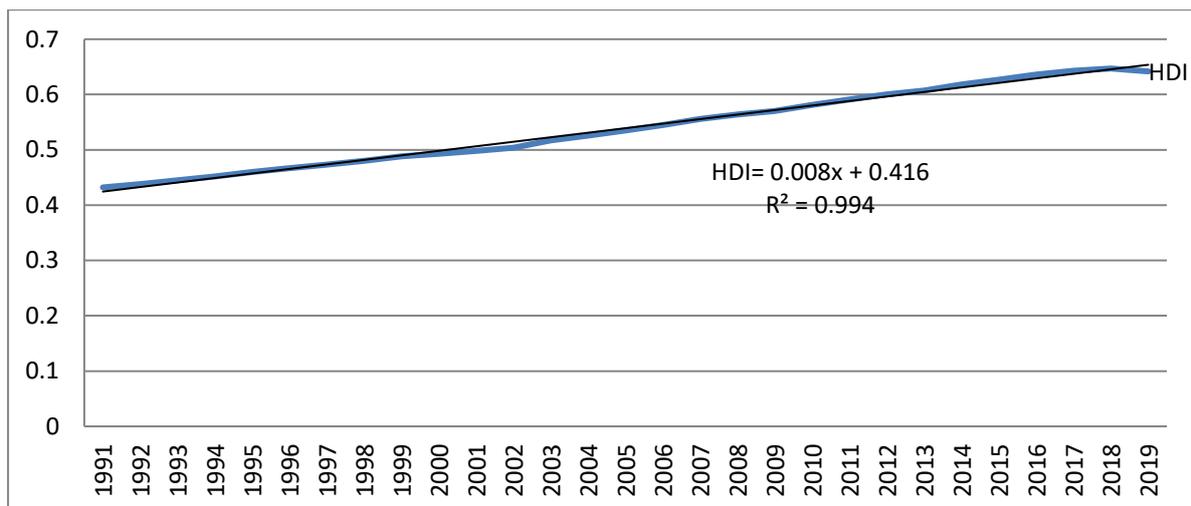


Fig. 2 Trends of Human Development Index

Source: Author's illustration based on UNDP data.

2. Review of Literature

As discussed earlier, India is the major hub of ICT related services. According to World Bank, ICTs are now documented as critical tools for development by making contribution to global integration and by increasing public sector efficiency, effectiveness, and transparency with the increase of mobile telephony and the internet. In view of this, a brief and key review of literature on ICT, globalization, and human development has been presented. The review of literature is classified into three categories, first, it has discussed the relationship between ICT and human development; second, globalization and human development, and third, ICT, globalization, and human development.

2.1. ICT and Human Development

Human development is a process of increasing capabilities and choices which are essential for the people to lead a long and healthy life, to acquire knowledge, and to have access to a decent standard of living, at all levels of development (Human Development Report, HDR 1990). ICT plays an important role in enhancing socio-economic development across the world (Ogunsola 2005). The use of ICT strengthens the people's capabilities and their choices by enhancing access to information, communication, and network (UNDP 2005). Several studies have established the positive association of ICT with human development (Neogi 2020; Cortes and Navarro 2010; Asongu and Roux 2017; Iqbal et al. 2019, Hoz-Rosals et al. 2019, Ejemeyovwi et al. 2019; Gupta et al. 2019; Balouza 2019; Badri et al. 2019; Nosiru and Sodique 2019; Bankole et al. 2011; David and Grobler 2020). The knowledge and development report produced by World Bank (1998) has discussed the positive impact of ICT on socio-economic development. Moreover, a study by UNDP (2004) has found a positive relationship between the ICT components and HDI across all the countries of the world during two different periods (i.e. in 1991 and 2001). By taking nine countries of Asia i.e., China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam, the same result is also found by UNDP (2005). Investment in ICT enhances human development by generating employment opportunities in the service sector as well as in business and industrial activities, spreading health and health-related information, training to the medical workforce and teachers, disseminating awareness, access to education, knowledge, and training facilities. More use of television, mobile, and internet builds awareness in health, education and income (UNDP 2004). Thus, it could be concluded that ICT plays a significant role in achieving human development.

2.2. Globalization and Human Development

The concepts of globalization and human development are multi-dimensional. Globalization has both positive and negative impacts on human development, especially for developing countries like India. Large strands of research have found a positive relationship between globalization and human development (Sirgy et al. 2004; Sapkota 2011; Ajija and Kusreni 2011; Sabi 2007; Tsai 2007; Cieřlik 2014; Badooei 2014; Kocourek et al. 2014; Tsakiri 2010; Shafeeq et al. 2019; Chhorn and Chhorn 2017; Mazlan et al. 2019; Sharma and Gani 2004; Asongu and Jacinta 2016; Figueroa 2015; Ullah and Azim 2017). On the other hand, some studies have found a negative relationship between globalization and human development (Sirgy et al. 2003; Haseeb et al. 2019; Tsakiri 2010). A recent study by Gani et al. (2019) using exports of agricultural raw materials, fuel, ores, and high technology as the proxies for globalization, have found a positive relationship between exports of fuel, ores, and high technology and human development, but a negative relationship between exports of agricultural raw materials and human development. However, as argued by Ahmed (2005) and Haseeb et al. (2019), some factors like bad governance, corruption, and income inequality may trigger the negative relationship between globalization and human development.

2.3. ICT, Globalization, and Human Development

Since the study on the asymmetric and dynamic relationship between ICT, globalization, and HDI is new, a conceptual analysis has been developed to analyse the relationships between the variables. The ICT affects the socio-economic development of the country through globalization. It affects globalization by influencing its three dimensions i.e., economic, social, and political (Ogunsola 2005), i.e., an increase of trade of goods and services, investment (foreign direct investment and portfolio investment), migration, access to the internet and mobile subscriptions, human capital, international NGOs, and treaties. With the increase of globalization, there is the increase in income and employment opportunities (by working in multinational corporations (MNCs) and abroad, conducting business activities), education (by studying abroad, collaboration with foreign educational institutes, accessing online courses), and health (by importing better medicines, health-care equipment, and medical training resulting in enhanced longevity of the population), and thereby has a positive impact on human development. This mechanism through which human development is influenced by globalization is also observed in the literature (Ogunsola 2005).

However, only some sections of the people benefit from globalization with an increase in income and employment, but it may lead to inequality (Atif et al. 2012), deprivation, massive unemployment and increase the conflicts for the other sections of people of the country. Globalization also may favour capital intensive techniques by investing (Foreign investment) more in relatively higher skill and technology intensive sectors, which increases the demand for and wages of more skilled workers, and thereby increases their incomes, which further leads to income inequality. It is also evident from the literature that globalization leads to income inequality. By taking the period of 1995–2007 for three different countries, i.e., developed, developing, and miracle countries, it is found that globalization leads to income inequality in developing and developed countries (Celik and Basdas 2010). The same result is also found in the USA for the period 1980–1990 (Zhong et al. 2007) and in provinces of China (Wan 2007). On the other hand, globalization hits hard on labour intensive sector by saving labours through skill biased effects that reduces employment opportunities particularly for unskilled workers. Thus, the increase in inequality and unemployment in turns reduces the human development of the country. It is also argued that the main concern in both developing and developed countries is income inequality which is related to rising globalization and in the end, it hampers the process of sustainable human development (Haseeb et al. 2019). Another study by Bjørnstad and Skjerpen (2006) which is based on Norwegian countries for the period 1972–1997 has found that globalization (measured by foreign direct investment) produces more unemployment which in turn leads to inequality and thereby hampers human development. This theoretical interrelationship between the variables is expressed in the following figure 3:

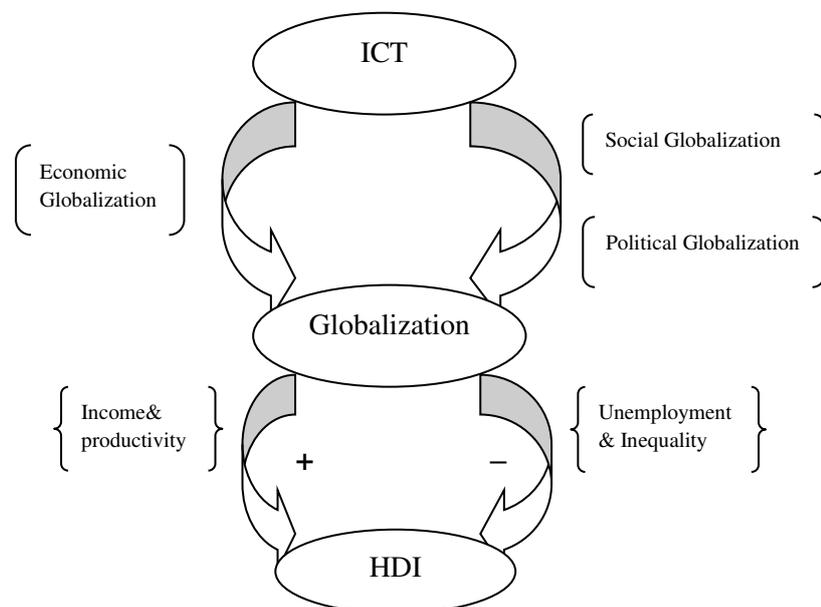


Fig. 3 Analytical Framework

Source: Authors' compilation from the literature

3. Data Sources and Method

The data used for the study are secondary in nature and are collected for the period 1991–2019. The starting year for the data is 1991 because mobile density and internet density data are not available before 1991. Further, the globalization data are not available for the years 2018 and 2019, so these missing values are addressed by adopting the three-year moving average method. The data for the independent variables such as KOF globalization index, mobile density, and internet density are collected from ETH Zurich KOF, and World Development Indicators (WDI), World Bank, respectively. The data for the dependent variable i.e., human development index are collected from United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). During the study period, there is a major transformation of the Indian economy with the introduction of Telecom and Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) which was established in 1997 in pursuance of TRAI (Ordinance) 1997, to regulate the telecommunication services (Department of Telecommunications 2020). This is considered as the period of new economy, and it affects the Indian economy. Therefore, to account for ICT policy changes, the dummy variable TRAI is introduced. Further, India was integrated with the world economy with much vigour since 1991 through its Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP) and macroeconomic stabilization policies. Therefore, India had to go through global financial crisis (FC) in 2008. To account for the effect of the global financial crisis of 2008 on the Indian economy, the dummy variable FC is introduced. The variables used for the study are described in Table 1.

Table 1 Data Sources and Variables Description

Quantitative Variables	Description	Sources
HDI	Human Development Index	UNDP
KOFGI	KOF Globalization Index	ETH Zurich KOF
MD	Mobile Density (Mobile cellular subscription per 100 people)	WDI, World Bank
ID	Internet Density- Individuals using internet (percentage of population)	WDI, World Bank
Qualitative Variable(s)	Description	
TRAI	Dummy, TRAI=1, for post-TRAI act 1997 period, and '0' otherwise	
Financial crisis (FC)	Dummy, FC=1, for post-financial Crisis period, and '0' otherwise	

Source: Authors' compilation from different sources

3.1. Method

The variables selected for the study are based on the review of the literature. Both internet density and mobile density are used in the present study to represent the ICT, while to measure globalization and human development, Konjunkturforschungsstelle globalization

index (KOFGI) and human development index (HDI) are used respectively. Moreover, the period (1997 and after) when TRAI was introduced and the period (2008 and after) when the financial crisis (FC) took place has a significant impact on the Indian economy. Therefore, the two dummy variables with the values 1 for ‘post TRAI act 1997 period’ and 0 ‘otherwise’, and 1 for ‘post-financial crisis 2008 period’ and 0 for ‘otherwise’ are taken to capture the impact of post TRAI act as well as the financial crisis on HDI. All the variables (except the dummy variables i.e., TRAI and FC) are transformed into the natural logarithmic to examine the relationships between the variables. The estimation of the data is carried out by econometric software Eviews version 9.

The relationship between KOFGI, MD, ID, and HDI is expressed in the following functional form:

$$HDI = f(KOFGI, MD, ID) \quad (1)$$

By taking the natural logarithmic of the variables, equation 1 can be expressed in the following form:

$$\text{LnHDI}_t = \alpha + \alpha_1 \text{LnKOFGI}_t + \alpha_2 \text{LnMD}_t + \alpha_3 \text{LnID}_t + \epsilon_t \quad (2)$$

Where, LnHDI is the outcome variable and LnKOFGI, LnMD, and LnID are the explanatory variables. The above functional form equation can be converted into the following autoregressive distributed lag model (ARDL) form for estimation purpose:

$$\Delta \text{LnHDI}_t = \alpha + \beta_1 \text{LnHDI}_{t-1} + \beta_2 \text{LnKOFGI}_{t-1} + \beta_3 \text{LnMD}_{t-1} + \beta_4 \text{LnID}_{t-1} + \sum_{i=1}^p \gamma_1 \Delta \text{LnHDI}_{t-i} + \sum_{i=0}^q \gamma_2 \Delta \text{LnKOFGI}_{t-i} + \sum_{i=0}^r \gamma_3 \Delta \text{LnMD}_{t-i} + \sum_{i=0}^s \gamma_4 \Delta \text{LnID}_{t-i} + \epsilon_t \quad (3)$$

In equation 2, the linear association is assumed between the explanatory variables and explained variables. The ARDL model estimates the symmetric cointegration relationships between the variables. But in the real field or in actual situation the relationship is something different, i.e., there exists non-linear association between KOFGI, MD, ID, and HDI. In addition, in real situation, the rate or magnitude at which the response of HDI to positive change of ICT and KOFGI (increase) is different from the rate at which the response of HDI to negative change of ICT and KOFGI (decrease). In other words, there is no symmetric i.e., asymmetric relationships exist between the explanatory variables and explained variable. Moreover, most of the variables like ICT (MD and ID), KOFGI, and HDI are non-linear in nature. Thus, the linear model may not reveal the appropriate relationship between ICT,

KOFGI, and HDI. Thus, the non-linear autoregressive distributed lag (NARDL) model, which was introduced by Shin et al. (2014), is used for examining the asymmetric relationships between the ICT, KOFGI, and HDI.

The NARDL model is an extended version of the linear ARDL model (Pesaran et al. 2001). This method analyses the long run and short run asymmetric impact of both positive and negative components of ICT and globalization on human development. In addition, it captures the asymmetric effect of the explanatory variables on explained variable. The model can be adopted when the variables are stationary at level i.e., I(0) or at the first difference i.e., I(1), except stationary at the second difference I(2). Besides, the NARDL model allows the ARDL bounds tests approach for computing the asymmetric short-run and long-run coefficients in a cointegration framework. When there is the analysis of the cointegration relations in small samples, the NARDL model performs better (Romilly et al. 2001).

Thus, first the asymmetric long run regression can be expressed in the following form before going into the full representation of the NARDL model:

$$HDI_t = \alpha + \beta^+ KOFGI_t^+ + \beta^- KOFGI_t^- + \delta^+ MD_t^+ + \delta^- MD_t^- + \vartheta^+ ID_t^+ + \vartheta^- ID_t^- + e_t \quad (4)$$

Where, the coefficients β^+ , β^- , δ^+ , δ^- , ϑ^+ , and ϑ^- are the asymmetric long run coefficients. To capture the asymmetric effect, the explanatory variables are decomposed in the following forms:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} KOFGI_t &= KOFGI_0 + KOFGI_t^+ + KOFGI_t^- \\ MD_t &= MD_0 + MD_t^+ + MD_t^- \\ ID_t &= ID_0 + ID_t^+ + ID_t^- \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (5)$$

Where, $KOFGI^+$, $KOFGI^-$, MD^+ , MD^- , ID^+ , and ID^- are partial sum process of positive and negative changes in KOFGI, MD, and ID as follows:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} KOFGI_t^+ &= \sum_{j=1}^t \Delta KOFGI_j^+ = \sum_{j=1}^t \max(\Delta KOFGI_j, 0) \\ KOFGI_t^- &= \sum_{j=1}^t \Delta KOFGI_j^- = \sum_{j=1}^t \min(\Delta KOFGI_j, 0) \\ MD_t^+ &= \sum_{j=1}^t \Delta MD_j^+ = \sum_{j=1}^t \max(\Delta MD_j, 0) \\ MD_t^- &= \sum_{j=1}^t \Delta MD_j^- = \sum_{j=1}^t \min(\Delta MD_j, 0) \\ ID_t^+ &= \sum_{j=1}^t \Delta ID_j^+ = \sum_{j=1}^t \max(\Delta ID_j, 0) \\ ID_t^- &= \sum_{j=1}^t \Delta ID_j^- = \sum_{j=1}^t \min(\Delta ID_j, 0) \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (6)$$

Therefore, the NARDL model which uses the positive and negative partial sum decompositions is given as follows:

$$\Delta \ln HDI_t = \gamma + \tau \ln HDI_{t-1} + \theta_1^+ \ln KOFGI_{t-1}^+ + \theta_2^- \ln KOFGI_{t-1}^- + \theta_3^+ \ln MD_{t-1}^+ + \theta_4^- \ln MD_{t-1}^- + \theta_5^+ \ln ID_{t-1}^+ + \theta_6^- \ln ID_{t-1}^- + \sum_{j=1}^{p-1} \pi_j \Delta \ln HDI_{t-j} + \sum_{j=0}^{q-1} (\varphi_1^+ \Delta \ln KOFGI_{t-j}^+ + \varphi_2^- \Delta \ln KOFGI_{t-j}^-) + \sum_{j=0}^{q-1} (\varphi_3^+ \Delta \ln MD_{t-j}^+ + \varphi_4^- \Delta \ln MD_{t-j}^-) + \sum_{j=0}^{q-1} (\varphi_5^+ \Delta \ln ID_{t-j}^+ + \varphi_6^- \Delta \ln ID_{t-j}^-) + \mu_t \quad (7)$$

Where, θ 's are the long run coefficients and φ 's are the short run coefficients. μ represents the error term which independently and identically distributed with zero mean and constant variance. Similarly, p and q represent the lag orders. The long run asymmetric effects of the explanatory variables on explained variable can be estimated by $\sigma_1 = -\frac{\theta_1^+}{\tau}$, $\sigma_2 = -\frac{\theta_2^-}{\tau}$, $\sigma_3 = -\frac{\theta_3^+}{\tau}$, $\sigma_4 = -\frac{\theta_4^-}{\tau}$, $\sigma_5 = -\frac{\theta_5^+}{\tau}$, and $\sigma_6 = -\frac{\theta_6^-}{\tau}$ while the short run asymmetric effects can be estimated by $\sum_{j=0}^{q-1} \varphi_j^+$ and $\sum_{j=0}^{q-1} \varphi_j^-$. By incorporating the dummy variables into the NARDL model can be expressed as follows:

$$\Delta \ln HDI_t = \gamma + \tau \ln HDI_{t-1} + \theta_1^+ \ln KOFGI_{t-1}^+ + \theta_2^- \ln KOFGI_{t-1}^- + \theta_3^+ \ln MD_{t-1}^+ + \theta_4^- \ln MD_{t-1}^- + \theta_5^+ \ln ID_{t-1}^+ + \theta_6^- \ln ID_{t-1}^- + \sum_{j=1}^{p-1} \pi_j \Delta \ln HDI_{t-j} + \sum_{j=0}^{q-1} (\varphi_1^+ \Delta \ln KOFGI_{t-j}^+ + \varphi_2^- \Delta \ln KOFGI_{t-j}^-) + \sum_{j=0}^{q-1} (\varphi_3^+ \Delta \ln MD_{t-j}^+ + \varphi_4^- \Delta \ln MD_{t-j}^-) + \sum_{j=0}^{q-1} (\varphi_5^+ \Delta \ln ID_{t-j}^+ + \varphi_6^- \Delta \ln ID_{t-j}^-) + \rho_1 TRAI + \rho_2 FC + \mu_t \quad (8)$$

Some steps need to be followed before and after applying the NARDL model: first the stationary of variables should be checked through different unit root tests, and the variables must be either stationary at level or first difference or both. Second, estimate the NARDL model. Third, after estimation of NARDL model, there is a need to test the cointegration between the variables i.e., to test the existence of long run relations through the NARDL bounds test and NARDL cointegration approach. Fourth, after confirmation of the cointegration between the variables, then the long run and short run asymmetric relationship need to be tested through Wald test. The Wald test measures whether the difference between the coefficients of positive and negative variations is significant in the long run and short run and is given as follows:

$$\text{Null hypothesis (H}_0\text{): } -\frac{\theta_i^+}{\tau} = -\frac{\theta_i^-}{\tau} \text{ (no long run asymmetric relationship)}$$

$$\text{Alternative hypothesis (H}_1\text{): } -\frac{\theta_i^+}{\tau} \neq -\frac{\theta_i^-}{\tau} \text{ (long run asymmetric relationship exists)}$$

$$\text{Null hypothesis (H}_0\text{): } \sum_{j=0}^{q-1} \varphi_j^+ = \sum_{j=0}^{q-1} \varphi_j^- \text{ (no short run asymmetric relationship)}$$

$$\text{Alternative hypothesis (H}_1\text{): } \sum_{j=0}^{q-1} \varphi_j^+ \neq \sum_{j=0}^{q-1} \varphi_j^- \text{ (short run asymmetric relationship)}$$

Where, i and $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Fifth, NARDL dynamic multiplier graph can be used to examine the pattern of adjustment of the explained variable to its new long run equilibrium following the positive and negative shocks, as follows:

$$m_h^+ = \sum_{j=0}^h \frac{\partial HDI_{t+j}}{\partial KOFGI_t^+}, m_h^- = \sum_{j=0}^h \frac{\partial HDI_{t+j}}{\partial KOFGI_t^-}, m_h^+ = \sum_{j=0}^h \frac{\partial HDI_{t+j}}{\partial MD_t^+}, m_h^- = \sum_{j=0}^h \frac{\partial HDI_{t+j}}{\partial MD_t^-}$$

$$m_h^+ = \sum_{j=0}^h \frac{\partial HDI_{t+j}}{\partial ID_t^+}, m_h^- = \sum_{j=0}^h \frac{\partial HDI_{t+j}}{\partial ID_t^-}, \text{ for } h = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Where, if $h \rightarrow \infty$, then $m_h^+ = \theta^+$, and $m_h^- = \theta^-$

Lastly, the residual tests should be carried out to test the validity of the model before the results are finally interpreted to draw any relevant conclusion.

4. Results and Discussions

Before examining the asymmetric relationship between the variables, it is essential to describe the characteristics of the variables and their correlation which is shown in Table 2. The mean per capita of HDI, KOFGI, MD, and ID in India during 1991–2019 are -0.626, 3.928, 1.072, -0.315 respectively. Besides this, KOFGI and HDI are highly and positively correlated with each other with a correlation coefficient 0.949. Similarly, MD and ID are also highly and positively correlated with HDI at the coefficients 0.963 and 0.915, respectively.

Table 2 Descriptive Statistics and Correlation between the variables

Variables	Mean	Standard Deviation	Minimum	Maximum	Skewness	Kurtosis	Correlation with HDI
HDI	-0.626	0.130	-0.839	-0.435	-0.039	1.689	1.000
KOFGI	3.928	0.216	3.485	4.131	-0.734	2.161	0.949*
MD	1.072	3.278	-4.834	4.470	-0.399	1.562	0.963*
ID	-0.315	3.711	-9.103	3.540	-1.140	3.203	0.915*

*implies correlation is significant at 1% level.

Source: Authors' estimation from UNDP, WDI, and ETH Zurich KOF data

The unit root tests like Augmented Dicky-Fuller (ADF), (1981), Philips-Perron (PP) (1988), Kwiatkowski-Phillips-Schmidt-Shin (KPSS) (1992), Zivot-Andrews (ZA) (1992), and Ng-Perron (2001) are presented in Table 3 through 4. A perusal of the Tables reveals that KOFGI, MD and ID are stationary at first difference as per the ADF, PP, and KPSS tests while HDI is only stationary at first difference by KPSS and ZA tests. But according to Ng-Perron test, HDI is stationary at first difference while other variables are stationary at level. This implies that none of the variables is stationary at second difference, so the NARDL model can be estimated.

Table 3 Unit Root test results

Variables	ADF			PP			KPSS			Zivot-Andrews		
	Level	1 st Difference	Inferences	Level	1 st Difference	Inferences	Level	1 st Difference	Inferences	Level	1 st Difference	Inferences
LnHDI	0.060	-1.442		0.357	-1.441		0.110*	0.178*	I(0)/I(1)	-1.435	-3.379*	I(1)
LnKOFGI	-0.050	-4.755*	I(1)	2.600	-3.883*	I(1)	0.186*	0.500	I(0)	-2.730	-5.581	
LnMD	-0.863	-5.472*	I(1)	-1.075	-5.472*	I(1)	0.192*	0.138*	I(0)/I(1)	-3.707	-8.722	
LnID	-1.132	-5.199*	I(1)	-0.211	-5.821*	I(1)	0.190*	0.178*	I(0)/I(1)	-10.470	-4.746	

Note: (1) the value of ADF for 1%, 5% and 10% are -4.339, -3.588, and -3.229, respectively.

(2) The value of PP for 1%, 5% and 10% are -4.324, 3.581, and -3.225, respectively.

(3) The value of KPSS for 1%, 5% and 10% are 0.216, 0.146, and 0.119, respectively.

(4) The value of Zivot-Andrews for 1%, 5% and 10% are -5.57, -5.08, and -4.82, respectively.

*, **, and *** imply significant at 1%, 5%, and 10% level, respectively

Source: Authors' estimation from UNDP, WDI, and ETH Zurich KOF data

Table 4 Ng-Perron test results

Variables	MZA		MZt		MSB		MPT		Inference
	Level	1 st Difference	Level	1 st Difference	Level	1 st Difference	Level	1 st Difference	
LnHDI	-214.459	-8.906*	-10.167	-1.585*	0.047	0.178*	0.914	11.866*	I(1)
LnKOFGI	-11.812*	-26.400	-2.260*	-3.632	0.191*	0.138	8.567*	3.457	I(0)
LnMD	-3.024*	-13.053*	-1.038*	-2.547*	0.343*	0.195*	25.488*	7.023*	I(0)/I(1)
LnID	-4.174*	-9.505*	-1.320*	-2.178	0.316*	0.229*	20.539*	9.595*	I(0)/I(1)
Critical values:	1%	-23.800	-3.420		0.143		4.030		
	5%	-17.300	-2.910		0.168		5.480		
	10%	-14.200	-2.620		0.185		6.670		

*, **, and *** imply significant at 1%, 5%, and 10% level, respectively

Source: Authors' estimation from UNDP, WDI, and ETH Zurich KOF data

The result of the NARDL model with and without dummy variables is shown in Table 5. By taking without dummy variables, it is found that the previous year shocks in HDI have a positive impact on HDI. By taking with dummy variables, it is found that the previous two year shocks in HDI have a positive impact on HDI. The positive and negative shocks in globalization lead to a decline in human development (with the coefficients -0.342, -5.678, -0.423, and -1.862 respectively) in the long run by taking with and without dummy variables. The negative relationship between globalization and human development is supported by the literature (Sirgy et al. 2003; Haseeb et al. 2019; Tsakiri 2010). It is evident from the literature that globalization leads to income inequality (Atif et al. 2012; Singh 2012; Naqvi 2009; Celik and Basdas 2010; Wan 2007; Zhong et al. 2007; Bergh and Nilsson 2011) which in turn leads

to a decline in human development (Haseeb et al. 2019; Atif et al. 2012; Wicaksono et al. 2017; Bjørnstad and Skjerpen 2006). In contrast, a positive shock in mobile density increases human development (with the coefficient 0.013 and 0.015) by taking with and without dummy variables. In other words, an increase in mobile density increases human development. A negative shock in internet density also increases the human development in the long run by taking without dummy variables. Though the direct reason for the positive relationship is not observed but the indirect reason is that an increase in internet in the form of e-commerce removes the unskilled workers from the e-commerce economy or it may provide employment through a contractual basis which is insecure for the workers (Singh 2008). It is also found that in India as well as in other low income countries, the employment of unskilled workers working under e-commerce companies is not protected by any legislative law (Singh 2008). Moreover, more use of the internet also gives rise to the risk of isolation from society, and stress and depression (Gunduz 2007; Quaglio and Millar 2020) which has a negative impact on human development. Tavares (2018) has observed that more use of ICT leads to chronic health problem in 28 European Union countries. A study by Niebel (2018) has found that the emerging and developing economies have not benefited much from investment in ICTs. Another study by Maurseth (2020) has found a negative relationship between economic growth and ICT in developed countries. Even if the positive relationship is validated with the literature but it needs further investigation.

In the short run, a previous year negative shock in globalization has a negative impact on human development whereas the previous two years negative shocks in globalization have a positive impact on human development by taking without dummy variables. A positive shock in globalization with one lag has a positive impact on human development with a coefficient of 0.153 by taking with dummy variables. Similarly, a short run previous year positive shock in internet density has a positive effect on human development while the previous two years positive shocks in internet density have a negative impact on human development by taking with and without dummy variables. The reason behind the negative relationship between the previous two years positive shocks in internet density and human development may be due to the high initial cost in the development of infrastructure for providing internet services (Tripathi and Inani 2016). A negative shock in internet density with lag one has a positive effect on human development while with lag two it has a negative effect on human development by taking without dummy variables. It is also found that the post-global financial crisis 2008 has a negative impact on the human development. Moreover,

there exist the long run relationships between MD, ID, KOFGI, and HDI confirmed by the NARDL bounds test¹. The cointegration equation coefficient (-0.274) is also negative and significant, this implies that there are long run relationships between the variables.

Table 5 Results of NARDL Model

Variables	Without Dummy Variables		With Dummy Variables	
	Coefficients	Probability	Coefficients	Probability
LnHDI (-1)	0.479* (0.153)	0.017	0.314 (0.178)	0.137
LnHDI (-2)	0.247 (0.144)	0.129	0.514** (0.205)	0.054
Long run				
LnKOFGI_POS	-0.342* (0.065)	0.001	-0.423* (0.082)	0.004
LnKOFGI_NEG	-5.678** (2.220)	0.038	-1.862 (2.922)	0.552
LnMD_POS	0.013** (0.006)	0.058	0.015** (0.005)	0.037
LnMD_NEG	0.001 (0.005)	0.907	0.001 (0.005)	0.843
LnID_POS	0.004 (0.004)	0.282	0.005 (0.003)	0.135
LnID_NEG	0.137** (0.048)	0.023	0.061 (0.061)	0.361
Short run				
LnKOFGI_POS(-1)	0.148 (0.086)	0.131	0.153*** (0.077)	0.104
LnKOFGI_NEG(-1)	-5.741** (2.093)	0.029	-2.141 (2.757)	0.473
LnKOFGI_NEG(-2)	47.662*** (22.563)	0.073	8.919 (29.698)	0.776
LnMD_POS(-1)	0.009 (0.006)	0.203	0.009 (0.005)	0.148
LnMD_POS(-2)	-0.003 (0.003)	0.416	-0.005 (0.003)	0.164
LnMD_NEG (-1)	0.008 (0.005)	0.159	0.007 (0.004)	0.138
LnID_POS(-1)	0.008** (0.003)	0.043	0.007** (0.003)	0.052
LnID_POS(-2)	-0.010* (0.002)	0.004	-0.008** (0.003)	0.054
LnID_NEG(-1)	0.151* (0.046)	0.013	0.080 (0.056)	0.208
LnID_NEG(-2)	-2.234*** (1.061)	0.073	-0.410 (1.396)	0.781
C	-2.984*** (1.427)	0.075	-0.490 (1.890)	0.806
TRAI dummy			-0.008 (0.010)	0.462
FC dummy			-0.005***	0.077

¹If the calculated F-statistic of the model exceeds the upper bound critical value, then the null hypothesis of long-run cointegration relationship between the variables will be rejected. Alternatively, if it falls below the lower bound critical value, then the null hypothesis will be failed for rejection. And, if the calculated F-statistic value falls within the bounds, the test is inconclusive.

			(0.002)	
Diagnostics result	R ²	0.99	0.99	
	F statistics	6095.052	7811.157	
	Probability	0.000	0.000	
	Durbin-Watson test statistic	2.311	2.476	
NARDL Bounds test (Null Hypothesis: no long run relationships exist)				
F statistics	7.814*			
Critical value bounds	Significance	I 0 Bound	I 1 Bound	
	1%	3.15	4.43	
	2.5%	2.75	3.99	
	5%	2.45	3.61	
	10%	2.12	3.23	
NARDL Cointegration and long run form				
Variables	Coefficients		Probability	
CoInt Eq(-1)	-0.274* (0.053)		0.001	
Long run				
LnKOFGL_POS	-0.709 (0.448)		0.158	
LnKOFGL_NEG	132.312** (55.265)		0.048	
LnMD_POS	0.068** (0.023)		0.022	
LnMD_NEG	0.031 (0.020)		0.172	
LnID_POS	0.009 (0.009)		0.336	
LnID_NEG	-7.104** (2.896)		0.044	
C	-10.894** (4.160)		0.035	

*, **, and *** imply significant at 1%, 5%, and 10% level, respectively

Source: Authors' estimation from UNDP, WDI, and ETH Zurich KOF data

The long run and short run asymmetric relationships are evaluated in Table 6 by using Wald test. The result reveals the long run asymmetric relations between positive shocks and negative shocks in KOFGL, MD, and ID. In addition, there exist short run asymmetric relationships between positive and negative shocks of KOFGL and ID. But, in the case of MD, it shows short run symmetric relationship between positive and negative shocks.

Table 6 Long run and Short run asymmetric test (Wald test)

Variables	Long run asymmetry		Short run asymmetry	
	χ^2	Probability	χ^2	Probability
LnKOFGL	3.251***	0.071	4.155**	0.042
LnMD	3.080***	0.079	0.044	0.833
LnID	3.955**	0.047	4.175**	0.041

*, **, and *** imply significant at 1%, 5%, and 10% level, respectively

Source: Authors' estimation from UNDP, WDI, and ETH Zurich KOF data

The NARDL dynamic multiplier Graph is illustrated for KOFGL, MD, and ID in the respective diagrams. Figure 4 reveals that the negative globalization shocks are high in comparison to positive globalization shocks on human development. Similarly, the positive

shocks in mobile density and internet density are high on human development compared to the negative shocks in mobile density and internet density which are shown in Figure 5 and 6.

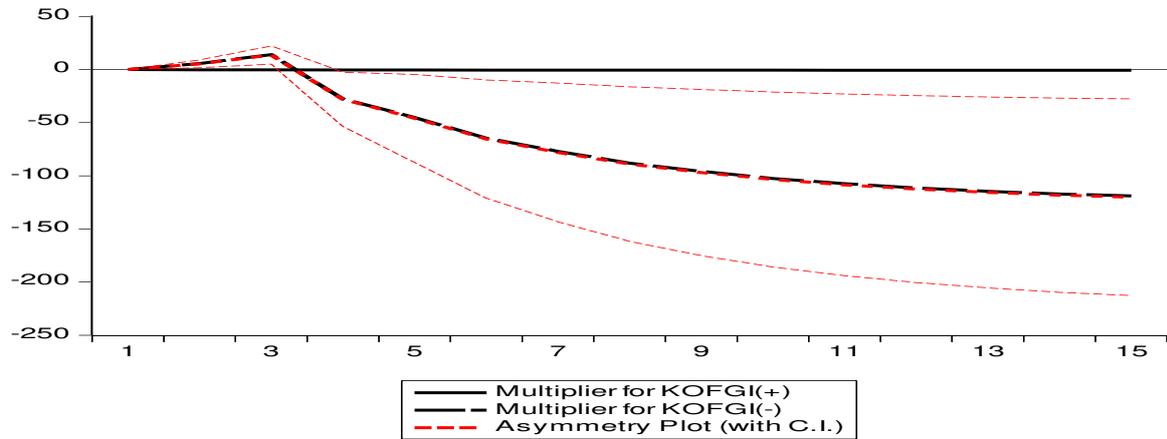


Fig. 4 NARDL Dynamic Multiplier Graph for KOFGI
 Source: Authors' illustration from UNDP, WDI, and ETH Zurich KOF data

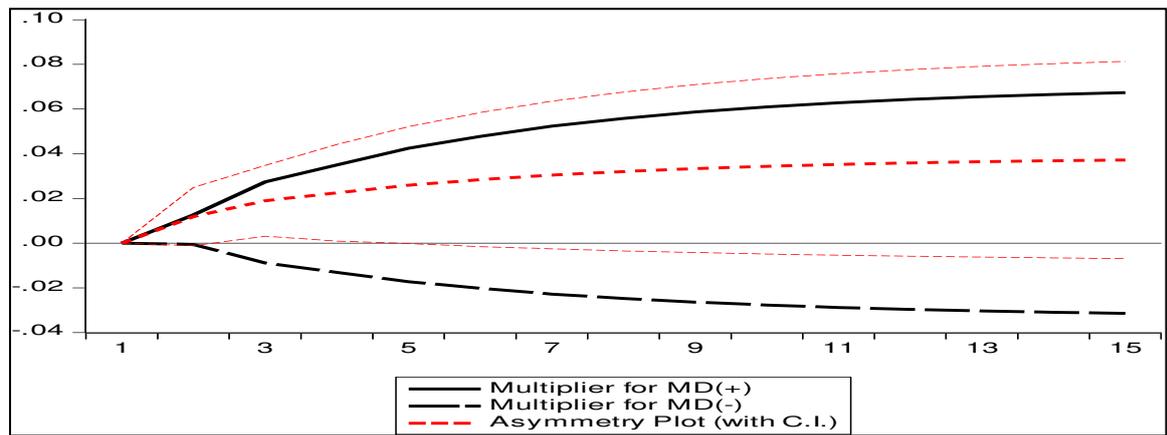


Fig. 5 NARDL Dynamic Multiplier Graph for MD
 Source: Authors' illustration from UNDP, WDI, and ETH Zurich KOF data

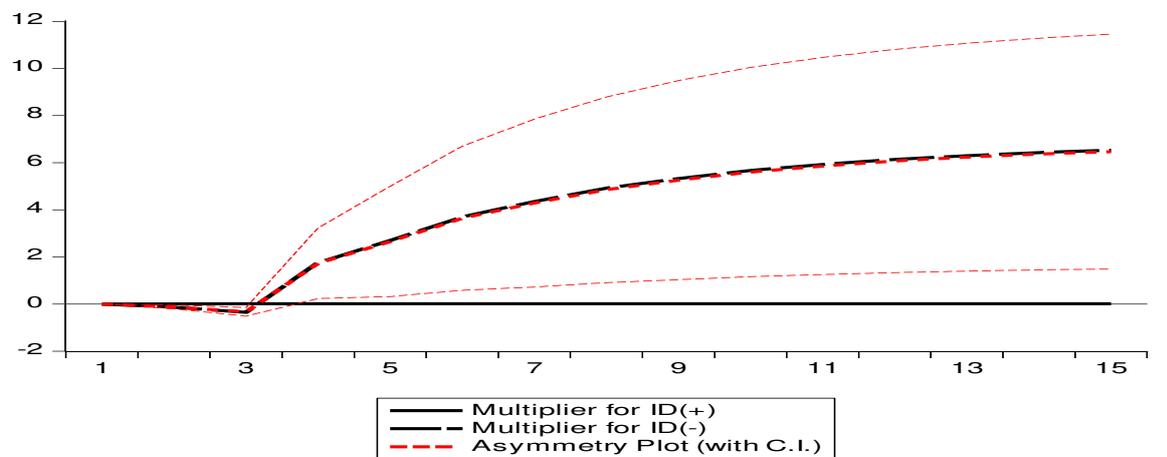


Fig. 6 NARDL Dynamic Multiplier Graph for ID
 Source: Authors' illustration from UNDP, WDI, and ETH Zurich KOF data

Some residual tests like Bruese Pagan Godfrey (BPG) test for heteroscedasticity, LM test for serial correlation, Jarque-Bera (JB) test for normality, and the correlogram residual squared are conducted to validate the results of the NARDL model. As shown in Table 7, the model is free from the problem of heteroscedasticity and serial correlation but is not normally distributed and the correlogram residual squared confirms no autocorrelation and partial correlation problems (Table 8).

Table 7 Residual tests

Test	Test-statistics	Probability
BPG test for Heteroscedasticity	0.334	0.971
LM test for Serial Correlation	0116	0.893
Jarque-Bera test for Normality	12.755	0.002

Source: Authors' estimation from UNDP, WDI, and ETH Zurich KOF data

Table 8 Residual tests (Correlogram)

Autocorrelation	Partial Correlation		AC	PAC	Q-Stat	Prob*
. .	. .	1	-0.057	-0.057	0.0941	0.759
. * .	. * .	2	-0.136	-0.139	0.6524	0.722
. ** .	. ** .	3	0.336	0.326	4.2203	0.239
. * .	. * .	4	0.120	0.148	4.6980	0.320

*Probabilities may not be valid for this equation specification.

Source: Authors' estimation from UNDP, WDI, and ETH Zurich KOF data

5. Conclusion and Policy Suggestions

It is observed from the above discussions that in the long run the positive and negative changes in globalization have a negative effect on human development by taking with and without dummy variables, consistent with the literature. In the long run, a positive change in mobile density has a positive impact on human development by taking with and without dummy variables. Moreover, a decline in internet density has a positive impact on human development in the long run by taking without dummy variables. The reason for the positive relationship between the decline in internet density and human development is that increase in the internet in the form of e-commerce removes the unskilled workers from the e-commerce economy or it may provide employment through a contractual basis which is insecure for the workers (Singh 2008). It is also found that in India as well as in other low income countries, the employment of unskilled workers working under e-commerce companies is not protected by any legislative law (Singh 2008). Moreover, more use of internet also gives rise to the risk of isolation from society, stress and depression (Gunduz 2007; Quaglio and Millar 2020) which has a negative impact on human development. In India the number of youth and adolescents are more in comparison to other countries, they are more prone to internet addiction, which may cause isolation and depression. Tavares (2018)

has observed that more use of ICT leads to chronic health problems in 28 European Union countries. A study by Niebel (2018) has found that the emerging and developing economies have not benefited much from investment in ICTs. The positive relationship between the decline in internet density and human development needs further investigation.

In the short run, a negative change in globalization with one lag has a negative effect on human development whereas with lag two it has a positive effect on human development by taking without dummy variables. A positive shock in globalization with one lag has a positive impact on human development by taking with dummy variables. The positive and negative changes in internet density with lag one has a positive impact on human development while the positive and negative changes with lag two has a negative impact on human development in the short run. The reason behind the negative relationship between the previous two years positive shocks in internet density and human development may be due to the high initial cost in the development of infrastructure for providing internet services (Tripathi and Inani 2016). However, the global financial crisis has a negative impact on human development in the study. Since the effect of the global financial crisis is realised due to the integration of the Indian economy with the world economy, India needs to promote globalization judiciously and cautiously.

From the cointegration equation, it is also confirmed that there exists a long run relationship between ICT, globalization, and human development. On the other hand, it is also found that there is both short run and long run asymmetric relationships between the variables except mobile density in the short run through the Wald test. In addition, the result also shows that the effect of positive components of mobile density and internet density is high than the effect of negative components of mobile density and internet density on human development. Similarly, the effect of negative components of globalization is high on human development than the effect of positive components of globalization.

It is suggested from the above findings that the Government of India needs to promote ICT, particularly internet use and globalization more cautiously in order to improve the human development of the country. Since the decline in internet density is positively related to human development, one could go for future research on this issue.

Declarations

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Authors' contributions

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Competing interests

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