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Impact of internal security expenditure on economic growth in Nigeria

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Abstract
Over the past few decades, the federal government has continually increased the spending on internal security in order to improve the security situation and promote economic growth in Nigeria. Despite the increases in internal security spending, the insecurity in Nigeria has continued to worsen. The study therefore examined how the spending on internal security affected the growth of Nigeria's economy from 1981 to 2021. Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) model technique was adopted for estimation. The ARDL bound test for cointegration result revealed the existence of long-run relationship among the variables. Results from the ARDL model showed that an increase in government capital expenditure on internal security led to significant rise in Real Gross Domestic Product in the short-run and long-run. In contrast, an increase in government recurrent expenditure on internal security led to significant fall in Real Gross Domestic Product in the short-run but a significant rise in Real Gross Domestic Product in the long-run. The study concluded that government capital expenditure on internal security has positive and significant impact on Nigerian economy both in the short-run and long-run, while government recurrent expenditure on internal security has a negative and significant impact on Nigerian economy in the short-run but a positive and significant impact on Nigerian economy in the long-run. The study recommended that the Nigerian Government should procure more security hardware for the internal security agencies in order to adequately equip them, as well as take drastic measures to ensure the judicious utilization of the recurrent internal security expenditure.

Keywords: Capital Internal Security Expenditure, Economic Growth., Internal Security, Recurrent Internal Security Expenditure

1. Introduction

Security is vital for fostering sustainable economic growth and enabling the utilization of resources effectively. Nigeria's pursuit of sustainable economic growth faces a significant hurdle in its current state of insecurity. Daily attacks, robberies and kidnappings disrupt peace and economic activities as well as directly impeding the government's constitutional duty to ensure citizens' security. Internal security is the act of enforcing national law as well as maintaining peace and order within a country which includes protection of lives and properties of people living in the country from internal threats. Agencies such as the Immigration Service, Police, Prisons Service, Road Safety Commission, Department of State Service, etc. are responsible for the country's internal security (Akpan & Eweke, 2018). The internal security agencies are funded substantially by the government in order to properly equip and enable them curb effectively any form of security threat in the country (Mbah, Agu & Aneke, 2021).

Therefore, when government increases its internal security expenditure, the security situation of the country is expected to improve which would attract local and foreign direct investments, enhance agricultural and industrial activities, increase productivity and ultimately promote economic growth (Apanisile & Okunlola, 2014). However, this has not been the case as the level of insecurity in Nigeria has continued to rise.

Internal security expenditure according to Akpan and Eweke (2018) is the portion of government spending budgeted annually to fund the agencies responsible for providing security within a country. The internal security agencies in Nigeria include the Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Nigeria Immigration Service, Department of State Service, etc. Internal security expenditure in Nigeria is divided into recurrent and capital internal security expenditures. Recurrent internal security expenditure is the financial resources allocated annually by the government for the payment of salaries, medical services, education and training of personnel of internal security agencies both locally and internationally as well as for internal security research and development. Capital internal security expenditure on the other hand, is the financial resources allocated annually by the government for the procurement and maintenance of internal security hardware such as arms and ammunition, motorcycles, vehicles, anti-riot equipment, armoured personnel carriers, helicopters, gadgets of all categories, etc. for the internal security agencies (Akpan & Eweke, 2018).

Nigeria grapples with multiple security challenges - Boko Haram insurgency in the North Eastern region, banditry in several states across the North Western and North Central regions of the country, as well as piracy and militancy in the Niger Delta region (International Crisis Group, 2021). Others include separatist Biafra movements in the South Eastern region, conflicts between herdsmen and farmers as well as both intra and inter-communal disputes in the Middle Belt region that are spreading southward. These threats have inflated the internal security budget without proportional growth of the economy (Zainab, 2018). For instance, Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN, 2021) revealed that recurrent internal security expenditure increased from ₦0.50 billion in 1981 to ₦1.52 billion in 1991, ₦38.85 billion in 2001, ₦280.00 billion in 2011 and ₦728.83 billion in 2020. Similarly, National Bureau of Statistics (NBS, 2021) showed that capital internal security expenditure increased from ₦0.09 billion in 1981 to ₦0.36 billion in 1991, ₦4.81 billion in 2001, ₦65.70 billion in 2011 and ₦105.57 billion in 2020.

Given the security challenges in Nigeria, the real GDP according to CBN (2021) fell from ₦15.26 trillion in 1981 to ₦14.95 trillion in 1985. It later grew to ₦20.36 trillion in 1995, ₦37.47 trillion in 2005 and ₦69.02 trillion in 2015. However, it fell to ₦67.93 trillion in 2016 and grew to ₦71.39 trillion but fell to ₦70.01 trillion in 2020. NBS (2021) also revealed that Nigeria experienced economic recession in 2016 and 2020. These economic recessions translated to increased inflation, exchange rate volatility, increased unemployment and underemployment as well as a surge in poverty. Therefore, insecurity hampers investor trust, diminishes economic activities, and diverts resources away from crucial sectors like agriculture, manufacturing and education, thereby impeding their growth. Despite government efforts to finance the internal security agencies to enable them provide an enabling environment free of insecurity and promote investors' confidence, the expected economic growth remains elusive (Akpan & Eweke, 2018; Amana, Aigbedion & Zubair, 2020).

The correlation between spending on internal security and growth of Nigerian economy has been seriously debated among scholars. While scholars like Akpan and Eweke (2018) argued for a positive impact,

others scholars such as Okeke, Chukwu, and Ogbonnaya-Udo (2021) highlighted a negative effect. Despite increased spending on internal security, Nigeria's GDP growth did not align with expectations, thus urging a re-evaluation of fund allocation in the security sector. Hence, the need to re-examine how the spending on internal security affected the growth of Nigerian economy. Rather than aggregating government internal security expenditure, this study departed slightly by specifically examining the impact of the components of internal security expenditure on the growth of Nigerian economy. The study's outcome will guide policymakers on the implications of increasing internal insecurity expenditure on the growth of Nigerian economy.

2. Literature Review

Impact of internal security spending on economic growth has sparked extensive debates among scholars globally, yet consensus remains elusive. Studies exploring this correlation have yielded divergent results, indicating either positive or negative influences on economic trajectories. For instance, while some research, like that of Akpan & Eweke (2018), suggests positive impacts on economic activity, others, such as Okeke, Chukwu, & Ogbonnaya-Udo (2021), highlight potential negative repercussions by reducing available funds and investment opportunities.

In Nigeria, several studies have also delved into the relationship between internal security spending and economic growth. For instance, Mbah, Agu and Aneke (2021) analysed the effect of internal security expenditure on the growth of Nigerian economy from first quarter of 1999 to fourth quarter of 2019 using Autoregressive Distributed Lag Model estimation technique. The study revealed that expenditure on internal security had positive and significant effect on Nigerian economy in the short-run but negative and significant effect on Nigerian economy in the long-run. Similarly, Okeke, Chukwu, and Ogbonnaya-Udo (2021) analysed how government expenditures on defence and internal security affected the growth and development of Nigerian economy between 1994 and 2020. Using Vector Autoregressive estimation technique, government recurrent expenditure on defence was found to have positive effect on the development of Nigerian economy but negative effect on the growth of the economy, while government recurrent expenditure on internal security was found to have negative effects on the growth and development of Nigerian economy.

A study conducted by Amana, Aigbedion, and Zubair (2020) evaluated how government spending on security in Nigeria from 1986 to 2018 affected economic growth, using the Error Correction Model estimation technique. The findings showed that while the government's recurrent spending on internal security and capital spending on security had positive effects on the Nigerian economy, these effects were not significant. On the other hand, government recurrent spending on defence had a significant negative effect on the Nigerian economy. In another study, Asen, Udo, Ishaku, and Ndubuaku (2020) analysed the effect of security expenditure on the Nigerian economy from January 2010 to December 2018 adopting Error Correction Model estimation technique. The study showed that security expenditure had a significant negative impact on Nigerian economy in the short-run, but a positive and significant impact on Nigerian economy in the long-run.

Akpan and Eweke (2018) conducted a similar study that assessed the implication of public sector debt and security expenditure on Nigerian economy from 1994 to 2016 employing Autoregressive Distributed Lag Model estimation technique. The study revealed that internal security expenditure and domestic debt have positive as well as significant impacts on Nigerian economy while defence expenditure and external debt

have negative as well as significant impacts on Nigerian economy. This result is in line with the study conducted by Oriavwote and Eshenake (2013) that analysed effect of security spending on Nigerian economy from 1980 to 2010 adopting Vector Error Correction Model estimation technique. The findings showed that spending on defence had a significant negative effect on Nigerian economy, while spending on internal security had a positive and significant effect on Nigerian economy.

Scrutinizing existing research in Nigeria highlights inconclusive findings regarding the relationship between internal security spending and economic growth. Discrepancies persist among studies, therefore urging a necessity for further research on the subject matter. Also, result of the study by Amana, Aigbedion, and Zubair (2020) is misleading due to fundamental flaw observed in the methodology as the study used estimation technique not suitable for integrated time series variables. Specifically, the result of the Augmented Dickey-Fuller unit root test indicated that Government Recurrent Expenditure on Defence, Government Recurrent Expenditure on Internal Security and Government Capital Expenditure on Security were stationary at first difference, while Real Gross Domestic Product was stationary at second difference. Amana, Aigbedion, and Zubair (2020) adopted Error Correction Model technique for estimation which is inappropriate for the study because the technique is used when time series variables are all integrated of order one [I(1)] as well as cointegrated. Thus, there is the need to address this methodological gap by employing more appropriate estimation technique, such as the Autoregressive Distributed Lag Model, which could yield more reliable result.

Furthermore, the need to update studies to reflect current security challenges in Nigeria remains crucial.

The study by Amana, Aigbedion and Zubair (2020) used time series data from 1986 to 2018, which implies the analysis stopped at 2018. Consequently, there is the need to improve on this study in order to take cognizance of the current security challenges in Nigeria so that appropriate recommendations can be proffered based on the findings. Therefore, rectifying these gaps and employing robust methodology can offer more accurate conclusions, laying a stronger foundation for informed policy recommendations.

3. Methodology

Model Specification

To analyze the impact of internal security expenditure on the growth of Nigerian economy, this study adopted the model of Amana, Aigbedion, and Zubair (2020) who examined the impact of government security expenditure on the growth of Nigerian economy. The functional form of their model is:

$$RGDP = f(GRDEXP, GRISEXP, GSCAEXP) \quad - - \quad 1$$

Where RGDP is real gross domestic product, GRDEXP is government recurrent expenditure on defence, GRISEXP is government recurrent expenditure on internal security and GSCAEXP is government capital expenditure on security. However, aggregating variables such as government recurrent expenditure on defence (GRDEXP) and government capital expenditure on security (GSCAEXP) in the model may lead to a misleading conclusion as they are not components of internal security expenditure.

For clarity and to be more specific, equation 1 was modified to capture the influence of government internal security expenditure disaggregated into government capital internal security expenditure (GCISEXP) and government recurrent internal security expenditure (GRISEXP). Therefore, the functional form of the model is expressed as:

$$RGDP = f(GCISEXP, GRISEXP) \quad - \quad 2$$

Where RGDP is real gross domestic product (proxy for economic growth), GCISEXP is government capital internal security expenditure while GRISEXP is government recurrent internal security expenditure. The stochastic model is expressed as:

$$RGDP_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 GCISEXP_t + \beta_2 GRISEXP_t + \mu_t \quad - \quad - \quad - \quad - \quad 3$$

In the given model, the parameters β_0, β_1, β_2 represent the constant term, the coefficients of GCISEXP and the coefficients of GRISEXP respectively, while μ signifies the stochastic or error term. The a-priori expectation relies on economic theory, aiming to assess the expected signs and magnitudes of relationships between variables. It is anticipated that the explanatory variables will demonstrate a positive correlation with the dependent variable, denoted as β_1 and $\beta_2 > 0$. This suggests that an increase in government capital internal security expenditure (GCISEXP) and government recurrent internal security expenditure (GRISEXP) is expected to lead to an increase in the dependent variable, real gross domestic product (RGDP).

To analyze the model presented in equation 3, this study utilized annual time series data covering the years 1981 to 2021. This dataset incorporates real gross domestic product (RGDP) and government recurrent internal security expenditure (GRISEXP) obtained from the Central Bank of Nigeria Annual Statistical Bulletin (2021) as well as government capital internal security expenditure (GCISEXP) sourced from the National Bureau of Statistics Annual Abstract of Statistics (2021).

Various analytical techniques were employed to assess the significance of internal security expenditure on the Nigerian economy. Initially, descriptive characteristics of the variables were estimated, and their unit root properties were examined using the Zivot-Andrews unit root test. Thereafter, the Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) bounds test for cointegration was applied to ascertain the long-run relationship among the explanatory variables, thereby guarding against spurious regression and erroneous conclusions. As the time series variables were found to exhibit mixed order of integration [I(1) and I(0)] while also demonstrating cointegration, the study utilized the ARDL model technique for proper estimation. The ARDL model estimation technique developed by Pesaran, Shin and Smith (2001) is an ordinary least square based model applicable for time series variable with mixed order of integration and cointegrated. Thus, equation 3 is transformed to ARDL for the purpose of analysis as follows:

$$\Delta RGDP_t = \delta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{r} \alpha_{1i} \Delta RGDP_{t-I} + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_{2i} \Delta GCISEXP_{t-I} + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_{3i} \Delta GRISEXP_{t-i} + \beta_1 RGDP_{t-i} + \beta_2 GCISEXP_{t-i} + \beta_3 GRISEXP_{t-i} + \mu_t \quad - \quad 4$$

$$\Delta GCISEXP_t = \delta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{r} \alpha_{1i} \Delta GCISEXP_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_{2i} \Delta RGDP_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_{3i} \Delta GRISEXP_{t-i} + \beta_1 GCISEXP_{t-i} + \beta_2 RGDP_{t-i} + \beta_3 GRISEXP_{t-i} + \mu_t \quad - \quad - \quad - \quad 5$$

$$\Delta GRISEXP_t = \delta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{r} \alpha_{1i} \Delta GRISEXP_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_{2i} \Delta RGDP_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \alpha_{3i} \Delta GCISEXP_{t-i} + \beta_1 GRISEXP_{t-i} + \beta_2 RGDP_{t-i} + \beta_3 GCISEXP_{t-i} + \mu_t \quad - \quad - \quad - \quad 6$$

Where: Δ is first difference operator, r is lag of the dependent variable, k is lag of the independent variable, $\sum$ is summation sign, δ_0 is intercept in the equation, β_1 - β_3 is slope coefficient of the long-run form, α_1 - α_3 is slope coefficient of the short-run form and μ_t is error term.

Accordingly, the ECM short-run effect model is presented in equation 7:

$$\Delta RGDP_t = \beta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{r} \beta_{1i} \Delta RGDP_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \beta_{2i} \Delta GCISEXP_{t-i} + \sum_{i=1}^{k} \beta_{3i} \Delta GRISEXP_{t-i} + \lambda ecm_{t-i} + \mu_t \quad - \quad - \quad - \quad - \quad - \quad 7$$

Where: λecm is the error correction factor. Equation 7 above was utilized to modify the estimation until the error correction term became negative. A negative sign of the coefficient of error correction term [ECM (-1)], signifies the significance of the equation concerning its corresponding t-value and probability value.

4. Results and Discussion

Table 1: Result of Descriptive Analysis of Variables

Statistics	LRGDP	LGCISEXP	LGRISEXP
Mean	10.335	1.426	3.071
Median	10.137	1.701	3.660
Maximum	11.190	4.659	6.591
Minimum	9.531	-4.605	-0.968
Std. Dev.	0.590	2.394	2.730
Skewness	0.205	-0.481	-0.300
Kurtosis	1.485	2.323	1.540
Jarque-Bera	4.207	2.366	4.256
Probability	0.122	0.306	0.119
Sum	423.742	58.450	125.891
Sum Sq. Dev.	13.931	229.239	298.053
Observations	41	41	41

Source: Researcher's E-views 10 Software Computation.

Result of descriptive statistics in Table 1 revealed that the mean values for LRGDP, LGCISEXP and LGRISEXP are 10.335, 1.426 and 3.071 respectively, while their respective standard deviations are 0.590, 2.394 and 2.730. Samples from a normal distribution have an expected skewness of 0. Consequently, the skewness of LRGDP, LGCISEXP and LGRISEXP were normally distributed. Similarly, since the value between -2 and +2 for Kurtosis are considered acceptable to prove normal univariate distribution; therefore LRGDP, LGCISEXP and LGRISEXP have a normal distribution. Furthermore, the Jarque-Bera normality test indicated that the Jarque-Bera probability values for LRGDP, LGCISEXP and LGRISEXP are greater than 0.05 (5% significance level), which implies that the error term in the specified model for this study is normally distributed.

Unit Root Test

Table 2: Results of Zivot-Andrews (ZA) Unit Root Test of Stationarity

Variable	t-Statistic	5% Critical Value	Chosen Breakpoint	Order of Integration	Remarks
LRGDP	-5.438946	-4.93	2000	I(1)	Stationary
LGCISEXP	-5.371397	-4.93	2013	I(0)	Stationary
LGRISEXP	-5.408506	-4.93	1990	I(1)	Stationary

Source: Researcher's E-views 10 Software Computation.

Based on Zivot-Andrews unit root test result in Table 2, it was observed that at a significance level of 5%, RGDP and GRISEXP exhibited stationarity at their first differences, while GCISEXP showed stationarity at its level. Notably, RGDP displayed a structural break in the year 2000, GCISEXP in 2013, and GRISEXP in 1990. These breaks coincided with government's economic reforms and internal security policy changes aimed at enhancing the country's security situation and fostering Nigerian economic growth. Given the mixed integration orders of the time series

variables, specifically I(1) and I(0), the study employed the ARDL bounds test for cointegration to determine the long-run relationship among the variables.

Cointegration Test

Table 3: Result of ARDL Bounds Test for Cointegration

T-Statistic	Value	Significance	Lower Bound I(0)	Upper Bound 1(1)
F-Statistic	4.432412	10%	2.63	3.35
K	2	5%	3.1	3.87
		2.5%	3.55	4.38
		1%	4.13	5

Source: Researcher's E-views 10 Software Computation.

The ARDL bounds test for cointegration in Table 3 produced a result that showed the F-statistic value (4.43) exceeded the upper bound value at a significance level of 5% (3.87). This outcome indicated the existence of cointegration among the variables examined. Hence, the study proceeded to estimate the model using ARDL model technique.

Presentation of ARDL Model Estimation Results

Table 4: ARDL Long-run Estimation Result

Variables	Coefficients	t-Statistic	Probability
LGCISEXP	0.027986	1.448634	0.0164
LGRISEXP	0.083129	2.967700	0.0067
C	9.887091	52.33321	0.0000

Source: Researcher's E-views 10 Software Computation.

The ARDL long-run model's result in Table 4 shows that GCISEXP has a positive as well as statistically significant impact on Nigerian economy in the long-run. This implies that 1% increase in GCISEXP results in approximately 2.80% rise in RGDP. Also, GRISEXP has a positive as well as statistically significant impact on Nigerian economy in the long-run, thereby implying that 1% increase in GRISEXP leads to approximately 8.31% increase in RGDP.

Table 5: ARDL Short-run Estimation Result

Variables	Coefficients	t-Statistic	Probability
D(LRGDP(-1))	0.316932	2.323010	0.0290
D(LGCISEXP(-1))	0.030331	3.793947	0.0009
D(LGRISEXP(-1))	-0.098590	-3.641424	0.0013
CointEq(-1)*	-0.150704	-4.466078	0.0002
R-squared	0.548508	Durbin-Watson statistic	2.029835
Adjusted R-squared	0.398011		

Source: Researcher's E-views 10 Software Computation.

The ARDL short-run model's result in Table 5 demonstrates that GCISEXP has a positive as well as statistically significant impact on Nigerian economy in the short-run. This implies 1% increase in GCISEXP results in approximately 3.03% rise in RGDP. Conversely, GRISEXP has a negative as well as significant impact on Nigerian economy in the short-run, thereby implying that 1% increase in GRISEXP leads to approximately 9.85% decrease in RGDP. This aligns with the conclusions drawn by Okeke, Chukwu, and Ogbonnaya-Udo (2021) but contradicts the findings of Amana et al. (2020), which suggested a positive but insignificant impact of GRISEXP on RGDP.

The ECM parameter of -0.151, signifying a significant adjustment speed of 15.1% towards equilibrium after an external shock, underscores the model's dynamics. Additionally, the coefficient of determination (R^2) indicates that approximately 54.9% of RGDP variation is explained by GCISEXP and GRISEXP. However, the remaining 45.1% variation in RGDP is influenced by other unaccounted variables like government expenditures on defence, communication, agriculture, health, education, etc., indicating the model's completeness. Furthermore, the Durbin-Watson (DW) Statistic value of 2.03 suggests an absence of autocorrelation, reinforcing the model's suitability for policy analysis and forecasts.

Post Estimation Tests

Test for Normality

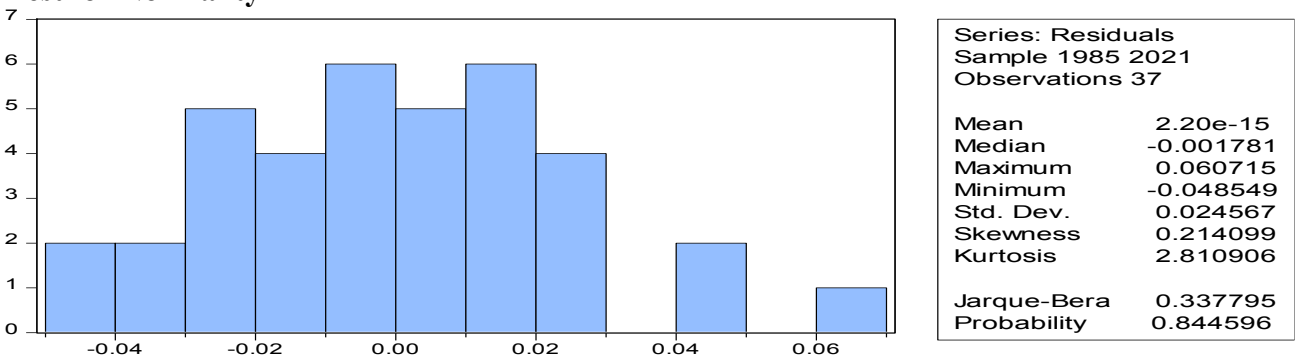

Figure 1: Result of Jarque-Bera Test for Normality
Source: Researcher's E-views 10 Software Computation.

Result of Jarque-Bera test for normality in Figure 1 indicates that P-value (0.844596) exceeded 0.05, at a significance level of 5%, thereby implying the data are normally distributed.

Serial Correlation Test

Table 6: Result of Breusch-Godfrey Test for Serial Correlation

F-statistic	0.185406	Prob. F(2,22)	0.8321
Obs*R-squared	0.613300	Prob. Chi-Square(2)	0.7359

Source: Researcher's E-views 10 Software Computation.

Result of Breusch-Godfrey test for serial correlation in Table 6 reveals that P-value (0.8321) exceeded 0.05, at a significance level of 5%. This implies that there is no serial correlation.

Heteroskedasticity Test

Table 7: Result of Breusch-Pagan-Godfrey Test for Heteroskedasticity

F-statistic	0.841553	Prob. F(12,24)	0.6105
Obs*R-squared	10.95790	Prob. Chi-Square(12)	0.5325

Source: Researcher's E-views 10 Software Computation.

Result of heteroskedasticity test in Table 7 shows that P-value (0.6105) exceeded 0.05, at a significance level of 5%, and thereby implying that there is no heteroskedasticity.

Test for Stability

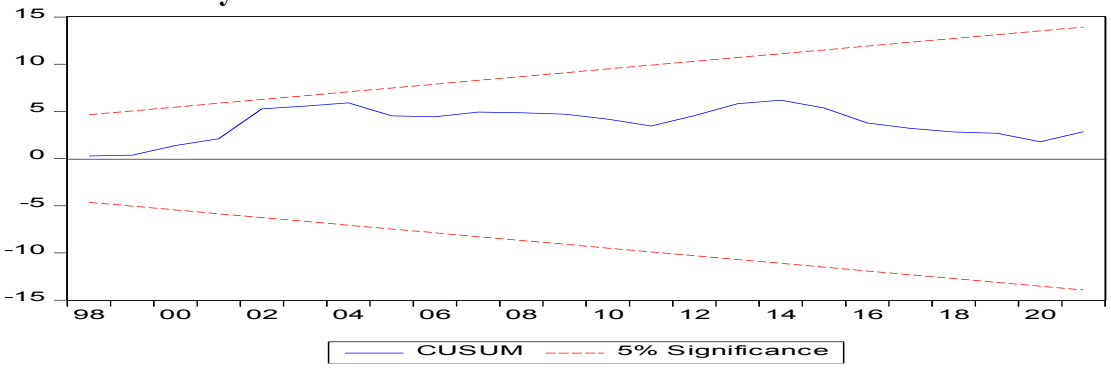

Figure 2: Result of CUSUM Test for Stability
Source: Researcher's E-views 10 Software Computation.

Result of CUSUM test for stability in Figure 2 indicates that, at a significance level of 5%, the blue line falls within the red critical boundary lines, which implies that the model is stable over the entire period of investigation. Therefore, the regression coefficients are deemed reliable and appropriate for use in policy-making.

Test for Linearity

Table 8: Result of Ramsey Reset Test for Linearity

	Value	df	Probability
t-statistic	0.73907523		0.4673
F-statistic	0.546232	(1, 23)	0.4673

Source: Researcher's E-views 10 Software Computation.

Result of Ramsey Reset linearity test in Table 8 indicates that P-value (0.4673) exceeded 0.05, at a significance level of 5%, thereby implying that functional form of the model is well specified.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

Results from the ARDL model revealed that an increase in government capital expenditure on internal security led to significant rise in Nigeria's Real Gross Domestic Product both in the short-run and long-run. On the other hand, an increase in government recurrent expenditure on internal security led to significant fall in Nigeria's Real Gross Domestic Product in the short-run but a significant rise in Nigeria's Real Gross Domestic Product in the long-run. Additionally, the coefficient of determination showed that approximately 54.9% of the change in Nigeria's Real Gross Domestic Product was accounted for by the variations in government capital expenditure on internal security and government recurrent expenditure on internal security. Furthermore, Durbin-Watson Statistic value suggested the model is devoid of autocorrelation. The study therefore concludes that government capital expenditure on internal security has positive as well as significant impact on Nigerian economy both in the short-run and long-run, while government recurrent expenditure on internal security has negative as well as significant impact on Nigerian economy in the short-run but a positive and significant impact on Nigerian economy in the long-run. In order to effectively improve the security situation and promote sustainable growth of the Nigerian economy through internal security expenditure, the following recommendations are proposed:

a. The federal government should procure more security hardware for the internal security agencies in Nigeria in order to adequately equip them. This would improve their effectiveness in combating insecurity in the country.

b. The federal government should also take drastic measures to ensure the judicious utilization of the funds allocated for recurrent internal security expenditure through effective monitoring and auditing of the funds. This would boost the morale of the internal security personnel and enhance their effectiveness in curtailing insecurity in Nigeria. By so doing, internal security expenditure would generally be effectively utilized which would ultimately improve the security situation in the country, stabilize the business environment, enhance investors' confidence, increase productivity and promote sustainable growth of the Nigerian economy in the long-run.

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