



Military Spending of the Countries

For Prelims: Highlights of the Report

For Mains: Need for Military Spending and associated Concerns

Why in News?

According to the latest data published by [Stockholm International Peace Research Institute \(SIPRI\)](#), world military spending continued to grow in 2021, **reaching an all-time high of USD 2.1 trillion** despite the economic fallout of the [pandemic](#).

- As a result of a sharp economic recovery in 2021, the global military burden—world military expenditure as a share of world [Gross Domestic Product \(GDP\)](#)—fell by 0.1 percentage points, from 2.3% in 2020 to 2.2% in 2021.

What is SIPRI?

- The SIPRI is an **independent international institute** dedicated to research into conflict, armaments, arms control and disarmament.
- It was **established in 1966 in Stockholm (Sweden)**

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WORLD MILITARY EXPENDITURE, BY REGION, 1988-2021



What is the Scenario of the World?

▪ Top Spenders:

- The **five largest spenders in 2021** were the US, China, India, the UK and Russia.
- They accounted together for **62% of expenditure** and the **US and China alone accounted for 52%**.

▪ Asia and Oceania:

- The military spending in **Asia and Oceania totaled USD586 billion in 2021**.
 - Spending in the region was **3.5% higher than in 2020**, continuing an uninterrupted upward trend **dating back to at least 1989**.
 - The increase in 2021 was **due primarily to growth in Chinese and Indian military spending**.
 - Together, **the two countries accounted for 63% of total military expenditure** in the region in 2021.

▪ Increased Spending in Russia:

- Russia increased its **military expenditure by 2.9% in 2021**, to USD65.9 billion, at a time when it was building up its forces along the Ukrainian border.

▪ NATO Members Spending:

- **Eight European [North Atlantic Treaty Organization \(NATO\)](#) members** reached the Alliance's target of spending 2% or more of GDP on their armed forces in 2021.
 - This is **one fewer than in 2020** but up from two in 2014.

What are the Highlights about India?

- India's military spending of **USD76.6 billion ranked third highest in the world.**
 - This was up by **0.9% from 2020 and by 33% from 2012.**
- Amid **ongoing tensions and [border disputes](#) with China and Pakistan** that occasionally spill over into armed clashes, India has **prioritized the modernization of its armed forces and self-reliance** in arms production.
- In a drive to strengthen the indigenous arms industry, **64% of capital outlays in the 2021 Indian military budget were earmarked** for acquisitions of domestically produced arms.

[Source: TH](#)

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