



SIPRI Yearbook 2022

For Prelims: Highlights of the Report

For Mains: Need for Military Spending and associated Concerns

Why in News?

Recently, the [Stockholm International Peace Research Institute \(SIPRI\)](#) launched the findings of SIPRI Yearbook 2022, which assesses the current state of armaments, disarmament and international security.



What is SIPRI?

- The SIPRI is an **independent international institute** dedicated to research into conflict, armaments, arms control and disarmament.
- **Established in 1966 at Stockholm**, SIPRI provides data, analysis and recommendations, based on open sources, to policymakers, researchers, media and the interested public.

What are the Key Highlights?

- **Nuclear warheads:**
 - **Global Scenario:**

- The nine nuclear-armed states—the **United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, China, India, Pakistan, Israel and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (North Korea)**—continue to modernize their nuclear arsenals and **although the total number of nuclear weapons declined slightly between January 2021 and January 2022**, the number will **probably increase in the next decade**.
- **India**
 - India had **160 nuclear warheads** as of January 2022 and it appears to be expanding its nuclear arsenal.
 - Nuclear warheads are the explosive head of a missile or torpedo that uses nuclear energy.
 - India’s nuclear stockpile increased from 156 in January 2021 to 160 in January 2022.
- **China**
 - **China** had **350 nuclear warheads** in January 2021 as well as January 2022.
 - India does not share official data on its nuclear arsenal.
- **Russia and the USA** together possess over **90%** of all nuclear weapons.
- **Importers of Major Arms:**
 - SIPRI identified 164 states as importers of major arms in 2016-20.
 - **Country Wise:**
 - The five largest arms importers were **Saudi Arabia, India, Egypt, Australia and China**, which together accounted for 36% of total arms imports.
 - **Region wise:**
 - The region that received the largest volume of major arms supplies in 2016-20 was Asia and Oceania, accounting for 42% of the global total, followed by the Middle East, which received 33%.
- **Suppliers of Major Arms:**
 - The five largest suppliers in 2016-20 - the **United States, Russia, France, Germany and China** - accounted for 76% of the total volume of exports of major arms.

What are the Several Landmarks in the Nuclear Diplomacy?

- **Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW):**
 - After receiving the required 50 ratifications, the [Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons \(TPNW\)](#) entered into force in January 2021.
- **[New START:](#)**
 - US-Russian arms control agreement New START was extended for five years.
- **[Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action \(JCPOA\):](#)**
 - The start of talks on the USA rejoining, and Iran returning to compliance with the Iran nuclear deal, the **Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA)**.
- **[Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons:](#)**
 - Nuclear-armed permanent members (P5) of the [United Nations Security Council](#) reaffirmed their commitment to complying with non-proliferation, disarmament, and arms control agreements and pledges as well as their obligations under the 1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

What are the Hindrances in Nuclear Diplomacy?

- All P5 members **continue to expand or modernize their nuclear arsenals** and appear to be increasing the salience of nuclear weapons in their military strategies.
- Russia has **even made open threats** about possible nuclear weapon use in the context of the war in Ukraine.
- **Bilateral Russia-USA strategic stability talks have stalled because of the war**, and none of the other nuclear-armed states are pursuing arms control negotiations.
- Moreover, the **P5 members of UNSC have voiced opposition to the TPNW**, and the JCPOA negotiations have not yet reached a resolution.

Source: TH

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