

SIPRI report 2023

April 25, 2023

In news— Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) published a report on global military expenditure recently.

Key highlights-

- Total global military expenditure increased by 3.7 per cent in real terms in 2022, to reach a new high of \$2240 billion.
- The five biggest spenders in 2022 were the United States, China, Russia, India and Saudi Arabia, which together accounted for 63 per cent of world military spending.
- Military expenditure in Europe saw its steepest year-on-year increase in at least 30 years.
- The three largest spenders in 2022—the United States, China and Russia—accounted for 56 per cent of the world total
- **Russia's invasion of Ukraine was a major driver** of the growth in spending last year.
- China continues to spend more on defence than India. In 2022, China's military spending reached \$292 billion.

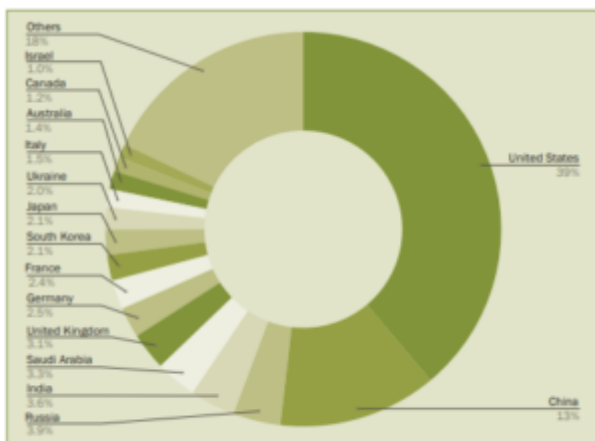


Figure 2. The share of world military expenditure of the 15 countries with the highest spending in 2022

Status of India-

- **India** was the **fourth biggest military spender**(spending of \$81.4 billion) **in the world in 2022 after the United States, China and Russia.**
- India's spending was 6% more than in 2021 and up by 47% from 2013.
- India's expenditure on equipment upgrades for the armed forces and strengthening military infrastructure along its disputed border with China accounted for 23% of its total military spending in 2022,
- The report mentioned that **salaries and pensions remained the largest expenditure category in the Indian military budget,** and accounted for **around half of all military spending.**
- In February 2023, India set aside Rs. 5.93 lakh crore for defence spending in this year's budget, including a capital outlay of Rs.1.62 lakh crore for the military's modernisation, with the allocation almost 12% higher than that in last year's budget estimates, and about 2% more compared to that in the revised estimates for 2022-23.
- The budget also includes a revenue expenditure of Rs.2.7 lakh crore and a pension outlay of Rs. 1.38 lakh crore.
- 2023 defence budget accounts for 2% of the country's projected gross domestic product (GDP) for 2023-24.
- **India's arms imports fell 11% between 2013-17 and 2018-22** but the country is still the world's top importer of military hardware.
- **Also, India's share of the global arms imports was the highest during the last five years at 11%, followed by Saudi Arabia** (9.6%), Qatar (6.4%), Australia (4.7%) and China (4.7%).

India has taken a raft of measures over the last four to five years to boost self-reliance in defence.

These include creating a separate budget for buying locally made military hardware, increasing foreign direct investment

(FDI) from 49% to 74%, and notifying hundreds of weapons and systems that cannot be imported and are planned to be indigenised over the next five to six years.

About Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) -

- Established in 1966, SIPRI provides data, analysis and recommendations, based on open sources, to policymakers, researchers, media and the interested public.
- Based in Stockholm, Sweden, SIPRI is regularly ranked among the most respected think tanks worldwide.
- SIPRI's organizational purpose is to conduct scientific research in issues on conflict and cooperation of importance for international peace and security, with the goal of contributing to an understanding for the conditions for a peaceful solution of international conflicts and sustainable peace.