

SIPRI yearbook, 2021

June 16, 2021

In news- The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) launched the findings of SIPRI Yearbook 2021.

About the yearbook, 2021-

- It assesses the **current state of armaments, disarmament and international security**.
- A key finding is that despite an **overall decrease in the number of nuclear warheads** in 2020, more have been deployed with operational forces.
- The **nine nuclear-armed states** are the *United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, China, India, Pakistan, Israel and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea)*.
- These states together possessed an estimated **13,080 nuclear weapons at the start of 2021**.
- This marked a decrease from the 13,400 that SIPRI estimated these states possessed at the beginning of 2020.
- However, the estimated **number of nuclear weapons** currently deployed with operational forces **increased** to 3825, from 3720 last year.
- Russia and the USA together possess over 90 percent of global nuclear weapons.
- Russia increased its overall military nuclear stockpile by around 180 warheads, mainly due to deployment of more multi-warhead land-based **intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) and sea-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs)**.
- Both countries' deployed strategic nuclear forces remained within the limits set by the 2010 Treaty on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (**New START treaty**), although the treaty does not limit total nuclear warhead

inventories.

- All the other seven nuclear-armed states are also either developing or deploying new weapon systems.
- The **UK's 'Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy'** (published in early 2021), reversed a policy of reducing the country's nuclear arsenal and raised its planned ceiling for nuclear weapons from 180 to 260.
- North Korea continues to enhance its military nuclear programme as a central element of its national security strategy.
- While it conducted no nuclear test explosions or long-range ballistic missile tests during 2020, it continued production of fissile material and development of short- and long-range ballistic missiles.

More information- [Arms trade report – JournalsOfIndia](#)