SIPRI Report 2025

Prelims: Current events of National Importance

Why in new?

Recently the SIRPI Yearbook was release which is a comprehensive resource on world armaments and global security.

- **SIPRI –** Stockholm International Peace Research Institute
- **Established** – 19b66
- **Headquarters** – Stockholm, Sweden
- It provides data, analysis, and recommendations on armed conflict, military expenditure, arms trade, disarmament, and nuclear forces.

Key Global Findings (2025 Yearbook)

- **Global Nuclear Arsenal –** Total **global nuclear warheads** is approximately 12,121 (including retired stock).
- **Countries with nuclear weapons –** 9 countries (USA, Russia, UK, France, China, India, Pakistan, Israel, North Korea).
- Russia & USA hold over 90% of global nuclear weapons.
- Russia - 5,459 warheads
- USA - 5,177 warheads
- **Deployment trends –** Many countries are **modernising** their nuclear arsenals.
- **Dual-capable missiles** (conventional + nuclear) being developed or upgraded by Russia, China, India, Pakistan, North Korea.
- **MIRV Capability –** MIRV means Multiple Independently Targetable Reentry Vehicles that allows a missile to carry several warheads.
- It is already deployed by USA, Russia, UK, France, China
- It is in development in India, Pakistan, North Korea.

India-Specific findings

- **Nuclear warhead count –** India has **180 nuclear warheads** (as of January 2025)
  - Pakistan - 170
  - China - 600
- **Expansion & modernisation –** India slightly **expanded its nuclear arsenal** in 2024.
- It continued to focus on developing new types of nuclear delivery systems.
- **Canisterised missiles –** India is developing canister-based missiles which,
  - Allow quick deployment.
  - Likely to carry multiple warheads in the future.
  - May shift India toward peacetime warhead-missile mating.

- **Mature nuclear triad –** India possesses a nuclear triad,
  - Air-based – Fighter aircraft
  - Land-based – Ballistic missiles
  - Sea-based – Nuclear submarines (SSBNs)
- **Strategic posture –** India's nuclear policy primarily aimed at Pakistan, but growing emphasis on long-range deterrence against China.
- Increase in submarine patrols and operational readiness.
- India is increasingly seen as a **responsible nuclear power**, yet rapidly adapting to a **changing threat environment**.

Reference

The Indian Express| SIPRI report

