



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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India – second largest arms importer after Ukraine in 2020-25, says SIPRI

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Context

Ukraine, involved in a war with Russia for the past four years, became the **largest importer of major arms in the world during the period between 2020 and 2024**, clocking a nearly **100-fold rise in imports compared with the figures for 2015–2019**.

India was the **second-largest arms importer**, though the trade figures **decreased by 9.3% between 2015-19 and 2020-24**, show data from the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

India was the biggest arms export destination for both **Russia and France**, though the **volume with Russia has significantly reduced**.

The **largest share of Indian arms imports (36%) came from Russia**, a significantly smaller share than in 2015-19 (55%) and 2010-14 (72%), the report noted.

Arms imports by Pakistan grew by 61% between 2015-19 and 2020-24. **China** became even more dominant as its supplier, accounting for 81% of Pakistan's arms imports in 2020-24, compared with 74% in 2015–19

Both **Russia and France's major export destination was India**

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)

SIPRI is an independent international institute dedicated to research into **conflict, armaments, arms control and disarmament**.

HQ: Solna (Sweden)

Established in 1966, SIPRI provides data, analysis and recommendations, based on open sources, to policymakers, researchers, media and the interested public.

Status of Arms imports in 2020-24 compared to 2015-19

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In arms

Ukraine's arms imports were up nearly 100 times in 2020–24 compared with 2015–19, making it the world's largest importer of major arms

