

India's defence exports top ₹13,000 crore in 2021-22

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India exported defence items and technology worth a record ₹13,000 crore in 2021-22, an impressive 54.1 per cent increase over the previous year, a top defence ministry official said on Friday.

The country's defence exports are chiefly to the US, the Philippines and other countries in the South-East Asia, the Middle-East and Africa. "In 2021-22, we have recorded ₹13,000 crore of exports which is the highest ever exports number that we have recorded in defence," Sanjay Jaju, Additional Secretary in the Department of Defence Production (DDP), told a media briefing.

The exports in 2021-22 were almost eight times of what they were about five years back, he added.

India's defence exports

were worth ₹8,434 crore in 2020-21, ₹9,115 crore in 2019-20 and ₹2,059 crore in 2015-16.

"There has been good progress. Of course, two years of Covid-19 was a bit of a setback. But this year, we have been able to record this number (of ₹13,000 crore)," he noted.

Reward for best performers

At an event titled "*Artificial Intelligence in Defence*" on Monday, the defence ministry will reward a private sector organisation and another from the public sector that performed the best in defence exports, he said.

Generally, he said, private sector companies dominate the defence exports market with a share of almost 90 per cent. Last year, public sector companies also did well contributing 30 per cent to the country's defence exports, he added.