

**THE ARMED FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN IN  
21 CENTURY**

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**Abstract:** *The Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan is the name of the unified armed forces of Uzbekistan, consisting of the Ground Force and the Air and Air Defence forces under the defence ministry. Paramilitary units include the National Guard and a Frontier Service and a River Service. It is reported to be the largest and the strongest in Central Asia. This article will provide recent improvements about The army of Uzbekistan.*

**Key words:** *Supreme Commander, global firepower, self-propelled artillery units, rocket launchers.*

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Shavkat Mirziyoyev), Supreme Commander – In -Chief of the Armed Forces. In modern technological world, military is also developing in every country. Thus, If we have a look new information on the field of The Army of Uzbekistan, there are many changes to count.

Uzbekistan ranks 65th out of 145 in the ranking of the strongest armies in the world (2024 Military Strength Ranking) according to Global Firepower.

Compared to 2023, the country dropped by three positions – from 62nd to 65th place. Global Firepower estimates Uzbekistan’s defense budget at US\$796.8

million. The number of military personnel is 68 thousand, and 48 thousand in service. In this ranking, Kazakhstan ranks 58th, Turkmenistan - 83rd, Kyrgyzstan - 100th and Tajikistan - 107th. The USA, Russia and China occupy the first three places in the ranking.

According to Global Firepower, the total number of human resources available for service in Uzbekistan is 13.5 million people. Every year, the number of potential recruits is replenished by 622 thousand people. Currently, 65 thousand people serve in the Armed Forces of Uzbekistan. The total number of aircraft in the Uzbek Air Force is 197: 58 fighters, 20 attack aircraft, 13 military transport aircraft, 7 training aircraft, as well as 99 helicopters and 33 military helicopters. Uzbekistan also uses 420 tanks, 197 self-propelled artillery units and 143 multiple rocket launchers. On January 11, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Shavkat Mirziyoyev visited the production cluster of the Defense Industry Agency located in Tashkent region.

On the initiative and under the leadership of the Head of our state, a number of measures are being implemented to reform and comprehensively modernize the national Armed Forces, gradually transforming them into a new army that fully meets modern requirements and serves as a guarantee of state independence and sovereignty, a pledge of security and prosperity for the people of New Uzbekistan.

In recent years, a number of training facilities with the necessary infrastructure have been built to improve the effectiveness and quality of operational and combat training of troops and to create modern conditions for enhancing their combat skills. This work is continuing.

Along with this, a priority is being given to modernizing and increasing the potential of the national defense industry, which is rising to a new level. To this end, in January last year the President instructed that the Defense Industry Agency be transferred to the Ministry of Defense and that the necessary measures be taken to develop its activities. The Agency has launched systematic work on mastering

the production of in-demand military-technical products, acquiring and supplying troops with modern military equipment, and modernizing existing weapons.

During today's visit, the President was briefed in detail on the measures taken and further plans to increase the production potential and strengthen the material and technical base of the Defence Industry Agency.

In accordance with the instructions of the Head of State, large-scale construction, overhaul and reconstruction of existing facilities have been carried out in a short period of time on the basis of several technical departments of the Ministry of Defence. The Ministry of Defence's Equipment Repair Plant and Central Automobile Equipment Storage Base have been relocated to the cluster area.

The enterprises located on the territory of the new cluster were integrated and a network of interconnected repair facilities was created. They carry out works on repair and modernization of weapons and military equipment, radar equipment, optical and electro-optical equipment, repair of guns and artillery, and precision metalworking. Having inspected the work of the facilities, the Head of State stressed the need to introduce advanced technologies in this area on a large scale, to create new jobs, and also gave instructions for further improvement of the activities of the facilities. In order to fulfil the tasks of wide introduction of green technologies in industry, including defence, and to save electricity, solar panels have been installed on the territory of the cluster companies. As a result, the majority of the production needs for electricity can be met from alternative sources.

In addition, the head of state was presented with modernized military equipment and weapons, the repair and modernization of which was carried out in the capacities of the new cluster of the Defense Industry Agency.

During the demonstration of products of the Defense Industry enterprises, the Head of State was shown in action a number of special equipment and devices of the "Soldier of the Future" group complex. This complex was developed by national specialists and its characteristics are not inferior to those of analogues

produced by the world's leading manufacturers. During his visit, the Supreme Commander-in-Chief also launched the enterprise's activity on the production of new types of military products. He underlined the need to ensure the high quality of products and improve the qualifications of engineers and specialists.

At the end of the meeting, the President set specific tasks for the responsible officials to further expand the production capacities of the defense industry enterprises.

Overall, This article mentioned the Armed Forces of the Republic of Uzbekistan, highlighting recent improvements and developments in the military sector. It notes the ranking of Uzbekistan's army in the Global Firepower index, the defense budget, number of military personnel, and the equipment and resources available to the Uzbek Armed Forces. It also discusses the initiatives taken by President Shavkat Mirziyoyev to modernize and strengthen the national defense industry, as well as the efforts to enhance training facilities and combat skills of the troops. The transfer of the Defense Industry Agency to the Ministry of Defense and the focus on developing military-technical products and modernizing weaponry are also mentioned.

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