



Army Vehicle Fired Upon in J&K

Why in News?

On 26 February 2025, suspected [militants](#) opened fire on an Army vehicle in [the Pir Panjal Valley](#) 's **Sunderbani sector in Rajouri district**. Security forces launched a search operation after the attack in the forest range.

Key Points

- **Firing Incident:**
 - Preliminary reports indicated a **brief exchange of fire at Phal village** in the Sunderbani sector of Nowshera.
 - Gunshots were heard from a nearby forest area as an Army vehicle moved through the region.
- **No Casualties Reported:**
 - Officials confirmed that the incident did not result in any casualties.
 - The firing occurred near [the Line of Control \(LoC\)](#).
- **Security Response and Search Operation:**
 - Security forces launched a massive **cordon and search operation (CASO)** in the nearby pockets of Phal village.
 - Rajouri district has previously witnessed infiltration incidents along the LoC.

Line of Control



- The Line of Control (LoC) **emerged from the 1948 ceasefire line negotiated by the [United Nations \(UN\)](#)** after the Kashmir War.
- It was designated as the LoC in 1972, **following the Shimla Agreement** between the two countries.
- LoC is **demarcated up to the Siachen Glacier (Point NJ9842)**- the world's highest battlefield.
- LoC is delineated on a map signed by the Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of both armies and has the international sanctity of a legal agreement.

Pir Panjal

- **About:**
 - The Pir Panjal Range is a **mountain range in the northern Indian subcontinent**.
 - It **begins in Ramban** and **extends westward**, lying south of **Jammu and Kashmir's Vale of Kashmir**, reaching Muzaffarabad District.
 - The range rises sharply to an **average elevation of over 13,000 feet (4,000 meters)**.
 - It **separates the Jammu Hills** in the south from the Vale of Kashmir, beyond which lie [the Great Himalayas](#).
 - The range separates from the Himalayas near the banks of [the Sutlej River](#).
 - It forms a natural divide between [the Beas](#) and [Ravi rivers](#) on one side and the [Chenab River](#) on the other.
- **Major Passes:**
 - The range has **six historical passes**, Hajipir Pass, Gulabgarh Pass, Ratanpir Pass, Pir Panjal Pass, Banihal Pass, Bairam Gala Pass.
- **Important Peaks:**
 - **Deo Tibba (6,001 m) and Indrasan (6,221 m)** are two significant peaks at the eastern end of the range