



Rise in Militancy in Jammu

Why in News?

The Jammu region of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) has witnessed a [notable increase in militant attacks](#) since mid-2021, culminating in recent incidents including the ambush on Army vehicles in Kathua district and targeted strikes in other areas

Key Points

- **Reasons for Rise in Militancy in Jammu:**
 - **Strategic Shift:** The pursuance of zero terror policy in Kashmir have provided militants to an opportunity to operate in Jammu.
 - In 2020, perceived low militancy in Jammu led to troop movements to Ladakh (along [LAC](#) after the [Galwan Accident](#)), potentially prompting militants to relocate.
- **Strategic Importance of Jammu:** Jammu serves as a crucial gateway to the rest of India, making it an attractive target for militants aiming to disrupt normalcy and create fear.
- **Geostrategic Considerations:** The proximity to the Line of Control (LoC) provides militants easier access from [Pakistan-occupied Kashmir](#), facilitating infiltration and logistics support.
- **Economic Disparities:** Lack of economic opportunity and development in remote and border areas of Jammu create fertile ground for recruitment of local youths by militant groups.
- **Lack of Human Intelligence:** The locals who provided information decades ago are now in their 60s or 70s, and the security forces have not nurtured relations with younger generations, highlighting a gap in human intelligence gathering.

Note:

- **Terrorism:** Terrorism under the [Unlawful Activities \(Prevention\) Amendment Act, 2012](#), involves using violence or threats to create fear for political, ideological, or extremist aims, impacting national or global security.
- **Militancy:** Militancy refers to a readiness to use violence or combativeness, encompassing various groups or **individuals including armed religious factions**, often used interchangeably with terrorism but suggesting a potentially less extreme level of violent expression compared to terrorism.