



Exchange of Fire on Line of Control (LoC)

Why in News?

Recently, an exchange of fire erupted on [the Line of Control \(LoC\)](#) in [the Pir Panjal Valley's](#) Poonch. Authorities reported no casualties in the incident.

Key Points

- **Ceasefire Violations and Militant Infiltrations:**
 - Despite the [ceasefire renewal in 2020](#), the Jammu region has witnessed frequent firing incidents, including close to the LoC. Several incidents involved infiltrating militants.
 - In February 2025, an [IED explosion](#) killed two Army personnel. In a separate cross-border firing incident, two soldiers sustained injuries in a ceasefire violation.
 - Indian troops retaliated effectively, inflicting "heavy casualties" on the Pakistani side.
- **Status of Ceasefire Agreement:**
 - Ceasefire violations along the J&K borders have significantly reduced since India and Pakistan reaffirmed the ceasefire agreement on 25th February 2021.

Line of Control

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- 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

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