

## Indian, Pakistani military officers on hotline after truce violation

In the first violation of a truce agreement in force since 2003, Pakistani troops opened fire on Indian positions on the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir, prompting senior officers of the two armies to speak on the hotline Wednesday to resolve the imbroglio.

The director general of military operations (DGMO), Lt. Gen. A.S. Sekhon, spoke on the hotline to his Pakistani counterpart, Maj. Gen. A.S. Pasha at 3 p.m., an Indian Army officer said in New Delhi.

'It was also decided to hold a flag meeting as soon as possible. The modalities for this are being worked out,' he added.

According to the officer, this was the first time that firing along the LoC was being classified as a truce violation.

'In the past too, Pakistani troops have opened fire in support of infiltrators who were trying to sneak across. The fire was returned from our side.

'This time, there was no infiltration involved and our troops did not return fire. Therefore, we have classified it as a truce violation. We hope this will not recur,' the officer said.

The DGMOs normally speak on the hotline once a week on Tuesdays.

President Pratibha Patil is scheduled to visit the LoC May 23 and as of now there is no change in these plans, the officer said.

Indian Army spokesman Lt. Col. A.K. Mathur said in [Srinagar](#) the incident took place in the Tangdhar sector of the LoC in north Kashmir Tuesday night.

'Pakistani troops resorted to unprovoked firing at our posts,' he said.

'They fired scores of rounds. However, we did not retaliate,' Mathur added.

There were no casualties on the Indian side.

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