

## Six Jaish militants killed in Kashmir gunbattle

Six militants of the Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM) outfit, including two local commanders, were killed by security forces in Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir Saturday, police said.

A paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) patrol party was fired upon by the militants in Lurem Jagir forest near Tral town in south Kashmir, about 50 km from here. The security forces opened fire in retaliation.

'Six militants belonging to the Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM) group were killed in the fierce gun battle that started after the terrorists refused to lay down their weapons,' a police official told IANS.

The area was later cordoned off and 42 Rashtriya Rifles, CRPF and the special operations group of the local police launched a joint operation.

'The security forces suffered no casualties,' the police official added.

The police identified two of the slain guerrillas as JeM commanders, Javed Ahmed Lone, alias Arsalan, and Wasim Hasan Ahangar alias Qari Asif.

The other four are Pakistani nationals, the police said.

Police claimed it was a major success in their anti-militancy operations in the state. They recovered four AK 56 rifles, two AK 47 rifles, 21 magazines, four wireless sets, 10 mobile phones, Rs.32,000 and six grenades - two Pakistani-made and four of Chinese make from the militants.

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