

India fires three officers for accidentally launching missile into Pakistan

Story by Reuters

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2022_India%E2%80%93Pakistan_missile_incident

Updated 0358 GMT (1158 HKT) August 24, 2022



The BrahMos cruise missile was developed as a joint venture between India and Russia.

New Delhi The Indian Air Force said on Tuesday the government had sacked three officers for [accidentally firing a missile into Pakistan](#) in March, an incident that the two nuclear-armed rivals handled calmly as there were no casualties.

Military experts have in the past warned of the risk of accidents or miscalculations by the neighbors, which have fought three wars and

engaged in numerous smaller armed clashes, usually over the disputed territory of Kashmir.

The BrahMos missile -- a nuclear-capable, land-attack cruise missile jointly developed by [Russia](#) and India -- was fired on March 9, prompting [Pakistan](#) to seek answers from New Delhi on the safety mechanisms in place to prevent accidental launches.

"A Court of Inquiry, set up to establish the facts of the case, including fixing responsibility for the incident, found that deviation from the standard operating procedures by three officers led to the accidental firing of the missile," the air force said in a statement.

- It said the government had dismissed the three officers with immediate effect on Tuesday.

According to the US-based Arms Control Association, the BrahMos missile's range is between 300 kilometers (186 miles) and 500 kilometers (310 miles), making it capable of hitting Pakistan's capital Islamabad from a northern Indian launch pad.

Pakistan rejects India's closure of missile firing incident into its territory

Story by Reuters

Updated 0342 GMT (1142 HKT) August 25, 2022



Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi.

Karachi, Pakistan Pakistan rejected India's closure of the incident of the firing of a supersonic missile into Pakistani territory on March 9, and reiterated its demand for a joint probe, according to a statement Wednesday from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Indian Air Force on Tuesday said at the end of its inquiry that the government had sacked three officers for accidentally firing a missile into Pakistan in March, an incident that the two nuclear-armed rivals handled calmly as there were no casualties.

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"Pakistan categorically rejects India's purported closure of the highly irresponsible incident and reiterates its demand for a joint probe," a Foreign Ministry statement said.

- The measures taken by India in the aftermath of the incident and the subsequent findings and punishments handed by the so-called internal court of inquiry are totally unsatisfactory, deficient and inadequate, it added.

"India has not only failed to respond to Pakistan's demand for a joint inquiry but has also evaded the questions raised by Pakistan regarding the command-and-control system in place in India, the safety and security protocols and the reason for India's delayed admission of the missile launch," the Foreign Ministry statement said.

- The Indian Air Force said in a statement on Tuesday: "A Court of Inquiry, set up to establish the facts of the case, including fixing responsibility for the incident, found that deviation from the Standard Operating Procedures by three officers led to the accidental firing of the missile."

- It added the government had dismissed the three officers with immediate effect on Tuesday.