MILITANTS FLEE AFTER FIRING ON ARMY IN SHOPIAN

ESS AHMAD . Dated: 3/27/2018 8:20:10 AM

Youth clash with security forces during search operation in Pulwama village

ANANTNAG, Mar 27: Militants on Monday opened fire on army patrol in Kachdora village of southern Shopian district. After attacking the army patrol, the militants, however, managed to flee from the spot.

Official sources said that a group of militants resorted to firing on the army patrol of 34 RR near BSNL tower in the village. The army men after coming under the attack retaliated the fire and immediately laid cordon around the area and even surrounded the nearby orchards. However, sources said, the army men failed to locate the militants who had managed to flee from the spit.

A top police official confirmed the attack on an army patrol.

"Yes, the militants fired some bullets towards the army patrol. But as the army personnel retaliated and laid a siege around the area, militants had fled," a top police official said.

Local sources said that the search operation in the area was going on till late afternoon.

Meanwhile, clashes erupted in Bellow village of the neighboring Pulwama district

during the cordon and search operation launched by the forces in the evening.

Local sources said that joint team of army, Special Operations Group (SOG) of police and CRPF laid a siege to the village following inputs about the presence of militants there.

As soon as the cordon was laid and searches started, local sources said, groups of youth came out of their houses and clashed with forces by pelting them with stones in an attempt to disrupt the operation. The security forces, they said, resorted to tear-smoke shelling to drive away the youth. The relentless youth, however, continued to pelt stones at security forces. Officials, however, said that the security forces carried out searches despite the stone pelting.

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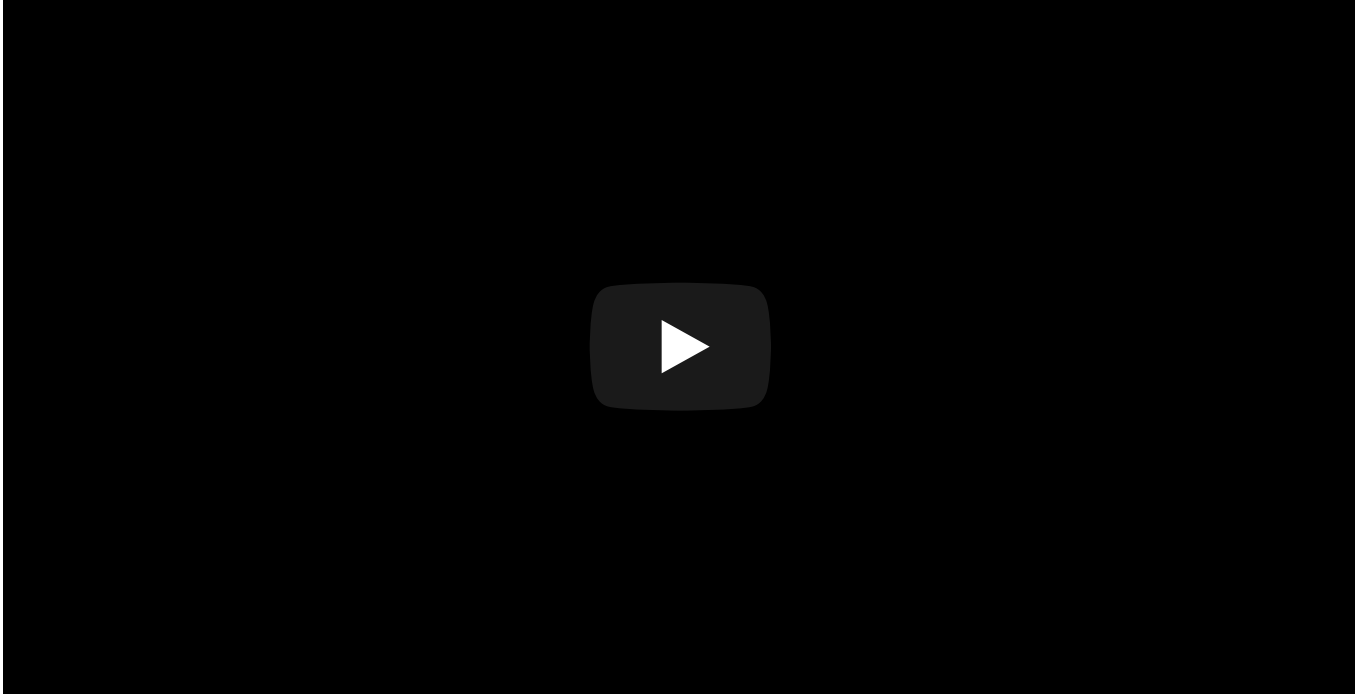

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