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ARMY FIRING IN AIR NEAR IUST AFTER STUDENTS 'PELT' STONES

ESS AHMAD. Dated: 4/27/2018 10:32:20 AM

ANANTNAG, Apr 26: Army on Thursday resorted to aerial firing near Islamic University of Science And Technolo creating panic and chaos in the campus. Police stated that the army fired warning shots after some students pe them with stones. The university authorities rebutted the police claims and maintained that the students threw s only after the security forces fired tear-smoke shells inside the campus.

Police sources said that a group of students pelted stones at the army men who were repairing telephone lines the campus. "The army men, after facing stones from some students, fired in air," said a police official.

Some reports quoting SP Awantipora also said that the army resorted to aerial firing after being pelted with ston However, university authorities refuted the police claims saying that 'there was no provocation from students'.

Vice chancellor of the varsity, Professor Mushtaq Sadiq said that there were some gunshots outside the campus created panic among the students and staff.

"After the gunshots were heard, students who were in classes came out to learn what had happened. However, chased them, bursting tear-smoke shells. Several tear-smoke shells landed inside the campus causing more pa suffocation among some girl students," the vice chancellor said.

He said that students clashed with security forces in reaction to shelling on them by the latter. "All students were classes when there were gunshots. So there is no reality in reports of students pelting stones on army men," VC

After the action by army personnel, varsity sources said, the students assembled in the campus and held peace protests against what they termed 'highhandedness by security forces'.

They said that the students were raising pro-freedom and anti-army slogans. The varsity authorities later pacifie protesting students.

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