Many mass graves found in Pabna

PABNA, Feb. 6:—Horrifying signs of barbarism of Pakistani Army have been revealed at Pabna after several mass graves were found inside WAPDA power office compound reports BSS.

The site had been serving as occupation Pak Army headquarters in Pabna district. Another place of such crimes is Baleahalot area, one and half miles from Pabna town. The graves probed that more than thousand civilians were slaughtered by Pakistan Army. Skulls and skeletons of victims were huddled in the mass graves. There are graves which indicate that many people were killed just before the Pakistan Army surrendered. Decaying cloth, shoes and hair littered these places, and a stinking smell filled the area.

Bhanulal Jamadar, a sweeper of WAPDA, who had to dig some of these graves under coercion, tearfully narrated how cruelly the men living in these graves were dealt with.

Bhanulal led newsmen to a grave which was dug open. There were sixteen bodies in it. Bhanulal showed a two-storeyed building with several rooms. The glass panes of the windows of several rooms were painted deep black. This building was used as a torture cell and two rooms here were used as slaughter rooms. The slaughter rooms were bloodstained. Bhanulal said that the persons tortured here included women children and suspected guerillas.

Mr. Abdul Hakim, ADC who is in-charge of this district at present, Mr. Abdur Rob Boga Mia, MCA, present at the time of digging opened the mass graves.

This morning when digging the graves open started under the supervision of Mr. Yakub Ali a magistrate, about one thousand skulls and skeletons of the victims of Pakistan Army were unearthed from several graves.

In one grave bodies of sixty persons were found along with clothes, shoes and rope. One big arched sword for slaughtering was seen near the graves.

Mokbul Hossain, an employee of WAPDA power office who was holding his office inside Pak Army Headquarters and who is an inhabitant of Baleahalot area, said that he had seen many people being killed by Pak Army in the WAPDA compound. Rehman Ali of Kumargari village, a peasant of that area said that several times he was forcibly picked up by Pakistan Army from the field where he was ploughing land for digging the mass graves. With tears in his eyes he said one day he saw about fifty persons being brought by Pakistan Army to Baleahalot slaughtered and thrown into a ditch nearby.

Another eye-witness, Afsar Ali of Baleahot said, that inhuman atrocities were committed by Pakistani Army in the bamboo clusters of Baleahalot. He also showed some mass graves from which a vast number of bodies were brought out.

Mr. Abdur Rob, MCA, said, that this kind of mass graves would be found at Satobia, Demra and Handial were several thousand persons were killed by Paki Army. Mr. Mahbuddin Ahmed, Secretary Ishwardi Awami League, said today that during the search for hidden arms in loco shed area five decomposed bodies were found in one ditch.