

US news agency says

## Pakistan Army in firm control of towns

ISLAMABAD, Apr 27:—An American news agency, A.P.A. has reported that the so-called Bangla Desh leaders have admitted that it was a mistake to have tried to hold the towns in the face of the Pakistan Army, where most of their armed supporters turned tail at the first crump of an exploding mortar shell, reports A.P.P.

In a Calcutta-dated report circulated yesterday, the agency said that the Pakistan Army was in firm control of all the towns including the provincial capital of Dacca and the port city of Chittagong. The rest of the province, resistance to the Pakistan Armed Forces had also crumbled, it added.

APA also reported that several thousand miscreants had sought refuge in India which has been supplying arms and weapons to them.

# Comilla humming with activity

COMILLA, Apr. 27:—Normalcy prevails in this district town of Comilla where Pakistan army has restored complete peace, writes APP's special correspondent, Shaukat Kamal touring the eastern sector of East Pakistan.

A large number of people who had fled to rural areas and safer places as a result of lawlessness created by miscreants have returned to their homes here.

More of such people are returning each day.

The town starts humming with activity since early morning each day and government offices, business centres and shops are functioning normally. People from nearby villages continue to flock here for their business and activity.

Normal life in this town got a further boost yesterday with the reopening of two cinema houses.

The town's two cinema houses "Dipika" and "Rupali" have

started showing "Angellique" and "Sathi movies" since yesterday and each had two shows.

The attendance in cinema houses was normal and one of the cinema owners told me that he was very happy with the turnout of cine-goers.

The town continues to have regular normal electricity and water supply and telephone exchange and the post offices are functioning as usual. About 90 per cent staff was working in these and other government and semi-government establishments.

Attendance in the famous Comilla rural academy was about 75 per cent and more people are coming in every day.

Three special buses are to ply from Comilla to rural academy, several miles from here, from tomorrow.

The transport facilities continue to improve.

Presently over 20 buses were plying from Comilla to Daud. (Continued on page 6 col. 6)

# Cowilla

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kandi, Laksham, Barura and the river port of Chandpur.

Some buses are also plying between Comilla and Dacca and I met an officer of the Industrial Development Bank of Pakistan here who arrived yesterday from Dacca with his family.

He told me that buses were plying safely between Comilla and the provincial capital, Dacca. River craft are also plying from here to Chittagong, Chandpur, Dacca and Daudkandi with loads of passengers and cargo.

The local population was co-operating with the Martial Law authorities in further normalising the civic life. The local population was also coming forward with information about the miscreants and also apprehending them and handing them over to Pakistan Army. Only yesterday some local people handed over to Martial Law authorities a miscreant whom they had apprehended.

All heads of departments in Comilla are present with their staff and working normally.