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NEWS BRIEFS

Draft Environment Act '94 okayed

The cabinet yesterday approved the Draft Bill of the Protection of Environment Act-1994, an official handout said, reports BSS.

The approval was given at the weekly regular cabinet meeting held last night at Bangabhaban with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in the chair.

Probe body on CHT incident demanded

The Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR) yesterday urged the government to constitute a probe body headed by a Supreme Court Judge to investigate the September 15 killings in Khagrachari district, reports UNB.

Gano Forum public meet today

The Gano Forum will hold a public meeting at Purana Paltan square at 3:00 pm today. Dr Kamal Hossain, president of the forum, and other central leaders of the party will address the meeting, reports UNB.

Ravi Shankar to undergo surgery

MADRAS, Sept 19: Noted sitar maestro, Pandit Ravi Shankar, is to undergo surgery on September 23 to 'repair' a torn muscle in his right shoulder, at a US hospital. The maestro suffered the injury last month, when he slipped and fell in the garden of his California home, according to Editor-in-Chief of 'Sriti'. Dr N Pattabhi Ramam, who quoted a fax message he received from Ravi Shankar's wife, reports PTI.

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PM offers dialogue with Opposition

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday formally offered dialogue with the Opposition towards solution of all issues vexing the nation, reports UNB.

Addressing the nation yesterday evening over radio and



Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia addressing the nation over radio and TV last night on the third anniversary of the restoration of parliamentary democracy. — PID photo

For solution of political impasse Anyaku made specific suggestions

By Staff Correspondent

Commonwealth Secretary General Chief Emeka Anyaku said yesterday that he had placed specific proposals to the ruling party and the Opposition to help find out a solution to the current political impasse in Bangladesh.

"I have put specific proposals to them on how some of



press conference at the state guest house Padma.

The Commonwealth Secretary General declined to disclose the proposals even when newsmen pointed out that unless those were stated publicly, there could be misgivings, once he had left.

Anyaku said he would not divulge the proposals since those might be misunderstood.

Before meeting the press, he met the Awami League chief and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament for the second time. The press conference was delayed by an hour for this.

"It is fair, having put these proposals, to expect that they would need some time for reflections before announcing their positions," he said.

"These would provide a way forward," he hoped.

He assured continued Commonwealth support for establishing a durable democratic structure in Bangladesh.

In reply to a question whether he came here to mediate between the two sides (ruling party and Opposition), Anyaku said, "I came here to consult the leaders of Bangladesh on a variety of subjects of Commonwealth concern and the subjects relating to how Commonwealth can better serve Bangladesh."

The Commonwealth leader said his proposals were completely different from which had been reported in different newspapers.

He, however, declined to

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