don't care, isn't it too much to expect

We are the new backward peo-

They go wherever God will let

limits too. They go wherever they

will be tolerated. You will understand

this if you have seen the vacant

stare of a Bangladeshi with a fake

Pakistani passport who works in the

fishing sector of Karachi as the

immigration officials fluently abuse

him. Seating next to a few of them at

the Karachi airport I too have hated

them. For what they were and for

We haven't provided any evidence

that we care about the poor. We have

not even bothered to let them make a

living in another land. By denying this

We care about portraits and

prefixes to names. We care about

elections populated by a large

number of criminals. But we don't

care when people lose a chance to

have enough to break the cycle of

poverty in the next generation. We

care about what the FEER and

Asian Wall Street Journal says

about us, and the Taliban, which we

only read. But I'm afraid we don't

the People's Republic of Bangla-

desh and Miskins aren't people at

all. Isn't this what is called apart-

heid? How different is the colour of

Afsan Chowdhury is a Senior Assistan

1996 and 2000 offensives agains

An unfree, manipulated, or terror-

ised media is incompatible with

healthy democracy. It can't perform

its legitimate roles: as chronicler as

Hussain.

the skin from the colour of poverty?

But I must remember that this is

care about the poor.

Editor of The Daily Star

MF

what they had become.



DHAKA TUESDAY APRIL 16, 2002

Exchange of greetings a good sign

Build it into a rhythm for early talks

HE Prime Minister Khaleda Zia in a meticulous gesture of goodwill towards Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina sent her gifts and greetings on the Bangla new year's day. The opposition leader, for her part, essentially reciprocated the PM's gesture by appreciating it and sending her own greetings to Begum Zia. She accepted all of the PM's gifts -- bouquet, seasonal fruits and sweets -- but expressed reservations on the saree which she thought was 'a personal gift' she could not accept given the repeal of the portrait act and the 'repression' on minorities and AL workers.

But we must say it was thoughtful and forward-looking on the part of the prime minister to have led the way in breaking the cycle of chill in her equations with her principal political opponent, howsoever modest the initiative might look at the present stage. A greater responsibility lies on her as the government leader to initiate a troubleshooting process, a point we have never tired of stress-

Exchange of greetings between top political leaders on special occasions is considered customary political etiquette elsewhere in the world, but in our country this becomes news! That there are some signs of this tragic aspect of our political culture being set aside is welcome, let alone something more positive that we would like to read into the slowly changing scenario. For instance, only three days before the advent of the Bangla new year, BNP MP from Srinagar upazila Mahi B Chowdhury along with his party supporters raised three ceremonial arches to welcome Leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina on her trip to Munshiganj. Sheikh Hasina in her speech thanked Mahi Chowdhury for his gesture of goodwill adding that Kafiluddin Chowdhury, Mahi's grandfather and the present President's father, had been with the Awami League. So, these are some examples that go to show that the ruling party is keen on opening channels of communication with the opposition in spite of some mixed signals they had otherwise sent to the latter earlier on. Significantly, LGRD Minister and BNP Secretary General Mannan Bhuiyan has been entrusted with the task of communicating with the opposition in a bid to bring them over to the budget session of the parliament. Last month, we saw two overtures made by ruling party to the opposition against the backdrop of tabling the bill to repeal the Bangabandhu portrait law in an attempt to strike a compromise on the highly sensitive issue.

However, from the latest look of things, a process of extending 'velvet gloves' to politics seems to be barely edging out. Let us not spoil it by any inflexible positioning on either side of the fence; instead, we better build on it to bring about a cessation of political hostilities. The ruling party must not fail to give the opposition the space it has denied them so far. The opposition, on the other hand, must abjure the street option and walk into the parliament regarding it as the principal forum to take all their political contentions to.

Powell's peace mission

US should force Sharon to buckle down

UNDAY'S talks between US Secretary of State Collin Powell, now on a mission to broker peace in the Middle East, and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon have led to a predictable outcome. Tel Aviv has made it clear that peace with the Palestinians would only be on its terms and the Israeli forces would leave the occupied territory only when their mission to root out the militants is over. Mr Sharon did talk of a US-led regional peace conference to find peace for the Middle East. He had proposed such a conference beforehand and insisted that Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat should not be any part of it. There was no indication on Sunday that he changed his position on Arafat's participation, which only lent credence to the Palestinian chief negotiator Saeb Erekat's observation that the offer is just a "trick to find a way... to carry on the occupation". After the meeting with Chairman Arafat earlier Sunday, Mr Powell must have had the chance to see for himself the magnitude of Israeli atrocity in Ramallah and other West Bank towns. The Israeli forces have treated the Palestinian leader as a petty criminal since the invasion began on March 29 this year. They have reportedly also killed hundreds of Palestinians at the Jenin refugee camp on the pretext of hunting down the militants. Mr Powell is reported to have stressed his serious concern about the humanitarian situation in parts of the West Bank. Unfortunately, that is the upshot of what the Bush administration has been doing since the Israeli army launched its own brand of war on terrorism. There is no scope for a regional conference without Chairman Arafat, whatever may be Sharon's audacious reservations about it. However, there could be an international peace conference on the Middle East crisis and the US can definitely take the leadership role. But first it must stop looking at the problem from Tel Aviv's point of view.

Are miskins people too?

away. If you aren't rich, you can't even run. You are condemned to stew and crumble here into your graves. Bangladesh is a place where you come to die or after you are dead. When you are alive you live elsewhere

The Letters page is having a debate on whether to stay back or leave. back?' be lost. I don't think anybody who has a chance will come back **AFSAN CHOWDHURY** because after 30 years of concentrated efforts, we have managed to

PRIL is the proverbial cruel

month. Not just for Eliot but

also for everyone who

wishes to see the revival of

spring and promise of harvests. In

this world we certainly don't control

or even understand what harvests

mean. We have simply become

scavengers of happiness. We are

looking for what we have thrown

away in the dustbin of our own

world. This was the Bangla New

features of our efforts stand out.

tist like me to live in Bandladesh."

One is a leading businessman and

the other is into medical research.

One has often defined the nature

and course of the business environ-

how should others feel?

ment here. If he feels overwhelmed

country."

cally want to hide in shame. "Should our sons come The debate is condemned to make Bangladesh a country that is

Daily Star. They are mostly the "Just because you are not rich doesn't mean you are clean. Maybe desperate poor who populate the you couldn't find ways of becoming one. Maybe you failed to become lowest end of the job market anywhere in the world. They are a new rich too." He drinks pallid coffee category of people, "The Miskins" served in a chipped cup and waits They will not stay back but send for my answer. I have none. I basitheir money home and often can't

I am sure we went wrong but where did we go wrong? Nobody talks about this. Everyone does blame the politicians and that's universal. Our leaders failed us and so did the rest. But why did we let them fail us? Didn't we cheer when

despised and denigrated lot anywhere who provide the valuable

make foreign trips as VIPs. For them making a trip abroad is

foreign exchange with which we

even read our paper. Neglected by the national authorities, hounded by the police of their countries of work, they are the most

going to be forced out because the Bangladeshi officials didn't bother to Bangladeshis. They are going to be crushed and some hopes will never

Our leaders and their children

that Malaysia will care? cover the interest of these ordinary ple. Class also defines our migration thrown into jails and then shipped destinations. The rich go to the USA or Canada. The middle class go home. Media will pick up a few sob stories and then the episode will be there too plus to the Middle East to make money and then to the States over. Hopes generated will be to get some extra education and finally settle there or in any nearby flower. Even as I write I feel the silliness of my language, the inadezones where the weather is fine And where does the poor go? quacy of words to express what it means to have no future and no hem go. And God probably has set multiple visas to a western country.

can't understand the meaning of this

one-party rule was established? STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART

Migration is all very nice if you can migrate. There is a huge difference between guest workers and expatriates in the North. While one group doesn't need the country and are basically escaping from Bangladesh, the other

group wants to make some money and come home to Bangladesh. It's really long distance commuting. While we are proud of our successful brothers in Europe, the others hide inside construction site holes and pray.

Year and somehow, the sharp not even worth visiting. It's a painful experience to be here for us and Baishakh brought a flurry of calls let's say so forgetting false patriofrom people, some regular, some tism. For those who have lived not. "I don't stay much in Banglaabroad for a period of time, it's even desh nowadays. The environment worse. By sending kids who are for business doesn't exist in this younger or and more so, we are cutting off the next generation. This "I am sorry there isn't enough material for a serious scienis a country without the next generation. Do you recognise what that Calls to say they don't live here means? anymore. I have to agree with them.

"Bangladesh was plundered by Bangladeshis. Your friends did it and you helped them. Not just by being with them but also by refusing to condemn them. You are not just guilty but you are a criminal."

The young boy who accuses me although cushioned by his millions, of betraval and wishes to kill me --The other has patterns on his hope -- finds no words that can carry the burden of his soul's anger. He mental world created by another has no time for my excuses and sun. In the end the patterns of survival and justice have boiled keeps asking how come some down to having money and access. became so rich and some became If you are rich, you can at least run so poor.

when the newspapers were banned? Didn't we clap when martial law was imposed? Face the facts. When the Rakkhi Bahini killed young boys we felt safe. When Siraj Shikder, was killed we felt safe. When Col. Taher was

Didn't we congratulate the leaders

hanged, we felt safe. And the people we followed killed them. Why do we blame our leaders when we in the first place crave to

follow them blindly as they construct our world? Perhaps it's true that we have become nation of sheep happy in following the herd. Our search for safety is mad, blind and ultimately inevitable For many survival is impossible in

Bangladesh and thus we have the expatriate crowd. But they are not the non-resident Bangladeshis of the USA and other developed countries including a few in the Middle East who often write to The

part of the survival strategy, learnt over centuries. They have no option to make some decent money except to leave home and return. They are not Chand Sawdagar but his boat assistant who never gets mentioned in myths

Unless you have seen them where they work you won't know to what depth of indignity they are made to descend into to make money to send home

"I ran for few miles across the jungle to escape capture by the police. Finally, I reached Kuala umpur after three months. I had spent one lakh to reach there. I found work in construction site carrying bricks a few months after I landed. It's black market work. But police raided the site and I was arrested. After three months in jail was let go and deported. I went with a lakh and came home empty."

This was Malaysia from where lakhs of working Bangladeshis are

despair because for them this opportunity, we have basically taken country doesn't exist anymore their future away. And we show no regrets about that.

Migration is all very nice if you can migrate. There is a huge differ-ence between guest workers and expatriates in the North. While one group doesn't need the country and are basically escaping from Bangladesh, the other group wants to make some money and come home to Bangladesh. It's really long distance commuting. While we are proud of our successful brothers in Europe, the others hide inside construction site holes and pray. To put it mildly one group is close to us and we want to be part of them. They are educated, better off and can read Eng-

lish The other group is full of the poor, ill educated, ill dressed, ill speaking, ill and hundi cheated denizens for whom no one speaks. Certainly not

themselves. Certainly not us. It's they who got and are getting thrown out of Malaysia. And if we

Communalism and press freedom: Why *Hindutva* hates the truth

PRAFUL BIDWAI vrites from New Delhi

HE vicious April 7 police attack on journalists covering a peace meeting in the Sabarmati Ashram marks a new low in the sordid story unfolding in Gujarat.

The meeting's storming by rowdies led by BJP youth president Amit Thakker was as much an attempt to intimidate Ahmedabad's peace activists, as a protest against Ms Medha Patkar, the world-renowned social activist, whom Gujarat's upper-caste elite hates.

The Hindutva thugs don't want beace between Hindus and Muslims even after six weeks of satanic violence and a death-toll officially exceeding 800 (but probably upwards of 2,000).

The communalists now consciously target those who want to build bridges between estranged communities. They have brutally attacked Hindu-Muslim mohalla committees and relief workers.

The demonisation of wellintentioned religiously-minded peaceniks as "traitors" is entirely characteristic of extreme Right-wing movements which need hate-

Hindutva is bad news for the religious minorities, for the media--ultimately, for democracy itself. This poses two questions to the NDA's "secular" parties: How long will they make mealy-mouthed statements about press freedom, without relating that to the Gujarat carnage and the April 7 attack? When will they gather the courage to demand that Mr Modi must be immediately sacked and Gujarat placed under **President's Rule?**

to establish guilt--as if that weren't evident to the millions who watched TV. This is a despicable ploy to shield sangh parivar culprits.

The attack on journalists comes on top of numerous anti-media developments in Gujarat. Thus, photographer Rajul Chiniwala from Sandesh was beaten up by a Hindutva mob which poured petrol upon him and almost burnt him ilive

Gujarat Today premises were burned. Zee News' Bhargay Parikh and Tejas Gondalia were beaten up, as was The Times of India's Sudhin

Vans carrying The Indian Express were attacked. The paper's reporters/photographers, Tanvir Siddigui and Javed Raia, could not step out. Express photographer Parish Joshi was manhandled, and

The truth must be told especially when it concerns governments' communal conduct, when the police does the opposite of what it should do, when bureaucrats derelict duty-leading to mass murder The media has conducted itself exemplarily in post-Godhra Gujarat. Without its conscientious reporting the public would not have learned the many horrifying truths that it deserves to know: the planned, organised violence, the elite's involvement, the inhuman conditions in refugee camps, the tokenist nature of Mr Vajpayee's gestures.

been validated by an authoritative fact-finding report of Citizens' Forum, released last Wednesday by respected figures like Messrs S.P. Shukla, K.S. Subramanian, Kama Mitra-Chenoy and Achin Vanaik.

The Gujarat violence is without precedent. It is India's worst pogrom since 1947, with even greater state complicity than during the butchery of Sikhs in 1984 and Bombay 1992-93. Those episodes witnessed partial, indirect or passive acquiescence of the state, not its direct, proactive role in planning and sustain-

Then, mobs of well-dressed, stopped in Delhi and Bombay, its

Hindutva forces are deeply uncomfortable with media freedom Censorship and intimidation come naturally to fascists--witness the 1990 rathvatra. December 1992 in Ayodhya, the 1993 Sahmat exhibition, the 1995 attacks on Mahanagar and Nikhil Wagle, the

forum of debate, as commentator, or as whistle-blower. Hindutva is bad news for the religious minorities, for the media-ultimately, for democracy itself This poses two questions to the NDA's "secular" parties: How long will they make mealy-mouthed statements about press freedom. without relating that to the Gujarat carnage and the April 7 attack? When will they gather the courage to demand that Mr Modi must be

immediately sacked and Gujarat placed under President's Rule? The people will judge them

The media account has since ing violence.

OPINION

respectable" elements didn't go around killing, burning and looting -as in Gujarat. When the violence

erpetrators looked remorseful. But Mr Modi is a *sangh* hero.

harshly if they duck these issues.

Praful Bidwai is an eminent Indian columnist.

objects, both primary and surrogate Nathuram Godse's logical target was not Jinnah, but Gandhi

The Ahmedabad thugs' leaders included V.K. Saxena of the dubious National Council for Civil Liberties. which has run a filthy slander campaign against Ms Patkar.

The NCCL is less known for democratic rights than for expensive newspaper advertisements which recklessly level dirty charges against one of the world's cleanest novements This confluence between

Hindutva, and support for a dam which cruelly crushes people's livelihoods, is not accidental,

Nor was it an aberration that India's most communalised police pounced upon the media just as thugs were manhandling Ms Patkar. That message would prove embarrassing. So the messenger must be shot.

This cowardly assault was an act of extreme desperation and brutality on the part of the Modi administration. That regime has further compounded its guilt by filing a false complaint accusing journalists of having gathered unlawfully, and by transferring police officers who rushed to their aid.

The police have made no arrests. smugly claiming that the disruptionists are "respectable" bhadralok (read, rowdies), who 'won't run away from the law"! Mr Modi has instituted an inquiry

his camera-roll taken away. The Asian Ages's Sonal Kellog was assaulted by the police. NDTV's Rajdeep Sardesai was ordered to shout "Jai Sri Ram"

Yet, top BJP functionaries repeatedly abuse the media, and accuse it of fomenting violence through "exaggerated" reports. Mr Modi used the term "secular mediasponsored" violence to describe the post-Godhra pogrom. His functionaries equate truthful, sensitive reporting with "irresponsible" coverage

Here, Mr L.K. Advani takes the cake. In Tirupati, on April 6, he said: 'Politicians, pressmen and policemen should act with a sense of responsibility. Sometimes, speaking the truth may not be an act of responsibility"

He charged the Indian media with using "sadistic appeal". He hinted that the code of ethics on reporting communal incidents was violated when the media identified the vic-

This supposed contradiction between "responsibility" and "speaking the truth" is one of the most pernicious statements ever made against press freedom. It is no different from anti-media drivel of dictators like the Shah of Iran. Franco and Suharto.

The code in question was evolved to avoid inflaming sentiments and prevent retaliatory violence--not to suppress the truth.

A malicious cover story

MAJOR GENERAL (RETD) SYED MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM, BP

ANGLADESH media, has responded almost in unison nationalistically and journalistically to the aggressive malicious cover story by Bertil Lintner in the FEER of 4 April 2002. I share the views of this vast majority in disapproving Bertil Lintner. Only few Bangladeshis have been privileged or distinct enough to be in the cover photograph of the FEER. Begum Khaleda Zia and myself (23 March 1989) are among these few. Mr. Amir Ali Howlader son of valiant freedom fighter of 1971, has also become distinguished by being on the cover photo of 4 April 2002 issue of FEER but much to his surprise and dislike Having seen the news in The Daily Star on 1 April 2002, which also printed the cover page of the Journal, I went through the story from the Internet, the issue has since been banned in Bangladesh and one cannot have it in possession. Banning the issue according to the traditional judgement carried out by the censor agencies and administrative machinery of the government does send a signal of disapproval to the FEER, but at home appears to be an irrelevant step, because the number of people who can read it from Internet are at least twenty times more than the actual number of copies of FEER sold in Bangla-

desh. On 4 April 2002 the banningorder of the Government of Bangladesh was published in the print media, and incidentally on the same day the daily Ittefaq published a 'near- translation' of the report on page-13. This Bengali daily reportedly has more than one hundred and fifty thousand circulation. And a paper is usually not read by only one person! This incidence reveals that even the decision to ban the Review was taken late, if at all it was a practical decision.

Now let me address the main issue. My feeling of privilege to have been a cover photo in March 1989 has been tarnished by the sadness in my heart caused by the insult to my country by the journalist Bertil Lintner. My respect for the objectivity of the journal held for long, has been shaken. No doubt, the feeling may be restored in due course because feel that it has not been the editorial policy of the journal to offend and affront the sentiments of a whole country. Quite likely that nobody senior enough in the journal crosschecked the spirit and veracity of the contents and the cover photo. Mr. Bertil Lintner willingly or unwillingly has taken the hierarchy of the FEER for a ride. It is FEER and Mr. Bertil Lintner who have to settle the score. By reading stories in various dailies and weeklies of Bangladesh on life and activities of Mr. Bertil Lintner I have no doubt that he came here in

disquise in a planned way, wrote in a motivated way and ensured its publication for reasons which possibly spread beyond journalism. I am not a journalist, I appeal to journalists who know Mr. Lintner, to ask him point blank why did he do what he did and earn a slur for the profession?

Let me recall that when Mr. Derek Davies (the Chief Editor of the FEFR) had come to Bangladesh in early March 1989, he traveled extensively to various urban and rural areas in the Hill Tracts and talked to many people of various ages and profession. He had come with a mission---to find out the truth about something. He took my photograph by asking me. When he went back and filed the story, I found all things attributed. On the contrary, Mr. Lintner even camouflaged his own identity or purpose while entering Bangladesh,--- what to talk of portraying his contacts honestly. The person whose photograph

has been printed on the cover, is not the activist of any major political party. The photograph has been uxtaposed out of context. Irrespective of whether a person is or has been a student of a ' Madrassha', millions of middle aged and elderly man in the country put a cap on their

head as a routine. The cap is option-

ally required as a part of the dress for

saying five times prayer too. There is

absolutely nothing beyond routine

EDITOR

Tax-GDP ratio

explored.

if not complacence.

keeping beard is concerned, this is related to religious tradition and respect for the Holy Prophet. Over last five years persons related to Madrasshas or schools of religious education were branded as fundamentalists or near fundamenalists. There has been a deliberate effort on the part of some very senior personalities to portray a growth of fundamentalism' in Bangladesh President Clinton's visit programme was amended because of alleged threat from fundamentalist quarters.

feeling in putting a cap on. As far as

to damage the political government of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, she is damaging the country, because nobody other than die hard political opponents of Khaleda Zia agrees that there are Talibans in the country. Bertil Lintner (and the type) must have been emboldened by the efforts of some of our own leaders if not happily coaxed by them. I condemn the efforts of all who are parties to such efforts.

The present opposition leader

continues to say that there are

Talibans in the present government

She dose not realize that in her effort

Major General (Retd) Ibrahim is the Executive Director of a private sector 'think-tank' Centre fo Strategic and Peace Studies (CSPS).

TO THE EDITOR TO THE EDI TO THE

Danish accusations

At first reading it would appear that when one of the least corrupt countries in the world publicly accuses the most corrupt the guilt should be obvious. The record of misappropriation of foreign government to government aid in Bangladesh is less than stellar. Then when I look at the Colonel's rejoinder, it appears that the Danes were dispensing foreign aid with the same hypocrisy, as do most of the donor countries

British Aid wants us to drive Land Rovers, the Swedes want us to buy Volvo garbage trucks and the Japanese want their own construction companies to carry out their projects and so on. In general foreign aid is in most, if not many, cases indirect subsidies to domestic firms. All this without any concerns neithe

to the maintenance or upkeep of these vehicles, machines, etc. or to any desire for technology transfer, thereby tying us down to everlasting and wasteful maintenance contracts for the life span of these projects. One of the reasons I suspect the Donors are channelling more of their funds to NGOs is because NGOs just want their funding without

regard to the consequences. The more idealistic part of me wants to believe that the Colonel put his foot down on this form of inappropriate dispensation of Danish largesse. And when diplomats come out publicly to accuse a particular Minister, to quote the only other famous Dane - Hamlet, "there's something rotten in the state of Denmark'

The Colonel will be holding a press conference on April 15 to defend himself against these accusations. I hope he's telling the truth. Our self-respect and pride depend upon it. MA

It's time for another white paper

Dhaka

Denmark has decided to withdraw funds from the shipping sector due to corruption in our Shipping Ministrv.

This time there seems to be no scope for the government to blame the Opposition and BNP must take the responsibility for the damage it has done to the nation. It is time for a white paper to be prepared. The

government has published white paper on the previous government's corruption and irregularities. We would like to know about corruption in the present government as well. A white paper on a yearly basis would be a good idea.

Where is the independent Anti-Corruption Commission, Human Rights Commission, Ombudsman, etc? I guess from what we have seen from the last six months rule of the BNP government, these are too much to expect. But we do still remember that these were their election pledges

BNP-Jamaat alliance should consider publishing white papers on their "misunderstandings" if they do not like the word "corruption." Let there be some transparency and accountability in governance.

Rumana Chowdhury Toronto, Canada

"Bangla New Year resolve"

Thanks for your most thoughtful editorial on Bengali New Year. As you have rightly mentioned that this dav still being viewed by some reactionary quarters in our society as un-Islamic. Supporting your view I would add that we fought our Liberation War not in the name of religion but in the name of our iden-tity as Bengali nation. We are nous for our culture, our language and our songs, poems-- our heri-tage. We thrived and survived despite various misfortunes and obstacles because our thoughts are free, our songs are lofty, our poems are eternally beautiful.

We saw beauty in the destructive nature, our resolutions became strong when we lived through the tragedies, our hearts became strong when we shed our tears. We did not forget our flowers when we held the gun in our hands. This is the timeless reality of the Bengali nation. In poverty, in misfortune and in the time of national insult, we remained strong, our aims were clear and lofty and our mission was fraught with danger but attainable

Those among us still not convinced of our strength, those who still conspire to drag us behind will never succeed. We have passed 31 years as a nation and we shall complete this journey into the etery

Akbar Hussain Toronto, Canada

EDITOR T

SMS Zaman

Ex-member, National Board of Revenue.

Ban FEER for six months

TO THE EDITOR

accounts even in rudimentary form, while the contribution of agriculture to gross domestic product has come down to about 21 per cent. Now, if we calculate this and keep agriculture's contribution outside, Tax-GDP Ratio comes to about 15 per cent, which would be a matter of comfort

If the Far Eastern Economic Review fails to express regret for the con-cocted article "Beware of Bangladesh", ban its circulation in Bangladesh for some time, at least six months, to teach them a lesson Banning a single copy will not suffice, and they should be taught a esson that its circulation here is not

M.A. Obaydullah Banani, Dhaka

in Bangladesh This is about Tax GDP Ratio in Bangladesh, which we have always considered to be the lowest in the world. There is another dimension to the matter, which should be For obvious reasons agricultural ncome is virtually untaxed. The crop producers cannot maintain

nealiaible.