Abstract

Ensuring food security for a huge population in Bangladesh with scarce land and limited resources is largely dependent on increasing domestic food production, proper management of food grain coupled with effective population control. Although the country has made good progress in increasing rice production through technological improvement and the supply of subsidized agricultural inputs; but the growing number of population always create pressure on the increasing production. Again domestic food production is very frequently damaged by the recurrent floods, droughts etc. that lead to sudden shortfall in food grain production. Inadequate production of food grain hampers the proper stock management of the government to run the social safety net programs as well as to intervene in the market at the time of price hike. At the same time weak diversification of crops leads the poor people to an unbalanced diet.

As still 40 percent of the population lives below the poverty line, income inequality is prevalent; lack of proper management of food is distinct, growth of population is continuing at the rate of 1.50 percent, so any sort of mismanagement and price hiking hits the poorest, landless household severely. In this situation the present study assesses the current trends of food security in Bangladesh both at micro and macro level. Micro level study was done with the analysis of primary data from two small villages of Sadar upazila under the district of Mymensingh. The study identifies the factors addressing food insecurity in Bangladesh along with the role of government policies in ensuring food security of the citizen. The study also focuses on the poverty and distribution of income and access to food through market. Finally the paper makes specific recommendations in line with the policy measures for ensuring food security particularly for the poor people of the country.