The Amsterdam declaration in 1989 and the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in 1994 showed the way to develop national strategies and programmes according to the population growth and available natural resources. These two conferences encouraged and motivated developing countries to strengthen the quality, effectiveness and outreach of family planning and child health. Further, these should form the core of development programmes. This study has clearly established relationship between population growth and foodgrain availability, poverty and accessibility to food, and ecology. Major concern which emerged in the process are:-

- Declining fertility rate in the last one decade is still not sufficient to stabilise population.

- Family planning and prevalence of contraception has been doing well but its sustainability is uncertain.

- Stagnating yield of rice, and overall fluctuation in foodgrain production.

- Degrading natural environment and especially soil decay is affecting production.
- Total dependence on food aid and increasing interference of the donors in the policy formulation has become a compulsion and implementation of programmes which has not taken care of the poorest due to socio-politico reasons.

It is confirmed that rapidly increasing population and the closely related problems of hunger and malnutrition are the root cause of food inaccessibility in Bangladesh. In the past two decades, agricultural production has been increasing in Bangladesh. But the problem of malnutrition and food insecurity has aggravated by persistent poverty and unchecked population.

The majority of the poor live in rural areas and are predominately engaged in agriculture or related activities. The alleviation of poverty constitutes the central core of a strategy for an assault on food insecurity and malnutrition.

Population of Bangladesh is growing at an alarming rate. A part from focussing our attention on increasing agricultural production, it should also come out with firm population reduction polices.

In substantially increasing grain production better distribution system, purchasing power enhancement through various schemes, special intervention programmes for children, pregnant and nursing mothers and old infirm persons while famines have
been prevented, widespread under nutrition prevails among the economically underprivileged. We should redefine food security ensuring each household and all members both physical and economic access to balanced diet, safe drinking water, environmental sanitation and primary health care. To give operational content to such a concept of food security countries of this region should initiate a Hunger Fed Area Programme.

The crux of the problem, lies in the problem of poverty, and under development. Basically, the problem of food inaccessibility and undernutrition is part of the vicious cycle of population growth, poverty and under development. Bangladesh has come up with various programmes aiming at rural development and poverty alleviation. But these programmes cannot be effective in isolation. These programmes must be integrated with family welfare programmes.

Two major features emerged during 1980 and 1990 first, production growth in foodgrains has been sustained and increasingly stable as the outcome of adoption of high yielding varieties and modern technology. In conjunction with structural change resulting in lower production growth. Second, an increasingly favorable attitude towards development of the private market has characterized the policy environment.
Considering the recently introduced, structural changes, the role of state needs to be re-evaluated in the changing food security system. However, the need for effective intervention by the state in the times of scarcity cannot be minimised.

The main challenge for the coming years will be to sustain the process of economic growth and reduction of poverty. The role of market and the complementarily between the public and private sectors are central to this process.

But the liberalisation in the trade resulting from the policies of the world Bank and the GATT agreement and the World Trade Organization is threatening the food security.

Generally speaking, liberalization may give a boost to agricultural export at the cost of environment. Liberalisation is not only generating new environmental risk, but also changing the pattern of land and water resources and encouraging ecologically destructive export-oriented agricultural. The new prescriptions of agricultural and economics liberalisation along with international institutions and agencies can be seen as another kind of politics which aims at economics exploitation by the developed countries. Which is in relation to various kind of ‘aid’ given by the developed countries including food aid.
With the changing food aid policy of the donor, the recipient countries in the 'third world' have to be more cautious. Donors are coming up more with financial aid with strict term. There are mainly long-term aid. And certainly there is developmental aid aimed at gaining economic and political gains.

So, more or less the policies of the developing countries are influenced and directed by the developed counties. Developing countries have to come out of this trap. Stable and sustainable population be one of these basic objectives.

Ensuring sustainable availability of food by maintaining the growth in food production growth through the development and dissemination of ecotechnologies, supported by appropriate package of services and public polices is the need of the hour.

In the Bangladesh, where there is maximum pressure on the available land resources and environment is degrading, eco-friendly technology should be adopted. And technologies involves the blending of ecological prudence and technologies of the past, with the best in biotechnology, information, space and management technology. Without ecotechnological empowerment, farmers will not be able to produce more food and other agricultural
commodities on an environmental sustainable basis from lush land, water and energy resources.

The food policy should aim at 'promotion of social security'. The policies relating to food, nutrition, population and family should concurrently aim at more food, more jobs and more income.

Political commitment of Bangladesh cannot be questioned. Still it can be further strengthened to achieve its socio-demographic goals. Its target of bringing down fertility rate to the replacement level would need:-

Heightening of community awareness and participation at all levels through population education programmes based on priorities and needs expressed by people.

- A substantial reduction in early marriage.

- Reduction in internal and child mortality by integrating health policy with the overall development framework.

- Speeding up decentralisation and strengthening the role and status of women.
Food production stability and food security for women is key to the development and fertility. Undoubtedly production has increased manifold. At the same time it was accompanied by higher population growth. Government policy played an important role in boosting enhancing supply. The current policy may not give much incentives to the farmers, thereby, it won't help foodgrain production in future. This has happened due to the structural adjustment policies which has been become part of the present world economy system. The country has the potential to further increase it food production. Much would depend upon the infrastructure facility enhancement. That would need further foreign assistance.

Food exchange entitlement of individual which is a condition for accessibility to food has increased in percentage. Aggregate number of people below poverty line is still large. And the scenario in the ruler needs urgent attention.

Regression model used in this study confirm the relationship between population and per capita food availability. Despite manifold increase in foodgrain production per capita availability indicates declining trend against increasing population. It has been made clear that poverty which has its roots in socio-cultural history is principal threat. It is
intervened with social and gender inequalities and these have significant influence on population growth.

"green Revolution is a matter of past. 'Sustainable green revolution' of Evergreen Revolution' is an ecological and economic necessity.

Since widespread poverty, chronic food insecurity and rapid population growth are phenomena easily identified in Bangladesh and in other developing region also, therefore it is essential to develop our own concepts and formulate plans of development and social transformation and should not merely follow the western model.

The western model makes a great fetish of two aspects regarding problems of poverty and population. First growth in the Gross Domestic Product on the development front, and secondly, family planning on the population front. The Bangladesh experience during the past 25 years indicates that our obsession with the GNP and Family Planning, instead of solving problems have landed it deeper and deeper into the problems of pauperization, inequalities and deterioration in the quality of life and finally nutritional insecurity.
At the present level, countries of the South Asian region should cooperate to review tariff and non-tariff barriers and aim to encourage intra-regional trade in some of the most basic foodstuffs, harmonize agricultural policies in respect of prices, incentives and productivity. Another area of cooperation would be research and extension.

Facing common problems, countries of this region should cooperate and the highest level to eradicate poverty and combat chronic food insecurity. Given the present political situation, the prospect of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation in tackling the population growth and provide adequate food and nutritional security seems to be a distant dream.

Poverty is deeply rooted in Bangladesh. Any programme or policy without generating perennial source of employment and diversified economy at the grass-root level is not likely to yield the desired result. This study suggests that the households engaged in non-agricultural activities are earning more than those engaged in agricultural activities. Focussing on households is the key for future. Poverty alleviation programme should focus the poor households. Poverty alleviation requires investment in human capital so as to raise the productivity of the disadvantaged. Thus, the households should receive more attention as the focal point of
poverty-alleviation efforts. In this regard alternative employment is essential if rural poverty is to be reduced. Reduction in rural poverty would lead to enhancement of food security.

Increased agricultural production and declining population growth have become the main success stories. Still, an integrated approach would be able to determine how best to harmonize increased agricultural productivity with population growth within the limits of agro-ecological limitations and resource endowment realities. Assessment of sustainability in agricultural production will entail reconciling objectives of attaining higher productivity research on soil erosion and environmental impacts of long-term intensive agricultural productivity, environment and population nexus. In future, data derived from macro studies should be supplemented with in-depth anthropological studies on household behaviour. This can be unraveled only through in-depth observation and intimate contact with household members.

But if politics cannot lead the way in solving the most gruelling humanitarian problems of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, let humanitarian prevail, let humanitarian issue give a lead to the politics.