

### CHAPTER-1

## Introduction

Bangladesh is the highest density (964 people per km<sup>2</sup>) countries of the world has a population of 142.319 million people within the area of 147570 km<sup>2</sup>(CENSUS, 2011). About Eighty percent people of this country still live in villages and are extremely poor. In 2000, 52.5% of the urban and 44.3% of the rural people were surviving under the poverty line (**Sumy *et al.*, 2010**).

However the people of our country is blessed with a variety of agricultural resources of which chicken rearing is considered to have potential both for poverty alleviation and food production (**Sumy *et al.*, 2010**). Chicken rearing is suitable for widespread implementation as it cost less, requires little skills, is highly productive and can be incorporated into the household works (**Saleque and Mostafa, 1996**).

Poultry sector will create job opportunity for 10m people as claimed by poultry leaders in a roundtable titled —Present Crisis and Prospects of Poultry Industry in Bangladesh (**Source: Financial Express, Bangladesh 23 July,2010**). In the last few years, the recognition of small-scale commercial poultry production helps to accelerate the pace of poverty reduction riding in new height in Bangladesh. The poultry industry has been successfully becoming a leading industry of the country. The sector is also growing rapidly for last two decades though it started farming during mid sixties in this country. It has already capable to rise at an annual growth of around 20 per cent during last two decades. This industry has immense potentialities from the point of view of the economic growth of the country as well as fulfillment of basic needs and to keep the price at a minimum level and ensuring food especially animal protein for the human being. This industry has immense scope for the country through changing livelihood & food habit, reduction of dependence of meat related to cow and goat and ultimately has positive impact on GDP growth rate of the country.

Broiler farming plays an important role in improving livelihood, food security and poverty alleviation in rural and semi-urban communities in developing countries including Bangladesh. Broiler production has become a specialized and speedy business at present time for the people of the country due to short life cycle of the broiler and requirement of relatively less amount of capital attributed to its popularity to the farmers(**Ahmed *et al.*,2009**). A study report on the impact on Smallholder Livestock Development Project (SLDP) in rural community at different rural areas of Bangladesh revealed that the overall socio-economic condition of the beneficiaries, their egg and meat consumption capability, empowerment of rural women in decision making issues and employment opportunities were significantly increased after the intervention made by SLDP (**Alam, 1997**). Another study showed that commercial broiler farming provided

## Introduction

employment opportunities for unemployed family members, improved socio-economic conditions and increased women empowerment among rural people of Bangladesh (**Rahman *et al.*, 2006**).

Protein intake is recommended to be in range of 0.8 to 1.6 g per kg body weight for human (**Anonymous, 1998**) Broiler meat contains high quality protein and micro-nutrients which has had a tremendous impact on health and nutrition for the poor people in rural areas (**Neumann *et al.*, 2002; Barroetoa, 2007**). Again, another study reported that it can be the main source of family earning or can provide sufficient income and gainful employment opportunity to rural farmers throughout the year (**Bhende, 2006**). For this reason, broiler farming has been playing a key role in providing meat to overcome the malnutrition and serve as a tool for employment generation and poverty alleviation (**Raha, 2007**).

Eggs contain complete protein and can supply essential amino acids. Eggs also contain nine non-essential amino acids, vitamins, minerals, antioxidants, saturated, monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fatty acids, cephalin, lecithin, and cholesterol. The content of low-calorie eggs benefits populations throughout the world at every stage of the human life cycle. So layer farming is very much important to fulfill the egg demand and to improve socio-economic condition of the farmers. (**Ottinger *et al.*, 2009**).

The district Gazipur occupies an important place in Bangladesh in respect of poultry farming because of availability of all facilities. It is called the poultry belt of Bangladesh. So, the present study was undertaken to evaluate the existing management system of poultry farming and understanding the socio-economic condition of the broiler and layer farmers.

### **The specific objectives of the study:**

- To know the socio-economic status of the broiler and layer farmer.
- To study the managerial system of broiler and layer farm in Bangladesh.
- To identify the better management system.
- To determine the productivity, profitability, cost and return aspects of different types of poultry farms under different management.
- To identify problems associated with poultry rearing in rural area.
- To collect information for policy maker to take necessary action for improvement of this sector.
- To find out input output ratio to clarify sustainability of poultry farming in Bangladesh.