

Gazipur is one of the nearest cities to Dhaka. It is mostly popular as the birth place of the language movement martyr, Abdur Jabbar. Some of the important rivers like Old Brahmaputra, Shitalakshya, Turag, and Bangshi also cross the city. BRAC has been working in Gazipur since 1996. It runs some of its core programmes such as microfinance, education (BEP), and health, nutrition and population (HNPP) in the district.

Among them, microfinance is the largest programme offering three types of loans – dabi (micro loan) and progoti (enterprise loan) and tenant farmers’ development loan (agricultural loan). On the other hand, BEP stands as the second largest programme in the district, running around 500 schools, the adolescent development programme, and *gonokendros* (community libraries). HNPP is another core programme which is a combination of preventive, curative, rehabilitative and promotional health services focusing on improving maternal, neonatal and child health (IMNCS), as well as combating communicable diseases and common health problems, forming the key component of essential healthcare. BRAC’s



Workers packaging milk at the BRAC Dairy and Food Project in Gazipur

new initiative, skills development programme, is providing holistic skills development training and decent employment opportunities to enable young women and men to realise their full potential. Apart from these programmes, BRAC also runs human rights and legal aid services (HRLS), community empowerment (CEP), gender, justice and diversity (GJD), migration and several social enterprises successfully in this area. BRAC has established an international standard training center called BRAC center for development management (BCDM) in Rajendrapur to offer appropriate training facilities for development and continuation of education for managers works for BRAC or involved in other development organisations.

General information

Population	3,493,547
Unions	39
Villages	1,114
Children (0-15)	1,018,685
Primary schools	691
Literacy rate	63%
Hospitals	38
NGOs	154
Banks	33
Bazaars	389

At a glance

(as of December, 2015)

Microfinance

Branches	27
Village organisations	1,422
Members	106,732
Borrowers	32,972

Progoti

Small enterprise clients	13,857
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Tenant farmers' development project

Village organisations	173
Population covered	4,748
Money disbursed	59,400,000

Education

Primary schools	442
<i>Shishuniketon</i>	30
Community libraries	66
ADP centres	21

Health, nutrition and population

Health volunteers (<i>shasthya shebika</i>)	903
Health workers (<i>shasthya kormi</i>)	94
Health centres	1

Community empowerment

Community-based organisation (<i>polli shomaj</i>)	127
Union-based organisation (<i>union shomaj</i>)	8
Popular theatre teams	5

Human rights and legal aid services

Human rights and legal education (HRLE) <i>shebikas</i>	239
Legal aid clinics	6
HRLE graduates	50,495

Migration

Community-based organisation (CBO) facilitators	4
Communication workers	4
Volunteers	54

Gender justice and diversity

Gender quality action learning (GQAL)

Gender <i>kormi</i>	20
<i>Sampriti</i> centres	20
<i>Sampriti</i> centres members	600

MEJNIN (*meyeder jonne nirapad nagorikotta* - safe citizenship for women)

Community watch groups	18
Community watch group members	270
Students watch groups	18
Students watch group members	450

Skills development

Number of master craft persons (MCPs)	85
Number of trades	6
Number of graduate students	417

Social enterprises

Chicken	1
Dairy	1
Feed mills	1
Nursery	3
Seed processing centre	1
Printing pack	1
Agricultural research and development centre	1
Tissue culture lab	1