Mymensingh is a district located in central Bangladesh, part of the Dhaka division. It is one of the closest districts to Dhaka, only 118 kilometres away from the capital city. Mymensingh is clearly marked by the old Brahmaputra river flowing along in the north. The people of Mymensingh are involved mostly in agriculture for their source of income.

Mymensingh district was also known for jute production. Jute is termed the 'golden fiber' due to the revenue it generated as a cash crop. Apart from Bengalis, Mymensingh has indigenous inhabitants like Garo, Hajong, Koch, Dhalu, Bangshi, Barman, Khumi and Malpahari people. BRAC operates most of the core programmes here such as microfinance, education (BEP), community empowerment (CEP), health, nutrition and population (HNPP), human rights and legal aid services (HRLS), gender justice and diversity (GJD), and migration programme. BRAC’s new initiative, the 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 that, BRAC also established few of its social enterprises such as artificial insemination, recycled handmade paper, sericulture, poultry and nursery. These are directly helping to create job opportunities for hundreds of women.

Many traditional rituals are observed every year in Mymensingh. Among them is the colourful Wanna (harvest) festival, held at the beginning of the harvesting season at Haluaghat. Garo Hilltracts, Muktagacha Jamider Bari, Mymensingh Museum, Alexandra Castle, Gospel Church, Shashi Lodge are some of the most visited tourist spots in the district.

**General information**

- Population: 5,313,163
- Sub-districts: 13
- Unions: 146
- Villages: 2,758
- Primary schools: 1,245
- Literacy rate: 44%
- Hospitals: 5
- NGOs: 180
- Banks: 80
- Bazaars: 571
At a glance
(as of December 2016)

Microfinance
Branches 49
Village organisations 2,675
Members 171,038
Borrowers 77,907
Progoti
Small enterprise clients 7,888

Health, nutrition and population
Health workers (shasthya kormi) 631
Health volunteers (shasthya shebika) 5,806

Community empowerment
Community-based organisation (polli shomaj) 490
Union-based organisation (union shomaj) 49
Popular theatre groups 15

Skills development
Number of master craft persons (MCPs) 152
Number of trades 7
Number of graduate learners 304

Human rights and legal aid services
Human rights and legal education (HRLE) shebikas 618
HRLE graduates 2,189
Legal aid clinics 14

Gender justice and diversity
MEJNIN (meyeder jonne nirapad nagerikotta - safe citizenship for women)
Student watch groups 35
Student watch group members 875
Community watch group 35
Community watch group members 525

Migration
Safe migration facilitation centre (SMFC) 1
Unions 22
Community-based organisation (CBO) facilitators 4
Volunteers 22

Education
Pre-primary schools 285
Primary schools 283
Shishu niketon schools 278
ADP centres 297
Community libraries 57
Education support programme 111

Social enterprises
Artificial insemination 1
Nursery 1
Poultry rearing farm 1
Recycled handmade paper 1
Sericulture 1