

Moulvibazar is a district in the division of Sylhet, located in north-eastern Bangladesh with an area of 2,800 square kilometres. It is surrounded by the Sylhet district in the north, Habiganj district in the west and Indian States of Assam and Tripura in the east and south respectively. The main rivers in the district are the Manu, the Dholoi and the Juri which flow from India.

Although most of the population is Bengali, Moulvibazar has some indigenous inhabitants like Khashia, Monipuri and Tripura people. The Sylhet division is famous for its tea gardens, and Moulvibazar is no exception. Moulvibazar has around 92 gardens including rubber, bamboo and fruit gardens, like pineapple, cane, jackfruit, oranges, agar, mango and lemon. The area is also home to the three largest tea gardens (size and production wise) in the world. The people of Moulvibazar mostly involved in agriculture and gardening for their source of income. Most of BRAC's core programmes, such as microfinance, ultra poor graduation (UPG), health, nutrition and population (HNPP), education (BEP), community empowerment (CEP), water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), human rights and legal aid services (HRLS), and skills development programme, operate in the district. Apart from this, BRAC established a few social enterprises like fisheries and poultry which directly help to create job opportunities for hundreds of people. With the aim to alleviate



A community radio correspondent conducting an interview in Women Listeners Club.

poverty, BRAC works in the region with a holistic approach.

Moulvibazar has a naturally green backdrop with scintillating tea gardens. There are a lot of places for tourists such as the Madhabkunda waterfall, Ham Ham waterfall, Hakaluki haor, Madhobpur Lake, Bilashchhara Lake and last but not the least, the Lawachara National Park.

## General information

<b>Population</b>	<b>1,994,252</b>
<b>Sub-districts</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Unions</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Villages</b>	<b>2,015</b>
<b>Children (0-15)</b>	<b>270,852</b>
<b>Primary schools</b>	<b>1,103</b>
<b>Literacy rate</b>	<b>51%</b>
<b>Hospitals</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>NGOs</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Banks</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>Bazaars</b>	<b>150</b>

## At a glance

(as of December 2018)

### Microfinance

<b>Branches</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Village organisations</b>	<b>1,893</b>
<b>Members</b>	<b>139,506</b>
<b>Borrowers</b>	<b>51,788</b>

### Progoti

<b>Small enterprise clients</b>	<b>7,393</b>
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### Education

<b>Primary schools</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Shishu niketon</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Pre-primary schools</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>ADP centres</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Community libraries</b>	<b>72</b>

### Health, nutrition and population

<b>Health workers</b> (shasthya kormi)	<b>36</b>
<b>Health volunteers</b> (shasthya shebika)	<b>345</b>

## Community empowerment

Community-based organisation ( <i>polli shomaj</i> )	151
Human rights violation cases reported	103
Popular theatre	6
Community radio station	1

## Water, sanitation and hygiene

Committee members	100,60
Sanitation coverage	68%
Deep tube-well installed	38
Loans for sanitary latrines	104

## Human rights and legal aid services

Cases filed	108
Legal aid clinics	6

## Ultra Poor Graduation

Group - 2 members	1,694
Asset & training received	1,694
Healthcare availed	1,540
Group - 3 members	1,301
Asset & training received	1,280
Healthcare availed	1,280

## Skills development

Number of master craft persons (MCPs) in STAR	21
Number of trades in STAR	4
Number of learners in STAR	40
Number of learners in PROSPER	10
Number of learners in PROGRESS	31

## Social enterprises

Fisheries	1
BRAC Learning Centre	1