

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 Malpaharipeople. 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



Photo credit: BRAC

BRAC bull station in Mymensingh. Artificial Insemination enterprise was set up to create synergies with the BRAC Dairy enterprise as livestock is considered an important tool in poverty alleviation.

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	148
Villages	2,758
Primary schools	1,245
Literacy rate	44%
Hospitals	13
NGOs	180
Banks	80
Bazaars	571

At a glance

(as of December 2019)

Microfinance

Branches	54
Village organisations	6,657
Members	325,549
Borrowers	109,436

Progoti

Small enterprise clients	17,275
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Health, nutrition and population

Health workers (<i>shasthya kormi</i>)	255
Health volunteers (<i>shasthya shebika</i>)	2,535
Health centres	2

Community empowerment

Community-based organisation (<i>polli shomaj</i>)	490
Union-based organisation (<i>union shomaj</i>)	91
Popular theatre groups	15

Skills development

Number of master craft persons (MCPs) in STAR	170
Number of trades	5
Number of graduate learners	355

Human rights and legal aid services

HRLE graduates	1,013
Legal aid clinics	13
Complaints resolved	693

Education

Pre-primary schools	422
Primary schools	5
Shishu niketon schools	127
ADP centres	50
Community libraries	19
Education support programme	214

Water, sanitation and hygiene

Sanitation coverage	79%
Committee members	5,616

Social enterprises

Aarong	1
Artificial insemination	1
Nursery	1
Recycled handmade paper	1
Sericulture	2
Seed & Agro	1
BRAC Learning Centre	2