CHAPTER II

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY AREA
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The study site, Garjan beel is situated on the northern part of Brahmaputra basin. The beel extends from 26°13'5"N to 26°18'5"N and 91°30'41"E to 91°35'40"E. The beel is under Hajo revenue circle of Kamrup district of Assam and locally it is called as “Garjan Bullutjan” beel. The beel itself comprises of 33 component beels covering a total area of about 678 hectares. The two tributaries of river Brahmaputra feeds the Garjan beel called Lakhaitara and Boralia. Some small streams locally known as “jan” interlink the whole beel area to each other. The major beels of Garjan, which are registered, and under Fisheries Development Corporation are as follows.

1. **Jarakh beel**- Total area of this beel is 162.74 ha. Depth varies from 3-4 m. The beel area is comprised of water bodies of various sizes and locally these are named as follows

   a. Mogroof
   b. Bomoni
   c. Sarchala
   d. Bamunghoal
   e. Barchala
   f. Kachokhaiti
   g. Gadharsal
   h. Boldho
   i. Khahlani
   j. Salipa
2. **Hideli beel** - Total area of this beel is 18.9 ha. Depth varies from 2 - 2.5 m.

3. **Kuwari beel** - Total area of this beel is 70.78 ha. Depth varies from 2.5 - 3 m. The whole beel area is divided into some parts and locally these are named as
   a. Dighaldova
   b. Ossohu
   c. Bhoilla

4. **Dolongdova beel** - Total area of this beel is 34.18 ha.

5. **Nailla beel** - Total area of this beel is 36.86 ha.

6. **Dwitim beel** - Total area of this beel is 58.45 ha. Depth varies from 1.5 - 2 m. It has another part called Rangachakua doba and it is nearer to Hideli beel.

7. **Sakhila beel** - Total area of this beel is 26.14 ha.

8. **Urmal beel** - Total area of this beel is 34.85 ha. Depth varies from 3.5 - 4 m. It is divided into two parts and locally these are named as
   a) Kawaitipi and b) No. 2 Hideli
   Urmal beel is nearer to Sakhila beel.

9. **Chowmukha beel** - Total area of this beel is 14.61 ha.

10. **Goval beel** - Total area of this beel is 27.21 ha.

11. **Kujeli beel** - Total area of this beel is 87.26 ha. Depth is upto 5 m. It is divided into two parts and locally these are named as
    a. Borgoval
    b. Sarugoval.
12. **Maitana beel** - Total area of this beel is 28.95 ha. Depth varies from 2.5 - 3 m.

13. **Khorkhori beel** - Total area of this beel is 36.33 ha.

14. **Chatala beel** - Total area of this beel is 21.31 ha. Depth varies from 3 - 4 m. It is divided into three parts namely

   (a) Hatibhangi
   
   (b) Garjan
   
   (c) Kari.

Some small streams locally known as “jan” interconnect the whole beel area. They are as follows

1. **Merrow jan** (3.35 ha) connects four beels of Garjan namely

   (a) Jarakh
   
   (b) Kuwari
   
   (a) Bhoilla
   
   (c) Nailla.

2. **Goroimari jan** (0.40 ha) joins two beels viz, Dwitim and Jarakh.

3. **Mernadi** (6.43 ha) and (4) Bhoma nadi (9.12 ha).
The beel area is surrounded by sixteen villages. Fishermen population in these villages comprise 25% of total population. These villages are as follows

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