Fishing Gears Diversity in Sunamganj
Haor region within CBRMP's working area

Community Based Resource Management Project
Local Government Engineering Department
WorldFish
Fishing Gears Diversity in Sunamganj
Haor region within CBRMP’s working area

Research and Text
WorldFish

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Fishing Gears Diversity in Sunamganj, haor region within CBRMP’s working area
Message

It is a pleasure for me to note that a book on research output on fishing gears using in the beels from Sunamganj Haor areas is going to be published under the initiative of the Community Based Resource Management Project (CBRMP) of LGED and WorldFish. The project is working on open water fisheries management in associations with a few reputed and specialized institutions for successful implementation of its intended objectives. The WorldFish is one of those institutions engaged in biodiversity monitoring to make the program effective.

CBRMP in its fisheries resource management attaches appropriate priority to fish habitat restoration and conservation and I am happy to learn that the project has largely impacted on increased fish production, biodiversity and species diversification.

This literature is a product of sincere and rigorous effort of WorldFish under the initiative and care of CBRMP-LGED. This document is expected to be fruitful and very effective not only for the purposes of CBRMP, but for the use of others are working in fisheries management in haor basin for fisheries development in a responsive manner.

I congratulate all associated with such a research-oriented effort, and hopeful in its future continuation with more worthy productions.

Md. Wahidur Rahman
Chief Engineer
Local Government Engineering Department
Foreword

This book on fishing gears diversity of Sunamganj haor area is a product made in the view of present fishing gears use where CBRMP works. The documentation has been made by the WorldFish in close assistance of beel users' group members of CBRMP.

CBRMP is engaged to introduce community based fisheries management in Sunamganj haor region. The efforts include development of fish habitat through re-excavation, establishing fish sanctuary, promoting swamp forestry, initiating conservation campaign, and improving the connectivity of beels. Total of 235 beels have been come under fisher community management and has covered a total area of 4000 acres. The WorldFish, along with other few institutions, is assisting CBRMP to carry out monitoring the activities for a responsive fisheries management.

To prepare the book has taken more than four years that started in 2008. Identifications of the gears, a recognized and easy to understand method has been followed so that it becomes useful to a wide cross section of people.

Prior to finalize the book rigorous reviews have been carried out in participation of local fishers, scientists, officials from Department of Fisheries and Universities to make the book authentic in all aspects.

This is another one of the products of the CBRMP and WorldFish nexus. We have a plan to document more information for promoting conservation of beel fisheries resources. A close supervision and monitoring on fish biodiversity is being undertaken to collect data in a comprehensive manner towards that end.

I expect that this book would give the knowledge about available fishing gears use in Sunamganj haor area as a whole, and the people who are involved in fisheries management in haor region would be benefited with the information compiled in this book.

Sk. Md. Mohsin
Project Director
Community Based Resource Management Project • LGED
Preface

This book is modest attempt at identifying fishing gears used in Sunamganj haor, especially in areas under Community Based Resource Management Project (CBRMP). The CBRMP has promoted community based resource management approaches that, along with their livelihoods components, have been helping to conserve and enhance natural fish stocks in the haor basin. The WorldFish support to LGED involves a number of areas including impact monitoring of CBRMP on fish catch, bio-diversity, and livelihoods.

It is worthy to mention, documentation of freshwater fishing instruments in Bangladesh is very limited, particularly of the haor area. The haor area comprised of over 500,000 ha seasonal of water resources was once endowed with enormous fisheries resources which are exploited with fishing gears. Various types of fishing gears (traps, nets and wounding) are used for collecting inland capture fishery in Bangladesh; and have diversification of its size, shape and operation procedures. Seine net, lift net, fixed engine/net, set bag net, cast net, push net, pull net, barrage net etc are widely used in Sunamganj haor basin. Apart from these, different types of traps and some wounding gears are used as commonly. There are couples of local names of a gear in different local area in haor makes us confusion, so it was a hard task to identify and collect proper information on these specific gears. To collect the data, information and still photography we have to reach the place where fishers operating the gears, sometimes we have to stay night in the village for photography and observe the operation techniques. The limited documentation fishing gear in haor area has led us to compile this book in order to make information available to fisher communities, other resource users and fisheries professionals in these areas. The book presents a collection of gears recorded in the CBRMP project area during monitoring conducted by the WorldFish from 2008 to 2012. The book contains a total of 63 gears found in Sunamganj haor area. I believe that the book will be of interest to wider audiences involved in fisheries management, research and study, and will help to support assessments of bio-diversity, usefulness or harmfullness of its operation and preserve the gears which are being lost from Sunamganj haor area.

Finally, I thank the researchers who contributed the compilation of this book for their hard work in preparing this informative resource on haor fisheries, and hope that it will be employed for fishing gear identification by scientists, researchers, students and field level workers involved in all types of fisheries research in Bangladesh.

Dr. Craig A Meisner
Director,
WorldFish, Bangladesh and South Asia
Acknowledgement

We like to our deep appreciation to Dr. Craig A Meisner, Regional Director, WorldFish, Bangladesh and South Asia Office for his dedicated interest and extending support in this publication.

We are also thankful to Sk. Md. Mohsin, Project Director, Community Based Resource Management Project (CBRMP) for his cordial support for publishing this guide.

Our sincere gratitude goes to Dr. Niamul Naser, Professor, Department of Zoology, University of Dhaka for reviewing the manuscript and providing valuable suggestions to improve the book.

Our special thanks are due to Abdul Haye Chowdhuary, Fisheries Support Coordinator and his team of CBRMP as well as IFAD mission for their support towards the printing of this book and make it a valuable publication.

We are especially thankful to Md. Mizanur Rahman, Research Assistant; Md. Salim Reza Khan Research Assistant; and G.M. Saidur Rahman, Research Assistant for their cordial support and inspiration to prepare this book.

We are particularly thankful to Subol Chandra Das, Sunil Chadra Barman and other Community Enumerators who helped us to take photography.

Finally we like to express our gratefulness to all the CBRMP staff, Beel User Group (BUG) members, fishermen and Community Enumerators, who helped us to take the gears photographs and information.

Research Team
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Methodology

A checklist of gear identification was used to collect information from the individual fisher and through group discussion interviews and observation. Information was collected from the fishing spot during fishing was being done in the haors, beels, haor connected canals and rivers. Most of the photographs were taken during operation of gear. Data was collected from the areas of Community Based Resource Management Project area implemented by the Local Government and Engineering Division (CBRMP-LGED). The project is implemented in all the 11 Upazilas in Sunamganj District. The Upazilas are namely Sunamganj Sadar, South Sunamganj, Derai Upazila, Jogonnathpur Upazila, Biswamberpur Upazila, Jamalgonj Upazila, Tahirpur Upazila, Sulla Upazila, Doara Bazar Upazila, Dharmapasha Upazila and Chatok Upazila (figure 1).

The gear identification Book of Das and Aparesh (2000) was used to categories gears, and local name of gears was collected from local fishes’ community, DoF Sunamganj and CBRMP-LGED office. The measurement (height, breadth, wide and mesh size) of gears is used in this book is based on field experience and observations.

![Figure 1. Data collection sites of CBRM project.](image)
Section - 1
Fishing Trap

In Bangladesh people used to capture fish by traps from the ancient times. Different kinds of traps are used in fishing and this varies from region to region. Fishing traps are using to trap fish. Traps are little different from other gears and used to lock fish inside in a tricky way and then traps are hold up for collecting the fishes. Capturing fish by using trap needs some special methods and movement of fish is disturbed to make the fish get trapped. Sometime fish are lured with food to get inside and an undisturbed habitat to get fish attracted into the trap. Fish enter into the trap by entrance door but traps are made in such a way that the fish can't get out from the trap.

Traps are divided into two types structurally and functionally:

1. Closed trap
2. Open trap

1) Closed trap

In closed trapping, once the fish enter into the trap, cannot get out of it. There are various sizes and shapes of these traps in most cases traps are medium in size. Generally free movement of fish is prevented by dams of grasses, soil, fence (bana) and by nets. Naturally fish trapped inside the trap during movement. These type of traps are use to capture small fish in the haor areas of Sunamganj. Bamboo sticks and threads are used as components of these traps. Closed traps are used in this area for maintaining the livelihood of fishermen. These are box trap, tube trap, angular trap etc. All these are explained below: One or more entrances are there.

Box trap

Different kinds of box traps are used in Sunamganj haor area. Box traps are generally rectangular or square in shape, made of thin bamboo sticks, thread, kata (coconut scales) etc. In Sunamganj area bamboo, plastic sticks or nylon threads, kot threads are used. There is a distinct path for entering into the trap. Another path is also in the trap to get the fish out of it. Number of entrance path can differ on the basis of trap size. Then traps are lifted up from the water to collect the trapped fish. Different box traps of Sunamganj haor are described below:
মাছ ধরার ফৌদ

বাংলাদেশে প্রাচীনকাল থেকেই মানুষ ফৌদের সাহায্যে মাছ ধরে আসছে। অঞ্চলভেদে ও মাছের আবাসস্থলের উপর ভিত্তি করে দেশের বিভিন্ন অঞ্চলে বিভিন্ন ধরনের ফৌদ দেখতে পাওয়া যায়। মাছ ধরার ফৌদ বলতে আমারা সাধারণত সেইসব সরঞ্জামকে বুঝি যার সাহায্যে মাছকে বিশেষ উপায়ে আটকে রাখা হয় এবং পরে সেই সরঞ্জাম হতে মাছ সঞ্চয় করা হয়। অন্যান্য সরঞ্জাম হতে ইহার কিছুটা তফাত রয়েছে। ফৌদের সাহায্যে সাধারণত মাছকে কৌশলে আটকে রাখা হয় ও পরে ফৌদ পানি থেকে তুলে মাছ সঞ্চয় করা হয়। ফৌদের সাহায্যে মাছ ধরার ক্ষেত্রে সাধারণত সেসব কৌশল প্রয়োগ করা হয় তার মধ্যে মাছের চলাচলের পথে প্রতিবিধ্বনতা সৃষ্টি করে মাছকে ফৌদের অভ্যস্ত পথে প্রবেশ করানো, খাবারের দ্বারা প্রলুপ্ত করে মাছকে ফৌদের মধ্যে আকৃষ্ট করা এবং নির্ধিষ্ঠ আবাসস্থল তৈরী করে সেখানে মাছকে আশ্রয় নিতে আকৃষ্ট করা। বৈশিষ্ট্যপূর্ণ বিষয়ে ফৌদের প্রবেশ পথ দিয়ে মাছ ফৌদের মধ্যে প্রবেশ করে কিন্তু প্রবেশ পথটি এমনভাবে নির্মাণ করা হয় যে মাছ সেই পথে পুনরায় বের হয়ে আসতে পারে না।

বাংলাদেশে প্রচলিত মাছ ধরার ফৌদগলেকে এর গঠনগত ও প্রকৃতিগত দিক থেকে প্রাধান্য দুই ভাগে ভাগ করা যায়ঃ

ক) বড় ফৌদ

খ) মুক্ত ফৌদ

ক) বড় ফৌদ

বড় ফৌদের সাধারণত মাছ ফৌদের ভিতর চুক্তে পুনরায় বের হতে পারে না। এতে এক বা একাধিক প্রবেশ পথ থাকে। এই ফৌদ বিভিন্ন আকার ও আকৃতির হতে দেখা যায় তবে অধিকাংশ ক্ষেত্রেই এগুলি মধ্যম আকারের হয়ে থাকে। সাধারণত মাছের মুক্ত চলাচলের পথে মাছ থাকার সাহায্যে বাঁধ দিয়ে, বানা ও জাল দিয়ে প্রতিবিধ্বনতা সৃষ্টি করা হয়। সাধারণত মাছ চলাচলের পথ হিসেবে ফৌদে প্রবেশ করে এবং ফৌদের মধ্যে আটকা পড়ে। এছাড়া কিছু কিছু কে ফৌদ থেকে খাবার দিয়ে মাছকে ভেসে আছে মাছকে আকৃষ্ট করে হয়। সুনামগঞ্জ হাওড়া অঞ্চলে এই জাতীয় ফৌদ সাধারণত ছোট মাছ ধরার কাজে ব্যবহৃত হয়। এই ফৌদ তৈরীতে উপকরণ হিসেবে সাধারণত বাশের শলাকা/বেলি, সুতা প্রভৃতি ব্যবহৃত হয়। জীবিকা নির্বাহের উদ্দেশে এই অঞ্চলে বড় ফৌদ ব্যবহৃত হতে দেখা যায়।

সুনামগঞ্জ হাওড়া অঞ্চলে বিভিন্ন ধরনের বড় ফৌদ ব্যবহৃত হতে দেখা যায়, যেমন- বাশ ফৌদ, নলাকার ফৌদ, তিকনাকার ফৌদ ইত্যাদি। এই ফৌদগুলো সেই সঙ্কেত হিসেবে অলাভজনক আলোচনা করা হল।

খ) মুক্ত ফৌদ

মুক্ত ফৌদ আকৃতিতে সাধারণত আঘাতকার বা বর্গাকার হয়ে থাকে। অঞ্চলভেদে তৈরি উপকরণ হিসেবে বাশের সঙ্গে শলাকা, মুটা, ভাবাক (নারকেলের ছোবড়ার আইশ) ইত্যাদি ব্যবহার করা হয়। তবে সুনামগঞ্জ অঞ্চলে বাশকের শলাকা, গ্রামিক বা নাইলন শুটা, কট মাটি ব্যবহার করা হয়। এই ফৌদে মাছ ধরার জন্য নির্দিষ্ট পথ থাকে। মাছ বের করার জন্যে থাকে আলাদা পথ। মাছ ধরার পথের সঙ্গে ফৌদের আঘাতের অনুযায়ী ভিন্ন হয়ে থাকে। ফৌদ ধরার পথ দিয়ে মাছকে মাছ একবার প্রবেশ করলে আর বের হতে পারে না। অতএব পানি থেকে ফৌদ থেকে মাছ সঞ্চয় করা হয়। সুনামগঞ্জ হাওড়া অঞ্চলে ব্যবহৃত বিভিন্ন মুক্ত ফৌদ সমর্পনে নীচে আলোচনা করা হলঃ
A(1) Kuti Chai/ Echa Chai

**English name:** Box Trap.
**Local name:** Doair, Bair.

**Description:**
Kuti chai is square in size & comparatively small. Its length 9-10 inch, height 8-9 inch & breadth 6-7 inch. Thin bamboo sticks and plastic thread are used to prepare this trap. There is an entrance in one side of the trap with valve for the entrance of fish. In Sunamganj, locally it is called "Bana". Fish can enter through the path but can’t return back. There is a small place in the upper corner of the trap for holding out the fish. Dams are prepared with mud; grass etc. and traps are placed side by side within the dams in the khal-beel and canals. During placement some portion of the trap are kept over water and this part is kept concealed with grass, plants etc. After 8-10 hours of placement of the trap, fish are collected from it. Fish can be captured with the trap throughout the year.

**Captured fish:** Small prawns are captured with this trap. Besides, Dwarf gourami, loach, barred spiny eel, lesser spiny eel, ticto barb, golden barb, small size of climbing perch, mola carpet, stripped dwarf cat fish, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet, pool barb etc. are captured with this.
A(2) Icha Chai
English name: Box Trap.
Local name: Doair.

Description:
Generally Echa chai is rectangular and small in size. Its length 1-1.5 feet, height 8-9 inch & breadth 6-7 inch. Thin bamboo sticks and plastic thread are used to prepare this trap. There are two entrances. There is a small place in the upper corner of the trap for holding out the fish. These traps are placed within the dams in the shallow water of lakes and haors. During placement a portion of the trap is kept over water and kept concealed with grass, plants etc. After 8-10 hours of placement of the trap, fish are collected from the trap. Fish can be captured in rainy as well as in winter season by it.

Captured fish: Small prawns, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet, ocellated pufferfish, pool barb, ticto barb, barred spiny eel, loach, stripped dwarf cat fish, stinging catfish, stripped cat fish, tank goby, dwarf gourami etc. are captured with this.
A(3) Banjali/ Tin Muikha,
Trap Bair

**English name:** Box Trap.
**Local name:** Doair, Puti Chai, Bair.

**Description:**

Banjali is rectangular in shape. Its length is 1.5 feet, height is 1 foot & breadth is 5-7 inch. Generally thin bamboo sticks and plastic thread are use for production. There is one entrance in one side & two entrances in the opposite side with valves. There is a hole in the corner above, for taking out the fish. These traps are placed within the dams in the shallow water of lakes and haors. During placement a portion of the trap is kept over water and kept concealed with grass, plants etc. After 8-10 hours of placement of the trap, fish are collected from the trap. Fish are captured by this trap in April, May, June and also continues September through November.

**Captured fish:** Mainly highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet, ocellated pufferfish, pool barb, ticto barb, barred spiny eel, loach, tank goby, stripped cat fish, lesser spiny eel, dwarf gourami etc. are captured with this.
Fishing Gears Diversity in Sunamganj

ব(৪) সাত মুইখা
ইংরেজি নামঃ বক ট্রাপ।
আঞ্চলিক নামঃ দোয়াইর, বাইর।

A(4) Sat Muikkha
English name: Box Trap,
Local name: Doair.

বর্ণনা:
এই চাই আকৃতিতে আয়তকার হয়ে থাকে। লম্বায় ৩-৫ ফুট, উচ্চতায় ১.৫-২ ফুট ও বেঁধ ৪-৬ ইঞ্চি হয়। সাধারণত বাঁশের সরু শালাকা ও প্রান্তিকের ভুলা দিয়ে এটি তৈরি করা হয়। এই চাইরের এক পাশে ৩ টি ও অন্য পাশে ৪ টি ভাঁজাচুক প্রবেশ পথ থাকে। মোট ৭টি ভাঁজ যুক্ত থাকায় এর নাম সাত মুইখা। প্রবেশ পথগুলো সাধারণত চাইরের নীচের দিকে তৈরি করা হয় এবং এর উপরের এক কোনায় মাছ বের করার পথ থাকে। বিল কিংবা হাওড়ের অংশ পানিতে ঘাস বা জলজ শালালার সাহায্যে বাঁধ দিয়ে এই চাই বসানো হয়। এই চাই এমনভাবে বসানো হয় যেন কিছু অংশ পানির উপরে থাকে এবং এটিকে ঘাস, চারপাশ দিয়ে ঢেকে দেওয়া হয়। কখনো কখনো নদীর কিনারায় বা প্রায়শ্চিত্ত নালায় বাঁশের ভুট্টির সাহায্যে এই চাই বসিয়ে মাছ ধরা হয়। প্রতিদিন একবার এই চাই উঠানো হয় এবং মাছ সঞ্চাল করা হয়। এপ্রিল, মে, জুন এবং সেপ্টেম্বর, অক্টোবর, নভেম্বর পর্যন্ত এটি দিয়ে মাছ ধরা হয়।

যা ধরা পড়েঃ চন্দা, পটকা, জাত পূঁটি, ভিট পূঁটি, গহরি বাইহ, জুড়ুম, বেল, রামী টরা, নাতালী, লাল খলিশা, শাল বাইহ, কুড়া ইটা, ফুলসা, প্রতৃতি মাছ ধরা পড়ে।

Description:
It is rectangular in shape. Its length 3-5 feet, height 1.5-2 feet & breadth 4-6 inch. Generally thin bamboo sticks and plastic thread are use for production. There are 3 entrances in one side & are 4 entrances in the opposite side with valves. Total 7 valves are there, hence is the name “Sat muikkha”. These entrances are on footer edge and there is a hole in the corner above for taking out the fish. These traps are placed within the dams in the shallow water of lakes and haors. During placement a portion of the trap is kept over water and kept concealed with grass, plants etc. Sometimes this trap is used for catching fish along with bamboo pole in the corners of rivers or flowing canals. Fish are collected from the trap once in a day. Fish are collected by it in April, May, June and continues September through November.

Captured fish: Highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet, ocellated pufferfish, pool barb, ticto barb, barred spiny eel, loach, tank goby, stripped cat fish, indian potasi, dwarf gourami, zig-zag eel, small prawn, day's mystus etc. are captured with this.
**A(5) Mochna Chai**

**English name:** Box Trap.

**Local name:** Doair, Bair.

**Description:**

Though mochna is rectangular in shape but it is somewhat fluffy & compressed above. It is generally 2.5-3 feet in length, 1.5 feet in height & breadth is 7-9 inch. It has 3 entrances in one side & 2 in the opposite side along with valves. Generally thin bamboo sticks and plastic thread are use for production. There is a hole in the corner above for taking out the fish. These traps are placed within the dams in the shallow water of lakes and haors. During placement a portion of the trap is kept over water and kept concealed with grass, plants etc. Fish are collected by it in April, May, June and continues September through November.

**Captured fish:** Generally pool barb, ticto barb, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet, small prawn (gura icha), ocellated pufferfish, lesser spiny eel, kerala mystus, dwarf gourami, banded gourami, barred spiny eel etc are captured.
A(6) Bang Chai/Ghuni Chai

**English name:** Drum Shaped Box Trap, Basket Trap.
**Local name:** Djylland, Chandi Baire.

**Description:**
Structurally Bang Chai is drum shaped. Height is 1 foot or more & width is also 1 foot or more. Thin bamboo sticks, jute or iron threads are used to make this. Flat bamboo sticks are used to make the upper and lower portions of the trap. There is a path in front for the entrance of the fish & another is above to collect the fish from the trap. It seems like a frog structurally, hence is called "Bang Chai". It is placed in the shallow water of canals by constructing dams with grass and aquatic plants. After placing the trap it is covered with weeds. Generally fish are collected 1 or 2 times daily. Fish are collected by it in April, May, June and continues September through November.

**Captured fish:** Generally pool barb, ticto barb, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet, small prawn (gura icha), ocellated pufferfish, lesser spiny eel, kerala mystus, dwarf gourami, banded gourami, freshwater garfish, barred spiny eel, tank goby etc are captured.
A(7) Duri/Echar Duri

English name: Box Trap.
Local name: Doair.

Description:

Duri looks like a drum. Its height is 2-2.5 feet, width is 15-20 inch & breadth is 1-1.5 feet. Thin bamboo sticks are used to make duri. Bamboo sheets are used to make it sustainable. Whole front side is used as an entrance for fish but it becomes narrower (0.5 inch) as it proceeds. Upper portion remains open. It is placed in the canals-beels or flowing channels by constructing dams. Mostly mud & grass dams are used. After placing the trap, upper portion is covered with jute bags. Generally fish are collected from the duri once in a day. Fish are collected by it in April, May, June and continues September through November.

Captured fish: Generally pool barb, ticto barb, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet, small prawn (gura icha), ocellated pufferfish, lesser spiny eel, loach, barred spiny eel (chikra), stripped dwarf cat fish, stripped cat fish, dwarf gourami, banded gourami, asian cori, indian potasi, tank goby etc are captured.
A(8) Balish Chai/ Koiya Chai

English name: Box Trap.
Local name: Balish Chai.

Description:

Balish chai looks like a pillow. Two sides of the chai are compressed but middle is expanded, breadth 6-10 inch. Three bamboo circles are used in the middle of the chai to make it more sustainable. Thin bamboo sticks, plastic threads & nylon threads are used to make it. There is an entrance with valve for fish in one side of the trap, hence fish cannot return back. The Opposite side contains a hole for collecting the fish. Generally this trap is used in grassy haor areas. Snail muscles or grasshoppers are kept there to attract the fish. Generally it is kept for 1 or 2 days in one place. Then it is placed in another place. Fish are collected early in the morning daily. Fish are collected in April, May, June, September, October and November by it.

Captured fish: Climbing perch, pabo catfish, day's mystus, zig-zag eel, lesser spiny eel, stripped cat fish etc. are captured by this.
A(9) Gui/Kun

English name: Conical Trap.
Local name: Gui/Kun.

Description:
Gui is generally very small. Plastic thread & thin bamboo sticks are used to make it. Two types of gui are used in the haor areas. One is prepared with thin sticks & another is with flat sticks. Height is 1 foot or more. Diameter of the lower portion is 6-7 inch. There is an entrance in the lower portion of the trap with valves. Another innermost valve helps the fish to proceed forward but it prevents the fish to return downwards. Thread is used to whirl the upper portion and then thread is removed to collect the fish. It is used where water depth is high. 2-6 feet water depth is appropriate for the gui. Snail's flesh is kept as food for fish. Special signs are used when it is placed in the grassy area. But generally weed free areas of the haor are suitable for the use of the gui. Two or more gui are attached with threads collectively and place under water with sticks such a way so that these remain in vertical direction and during fish collection the thread is pulled up. Fish are collected from July to October.

Captured fish: Generally pool barb, ticto barb, small prawn (gura icha), lesser spiny eel, zig-zag eel, stripped dwarf cat fish, stripped cat fish, stinging catfish etc are captured.
A(10) Ronga

**English name:** Conical Trap.
**Local name:** Ronga.

**Description:**
Ronga is somewhat jar like. Its length is 1.5-2 feet, footer width 6-7 inch & middle width near 1-1.5 feet. Thin and narrow bamboo sticks are used to make the ronga. In the backside of the ronga there is an entrance for fish. There is a hole in the front side for collecting fish. It is used during winter season in shallow waterbody by constructing dams with grass, aquatic weeds etc. It is lift up from the water 1 or 2 times daily for collecting fish.

**Captured fish:** Generally pool barb, ticto barb, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet, small prawn (gura icha), lesser spiny eel, kerala mystus, dwarf gourami, banded gourami, barred spiny eel etc. are captured.
A(11) Baim Ronga

**English name:** Conical Trap.

**Local name:** Baim Ronga.

**Description:**
Baim ronga is like the normal ronga but larger. Its length is 3.75 feet and the diameter of the wider end is 9 inch. Thin bamboo sticks are used to make it. One side of the ronga possesses entrance for fish along with a valve, other side tied with threads. 6-7 bamboo circles are used to make it strong. But its usefulness is different from ronga. Zig-zag eel (shal baim) is captured from the hole of the rivers with this trap. It is placed near the mouth of a hole vertically by a fisherman with one hand & another hand is used to disturb the hole with bamboo pole. If there stays any zig-zag eel (shal baim) it gets out from the hole and enters into the ronga. Then fish is collected from ronga lifting it up from water. Fish are collected from February to April.

**Captured fish:** Generally zig-zag eel.


**A(12) Tubular Kuichcha Chai**

*English name: Tubular Trap.*

*Local name: Kuichcha Chai.*

**Description:**

Used to catch cuchia, that's why known as cuchia chai. Two types of trap are used in Sunamganj haor for cuchia fishing. They are: a) tubular trap and b) box trap.

**Tubular trap:** It looks like a tube. 2-2.5 feet long. 5-6 inch wide. Thin and wide Bamboo slices are used to make this trap. A valve like whole present in this trap which is bent inward for the entry of cuchia. Opposite edge is bent with twine and cuchia is taken out by opening some part of it. This trap is used at night as cuchia is nocturnal. The trap is placed in water hyacinth at evening. It is placed in such a way that some part of it remains out of water so that the captured cuchia can breath. Earthworm is used as bait. Earthworm is placed in trap by hooking them with bamboo sticks. Cuchia is collected from this chai at morning. Fish are caught from July to October by it.

**Captured fish:** Only cuchia.
A(13) Box shaped Kuichcha Chai

English name: Box Trap.
Local name: Kuichcha Chai.

Description:
Rectangular in shape. 15 inch long, 10 inch in height and breadth is 8-10 inch. Bamboo sticks and plastic twines are used as building material. At one side 2 and at another side 1 valve like entrance present. Cuchia collecting hole is present at the upper side of the trap which is bent with twines. Cuchia is collected by opening it. Like tubular trap earthworm is used as bait by hooking them with bamboo sticks. Trap is placed in water hyacinth at dusk and lift up at morning. Fish are caught by it in April, May, June and September through November.

Captured fish: Only cuchia.
**FAD (Fish Aggregating Device) or Open Trap**

These types of traps or devices have no obstacle to prevent fish movement, fish can move in and out easily and independently. Different types of open trap are used in Sunamganj hara area. These are described below.

### FADO

**English name:** Bush Trap or Fish Aggregating Device (FAD).  
**Local name:** Jangle Trap, Komor, Katha.

### BADO

**Description:**
Dal or katha is normally used to attract fish as a habitat, different types of tree branches, tree stem with root, bamboo, grass, water hyacinth, bamboo sticks are used to make katha. The trap is made at the lower basin of river and in beel, khal etc by dumping tree branches and bamboo. Grass and water hyacinth are kept on to the trap after it set up. Sunamganj hara area hijol, koroch, jarul, shawora, mango, blackberry, bamboo tree, their branches and roots are used to make the katha. Normally katha set up in September, October at the lower basin of beel, hara, canal and river, and pulled out in the month of January, February.

### Species Caught:
Small and large all types of fish species are caught from katha, species varied with the placement of the katha and types of water body. Snakehead murrel, great snakehead, wallago, rohu, catla, kuria labeo these type of large fish and spotted snakehead, climbing perch, banded gourami, gangetic leaffish, barb, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet this type of small fish are trapped in katha placed in canal, beel etc. Wallago, clown knifefish, rohu, catla, orange fin labeo, kuria labeo, giant river-catfish, long-whiskered catfish, pabo catfish, prawny, reba these types of large fish and day's mystus, river catfish, large razorbelly minnow, indian river shad, mola carpé, indian potasi, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet, garuach bachcha fish are trapped in katha placed in river.
B(2) Deaoa Jal

**English name:** Barrage Trap.

**Local name:** Obstacle Bana, Flying Net.

**Description:**

In this method obstacle are placed in the way of fish made of small mesh sized net or bana. Height 6-9 feet & length 30-75 feet. A pocket is made by using another net parallel with obstacle net or bana. The trap is placed into channel or canal in the beginning of dry season when water starts to move out from haor or beel. When fish swims with the current it got stopped by obstacle net or bana and then it tries to jump and then get trapped into the pocket of the upper net. The trap is also used in case of fishing from katha or dol.

**Species Caught:** Pool barb, ticto barb, freshwater garfish, snakehead murrell, great snakehead, rohu, wallago are normally trapped by this net.
B(3) Chai Ban or Pati Ban

English name: Fence, Fish Barrier.
Local name: Pata, Bana.

Description:
This trap is commonly use in Sunamganj like other places of Bangladesh. Fence/fish barrier (bana) is made of bamboo, 0.2 inch (2 mm) depth bamboo sticks are made from bamboo. Sticks are bent with normal or plastic twine to make fence/fish barrier (bana) but materials of fence/fish barrier (bana) varies with area. Normally bana of 6-7.5 feet height & 12-16 feet long or more. Fence/fish barrier (bana) used in narrow river, haor, channel, canal, beel and pathway of fish. It is placed in soil horizontally with the help of bamboo pole. Spaces are made within fence/fish barrier (bana) to place bamboo chai (trap). Fish migration is obstructed by fence/fish barrier (bana) to provide pass into the chai. Fish accumulated into chai and fisher harvest fish from chai twice in a day. Nowdays instead of bamboo fence/fish barrier (bana) mosquito net, polythene, mat or polyester fabric is used in Sunamganj haor area. Normal fishing period by fence/fish barrier (bana) from April to December of a year.

Species caught: Trapped fish species varied with the type of water body and chai placed in fence (bana). Generally small fish is caught with fence/fish barrier (bana) in beel, canal and haor. Different types of fish like barb, small prawn, barred spiny eel, ocellated pufferfish, dwarf gourami, banded gourami, kerala mystus, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish and elongate glass-perchlet are trapped in bana. Chai also used in bana to catch large fish and rohu, long-whiskered catfish, giant river-catfish, wallago, orange fin laboe, bronze featherback, kuria laboe is trapped.
B(4) Light Trap

**English name:** Light Trap.
**Local name:** Alor Fad.

**Description:**
Light trap is used to catch small prawn. Normally this trap is use at night to catch small prawn. For prawn fishing by using this trap a flash light is hanged out with the help of a bamboo pole, and the pole is placed on the water adjacent to bank of river, beach, canal etc. Prawn attracted by the light and comes close to the surface of water and starts to circulate. When many prawns are gathered near the light source, fisher use push net to catch fish. Sometimes electric bulb is used instead of flash light. Generally in rainy season prawn fishing is done by this method. By using this method 4-5 kg of fish can be caught within some hours. Fish are caught from July to November.

**Species Caught:** Small prawn.
B5 Hogra

**English name:** Triangular Trap.
**Local name:** Dhak Trap, Hogra, Jahali, Khagra.

**Description:**
Hogra is a triangular trap. It is made with bamboo mat. It is 4.5-6 feet wide at mouth. Bamboo sticks are used as frame and tied all over to strengthen the trap. Some tree branches are tied with bamboo sticks in the trap is such a way so that they cannot came out. A door is made at the back side to collect fish. The door is sewed with twine and fish are collected by opening it. A bamboo is tied at the front side lower edge, and two ropes are used to lift it up. Hogra generally set in river at 10,5-12 feet depth. 2-4 people lift it up from water quickly after 3-7 days. Fish are caught from July to November by it.

**Species caught:** Zig-zag eel, day's mystus, orange fin labeo, prawn, stinging catfish, wallago, long-whiskered catfish, giant river-catfish these fish are normally caught by this trap.
B(6) Chonga

**English name:** Tubular Trap.
**Local name:** Chunga, Chumo.

**Description:**
Chunga is a typical type of bamboo trap is use to catch eel. At first the bamboo sticks are cut open to remove the joint and then tied again with twine which is 3-4,5 feet long and width 3,4-4 inch. As a result it looks like a tube. The chunga is submersed 3-6 feet depth at the benthic zone of river or canal. Two sticks of the both side set into the bottom water soil so that it can't be displaced. Fishes living in the bottom water takes place in the chunga. After 2-3 days it is lift up. At the time of lifting it up two edges of the chunga is keep closed with hands and slowly the water is flowed out. Sometimes water is also leaked out. Sometimes holes are made to push away the water. Fish are caught from 15th November to January by it.

**Species Caught:** Zig-zag eel fishing is done in Sunamganj area with this trap. Sometimes tank goby, day’s mystus, kerala mystus, stinging catfish is also trapped.
B(7) Gata/Doba/Gara

English name: Ditch.
Local name: Kua, Kupo, Aara, Pagar.

Description:
Gata or Doba is a very old method for fishing. Usually there are two types of Doba. Fish are caught for 1 time from 1 kind of Doba in each year. Fish is caught from another type of Doba sometimes. But by bailing out of water from both kind of Doba fish is caught. Usually ditch is a small dig where fish habitat is built by branches of trees. Generally in winter or dry season when there is less water everywhere then fish take shelter in that Ditches. When dyke rises around the ditch fish are caught from there by bailing out of water. But the Ditches built near the river or canal is surrounded by small dams and 1 inner part is kept open for the entrance of fishes. Fish are caught from there by bailing out of water per 2-1 week.

Species caught: Almost all types of fish are caught from ditches.
B(8) Vira or Ghuitta for catching Icha

**English name:** Fish Aggregating Device (FAD).

**Local name:** Ichar Vira or Ghuitta.

**Description:**

Vira or Ghuitta is one kind of jungle trap. Usually in clean water aquatic algae like hydrilla, grass or weeds or straw collected from the other places are floated in a heap and the algae heap is bonded by a stick so that it cannot be floated or spread out. Like this 50-60 heaps are built by fishermen at a constant in clean water of canal or beel. Generally tiny prawn or some other small species of fish take shelter here for a while. Once in a day, generally in the morning or evening by dip net these algae heaps are pulled up and sheltered tiny prawn and small fish are captured. By this generally 2-3 fishermen catch fish together. After collecting fish, algae are kept floated again as heap and fish are collected again from it next day. Fish catch by Vira or Ghuitta in the same place like this same way is done up to 3-4 days then is replaced to another place. This device is used in June and September through November.

**Species Caught:** Mainly tiny prawns are caught by this. But climbing perch, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet, dwarf gourami, banded gourami etc such small fish are also caught in small amount.
B(9) Polo

**English name:** Bell shaped trap.
**Local name:** Polo.

**Description:**
It looks like a bell. Both of the edges are open. Upper edge is narrow but the lower edge is broad. Narrow bamboo sticks and cane are used to make polo. But nowadays instead of bamboo sticks plastic lace is used. 5-7 bamboo sticks are used to make rings which structurally strengthen the trap. It is 2-2.5 feet long. Lower edge is 2-2.5 feet wide and mouth is 4-5 inch wide. One person uses one polo for fishing. Sometimes a group of fishermen uses several polos for fishing. The polo is immersed into knee or hip depth water and then pushed up to the bottom and this action continues forward. When fish trapped into the polo it gives pressure against the trap wall and fisherman get notices it. Then he collects the fish through the upper opening. Fish are caught from February to March by it.

** Species caught:** Spotted snakehead, snakehead murrel, great snakehead, wallago, walking catfish, rohu, orange fin laboe, long-whiskered catfish, giant river-catfish, kuria laboe these types of large fish get caught by this trap.
B(10) Naia Ocha

**English name:** Triangular Trap.

**Local name:** Ocha, Hecha.

**Description:**

It's a triangular trap. Its height 4-10 feet and footer edge width 2.5-4 feet. By using bamboo slices mat is made and then it's attached with triangular frame to make naia ocha. Front side of this trap is flat but in the back side by tying the edges a groove is formed. Fishing is done by pushing the trap forward. Caught fishes are collected from the groove on the back side of the trap. Naia ochu used in shallow water and in the early monsoon. Naia ochu used to fish small fish or fry. After pushing a certain distance fish are collected by lifting the trap. Sometimes it is set in the water by the help of sticks and two people drag the trap from two sides using rope. When the ropes come closer fish run into the trap and then fish are collected. It is also used in irrigation fishing and flowing water channel. Now it is less available in Sunamganj area. Thela jal which is made with mosquito net is available and cheap and it's used as the alternative of naia ocha. Fish are caught from July to November by it.

**Species Caught:** Different types of small fish like small prawn, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet, barb, loach, barred spiny eel, ocellated pufferfish fishing is done by this trap. Small size naia ochu is used to catch fry of spotted snakehead in March-April.
B(11) Kura Ocha

English name: Triangular Trap.
Local name: Ocha.

Description:
Kura ocha is triangular but little different in structure from naia ocha. Height 4-8 feet and footer edge width 2.5-5 feet. Thin Bamboo slices are used to make mat and then triangular shape is given by using bamboo sticks. A small bamboo stick is tied with the mouth of the triangular trap. By holding this stick fishing is done with the trap. Generally the trap is used at the edges of canal or beel and the trap is immersed into the water and then lifting is done from outwards to inwards. Sometimes it is set in the water by the help of sticks and two people drag the trap from two sides using rope. When the ropes come closer fish runs into the trap and then fish are collected. It is also used in irrigation fishing and also in flowing water channel. Now it is less available in Sunamganj area. Thela jal, lathi jal which are made with mosquito net are available and cheap and they are used as the alternatives of kura ochu. Fish are caught from July to November by it.

Species caught: Different types of small fish like stripped dwarf cat fish, day’s mystus, barred spiny eel, lesser spiny eel, loach, gangetic leaffish, fry of spotted snakehead, ticto barb, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet, dwarf gourami, banded gouami, ocellated pufferfish all these fish are caught with kura trap.
Hook

Hook is a major gear at Sunamganj haor area. There are different types of hook used for catching different species of fish. There are different types of hooks at different prices of different brand at different markets at Sunamganj haor area. Wallace hook, snakehead murrel hook, angling hook, daitta hook, hook & line (laar) hook, climbing perch hook, barb hook etc. are very usable hook in this area. Fish catching method for different hooks are different. For catching fish by hook there is use of baits. There are also some varieties in the bait which is used in hooks in this area. Earthworms (locally called “JHIR”), small frogs, crabs, rats, flour, dragon flies, spiders, larvae of bolt, red ants egg in tree, tiny prawns, different types of small fish species such as pool barb, ticto barb, guchi baim, loach, spotted snakehead, dwarf gourami, blue perch, rotten barb etc. are used as bait in different hooks, description of these baits and their uses are as follows:

বড়শি

সুনামগঞ্জ হাওড় অঞ্চলে ব্যবহৃত মাছ ধরার সর্বাধিক মধ্যে বড়শি অন্যতম। এখানে বিভিন্ন প্রজাতির মাছ ধরার জন্য বিভিন্ন ধরনের বড়শি ব্যবহৃত হয়ে দেখা যায়। সুনামগঞ্জ হাওড় অঞ্চলের বিভিন্ন বাজারে বিভিন্ন রাসের বিভিন্ন দামের বড়শি বিক্রি হতে দেখা যায়। বোয়ালে বড়শি, শোলে বড়শি, ছিপ বড়শি, বাঁধিরা বড়শি, লাড়া বড়শি, কাই বড়শি, পূটী বড়শি ব্যবহৃত এই অঞ্চলে ব্যবহৃত বড়শির মধ্যে অন্যতম। বিভিন্ন ধরনের বড়শি দিয়ে মাছ ধরার পক্ষতিও বিভিন্ন। বড়শি দিয়ে মাছ ধরার জন্য টৌপ ব্যবহার করা হয়। এই অঞ্চলে বড়শিতে ব্যবহৃত টৌপেও রয়েছে অনেক বৈচিত্র। ক্যোটা (আঞ্চলিক শব্দ “বিছ”), ছোট বাঁধ, কাঁকড়া, ইঁদুর, আটা, ফড়ি, মাকড়সা, বোল্ডার তৃণকীর্তি, গাছের লাল পিপড়ার ভিহার, গুড়া ইত্যাদি, বিভিন্ন ধরনের হোট মাছ: মেমন- পুটী, তিতি পুটী, চিল বাইমি, ওড়ম, তাকি, লাল কালিসা (বিয়া), নাপতে কই, ঘঁটা পুটী বড়শির টৌপ হিসেবে ব্যবহৃত হতে দেখা যায়। নিচে বিভিন্ন ধরনের বড়শি, এতে ব্যবহৃত টৌপ ও এর ব্যবহার পক্ষতি সম্পর্কে আলোচনা করা হল।

**Figure:** Hook for wallago, major carp, snakehead murrel, great snakehead, zig-zag eel.

**Figure:** Hook for wallago, major carp, snakehead murrel, great snakehead, zig-zag eel.

**Figure:** Hook for barb, climbing perch.

**Figure:** Hook for spotted snakehead, stinging catfish, walking catfish, zig-zag eel.

**Figure:** Hook for spotted snakehead, stinging catfish, walking catfish, zig-zag eel.

**Figure:** Hook for barb.
1. Boal Hook/Pocha Hook

English name: Hook for Handling.
Local name: Borshi.

Description:

Mainly Boal fish are caught by boal hook. Size of this hook is very large (2-2.5 inch). Rotten barb is generally used in this hook as bait. Boal fish is attracted by smell of this rotten barb. Hook is tied with one side of the nylon thread or long plastic thread and another side is tied with a short stick. An iron sinker is tied near the hook. Usually length of the thread can be 30-60 feet. Normally in the evening or in the night the hook is fixed in the river or canal. Fishermen sit near the bank of the river holding the thread and throw the hook in the river. When wallago (boal) fish swallow the hook, threads are jerked then the hooked fish is pulled up. Sometimes scoop nets are used for pulling up fish from water. Fish are caught from July to November by it.

Species caught: Mainly wallago fish is caught by this hook. But sometimes giant river-catfish, long-whiskered catfish and Indian mottled eel are also entrapped.
2. Tanga Hook:
**English name:** Long Line,
**Local name:** Tuni Borshi.

**Description:**
Wallago (boal), snakehead murrel (shol), great snakehead (gojar) fish are caught by this hook. Size of this hook is 1-1.5 inch. At the base of this hook 12-15 inch thread is tied with 2 or more hooks and hangs with another long and thicker thread. Hooks hang with thread over water as if it is sunk slightly which is tied tightly with 2 sticks on both sides. Small frogs, various types of small fish such as lesser spiny eel, loach, barb, dwarf gourami, crab etc are used as bait in the hook. Generally bait is placed in the hook in the afternoon. Baits are always moving and wallago, snakehead murrel or great snakehead fish are attracted by this bait and then adhered with the hook. Fish are caught from July to November by it.

**Species Caught:** Mainly snakehead murrel, great snakehead and wallago are captured by this hook.
3. Daitta Borshi

**English name:** Floating Hook.
**Local name:** Dati Borshi, Date Borshi, Bokha.

**Description:**
It is called Daitta Borshi because of using water hyacinth (locally called "Germoni" at Sunamganj) as a float. Daitta of the Daitta Borshi is usually 8-10 inch long. Size of this hook is 0.4-0.8 inch (1-2 cm). In the hook 3-6 feet long nylon thread or narrow knot thread is tied and another side of the thread is tied with the tip of the water hyacinth and which keeps it with the water hyacinth. As bait earthworm, grasshopper or tiny prawn, dwarf gourami, blue perch etc in the hook are used. Fishermen keep the hook in a basket with bait. Each fisherman use 200-400 or more number of hooks. It's operated at day or night. It is placed in the vegetated beel, paddy fields or canals. Fish are collected after 2-4 hours at day. If it is placed in the afternoon then fish are collected in the next morning. Blue perch are used to catch bronze featherback, dwarf gourami are used to catch snakehead murrel and bronze featherback, grasshoppers are used for pabo catfish, earthworm are used for stinging catfish, walking catfish, spotted snakehead. Fish are caught from July to November by it.

**Species caught:** Mainly spotted snakehead, stinging catfish, climbing perch, snakehead murrel, great snakehead, walking catfish, bronze featherback, zig-zag eel, lesser spiny eel, kerala mystus, pabo catfish etc are caught by this hook.
4. Laar Borshi

**English name:** Long Line.
**Local name:** Dori Borshi.

**Description:**
Laar borshi is a very important hook in the Sunamganj, used mainly in the river and haor. Length of the Laar Borshi is about 1500 to 7500 feet or more. Almost 1 foot long thread is tied with hook that is again tied with another thick thread or jute fibre per 4.5-7.5 feet. During the use of the hook each hook is detached from the basket and is thrown in the water body by attaching bait and proceeds forward with boat. Sometimes concrete pieces are used as sinkers with the hooks. Earthworm, mussels flesh, tiny prawn, grasshoppers, ticto barb, barred spiny eel, loach or floury bait are used as well. Generally 2 people are needed for the use of this hook. One is propelling the boat and another is for performing the laar borshi. But sometimes 3-4 people are included in the group. In this case larger boat is used for performing this hook. Laar borshi generally is used 8-9hrs in a day and fish are collected with an interval of 2-3hrs. Fish are caught from July to November by it.

**Species Caught:** Catching fish species depends on the area where the hooks are being used. Orange fin labeo, day's mystus, zig-zag eel, coitor croaker, wallago, rita, menoda catfish, pabda catfish, pato catfish, butter catfish, prawn etc are caught in the river. But spotted snakehead, snakehead murrel, great snakehead, freshwater garfish, zig-zag eel, lesser spiny eel, wallago, kerala mystus, bronze featherback, gangetic leaffish, day's mystus, orange fin labeo etc are caught in the haor area.
5. Chip Borshi

**English name:** Hook for Handling.

**Local name:** Chip Borshi.

**Description:**
Hook is used at the top of the long sticks that's why it is called chip borshi (hook for handling). Different types of chip borshi are used in Sunamganj haor region. Size of the hook varies according to the types of the fish intended to catch. For example, one type of hooks is used for capturing orange fin labeo or zig-zag eel in the river where another type of hooks are used for capturing barb or climbing perch in the lakes. Size of hook of the chip borshi is generally 6-9 feet long. Generally 7.5-15 feet long thread is used at the top of the hook. But 30-60 feet long thread is used for the chip borshi in the river. Lead or iron pieces are used as sinkers for this hook. Different types of bait are used, for example earthworm, snail, mussel, grasshopper, caterpillar, spiders, bread, eggs of ant, etc. One fisherman can use 7-8 chip borshi at a time. Generally a float is used in the chip borshi. A scoop net is used for pulling up large fish. Sometimes floats are not used in the chip borshi, when fish swallows the bait jerking is observed and fishermen strongly pull up the fish by chip. Women catch fish by chip borshi near the canal or river. Fish are caught from July to November by it.

**Species caught:** Spotted snakehead, barb, climbing perch, kerala mystus, snakehead murrel, zig-zag eel, orange fin labeo, rohu, mrigel etc are caught by this hook.
6. Khili Daitta  
**English name:** Floating Hook.  
**Local name:** Fol.

**Description:**
It is a hook made of bamboo sticks. But its fishing method is a little different from other hooks. The edge of a two inch narrow bamboo sticks is made pointed at both edges. It is called khili. 3-4.5 feet long twine is bound at the middle of the khili. Other edge of the twine which is 7-8 inch long is tied with tip of water hyacinth, known as daitta. Daitta works as floats. Twine is tied with daitta. Khili daitta normally used in beel, canal or paddy field. A fisherman can use 100-200 or more khili daitta. Grass hoppers head/chest used as bait. Two edges of the sticks is pressed along and hooked with bait. Then twine tied with the tip of water hyacinth immersed into water. When climbing perch swallows the bait, the bait is released from the khili, becomes straight and comes out through the operculum and gets attached within the fish mouth. Fish are caught from July to November by it.

**Species Caught:** Khili daitta mainly used to catch climbing perch. Sometimes spotted snakehead, snakehead murrel also get caught.
Wounding gears

Coch (spear)

Different types of gears are used in Sunamganj haor; fish are caught with gears by wounding them. A pointed gear with long handle by the help of which fisherman wound the fish and gear is stapled in fish body. Different types wounding gears are found like caicha cocha, cocha, aittor, gash cocha etc. continuous description of these gears is given bellow:

কোচ

সুনামগঞ্জে হাওরে মাছ ধরার জন্য বিভিন্ন ধরনের হাফিয়ারের সাহায্যে মাছকে আঘত করে ধরা হয়। সুনামগন্তের হাফিয়ারে একটি লম্বা হাফেল বা টিকা লাগানো থাকে যার সাহায্যে মাছকে আঘাত করতে এবং হাফিয়ারের মাঝে গেছে বিদেয় হয়। সেদিন হাফিয়ার দেখতে পাওয়া যায় তার মধ্যে ঘুড়ি বা কাইকা কোচা, কোচা, আইকো, ঘুড়ি কোচা প্রভৃতি উল্লেখযোগ্য। নিচে ধরাবাহিকভাবে এর হাফিয়ারের বর্ণনা দেওয়া হলো।

1. ঘুড়ি কোচা/কাইকা কোচা

ইরেজিঃ নামঃ পেয়ার।
অঞ্চলিক নামঃ কোচা, ফুল কোচা, মুপি।

1. Thuri cocha or caicha cocha

**English name:** Spear.
**Local name:** Coch, Ful Coch, Juphi.

বর্ণনা:

ঘুড়ি কোচা লোহার শালকা দিয়ে তৈরি মাছ ধরার হাফিয়ার, এর তৈরির জন্য সাধারণত লাইটেলের পেয়ার ক্যাচ যা মাছের শালকা ব্যবহার করা হয়। সাধারণত ৪০-৫০ ইঞ্চি লম্বা ও ১৫-২০টি লাইটেলের শালকায় এককালে সূচালা করা হয় এবং অন্য প্রজাতিগুলো একত্রে সূচালা করে নিয়ে নিয়ে বিদেয় হয়। শালকায় একটি লম্বা আঘাত করার জন্য কথন কথন লোহার কোচা ব্যবহার করা হয়। এরপর শালকায় ক্ষুদ্র কিছুটা বাঁধা হয়। সুন্তা নিয়ে বিভিন্ন গুরুত্বের একটি ঘুড়ি দিয়ে মাছকে পরিত্যাগ করা হয়। মাছকে পাচিয়ে মাছের মুখে তোলা করে প্রথম কোচা বিদেয় করে এবং কোচার মাঝে গেয়ে দিয়ে দিয়ে। পরে পাঞ্চ থেকে কোচা তুলে মাছ মাছ করা হয়। এই কোচা সাধারণত গানের কন্ঠে ব্যবহার করা হয়। তবে তোলার বেলায় কিছু হাফিয়ার নাইট ব্যবহার করতে ঘুড়ি কোচার সাহায্যে মাছ ধরা হয়ে থাকে। মাছকে পাচিয়ে মাছের মাঝে ঘুড়ি দিয়ে দিয়ে। জুড়ে থেকে মাছের মাঝে ঘুড়ি দিয়ে দিয়ে।

যা হয় পাড়াঘুড়ি কোচার সাহায্যে বিভিন্ন ধরনের ছোট প্রজাতির মাছ, হলমন, টাকি, পোল, কাঁই, কাকিলা, টেরা, শিন, মাছ প্রভৃতি মাছ ধরা হয়ে থাকে।

**Description:**

Thuri cocha is a winding gear made of iron sticks like cycle spoke, umbrella sticks etc. Generally 8-10 inch long 15-20 iron sticks are tied with twine at one edge and iron coil the other edge remains pointed. Then the sticks are made loose. Then the twine tied edge is attached with 7.5-10.5 feet long narrow bamboo sticks to hold and through it. Fisherman aims the gear at fish on water and throws it to wounds the fish. Later fish is collected from water by lifting up the cocha. Normally cocha is used at day. Sometimes cocha is also used at night to catch fish with the help of torch or flashlight. Fisherman normally makes this at home. Smith makes cocha which is also sold in different markets. Fish are caught from July to November by it.

**Species Caught:** Spotted snakehead, snakehead murrell, climbing perch, freshwater garfish, kerala mystus, stingling catfish, walking catfish these types of fish is caught by thuri cocha.
2. Cocha or Chol

**English name:** Spear.

**Local name:** Coch, Juphi.

**Description:**

Coch or chol looks moreover like thuri cocha or caicha cocha but a little large in size. It is 10-12 inch long and its sticks are large. No. of sticks are 8-12 which is less than thuri coch. One edge of the sticks is pointed and another edge is made flat and tied together. It is made in smith house and sold in market. Fisherman buys this from the market. 10.5-12 feet long bamboo made handle is attached with the spear and the spear is used by holding this handle. Fisherman aims the gear at fish under water and throws it by holding the handle. Then the gear wounds the fish. Later fish is collected from water by lifting up the cocha. Sometimes fish is collected from the cocha by using hand under water. Normally cocha is used at day. Sometimes cocha is also used at night to catch fish with the help of torch or flash light. Fish are caught from July to November by it.

**Species Caught:** Spotted snakehead, snakehead murrel, giant snakehead, rohu, orange fin labeo, walking catfish, wallago, kuria labeo and other large fish is caught by using cocha.
3. **Aittor**

**English name:** Spear.  
**Local name:** Aero.

**Description:**
Aittor looks like coch or chola. Structurally it is almost the same. The only difference is aittor has backwardly pointed sticks which keep the fish hooked. 3-7 large and strong iron sticks are used to make it. It is 8-10 inch long 10.50-12 feet long bamboo made handle is attached with the spear which helps to use it. Aittor is used both in day and night for fishing. Fish are caught from July to November by it.

**Species caught:** Comparatively larger fish like snakehead murrel, giant snakehead, wallago, rohu, kuria labelo are caught by this gear.
8. গাছ কোচ/জোগর
ইংরেজি নাম: স্পেআর।
আঞ্চলিক নামঃ কোচ।

4. Gash Coch or Jogorr
English name: Spear.
Local name: Coch.

বর্ণনা:
সূনামগঞ্জ অঞ্চলে দুই ধরনের গাছ কোচ দেখতে পাওয়া যায়। একটি অপেক্ষাকৃত খাটি যার সাথে একটি বংশের হাতল লাগিয়ে তৈরী করা হয়। অন্যটি অপেক্ষাকৃত লম্বা এবং একে বংশের হাতল থাকে। গাছ কোচ তৈরি করা হয় বংশের শলাকা বা স্থানীয় চাঁদের গাছের শলাকা দিয়ে। খাটি গাছ কোচ তৈরির ক্ষেত্রে ৩-৪.৫ ফুট লম্বা সোনার তৈরি করে একটি বীর্য হয় এবং একটি ৪.৫-৬ ফুট লম্বা বীর্যের সাথে আকৃতি ঘটান। এই বীর্যের হাতল থাকে এটি পরিচালনা করা হয়। লম্বা গাছ কোচের ক্ষেত্রে শলাকার দৈর্ঘ্য ৪.৫-৬ ফুট হয় এবং শলাকার এক প্রাঙ্গ সরু করে কেটে একটি মজুর করতে বীর্য হয়। এতে বংশের কোন হাতল থাকে না এবং এই বীর্য প্রাঙ্গ হয় এটি পরিচালনা করা হয়। গাছ কোচের প্রতিটি শলাকার অপর পাকে লোহার তৈরি সুঁচানো নাল পরাইয়া হয়। সাধারণত পানিতে মাছ দেখে কিবরা মাছের ঘায়ে পানিতে জল আপাগ কিংবা ঘায়ের নালায় তৈরি করা হয়। তখন এটি মাছের ঘায়ে দিয়ে বিদৃঢ় হয়। অতপর পানি থেকে কোচ থেকে এরপর মাছ সংগ্রহ করা হয়। এই কোচ দিয়ে নিজের বেড়ায় মাছ ধরা হয়। জুলাই থেকে নভেম্বর মাস পর্যন্ত এটি দিয়ে মাছ ধরা হয়।

যা ধরা পড়েঃ গাছ কোচ দিয়ে অপেক্ষাকৃত বড় মাছ, যেমন- শোল, গঞ্জা, রোই, বোয়াল, যুভী হুইতে মাছ ধরা হয়।

Description:
Two types of gash cock are found in Sunamganj area. One is comparatively short and made attached with a bamboo handle. Another one is long and has no handle. Gash Koch is made with bamboo sticks or local chaur tree sticks. Short gash Koch is made with 3-4.5 feet long 6-10 bamboo sticks which are made by narrowing one edge and tied together. This is then made attached with a 4.5-6 feet long bamboo handle. It is used in action by holding the handle. In case of long gash cock length of sticks is 4.5-6 feet and bamboo sticks are cut narrow and then tied together. It has no bamboo handle. It is used in action by holding the tied part. Every sticks of the gash cocha have an iron made pointed frame. Fisherman aims the gear at fish when he sees the fish under water or feels moving or by the movement of aquatic grass or weed under water and throw it by holding the handle. Then the gear wounds the fish. Later fish is collected from water by lifting up the cocha. It is used at day for fishing. Fish are caught from July to November by it.

Species Caught: Snakehead murrel, giant snakehead, rohu, wallago, kuria labelo this type of large fish is caught.
5. Cuchiar Kali

English name: Spear.
Local name: Cuchiar Kali.

Description:
Cuchiar kali is used to catch cuchia. It is a 20-24 inch long iron stick which is made attached with a 3 feet long bamboo stick. It is not very commonly used in Sunamganj haor area. Some native people only use this for catching cuchia. Normally it is used by probing it into hole visible near the canal, beel, river and well. If cuchia present in the hole then it gets hooked with the iron sticks. Then the fisherman pulls away the spear hooked cuchia. A fisherman collects 3-4 kg cuchia every day by using this spear. It is used November to April for fishing.

Species caught: Cuchiar kali used to catch cuchia.
6. Ring

**English name:** Hook.
**Local name:** Ring, Achra.

**Description:**
Ring looks like a hook. A pointed iron wire is bent to give the hook shape and then it is made attached with 6-7.5 feet long bamboo sticks tied strongly at one edge. To catch fish by ring, fisherman comes into water and drags the ring hooked edge in to the mud quickly. As a result fish in the mud gets hooked with the ring. Then fisherman takes out the ring and collects fish. Normally fishing is done with this during dry season or in shallow water or in mud.

**Species Caught:** Lesser spiny eel and zig-zag eel is caught by ring. Sometimes stinging catfish is also getting caught.
Other fishing instruments

Hath
English name: Hand
Local name: Hath.

Description:
Hand is also a fishing instrument. This is the earliest instrument of human. Sometimes fishing is done by a group of people while irrigating the water by hands. Normally fish in the mud or bottom water is caught by hands. Sometimes during standing 1.5-2 feet water a 6 inch long hole is made in between two feet, water is pushed to the hole by the help of hand. Due to this a current is formed and fish are gathered in the hole and fishes are collected within few minutes interval. Normally fishing is done with this during dry season (November to April).

Species caught: By using hand fishes present at the bottom or mud are collected and the fishes are barb, spotted snakehead, barred spiny eel, stinging catfish, climbing perch, tank goby etc.
Section 2
Fishing Gears of different types of Nets

1. ঠেলা জাল (Push Net)

1 (1) দৈনীয় (দ্বিপ্রান্ত) নাম: ঠেলা জাল (ডব্ল্যাগ++)
ইংরেজী নাম: Push Net.
হাল্দুক অঞ্চলে গ্রামিক নাম: ঠেলা জাল/ ফেলুন জাল।
ঠেলা জালের উপকরণ: জাল, নাইলন সূতি ও বীশ।

ঠেলা জালের ব্যবহার সংক্রান্ত তথ্যঃ এ জালের জাল প্রসারিত ও ব্যবহার সময়ের সময় ধারাকে প্রথমে দুই গাম্বুজের মাধ্যমে পায়ের মাধ্যমে প্রসারিত করা হয়। এ জালের ব্যবহারের সময়, জল সমুদ্রের সূত্রপাত হয় এবং জলের প্রসার হয়।

ঠেলা জালের ব্যবহারের পদ্ধতি হলোঃ (সংযোজন দৃষ্টিকোণ) শাখায় একটি তুলা মৌসুমের শুরুতে এবং তুলা মৌসুমের প্রথমে এই জালের ব্যবহারের সময় হয়। এ জালের ব্যবহারের সময়, জল সমুদ্রের সূত্রপাত হয় এবং জলের প্রসার হয়।

ঠেলা জালের ধারণা প্রসারিত হয়ে বিভিন্ন প্রজাতির মাছের পাওয়া এই জালে সুন্দর ধারণ।

1(1) Push Net/Thela Jal
Group name: Dragged Net.
English name: Push Net.
Local name in haor area: Thela Jal/ Felun.

Materials used: Net, nylon rope and bamboo.

Description: Triangular; its mesh size varies between 0.25-0.5 inches. Both of the 2 ground adjoined arms are 6-7.5 feet long and ground arm is 4.5-6 feet in dimension. 3 pieces of narrow bamboo sticks are tied with each other in the edge keeping about 12-18 inches extra bamboo sticks behind the gear for handling. Net is cut off as a rectangle according to the shape of the structure. The opposite edge of ground arm is sewed with each other's edge after being folded and is hemmed with nylon rope in each edge. Hereafter, two of the three edges are tied with the bamboo structure.

Mode and place of Operation: It is used mainly in the shallow water (maximum depth is 4.5-7.5 feet) during starts of rainy season and before dry season. It is immersed under the water and pushed forward for a while (about 5-10 minutes) and then is pulled up from water. But it is also used in the muddy water in haor region.

Species caught: Large amount of juveniles of different species are caught. Barbs, large razorbelly minnow, gora-cobra, prawn, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet, barred spiny eel, lesser spiny eel etc are mostly entrapped in this gear.
Fishing Gears Diversity in Sunamganj
Haor region within GBRMP’s working area

1 (2) Fishing Gears

1. (2) Push Net/Ochu Jal

**Group name**: Dragged Net.

**English name**: Push Net.

**Local name in haor area**: Ochu Jal/ Ucha.

**Materials used**: Nylon rope, Nylon net and Narrow Bamboo.

**Description**: It is a triangular shaped gear. Its mesh size is between 0.25-0.5 inches. This gear is prepared with a triangular shaped net. Both of the 2 ground adjoined arms are 7.5-9 feet long and the ground arm is 6-7.5 feet in dimension. 3 pieces of narrow bamboo sticks are bent with each other in triangular shape so that an elongated handle is created behind the structure. Hereafter, 2 bamboo slices are taken, one edge of a slice is bent with its earthen arm and the other edge is bent with the point of the handle as a bow. Two edges of the other slice are also bent as a bow shape with the earthy arms in the middle point. Now the structure is covered with a triangular shape net and also is bent to necessary places with twine. A completed net structure is similar to a samosa. It can be prepared by purchasing net from Sunamganj.

**Mode and place of Operation**: A small size boat and an iron-made chain with 45-60 feet long are needed during operation of the net. Three persons are needed to operate it. One take place on the boat with net and another two persons come near the net by maintaining a distance about 75 feet hauling the chain over the bottom and then the net holder pushes the net and lifts up in a hurry after a while. It is used mainly in the shallow water (maximum depth is 4.5-7.5 feet) during starts of rainy season and before dry season.

**Species caught**: Mainly barred spiny eel, lesser spiny eel, zig-zag eel and loach are caught by this gear.
2. **Seine Net (Seine Net)**

2(1) **Kona Jal**

**Group name:** Seine Net.
**English name:** Surrounding Net.
**Local name in haor area:** Kona Jal / Ber Jal.
**Materials used:** Nylon or Plastic rope, Nylon net, Floating and Sinker.

**Description:** Rectangular, it is 825 feet long and 52 feet wide (Maximum). Its mesh size varies between 0.1-0.2 inches. Numbers of big pieces of nets are attached with each other by sewing to enlarge its length and width. Thick ropes are attached with its four border lines by hemming and extra large ropes are also kept for dragging the net easily. Floats (plastic, cork sheet) are encased with its upper border line to keep it in floating condition. Sinkers are also enclosed with its lower border line to sink the border in the water and make contacts with the bottom. Net can be collected from Sunamganj, Sylhet and Dhaka.

**Mode and place of Operation:** It is used more in rainy season when water level is high (deep water in river and haor). Its two wide ends are brought together slowly in drifting condition by dragging it in the water. It looks a little bit round when it is dragged. One person gives mild pressure on the lower border line so that fish can't escape out of the net. About 6-10 persons are needed to operate this net.

**Species caught:** The species which are caught mostly by this gear are mola carplet, spotted snakehead, snakehead murrel, great snakehead, tang goby, barred spiny eel, gangetic leaffish, loach, flying barb, cotio, kerala mystus, barb, dwarf gourami, banded gourami and rohu, catla, mirgal, orange fin laboe etc which are worth-mentioning.
2 (2) Seine Net/Gon Jal
Group name: Seine Net.
English name: Surrounding Net.
Local name in haor area: Gon Jal/ Gan Jal/ Ghurainal Jal.
Description: Rectangular; it is 225-1050 feet long and 22.50-33 feet wide in dimension. It is made by the attachment of several pieces of nets. Its mesh size varies between 0.12-0.3 inches. Floats are attached to upper border line and sinkers are attached to its lower border line (foot line). Thick ropes are kept from both of the floats and sinkers edges for pulling the net. Floats are attached closely so that the net is not to be sunk or be in immersed condition. 3/4 persons and a medium size boat are needed for operating the gear. Net is collected from Sunamganj, Sylhet and Dhaka.

Operation: One edge of the net is placed in the water first, one person grips that edge and either he stands there or goes forward with net; rest of the net is placed in water slowly by the help of the boat as rounded and both edges get close. At that moment the net gains circular shape. Hereafter, it is hauled up on the boat. Another person creates mild pressure on the net to keep it on the bottom surface; and he grips the boat to keep him in balance. About 40-50 minutes need to complete a fishing cycle. It can be operated in a range of 1.5-22.5 feet depth. It is used from Ashar to Ashwin in haor and up to month of Kartik in the river. It is used in July to November.

Species caught: Barred spiny eel, Lesser spiny eel, zig-zag eel, loach, bengal loach, dwarf gourami, banded gourami, spotted snakehead, snakehead murrell, great snakehead, prawn, small prawn, keraliya mystus, striped dwarf cat fish, freshwater garfish, gangetic leaffish and highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet are caught in haor and long-whiskered catfish, giant river-catfish, day's mystus, wallago, zig-zag eel, kerala mystus and prawns are caught in the river water.
2 (3) Seine Net/Gorgori Jal

**Group name:** Seine Net.

**English name:** Surrounding Net.

**Local name in haor area:** Gorgori Jal/Khunti Jal.

**Materials:** Nylon net, thick Nylon ropes, Floats, Sinkers (Iron made weights) and 1-Boat.

**Description:** It is a rectangular shaped net and its mesh size varies between 0.5-1.0 inch. It is 225-750 feet long and 15-30 feet wide. Thick rope is hemmed in its upper borderline and floats are attached with it. Numbers of pockets (gai) are prepared of its foot end which is about 1.5-2 feet high (space of height) and weights are enclosed with the border of the pockets. Thirteen (13) meshes are remained in each pocket and nine pieces of weights are contained in each pocket. About 45-100 kilograms weights are enclosed on the net sizes so that the pockets may contact with the bottom easily after placing the net in the body of water. Net is collected from Sunamganj, Sylhet, Bhairab, Kishoreganj and Dhaka.

**Mode and place of Operation:** A medium size boat and 4 operators are needed to operate it. In the beginning of the operating process, one operator stands on the bank of the body of water holding the ropes of its one edge and rest of the three persons going ahead by placing the net in the body of water which maintains a distance from the bank and one operator stands on the bank holding the other edge of the net after placing the net completely. Both of the two operators pull the net by hauling and collect fish from the pockets after 10:00 minutes interval. About 20:00-30:00 minutes are needed for completing a fishing cycle. It is used when the dykes are appeared and it continues up to minimum a water depth of 1 foot.

**Species caught:** All species including wallago, kuria labeo, long-whiskered catfish, giant river-catfish, reba, rohu, catla, mrigal and orange fin labeo.
3 | **Net (Lift Net)**

3 (1) **Dharma Jal**

**Group name:** Lift Net.  
**English name:** Hand Lift Net.  
**Local name in haor area:** Tak Jal, Shib Jal, Dharma Jal.  
**Materials:** Net, Nylon rope and Narrow Bamboo.  

**Description:** It is square shaped; each arm is about 12-21 feet long. Its mesh size varies between 0.5-1.0 inches. Four flexible sticks are needed. At first, two sticks are tied with each other in its foot edges and rest of the two sticks is also tied as the same scheme; as a result four sticks are converted into two sticks. Hereafter, these two sticks are kept as plus direction (+) and tied with each other by twine in the center. Thus, four free edges are created. Four edges of square shaped net are tied with the free edges by twine. One edge of a bamboo which makes the long handle is bent with the plus point and another end is used as the handle for the operation of net.

**Mode and place of Operation:** It is mainly used in shallow water having low current in the starts of rainy season and before dry season. One person is needed to operate it. The gear is placed in the water by gripping the handle. Fishes come upon in the net during movement of its route; after a while, it is pulled up from water by handle and collects fish. It can be operated standing on a bank, platform near the shore or by using long ropes. A fish creel is attached with his waist or a floating pot is reserved for keeping fish.

**Species caught:** Small fish species are caught, such as barb, large razorbelly minnow, gora-chela, mola carplet, freshwater garfish, flying barb, cotio, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, indian glass-perchlet etc.
3 (2) Lift Net/ Veshal Jal

**Group name:** Lift Net.

**English name:** Fixed Lift Net.

**Local name in Haor area:** Vel Jal/ Tak Jal/ Veshal Jal/ Khora Jal.

**Materials:** Bamboo, Net, Rope or Nylon rope.

**Description:** A complete veshal structure is triangular. It is prepared with a rectangular net and its mesh size varies between 0.5 - 1.5 inches. It is 52.50 feet long and 37.50 feet wide (earthen arm) in dimension. Its mesh size varies between 0.3 - 0.6 inches. Two pieces of bamboo are tied with each other at the foot edges. Other parts of the bamboos are tied at 3 feet (1.5 m) above the water surface as 2:3 ratios with the bamboo poles of both sides of the structure so that it can be possible to dip in and lift up from water; the frontal edge of the veshal structure easily. Thick nylon ropes are attached by hemming with its entire sides; two frontal corners of the net are tied with the frontal edges of the bamboo and opposite edges are closed together and tied with the joint of the mentioned two bamboos. A platform is built with its back side.

**Mode and place of Operation:** It is operated by creating pressure on foot on its pointed edge of the structure. A boat is kept during its operation and a bamboo made trap is reserved to keep fishes. It is set in the shallow water against gentle current. It is used in the starts of rainy season and continues before dry season. One person can operate it. Its frontal portion is immersed in the water for about 5 - 10 minutes and lift up from water by creating pressure on its pointed edge.

**Species caught:** Small fish species and juveniles of different species are entrapped, such as barb, large razorbelly minnow, gora-chela, coto, Indian river shad, prawn, zig-zag eel, lesser spiny eel etc.
৩(৩) নদী৷ (ফেন৷) নামাই উড়ুজন জল
এইন্তীক নামে লিথ নেট।
হাতের অংশে গ্রিপ্লিক নামাই চাটা জল/ চাটা জল।
চাউড়ীর উপর নাইল সুয়ার জল, যেটা নাইলন সুতা, নৌকা ৪টি।
জলের বর্ধন: হাই একটি বর্ধনীর জল এবং হাইর চাঁদ ২-৫০-২৫ ইঞ্চি
হ্যাতে থাকে। হাইর চাঁদ বর্ধনের মোটা
সুতা হেম করা থাকে এবং চাউড়ীবাটায়
৭৫-১০০ স্ত্রী লজ্জা মোটা সুতা বংধা
থাকে। চাউড়ীবাটায় ১-৫ কেজি
একন্দ পায়ে বিংচে দেয়া হয় যাতে
জল সুডান পানির তড়িতে পৌঁছাতে
থাকে এবং মাটির সংশ্লেষণ থাকে।
জলটি ব্যাবহার করে ৪তি নৌকায়
২ জন করে মেটা ৮ জন লাঙের
খ্যাত হয়। সুমাঙ্গাঙ্গ, লিটেল, টীলার, কিশোরগোন্দ এক তকার থেকে এই জল সংলাঙ্গ করা যায়।
জলের বিয়ারা: যেকোনো নৌকার দুইজনের একজন নৌকা পরিচালনা করে থাকে। অপরজন জল প্রতিষ্ঠানের কাছ করে। প্রথম জল নিয়ে চারটি নৌকা
পরিসেবায় সুবােমুখি অবস্থান থাকে, জলের চাপালোর দড়ি চারটি নিয়ে নৌকা ৪টি হ্যাতে থাকে, পানির দিকে না পানির দিকে না
সাধারণ সস্ত্রী অর্ডার করে। জল প্রতিষ্ঠানের
সমস্ত গঠন হলে নৌকা ৪টি থেকে সমভাবে দড়ি টিনিয়ে পরিসেবার সুবাটী অস্ত এবং জলটি নৌকার উপর বুলে এনে মাছ সাঙ্গ করে।
জল যার্বার বার্বারির খ্যাত মাছের অবস্থান পরিবর্তন করে জল পরিচালনা করে থাকে। একবার জল প্রতিষ্ঠান ও মাছ সাঙ্গ তত
সমস্ত করে খ্যাত ৩০-৪৫ মিনিটের সময় থাকে।
এ জলের পানি পথে পাথটি সমুদ্র: বোয়াল, ঘনিয়া, আইয়ো, রায়ব্যক, কুই, কাতা, মুগল, কালিবাঁধ খানার পাড়৷

3(3) Lift Net/ Chata Jal
Group name: Lift Net.
English name: Lift Net.
Local name in haor area: Chata Jal/ Chada Jal.
Materials: Nylon net, thick Nylon ropes and 4 boats.
Description: It is a rectangular shaped net and its mesh size varies between 2.0-2.5 inches. Thick
ropes are hemmed in its both the 4 border lines and about 75-90 feet long thick ropes are tied in
each corner of the edge. About 1.5-2 kilograms stone is enclosed in each corner so that the net can
easily sink in the water and may contact with the bottom. 8 operators are needed to use the net in
which two operators are in each boat. Net is collected from Sunamganj, Sylhet, Bhairab, Kishoreganj and Dhaka.
Mode and place of Operation: One of the two persons operates the boat and other one operates
the gear. First of all, 4 boats are closed together in face to face, 4 boats go beyond with the ropes
of its full length. The 4 boats come forward with an equal motion and close up face to face after
completed placing the net; pull up the net on boat and collect fish. The net operators change the
fishing places as they like and catch fish. About 30-45 minutes are needed to complete a fishing
cycle.
Species caught: All species including wallago, kuria labeo, long-whiskered catfish, giant
river-catfish, reba, rohu, catla, mrigal and orange fin labeo.
8 | ফৌস জাল (Gill Net)

8 (1) দলীয় (এপ্র) নাম্বর ফৌস জাল (গিল/ফৌকা জাল)

ইংরেজী নাম গিল নেট।
হাওড় অঞ্চলে প্রচলিত নামঃ কারের্ট জাল।
তৈরীর উপকরণঃ একতন্ত্র লাইনের দ্বারা তৈরী জাল, নাইলন লাইন, পোড়া মাটির তৈরী কোন আকৃতির নিমজ্জক এবং বর্ণ বিশেষের ছোটো।

জালের বর্ণনাঃ ইহা একটি চতুর্ভুজাকৃতির জাল; দৈর্ঘ্য সর্বোচ্চ ৭৫-১৫০০ ফুট এবং গড় ৫০০ ফুট। সাধারণত ৪.৫ থেকে ৯ ফুট পর্যন্ত হয়ে থাকে। জালের ফৌস সাধারণত ০.৫-০.৬ ইঞ্চি। এ জালটি কোন যায়ানা, কারখানায় বুনা হয়। সাধারণত এক তফা বিশিষ্ট কুড়িম সুকুল বা ছোট জাল তৈরী করা হয়। জালটির উপর এবং নীচের বর্ডার লাইনে মোটা সুকুল স্থাপন করা থাকে। উপর বর্ডার লাইনের সাথে ভাসক (কুড়িম দ্বারা তৈরী ভাসক বা কোন) এবং নীচ বর্ডার লাইনের সাথে নিমজ্জক (মাটির তৈরী কোন আকৃতির নিমজ্জক) সাধারণত ৬-৮ ইঞ্চি পর বিশেষ থাকে যা জালটিকে পানিতে হিতাত্মক থাকতে সাহায্য করে।

জালের ব্যবহারঃ হাওড় অঞ্চলের গভীর ও অগভীর উভয় পানিতে অর্ধেক বর্ষা মৌসুমের শেষ থেকে শুরু মৌসুমের পূর্ব পর্যন্ত এই জাল ব্যবহৃত হয়ে থাকে। জালের দুই গলার মাটিটের পুটে রাখা ২টি ছোটুর সাথে বেঁধে রাখা যাতে জালটির উপর বর্ডার লাইন পানির উপর মনিরা স্থানের সমতল থেকে টান টান অবস্থায় থাকে। এ জালটি পানিতে স্থায়ী প্রতিবিম্বিত করা হয় এবং পর্যন্ত সকল অন্তর্গত মাছ সাগর করা হয়।

এ জালে ধরা পড়া প্রজাতিমূল্য বিভিন্ন প্রজাতির ছোট মাছ এই জালে বেশি ধরা পড়ে, যেমনঃ পুটি, টেংরা, শিং, কই, খলিশা, পটি বাইম ও শাল বাইম ধরা পড়ে।

4(1) Gill Net/Current Jal
Group name: Gill Net.
English name: Gill Net.
Local name in haor area: Current Jal.

Description: It is a rectangular shaped gear; it is 75-1500 feet long and 4.5-9 feet wide (Maximum). Its mesh size varies between 0.5-0.6 inches. It is not possible to weave it by hands, it is woven in factories. Mainly it is prepared by mono-filament synthetic twine. Both of the upper and lower border lines are attached with thick ropes by hemming. Floats (which are made of hyacinth or cork) are attached with its upper border line and sinkers (which are made of soil and coin shape) are enclosed with its lower border line maintaining a distance about 6-8 inches so that the net be kept in straight and drift in the water column.

Mode and place of Operation: It is used both in the shallow and deep water of haor region from starts of rainy season and continues until dry season. Its two edges are tied with two fixed bamboo poles so that its upper border line keeps in water surface and net remains straight in the water. It is set in the evening and lift up at dawn of the next day and collects fish.

Species caught: Small fish species are entrapped, such as barb, kerala mystus, stingling catfish, climbing perch, dwarf gourami, banded gourami, barred spiny eel and zig-zag eel.
4 (2) Gill Net/ Koi Jal  
**Group name:** Gill Net  
**English name:** Gill Net  
**Local name in haor area:** Koi Jal/ Koiya jal  
**Materials:** Mono-filament synthetic fibre net, Nylon rope, Floats, Coin shape soil-made Sinker (weight), Pieces of narrow bamboo poles.  

**Description:** Climbing perch net (Koi net) is a rectangular shaped gear. It is 75-1500 feet long and 4.5-9 feet wide. Fishers enlarge or shorten its length according to area of the waterbody. Its mesh size varies between .75-2.4 inches. It is woven with mono-filament synthetic twine in the factory and fishers purchase it from market. Floats (which are made of hyacinth or cork) are attached with its upper border line and sinkers (which are made of soil and coin shape) are enclosed with its lower border line maintaining a distance about 6-8 inches which help the net keeping stand-still in water. It is called Climbing perch net (Koi net) as huge number of Climbing perch (Koi) is entrapped with this net during spawning season.  

**Mode and place of Operation:** It is used both in the shallow and deep water of haor region from starts of rainy season and continues until dry season. Its two edges are tied with two fixed bamboo poles so that its upper border line keeps in water surface and net remains straight in the water. It is set in the evening and lift up at the dawn of the next day and collects fish.  

**Species caught:** Mostly climbing perch is trapped in this gear. Other species are dwarf gourami, banded gourami, pool barb, gangetic leaffish, barred spiny eel, zig-zag eel and walking catfish.
4 (3) Gill Net/ Chela Jal

**Group name:** Gill Net.
**English name:** Gill net.
**Local name in haor area:** Chela Jal.
**Materials:** Mono-filament synthetic fibre net, Nylon rope, Sponge made floats and soil-made weight.

**Description:** It is a rectangular shaped gear; it is 75-1500 feet long and 2.5-3 feet wide. Its mesh size is about 0.6 inches. It is not possible to weave this net by hand, it is woven with mono-filament synthetic twine in the factory and fishers purchase it from market according to their need. Floats are attached with the upper border line to keep it drift and soil-made weight is enclosed with the lower border line maintaining a distance about 12-18 inches which help the net keeping stand-still in water.

**Mode and place of Operation:** It is used both in the shallow and deep water during starts of rainy season and it will continue until dry season. Its two edges are tied with two fixed bamboo poles so that its upper border line keeps in water surface and net remains straight in the water. It is set in the evening and lift up at the dawn of the next day to collect fish. However, fish can be collected after 3 hour intervals.

**Species caught:** Mainly large razorbelly minnow, gora-chela is entrapped by this gear.
4 (4) Gill Net/ Bata Jal

**Group name:** Gill Net.

**English name:** Gill Net.

**Local name in haar area:** Bata Jal.

**Materials:** Mono-filament synthetic fibre net, Nylon rope, Hyacinth lip-made floats and Sinkers (bricks or stones- made).

**Description:** It is a rectangular shaped gear; it is 150-1600 feet long and 4.5-7.5 feet wide. Its mesh size varies between 0.5-5 inches. It is not woven by hand, original net is woven in the factory with mono-filament synthetic twine and fishers purchase it from market according to their need. Thick nylon ropes are attached with both the ends by hemming. Hyacinth lip-made float is attached with its upper border line to keep it afloat and pieces of bricks or stones are enclosed with its lower border line to keep it suspended in the water.

**Mode and place of Operation:** It is used both in the deep and medium shallow water during start of rainy season and continues before the start to the dry season. A boat is needed to operate it. It is arranged layer-wise on boat and goes backward releasing the net from a distinct place by the help of a scull. It is pulled up on boat after an interval of 5-10 minutes when the net is completed to set up in the water by the edge which is bent with the boat and fish is collected. About 20-30 minute is needed to complete a fishing cycle.  

**Species caught:** Mainly orange fin labo is caught by this gear, but medium size of rohu, catla, kuria labo are also caught by this gear.
4 (5) Gill Net/ Suti Jal

**Group name:** Gill Net.

**English name:** Gill Net.

**Local name in haor area:** Suti Jal.

**Mesh size:** About 0.5-0.6 Inches.

**Materials:** Mono-filament synthetic net, Nylon rope, Coin shape soil made Sinker (weight), Pieces of narrow bamboo sticks.

**Description:** It is a rectangular shaped net; it is 75-1500 feet long and generally 4.5-9 feet wide. Its mesh size varies between 0.5-0.6 inches. It is both woven by hands and in factory. It is prepared mainly from cotton twine. So fishers weave or buy it from market as their need. Both of upper and lower border lines are attached with thick ropes by hemming. Floats are attached with the upper border line and sinkers are attached with its lower border line maintaining a distance of 6-8 inches so that the net be kept in straight and drift in the water.

**Mode and place of Operation:** It is used both in the shallow and deep water of haor region from starts of rainy season and continues until dry season in haor region. Its two edges are tied with two fixed bamboo poles so that its upper border line keeps in water surface and the net remains straight in the water. It is set in the evening and lift up at the dawn of the next day to collect fish.

**Species caught:** Small fish species are entrapped, such as kerala mystus, stinging catfish, climbing perch, dwarf gourami, banded gourami, barred spiny eel and zig-zag eel.
Fishing Gears Diversity in Sunamganj

Raor region within CBMRP’s working area

5. বোঁকি জাল (Cast Net)

5.1 (লোলীয় (গোঁল) নাম: পচন্ডীলী জাল
ইংরেজি নাম: Cast Net.
বাংলা অর্থ: পরচ্ছুড়ি নাম: কাণ্ড জাল

tেরীলুর উপকরণগুলি নৈলন বা কৃত্রিম সূত, মোটা রশি, নিমজ্জক (লোলার মেরা তেরীলুর স্বাভাবিক নাম হলো)

জালের বর্ণনা: বোঁকি জাল থেকে জালের মুখ বুজাকার। মুখ থেকে জালের অবশিষ্ট একটি কেন্দ্র বিন্দুতে এককিত হয়। ইঁজর ফাঁস সাধারণত 0.5-0.6 ইঁজ হয়। কেন্দ্র বিন্দুতে 10-50-15 ফুট পরিমাণ একটি শক্ত মোটা রশি লাগানো থাকে। মূলত এর মাধ্যমে জালকে জলের দিকে নিক্ষেপ করা হয়।

জালের দৈর্ঘ্য 11 ফুট থেকে 16 ফুট পর্যন্ত হয় থাকে।

এ জালের নীচের দিকে পাইল্ড সালফা স্থানে বহু-সংখ্যক ছোট ছোট ধরে থাকে যার ভাসানো নাম গাই।

5.1 Cast Net/ Jhaki Jal

Group name: Falling Net.
English name: Cast Net.
Local name in haor area: Koni Jal/ Jhaki Jal.
Materials: Nylon or Synthetic rope, Thick rope, Sinkers (weight).

Description: Its opening is circular in dimension. Other part of the net is closed together centering a point. Its mesh size varies between 0.5-0.6 inches. Strong and thick rope about 10.50-15 feet long is bent in the center. The net is thrown in the waterbody mainly by the help of this rope. Its length is about 11 feet to 16 feet. Remaining numbers of pockets in its foot edge which is locally called gai. Sinkers are attached around the gai as a series so that the net can go deep in the water.

Mode and place of Operation: It is used all the year round. During operation, the rope is kept in one hand and the net is thrown with the help of both hands. When the net sinks completely, the sinkers reach to the bottom and the fishes beneath the net get trapped. Then the net is hauled up by pulling the rope. It is operated mainly in the shallow water standing on the bank of waterbody or in deep water standing upon a boat. One person can operate this gear.

Species caught: Most of the small fish species are caught, such as barb, kerala mystus, mola carplet, prawns, stinging catfish, walking catfish, dwarf gourami, banded gourami, barred spiny eel, lesser spiny eel, zig-zag eel.
Fishing Gears Diversity in Sunamganj
Haor region within CSRMP’s working area

5 (2) Cast Net/ Bachuri Jal

**Group name:** Falling Net.
**English name:** Cast Net.
**Local name in haor area:** Bachuri Jal/ Eknaia Jal/ Bichani Jal.
**Materials:** Nylon twine, Thick rope and Sinker (Iron made weight).

**Description:** It is actually a bigger cast net. Its mesh size is about 1.25 inches. Its opening diameter is circular. It becomes progressively narrow from its opening and gets together in a center point. It is 37-45 feet long and opening diameter is double the size. It has mainly three parts. It has a large number of pockets in its opening which is locally called gai. Hereafter, gradually the next parts are janga and mailina; and a 37 feet long thick rope is tied with its center point. Pockets (gai) are 6 feet high and its diameter is highest also. Comparatively thick rope is used to make pockets than other parts of the net, because more rubbing is occurred on bottom with this part of the net. About 25-28 kilograms small pieces of iron made sinkers (iron made weights) are enclosed with the pockets so that the net can reach under water quickly and make contact with the bottom. Net is collected from Sunamganj, Sylhet and Dhaka.

**Mode and place of Operation:** At least two persons and a large size boat are needed to operate it. It is placed slowly in the water and goes backward against current by the help of 2 sculls and the net is hauled up on the boat by the help of the thick rope after 10-15 minutes later. Generally this net is used from July to November.

**Species caught:** Generally rohu, catla, orange fin laboe, wallago, long-whiskered catfish, giant river-catfish, mirgal, kuria laboe, river catfish, day’s mystus, tank goby, zig-zag eel, begal loach, indian river shad, elogate glass-perchl and pool barb.
5(3) Cast Net/ Utar Jal
Group name: Falling Net.
English name: Cast Net.
Local name in haor area: Utar Jal, Gaiiya Utar, Naia Utar.
Materials: Nylon net, Nylon rope, Thick ropes, Sinker (iron made weight), 2 Boats and 1 Machan.

Description: It is actually a bigger cast net, mesh size is about 1.5 inches, and opening diameter is circular. It becomes narrow from its opening and gets together in a center point. It is 67-90 feet long and opening diameter is double the figure. It has mainly three parts. It has a large number of pockets in its opening which is locally called gai, next parts are janga and malha; and a 90-106 feet long thick rope is tied with center point. Pockets (gai) are 6.75 feet high and its diameter is highest also. Comparatively thick rope is used to make pockets, because more rubbering is occurred on bottom with this part of the net. About 30 kilograms small pieces of iron made sinkers (iron made weights) are enclosed with the pockets so that the net can reach under water quickly on to the bottom. Net is collected from Sunamganj, Sylhet and Dhaka.

Mode and place of Operation: Four persons are needed to operate this net. Two medium size boats are attached (its length direction) with each other maintaining a distance of about 2 feet by a machan which is locally called habum. It becomes about 60-75 feet long after attachment of two boats. It is placed slowly in the water and goes backward against current by the help of 2 sculls. The net is pulled up on the boat about 10-15 minutes later after placing the net. Generally this net is used from July to November.
6. Lantern Net/ Chabi Jal

Group name: Falling Net.
English name: Lantern Net.
Local name in haor area: Jhap Jal, Chabi Jal.
Materials: Nylon net, Nylon rope and Bamboo.

Description: It is a funnel shaped gear. Its mesh size is about 0.6 inches and its height is about 9-12 feet. A circular frame is formulated with a piece of bamboo slice of which the opening diameter is 4.5-6 feet. A piece of 9-10.5 feet long narrow bamboo pole is taken and about half of its lower portion is sliced into 4 arms and made smooth. A conical structure is formulated by bending these 4 arms at edges with the circular shape. Net is surrounded in the inner part of the conical shape. And a slip-knot is created on the other edge of the net with rope from where the fish is collected.

Mode and place of Operation: It is operated upon the boat. It is operated mainly in the shallow water. It is thrown by gripping its handle but the handle is on holding during it is thrown in the water. One person is needed to operate it, but advantage is added if two persons operate it.

Species caught: Generally big species are caught by it, such as rohu, catla, mrigel, orange fin labeo, wallago, snakehead murrell, giant snakehead etc.
7. টানা জাল (Drag Net)

7 (1) কল্যাণের মধ্যে টানা জাল (ড্রাগ) 

ইংরেজি নামঃ Drag Net/Drage Net।

হাওড়া অঞ্চলে প্রচলিত নামঃ টানা জাল।

টেক্সটের উপকরণঃ জাল, লাইন, পাটিকের সূত্র ও বীশ।

জালের বর্ণনা: চালকৃত জালের সাধারণত তৈরি করা হয় ১২ ফুট ও ১৮ ফুটের পার্থক্য হওয়ায়। এ জালের ফাঁদ দৈর্ঘ্য সাধারণত ০.১-০.৫ ইঞ্চি হয়ে থাকে। জালের পাত্রের মোটা সূত্রের সাথে হয় করা থাকে। ৭.৫ ফুট দৈর্ঘ্য বিশিষ্ট ২টি বাঁশের টুকরো ধারনের ঝোলা জালের চালকৃত আলাদাভাবে সূতা নিয়ে বেধে নিবে হয়। এ জাল অত্যন্ত মোটা হওয়ায় অনেকটা ফুটবল মাঠের গোল গোল তেরে মত হয়।

জালের ব্যবহার: অগ্নী পানির অর্থে ব্যবহার করতে হ্রস্ব মৌসুমের জন্য এবং তুঙ্গ মৌসুমের পূর্বে পানি যখন কম থাকে তখন এই জালের ব্যবহার বেশি দেখা যায়। এ জাল ব্যবহার করতে দুটি মাঝে মাঝে ধরে নিয়ে থাকা হয় ও বিকটর থেকে (এ এ জাল থেকে প্রদান শুরু অথবা পাত্রের মধ্যে টুকরো ধারনের দিকে ট্যাঙ্গ নিয়ে থাকা হয়। এসময় বাঁশ দুটি পানির কতিপয় থেকে অবস্থান করে।

এ জালে ধরা পড়া প্রজাতিসমূহঃ বিভিন্ন প্রজাতির ছোট মাছ এই জালে বেশি ধরা পড়ে, যেমনঃ পুটি, চেলা, মলা, চেলা, চান্না, ইত্যাদি।

7(1) Drag Net/ Tana Jal

Group name: Dragged Net.

English name: Drag Net/Dredge Net.

Local name in haor area: Tana Jal.

Materials used: Net, Nylon/Plastic rope and Bamboo.

Description: Rectangular; it is 12 feet long and 7.5 feet high (Maximum). Its mesh size varies between 0.1-0.5 inches. Thick ropes are attached with its four border lines by hemming. Four corners of net are tied at edges of 7.5 feet long two bamboo sticks separately by ropes. This net structure is seen as a goal post of a football field.

Mode and place of Operation: It is used mainly in the shallow water during starts of rainy season and beginning of dry season. Two persons are needed to operate this net. They grip these 2 bamboos separately at a time, immerse under the water vertically and haul forward for a while (about 5-10 minutes) and then pull up from water and fish is collected. It stays slanting during operation.

Species caught: Small fish species are entrapped, such as barb, large razorbelly minnow, gora-chela, mola carpent, cotio, highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet shrimps etc.
7(2) Drag Net/ Ichar Jol

**Group name:** Dragged Net.

**English name:** Drag Net/Dredge Net.

**Local name in haor area:** Ichar Jol/ Ram Jol.

**Materials:** Nylon net, Nylon rope, Bamboo, 2 pieces of Bickey or Stone and 300 feet long thick ropes.

**Description:** It is a triangular net with 0.024 inches mesh is used to prepare this net. Both edges are hemmed with thick ropes. Both of 2 ground adjoin arms are 6-7.5 feet long and ground arm is 5.25-6 feet in dimension. 3 pieces of narrow bamboo sticks are bent with each other as triangular shape so that an elongated handle is created behind the structure. Edges of net are bent with the triangular shape structure using nylon twine. 2 pieces of same weight stones or bricks are tied with the ground adjoin arms maintaining a distance of about 1 foot from ground. Two pieces of ropes about 6 feet long are tied with the ground adjoin arms at 1 foot high from the ground and about 8 feet long rope is tied with the top corner of the two side sticks and finally 3 free edges are tied together. One edge of a 300 feet long thick nylon rope is tied at the joint of the three ropes and other edge is tied with the boat. The completed net shape looks like a push net. It can be prepared by collecting net from Sunamganj.

**Mode and place of Operation:** Two persons are needed to operate this net. One edge of a thick rope is tied with a bamboo pole which is fixed on bottom under the water. Hereafter, the net is placed slowly in the water after chasing the total length of the thick ropes and go back again at the starting point with the help of scull. Due to attachment of sinkers (weights), its ground arm reaches to the bottom. One person pull up the net on the boat by dragging and other person keeps the boat in balance by the help of scull. Generally it can be operated at the maximum water depth; it is operated from the starts of rainy season and continues up to starts of dry season.

**Species caught:** Mainly prawn is caught by this gear. Other species are Indian glassy fish and elongate glass-perchlet.
Fishing Gears Diversity in Sunamganj

Page within UBRMP's working area

7(3) Drag Net/Para Jal

Group name: Dragged Net

Local name in haor area: Kodi Jal, Koli Jal, Para Jal, Porhor Jal, Horhor Jal.

Materials: Nylon net, Nylon rope, Thick rope, Floating (made of sponge or plastic), Sinker (iron made weight), Pieces of bamboo.

Description: It is a rhombus shaped gear, mesh size varies between 0.5-0.55 inches, rectangular opening is 22 feet long and 12 feet wide. It is prepared attaching pieces of nets, upper and lower borders are tied with thick ropes, floats and sinkers (weights) are attached with its upper and lower border respectively. Floats are attached with 3 feet distance in each and sinkers of about 2 kilograms are attached closely. Two pieces of 1.5 feet long bamboo sticks are tied with the basement of two border lines to maintain a gap between the mentioned border lines. About 300 thick long ropes are bent with both the two corners of the net. Besides this, two pieces of 4.5-6 feet long bamboo pieces are tied of its one edge with both the thick ropes maintaining a distance of about 7.5 feet which helps keeping the balance the net.

Mode and place of Operation: A boat is needed to operate; thick rope is tied with a bamboo pole which is fixed on bottom under water. The whole net is placed slowly into the water after chasing the total length of thick ropes and going back from the starting point with the help of scull. Weights consisting border line reaches the bottom and floats remain submersed when whole net is placed into water. Hereafter, two persons pull up the net on the boat by dragging and collect fish. It is operated during July-October in haor areas, and up to April in the river in a depth of about 7.5-45 feet. Generally it is operated from dawn to 12:00 pm to catch fishes.

Species caught: Barred spiny eel, lesser spiny eel, zig-zag eel, loach, bengal loach, dwarf gourami, banded gourami, giant snakehead, snakehead murrel, spotted snakehead, prawn, tiny prawn, keleta mystus, stripped dwarf cat fish, freshwater garfish, gangetic leaffish and highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet are caught in the beel and haor. Long-whiskered catfish, giant river catfish, day's mystus, waalgo, zig-zag eel, keleta mystus and prawn are caught in the river.

7(3) Drag Net/Para Jal

Group name: Dragged Net

Local name in haor area: Kodi Jal, Koli Jal, Para Jal, Porhor Jal, Horhor Jal.

Materials: Nylon net, Nylon rope, Thick rope, Floating (made of sponge or plastic), Sinker (iron made weight), Pieces of bamboo.

Description: It is a rhombus shaped gear, mesh size varies between 0.5-0.55 inches, rectangular opening is 22 feet long and 12 feet wide. It is prepared attaching pieces of nets, upper and lower borders are tied with thick ropes, floats and sinkers (weights) are attached with its upper and lower border respectively. Floats are attached with 3 feet distance in each and sinkers of about 2 kilograms are attached closely. Two pieces of 1.5 feet long bamboo sticks are tied with the basement of two border lines to maintain a gap between the mentioned border lines. About 300 thick long ropes are bent with both the two corners of the net. Besides this, two pieces of 4.5-6 feet long bamboo pieces are tied of its one edge with both the thick ropes maintaining a distance of about 7.5 feet which helps keeping the balance the net.

Mode and place of Operation: A boat is needed to operate; thick rope is tied with a bamboo pole which is fixed on bottom under water. The whole net is placed slowly into the water after chasing the total length of thick ropes and going back from the starting point with the help of scull. Weights consisting border line reaches the bottom and floats remain submersed when whole net is placed into water. Hereafter, two persons pull up the net on the boat by dragging and collect fish. It is operated during July-October in haor areas, and up to April in the river in a depth of about 7.5-45 feet. Generally it is operated from dawn to 12:00 pm to catch fishes.

Species caught: Barred spiny eel, lesser spiny eel, zig-zag eel, loach, bengal loach, dwarf gourami, banded gourami, giant snakehead, snakehead murrel, spotted snakehead, prawn, tiny prawn, keleta mystus, stripped dwarf cat fish, freshwater garfish, gangetic leaffish and highfin glassy perchlet, indian glassy fish, elongate glass-perchlet are caught in the beel and haor. Long-whiskered catfish, giant river catfish, day's mystus, waalgo, zig-zag eel, keleta mystus and prawn are caught in the river.
8 | বাগ নেট (Set bag net)

8 (১) বাগ নেট হল একটি অবরোধক জাল যেটি তৈরি করে নেতিবাচক জালের মাধ্যমে ধরন দিয়ে সরকার আক্রমণ মাত্র যে তৈরি করা হয়। ইংরেজী নাম ‘Fixed Net’।


dha only, ০.৬ - ১.৫ ইঞ্চি ইঞ্চি হয়ে থাকে। ইংরেজী মূলের বিপুলতা দিয়ে মেক্সিকো নাইলনের বা পার্থিক সুতা সেলাই করে সঞ্চয় করা হয় এবং বৃত্ত উজ্জলায়ন বৃত্তের দুটি সাথে বাঁধার জন্য অতিমূল্যীয় সুতা বাঁধা হয়। এই দুই প্রান্ত থেকে ১২ - ১৫ ফুট দীর্ঘ মাঠিতে দুইটি রাখা ৪টি বৃত্তের দুটির সাথে পানির উপরিতল থেকে ৩ - ৪.৫ ফুট উপরে বাঁধা হয়। সমুদ্রভাগে জালের চোঙ প্রান্তে দুইবার দুই প্রান্ত দিকে ৫ ফুট পরিমাণ ২টি সরার বৃত্তের উপরের এলাকায় বাঁধা থাকে যার ফাঁকান নাম ফাঁক। জালের দুই প্রান্তে ২টি মাছা (সর্বোচ্চ ১।০ মাছা) তৈরি করা হয়, মূলত এই মাছার উপরের বর্তমান করে জালের সাথে জালের পানির তৈরি প্রস্তুতি করা হয়। জালের পার্শ্ব দুইপাত্রে সেলাই সুতা সেলাইয়ের মাধ্যমে সঞ্চয় থাকে যার উজ্জলায়ন অতিরিক্ত সুতা রাখা হয়, তবে এই সুতা এমনকি সেলাই করে দেয় যার সাথায় অগ্রযাত্রী জালের পার্শ্বে দুই প্রান্ত দিয়ে দুই ফুট বা বেশি করা যায়। জালটির দিঘির মূলত ৬০ - ৭০ ফুট হয়ে থাকে, তবে জালটি প্রতিশৃঙ্গ অতিক্রম সুমজ্জায় দৈর্ঘ্যের ৬০ - ৭০ ফুট উপরে এবং পানির অর্থের নেমে আসায়। জালটি পৃথিবী রুপ মাচা দেখতে অনেকটা থালের মত হয়। সুমজ্জা, চিতেটি এবং চাঁদ থেকে এই জাল সঞ্চয় করা যায়।

8 (২) বাগ নেটের উদ্দেশ্য ঢোলের নিয়ন্ত্রণের জন্য হল প্রতিশৃঙ্গ করা যায়। এটি ব্যবহার করতে নয়ুক অথবা লক্ষ এবং ১-২টি নেকার প্রয়োজন হয়। কারণ প্রতিশৃঙ্গ থেকে জালটি পানির মধ্যে জলাশয়ের তলায় পড়িয়ে রাখা যায় এবং ১০ -১৫ মিনিট পর পার্শ্ব সাধারণ পানির উপর পুড়ে এনে মাছ সঞ্চয় করা হয়।

এ জালে ধরা পড়া প্রাপ্তি সমূহ: এদানন্দ মাছা, বলাুরা রায়ের, রষ্ণি, মূল পায়ের, কালীজুড়ে, ঘোড়া, কালীজুড়ে ধরা পড়ে।

8(1) Set Bag Net/ Bhar Jal
Group name: Fixed Net.
English name: Fixed Set Bag Net.
Local name in haor area: Bhar Jal/ Bor Jal.
Materials: Nylon net, thick Nylon rope and Bamboo.

Description: It is a rectangular shaped net and its mesh varies between 0.6-1.5 inches. Thick rope is hemmed with both the two opposite border lines which are considered as front part of the net and extra rope is set aside also with those 2 ropes to tie with the bamboo poles. These two edges are tied with the four bamboo poles above water surface for 3-4.5 feet maintaining a distance of about 12-15 feet from each other. Another two pieces of bamboo, 15 feet long are tied with the frontal edge-rope near each angle of the net which is locally called khar. Two platforms (locally called habum or machan) are made at both sides of the net structure. Net is operated by the help of khar standing upon these platforms. Thick ropes are also hemmed with each edge of other two sides which are flexible so that these two sides can be narrow as required. The length dimension of front side remains 60-70 feet and width becomes in half of total length in setting condition. A complete net shape is similar to a bag. Net is collected from local market of Sunamganj and Sylhet and Dhaka also.

Mode and place of Operation: It is used against current only. Three persons and 1-2 boats are needed to operate the gear. Net is placed in the waterbody on bottom contact holding it’s behind the khar and it is pulled on boat by the help of the khar after 10-15 minutes.

Species caught: Especially kuria laboe; reba, rohu, mirgal, orange fin laboe, wallago, catla are entrapped also by this gear.
8(2) Set Bag Net/ Gor Jal
Group name: Fixed Net.
English name: Fixed Set Bag Net.
Local name in haor area: Gor Jal.
Materials: Nylon rope, Numbers of bamboo pieces, 2 pieces of banana, Plastic papers and a boat.

Description: It is a rectangular shaped gear, its mesh size is about 0.5 inches, its maximum length and width is about 22-30 feet and 12-27 feet in dimension. Fishers enlarge or shorten its length according to the situation (size of canal) of the waterbody. Thick ropes are attached with its four border lines by hemming and extra ropes are set aside in its four corners to tie with bamboo structure. Two bamboo poles are fixed in the earth to maintain a maximum distance about 1 foot at both sides of canal and numbers of bamboo poles are fixed behind the two fixed poles in two rows maintaining a distance about 4.5 feet of which the breadth is gradually increased. Platform is made on its both sides about 4.5 feet above of water surface which is used as net operation place; but this platform is absent in some structures. Hereafter, four borders of the net are tied with the bamboo structure to platform direction inner side of the structure, as a result bottom of the net reaches on the bottom of the waterbody, front border makes contact with earth and a path is created for movement of fish. To ensure the water flow through the opening of net, two bananas are fixed in front of the structure as "V" shape. Some persons use plastic papers to ensure the whole water flow. A small size boat is reserved with its back side to keep in the caught fishes.

Mode and place of Operation: It is fixed in the mouth of the beef adjoining canal during December-March against current when water goes back through the canal. Fishes are entrapped in the net during created a current when water goes to the down stream from the beef and fishers collect fishes from the net by hauling up the rope which was kept under the net in the water. At least two persons are needed to operate this net.

Species caught: All species which come through the current are caught.
8 (3) Set Bag Net/ Bandor Jal
Group name: Fixed Net.
English name: Fixed Set Bag Net.
Local name in haor area: Bandor Jal/ Sailtan Jal.
Materials: Nylon net, thick Nylon ropes, 6-10 pieces of Bamboo poles and 2 boats.
Description: It is a rectangular shaped net and its mesh size varies from 2.0 to 2.5 inches. Both of its four border lines are hemmed with thick nylon or plastic ropes and additional ropes are also kept to bend with the bamboo poles. The net is set across the river. First of all, sites are selected, two bamboo poles are fixed in one bank of the river and the ropes of the two corners are bent with the poles and other corners are kept in free. 8-10 pieces of 500 gram size stones are also enclosed with its both lengths border lines to sink the net in the water and makes contact with bottom as horizontal line. Net is collected from Sunamganj, Sylhet, Bhairab, Kishoreganj and Dhaka.
Mode and place of Operation: The net is set in calm or slight current water. At least 8 persons and 2 boats are needed to operate the gear. The net is placed in the water by making loose and pull it up by hauling and fish is collected. About 1 hour is needed to complete a fishing task. It is possible to operate in 15 feet and more depth.
Species caught: Mostly wallago, kuria labelo, long whiskered catfish, giant river-catfish, reba, rohu, catla, mirgal and orange fin labelo.
8 (4) Set Bag Net/ Basta Jal

**Group name:** Fixed Net.

**English name:** Fixed Set Bag Net.

**Local name in haor area:** Basta Jal (Shavara Jal).

**Materials:** Nylon net, thick Nylon ropes, 2 Bamboo plates, numbers of Bamboo poles and 1 Boat.

**Description:** More or less conical shaped net. Its mouth is rectangular but it becomes hexagonal when it is set and two vertical bamboo plates help to keep it open. A cotton bag or nylon bag is connected loosely at the end of the net from where fish is collected. Its mesh size varies from its opening to the bag area. Mesh sizes are bigger (1-1.5 inch) of its opening and become smaller progressively to the bag area (0.2-0.4 inch). Opening diameter varies from 40-120 ft and length is also 75-120 ft. Net is collected from Sunamganj, Sylhet, Bhirabah, Kishoreganj and Dhaka.

**Mode and place of operation:** The net is set in submersed against the current near the bank of a river or in the canal (locally called khara) which is connected with the river where water flow is present. Two bamboo plates are tied vertically with its mouth. Another 5 more bamboo poles are also used to keep safe from the intensity of current. Fishes come in favor of water flow and enter into the net and gather in cotton bag or net (fine mesh size zone) in the back edge; then the operator collects them. It is mentioned that cotton or nylon made bag is used in the net which is set in the river and bag is absent for which is used in the canal (locally called khara) in haor area. This net is not seen when it is set but its thick rope is sighted only from the water surface.

**Species Caught:** All the species are entrapped in the net.
৮ (৫) দলীয় (ডেরা) নামক ডিবি না প্রিলকৃত জাল
ইচের নামক ফিল্ডে সোট কাপ নোট।
হাওড়া অঞ্চলে প্রচলিত নাম: ডিবি জাল, লাফ জাল।
ইচের উপরের জাল, মোটা লাইন মুতা ও বীর্ষ।

জালের বর্ণনা: আয়তক্ষেত্র; সাধারণত দৈর্ঘ্য সর্বোচ্চ ৩০-৭৫ ফুট এবং চওড়া ৬-৯ ফুট পর্যন্ত হয়ে থাকে।
ইচের ফাঁস সাধারণত ০.৩-০.৬ ইঞ্চি হয়ে থাকে।
জালের পার্শ্বিক মোটা সুতার সাথে ছেড় করা থাকে।
বীর্ষের ফাঁস বা বীর্ষের সরু খুঁটি পানির তলদেশ
মাটিতে এমনভাবে দুই সারি সারি সমান্তরালে পূর্বে দিতে হয় যে দুই সারির মধ্যবর্তী দূরত্ব ৪-৬ ফুট হয়।
এক সারির খুঁটির দূরত্ব ৩-৪ ফুট হয়ে থাকে; সাধারণত
খুঁটির উভয় কিছু পানির গভীরতার উপর, তবে
সাধারণত ৪-৬ ফুট বিশিষ্ট হয়।
জালটি দৈর্ঘ্য বদলার দিকে দুই সারির উপরে এমনভাবে প্রতিস্থাপন করা হয় যে জালটি কার্বের দিকে পানির উপরিরকম সরলরুটে পোষ্টা হয়।

জালের বিবরণ: জালের নীচের পানির তলদেশে বিক্ষিপ্ত প্রতিবন্ধক স্থাপন করা হয় যাতে মাছের ঘাটা চলাচলের পথিতে
মানচিত্র হলে লাফিয়ে গোটা এবং জালের ফাঁসের উপর গিয়ে পড়ে।
বিক্ষিপ্ত পর পর উফ ফাঁসের ওপর থেকে মাছ সংগ্রহ
করা হয়।
এই জাল প্রতিস্থাপন করতে একজনই যথাস্থাই।

এ জালে ধরা পড়া প্রজাতির মুখে বিভিন্ন প্রজাতির খুঁটি, চেঁচটাকি, চেলা ও চেলা অন্যতম।

8(5) Set Bag Net/ Dera Jal

Group name: Fixed Net.

English name: Fixed Set Bag Net.

Local name in haor area: Dera Jal, Lof Jal.

Materials: Net, Thick nylon rope and Bamboo.

Description: Rectangular; it is 30-75 feet long and 6-9 feet wide (Maximum). Its mesh size varies between 0.3-0.6 inches. Thick ropes are attached with its four border lines by hemming. Bamboo slices or narrow bamboo poles are fixed laterally on the bottom of water between two series of rows maintaining a distance about 4-6 feet. Distance between two poles in a row is 3-4 feet; Height of every slice is 4-6 feet; height of the poles depends on the depth of water; however it is usually about 4-6 feet. Hereafter, net is placed on the top of the two series of poles for gaining curve shape between the two series of rows and the curve shape reaches near water bed.

Mode and place of Operation: Some minor obstacles are fixed under the net in the water with the intention that fish will jump on their normal movement and will drop on the net. After a while fishes are collected from the trap. 1 person is enough to operate the net.

Species caught: Different types of barb, walking snakehead, large razorbelly minnow, gora-chela and cotio.
Fishing Gears Diversity in Sunamganj

9. Skimming Net/ Lewa Jal

**Group name:** Clasp Net.

**English name:** Skimming Net.

**Local name in haor area:** Lewa Jal.

**Materials:** Nylon net, thick Nylon rope, 2 pieces of bamboo slice, 1/2 pieces of half-brike and a boat.

**Description:** Perpendicular, mesh size about 1.5 inches. 15-17 feet long two bamboo slices are penetrated through the upper and lower mouth borders completely and both of two edges of slices are closely tied with ropes maintaining a 4 inches gape between both ends. 1/2 pieces of half a brick are enclosed with the middle of the lower border line to sink it in the water and make contact with the bottom. A long rope is also attached with where bricks are enclosed. Net is collected from the market of Derali and Patharia in Sunamganj District.

**Mode and place of Operation:** It is used in October-November when current is there in the river. Gear user stands upon the edge of boat against current; weight enclosed border line is immersed in the water and grips the other border line with rope and another person goes forward by the help of a scull. Fish are entrapped during movement against current and gear user feels a tension through the rope when fish tries to escape from this. The gear user closes the two mouth border lines by pulling the rope and lift up instantly on the boat and collects fish.

**Species caught:** Mainly 99% orange fin labeo is caught and other species are long whisnered catfish, giant river-cattfish, wallago and kura labeo.
Building material of fishing gear, trap etc.

Different types of instruments in different areas are used for fishing all over Bangladesh. Name of these instruments as well as their building material differ with different area. Earlier different types of natural material like bamboo, wood, cane, katha (fibre of coconut tree) fibre of palm tree branches, date tree root, jute fibre is used as building material of fishing trap and gear. But, now, different artificial material is available and is used for making fishing instrument. Sunamganj area which is full of haor, baor, beel have different types of fishing instrument. Descriptions of some of the building material of these instruments are given bellow:

মাছ ধরার সর্পনাম তৈরির উপকরণঃ
মাছ ধরার জন্য অনাদিকাল থেকে বাংলাদেশের বিভিন্ন অঞ্চলে বিভিন্ন ধরনের সর্পনাম ব্যবহৃত হয়ে আসছে। অঞ্চল অঞ্চলে এইসব সর্পনামের তৈরিতে যেমন রয়েছে বৈচিত্র্য, তেমনি একই সর্পনামের অঞ্চল অঞ্চলে রয়েছে বিভিন্ন নাম। আবার একই সর্পনামের তৈরির উপকরণও অঞ্চল অঞ্চলে আলাদা। পূর্বে মাছ ধরার জন্য বিভিন্ন ধরনের প্রাকৃতিক উপকরণ যেমন, বাঁশ, কাঠ, বেত, কাতা (নারকলের ছোবড়া দ্বারা তৈরি মূতা), তাল গাছের ডাঙ্গার আঁশ, বেজুল গাছের শিকড়, পাটের সূতা প্রভৃতির ব্যবহার দেখা যায় কিন্তু এখন কৃত্রিম বিভিন্ন উপকরণের সহজলভ্যতার দরুণ এইসব উপকরণ বিভিন্ন সর্পনাম তৈরির ব্যবহার করতে দেখা যায়। হাওড়-বাওড়-বিল পরিবেষ্টিত সুনামগঞ্জ অঞ্চলে মাছ ধরার সর্পনামের রয়েছে বৈচিত্র্যপূর্ণ সহজ। এই সব সর্পনাম তৈরিতে যেসব উপকরণ ব্যবহৃত হয় তার কিছু চিত্র নিচে উপস্থাপন করা হলঃ

Thick Nylon rope  
Nylon twine  
Thick Plastic rope  
Mosquito net  
Mosquito net  
Cane slice
References

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