



Bogibeel Bridge and Riverine: A study of its Potentialities, Possibilities & Prospects for Tourism

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Abstract. Bogibeel, an area located on the banks of river Brahmaputra and 17 kms from Dibrugarh city is a new destination for tourists all over the world. Since the completion of construction of a road cum rail bridge in 2018, this place has assumed importance to facilitate “Riverine Tourism” for people and create socio-economic development of the region. The bridge over Brahmaputra in Bogibeel is the second longest bridge in Asia and connects not only Assam and Arunachal Pradesh but stands as a strategic landmark for the country. The purpose of the study will be to explore and venture the potentialities, possibilities, and prospects of “Riverine Tourism” of a novel destination, Bogibeel. To carry out the study field-visit by the investigator and interviewing the existing entrepreneurs will be helpful. Further, the analysis of the responses of the entrepreneurs will result in useful findings that will raise the possibilities and prospects of tourism all along the banks of Brahmaputra river with “Bogibeel” emerging as an epicenter of “Riverine Tourism” in Assam.

Keywords: Bogibeel, Riverine, Tourism, potentialities, possibilities, prospects

1 Introduction

The Bogibeel area, located in the outskirts of Dibrugarh town is nearly 26 kms away from the main town area. This part of Assam, has a diverse demographic landscape that reflects the broader socio-cultural dynamics of Assam, characterized by its ethnic diversity, economic activities centered around agriculture, and a young demographic. It represents ethnic communities, including Assamese, Bodos, Mishings, and several tribal groups. The population here reflects a rich cultural mix that is common in Assam. The area is home to various languages. Assamese is the predominant language and spoken by the majority. Other languages, such as Bodo, Mishing, and various tribal dialects, are also spoken by different communities living in this secluded area.

The population is religiously diverse, with Hinduism being the predominant religion, followed by significant communities of Islam, Christianity, and indigenous tribal religions. The primary livelihoods include agriculture, tea cultivation, and small-scale industries. Many residents engage in farming, particularly rice cultivation, along with the production of tea, which is a significant part of Assam's economy[3]. There is also bamboo cultivation and banana plantations. A wide variety of vegetation and local fruits are grown by locals in this area. The population has a youthful demographic, with a significant proportion of the population being below the age of 25.

As the region continues to develop, it faces challenges related to infrastructure, education, and healthcare, which are crucial for its growth. But taken advantage of its strategic position and resources, this area can be developed as a potential area for economic growth and development. Although seasonal or permanent migration occurs in Bogibeel area from nearby places yet the local community can be engaged to work in harmony with new developments and open vistas for bilateral trade among north-eastern states and go further to develop international trade with the neighbouring countries such as Bangladesh. In this regard the successful construction and completion of Bogibeel Bridge [8] took a significant turn in harnessing its (Bogibeel area) potentialities, community development, binding people socially, economically, and culturally. The ecosystem has dramatically changed and has boosted national and emotional integration. The Bogibeel Bridge[12] that spread over a stretch of 4.94 kilometers serves as a vital infrastructure connecting regions, symbolizing progress and hope for the local communities. So far it is the longest rail-

cum-road bridge [15] in India and apart from its logistic and military importance, spearheading connectivity, transportation, and communication it holds significant cultural implications for local communities of the Dibrugarh and Dhemaji districts of Assam. Additionally, it is Asia's second longest rail-cum-road bridge and has a serviceable period of around 120 years.

The Bogibeel bridge [1] traces its origin to the Assam Accord of 1985 and was one of several major infrastructural projects to be set up in Assam in accordance with the pact. It was sanctioned by the Government of India in 1997-98 and was expected to be completed by the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan. The foundation of the bridge was laid in January 1997 by Prime Minister H. D. Deve Gowda, but its construction was inaugurated only in 2002 by Prime Minister, A. B. Vajpayee. On its completion, it was inaugurated on by the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 25th December 2018 coinciding with the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, and also flagged off an intercity express connecting Tinsukia (in Assam) and Naharlagun (in Arunachal Pradesh). This contribution of the Government of India was single of its kind and considering this uniqueness, it has become a major tourist site. The Bridge along with the Bogibeel Ghat is now a major River Tourism destination where tourist can enjoy river cruises as well house boats [9]. Besides providing scenic beauty of the river Brahmaputra, there are also opportunities of good food, camping and connecting to tea garden tours as well as tours to adjoining villages where tourists can savor local delicacies and cherish socio-culture elements of Assam like handicrafts, handlooms, cottage industries of silk, bell-metals, songs and dances, cultivation, houses known as "Changhars" etc. In addition to these, the resorts and accommodation facilities have attracted many national and international tourists to Assam and Arunachal Pradesh and they stay safely amidst natural and mesmerizing locations.

2 Objectives:

To conduct an overview study of the Bogibeel area.

To enquire into the potentialities, possibilities and prospects of Riverine Tourism in and around the area of Bogibeel Bridge.

To state the initiatives to be taken for future development of Riverine Tourism in and around Bogibeel area.

Review of Studies:

A few previous studies were consulted while conducting the present study. In this regard the studies were conducted from different angles on tourism in Assam. conducted a study titled, "A Study on Problems and Prospects of Tourism in Assam" which stated that all round development of tourism in Assam is possible with a collaborative participation of all the stakeholders. In another study conducted by [5] on "Growth of Tourism Industry in Assam: Its Prospects and Challenges" found that the tourism market is growing well in Assam and it can create vast opportunities of employment and the role of the state is very important in creating good infrastructure as well as boosting the natural as well as wildlife resources. [2] made a study on "Tourism and Economic Development: A Case Study of Assam" where it was found that Assam is a rich state in its natural and cultural resources and this marks a great opportunity for the state to be the center stage of tourist attraction. The study highlighted the trends of revenue generation due to tourist inflow and pointed out some ways and means to improve the tourism industry [4] for economic development of the state. Das (2012-13) also expressed in his paper on "Prospects and Problems of Tourism Industry in Assam" that Assam is a land of diverse beauty, flora and fauna and this if well explored then there is a bright prospect in future for economic development from tourism industry. [6] on "Tourism Sector in Assam: Its Economic Contribution and Challenges" opined that although Assam is endowed with rich natural and cultural resources but they have not sufficiently developed due to limited funds of the government. So if tourism sector has to develop then several steps need to be taken including the role of the NGOs'.

Thus, from the above studies, it becomes clear that many studies have been taken from time to time on the thriving issues of tourism in Assam but the investigator here has identified a nascent area for developing tourism in Assam and thereafter for the country. Majestic beauty of the Bogibeel area and the huge bridge has created an unique viability to take tourism to next level and that too as "Riverine Tourism". So, the study is new of its kind and was never done before.

3 Rationale of the study:

Tourism in India has always been a major source of attraction and research. For Assam as well as in the national front, Brahmaputra and its resources has a wide importance. Not many knows about it's viability and the means and ways to explore it and develop it as a major source of tourism. The areas in and around the river are full of natural greens surrounded with abundant natural beauty, fresh air and river shore activities. Bogibeel Ghat in Dibrugarh is no exception to it. The Bogibeel Bridge [14] built over the river Brahmaputra is a serious attempt not only to increase connectivity but has also created opportunity to explore and exploit river tourism. So the investigator with this interest and understanding proceeded to make a study of the potentialities, possibilities and prospects of riverine tourism in this said area which was not done earlier. It remains a new area of development as the inception of bridge took place in 2018 and considering its present scenario, a lot more can be done. Therefore, this study was undertaken. The study conducted here mainly emphasis on the potentialities, possibilities and prospects of Bogibeel area of Dibrugarh, Assam. It is not extended to other nearby areas such as Sibsagar (in the south and west) or Tinsukia (in the east). The study is interested in learning about the potentialities, possibilities and prospects of tourism in Bogibeel area that has a huge landmark with a colossal Bogibeel Bridge. It holds the belief that tourism developments in Bogibeel area is vital to social and economic development of Assam. Although at present it's in a nascent stage but the strategical importance of Bogibeel area will influence the development of the entire waterways[10] route of Assam and raise the less explored tourist spots and resources of Assam from Sadiya to Dhubri.

4 Methodology:

4.1 Data collection:

The investigator stepped for data collection on 19th February, 2025 from 3pm to 7pm. In the beginning, the investigator observed the surroundings, the arrangements for tourists to have a good time in the said area and how the flow of tourists was on that day. To make a parallel or concrete study the investigator met the entrepreneurs' who were present in the site and conducted interview with pre-determined objectives and pre-planned interview schedule. For each interview the time - period was set between 30-45 minutes. After a briefing on the purpose of interview by the investigator, the interviewees agreed to respond to the questions and accordingly the questions were placed before them. All their responses were carefully recorded and written by the investigator for further analysis and findings.

4.2 Tools used:

A semi – structured Interview Schedule was prepared by the investigator to gain vital information regarding the potentialities, possibilities and prospects of riverine tourism in Bogibeel (bridge) area. The purpose of the interview was to gain a first- hand information regarding the aforesaid aspects so that it results in better understanding of the study. A tentative time- period of 30 – 45 minutes was considered by the investigator to allow a smooth communication. The interview schedule was a heterogenous mix of questions and were placed in a sequence yet randomly to derive maximum responses from the interviewees (entrepreneurs).

4.3 Interview schedule

A study on Bogibeel Bridge and Riverine regarding its Potentialities, Possibilities & Prospects for Tourism was carried out for the purpose of gathering primary information from the entrepreneurs which was considered useful for the study. Hence to establish a good rapport, the interviewer at the very beginning of the interview enquired about the entrepreneur's name and business, location, nature of business and experience of his/her business across the riverine area. After this, the interviewer proceeded for the interview, categorizing the interview items in three parts – Potentialities, Possibilities, & Prospects.

Is your business related to tourism? If no, what else.

Are you engaged in small business or big business?

What is your annual investment/expense in tourism business

What changes do you see in Bogibeel area before and after you started business for tourists?

Are the local resources like veggies, fruits, poultry etc. supplied in the food-joints?

What tourist activities are provided in and around the Bogibeel area?

Is their community participation or involvement in business joints in and around Bogibeel Bridge area?

What is your observation?

Do you employ local youths in your tourism ventures? What jobs are being done by them

What is the scope of riverine tourism along the Bogibeel river bank? Can it be expanded? In which and what ways?

What is the flow of tourists in this area? Is it seasonal or throughout the year?

In which season or period do you see optimum flow of tourists and vice-versa?

What kind of tourists do you receive here?

International/National/Regional/Local

What hotspots have you identified for expanding riverine tourism along the Bogibeel bank?

Can Bogibeel riverine tourism connect the tourist spots of the whole of Assam? If so, will it generate good income for individuals and state?

What new business or activities can be introduced in Bogibeel Bridge area?

Is the Bogibeel area suitable for river-rafting, adventure and water sports?

Do you think or feel that Riverine festival like “Namami Brahmutra” should be organized to popularize riverine tourism?

Can Bogibeel riverine tourism of be linked with tea – garden tourism?

Can Bogibeel riverine tourism of be linked with rural (village) tourism?

Do tourists have an opportunity to interact with the local villagers?

Do you think river cruise services will boost tourism in this area?

Do government projects/undertakings benefit the tourist hospitality business in Bogibeel? If yes, how?

If no, why?

Has mega projects like “Ganga Vilas” in 2023 added to the development of tourism in Bogibeel area? Any changes observed?

Is there need of Skill Development Centre in Bogibeel area for boosting tourism sector?

Will the IWT terminal in Dibrugarh benefit the tourist entrepreneurs in this area?

Do you think cargo & passenger facilities will increase tourism?

Any support or expectations from the government to boost this riverine tourism.

Any support or expectations from the private parties to boost this riverine tourism.

Any support or expectations from the industrial sector to boost this riverine tourism.

What opportunities of tourism do you see in this area for future?

5 Suggestions for development of Bogibeel Riverine Tourism.

In the beginning of business for tourists in and around Bogibeel bridge, there were 72 entrepreneurs starting from the land stretch from Lepetkatta to Kulajan but as of now only 7 entrepreneurs are functional. They are mainly involved with business catering to tourist needs and interests who either visits or stays in Bogibeel area. The villagers of the surrounding areas were not considered in the study as they lacked information or knowledge in riverine tourism. So, the study was limited to a few entrepreneurs and their responses.

Sample used:

In this study only 5 entrepreneurs were considered as sample and the rest 2 entrepreneurs were not available. In this case purposive sampling was used. So all of 5 entrepreneurs actively responded during the interview and the necessary field information could be collected.

6 Analysis and Interpretation:

It is a descriptive analysis based on self-survey and self-observation carried out by the investigator. In order to make the study fruitful, interview was conducted with entrepreneurs of Bogibeel area to gain information and accuracy on understanding the present state of riverine tourism of this area, what it was in the past and how it has emerged as a tourism spot and if it has the scope of expansion for future. Here are the excerpts of the interview carried out one by one:

Interviewee No.1

Responses regarding Potentialities of Riverine Tourism in Bogibeel Bridge area:

The entrepreneur (Interviewee) states that he owes a small business in Bogibeel area, adjacent to Brahmaputra River and the major attraction is “Kanchenjunga”, a floating restaurant. Besides that there is

a eatery off shore also. Before arrival of the Bogibeel Bridge, there was no such move to develop this region as tourist friendly area. The local community is very co-operative and boys and girls have been employed as staffs. They are emotionally attached to Bogibeel tourism and desire to work for it. The villagers of Bogibeel area supply local products like veggies, eggs, fishes and poultry. This gives them proximity of purchasing local products, supporting the economy of the nearest community and develop a ecosystem. The flow of tourism is not same round the year. The off season happens in February, September & November. In January, June, July, August & December the tourist flow is good. Regional tourists is very high followed by National tourists who mostly belong to OIL, Army, Air-Force Stations, NHPC, BCPL etc. International tourists is limited due to travelling adversarities.

Responses regarding Possibilities of Riverine Tourism in Bogibeel Bridge area:

Development of tourism in this area will lead to better communication, cultural exchange among people leading to national integration, better economy, employment of the people, generation of petty business, sale of local products and creation of local markets etc

Responses regarding Prospects of Riverine Tourism in Bogibeel Bridge area :

Some government projects like “Namami Brahmaputra” and “Ganga Vilas” were launched but they were partially successful and the government could draw attention of the people on Riverine Tourism. However, these projects were not carried out again. The IWT (Inland Water Transport) terminal has been set up at Bogibeel Ghat in 2022. When it starts operating, then there will be more flow of tourists and trade will increase. Some riverine activities can be introduced but that needs support from government or private investors or industries.

Interviewee No.2:

Responses regarding Potentialities of Riverine Tourism in Bogibeel Bridge area:

According to the second entrepreneur (Interviewee), the potentialities of tourism in Bogibeel Bridge area has not been fully tapped. Before the construction of bridge there was no beautification for tourists, it was a no economic zone. But now situation has changed and the nearby villages have got some channels of income as well as modern facilities in communication and transportation. There is close connectivity with Arunachal Pradesh and many tourists arrive in the Bogibeel Ghat to stay in the resorts or take a break from daily routine.

The entrepreneur owns two luxury vessels, named as “Brahmaputra Pearl” and “Snow Pearl” serving International Tourists.

Responses regarding Possibilities of Riverine Tourism in Bogibeel Bridge area:

To harness the possibilities of tourism, cleaning of Brahmaputra on a large scale is very important. Proper dredging is required otherwise its very difficult for the passenger vessels to move to downstream of Brahmaputra and reach Upper Assam (Bogibeel Area) [13]. The stretch from Guijan to Sadiya if properly cleaned up will help in the smooth sailing of river cruises and create optimum possibilities of riverine tourism.

Responses regarding Prospects of Riverine Tourism in Bogibeel Bridge area:

The entrepreneur suggested that introducing river side sports and fun activities will boost tourism and focused government projects necessitating cleaning and dredging of Brahmaputra is very essential to conduct smooth river cruise trips to different locations of Assam. Only then tourists will gain a complete view of the beauty and hotspots of Assam such as Sualkuchi, Majuli, Kaziranga etc. So instead of private parties it is government which should come forward to support tourism development in and around Bogibeel bridge.

Interviewee 3:

Responses regarding Potentialities of Riverine Tourism in Bogibeel Bridge area:

The third Interviewee in response to potentialities of tourism in Bogibeel area stated that it is a very resource area and the entire Brahmaputra bay needs to be explored by means of Riverine tourism. The scenic beauty, sunrise and sunset all in the background of the longest river is mesmerizing. So he himself has a business worth several crores that has been providing an eco-friendly resort with varieties of natural assets like trees of local fruits, paddy cultivation, duck farm, chicken farm, open air restaurant, Botanical garden, fisheries etc. A swimming pool has also been constructed to provide alternative enjoyment during summer months

or during off season. He was of the opinion that as there is wide arrangements of tourists in his resort so tourists come and stay for a relaxed stay mostly from Maharashtra, Delhi and Arunachal Pradesh. The resort is well connected with NH 52, NH 37, NH 15 and tis forms a junction point. This facilitate the tourists to a great extent.

In his resort named as “Bogibeel Eco Resort”, 99% employees are local and females who are permanent and receive salary throughout the year. Only during extra rush the total number of staffs raises to 22 who too are locals. As there is potentiality for green tourism and sustainable development. So various provisions like swimming pool, accommodation, marriage venue, boating, fisheries, Botanical garden, fruit garden, poultry farming, paddy cultivation has been arranged and maintained.

Responses regarding Possibilities of Riverine Tourism in Bogibeel Bridge area:

Regarding possibilities of tourism in this area, he stated that it should be linked to nearby sectors of tourism like tea industry, visit to villages, and introduction of riverine activities like hot air ballons, para-gliding, kite festival, speed boats, river – rafting etc. He also added that as the entire stretch from Guijan to Dhubri should be developed by the government, only then tourism in Bogibeel will develop and it will be in the national tourist map. There is also possibility of large international trade with Bangladesh when IWT fully becomes operational.

Responses regarding Prospects of Riverine Tourism in Bogibeel Bridge area

Regarding prospects of tourism, the entrepreneur/interviewee was of the view that there is need of Skill Development Centre as the local girls and boys employed as staffs of the resort are not well trained in hotel and tourist service. On his own he has been training and educating them how to deal with tourists and guests. In other words, they need professional knowledge and training.

Interviewee 4 & 5:

The responses of Interviewee 4 &5 were of similar nature. Their location of business joints were a bit far away from Bogibeel Bridge area. They were not so concerned about the potentialities, possibilities and prospects of tourism. Both the entrepreneurs were engaged in accommodation and restaurant business. They had limited approach for tourism. They mainly concentrated on serving their customers or guests for comfortable stay and fooding. They provided facilities of transport and communication coming from national circuit as well as from different places of Arunachal Pradesh. They agreed that in future if international trade opens up through waterways over river Brahmaputra, then tourism will prosper and all local, national and international customers can exchange social, cultural and business aspects.

Observation and Findings from the responses of the Interviewees:

After gaining the responses of various interviewees, it can be understood that although there are potentialities, possibilities, and prospects in riverine tourism of Bogibeel area, in and around the bridge but many needs to be done. The findings can be stated below:

There is easy availability of local vegetation, poultry, and fishes. This transforms the area as economic zone due to close availability of local products.

There is involvement of local youths in different services to business joints of Bogibeel area. Some work as restaurants staffs, some are suppliers, some as drivers and technical staff of the luxury river cruise and floating restaurant, few others as transport and managerial staffs.

There is a favorable relationship between the entrepreneurs and the local community. Very often they are invited to their festivals, village programs, socio-cultural activities and this shows their sentiments and attachment with all the entrepreneurs who are operating or running business in Bogibeel area.

Huge investments amounting to crores and crores of money have been invested by private parties to promote riverine tourism since the opening of bridge and that shows their commitment in developing riverine tourism and to involve the local community for their social and economic development.

Government attention in developing tourism in Bogibeel area is visible but not highly successful. One - time huge projects like “Namami Brahmaputra” (River Festival), “Ganga Vilas” (luxury river cruise) were launched but due to several challenges, it was not carried out again.

The entire stretch of riverine tourism in Assam from Sadiya to Dhubri with Bogibeel as a centre to maintain cargo and passenger facilities can go a long way in promoting global attraction.

Proper dredging and cleaning of Brahmaputra needs to be prioritized if riverine tourism has to succeed. The

“Ganga Vilas” met with challenges of sand deposits in the waters of river Brahmaputra while travelling towards upper Assam (downstream) and that took a lot of time to clear and reach Bogibeel Ghat[9].

Riverine tourist activities need to be introduced. Other than resorts, floating restaurant and food joints in the sand shore or on the banks, there needs to be availability of activities like river-rafting, kite-festival, para-gliding, hot- air ballons, speed – boats etc.

The functioning of Inland Waterways Transport (IWT) will be a milestone in the future of riverine tourism as it will facilitate both cargo and passenger shipments from nearby states and foreign countries. There will be regular coming of tourists for business and vacation tours. This will raise the economic conditions of people on both sides.

Government attention, support and co-operation from private parties, industries, local, regional, and global organizations is required to boost up tourism in this part of the country.

More and more linkages need to be worked out with tea gardens, villages, local handloom and handicraft centres etc. as additional perks to tourism.

Set up of a Skill Development Centre to train youths on different aspects of tourism.

During off season period, alternative sources of enjoyment should be arranged for tourists.

Passenger ferry services should be revived and there should be a ticket counter office to provide tickets to passengers. For frequent passengers, monthly pass and subsidized tickets can be provided and small traders can be charged with commercial rate. This will enhance the revenue and tourism of the region.

A State Tourism Office should be set up near Bogibeel so that it can be linked with tourist spots of entire Assam and facilitate the tourists coming from different places.

Discussion:

“Bogibeel” is located in Upper Assam and its surroundings are truly mesmerizing. Its green surroundings and the presence of the river bank of the mighty “Brahmaputra” makes it a flourishing area for developing “Riverine Tourism.” The area bears potentialities to generate opportunities for employment of the locals in tourism services, river cruise, river-sports, experience tours to local villages, nature habitats, open farm lands, watch flocks of migratory birds and experience a serene, cool and breathtaking natural views making oneself feel mentally refreshed.

Bogibeel, located in Dibrugarh district of Assam in recent years has become a major tourist attraction and the bridge built over the river Brahmaputra has facilitated many people as tourists to visit and experience Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, in a way booming the tourism industry of both the states. In future, Bogibeel area, Bogibeel bridge and Bogibeel ghat has all the possibility to expand its projects and emerge as an important economic zone of the country. Besides having inter-state linkages, it can establish international trade and commerce exchanges with its neighboring country, Bangladesh. The prospect it holds for future is that once the Bogibeel ghat becomes fully operational, there will be flow of national and international tourists all along the bay of river Brahmaputra thus providing the enthusiastic people to experience river travelling, experiencing river sports, scenic beauty of river shore, especially sunrise and sunset, exploring local places like Kaziranga, Sualkuchi, Patkai-Dehing forest, Maidam (burial grounds) of Ahom kings and their families etc., savour local cuisines and visit and interact with local people as well as enjoy visit to tea gardens with a short stay in the heritage bungalows.

The projects introduced by government have also boosted “Riverine Tourism” along the stretch of Bogibeel. Two floating jetties were launched in the year 2022 to popularize riverine tourism and attract people to riverfront beauty and activities. Further to this development, a few other projects like construction of open platform, a restaurant, 8 bio-toilets and 6 awnings were also planned. A part of such ambitious projects was also witnessed in 2023 with the introduction of a massive “state of art” vessel named “Ganga Vilas” that travelled from Benaras to Bogibeel. It was India’s longest river cruise traversing a distance of 4000 kms and the intention was to promote trade, livelihood in tourism and cargo transportation. However, the project was not carried out for second time. The investigator during the course of study found that international restrictions, cost of travel, fatigue due to long distance waterways travelling, river sickness issue, above all river dredging (of Brahmaputra) at several places, the tourists of the vessel experienced a long and tiring journey. So, a solution to this problem needs to be attended by the government.

Further to the floating jetties, Ferry Ghats, floating restaurants, public eating stalls, tourist visits, picnic

spots, eco resorts and so on are also on the anvil. A permanent cargo terminal at Bogibeel is also being planned for conducive transport of cargo from the neighboring industries like Brahmaputra Cracker & Polymer Limited, Brahmaputra Valley Fertiliser Corp etc. The proposed tourist terminal in the vicinity of the Gujjan Ghat is located on the banks of river Lohit and it can be easily connected to Bogibeel and continue till Dhubri in lower Assam. Thus the entire stretch from Sadiya to Dhubri in Assam with Bogibeel as the epicentre and which is marked as National Waterways 2 will become a flourishing hub for tourists and trade.

7 Overall Suggestions:

As suggestive measures, it can be mentioned that the Bogibeel area has potentialities, possibilities and prospects to explore the natural resources that are within it's close vicinity. Development of Bogibeel as a major tourist attraction will result in exploring the Dehing – Patkai National Park, Jokai Reserve Forest, Raidongia Deoul, Bezor Deoul, Meslow Maidam, Chaowlung Sukapa Tourism Project, Tipam, Jagannath Temple, Namphake and Tipam Phake Buddhist temples, Sasoni Merbil Eco-Tourism [11] project etc. Realistic efforts is required to link tourism with tea sector, oil industries and several hotspots of tourist attraction, establish trade links at inter- district level, national and international levels so as to boost the productivity of the area and tourists inflow. Proper attention of the government is also required to make provision for trade in fishing, poultry, rice and many fruits and vegetables. The slogan, “Go global, vote local” will stand true in this case also. A Skill Development Centre is also necessary to train the young population in various sectors of tourism. And a few points from findings can be implied in suggestions too. Infact there should be a right balance between resources and manpower.

8 Conclusion:

In conclusion, it can be said that riverine tourism in the area of Bogibeel bridge is still in a nascent stage which needs adequate support from government, society, private parties, industries etc. A joint effort of all the stakeholders will improve the potentialities and possibilities of tourism and bring forth about it's prospects in the national front. The people and the entrepreneurs are enthusiastic about tourism but their efforts and works need to be supported by all. Only then one can exploit and explore all the aspects of riverine tourism.

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