## **Project Update: February 2016**

Activity: Varieties of rice grown and cleaning of roosting and wetlands

There are more than seven varieties of rice (in local language) cultivated by the farmers of Bumdeling and Yangtse block this year. The proper and common names of the varieties are yet to be confirmed. Most of the varieties are brought to the locality as a trial and it is found that the level of contribution of grain (grain fall) on the ground is different.

More than five acres of Sand Island created by the flowing river (Kholongchu) at the heart of Bumdeling valley is permanent roosting site for black-necked cranes every year. However, due to increase in the volume of flowing river during monsoon season, it gets flooded with debris and logs which obstruct cranes from seeing their enemy and predators at first sight. The site is also used as resting and feeding by some cranes during day time. So, to manage the habitat of BNC and to create awareness, a day long cleaning campaign was organised in the roosting site and adjacent wetlands in October before the arrival of black-necked cranes. The programme was attended by more than 100 people from different organisations and institutions like, schools, park office, local government, local residents, renewable natural resources extension offices etc.



Left: Stakeholders participating and cleaning bushes in black-necked cranes roosting site. Right: Flying black-necked cranes

Varieties of rice cultivated by farmers of Bumdeling and Yangtse block



Left: Dagpadep variety (widely cultivated). Middle: Ngurmingbula variety (mostly in Bumdeling). Right: Sonala variety (old variety, mostly in Bumdeling).