

Black-Necked Crane

February 22, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



Black-Necked Crane Latest News

Black-Necked Crane which is threatened by the loss of habitat and its safeguarding requires urgent, coordinated action.

About Black-Necked Crane

- The Black-Necked Crane (*Grus nigricollis*) is classed as a **medium-sized member** of the crane family.
- It is locally known as **“cha thung-thung” in Ladakh** and **“thungdung karma” in Arunachal Pradesh**.
- **Appearance:** It has a **largely whitish-grey body** contrasted by a jet-black head and upper neck, splashes of red around the eye, and long, elegant legs built for wading through alpine bogs.
- **Distribution:** High altitude marshes and lakes of **Tibetan Plateau** (Tibet, Qinghai, Xinjiang, Gansu), **Sichuan** (China), and **eastern Ladakh** (India).
 - A small wintering population is also found in **Sangti and Zimithang valleys of Arunachal Pradesh in India**.
- **Diet:** These are **carnivores and herbivores**. They feed on the tubers of sedges, plant roots, earthworms, insects and other invertebrates, frogs.

- **Breeding:** The cranes **breed at elevations** between **2,600 and 4,900 metres**, choosing gently sloping wetlands where they build simple nests of grasses and sedges.
- **Threats:** Habitat loss is severe, driven by expanding human settlements, encroaching agriculture and unregulated construction.

Conservation Status of Black-Necked Crane

- **IUCN:** Near Threatened
- **CITES:** Appendices I
- **Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972:** Schedule I
- It is also protected under the **Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species** of Wild Animals.

Source: DTE

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