

SHARE AND CARE NEPAL (SCN)
Situation Report

Nepal Floods & Landslides (Rasuwa and Nuwakot Districts)
Government Situation Update and SCN Field Assessment
26-28 August 2026

Brief Overview:

On 26 August 2026, a large ice-and-rock avalanche near the Nepal-China border triggered a sudden and severe flood on the Bhotekoshi and Trishuli rivers, causing widespread destruction across Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Dhading and several downstream districts. As of the Government of Nepal's Situation Report (12:00 PM, 28 August 2026), 477 deaths have been recorded, 977 people remain unaccounted for, and 73 people are injured. Over 15,108 security personnel and 15 helicopters remain engaged in search, rescue, and relief operations, and more than 3,253 people have been airlifted to safety.

A field assessment team from Share and Care Nepal (SCN), led by Executive Director Mr. Ramesh Kumar Khadka, visited flood-affected areas of Nuwakot District on 27 August 2026. The team observed extensive destruction of homes, bridges and power infrastructure, visited two displacement holding centers, and held direct discussions with district authorities and local leaders. This report combines the Government's official situation update with SCN's independent field observations to inform donor decision-making on immediate and early-recovery support.



Immediate priority needs identified include shelter materials, blankets and mattresses, food, hygiene items, and psychosocial support for displaced and bereaved families. A residual flood risk remains active in the upper Bhotekoshi catchment, and warrants continued caution for downstream communities.

1. Background and Cause of the Disaster

On the morning of 26 August 2026 (Bhadra 10, 2083 BS), a large ice-and-rock avalanche covering approximately one square kilometre occurred in the upper reaches of the Lhende Khola, close to the Nepal–China border, accompanied by a seismic signal equivalent to a magnitude 5.2 earthquake. The resulting debris blocked the river and triggered a sudden, high-volume flood down the Bhotekoshi and Trishuli river corridors, sweeping away homes, bridges, roads, hydropower infrastructure and other community assets in Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Dhading and further downstream districts including Chitwan, Tanahun, Gorkha and both Nawalparasi districts.

2. Scale of Impact

The Government's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA¹) reports the following cumulative figures as of 28 August 2026:

Indicator (as of 28 Aug 2026, 12:00)	Figure
Deaths recorded	477
Persons unaccounted for / unreachable	977
Injured (cumulative)	73
Persons rescued by helicopter	3,253
Security personnel deployed	15,108
Helicopters in operation (6 Army, 9 private)	15
Government cash relief disbursed	NPR 2.5 crore

Casualties have been reported across Dhading (33 deaths), Nuwakot (37), Rasuwa (12), Gorkha (44), Nawalparasi East (110), Nawalparasi West (27), Tanahun (28) and Chitwan (186), reflecting the wide geographic reach of the flood along the Trishuli river system. Of the 130 injured, 67 remain under treatment across eleven health facilities, including six patients in intensive care at Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital, Kathmandu; one death has been recorded among the injured.

3. Government-Led Emergency Response

The Government has activated 12 thematic emergency coordination teams covering search and rescue, health, dead body management, international assistance, transport, damage assessment, missing persons, relief, and airport operations, drawing on the Nepal Army, Nepal Police, Armed Police Force, and civil aviation authorities.

- Personnel deployment: Nepal Police (7,250), Nepal Army (4,200), and the Armed Police Force (3,658), a combined 15,108 personnel, remain deployed for search, rescue, and relief.

¹ <https://www.facebook.com/NDRRMA>

- Air operations: A fleet of 15 helicopters (6 Nepal Army, 9 private) has conducted rescue and relief flights, airlifting 3,253 people to safety to date.
- Road clearance: Equipment has been deployed to clear blocked sections at Devighat (cleared), Galchhi, Bidur, Trishuli, Bairini and Muglin to restore road connectivity.
- Relief disbursed: The Government has disbursed NPR 2.5 crore in emergency cash relief (Rasuwa: NPR 1 crore; Nuwakot: NPR 1 crore; Dhading: NPR 50 lakh), alongside distribution of tents, tarpaulins, blankets, dignity kits, solar lamps and other non-food items to affected families.

4. SCN Field Assessment in Nuwakot District (27 August 2026)

With road access to the worst-affected areas of Rasuwa (Betrawati, Syafrubesi, Timure) severely disrupted and reliant on helicopter or security-force access, the SCN team focused its visit on accessible flood-affected areas of Nuwakot District.

4.1.Trishuli-Dunge Area in Nuwakot

The team observed significant damage on both sides of the river, including destroyed and damaged houses, a collapsed bridge, and destruction of the Trishuli hydropower/electricity station, with several structures reportedly swept away entirely. The scale of damage indicates a substantial impact on local infrastructure, markets, and essential services.



4.2. District Administration Office and District Emergency Operation Centre, Nuwakot

At the District Administration Office (DAO), Nuwakot most officials were engaged in ongoing rescue operations, but the team met Mr. Homnath Dahal, information focal point, who reported that five holding centres have been established in Nuwakot District, currently sheltering approximately 1,015 displaced people. He noted that, despite significant support already mobilized, urgent gaps remain in food and essential non-food items, particularly blankets and mattresses. He emphasized that the Government is coordinating relief through a "one-door" mechanism and asked that humanitarian organizations channel assistance through the designated government coordination structure to ensure aid reaches the most affected communities without duplication.



4.3. Devighat Area in Nuwakot

In Devighat, the team observed extensive damage to homes and ongoing displacement, with security forces actively conducting search and recovery operations. At a holding centre established at the Ayurvedic Hospital, the team met Mr. Lila Natha Neupane, Ward Chairperson of Ward No. 5, Bidur Municipality, who reported that approximately 250 displaced people, including slum-dwelling households, are currently sheltering at the centre. While relief support had been adequate to date, he identified blankets and mattresses as the most pressing unmet needs.



5. Residual and Ongoing Risk

Preliminary analysis of satellite imagery captured at 11:44 AM on 27 August 2026 shows that debris from the initial avalanche has blocked the Lhende Khola approximately 18 km above the Rasuwagadhi border checkpoint, forming a lake with a surface area of roughly 0.11 square kilometres. The natural dam impounding this lake remains at risk of sudden failure, which could

trigger a further large flood downstream. Government authorities have urged continued vigilance among downstream communities and note that additional such lakes may be forming upstream. This residual risk should factor into the timing and location of any response and recovery activities in the Bhotekoshi corridor(source: <https://ndrrma.gov.np/np/situation-report/376>).

6. Priority Needs and Gaps

Based on the Government's district-level needs assessment and confirmed by SCN's field observations, the following relief clusters represent the most urgent unmet needs among an estimated 8,692 displaced households (approximately 39,114 individuals) in the affected districts:

Cluster	Key unmet items	Est. households in need
Shelter	Tents, tarpaulins, blankets, sleeping bags/mats	8,692
Kitchen / NFI	Kitchen sets, gas cylinders, water containers	8,692
Hygiene	Hygiene & dignity kits, baby kits, sanitary pads	8,692
Food	Rice, lentils, cooking oil, ready-to-eat food	8,692
Lighting	Solar panels/lamps, batteries	8,692
Emergency transport	Temporary/belly bridges (50–70m)	30 bridges

In addition to material relief, both government officials and community leaders interviewed by the SCN team consistently identified blankets and mattresses as the most immediate unmet need. The SCN team further observed that affected populations, particularly those who have lost family members, homes or livelihoods, are experiencing significant psychological distress and require structured psychosocial support and counselling alongside material assistance.

7. Recommendations for Immediate Support

- **Immediate NFI and shelter support:** Prioritise blankets, mattresses, tents/tarpaulins and hygiene kits for displacement holding centres in Nuwakot and Rasuwa, in line with the gaps identified by both the Government and SCN's field team.
- **Food and WASH assistance:** Support the provision of ready-to-eat food, dry rations and clean water/kitchen sets to holding centres, particularly given continued disruption to local markets and supply chains.
- **Psychosocial support:** Fund community-based psychosocial support and counselling services for displaced and bereaved families, an unmet need highlighted directly by the SCN field team.
- **Coordinated delivery:** Channel resources through, or in close coordination with, the District Disaster Management Committee and the Government's "one-door" mechanism to avoid duplication and ensure equitable coverage.
- **Support for further assessment:** Provide flexible, rapid-disbursement funding to enable a further rapid needs assessment once road or helicopter access to Rasuwa's worst-hit areas

(Betrawati, Syafrubesi, Timure) improves, covering shelter, WASH, protection and early-recovery needs.

- **Risk-informed programming:** Given the ongoing risk of a glacial/landslide-dammed lake outburst in the upper Bhotekoshi catchment, factor this hazard into the siting of relief distributions, holding centres and any planned early-recovery infrastructure.

8. SCN Priority Actions

- SCN's Internal Management Team held a meeting today and decided to deploy four staff members from the existing Joy of the Journey (JoJ) and Dignity for Life (DfL) Projects to visit the affected areas, conduct further assessments, and develop plans for an immediate response to disaster-affected individuals and families.
- The SCN team is currently discussing the proposed project names:
 - RISE-UP Project (Resilience, Immediate Support & Empowerment for Flood-Affected Communities)
 - RISE Project (Recovery, Inclusion, Support & Resilience for Flood-Affected Communities)
 - H-REACT Project (Humanitarian Response & Emergency Action for Communities Affected by Floods)
- The SCN team has also started coordinating with potential vendors to procure emergency relief items for distribution to families severely affected by the flash floods.

9. Conclusion

The Bhotekoshi flood disaster of 26 August 2026 has caused severe loss of life and widespread destruction across Rasuwa, Nuwakot and downstream districts, with search, rescue and relief operations still underway two days on. SCN's field assessment corroborates the Government's official reporting and adds ground-level detail on displacement, infrastructure damage, and unmet needs in Nuwakot District. With the residual risk of further outburst flooding still active and thousands of families now sheltering in temporary holding centres, timely and coordinated donor support, particularly for shelter, NFIs, food, and psychosocial care, is urgently needed to meet immediate humanitarian needs and to lay the groundwork for early recovery.

Prepared and submitted by:

Share and Care Nepal (SCN)
28 August, 2026

Sources:

- <https://ndrrma.gov.np/np/rescue>
- <https://ndrrma.gov.np/np/situation-report/372>
- <https://ndrrma.gov.np/np/situation-report/376>
- SCN Field Assessment Visit Report, Nuwakot District, 27 August 2026.
- Google drive link for original photos
(https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/199GtmR3km9c5bAD8bHAm3D3P_A5zyl9j?usp=drive_link)