

Situation Overview:

A major flash flood struck Rasuwa district after a sudden and intense surge of water entered the Bhote Koshi River from the Tibet (China) side at approximately 9:15 AM. The flood rapidly impacted the Timure, Rasuwagadhi, and Syabrubesi areas, causing significant damage to settlements, markets, police infrastructure, roads, and hydropower facilities.

Authorities have warned that rising water levels could affect downstream communities along the Trishuli River corridor. Preliminary assessments and discussions with scientists from Nepal and China suggest that an ice avalanche may have blocked the Lhende River upstream, triggering a sudden outburst flood. A magnitude 4.4 earthquake was also recorded at 08:37 AM (USGS) prior to the event. While the exact cause remains under investigation, the incident is currently suspected to be a Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) or related high-altitude outburst event.

The flood is suspected to have originated from a high-altitude outburst event upstream in Tibet, although the exact cause remains under investigation. Water levels rose rapidly, with flood waves estimated at 8-10 meters in some locations, resulting in widespread destruction. Authorities have reported severe damage to Timure Market, the Timure Customs Office, the Rasuwagadhi area, and the Syabrubesi settlement. Significant impacts have also been recorded on critical infrastructure, including multiple hydropower projects, notably the Chilime Hydropower Project. In addition, three Nepal Police facilities, namely the Timure Area Police Office, Rasuwagadhi Police Post, and Syabrubesi Police Post, have sustained substantial damage.



Photo: Flood in Rasuwa (Source: Online/Social Media)

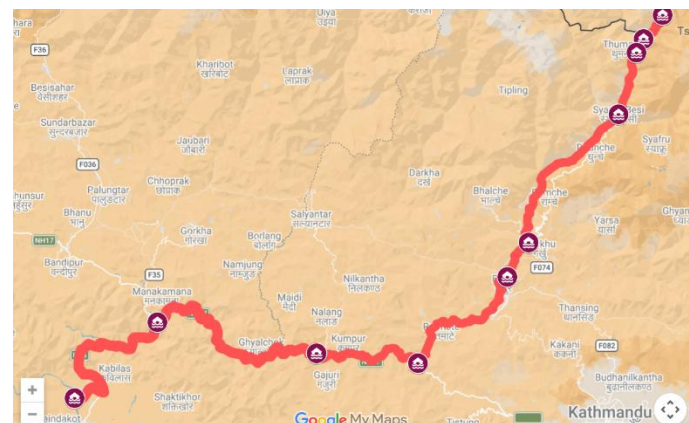


Photo: Map of affected area

Areas at Risk: High-alert warnings have been issued for communities located along the Bhote Koshi and Trishuli rivers, particularly in: Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Dhading, Gorkha, Chitwan. Residents living along riverbanks have been advised to move to safer locations and remain vigilant until further notice.

Transport and Access

- Travel has been discouraged on: Prithvi Highway, Galchhi-Nuwakot-Rasuwa-Syabrubesi Road, Muglin-Narayangadh Road
- Kathmandu Valley Traffic Police have reportedly halted vehicles heading toward Rasuwa and other affected districts.
- People working, fishing, or conducting activities near the Trishuli River have been ordered to leave the river corridor immediately.

Government Response

Home minister called on Emergency Disaster council meeting chaired by Prime Minister. With the major focus on Search and Rescue and preliminary damage assessment, government have also requested all the humanitarian partner to be on standby for much possible relief operation. Similarly, health support is extended through HEOC and MoHFS. Current support and discussions focused on medical logistics deployment, coordination, and information management.

An emergency meeting was convened by the Prime Minister, involving National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA), Security agencies, Relevant government ministries.

The government has initiated the following emergency and rescue operations:

1. Immediate evacuation of vulnerable downstream riverbank communities.
2. Chief District Officers (CDOs) instructed to relocate residents from high-risk zones.
3. Nepal Army rescue teams deployed, including military helicopters for rescue, and relief missions
4. All available helicopters, including private operators, placed on standby for rescue and relief operations.
5. The public has been asked to call 1234 for emergency assistance and official information.

Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) Response

The Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) through its activated EOC is on move:

- Activated Emergency Operation Center
- Emergency Response Committee meeting conducted.
- Go Platform updated
- Emergency Response Teams (ERTs) deployed
- NRCS field deployment: NRCS Chairperson Bishal Bhandari, NDRTs: Sher Bahadur Karki, Binod Lamichhane, Raju Raut and Uttam Suwal has been deployed to Nuwakot.
- The team carried NFRI (Tarpulin, Blanket, Mattress, Rope) and 50 Dead body Bag, Stretcher, First Aid materials.

Relief items dispatched to affected area from NRCS HQs:

Items	Number
Blanket	200 pcs
Tarpaulin	200 pcs
Packaging Bag	200 pcs
Rope	200 pcs
Eva Mat	200 pcs
Dead body Bag	50 pcs
Stretcher	25 pcs
First Aid Kit	25 Kit

Relief items ready to be dispatched in next lot:

Items	Number
Blanket	100 pcs
Tarpaulin	100 pcs
Mattress	100 pcs
Tent	30 pcs
Emergency Toilet	50 pcs
Dignified Hygiene Kit	100 pcs

- Around 30 volunteers have been mobilization for immediate response including search and rescue
- The deployed team from NRCS attended meeting conducted by DDMC Nuwakot. In meeting NRCS has been requested for distribution of ready to eat food for around 1000 people relocated at identified five of safe shelter sites with effective volunteer mobilization
- A sectoral meeting along with IFRC and its network conducted for effective engagement for preparation of response plan.
- Coordinated with NDRRMA , UN regarding humanitarian response requirements.
- Restoring Family Link (RFL) team at Rasuwa and Nuwakot has been activated
- Continued coordination and collaboration with Government authorities (NDRRMA, HEOC) for further response
- Communication with District chapter are maintained, to receive the scenario update
- Nuwakot District Chapter mobilized volunteer for distributing drinking water to the people evacuated to the higher land

Immediate Needs

- Search and rescue along with emergency relief support.
- Emergency evacuation and shelter provisions
- Relief items distribution
- Ready to eat Food
- Emergency WASH facilities (Drinking water, emergency toilet etc.)
- Mobilization of health team for first aid services and emergency health support
- Damage assessments

NRCS EOC is looking forward to detailed information and updated situations. NRCS along with IFRC and its network is also planning for emergency response and DREF application.



Photo: NFI dispatched from NRCS HQs





Photo: Meeting with Nuwakot district chapter/DDMC/security forces