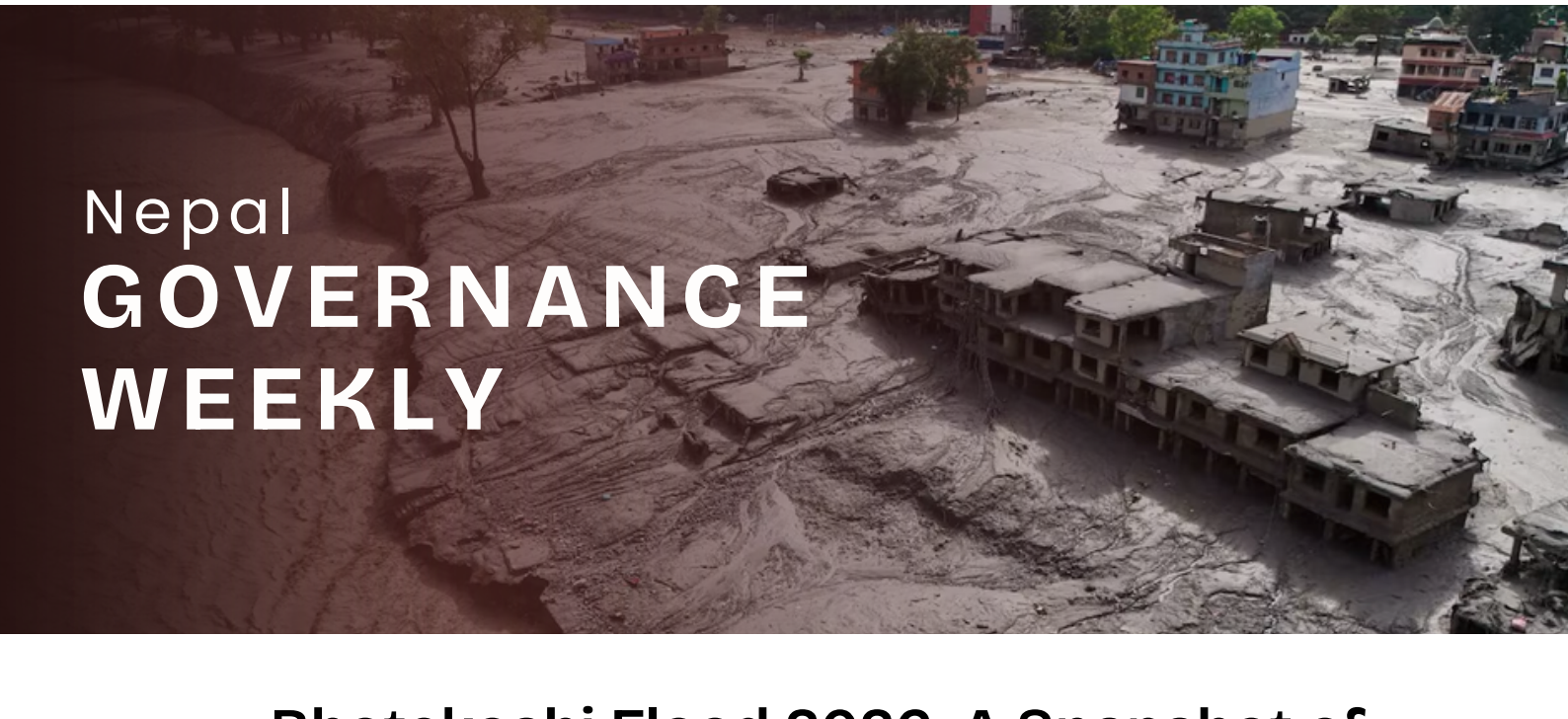




Bhotekoshi Flood 2026: A Snapshot of Damages and Response Efforts!

26th August 2026 is now recorded as one of the dreadful days in Nepal's recent history, as an unprecedented and massive flood struck in its central region, causing widespread loss of life and property. The flood in Bhotekoshi, triggered by glacial outburst, resulted in significant damage to human lives, property, and critical infrastructure, impacting three districts directly.

We have compiled a comprehensive breakdown of the events - including mobilization, rescue and relief operations, preliminary damage assessments, and government funding, including the collections at Prime Minister's National Disaster Relief Fund and contributions from the international community.

Where did the flood originate?

The flood entered Nepal through Timmure, a town bordering Tibet, China in the morning of 26th August. Initial reports attributed the disaster to an earthquake-induced glacial burst in Tibet. But the reason was later disputed by the [Chinese embassy, which stated that](#) the flood originated in Nepal and was triggered by an avalanche caused either by an earthquake or an earthquake-like shock. However, it was later confirmed that the [floods were triggered by glacial collapse](#). According to the USGS, the seismic event with the magnitude 5.2 detected as to the disaster was caused by the glacial collapse rather than an earthquake.

Initial Hours of August 26:

Time	Event
8:37 AM	Seismic activity recorded after Glacial rock collapses on to Lehnde Khola causing flash flooding.
8:40 AM- 9:00 AM	- Timure and Syaprubesi, Rasuwa District get inundated. - PM Balen Shah gets informed on the disaster. - Immediate orders issued for search and rescue. - Nuwakot and Downstream Alerted
9:15 AM - 9:35 AM	- The National Disaster Risk Reduction Authority(NDRRMA) was convened under the Home Minister. - Nationwide Emergency Warnings were issued.
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10:37 AM	The Prime Minister informs the public about actions being taken.
11:00 AM	National Disaster Council(NDC) Meeting convened at the PMO, participants included Cabinet ministers, Opposition leaders, MPs of affected districts and Security officials.
12:30 PM	- After the NDC meeting, a Cabinet of Ministers meeting was called: which made key decision like: - Disaster Crisis Zone Declaration - Full Mobilization of security forces - Helicopter Mobilization: Including Private Helicopters - Free Medical Treatment - Compensation and Assistance for families - Relaxed Drone Restrictions.

Search and rescue operations:

The government has deployed [20,819](#) security personnel,including 8,722 military personnel, 7,894 Nepal Police personnel and 4,203 Armed Police Force (APF) personnel. Rescue efforts have been taking place, government, military and private sector resources are being pooled for effective rescue operations.

Reports of missing persons are being asked and collected by the government, civil service organizations, and disaster relief organizations. Social media pages and groups have also been aiding the government by collecting information, relief materials and more.

As of August 31, 2026, [903](#) bodies have been recovered. Security forces have rescued [10,451](#) people, including 267 injured individuals of whom [156](#) have been discharged. However, [4,274](#) remain unaccounted for, including [1,558](#) from Nuwakot, [865](#) from Rasuwa, [592](#) foreign nationals, [127](#) Nepalis accompanying foreigners. [933](#) people missing were associated with hydropower projects across the affected districts. 411 helicopter flight operations have rescued 3,344 Nepalis and 252 foreign nationals.

Preserving and identifying bodies has been a major challenge, unidentified bodies are stored at 21 hospitals across various districts. Temporary mass burials have been started in the forests of Devghat, Chitwan to prevent spread of diseases as bodies have started decomposing.

