

SOLVE NEPAL

Social Organization for Liberal Volunteers Engagement Nepal

SITUATION UPDATE #31: Rasuwa Flash Flood (Bhote Koshi & Trishuli System)

Date & Time: 1 October 2026, 19:00 NPT | Day 37 of Response | Issued by SOLVE Nepal Coordination Desk

BODIES RECOVERED 1,453 NDRRMA/Police 1 Oct	MISSING PERSONS 5,285 NDRRMA/MoFA 1 Oct	PEOPLE RESCUED 13,795 NDRRMA (300+ foreign)
MEDICAL CARE 9,850+ Hospitalized / Field Security	HELICOPTER SORTIES 1,895 Army 1,575 / APF 320	RECONSTRUCTION NEED NPR 723B USD 4.78B (RDNA Est.)

1. WHAT HAPPENED & SITUATION OVERVIEW

Day 37 of response operations. On the morning of 26 August 2026, a catastrophic flash flood surge entered the Bhote Koshi from the Tibet side after an ice and rock avalanche near Langtang Lirung temporarily dammed the Lhende Khola tributary before breaching. The surge raced downstream through the Trishuli system, causing extensive loss of life, mass displacement, and severe damage to settlements, roads, bridges, hydropower plants, and communications across Rasuwa, Nuwakot, and Dhading, with debris and bodies carried as far downstream as Chitwan and Nawalparasi.

Metric / Operational Focus	Official Status & Field Data (As of 1 October 2026, 19:00 NPT)
Cumulative Death Toll	1,453 recovered whole bodies and identified remains.
Rescued & Medical Care	13,795 rescued (300+ foreign nationals). Over 9,850+ receiving care or treated in field/receiving hospital facilities.
Missing Persons & DNA	5,285 missing persons registered. Forensic DNA matching continues across NDRRMA, Nepal Police, and international hotlines.
Air Sorties Operations	1,895 total air sorties conducted (Nepal Army: 1,575 flights; Armed Police Force: 320 flights) for emergency supplies and SAR operations.
Tunnel Search Concentration	Joint rescue teams, international experts, and divers continue underground powerhouse and tunnel clearing operations across Chilime, Rasuwagadhi, Upper Trishuli 1, and Trishuli 3B.

2. GEOGRAPHIC IMPACT & DISTRICT BREAKDOWN

District	Bodies Recovered	Displaced / Status	Key Operational Notes
Chitwan	381	Monitored	Highest downstream fatality count; riverbed recovery active.
Nawalparasi East	238	Monitored	Narayani corridor clearing & body identification ongoing.
Nawalparasi West	229	Monitored	Relief distribution active.
Nuwakot	210	2,615 in shelters	Devighat Acrow Bridge open; Trishuli Hospital active for trauma care.
Rasuwa	201	775 in shelters	Tunnel debris clearing at Chilime & UT-1; upper wards rely on air drops & drones.
Gorkha	82	Monitored	Relief delivered via air and road access points.
Dhading	72	295 in shelters	Sital Bazaar running one-way; diversion track cutting continuing.
Tanahun	38	Monitored	Local government relief distribution active.
Kathmandu	2	In treatment	Casualties recorded during hospital trauma care.

3. SEARCH AND RESCUE BY HYDROPOWER PROJECT

Project	Status (As of 1 Oct 2026)
Rasuwigadhi (120 MW)	CQRT and project representatives reached power house and control point; debris clearing and search continuing.
Langtang (20 MW)	Search and rescue continuing.
Chilime (22 MW)	Powerhouse tunnel dewatering and search ongoing following earlier body recoveries.
Upper Trishuli 1 (216 MW)	Joint Nepal Army–Korean Disaster Relief Team (KDRT) advanced deep into main entry tunnel. Search continuing for unaccounted workers.

Mailing Khola (5 MW)	Search continuing across surrounding landslide area.
Trishuli 3A (60 MW)	Tunnel and power house clearance ongoing.
Trishuli 3B (37 MW)	Joint multinational teams utilizing drones and thermal imaging inside tunnels; search continuing.

4. CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE & PROTECTION UPDATES

- **Child Protection & Psychosocial Alert:** Over 17,000 children require urgent mental health and psychosocial support. Child-Friendly Spaces continue providing safe environments, Psychological First Aid, and trauma counseling.
- **Roads & Transit:** Devighat Acrow Bridge remains operational. Sital Bazaar landslide section running one-way. Simplified insurance claims instituted for affected policyholders in Rasuwa.
- **Hydropower & Telecom:** Nepal Telecom and private operators have restored over 98% of damaged cellular towers. Free Wi-Fi remains active at key holding centers.
- **Health & Shelter:** Transitional shelter kits distribution continues across 15 affected local governments. Health Cluster maintains heightened surveillance.
- **WASH & Health Surveillance:** Water purification, temporary sanitation facilities, and hygiene kits distribution scaled up in operational holding centers.

5. GOVERNMENT & SECURITY RESPONSE

- **Cash & Allocations:** Relief distribution active across 15 designated local levels under NDRRMA framework.
- **Security & Logistics:** Security personnel remain deployed for search, rescue, and relief clearance operations.
- **Forensic DNA Analysis:** Victim DNA sampling and family reference matching remain active under Nepal Police and NDRRMA coordination.

6. URGENT NEEDS & GAPS (CONTINUING)

- Field reports indicate the following priority gaps persist into Day 37 of the response:
- **1. Food and kitchen utensils:** Food insecurity persists in remote wards due to localized landslip disruptions.
 - **2. Shelter and winterisation:** Winterisation planning underway for high-altitude temporary shelters as seasonal temperatures drop.
 - **3. Access of remote communities:** Mule, porter, and specialized air transport needed for last-mile delivery.
 - **4. WASH in hard-to-reach communities:** Continued need for clean drinking water and sanitation kits.
 - **5. Child protection and psychosocial scale-up:** Sustained mental health support required for affected children and families.
 - **6. Targeted support for vulnerable groups:** Dignity kits and targeted relief required for pregnant women, elderly, and persons with disabilities.
 - **7. Multipurpose cash assistance:** Cash distribution scaling up to aid recovery and local market resuscitation.

7. SOURCES & COORDINATION DESK

COORDINATE WITH US: SOLVE Nepal is on the ground to support and help bridge gaps in coordination with local government and government-led relief under national and district mechanisms.

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Sources: NDRRMA Situation Update 1 Oct 2026 19:00 NPT; Nepal Police; Department of Roads; WASH Response Dashboard (NRCS/WASH Cluster); Shelter Cluster; Education, Child Protection & GBV Clusters; media (ReliefWeb, Republica, The Rising Nepal). Official Situation Update by SOLVE Nepal Coordination Desk, 1 October 2026, 19:00 NPT.