

Nepal

A suspected glacier collapse along the northern border triggered massive flash flooding across Nepal's Rasuwa and Nuwakot districts, once again drawing spotlight on the shared transboundary river network between Nepal and India.



Nepal

- Nepal is a sovereign, landlocked South Asian republic situated along the southern slopes of the central Himalayas. It acts as a natural strategic buffer state between the Tibetan Plateau (China) to the north and the fertile Indo-Gangetic Plain (India) to the south.

Capital City: Kathmandu (situated in the Kathmandu Valley, drained by the Bagmati River).

Bordering Nations:

- **North:** China.
- **East, South, and West:** India (bordering five Indian states: Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, and Sikkim).

Key Geological & Relief Features:

- **Four Parallel East-West Morphological Belts:** The terrain ascends steeply from south to north through four distinct zones: the low-lying Terai Plain, the forested Churia (Shiwalik) Foothills & Inner Terai, the rugged Lesser Himalayas (Mahabharat Lekh), and the snow-clad Great Himalaya Range.

- **Global Epicenter of Extreme Altitudes:** Houses eight of the world's fourteen highest mountain peaks above 8,000 metres, including Mount Everest, Kanchenjunga I, Lhotse I, Makalu I, Cho Oyu, Dhaulagiri I, Manaslu I, and Annapurna I.
- **Pleistocene Lacustrine Basins:** The central mid-mountain region contains broad, fertile intermontane valleys—such as the Kathmandu and Pokhara Valleys—which originated as ancient lake beds formed by fluvioglacial sediment deposition during the Pleistocene Epoch.
- **Antecedent Drainage Gorges:** Major Himalayan river systems are older than the mountains themselves (*antecedent rivers*); they cut deep transverse gorges across the rising Himalayan axes rather than taking their source along the highest ridgelines.

Rivers Shared by India and Nepal:

Nepal possesses over 6,000 rivers, streams, and rivulets, nearly all of which drain into the Ganga River Basin.

Major River	Name in Nepal	Indian Entry / Basin Impact
Sharda	Mahakali	Uttar Pradesh
Ghaghra	Karnali	Uttar Pradesh
Rapti	West Rapti	Uttar Pradesh
Gandak	Narayani / Trishuli	Bihar & Uttar Pradesh
Kosi	Sapta Kosi	Bihar
Bagmati	Bagmati	Bihar
Kamala	Kamala	Bihar
Burhi Gandak	Sikrahana / East Narayani	Bihar
Mahananda	Mahananda	Bihar & West Bengal