



Sharda River

Why in News?

Several people drowned after being caught in the strong currents of the [Sharda River](#) near Devraghat in the Sitapur district.

Key Points

- **About the Sharda River:**

- **Origin and Course:**

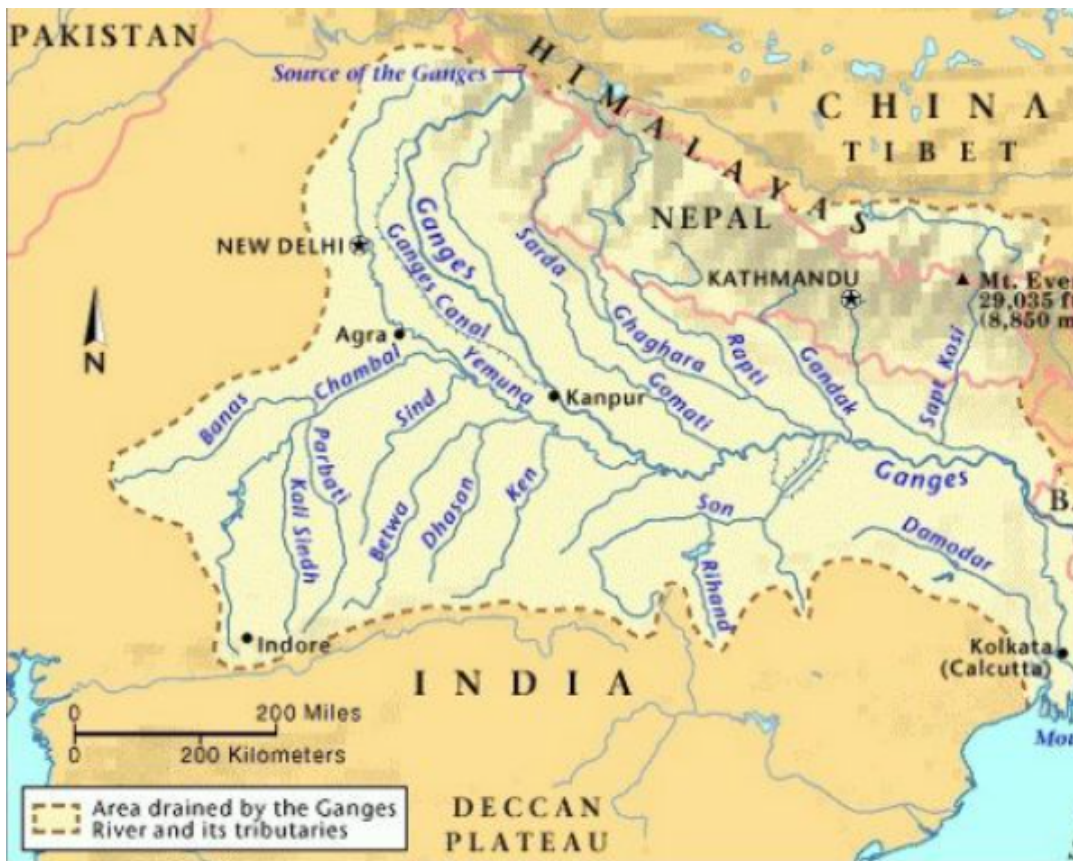
- The Sharda River, also known as the **Kali River** in its upper reaches, **originates in Uttarakhand**.
 - It rises in the [Great Himalayas](#), on the eastern slopes of the [Nanda Devi](#) massif.
 - Flowing generally south-southwest, the **river forms the boundary between Uttarakhand (India) and western Nepal**.
 - After descending from the mountains, it enters the [Indo-Gangetic Plain](#) at Barmdeo Mandi in Nepal.
 - As the river widens above the Sarda Barrage, it is **referred to as the Sarda River**.
 - After crossing into India, the Sarda River flows southeastward through northern Uttar Pradesh.
 - It eventually **joins the Ghaghara River southwest of Bahraich**, covering a total length of approximately 480 km (300 miles).

- **Major Tributaries:**

- Key tributaries of the Sarda River are [Dhauliganga River](#), [Goriganga River](#), [Sarju River](#).

- **Sarda Barrage and Canal System:**

- The Sarda Barrage, **located near Banbasa in Uttarakhand**, plays a significant role in irrigation.
 - It serves as the **origin of the Sarda Canal, completed in 1930**, which is one of northern India's longest irrigation canals.



Ghaghara River

The Ganges-Brahmaputra Basin



■ Origin and Upper Course:

- The Ghaghara River is a **major left-bank tributary of the Ganges River**.
- It **originates as the Karnali River** in the high Himalayas of the southern **Tibet Autonomous Region** in China.
- Flowing southeast through Nepal, it descends from the mountains and cuts across the **Siwalik Range**.

■ Formation of the River:

- After crossing the Siwalik Range, the river splits into two branches.
- These branches reunite south of the India-Nepal border, forming what is known as the Ghaghara River.

▪ **Key Tributaries:**

- **Major tributaries** that join the Ghaghara from the north include **Kuwana River, Rapti River, Little Gandak River.**
- These tributaries contribute significantly to the river's volume and have helped shape the extensive **alluvial plains of northern Uttar Pradesh.**
 - In its lower reaches, the Ghaghara is **also known by other names Sarju River, Deoha.**
 - It was referred to as Sarabos by the **2nd-century Greek geographer Ptolemy.**

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