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Context: Nine individuals, comprising both pilgrims and laborers, were rescued from the Tawi River in Jammu following a sudden flash flood triggered by heavy rainfall.



About the Tawi River:

Origin

- The Tawi River traverses the Jammu region of Jammu and Kashmir before entering territory administered by Pakistan. It originates from the Kailash Kund glacier (Kali Kund) located near Baderwah in the Doda district.

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States/Regions It Flows Through:

- It primarily flows through the districts of Doda, Udhampur, and Jammu. The river crosses into Pakistan's Punjab, ultimately merging with the Chenab River.

Tributary Status:

- The Tawi is classified as a left-bank tributary of the Chenab River, which is a significant river within the Indus River System.

Key Features:

- Length: 141 km.
- Catchment area: 2168 km² up to the Indian border. Major tributaries include Raji, Gou Karan, and various seasonal streams that contribute to its perennial flow.

Significance:

- **Lifeline of Jammu:** It serves as the primary water source for the city.
- **Religious Importance:** In Hindu texts such as the Vishnudharmottara Purana, it is honored as Surya Putri (Daughter of the Sun God). The river is associated with local legends of Raja Pehar Devta, who is said to have brought the river forth to heal his father.
- It has supported the construction of forts like Bahu Fort and temples, which have led to Jammu being referred to as the "City of Temples."

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Development Projects:

The government is in the process of constructing an artificial lake at Bhagwati Nagar to enhance tourism and improve water supply. This project is currently under scrutiny to ensure compliance with the Indus Water Treaty.