

Bhagirathi River

August 12, 2025 • vajiramandravi.com



Bhagirathi River Latest News

A water body resembling a lake, stretching over a kilometre, has formed on the Bhagirathi River near Harsil after the recent cloudburst in the Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand, prompting authorities to launch urgent drainage operations.

About Bhagirathi River

- It is a **turbulent Himalayan river** in the state of **Uttarakhand**.
- It is **one of the two main headstreams** of the **Ganges** River, the **other being the Alaknanda** River.
- According to Hindu mythology and culture, Bhagirathi is the source stream of the Ganges.
- But according to the hydrology, Alakananda is the source stream of the Ganges for its flow and length.
- **Course:**
 - It **originates** from the **Gaumukh Glacier** located at the **base of the Khatling and Gangotri Glaciers** in the **Garhwal Himalayas**, where the melting ice gives birth to the river.

- Further, the river passes through the Tehri Garhwal district, including the towns of Uttarkashi and Tehri, where it **encounters cliffs, rapids, and waterfalls.**
- It is joined by **tributaries** such as – **Kedar Ganga, Jadh Ganga, Kakora Gad, Jalandari Gad, Siyan Gad, Asi Ganga** and **Bhilangana.**
- Finally, the Bhagirathi River **meets the Alaknanda River at Devprayag.**
- The **combined waters** of the two rivers **then flow as the Ganges** River, and this river eventually empties into the Bay of Bengal.
- **Major Dams: Maneri Dam, Koteswar Dam, and Tehri Dam.**
- **Religious Significance:**
 - The **confluence of the Bhagirathi and Alaknanda** rivers is considered a sacred site in Hindu mythology.
 - It is an **essential part of the sacred Panch Prayag Yatra**, which involves visiting the **five holy confluences** of Uttarakhand: **Devprayag, Rudraprayag, Nandprayag, Karnaprayag, and Vishnuprayag.**
 - The banks of the Bhagirathi are dotted with numerous sacred cities and sites such as **Gangotri**, the source of the river, which is **one of the Char Dham pilgrimage sites.**

Source: HT

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/bhagirathi-river/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.