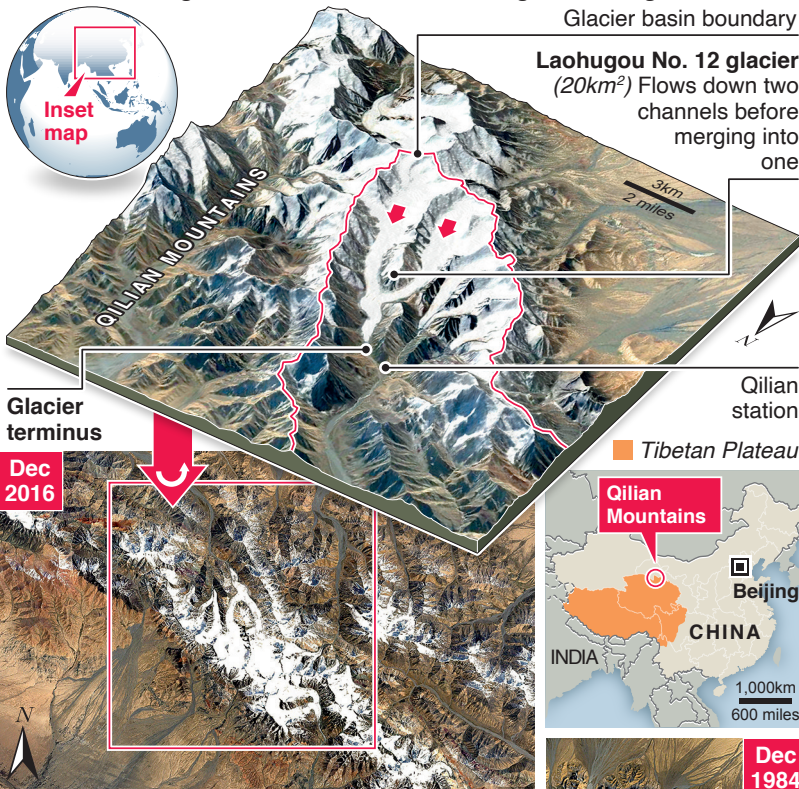


China's rapidly melting glaciers

More than 2,600 glaciers on China's stark Tibetan plateau are melting at an alarming rate – none more so than the giant *Laohugou No. 12*

Glacier basin boundary

Laohugou No. 12 glacier
(20km²) Flows down two channels before merging into one



Researchers at **Qilian station** say glacier has shrunk by around **7%** since 1950, losing **13m** of thickness. Terminus has retreated **450m**. All 2,684 glaciers in Qilian Mountains are melting – causing floods in spring and droughts in summer