
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

News Review

India: Flood in Himalayas



The story

Indian troops have rushed to the scene to help, as emergency workers battle through thick mud and debris in the effort to reach survivors.

Many of those missing worked at one of the hydroelectric plants which was devastated by the torrent of snow, ice and water which swept down the valley.

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Key words and phrases

bursts

breaks suddenly

- There was sugar everywhere after the bag burst in my hands.
- The floor is wet as one of the water pipes has burst.

devastating

very damaging

- New trade restrictions may have a devastating effect on the economy.
- Julia had to sit down after she heard the devastating news.

raised the alarm

made people aware of danger

- A young boy raised the alarm after spotting the flames.
- Doctors have raised the alarm about new strains of the virus.