

**Hindu**

**16 July 2018**

**Chellanam, Heavy Rain, Flood**

**Rain floods Chellanam, over 100 families hit**

Bazaar and Companyppady areas worst-affected; families likely to be shifted to St. Mary's School



**After the deluge:** A flooded road at Chellanam following the heavy downpour on Sunday, and (right) floodwater entering the premises of a house. Officials are considering shifting people living in flood-affected areas to safer places. \* S. ANANDAN

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
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More than a hundred families have been affected by flooding in the coastal village of Chellanam following heavy rain on Sunday. Chellanam panchayat vice-presi-

dent K.D. Prasad said Bazaar and Companyppady areas were the worst hit due to flooding, worsened by high tide during the afternoon hours.

Water has seeped into most of the homes after the

temporary sand barriers set up by the panchayat were breached in the heavy rain in the morning hours. Flooding got more severe after about 2 p. m., said a resident. Rainwater drains and natural canals were blocked following the accumulation of sand. It

made the flooding worse than expected earlier, said Mr. Prasad.

Officials from the Revenue Department are in Chellanam examining the possibilities and need for shifting people living in the flood-affected areas to safer places temporarily. Mr. Prasad said that the affected families were likely to be shifted to the St. Mary's School for the time being considering the intensity of the rain on Sunday.

Thomas Gregory, one of the residents in Chellanam, said the most affected areas included the coastal stretches affected by the Ockhi cy-

clone early this year. Roads have been flooded though vehicular traffic has not been affected, he said. Ganapathykkadu and Maruvakkadu have been severely hit by flooding. There is a strong presence of police and government officials in Chellanam following reports of rain and flooding, he added.

Meanwhile, a report of the Met Department said that Ernakulam has received 20.25% more rain than the long term normal rain of 1050.9 mm. The district has so far received 1,263.66 mm of rain between June 1 and July 15 this year, the department said.