



METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE

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***** OUTER BANDS OF BERYL TO REACH JAMAICA BEFORE DAYBREAK WEDNESDAY...HURRICANE WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT *****

A **Hurricane Warning** remains in effect for Jamaica as Hurricane Beryl continues to threaten the island with devastating impacts. The following dangerous effects of a hurricane are expected to reach Jamaica by tomorrow:

- Dangerously high water or a combination of dangerously high water and exceptionally high waves, even though winds expected may be less than hurricane force, and
- Average winds of at least 119 km/h (74 mph).

At 4:00 p.m. the eye of Hurricane Beryl was located near latitude 15.9 degrees North, longitude 70.8 degrees West. This is about 205 km (125 miles) south-southeast of Isla Beata, Dominican Republic, or 680 km (420 miles) east-southeast of Kingston, Jamaica.

Beryl is moving toward the west-northwest near 35 km/h (22 mph) and this general motion should continue through Wednesday, followed by a turn more toward the west on Wednesday night or Thursday.

Maximum sustained winds are near 250 km/h (155 mph), with higher gusts and Beryl is a Category 4 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. Weakening is forecast during the next day or two; however, Beryl is forecast to be at or near major hurricane intensity while it passes near Jamaica on Wednesday and the Cayman Islands on Wednesday night.

Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 65 km (40 miles) from the centre and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 295 km (185 miles).

The eye of Hurricane Beryl is expected to be south of Haiti this evening before it approaches the southeastern coast of Jamaica on Wednesday morning. On the current forecast track, the centre of the hurricane is expected to move very near or over the island's southern coastline during Wednesday afternoon.

Rainfall from the outer bands of Beryl will, however, start affecting Jamaica very early on Wednesday morning, beginning with sections of eastern and north-central parishes. These will gradually spread across the island as the centre moves closer to the coast, and will be accompanied by periods of strong winds, gradually increasing to hurricane force during the morning. Dangerous storm surges and battering waves will also be generated mainly along coastal areas of eastern and north central parishes.

The Meteorological Service continues to monitor the progress of Hurricane Beryl and all interests are encouraged to pay special attention to further Releases.

The next Bulletin on this system will be issued at 8:00 p.m. today.

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