

METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE

Branch of the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation *Telephone: 876-924-8055/924-8404*

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*** MAJOR HURRICANE BERYL MOVING OVER THE SOUTHEASTERN CARIBBEAN ... HURRICANE WATCH REMAINS IN EFFECT FOR JAMAICA***

A **Hurricane Watch** remains in effect for Jamaica as Category 4 **Hurricane Beryl** moves away from the Windward Islands and continues on its journey across the southeastern Caribbean. This means that hurricane conditions are possible across Jamaica within 48 hours.

At 4:00 p.m. the eye of **Hurricane Beryl** was located near latitude 13.2 degrees North, longitude 63.2 degrees West. This is about 205 kilometres (125 miles) northwest of Grenada or 1,550 kilometres (960 miles) east-southeast of Kingston, Jamaica.

Beryl is moving toward the west-northwest near 33 km/h (21 mph). The centre of **Beryl** will continue moving away from the southern Windward Islands tonight and move quickly westward to west-northwestward during the next few days. On the forecast track, the centre of **Beryl** will move across the southeastern and central Caribbean Sea tonight through Tuesday and is forecast to pass near Jamaica on Wednesday.

Maximum sustained winds are near 240 km/h (150 mph) with higher gusts. **Beryl** is a Category 4 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. Fluctuations in strength are likely during the next day or so, but **Beryl** is expected to remain an extremely dangerous major hurricane as it moves over the eastern Caribbean. Some weakening is expected in the central Caribbean by mid-week, although Beryl is forecast to remain a hurricane.

Hurricane-force winds extend outward up to 65 km (40 miles) from the centre and tropical-storm-force winds extend outward up to 205 km (125 miles).

All small craft operators, including fishers from the cays and banks, should by now be in port and are urged to complete their necessary safety precautions without delay.

The Meteorological Service continues to monitor the progress of Hurricane Beryl and is likely to upgrade the Hurricane WATCH a Hurricane WARNING later this evening. 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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