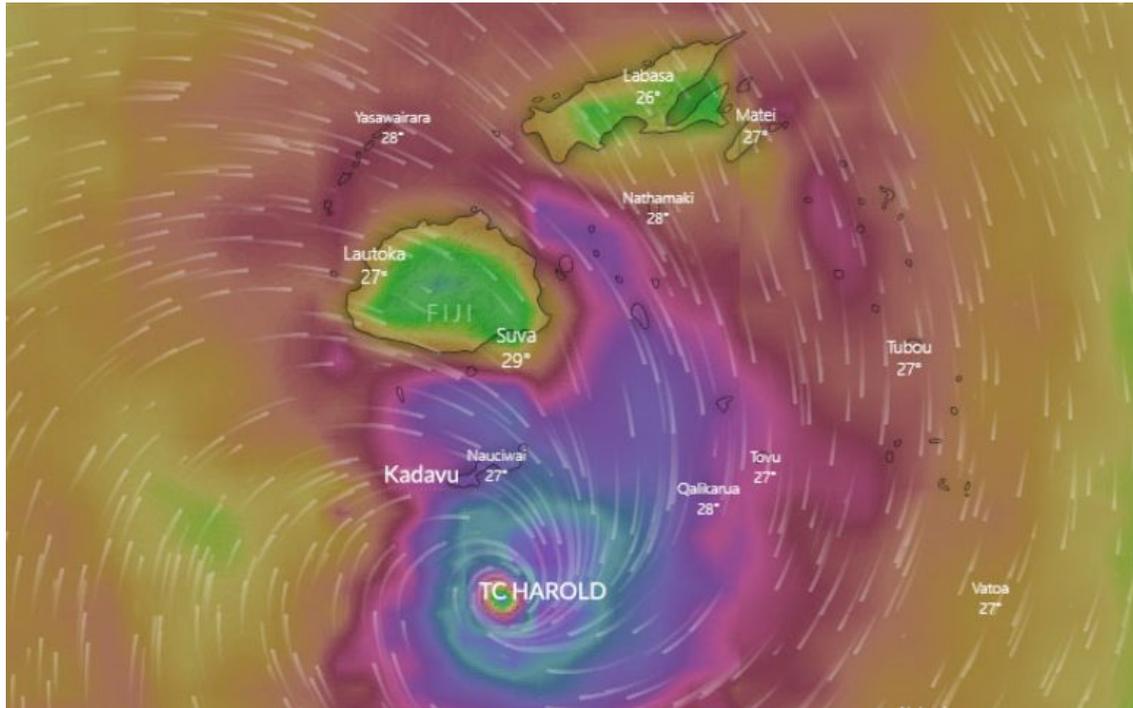


Kadavu currently experiencing the full brunt of Cat4 TC-Harold



Kadavu is feeling the full brunt of Category 4 Tropical Cyclone Harold this afternoon as the large system continues to move in the east-southeast direction.

All communication links are down in Kadavu and Lau but we have received reports that they are experiencing destructive winds.

The centre of Cyclone Harold is located about 190 kilometres south-southeast of Nadi or about 30 kilometres southeast of Kadavu.

Close to its centre, the cyclone is estimated to have average winds of upto 175 kilometres per hour with momentary gusts to 250 kilometres per hour.

The cyclone is currently moving east-southeast at about 36 kilometres per hour and is quickly moving across Fijian waters.

On this track, the cyclone centre is expected to be located about 100 kilometres northwest of Ono-i-Lau or 260 kilometres east-southeast of Kadavu at 2am tomorrow and about 740 kilometres east-southeast of Ono-i-Lau at 2pm tomorrow.

Destructive and damaging winds are likely to begin a few or several hours before the cyclone centre passes nearby.

For Kadavu Beqa Vatulele Matuku Vatoa and Ono-i-Lau: expect very destructive hurricane force winds with speeds up to 170 kilometres per hour and momentary gusts to 240 kilometres per hour.

Damaging heavy swells with sea flooding of low lying coastal areas is expected during high tides, with storm surge heights of upto 2 metres expected along the coasts when the centre passes nearby.

The next high tide is at 6.37 tonight.

For the rest of southern parts of Viti Levu [from the Coral Coast to Pacific Harbour] Moala Totoya Vanuavatu and the rest of southern Lau Group: destructive storm force winds with speeds up to 110 kilometres per hour and momentary gusts to 155 kilometres per hour.

A gale warning remains in force for the rest of Viti Levu, Yasawa and Mamanuca Group Lomaiviti Group the rest of the Lau Group Vanua Levu Taveuni and nearby smaller islands.

A strong wind warning remains in force for the rest of Fiji.

A heavy rain warning remains in force for the Fiji Group.

A flash flood warning remains in force for low lying areas and small streams within the Rakiraki Catchment and is now in force for the rest of the low lying areas and small streams within catchments in Fiji.

Restricted Movement for people of Viti Levu – NDMO Director

People in Viti Levu are still under restricted movement which means there should be no unnecessary movement.

This has been confirmed by the Director of the National Disaster Management Office, Vasiti Soko who says only emergency service vehicles are allowed on the road.

The NDMO Director says essential workers will have to carry their work ID.

The restrictions are still in place as FRA, EFL and Forestry officers are working to clear debris and landslides on the roads.

The NDMO will await clearance from the Divisional Commissioners before a decision is made.

They says they cannot risk people's lives as there are some fallen power lines, lanslides and fallen trees on the road.

Thankfully, there are no deaths despite the monster system connected with even tornadoes creating havoc from late last night.

Soldiers assist in clearing debris in areas



Bushmaster vehicles and a number of soldiers and police officers are already on the ground in Waidamudamu in Nausori to clear all the debris in the affected areas.

Health Minister, Doctor Ifereimi Waqainabete, Infrastructure Minister, Jone Usamate, Minister for Defence, Inia Seruiratu and Army Commander Rear Admiral Viliame Naupoto are at the scene.



There are several teams on the ground trying to assist in different areas.

Stay away from incomplete WG Friendship Plaza on McGregor Road

Please stay away from the incomplete WG Friendship Plaza on McGregor Road in Suva.

Fijivillage has received reports that metal and aluminum pipes are flying off the building and landing on the road and neighbouring properties.

We are advising you to stay away from the area.

A WG Friendship spokesperson says they had secured the building area but they do not know what is flying from the building.

He says their workers are now at the site to check the situation.

Bhawani Dayal Arya College's double storey classroom block roof and other houses significantly damaged

Tornadoes associated with Tropical Cyclone Harold have severely affected some houses and buildings in Nakasi and Nausori – it resulted in the roof of Bhawani Dayal School getting ripped off and blown away.



Nadi Weather Office Director, Misaele Funaki says that it is possible that severe tropical cyclones like Harold can spawn tornadoes after people from Vusuya in Nausori also said that their homes were damaged by a tornado at about 3 o'clock this morning.

We are getting reports that about 7 houses have been damaged in Vusuya, and houses in Nakasi and Bhawani Dayal School have been badly damaged.

15 houses have been badly damaged by strong winds and rain in Waidamudamu, Nausori early this morning.

Resident Ashwin Prasad says it seems a tornado blew their roof away at about 4.30am.

He says his family had to take shelter under their tables.

Prasad also says that at least two of his neighbours are injured.

Another resident, Umesh Chand says he has never seen such a situation in Waidamudamu.

He says he was woken up at around 4am because of the heavy rain and strong winds.

He adds that Waidamudamu is flooded and the water level has risen to about 4 feet.

More than 1,700 people in evacuation centres



[Both Nasoata and Taiperia residents have been evacuated, with the help of our RFMF forces, to Natabua Primary School and are now safe.]

1,768 people are currently staying in 85 evacuation centres around the country.

The National Disaster Management Office says the Western Division has 40 evacuation centres with 1,086 people.

There are 39 evacuation centres with 559 people in the Central Division.

Two evacuation centres are open in the Northern Division with 33 people and the Eastern Division has 90 people in 4 evacuation centres.

Temple roof flies away in Nabitu, Sigatoka



[Vatukarsa Village Western, Fiji. Photo: Simeli Cirimaitoga]

Some houses have been badly damaged in Vatukarasa Village in Sigatoka.

The village is full of fallen trees and debris from the strong winds.

A few houses in Nabitu, Sigatoka are partially damaged due to strong winds this morning.

A resident has told Fijivillage that this includes the roof of their temple that has been blown away completely.

Tailevu North College partially damaged due to strong winds experienced this morning

Tailevu North College is partially damaged due to the strong winds that was experienced this morning.



Police have confirmed that they have received reports of damages to the school earlier today.

The roof of the school was also blown away.

Earlier in the day nine houses have been damaged and several people were injured in Wai-no-kavula Village, Tailevu.

Police officers were deployed to the area after they received reports of this.

Stay tuned for the latest news on our radio stations

COMMUNICATIONS FIJI LIMITED - RADIO FREQUENCIES					
LOCATIONS	Legend	VIT FM	Sugar	FM 96	Navtarang
Suva, Nausori, Central Division, Nadi, Lautoka, Labasa	98.6	92.2	103.4	96.2	101
Sigatoka, Coral Coast, Ba, Vatukoula, Tavua, Savusavu	98.4	92	103.2	96	100.8
Rakiraki	99	92.6	103.8	96.6	101.4