



The Ministry Of Infrastructure & Transport

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MEDIA RELEASE No.1

4.30pm Friday 15th April 2016

TROPICAL DISTURBANCE (TD017) **AND** **EXPECTED WEATHER FOR FIJI**

Tropical Disturbance (TD17F) centre [1005HPA] was analyzed to the northwest of Nadi at midday today. TD17F is gradually moving southeast towards the Fiji group. The associated trough of low pressure affects the group and is expected to continue affecting till Monday morning.

TD17F is expected to deepen to a Tropical Depression and lie over the group tomorrow. It is anticipated to continue moving southeastward and exit Fiji waters by Sunday evening. The concern for Fiji is the associated rainfall and the likelihood of flooding of low lying areas. However, chance of TD17F to develop into a Tropical Cyclone over Fiji waters is low.

A heavy rain warning remains in force for Vanua Levu, Taveuni and nearby smaller islands, Lau and Lomaiviti group, eastern half of Viti Levu and Yasawa group.

A heavy rain alert remains in force for the rest of Fiji which is expected to be upgraded to warning by later today.

A flood alert is now in force for all small streams, creeks and low lying areas adjacent to major rivers within Vanua Levu and Eastern half of Viti Levu.

Periods of rain, heavy at times and a few thunderstorms is expected over Vanua Levu, Taveuni and nearby smaller islands, Lau and Lomaiviti group, Eastern and northern Viti Levu.

The rest of Fiji can expect occasional rain, heavy at times and few thunderstorms becoming frequent from tomorrow.

Rain is expected to start easing and clearing from the West from Sunday morning as TD17F moves eastward and away from the group.

A Strong Wind Warning is now in force for the land areas of Fiji.

Fresh to Strong northeast to southeast winds with speed of 40 to 50km/hr gusting to 65km/hr. Winds becoming clockwise with average speed of 55km/hr and gusts to 75km/hr from tomorrow.

A Strong Wind Warning remains in force for all Fiji waters.

Southeast winds 25 to 30 knots gusting to 40 knots. Rough to very rough seas. Moderate swells. Poor visibility in areas of heavy rain and thunderstorms.

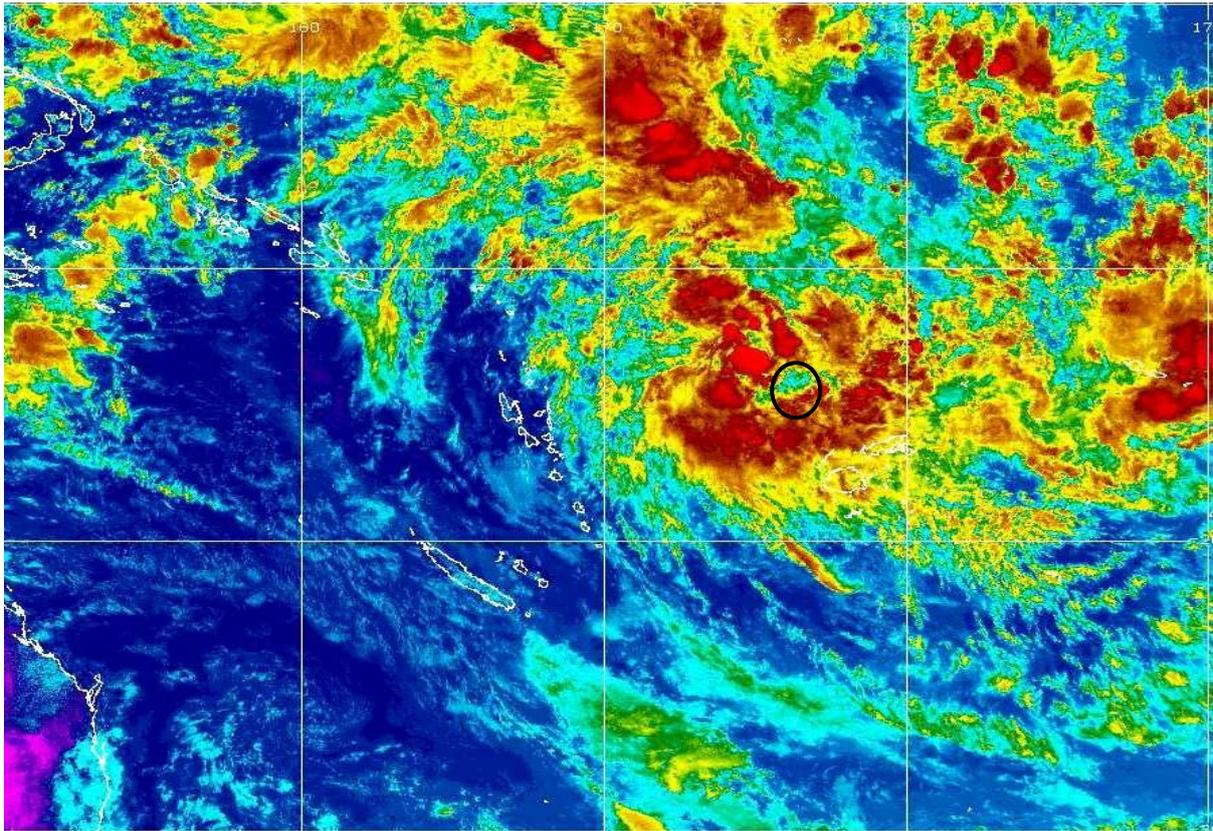


Figure 1: Satellite Image at 02.00pm on Friday 15th April, 2016. Red shades are areas with heavy rain.

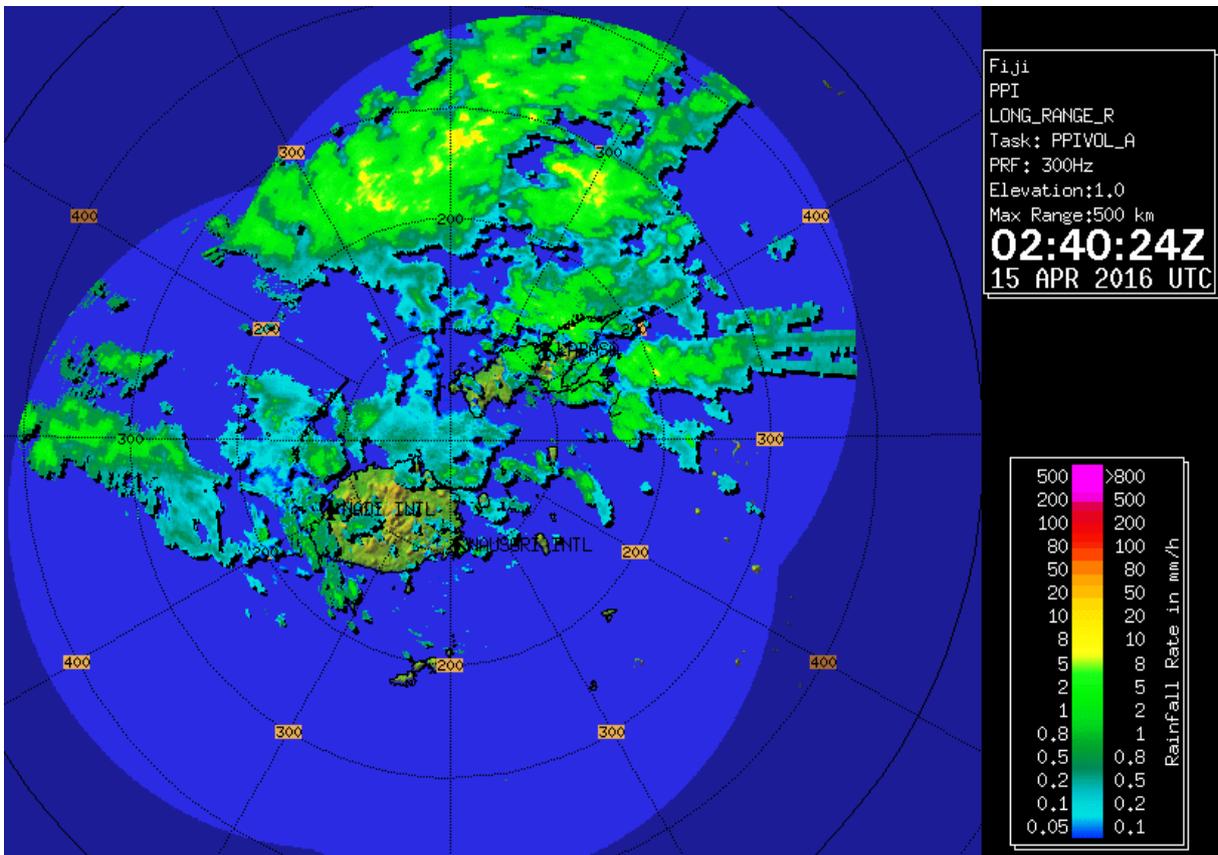


Figure 2: Radar Image at 02.40pm on Friday 15th April 2016.

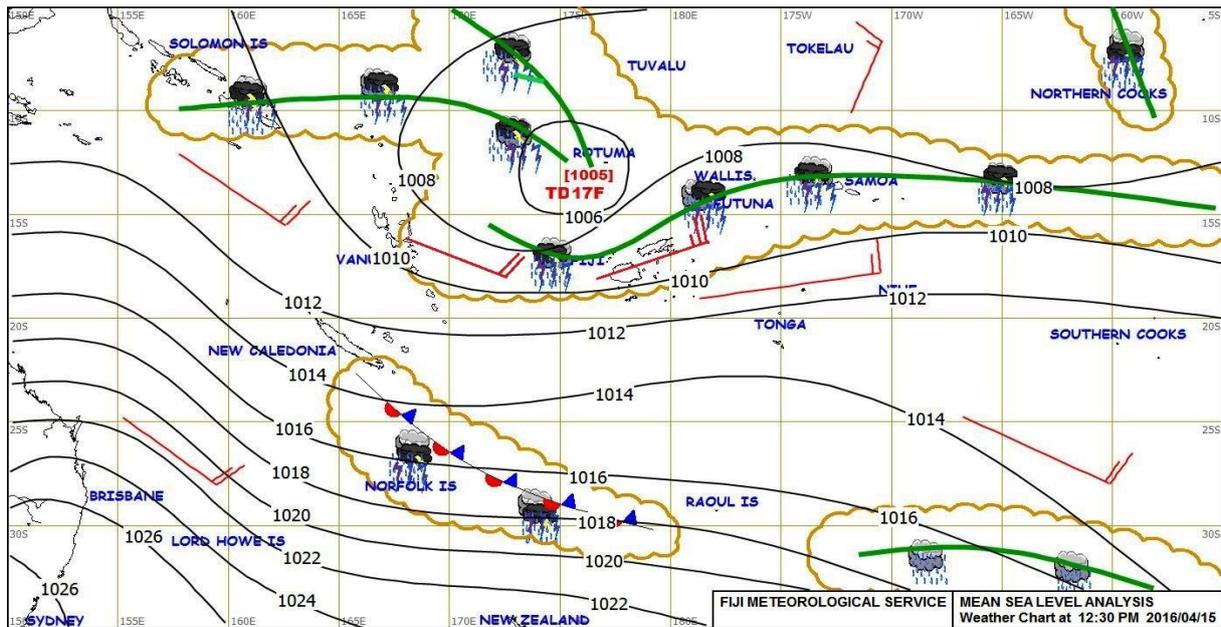


Figure 3: Mean Sea Level Weather Map issued by RSMC at 12.30pm on Friday 15th April 2016.

Rainfall from 9am yesterday to 9am today.	
Location	Rainfall (mm)
Dewala	94
Qawa and Nayarabale	83
Labasa Airport	79
Seaqqa	79
Wairikicake	79
Udu Point	76
Monasavu	62

All major rivers are normal except for Rakiraki River which is gradually rising. As rain continues over the next few days, these rivers may overflow their banks. The heavy rain and water levels in Major Rivers and their tributaries are being closely monitored.

The general public is advised that the tropical cyclone and wet season is in progress, therefore all communities are to remain alert and prepared at all times. Furthermore, take forecast, warnings and advisories seriously and make timely and informed decision(s). Keep updated with the latest weather bulletins and take alerts and warnings seriously.

For more details and the latest on weather, please contact the Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre on 6736006, 9905376 or visit the Fiji Meteorological Service's website, www.met.gov.fj

ENDS.

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 for Permanent Secretary Infrastructure & Transport