

# MPM NEWSLETTER

## Cyber Security Awareness – CERT (DCDT)

The Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) of the Department of Communications and Digital Transformation (DCDT) recently conducted a Cyber Security Awareness session at Melekat village, aimed at promoting safe and responsible use of digital technologies.

The awareness program brought together participants from various government agencies and organizations to enhance their understanding of cyber threats and the importance of protecting personal and organizational information in today's increasingly digital environment.

The Department of Communications and Digital Transformation remains committed to strengthening cyber resilience across Vanuatu through continuous awareness programs, capacity-building initiatives, and collaboration with stakeholders. Through the work of the CERT team, the Department continues to support a safer and more secure digital environment for all citizens and organizations.

The Cyber Security Awareness program forms part of the Government's ongoing efforts to enhance digital literacy and ensure that individuals and institutions are better equipped to respond to emerging cyber threats.

## Staff Farewells

**Harold Obed (Right to Information Unit) & Gina Taravaki (Language Services Department)**

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**Harold Obed – RTI**

**Acknowledgement and Appreciation – Mr. Harold Obed**

The Right to Information Unit would like to express our sincere appreciation to our former Manager, Mr. Harold Obed, for his dedicated service and leadership.

Mr. Obed played an instrumental role in the early development and establishment of the Right to Information (RTI) in Vanuatu. His efforts helped lay a strong foundation for the growth of RTI awareness and implementation across our nation.

Mr. Obed has highlighted the importance of accurate and transparent information, particularly in contexts such as national referendums, where voters need clear explanations to make informed decisions. He has consistently argued that the public has a right to know what decisions are being made and that transparency is essential for a functioning democracy.

Harold Obed is a key figure in promoting transparency, accountability, and public engagement in Vanuatu. Through his leadership of the RTI Unit, public statements, and educational workshops, he works to ensure that government officials and citizens are informed and that government processes remain open and accessible.

We especially acknowledge his commitment to promoting RTI throughout the islands of Vanuatu – from Torba to Tafea provinces – ensuring that communities across Vanuatu are engaged and informed about their right to access government information.

While he will be greatly missed by the RTI Unit team, his contribution and legacy will continue to guide and strengthen our work into the future.

Thank you, Mr. Harold Obed, for your valuable service and lasting impact on Vanuatu's democracy.



**Gilda Taravaki – LSD**

The Language Services Department recently gathered to bid a heartfelt farewell to Ms. Gina Taravaki, a valued senior staff member whose dedication and commitment have made a lasting contribution to the Department and the public service.

Throughout her years of service, Ms. Taravaki has played an important role in supporting the Department's mission of promoting effective communication and language services. Her professionalism, strong work ethic, and willingness to support colleagues have earned her the respect and appreciation of staff and stakeholders alike.

During the farewell gathering, colleagues shared words of gratitude and reflected on the positive impact Ms. Taravaki has had on the workplace. Her experience, guidance, and commitment to excellence have contributed significantly to the growth and success of the Department.

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## PM tour to Torba Province



Port Vila — For the first time in so many years of Vanuatu's independence, a sitting Prime Minister visited the remotest islands of Torba Province again – starting on June 12 to 22 June.

Prime Minister Jotham Napat departed June 12 for Luganville and then on to Torba for a visit that government and community leaders in Torres and Banks Islands have described as “historic”. On several islands of the province where only a handful of families live, no tangible government assistance has reached them since 1980.

The Prime Minister will personally hand over water tanks to communities that have struggled with water security since. The supplies funded with support from partners have been loaded onto RVS Sokomanu, for distribution across the province.

In Torres, the Prime Minister visited Hiu, Toga and Tegua. In this remote islands he handed over 5 boats to schools there. In the Banks Group he travelled to Vanualava, Gaua, Merelava, Ureparapara and Merig, following a formal visit to the headquarters at Sola.

In a truly poignant moment, Deputy Prime Minister Hon. Johnny Koanapo is also joined Prime Minister Napat, especially on Hiu island. The two leaders both stood together on the maritime border — miles off the island — between Solomon Islands and Vanuatu as Vanuatu continues to reassert its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

After departing Torba on 17 June 2026, the Prime Minister travelled to the West Coast of Santo, specifically to Wunpuko Village where he announced a major road infrastructure for the area, linking it to Big Bay. Wunpuko holds deep national significance as the home of one of the architects of Vanuatu's independence, Sela Molisa. The Prime Minister then proceeded to Luganville on 18 June to officiate at key events and met with citizens in Sanma Province before returning to Port Vila.

### A Milestone for Torba

While Ministers of Government and former Head of State His Excellency Pastor Obed Moses Talis have visited Torba in the past, this was the first time both of the nation's top executive leaders have travelled to the province together since independence.

“This visit is a recognition that no community is too small or too remote to matter to this Government,” said Prime Minister Napat. “For 45 years Torba has waited. Independence must mean something for every ni-Vanuatu, whether you live in Port Vila or on Hiu. We are delivering water today, but more importantly, we are delivering the message that every corner of Vanuatu is part of one nation.”