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Housing Minister, Grenadines Affairs Minister Visit Bequia to Assess Housing, Squatting Issues.

Residents of Bequia, still affected by housing challenges brought on by the passage of Hurricane Beryl, received a visit from two Government Ministers on Thursday March 12.

Minister of Housing Hon. Andrew John and Minister of Grenadines Affairs Hon Terrance Ollivierre, along with key personnel from their Ministries, travelled to the island to assess conditions and explore solutions to the various issues being faced by residents as it relates to land and housing.

The group focused on addressing housing needs that emerged after Hurricane Beryl, including concerns related to informal settlements and squatting as some residents continue to seek safe and secure accommodation and better living conditions.

During the tour of affected areas in Bequia, the Ministers met with residents and community representatives to hear firsthand accounts of the challenges they have been facing since the passage of Hurricane Beryl.

Minister John said the government is committed to helping residents rebuild their lives and ensuring that persons displaced by the hurricane are able to access adequate housing. He noted that the visit formed part of ongoing efforts to better understand the situation on the ground so that practical assistance can be provided.

A key initiative discussed during the visit is the establishment of a Ministry of Housing storeroom on the island, which would allow building materials and supplies to be stored locally. Officials say this would make it easier and faster to respond to

housing needs in Bequia and other parts of the Grenadines, particularly in the aftermath of disasters.

Minister Ollivierre emphasised the importance of working closely with residents to address both immediate and long-term housing concerns. He said the government remains committed to finding solutions that will assist families and also address squatting in some areas with the aim of allowing some people to own the lands which they have been occupying.

The Ministers indicated that the information gathered during the visit will help guide future housing interventions as authorities continue efforts to support residents affected by Hurricane Beryl.

The Government has been implementing a range of initiatives across Saint Vincent and the Grenadines aimed at rebuilding homes and strengthening housing resilience in communities impacted by the storm.

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