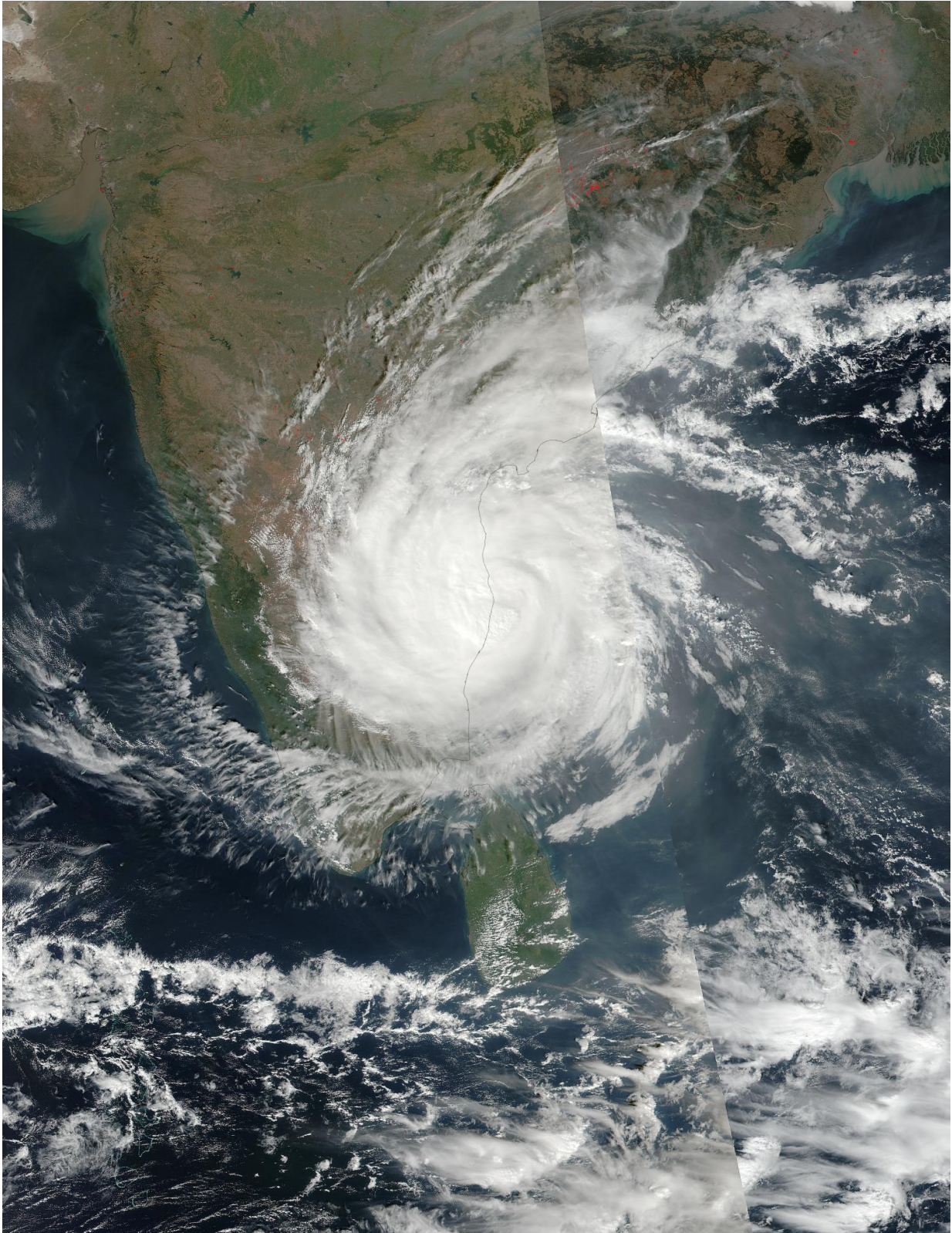


NASA sees tropical Cyclone Vardah make landfall

December 12 2016



On Dec. 12 at 3:42 a.m. EST (0842 UTC) NASA-NOAA's Suomi NPP captured

this visible image of Tropical Cyclone Vardah making landfall in eastern India.
Credit: NASA MODIS Rapid Response/NOAA

Tropical Cyclone Vardah made landfall in eastern India as the NASA-NOAA Suomi NPP satellite passed over it from space. Vardah was hurricane-strength at the time of landfall and brought heavy rainfall and strong winds to areas of the India states of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

Vardah made [landfall](#) near Chennai, India. On Dec. 12 at 3:42 a.m. EST (0842 UTC) the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) instrument aboard NASA-NOAA's Suomi NPP satellite provided a visible-light image of the storm. The image showed bands of thunderstorms wrapped around the low-level center of circulation.

At 4 a.m. EDT (0900 UTC) Vardah's maximum sustained winds were 86.3 mph (75 knots/139 kph). Those hurricane-strength winds extended 25 nautical miles from the center of circulation.

Vardah's center was located near 13.2 degrees north latitude and 80.6 degrees east longitude. That put the cloud-filled eye of the storm about 718 nautical miles southwest of Kolkata, India. It was moving to the west at 10.3 mph (9 knots/16.6 kph).

The Joint Typhoon Warning Center expects Vardah to continue to move further inland and dissipate there.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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