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FRIDAY 24th JANUARY 2020

The Speaker took the Chair at 9:10am.

Prayer.

MR SPEAKER: I announce the resumption of the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly.

I offer salutations and convey congratulations for good health on this new morning. I respectfully announce for the information of the House as well as the country that is in listening in support in regards to what had occurred at the Legislative Assembly yesterday in the wake of the sudden activation of the emergency signs. For the information of the House, our new Legislative Assembly has been equipped with sirens for public safety at any time in the event of a fire, and other natural disasters and warnings that may affect the Legislative Assembly here at Tiafau.

In a statement by the Fire and Emergency Service Authority, together with the companies overseeing this sector, since more than 12 hours the air conditioners have been active for the past 2 days of the Parliamentary Forum, which is why the sirens went off due to the water from these air-cons. We have finished repairing and positioning our sirens as required for the Forum for the Legislative Assembly to operate smoothly. That is the announcement with respect for the knowledge of the House especially Samoa listening in support.

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2019/2020
– continued debate on second reading

MR SPEAKER: Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly was adjourned yesterday as the Minister of Tourism was making his statement.

I call on the Hon Minister of Tourism to stand and continue his statement, it has also been noticed that there is not much left with speech by the Hon Minister.

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**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
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Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI (Minisita mo Tagata Tafafao Maimoa Mai Fafo): I wish to express my gratitude to Mr Speaker, as you have already given our offerings to our Lord, and I offer gratitude. Mr Speaker I greet you, may God continue to be kind and give us strength of the body for the administration of the Legislative Assembly of Samoa.

I also offer greeting to the Hon Prime Minister as well as the Deputy Prime Minister and the Cabinet, Associate Minister, that side of the House with the honourable members of Parliament chosen by the country. To the Chief Executive Officers I also offer greetings.

To the support of Samoa, thank you for your hard work and support, as your support is a blessing to the Parliamentary Forum that is underway.

Mr Speaker my speech ended yesterday regarding the situation addressed by this Ministry. But I would like to thank all those who supported our trip in escorting the Miss Samoa to Papua New Guinea. We would like to express our gratitude to the Samoan consuls overseas, Dr. Fa and his wife Lydia as well as the representatives of our country living in Papua New Guinea. It is a great honour for me and my delegation to see the support of our country and their united hopes that one of the daughters of our country succeeds in her task. Thus why a special thanks to Mr Leiataua Brunt and the Manaia Events, they were entrusted with the care of our Miss Samoa, well needless to say the excitement, gratitude and pride when the competition ended and Samoa won for the second time. In this regard I express thanks to our Miss Samoa as well as those who supported the effort and preparation of this event.

Then I come to my constituency. Thank you for your support....

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Hon Minister as the member for Palauli le Falefa is standing.

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga (Palauli le Falefa): Mr Speaker, thank you for the opportunity. I just want to remind you that I had mentioned the improvement of access roads towards historical monuments. Considering that my constituency also has a lot of these things. So we have to make a plan because tourists contribute over \$400million to our development. Meaning, my contribution is 25% of the GDP. Historical sites should be added to the Atele forest that is being constructed to ensure that tourists can spend more time in the country. With all due respect, Mr Speaker.

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MR SPEAKER: Well, I call on the Minister of Tourism to stand.

Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI: I assume the Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga did not comprehend my speech yesterday, these matters that were mentioned by the Minister of Works, leave it to us because in truth nothing will be left undone, everything will be completed. As I have already stated on this day to you honourable Faumuina, the week after next week we will visit Savaii. And everything that you have mentioned will be achieved. That is the goal of our visits to inspect all these areas as stated by Faasisina of Palauli No.3 as well as the respectable member for Palauli le Falefa to ensure these things are completed. The dream of the Samoa Tourism Authority is for us to receive a billion tala revenue from foreign tourism over the next two years. A billion tala should be accomplished from foreign tourists. And if the efforts of our Samoa Airways become successful, because this is the way into our country, and to bring in foreign tourists. If the members of this House can show support, whoever possess good sites that are not known to the public, thus is the reason we should be informed of this matter so that we can make preparations for promotions overseas. Falealili also has many attractions, however, the price that is paid for the vehicles to visit. When a tourist comes and says, I want to take a picture, but a member of the village states that it is \$20 for a picture.

This is how things are, you all should be aware and prioritize before distributing our...to protect our country from news spreading abroad, Samoa is not well prepared for the management of tourists from overseas. With respect to the honourable member, that is the goal, but do put your trust in me, we will conduct visitations and it will be implemented.

MR SPEAKER: Well done. I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi (Palemia): Mr Speaker, this site known as the Pulemelei, I have only been there when I was appointed Minister of Tourism by Tofilau in 1991. When I visited there were about ten elders waiting for me, they build their houses from the village of Vailoa due to the roads that go through the land that was leased by Nelson, but the lease is no more, it has become a forest. Now Nelson family and the village have gone into conflicts because the village want their lands back as it was not being used anymore.

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When I arrived, the intention of the Minister is to improve all the places where tourists may spend their time, so that they do not leave after one day, it would be a waste of time travelling all this way and there is nothing good to see in Samoa. But remember that over half a billion in revenue is from tourists, which is free money. All they have to do is visit our shores for just one day and 100million or 50million is possibly earned. This is an excellent development together with our plane, hotels, restaurant, public market, selling traditional fans, because when tourist arrive it will be too hot for them, then they will walk around and use their fans, eat our food, papaya, and mangoes. Everything that is available not only at the market places, but also small markets in front of family homes that sell the traditional siapo and such things. Some grave for Samoan food so they go to the Samoan restaurants. That is one mistake made by our hotels, as tourist come from places that serves steaks and curry but when they come to Samoa they are served steak and curry as well.

What they should be serving is coconut drink, fish, smoked fish, and fish prepared in many different ways. That is what tourists want to eat. But if they come here craving for these traditional food but they are served curry and steak which is what they are already used to and are more delicious overseas.

To summarise my statement, when I arrived they asked for money for entry. Then I told the elders that I was only going to inspect those things, but what I had seen, there was no road, and it is filled with overgrown grass going inland. Then the road sways and was partially restored, as I wanted to go to the Pulemelei. That is the attitude of the Cabinet, to go and observe, they must observe these things because if not, they will not know and understand, as a CEO can be dishonest. And then I went to see, it was my first time seeing a great pyramid, I thought they were only found in Egypt. So that is how pyramids looks like. It was almost similar to the pyramids in Egypt. We do not need to go to Egypt to see the great pyramids. The only difference is that at the very top it is flat, and it is built with rocks from bottom to top. It took me quite a while to sit up there and I wondered why this pyramid was created, which has caused a lot of people to gossip, this was the location of a village in the olden days. Perhaps it was here that all the brown skinned people had scattered around the world.

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Mr Speaker, these things are very important, and majority of our country have not seen the Pulemelei. When I arrived there were huge rocks used as seats at the top. An elder once said, they did not know until another man came to them, that there are four craters similar to conch-shells, which lay on these stones. This is intense, because supposedly an elder took these to his home, but experienced things within his family, and a voice was heard saying to return these shells to where they came from. They immediately went at midnight with touches to return these four things, but I asked them where they were. Well those are the things that were taken to New Zealand, and it is said that these shells are displayed in one of the museums in New Zealand.

I mentioned this because when I returned I instructed the Samoa Tourism Authority, to clear that road so that it is easier for people to travel inland. This historical site, it holds ancestral stories of this country.

Mr Speaker, the reason for stating this, is because of the member's speech, this historical site is very important as it is written in the historical records of the Pacific. This is the biggest pyramid ever seen by archaeologists within the entire Pacific, this is the only greatest pyramid seen which is critical for the heritage of Samoa. What makes me happy, is that the site is located far inland and it is also in Savaii, because if a tourist wants to visit the site, they will not be in Samoa for one day, perhaps it will take up to three or four days, because they will be travelling back and forth inland, as they are interested in seeing these things. And that is the reason why these foreign archaeologists stay near the site and examine these things, because these things are important to the historical legends of Samoa.

Mr Speaker that is the intention of this Ministry, because that road is problematic, as cited by the honourable member for Palauli le Falefa and the Manager for the Electric Power Corporation at that time, it would be better for you to meet with the village to plan these things and the problems that have surfaced. It is not a good thing for the development of Samoa.

Mr Speaker, that is my response, as it seemed the request is being given humorously, but the Minister has spoken. This is very important to our development that is underway, and so this road needs to be monitored to prohibit anyone from sitting near it, as well as the elders that usually sit by the Government roads and ask the tourists for money at the entry point.

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These are some of the laziest people right now. They do not work at the plantations but instead they want to sit by the roads and receive payments from tourists for sightseeing, and the honourable members of this constituency should examine this historical site, you should also make a contribution to spread the good news, news of understanding to re-read the book of Genesis. There is only one option for you and that is to work at the plantation, you live off the sweat from your forehead. Mr Speaker, speeches like this should be based off these important biblical verses, to enlighten the elders that are interfering with the developments of the country. Thank you and God bless.

MR SPEAKER: Well, I call on the Minister of Tourism.

Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI: Thank you to the Hon Prime Minister. The issues mentioned are true, and this matter will not be cited again as it has already been stated by the Prime Minister, but I request that it should be complied with as we must work together for the future of our country. We are the ones that benefit and we are also the ones who perish, we are the Leaders.

That is the true intention, to earn money we need to spend money, because money does not come for free. Money is used to repair things so that it would not become ruined so that it generates more money for the future of Samoa.

I come to my constituency. Thank you for the support. I will not address your honorifics of Sa Tuala because it is well-known. The reality of our work that has been set out, the preparations for the school build is complete and the Honourable Ministers Loau Solamalemalo Keneti Sio and Papalii Niko Lee Hang have already visited there for the restoration of the roads for the school as well as the field as there are plans for the field to be completed at the same time as the school building, including the restoration work of our roads, for the Government are planning to implement, however, the road that I had requested for Manua, perhaps if there was enough time to implement it during time it was requested, it would be \$100,000. Now, the expense is \$1,800,000. I mentioned this, so that we as members should continue to apply for the work to be implemented, to minimize the expenses if the Government is informed on the repairs for the roads.

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Truthfully, if the work was achieved with the funds that I had requested of \$100,000, we would not have to spend \$1,800,000, for our road which runs from Leauvaa-tai to Aleisa. It is the road of the Government. But forget about it because it has been a year since this member has requested but no work has been done for the roads. That is why I am grateful to my constituency.

Also thank you to the additional constituency, because in fact we have changed our name, it is not Gagaemauga No.1, and is now known as Sagaga Central. Well, Sagaga Central is known as westerners, but nothing can be done about it because it was given by the Office of the Electoral Commissioner, and so we will conform to it. Sometime later we will meet Aleisa West and Aleisa East, and I have already made a statement regarding the working roads and the water supply.

The Minister of Works, Infrastructure and Transport and the Chief Executive of the Samoa Water Authority have already laid down the pipes, so the pipes have been placed to supply water for our constituency. Because in all honesty, I will have a wedding next year, but this year, you still have members who are special to you but I will implement your work accordingly to your wishes.

Mr Speaker, the speech by this member has concluded, but this constituency supports the Supplementary Appropriation. Thank you and farewell.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you for the speech. And up next will be the Honourable Minister of Women, Community and Social Development.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA (Minisita mo Tina ma Tamaitai, Atinae o Nu'u ma Afioga ma Agafesootai): Greeting to Mr Speaker, as well as the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and the Cabinet, Associate Ministers, and the honourable members of Parliament of Samoa on that side of the House. I also acknowledge the attendance of the Chief Executive Officers of the Ministries that serve our Government and supporting the work of this House. And also the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and the honourable staff of the Office of the Legislative Assembly, that are working to aid us in our forum.

As well as the country in all its honorifics that is listening to the proceedings of our meeting this morning

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And I now respond to all the issues that the members have been mentioning for these past few days since the beginning of our forum. Mr Speaker, I have recorded down that 32 members have finished speaking, there were two who visited this Ministry, and the other two who wanted to discredit this Ministry, but I will still try to present an explanation and a short summary because the matter raised is important for the development and the improvement of this Ministry and its services.

Mr Speaker, before I comment on this, just to update this House as I mentioned in the past when discussions about the effects of the measles on our country and our ongoing work. The figures have now been accumulated and confirmed to be released to this House, but we have been discussing this subject for some time now.

Mr Speaker as of this morning, these are the statistics that have been recorded from the work on the last day of this event, the plan for a mop up or to revisit those who missed out on the vaccination, and try to spread it throughout the country, to prevent the measles.

Since those 2 days when our Government closed down for the distribution of the vaccination, from the 7th to the 15th December the work of the Government was put on hold, there were 176 of them from the ages of 6 months to 19 years old were found unvaccinated. But 1,457 of them from 20 years onwards, were discovered during the mop up by the Ministry were not vaccinated.

After jobs had been resumed, the Ministry continued its work, from the 8th to the 22nd January, 100 of them from the ages of 6 months to 19 years old, were not vaccinated, and it has been discovered. But 598 of them are from the ages of 20 years onwards. The total so far of those who have not been vaccinated is 2,337.

Mr Speaker, these are further information on this matter like the words used on the horse, it can easily be lead to the water, but if the horse refuses to drink then it will not drink. This is similar to efforts of our Government, and now medicine is available, as well as services to be offered and to go around for the continuation of our work, but there are still those who are troublesome and struggling and do not fully agree to situations like this, they are not generally viewing this for prevention on days like this, because as it was also mentioned by one of the members, if majority of us are protected, it will also protect those who cannot be vaccinated due to important circumstances, legitimate reasons.

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Well, we have been through hardships, but now we are able to rest, as witnessed in the newspaper yesterday, the last two that were detained have been released. Apparently, we are now at peace. As the saying goes, animals are rested, but disaster will strike.

And it has been noted yesterday, the emergence of another challenge to the health of our country, with the rise of a new virus from China that has affected some countries and warnings have been issued by the World Health Organization as well as other countries to warn us, so that we are protected against the spread of the corona virus, that has become an outbreak, and the effects are also very severe.

The positive thing for us is that we have learnt a lot from dealing with the measles. And I believe that our country is well prepared as well as the Ministries to respond to such experiences now, because we have already taken care of the problems from the measles outbreak. I also believe we are fully prepared to fend off this virus so that it will not affect our country.

Let us pray to God for assistance, but the belief at this time is that this whole week our House has been mentioning working together, sharing the burden. From my point of view, now is the time to put your words into action, as a great challenge has appeared before us again, and the virus is challenging, because it is not entirely certain what the symptoms of the virus are, because it spreads quickly similar to the measles. This time, let us walk the talk. Let us work together and share the burden, to protect our country from the outbreak of the corona virus, which is rumoured to potentially affect our country.

Mr Speaker...

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi (Faleata West): Mr Speaker....

MR SPEAKER: I call on the member for Faleata.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Thank you for the opportunity, a question for the honourable Minister, I left on the first day of our forum with a lot on my mind regarding the statement made by Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai. When he stated that we do not have a Pandemic response plan.

I am astonished, as we are over-planning. I remember when the SAS (Sub-valvular Aortic Stenosis) disease occurred, as it was the time when I worked at the airport when Afioaga Eti Enosa was the Chief Executive Officer at the time.

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What I wanted to ask the Hon Minister because it has been cited, I believe that a plan already exists and could you explain again, so that we do not panic, with due respect, thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Well, it seems that the desire of Olo has already...

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: Mr Speaker, this member is being irresponsible. It is well-known that this is the role which refers to these groups. We have our NEOC, we also have the Ministry of Health, and we also have groups to deal with such situations like Disaster Management, so I will not answer your question. But there will be a time.

I thought there would be a time for the matter you have stated, but now I have changed my mind, it is best to leave it alone.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: I implore you, Mr Speaker, and I apologise to the Hon Minister, no, what I meant was, if we recall on the day this issue was raised, to the public listening it is serious because it has changed. And to assume that we do not have a plan.

MR SPEAKER: The honourable member, you are stating all of the issues we have already heard. This makes me feel unhappy. The honourable Minister of Health has already stated this, I urge that you are sympathetic towards our members, 18 or 28 plans have already been tabled. Yes, try to remember our work. Since you have stated this, the member will...

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai (Salega East): That is the problem for you being late to our Sitting, you do not understand what we have already discussed.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you, because I am hesitant to say such words, well I call on the Minister.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: Mr Speaker, and now I will comment on the issue raised by the member. The issue concerning the Village Representatives and the Women Representatives of the Villages, as this is another major issue facing our Ministry, it occurs frequently, but the Act is quite clear.

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Village Representatives and Government Representatives, provided under the Internal Affairs Act in section 14, matters concerning internal affairs, 1995, the appointment of Government Representatives, to be appointed by the Cabinet under the advice of the Minister. The Village Representative is chosen by the village itself, or the village council. Then they will present their representative through a letter, a letter to the Minister stating, that this is the representative we have all agreed upon, and will be the Representative of our Village. And then it will be given to the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry and will be presented to the Minister, and a submission will be conferred to the Cabinet to wait for a response.

The Ministry will also conduct an investigation to counter the nomination by the village, for their nominee, or a person who is qualified for this matter, or if he has other problems, and then the matter will be presented to the Cabinet for a final decision on whether to accept or not.

Members of the Government, this member is chosen from within the Act, they are chosen by the Ministers and are referred to Cabinet, for a decision by the Cabinet to pick a Government Representative. Currently, we are working together with the congregations, within these villages that were mentioned to be non-isolated villages, which assist in nominating these representatives. The Ministry will be looking at other ways to provide recommendations to Cabinet for the appointment of Government Representatives. Whether they need to submit their application letters, as there should be a panel to consider who is eligible, because they are Government Representatives, the Cabinet has the power to appoint them, they are not appointed from within these villages. At the same time cooperating with the villages that are non-isolated villages, and taking advantage of the existence of churches.

However, the Ministry is concerned that members of the group may be alienated by other churches due to one of their members becoming a Government Representative. There are many issues like this, and the Ministry is still looking for ways to ensure that the accountability is not compromised in such cases.

As for the Women Representatives for Villages, which are under the Women's Affairs Amendment Act, which is in section 16a, and this was amended in 2009. It provides for the appointment of the Women Representatives for a Village.

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From that Act, it is decided by the Women's Committee, which is the term used in the Act, Women's Committee. After the Women's Committee has decided, it is then submitted to the village council, as they will endorse it and then send in by letter to the Minister, through the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry, and be presented together with the Village Representative. And then it will be given to the Cabinet for the approval of the Women Representative of a Village.

The situation in terms of the problem that has risen with the Women Representatives of Villages, in the Act, it is decided by the Women's Committee. It is not recorded in the Act, what kind of Committee? It is only the Women's Committee. The reason for the confusion at this time is because there are Sanitation Committees. There are also other types of Women's Committee like the Ie Samoa within the villages. There are committees that handle gardening, and many other committees that involve women.

The intention of the Ministry is that, it would be better to have only one Women's Committee in the village. To be recognized by the Ministry, within this committee, they will make the adjustments, to create their own sub-committees, and assign responsibilities for health, gardening and Samoan weaving. Like Samoan traditional fine mats. Or who is responsible for the environment, like cleaning up the village, the toilets, the kitchens, and many other things under the supervision of the Women's Committee.

The Ministry also believes that it would be fair to distribute responsibilities equally within the Women's Committee, it is necessary to find ways or register the Women's Committee, and be given a number, to be able to qualify. The Women's Committee is important, and entitles them to appoint a Representative for Women.

Because an was enlistment conducted in villages for Women's Committee, and only 6 women signed up, and in other Committees only less than 10 people signed. Some Committees have a total of 40, which is also fair for everybody and so such a system should exist, and so that is what the Ministry is working towards, and also hopes of receiving assistance from the Office of the Attorney General, to work together to define or make a provision to register the Women's Committee, to make the Women's Committee consistent in all villages.

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Well that is the status in regards to the 2 official questions that were given, but the other issue mentioned that affected this Ministry, there is a belief that it is useful for our Ministry, and it is also useful for the country listening, as I would also adhere to it.

The issue of the ECE or the Early Childhood Education was raised. And the Minister of Education has already spoken about it.

Tofa Namulauulu Leota Sami Leota (Faasaleleaga No.2): Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: Pardon to Hon Minister of Women, Community and Social Development but there is an interruption. I call on the member.

Tofa Namulauulu Leota Sami Leota (Faasaleleaga No.2): Mr Speaker, thank you for the opportunity, I am hesitant to interrupt the wonderful speech of the Honourable Minister. As this member was the one to raise the issue concerning the Representative of Villages. This is not only the hope of trusting the cooperation of the Government as well as the Village Representative and the Women Representative of a Village. As with the arrangement that was implemented during the measles.

The request that was given to the Hon Minister and the Ministry, to observe especially... is concerning our villages of Sapapalii and Fusi. Within our village of Sapapalii there are 3 communities, but with only 2 mayors appointed. The request was made if the Ministry would accept these circumstances of a Mayor and his Female Representative.

In our village of Fusi there are 4 villages. There are 2 different communities, Vaimaga and Eevee Fusi and Fuifatu. Your Ministry had assigned 2 mayors and one Female Representative. These committees are also different. That is the circumstance in which we made our request to the Honourable Minister and the Ministry, to examine this and to make the services within the village easier and more effective. And with all due respect, thank you.

Susuga Mulipola Leiataua Laki (Aiga i le Tai): Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: Well, the member for Aiga I le Tai may stand, as it was included...because if we proceed like this, we will listen to what the member says, well, let us proceed unjustly due to the concept.

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Susuga Mulipola Leiataua Laki: The Female Representatives were mentioned in the speech. There was also an unwillingness to interrupt the speech by the Minister.

MR SPEAKER: You may continue with your suggestion. For when you interrupt, you interrupt on something that was cited in your speech...

Susuga Mulipola Leiataua Laki: Thank you Mr Speaker that is why I requested for an opportunity. The Female Representatives were mentioned in my statement. It was also cited in the statement at the last Forum, and then the Honourable Minister stated that I prepare a letter concerning the Female Representative.

Our village has 3 separate communities within, Salua, Lepuiai and Faleu. Each community is different. I travelled inland to present the policy of the Government as stated by the Honourable Minister, Village Representative and Female Representative. However, inland is different from the coastal areas.

MR SPEAKER: Perhaps you will make your speech again, be patient with your concept as our working hours for today are short. But it has come to my attention that the raised by the member is taking too long to explain. Our villages are all connected to this program, Women and Government Representatives. Perhaps the member that is standing is similar. But according to the statement by the Honourable Minister, it is a plan in place to be put together in due time.

It will then be tabled for the opinion of the Parliament when it is approved by the Cabinet. That is the situation, and I beseech the member, to let the Minister continue his statement, because every single member wants to speak on this issue.

Susuga Mulipola Leiataua Laki: Mr Speaker, it is a reminder as I was instructed by the Hon Minister to prepare a letter. The letter has been prepared and the Chief Executive Officer replied that the application has been rejected.

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But I was told by the Hon Minister to deliver the letter, unfortunately, I wrote to the Chief Executive Officer, but the Hon Minister copied it. But the response by the Chief Executive Officer was that the Honourable Minister did not copy it, meaning that the issue did not reach the Minister. Hence why, I am reminding the Hon Minister, since it has detracted us from the issue on Female Representatives, and with all due respect thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Well done, thank you.

Tofa Aumua Isaia Lameko (Falealili West): Mr Speaker, an opportunity....

MR SPEAKER: Well I call on the member for Falealili West.

Tofa Aumua Isaia Lameko: Just a few things I want to understand from the Hon Minister, regarding the Youth Representative. What is the status of this situation since there is now a Youth Committee, with due respect.

MR SPEAKER: I ask the Hon Minister to complete his statement.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALAILELEI TUITAMA: Well Mr Speaker, it will be recorded here. The issue raised by the member concerning the Female Representative is correct as well as what the member for Falealili stated. I am still waiting until the letter arrives, and then we will talk because as I had already mentioned, it is in the Act, which the Ministry follows. It is not done by our own free will or...this is where confusion arises regarding these subjects, these circumstances are quite complicated.

I had also asked this question, which has resurfaced regarding village communities. There are many communities, but for your information, it is not under our Act. It is only the village that is under the Act that can have a single honorific.

There were some villages that contacted us stating, we have 2 villages, as the communities are different but we only have one honorific. It is not possible, as they are in Mulinuu, which specifies that the villages are different. And a decision from the Court will prove that your villages are different and have different honorifics. Then it will be accepted by our Ministry. Well that seems to be the case as of now, this issue is a bit complicated, but we are working on attempts to trace.

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For your information, there are 171 Village Representatives and Government Representatives in Upolu, and 85 in Savaii, making the total number of Village and Government Representatives to 256. The expenditure by our Ministry so far is \$1,000,680 per annum. The Female Representatives of Villages, there are 200 in Upolu and Savaii is funded with \$1,000,050. As a saying goes, even the voice of the minority matters. If we can afford it.... this will be...for each community to have Village Representative.

If only the services were offered, free of charge. Those who have gratefully accepted, but it also depends on the funds available to the Ministry, to be shared in such a way that can be equally distributed in all the areas of appointments.

It will not end here as we will continue working, for the Ministry will not sit idly, and we are still looking for ways to solve the problems that have been raised, and a response that will satisfy you all will be sent in due time.

But in terms of the issue that I had been trying to explain, the ECE, it is important...

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Minister as I call on the Leader of the country.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: There is a small section that I would like to further clarify, as you have heard the issue is not handled by the Minister alone. It is also handled by the Cabinet because of these implications. That is also the view of the Cabinet, as there are some village chiefs. Regardless of the size of the village, it can be supervised by one Mayor, which is the only way to be more organized. No matter how many communities, but if those who look after the village together with the Mayor are capable, they can all become organized.

But if we were to start appointing Mayors for each community, this is another way that can cause disorder between villages, as one village will be unaware of the actions of the other village. That is one way that can cause chaos within a village. He did not bath in the vast sea but bathed in the river. Because these same words are usually used by the elders, it is more important to bath in the river.

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But since the beginning of these things, there has only been one mayor. But if we use these practices assigning each village with a... then the representatives would not be 200 but it will be more than a thousand. And then I would not cost 2 million, but more than 100 million but we are trying to carefully spend our funds. Hence why, any issue that becomes publicized will not end. Because once money is used, this will be our downfall, as we will not prioritise building the roads and other developments, but most of the money will be used to pay the majors. But it is simple if we abide by what has been stated.

Your service to your village is another payoff, if that is it, then there is no reason to leave it. If there is no allowance then it is easy. This is the reason why what is happening always occur, we recommend that a young fit person be chosen so they can walk and oversee these things. But the village gets an old man almost called upon and can hardly walk. Why? Because the Alii Sili needs to go, this means he will go and sit there and will not carry out duties he has to perform. Mr Speaker this is further clarification, the Minister of Women, Community and Social Development went to Savaii for their program but the village said they were not notified about it. But they were already informed, there is one way of informing them it is through the Pulenuu who is the Government representative. This was the same with the other places we visited, they said they were not informed by the Government representative. Therefore if the Government representative is not honest in their duties, then the advice given should be used. Bring in people who are keen to do the work they are expected to do. Mr Speaker this is assistance on the matter, this matter will not end here it will be discussed by Cabinet, so it will take a while.

MR SPEAKER: The matter has been clearly clarified by the Hon Prime Minister; I apologize to members for taking the floor. Everything goes through the Cabinet and in return, policies are implemented. I take this opportunity to relay to the Government representatives listening, there are Government matters where the Village councils are not informed about but are relayed unto the Government officials. The Government officials will then sit and expect the Members to deliver the word. This confirms the statement by the Hon Prime Minister to choose someone, to all Samoa listening in, choose someone who can uphold the duties in liaison with Government. I call upon the Hon Minister.

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Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: Thank you. Mr Speaker the Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture have addressed this issue in their conference regarding Early Childhood Development, which involves 4 Government Ministries. This includes the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development and the Ministry of Health. Because these effects are all involved with this important issue of Early Childhood Development.

Mr Speaker the most important aspect we are concentrating on is Early Childhood Education. It is very important as emphasized by members, it is important to teach children at a young age, during early childhood education. The area discussed on the ECD has not yet reached the Education. The first thousand days of the life of a person. One thousand days of life from the beginning of conception. From the time the child is conceived up to two years of age, after a baby is born, it completes a thousand days that is the first basic life of a child. Within these thousand days if not well nurtured. The Hon Minister believes there will be a psychological effect, caressing, listening and other actions are all worth the effort. The mother and child want peace. In this case I want to offer advice. There are elements needed by the baby in the first thousand days of its life. There are essential elements that a mother should have during her pregnancy. This kind of care should be carried out for two years. This includes iron, iodine, Vitamin A and Vitamin C. Each of these components has a value, to build up the physic of the child. Especially the nerves of their bodies and brain. There is a theory if these things are not achieved after two years a baby is born, there could be changes that can be irreversible...

MR SPEAKER: Hon Minister, I call upon the member for Falealili.

Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo (Falealili East): I do not want to pressure the Hon Minister on this matter, since it is very important; I humbly request that in a future pre-sitting will it be possible to give a detailed explanation on this matter. However, I believe most of the queries given have been responded to by the Hon Minister. This is just a suggestion thus the matter explained by the Hon Minister is very important.

MR SPEAKER: I apologise Hon Minister, I call upon the member for Anoamaa.

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Afioga Alaiasa Muagututia Moefaaau Malagaitutogiai Sepulona Moananu (Anoamaa East): Mr Speaker I want to thank the Hon Minister for a wonderful speech. This is also the matter included in a statement made, the ECD, because we are only talking about it but we need to start implementation. As mentioned ECD starts from 0-2years and ECE is 3-4 years. If we think about the number of babies born that we talked about. There are 400 babies born in a month, so 4,800 babies born in a year will be missing out.

Then by the next year another 4,800 will be missing out of we do not implement this program, it will impede the development and benefit of our children in future. I am grateful to the Hon Minister, he is absolutely right. I was interested in what I heard yesterday with the example used by the Hon Minister of Finance, he had a listen to this European mothers belly even the Minister of Education laid his hand on it. But the matter is very important if we delay another 4,800, we will be missing on the benefits for our children in future. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: I advise the Hon Minister to please assist the Chair. I have noted that the queries asked by members have been fully answered. The Hon Minister of Health has also given an explanation. In addition the Leader of Government also responded to clarify the matter. If there are no further issues, I ask that the statement be made short.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: There is only one matter I want to know, is the hospital doing what the Hon Minister of Education mentioned or not. The measure of training men to come and listen to pregnant women ultrasounds, since it has been aired. I am afraid if it is true then we will be seeing the hospital crowded every morning with men wanting to do this, if it is done I ask that it be stopped now. This is further concern on the matter.

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the Hon Minister. You may conclude with your clarification.

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Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: It has been completed except for the essential trainings, since we are following through with the Ministry's plans; it was noted in the remarks made on the matter of District Development Plan. It is not strongly emphasized by other constituencies. This is what the Ministry is trying to do now, it is important to try and develop each district.

In the past the Ministry would visit the constituencies with programs already drafted for the development of the village. However today we are taking the backseat approach by letting the respective districts identify and design plans and projects that will benefit them in future. The data recorded by the Ministry notes that most of the country has been covered. However, this is with the exception of one or two villages not being reached, the whole of Samoa has covered all the constituencies, which have been recorded. We have also began to liaise with our stakeholders on these developments as the budget of the Ministry cannot fund it. Therefore we have contacted external partners to bring in assistance to make some of these developments possible. Mr Speaker I will conclude by conveying a word of thanks to my constituency. Thank you for your devotion also to the holy servants of God who are delivering the word of God in our constituency of Alofi No 1. It is impossible to achieve something without support. I want to thank you all once again for the support given to me to represent our seat in Parliament. May the Lord be kind to our voyage this year, and hope we find blessings for our constituency. Bless the Speaker of the House and all members of the Parliament of Samoa. Soifua and God Bless.

MR SPEAKER: Since we are nearing our recess time, I believe it will be best if the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour speak when we come back.

I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly be set aside until after recess.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were suspended for its normal recess at 10:27am and resumed at 11:15am.

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Motion to resume Sitting Hours

MR SPEAKER: I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly have resumed. I believe members have found strength with the refreshments provided to continue with our work and obtain a decision on duties carried out.

I am certain the Hon Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour cannot wait to take the floor. But first I call upon the Leader of Government for a motion, Hon Prime Minister.

MOTION TO RESUME SITTING HOURS

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker and respectable members of the House. I move with respect since it is a Friday, it is scheduled that Sitting hours are short. But since the Government have yet to conclude with their response. I move a motion that *Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resume into the afternoon until the Supplementary Appropriation is passed before adjournment to next week, where we will continue with some of our Orders since there are other Bills that need be considered and passed.*

This is a motion for the approval of the House.
Seconded by the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour.

Motion approved.

Debate resumed on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1)2019/2020.

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour

Afioga Hon LAUTAFI FIO SELAFI PURCELL (Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour): Thank you Mr Speaker. First I want to thank the office of the Legislative Assembly for the refreshments provided for Parliament which I believe have given strength to continue with our work.

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Before a word from Satupaitea, first I convey greetings to the dignity of the House, the Hon Mr Speaker, the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, Associate Ministers and to that side of Chamber, respectable Chairpersons of Parliamentary Committee and all members of the House. I also acknowledge the presence of Chief Executive Officers of Government who are the hands and feet in carrying out the duties of Government. I greet the respects of Samoa listening in this morning, from Saua to Agaleaga, welcome. I am grateful for the support given to the Parliament throughout this week. Humble greetings to my constituency as well, thank you for the support.

Mr Speaker there were a few members who queried the services of this Ministry. And I will try and respond to it. It seems our session will continue, although for us from Savaii we want to go on the 4.00pm ferry. Therefore, I will make a brief response, if a member is not satisfied you can come by to my office next week so I can clarify further on the matter.

Mr Speaker there was a member who requested to use some of the lands under the Samoa Land Corporation up at Tafaigata which is under my designation. I advise the member if you need land an application must be made however I heard from the member for Faleata either 1 or 2 Afioga Faumuina Wayne Fong that he wants a quarter acre or half an acre for people to live on. The land at Tafaigata have already been divided to those who submitted applications. There is about a hundred acres of land. The biggest part has been allotted to the Police Academy of HPU, majority of the land has been divided which leaves a part mentioned by the member. The road beside Fiafia Park, this is the SLC road that goes to lands expected to be used for families who will be relocating from Sogi.

But the advice to the member is to still submit an application for the Ministry to overlook so they can assist with the matter. There are more than 3,000 list of people who want land. There is a lot of demand, but there is little Government land that can be divided into acres and quarter acres. One of the members stated that Government lands should be limited to 50 or 100 acres. This is the matter with farms most of the land given is a 100 acres. In addition there are no more Government lands at the moment under Samoa Land Corporation, even 50 acres. It has all been distributed to the people to be used. The legislation of Samoa Land Corporation enforces the removal of lands. Lands given should not be left uncultivated, or the lease is paid but there is no economic value to Government. The policy now implemented is use it or lose it. All the farmers are now working on the land allotted to them.

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The second issue is our aircraft mentioned by a member. First I want to thank this Parliament. For the support given to our aircraft, through travel with families. In travelling to New Zealand and Australia and back. This is the support that is always needed. There is never a perfect service, there are mistakes too, and there are also flights that take weeks due to delays and cancellations to satisfy everyone. Our airline is trying to prevent such things from happening. Given the inevitable conditions in air travel, it is very difficult to placate. The plane should be checked, what happened in Australia was a flat tyre. After deliberation it was noted that a tool was accidentally left on the airport runway. Investigation was carried out to find how this piece of metal was found on the runway which caused our plane a flat tyre. There was another delay for two hours to change the tyre. There is a domino effect, which affects the arrival of the airplane or an outbound flight, these are all factors considered. There should be patience when such problems arise. We only have one airplane that is the difficulty and we are trying at the moment, members raised we need two airplanes well I also want the same. Unfortunately, these are not things that cost \$100,000. We need to look at all the options that are open for us to be able to get another plane. Our company is working with our overseas consultants to figure out where we can get an affordable airplane.

The issue encountered around the world applies to us as well, the matter regarding Boeing aircrafts. Our plane was about to arrive when it was cancelled. This has affected the whole world and not only us. All of their planes that we used to lease are being withheld. They are withholding the Boeing aircrafts because they do not know the situation but they have other aircrafts being used. This is why we cannot obtain another airplane. Thus our office is working to secure maybe two or three more airplanes, I appreciate your patience.

One of the members stated the matter regarding arrival cards, I apologize but this is between the airline and the Immigration office, they deliver these cards to the airline and they distribute it on the flight. I have already spoken with the Chief Executive to find a way to distribute these cards, if the plane is about to leave without it then they should deliver it. There will be no use when the plane lands and there are no arrival cards to distribute. It will be the passengers on the plane that will suffer.

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There is only one airplane and other planes belonging to other countries. Our airport does not cater to more than 40 airplanes a day. There are only 4 planes that land, so it is easy to adjust. This is what happens when one Ministry does not work together with the other.

I have already made a request to the Chief of Immigration to consider this issue also I have instructed Samoa Airways to work together with immigration. If you see the plane leaving before the papers arrive, then how can you leave? Do you ask about the papers, then you can take it and distribute it to the passengers. Perhaps this problem will not happen again with communication between the two offices. The problem seen within Ministries today is not trying to work together. The individual will do what they please but this will only make the country and passengers suffer. I apologize for this lack in service. The member for Faasaleleaga my sister, Afioga Gatoloaifaana Amataga Gidlow, requested for frequent flyers. Notice has been given stating that we will get our own frequent flyer cards by the end of March for Samoa Airways. As for the second quarter around June we are hoping to join the Qantas Airpoint Scheme. These also have costs, there is nothing with airplanes that is cheap. There is also a system Samoa has to enter to pay a fee before we can use it. You check in here but it is picked up by another airplanes system.

We are working to make sure our cargo go straight to Qantas. If the Qantas travels to Australia, the bag will go there; this is what we are working on. As I said the company is not resting we are still trying.

The member for Vaimauga, the matter I have noticed this member requests since the start of this Parliamentary term is the price of land, I have already given him an answer but it seems he is not satisfied. I already told him that \$35,000, which is very cheap, cannot drop to the \$8,000 that he is suggesting. However, the member keeps on knocking. My fellow member keep knocking and do not give up, I only ask that when you knock please do not come with an axe to me. Keep knocking and maybe we will both get an answer we both would agree on.

The issue raised by the member for Gagaifomauga No.3, first of all I am saddened by the statement made by the member and I did not want to stand up and respond. I was waiting until all members concluded before I could stand up to make a comment on the statement that MCIL is not doing any work and are not going into villages to monitor the shops.

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This statement is not true, Mr Speaker. I ask that these words be withdrawn from official records, in case there will come a day when people think that the Ministry is not doing anything. For clarification of the House, inspections are carried out twice a week. I have with me the records of the last visits carried out in the last quarter of last year. A total of 131 shops were inspected in Upolu, it includes the price of products, quality and packaging to ensure there are no expired products. In further, inspection undertaken overlooked if there were receipt books of those delivering these products. There are 131 in Upolu and 307 in Savaii. This means the office in Savaii is very busy; this is why the staff in Savaii was boosted because they cannot rest. It is also shown here that there are shops in the constituency of the member. I see there are 7 shops, together with numbers. This means the Ministry can check if the staff went to do their job. As for the statement saying no work is done, this is not true.

The matter raised...

Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Duffy Stowers (Gagaifomau No.3): Mr Speaker can I get an opportunity. It is a Point of Order. .

MR SPEAKER: I cannot really...you may speak.

Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Duffy Stowers: Thank you. Mr Speaker I stand to respond to the clarification. I apologize to the Hon Minister as well as the Chief Executive of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour if I have made a statement that has offended anyone. However there are reasons why I mentioned it. I know this because it does not pertain to only one Ministry. Forgive me for the statement. However it reflects that Ministries seem to be more focused on projects carried out than implementing the usual services of the Ministry. The only intention is to remind and inform, to ensure that monitoring is efficient and effective because it is noted that there are expired products being sold at some stores. With respect thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. I call upon the Hon Minister, the member is right this was included in her speech.

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Afioga Hon LAUTAFI FIO SELAFI PURCELL: It is true it was included in her speech. These are the issues I have read out unless the staff carrying out inspections made a mistake, but I will review the matter. I will advise and instruct the Ministry to see which stores, it would be great if you could tell me which store so I can easily ask, did you go to this store? Then how come you do not know this? Then it will be settled. That was the meaning conveyed through the statement but if it was given in a good way then I accept it with gratitude. We will look into it, thus inspections to rural stores are still being carried out, there is also work done together with the Ministry of Health on products that are not good for consumption. This is the quality of food.

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker it is important that we pursue such products. I know it is hard to gain the support of people in rural areas. The intention if found these shops should be reported to make the work of the Ministry easier, because even if there are a hundred stores it is impossible to inspect them on a daily basis. But those who are well aware of this are those who shop everyday. If they find any problems then they should report it. When it is time to carry out a court hearing, a witness is needed. If asked to come and testify they refuse to do it. The reason why this is important is because in 1971 I was secretary to the Commodity Pricing Committee and we went to the shops for inspections and gave charges to some shops. When we got there we needed witnesses to testify but they were afraid to do it. Mr Speaker this is the important aspect, it is necessary when charged to have witnesses. I will wait until Tofa Olo Fiti Vaai finishes whispering to persuade the member. Are you finished? This is the matter Tofa Olo Vaai, I advise that when you convey an opinion voice the truth than trying to provoke another member. As your constituency is listening in, you are only trying to provoke the member which is unpleasant.

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker if you ask the member directly, I did not say anything, it is the member's own opinion that was conveyed because this is one smart member.

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Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Duffy Stowers: Mr Speaker an opportunity. Thank you. Hon Prime Minister it is not true, Gagaifomauga No.3 does not need inspiration from Salega. I have my own opinions that I believe in, therefore I do not need Salega. Thank you, with respect.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker you do not understand Tofa Olo Vaai, he has been in Parliament for a long time, but you just came yesterday.

Mr Speaker this is why, he creates conflict. Once he is mentioned the only thing you think about is trouble in Parliament, so be aware.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. The statement by the Hon Prime Minister is important because such things have happened. Even in this Parliament, when a member speaks evidence is given, because these happen in the life we are face today. It is different wanting to report it but once Government calls on witnesses to testify it is very hard to persuade the country. This is how it is, the Hon Minister can ask for proof then evidence is submitted to support the allegations voiced by a member.

I call upon the Hon Minister. I believe the reason why Government blames the member is his habit of whispering to another member. I appease the member not to interrupt the members speaking.

Tofa Oloa Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker I apologize, I did not say anything to the member. I was just trying to pick up my pen that fell to the floor with respect to the House, but I believe the Hon Prime Minister thought I was whispering to the member. Thank you.

Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea (Gagaifomauga No.3): Mr Speaker an opportunity, pardon me but I humbly request...

MR SPEAKER: I ask patience of the member, I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: If you bend down do not move your lips. If you do bend down then look to the ground and not move your lips, because I have eyes and I have good eyesight.

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Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea: Pardon me but the member has mentioned the name of this constituency, I move a motion to remove Tofa Olo Fiti.

Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Duffy Stowers: Mr Speaker please I will speak once on this matter, with all due respect Hon Prime Minister but did I just come here yesterday or has it been a long time, I believe in the opinions I have voiced. There was no opinion given by Salega. The only reason why Salega bowed down was to listen to my stomach as mentioned by the Hon Minister. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker this is what I forgot but I will take back my statement, I forgot this is the nature of Tofa Olo Fiti Vaai.

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker, I also apologize but there is no man listening to the stomach of...

MR SPEAKER: Very well. This is good for us to take a break. Although what saddens the Chair is one of the members for Gagaifomauga moving a motion to remove Tofa Olo Fiti Vaai from that side, but it will be worse if these members sit side by side. However I call on the Hon Minister to continue with his clarification.

Afioga Hon LAUTAFI FIO SELAFI PURCELL: Thank you. I have forgotten where I left of, I want to advise the member for Gagaifomauga No.3, if Tofa Olo Fiti Vaai touches your stomach again tell him he needs permission from the Minister of Education, he is the profession. He knows what to touch incase Tofa Olo Vaai touches the wrong thing.

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Mr Speaker perhaps the Hon Prime Minister has clarified the difficulty of the matter, the Ministry does inspections but there is still a need for witnesses. This is why an office has been set up in Savaii, for people to access our services. If there is a problem with the services this is where you go, people do not have to come to Apia. If it is a problem in Upolu then there is the Ministry where you can go to, this will improve services. These are not complaints but it will improve the services of our Government.

I am not only talking about MCIL. We often go out with the Ministry on site visits around Savaii, train shopowners on services provided that can assist them with the improvement of their businesses. Like saving money, do not spend money when you get it because when you need it there will be nothing to run the business, sustain the business. These are the measures taken by the Ministry to inform people, the Associate Minister and I have also been on these visits to explain the ways the Ministry can assist them. There is also the Samoa Business Hub Centre where businesses can intergrate to gain insight into how to do business especially small businesses. These are available for our people. The individual and the store that has passion and initiative are the ones using this service. The Ministry cannot force anyone, as the saying goes, you can lead a horse to water but you cannot make it drink. This is how it is. This depends on how productive a person is, however the Ministry is always available for services.

Another matter raised by the member for Vaimauga states the Competition Act, the objective of the Act is to make goods cheaper. Who will benefit? It will be the customer. No one puts up a price when they know the competition is low with the other store. This is the effort of the Act however problems have arisen, now Government is looking at the Price Control Act, perhaps the Act can be reviewed and amended whether to re-use the Price Control Board. We are trying to address other issues yet there are other issues that have arisen since there is no Price Control. We have seen it is not easy, thus Government understands the situation, the Ministry have heard and recommendation have been made to review and address the issues evident in these Acts.

The issue noted saying the Chinese are taking all the benefits, this is a matter already addressed, our shops are not competitive anymore. Perhaps we know now these Chinese shops are very aggressive, it seems they are the ones the country is complaining against, but if we look at the high standard of products found anytime you go there it is open and you always find what you want..

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Our people from the rural areas and Savaii, they longer buy 5 cents sugar or flour available in shops, their expectations have been lifted on the services provided by small shops. This is now being filled in by our overseas relations. It is the duty of Government to bring into the country investments, we are looking at it. There is a big difference in the availability of goods and types of goods found today. The Ministry of Health and the Inland Revenue are the ones inspecting products that are not safe to eat under the Food Act administered by the Ministry of Health. When issues are encountered we try and find ways to resolve it. As the Hon Prime Minister mentioned people need to bring in an old can of tinfish that is still being sold at a shop. Another matter do not buy products that you find inappropriate. Do not buy it. If you buy and bring it in as evidence then these shops can be charged.

The matter of assisting our people, there are various ways taken to help our people. But as I stated earlier it is those who are proactive that own businesses that are growing. The Government has no intention to discriminate against Chinese traders. We have a Reserve List for our own people. Now we have alot of Chinese with Samoan citizenship and these rights have also been granted to them. The service they provide is outstanding. Anytime you go to a Chinese shop you can find bread or a pie. Everything is found anytime at any shop. There is no incentive to be biased to the Chinese. All the shops are the same as implemented in provisions of the Act.

The member also questioned the RSE Scheme. As stated the RSE scheme has no system of whether other villages have more workers while the other has less. The requirement of this scheme is for all people to have equal access. How do they get it? The village has to register their people, which is done by other villages. Some villages have well established processes to ensure that their people are ready for work, they must register because the Ministry does not have to go and persuade them. Awareness programs and workshops are carried out by the Ministry when they go into villages, methods are made known for RSE even for Australia.

More opportunities have been given for both Australia and New Zealand, the number has been increased although we still need more opportunities since we have more than 4,000 people on the list. It is being distributed to those who have registered and applied. The motto of this scheme is share the love. We are still waiting, people need to come and register their interest under the scheme. People need to let us know but there is no such thing as favouritism to one particular constituency. This is the answer to the matter.

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I heard some of the members concerns over the building of a police station in Salelologa hence the construction of a town is under my authority. There is land allocated for police beside the area designated for the Judiciary office. The matter will be given to the Ministry of Police for the implementation of their plans, maybe all Government offices should be set up in Salelologa perhaps this will quickly develop into a town. There are other Ministries like the Housing Corporation and the Ministry of Sports which has lands that they plans to set up their offices on, this will be the centre for all Government services in Salelologa. This will develop our town which has long been planned but the Government will look into ways to implement the work faster.

There is one more matter, there are plans to bring in a bigger plane ATR for 90 passengers and remove the two small planes which are out of date. These are future plans so that these planes can travel within the region to Tonga, Fiji, Tokelau and other countries. All plans are going together therefore we need your support, there has been a major throwback with the measles with the travel of our people. The money used for running the planes are from passengers airfares. If there are no passengers there is no money. This is where we need your support. If there are any problems with the services call us, I can easily tell the boys what to do, let us not wait until we come to our Sittings to voice it. Sittings take place every month this will be too long to wait but let us be alert so we can address the issue, and make sure it never happens...

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the member for Faleata West.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi Mr Speaker there is one important matter than I raised which is now discussed by the Hon Minister. He is emphasizing the setup of Government offices in Savaii, something that should be done. But what I was referring to was the airport in Savaii, for flights. I believe there should be scheduled flights between here and Savaii once or twice a day, in partnership with another Airline company. This will be very useful.

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the Hon Minister if there are any plans because...

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Afioga Hon LAUTAFI FIO SELAFI PURCELL: The member did not direct this request to me he was talking to Hon Papaliitele Lee Hang, but I will respond to it. It is necessary but we have to consider whether the flights will be full to and fro. This was done before but Government is looking at this in the long run. If we were to bring in this big plane it will not fit at that airport, we have to plan well but it is good. When people come from Savaii they will want to come by plane but the tourists will want to travel by ferry to enjoy the scenery, these are being considered in our long term plans. In case I miss the concern of the member for Faasaleleaga Tofa Namulauulu Sami Leota the road up at Fiaga.

I have already discussed this with the Manager for Samoa Land Corporation to overlook this road and make sure the next time I visit there should be signs of plantations, in case the roads will only be constructed just for a ride. I will leave the matter to you, but I have already informed the Manager, the problem with the road it is too steep going down and is quickly affected by water. Unless drainage systems are built on both sides then it will be in good condition for a long period of time. Nonetheless leave the matter to us, the Ministry has heard your concern.

Tofa Namulauulu Leota Sami Leota: Thank you Hon Minister. I thought I was going to visit your office and talk about this matter because up at Fiaga there are 30 commercial farms. The Hon Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries also called on farmers to enforce the growing of taro. It has been more than four months now and taro prices still remain at \$70 for 20 kilos, but I am grateful for this assistance because Samoa Land assisted in the construction of this road but it was only done halfway...

The other thing I whispered to the Minister of Prisons and Corrections was this is one of the short routes towards prison if suitable with government plans. With respect. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you.

Afioga Hon LAUTAFI FIO SELAFI PURCELL: Perhaps the matter is understood. It is a good thing to make the route really short for travelling as it...

Afioga Afoa Amituanai Faleulu Mauli (Palauli West): Mr Speaker...

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MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member, but just in case the remarks may cause...

Afioga Afoa Amituanai Faleulu Maui: Mr Speaker there is an issue which I raised yesterday that concerns this Minister and I wish to raise a point of order and to clarify it.

I want to raise the point of order regarding TV Bingo which I spoke about now I have no desire to stop that. What I want to clarify just before the member interrupted was that, I am not saying to stop all types of bingo. NO. I really do like them especially the ones for the seniors. You do understand that with bingos around the communities since the law was passed to allow them at residential homes and is properly set up at sports venues and the likes. Those bingos are being done really well and I do support it for the senior folks. I have also asked the Prime Minister that I will not be using my scissors if that stops. The main intention I wanted to make was to safeguard our children from the effect of live games. That is what I am trying to clarify.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. I understand you. We have also heard the Minister, so leave your recommendation with the Minister. The member will take his seat while the Minister continues.

Afioga Hon LAUTAFI FIO SELAFI PURCELL: Thank you Mr Speaker and I appreciate the members view. Let me deal with your concern, I will consider it and I have to sort it out whether there will be a possibility to hold TV Bingo within a hall venue. As I said before, the people at home are responsible for their children within their own homes. When it is 10 o'clock the kids should be in bed. But leave your concern with me as I can see that you are really serious about this. I cannot say anything further than that.

Afioga Afoa Amituanai Faleulu Maui: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: I beg tolerance of the member, but it is best that you take your seat and adhere to my ...

Afioga Afoa Amituanai Faleulu Maui: A point of order. Mr Speaker our legislation has already been passed...

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MR SPEAKER: I beg forbearance but it is best that you sit down. You can no longer remark on this we must proceed with our orders of the day. I beg tolerance of the member for Palauli West... Although..

Afioga Afoa Amituanai Faleulu Maui: Mr Speaker this is a very serious matter and I want to say more about it..

MR SPEAKER: I beg tolerance of you please...

Afioga Afoa Amituanai Faleulu Maui: Mr Speaker I was in the Committee that considered this legislation and we passed it on the condition that gambling games on TV will be censored. The Attorney General was present and assured the Committee considering the matter that such materials will never be shown again, and so the legislation was passed. But I am shocked that it is happening again.

The concern with our Committee was that the Executive have broken the law as they have contradicted the law.

MR SPEAKER: I beg tolerance of the member but I am very close to having you remove from chambers. Our role here is done through mutual respect, now the government have responded and the legislation has been passed. We then follow the status quo which in due course it can be amended. The Prime Minister and the Minister have given their view, so leave the matter to them. It will be looked into but you cannot be stubborn with your opinion as we have rules for this House. Once a member does not abide by them, the Sergeant at Arms shall be called to remove you from chambers. So in saying that I beg tolerance of the member but the Minister will continue to wrap up his statement.

Afioga Hon LAUTAFI FIO SELAFI PURCELL: Thank you Mr Speaker and I admire your patience. Despite, the matters directed to me have been covered. Let me say a bit to my constituency of Satupaitea, recognising the traditional ceremonial salutations of our community. I extend my commendations for your endorsement in the past years and I will say that I do desire your encouragement again this year. I do feel the sense of courage to pursue the projects, which you elected me to fulfil as a contribution of Satupaitea in politics. To the revered clergy I am grateful for your prayers seeking blessings for our constituency.

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To the senior citizens including my mother Anasoa thank you for your prayerful support while I am here to do the work that I was elected to do. Mr Speaker may you maintain good health to carry on your calling. Most respectfully, soifua.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you, we have now come to the turn of the Deputy Prime Minister to address matters raised by members.

Afioga Hon FIAME NAOMI MATAAFA (Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment): With respect I extend greetings to you Mr Speaker and members of this Assembly, and the management and their representatives advocating the role of Parliament. I acknowledge the support of our people and your related ceremonial salutations.

Mr Speaker and members, the leader of the government stated that it is not a substantial supplementary estimates, with only \$23.5million presented for your consideration. I am of the view that concerning the governments objectives highlighted within the Main Estimates, if it were not for the predicament we were in concerning the measles, I would think that our budget would have been only somewhere around \$18million available for our appropriation.

Mr Speaker this is our first sitting for this year and I note that members have all spoken at length. The government are now giving their response. I am thinking Mr Speaker, we are all pursuing our role yet there is no money allocated for the Ministries in my portfolio, why should I bother to give an address when there is no money allocated to me.

Nevertheless distinguish members are still voicing their thoughts as it would seem disrespectful not to respond to matters raised. I guess then, that we must refer to the main objective of the Main estimates currently progressing. Listening to the members, there are 3 areas the response is focussed on, which are climate change and its effects, particularly the need for seawalls. That is the biggest issue. The other area questioned was the project at the Vaimauga or the Vaisigano and the matter concerning the leasing of crown land for needs such as school buildings.

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Mr Speaker I think it may be best that I give a short account based on an idea which was submitted during our debate of the Main Estimates on the issue of seawalls. Firstly, every constituency have their own plan done, under CIM plans where the demands of every constituency is noted. The government schedules its projects from time to time accordingly to those plans. As we all know, and the leader of the government has said to the Minister of Finance that we cannot do everything at once. We appropriate what we receive through our economy from time to time.

My response to climate change is that there are two areas in which our actions is based on which are mitigation and adaptation. Mitigation are actions to minimise the effect on our environment of the poisonous gas which is causing global warming, cooling the poles consequently raising sea level.

Our actions and the major actions taken by government is our shifting from the use of energy sources which is run by oil onto renewable energy. The government hopes that by 2025 we will be adapting to renewable energy at 100%. There are also other actions like replanting trees to absorb the poisonous gas which is affecting our environment. The truth is Mr Speaker we together with other pacific countries are confronted with these two words mitigation and adaptation. The effect on us due to the actions of large countries affecting our environment is so great and whatever the degree of our efforts will be, it will not have a huge impact. That impact affecting us, well you all understand and are talking about which is the implementation of seawalls due to the rising sea level.

That means for Samoa and other countries in our region, we must promote adaptation. We must act accordingly to climate change, through protecting and encouraging by our actions the safeguarding of our country through adaptation.

If we look at how our spending is done indicated from our budget, the steps taken is the protection of our assets like roads, hospitals, school buildings and the likes. With our objectives recorded under each constituency by every member, I ask whether what you asked for is within the plans already in place between the government and your constituencies. If it is new and was not discussed and noted, well I advise that you take all the necessary steps and our projects will progress accordingly. I gather that some are asking for seawalls as their village coastal areas is affected. Some are asking for the same in order to protect the road.

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I also understand that some of the tourist facilities have been affected. The government plans to expand its response actions to climate change. It is not the responsibility of this Ministry alone to battle climate change as it cannot be handle by a single Ministry. It has been delegated to all the sectors of the country that they play their part and fulfil it with funds allocated to each Ministry from the annual budgets. On the subject of protecting our coastal areas and appropriate sustainable actions which we are capable of and can counter the prevailing problem. The truth is we do not have the strength to prevent the rising sea level. Looking at the research by scientists, it is something that will continue to escalate. For our part we must consider what actions we can afford to take.

The other step taken by government against the rising sea level and I will say this as an example, at the South East of Upolu where it was badly affected by the Tsunami, what major job that was done by the government? Access roads and escape routes from the affected areas which are most likely to be hit again from time to time. We have other areas we can relocate to and the leader of the government has spoken about this reality. Our continuing fight against rising sea level is a challenge as, to where our priority is at? With the wealth we get from time to time preparing ourselves for this problem. But that is where our priority is at right now, the protection of our assets which serves and vital for everyone like school buildings, hospitals and other services which are necessary for the general services.

Mr Speaker, leasing of land by the government as requested due to its importance. My response to that is, if a lease on crown land is requested. Applications should be submitted through the Ministry of Education and they will pass it to our Ministry and the government will consider it.

The third issue which was queried was our project at Vaisigano. This assistance was from the Global Climate Fund with the first phase consisting of large walls at the mouth of the river to protect that huge area, eventually making its way up to Leone and further up. It is a major project and is a testament to what I said about responding to climate change, and our town of Apia is the hub of our country. There is great number of residents around this area which we have witness every year being affected by flooding and so we must do some work on the Vaisigano going up river where it runs from.

There is so much that can be said concerning matters raised, but since we hope to pursue the completion of our task regarding the Supplementary Estimates.

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Afioga Alaiasa Muagututia Moefaauouo Malagaitutogiai Sepulona Moananu: Mr Speaker..

MR SPEAKER: My apologies to the Deputy Prime Minister, since the member for Anoamaa East indicates his desire to speak.

Afioga Alaiasa Muagututia Moefaauouo Malagaitutogiai Sepulona Moananu: I note that the Minister is near conclusion. As I had raised in my remarks the issue of seawalls. The statement from the Minister is correct, that it is an area, which the government should prioritise...

When I look at the east coast at our region of Atua. The sea level is almost the same part as the road. I think that in the next 5 years it would be become worse. But let me enlighten you on the promise about the money gained from the agreement on climate change and the environment signed at Paris.

But I feel that our only response to climate change is to implement these plans to counter the strong changes we are experiencing. But I do applaud the wonderful remarks from the Minister and we must argue during the budget debate to prioritise these areas. After all this is another Minister that often travels to forums where agreements are signed and I would have thought there would be an agreement specifically designed for seawalls.

With my village, it is so close to the road now and would have an effect on the soil with respect.

Afioga Sulamanaia Fetaiai Tauiliili Tuivasa (Vaimauga Sasae): Mr Speaker, being conscious of the Ministers time...

MR SPEAKER: The member for Vaimauga East will take the floor.

Afioga Sulamanaia Fetaiai Tauiliili Tuivasa: Thank you, but when I gave my remarks at our night sitting the Minister was not present. The Sao Faapito's view seems to weigh on protecting our public assets, which was my sentiments as well. My village of Laulii has no coastal waters but the deep blue sea between beyond the sand, and I did make a request along this line. Could you look into this since this whole area is the bay and when the waves break it goes on to people's backyard pardon me.

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My request for roads had long been submitted, during the time the Tsunami hit, so our community are able to access inland. During the UNDP forum last October or November, I came and got my friends from Papua to show them Laulii. They were shocked as how people could live at this location with the waves charging behind their homes and not being fearful of the sea. My plea is to have the village of Laulii on your list. The other villages of my constituency are fine as sea walls are in place but this village is really at a fragile stage with climate change. Lufilufi has spoken and confirms the state in which our coast is at right now heading east beginning with Fagalii and all those villages whom are all in a dire state. Mr Speaker that is my request to the Minister of MNRE please.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you, the Minister will now have the floor.

Afioga Hon FIAME NAOMI MATAAFA: Thank you Mr Speaker, but I was present when the member was making his remarks and I had noted it down. As you understand this is the nature of our debate on policies and our general plans, but I do understand the views of the members.

I will say this again as reference to what I am saying, which is every sector or Ministry have its own agenda. With road protection including seawalls for example LTA has a program in place which is called Climate Proofing. Remark about us getting money, well yes there is money but if we are to strictly follow the provisions of the Paris Agreement. Yes, the agreement was quite an occasion which our leader attended in 2015. That year has passed and those with the money have seemed to turn their back on us...

The thing is, there is so much money we can get. But there is this element with us, of knowing what to do, and do we properly use it? Do we also have the strength and perseverance to carry it on? These are some of the challenges that confronts us from time to time. We all desire projects to be done, and workers become tired. Not only the contractors become fatigue but now and then we lack the experience and expertise. But, we do try, but there is that word, capability.

We can save up money but if we lack the capability to implement a job that in itself will have a huge effect. But I have noted the views presented. With the road towards South East of Anoamaa, yes it is true. As long as the road is on the list of government policies priority should go to it.

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The village of Laulii was mentioned by the member, and you are right as the deep sea is right near the community. My question is and for all of us for that matter. If we are to concentrate on a constituency to protect its shores. What about the others? How do we measure where our priority should go? What should we focus on immediately? Can we delay other projects to a later date?

Mr Speaker and members we all know that the majority of our communities reside along the coast. Our dwellings are along the coast. This is a challenge to us in say 20 years, 50 years, 100 years would that be the correct assumption? Channel all our economy to it?

Even the government discusses this point at times. The same with this Parliament. How are we rated in this term despite our new building has just been complete considering the sea is just out there.

Afioga Sulamanaia Fetaiai Tauiiili Tuivasa: Mr Speaker I do not want to interrupt as I am full of respect. although there is...

MR SPEAKER: The member for Vaimauga will speak.

Afioga Sulamanaia Fetaiai Tauiiili Tuivasa: A question has been posed to my constituency, but I have mentioned Laulii since vehicles cannot access the road going inland. With Fagalii people reside along the seawall with some located on higher ground areas. Laulii is the only community with no one living at the mountain tops. The reason being as the Minister stated is roads, the community cannot access to higher ground. It is why I have prioritise Laulii since they all live along the coast but they are a community that pray.

As I have said, my constituency of Vaimauga can be compared to Israel. There is no curse upon it but that is my concern because even with the mountain tops there is no access road to it. As the Minister stated that it cannot be dug up. So when the sea does reach the community people will have no way of escaping as there are no roads to escape. If they somehow escape inland rivers will overflow as my constituency of Vaimauga is brimming with water which is benefiting the country. That is my plea to the Sao Faapito, if you had seen the effect of the strong winds that blew recently firstly affected Fagalii with all the...

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Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: I recognize the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: I guess perhaps Cabinet are listening. You have spoken about these matters and right you are, Laulii is affected, but mind you most members have the same problem. My village of Salelapaga have nowhere to run to as their front yard is the beach and backyard of mountain ridge that points to the sky. That is why 49 residents of Saleapaga were killed in the Tsunami that came because there is a ridge behind them that stretches right to Lalomanu.

When the waves struck it hit the rock mountain causing a whirlpool which killed these 49 people. A lot of our constituency have this very problem. But the Minister has spoken to leave matters with us. The country with the biggest wealth and economy is America but I think about 5 years ago with their recent President Obama closing the government because there was no money and so waited for their Parliament Congress to convene. I thought it was the most unbelievable thing looking at the television as they had to wait until their budget is passed.

Mr Speaker that is the same with us we must do certain things at a time when we do receive funds each year. This is why the watchful eye of the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Revenue is rather important to be on the lookout as we may get to the situation America experienced. The wealthiest country in the world that closed down. They could not do anything as there was no money so they waited for the approval of the two legislatures to see if they would approve the President's Budget. That is a mere glimpse as we are a small country and we are planning and appropriating the meagre resources we get. But leave it with us.

Afioga Sulamanaia Fetaiai Tauilliili Tuivasa: Mr Speaker, the person that talks often becomes a nuisance. So I beg tolerance of the distinguish members on that side of chambers. The leader of government has assisted but the problem is his example is incorrect. Aufaga has a road going inland. He should have mention a village which has yet to have access road done.

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Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoloai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, I was talking about Saleapaga. Since I entered Parliament and was taken to the education department. Right up to this day, it is impossible to carve a road through the rock mountain which is upright. What did we do, well the road is done through the main road at Lepa, my village going up to access inland. It is impossible to construct a road through the rock at Saleapaga which I am talking about. Mr Speaker I admire his enthusiasm, and his constituency are listening. But leave it with us for God provides opportunities.

MR SPEAKER: The leader of the government has spoken that God provides opportunities and the government will consider your request. I hope you will return after the elections and pursue the projects which cannot be done this year. I call upon the Deputy Prime Minister.

Afioga Hon Fiaame Naomi Mataafa: Mr Speaker the important thing is putting out there your view. The government have duly noted and we are sharing with you the aspect of planning and the process of implementation. Mr Speaker that about covers the matters that were raised, may we have a constructive meeting.

MR SPEAKER: Cabinet speeches are now done, I respectfully call upon the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoloai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker and distinguish members, you have just heard the Ministers remarks. I feel that it has covered quite a number of issues as they have gone to lengths. Everyone is tuning in and we do get funds and there is the other big question, the capability of our public servants. Even with funds from overseas which comes with provisions to allow the donor like ADB to have a say in the spending of the funds. They want to look at our preparations and the designs, the bidding process, they want to know about it and they naturally want to inject some input into it. The reason for the delay in some of our projects is due to the ongoing consultations with our partners overseas where the funds are from. The reason we have taken this step is because they have sorted this kind of assistance to many countries around the world only to realise afterwards that nothing was ever done, the money was wrongfully spent.

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This is important as I do hear what is being said by people who do not understand, claiming the funds would be used by HRPP on unnecessary stuff.

That actually is the cause of delay for some projects. With the bidding process these international organisations are interested in how the process functions. They want to see evidence of expertise and what sort of macro projects they have done. That in a sense is protection as many countries have brought in their own families to do a job. These are all hiccups which delays work.

We have often heard the term problems because of capacity in relations to implementing construction. You have heard that on most occasions the funds have been received but constructions cannot go ahead due to the fact that the provisions provided are being followed. These organisations are quite thorough in approach, not only they are so curious as to how the process is done they even sent their representatives to check and discuss things with the private sector like banking institutions. They ask about our view on things. If we are to compare Samoa with other countries, we are held in a very high regard. The reason is our public service is of high standards in terms of their performance and preparation. One of the Ministers spoke about the bridge at Maliolio, the money had long been received but it was the preparation of the paper work. The international organisations felt that it must go to the banks to ensure absolute completion without error.

The world bank looks at proof of the records of work done by these companies. This led to their decision to choose the company from South Korea. It is good to witness these situations. They came and did tests and not everyone has integrity even with large international companies. But the problem we must follow the records. Not long ago I think it was towards the end of last year when a huge bridge was opened in Italy which was on TV. Within a month after its opening it collapsed and killed a lot of people. But it was built by engineers of high standards and had the wealth. In the month of September 1989 when I was leaving my room to check out of a hotel where I was meeting with the Prime Minister of Singapore. We were scheduled to travel to China for a visit, this was the occasion when we got the funding to build the first large government building where its offices are located. As I was walking out I heard on the television the breaking news. So I walked over and saw many bridges around LA collapsing due to the earthquake that shook and there was a high number of fatalities.

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Mr Speaker, such is life and no matter how intelligent people are when God's time comes, it is that simple if we do not plan right.

Mr Speaker I understand that Ministers have responded to your thoughts and demands. If you are not satisfied, let me remind you that everything you raised is in the governments list of things to be done. Our plans are in place and will be fulfilled when we get the funds. Sometimes when Cabinet responds we do act on it and rarely speak of it. Our other strategy is responding precisely, on the other hand we respond in a ahh, ahhh manner. Other times we will respond in reverse psychology which means responding with the intention of surprising you, and will inform the Minister that you are being alert. You are not dosing off we then give you a favourable response which you have long to hear. Those are the various methods we use. But when we apply this method, it shows you that we have the intention, what intention? That the whole Assembly hears especially those that asked questions and the country understands the crucial of the question and the response is what the public want to hear.

Mr Speaker there were issues raised that I want to touch on. There are members that get and will say that since they became parliamentarians nothing has been done to my constituency. It may come across in a light manner but Cabinet take it very seriously since we apply two kinds of big methods. This is the special assistance rendered to your constituency and the form of assistance that is done in the general sense which everybody uses including your constituency, but is not done in a hush hush kind of way.

For instance, is the priority of the government when it comes to developments. Your establishment is useless if the farming methods applied is not up to standards. The transportation of products from Savaii would be a waste of time if the boat is inadequate. The boats used by the people of your constituency cannot take you on short notice to Savaii when family occasions calls. All these kids of assistance must strike a balance between what benefits your constituency alone and what will be of assistance to the people at large. The government will not overlook these aspects and there are similar developments which we are focussing on.

With electricity, people sometimes say that there is a hydro-electric plant at that constituency using their river. But once a vehicle hits a lamp post near the machines close to the hydro plant, all the village communities are out of power. Once a cyclone strikes the whole country would have a power outage. It will affect retailers with products that need refrigeration.

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If the problem is not quickly solved all these products would go to waste costing millions and millions of dollars to these business entrepreneurs. Which means electricity is a development that benefits the wider community.

Even with assistance from overseas which comes when disasters strike us. The only thing on people's minds is, what will I get from this? What will my family get? Forgetting that what government does is for the benefit of the country, just like when we experienced the measles crisis. Every assistance that came from abroad large organisations were for the measles. Its purpose is to improve the governments service and so that everybody gets an equal share. It is not for just a single person and generally all the assistance from the major organisations is for that purpose. Except for other groups which come on their own accord and personally deliver to certain families. The government likes that method as it avoids the situation of being blamed when we manage and appropriate funds. We are criticise for favouring others more than some.

Mr Speaker that is the overview of the assistance during times of disasters when the role is implemented by government and decisions is for everyone and we are never in a position of favouritism.

Regarding birth certificate, someone was being critical of not using the baptism certificate. There is a guy I know who went to New Zealand using his matai title. I am going to use the name Fetau. After a year he was deported back from New Zealand as an over stayer. He says to me, "You know, I went and got another matai title" So he went to immigration and was asked whether he had been to New Zealand and his response was, no. What matai title did you want to use to travel again? Its Poumuli. He got his passport and so he went. He got there and got himself another wife. After six months he got into a fight with the wife and was reported by his wife. He was deported back again. He came and got his third matai title, Nonufiafia from another village. Have you been, no I have never been over, this is my first time. He made it.

During this time the law had not been amended due to this kind of problem. He went and came back and we met up again and has changed. He went again and came back after two years. I said to him what is your new matai title. He tells me it is a title from his village and its Seasea. The seasea is a fruit, but the member here is laughing because of something else. So he made it back to New Zealand and got caught.

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He says to me, no wonder there are so many over stayers in New Zealand it is because you have these matai titles. The system has now changed where everyone is required to use their baptism name. If you look at your passport which has the 2000, the whole system has been changed as New Zealand and Australia have been taken for a ride without a clue as to what was happening. The high number of over stayers is caused by our matai system. What is happening now is tricks are now played around baptism names.

This initiative was to defeat the many tricks being used. Do you remember the story about Jesus and His disciples? For three years the disciples witness the miracles done by Jesus and believed that this was Jesus the son of God. Before one out of it guy sold out Jesus, but this old guy was specially chosen by Jesus to be the first leader of his church. When he was asked “Do you know Jesus? He answered “No, I do not know that person” I thought I would mention this in case someone thinks that baptism certificates is certified by an angel. These are people and even Thomas who accompanied Jesus but there is no pastor alive that accompanied Jesus. That is my response, I would think that it will add beauty to the issue as even birth certificates is used by parents to deceive the system so they can leave this beautiful place given to us by God. The other query concerning the police force in relation to meth’. One of the villages here is known for this. The police would raid them today and will be doing it again the next day. Because they enjoy doing wrong. That is why our prison is full and is due to meth. The police are trying to do their job by apprehending those responsible for the transgression. Those were the issues raised that concerns me.

Mr Speaker I move that as a recommendation, that we proceed to consider the budget in detail.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. The government have now completed their response regarding matters raised by members, consideration on the second reading is now done.

The motion was approved for the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No 1) 2019/2020 for its second reading.

24 JANUARY 2020

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO 1) 2019/2020
– consideration in detail**

MR SPEAKER: The Assembly will now proceed to consider in detail the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No 1) 2019/2020.

During the course of our detail consideration of the Bill, members may speak; refer to subjects within the Supplementary Appropriation No 1 of Samoa for the year ending on the 30th June 2020, as well as the Finance Committee Report on the Supplementary Estimates No 1 in the Orders of the Day 2019/2020 No 123.

Pursuant to Standing Orders 105, detail consideration of the Bill begins with its Schedule.

FIRST SCHEDULE

FIRST PART IN APPROPRIATION

MINISTRY	SCHEDULE	TOTAL EXPENDITURE:
COMMERCE, INDUSTRY & LABOUR		\$64,055.

Approved.

FINANCE:	\$10,743,251.
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MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Gagaifomauga No.3.

Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA (Gagaifomauga No.3): Mr Speaker, I wish to ask about these individual items on disaster and emergency facility please, it is \$8,562,707. With due respect I leave it beside the Hon Minister of Finance, given the natural disaster that hit us, I appreciate our important projects set up for emergency matters. Just a request, is there compensation for victims that were affected by the Tsunami, the Government did a lot for them not only did they conducted a state funeral, caskets and all things like that.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– consideration in detail**

The intention for mentioning it is whether necessary at this time, 84 children, we also note that there are policies with the NPF, ACC has compensation of \$5000 per person, just leaving it beside you, which I think will not amount to \$100,000 expenditure. With all due respect.

MR SPEAKER: I call the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker, I have already explained the matter regarding the State's policies and guidelines, finance assistance through the State from Associations on general matters, these funding assistance is directly from people. This is the response to your question.

Appropriation of \$10,743,251 for Finance was approved.

HEALTH: **\$3,933,000.**

Approved.

JUSTICE AND COURT ADMINISTRATION: **\$504,455.**

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Salega East.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: Mr Speaker, the third output please on... Yesterday, I walked home with a delightful heart after absorbing the statement by the Hon Prime Minister on judges. I appreciate that they are...I note we have several judges with our Lands and Titles Court. The only query to the Minister of Justice and Courts Administration, I observe that the Supreme Court does not have enough. What is the latest update with the appointment of our Chief Justice. I am sure it has taken over eight months since we have not had a Chief Justice in the Courthouse.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– consideration in detail**

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker I will respond to that matter, I am still thinking.

MR SPEAKER: Well that is the response.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: Your honor since I have two opportunities. I do understand it well as he is waiting for the whisper from the Holy Ghost. I ask if he is meditating often with the Lord or what.

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: My response, the whisper of the spirit comes through my mind.

MR SPEAKER: The chances of the member is over.

Appropriation of \$504,455 Justice and Court Administration was approved.

POLICE: **\$158,073.**

Approved.

REVENUE AND CUSTOM: **\$211,706.**

Approved.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY: **\$210,000.**

Approved.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– consideration in detail**

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISE: \$38,696.

Approved.

STATISTICS: \$829,988.

Approved.

SAMOA TOURISM AUTHORITY: \$253,000.

Approved.

LAND TRANSPORT AUTHORITY: \$2,300,000.

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Gagaifomauga No.3.

Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: Thank you honorable Speaker, just this bit, in emphasis of the Taufusi Road Works. With respect just a request to the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure regarding the specs of their works, this is why there is no delay due to specs set by the Ministry. There was the intention to raise the cost a bit so that the job will last longer. I bring you the ongoing road works towards the airport, have a look again at the tar used for this road, it is no different with the first tar which was bumpy, potholes and separable. I am just saying your honour, the asphalt from Malifa to Saina, have a look into this for a long lasting job as the cost of it is quite expensive. With due respect.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– consideration in detail**

Afioga ALIIMALEMANU ALOFA TUUAU (Chairperson of Revenue and Expenditure): Mr Speaker, since another part of the question is toward the Budget Appropriation. If you recall, perhaps you are observing a different finance allocation on expenditure.

This was the first budget we had, and this is the still same fence, as stipulated in the Appropriation although it is correct that we did have a First Supplementary Budget at the start, however there was no budget at that time. This fence was therefore funded by Japan, using the funding from the Ministry of Finance at that time, and Japan had just purchased shuttle buses for the SIDS then, if you look at the appropriated allocation from the overall finance we received from shuttle buses, so, this transaction has just been effective, or this transaction had just been implemented.

The money stipulated here will fill up the Ministry of Finance's finance that was used to fund this fence, but it is not that there were many fences. This is the same fence that was in our talk before it was funded it was not... remember the things that you talked about are budgets, they are proposals that were not met. It does not mean that if figure is stipulated here then items ought to be achieved. There is a time for the sorting of funding on the things that are necessary. Even with water tanks, perhaps you have not visited the prison lately. The water tanks that supply water from the prison is different with the new water tanks that is used to store rainwater for reserved water lest there is something wrong with the huge water tanks brought there in the start, and there is a stand by for reserved tanks. These water tanks are therefore situated outside next to the office.

This is the response to the questions we had. Another one for the Government to respond to, although I trust the negotiations between the Ministry of Finance and the Audit Office, we did discuss it our talks is the full historical costs from these funds. Historical costs are costs that are recorded in books, whereas the value for these things is implemented lastly, it costs more, although these things have already been stated in our talks.

This is the response. Other queries will have the response of the necessary departments. Thank you.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: Mr Speaker this is my final chance. Pardon me your honorable Chairperson for responding to us, i have queried the estimates according to the budget. I understand well what you are saying regarding this \$1million here to cover the money used on the exchanging of shuttle buses and the money of the Ministry.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– consideration in detail**

It is also the Chairperson herself who queried the Minister and his Ministry about this Main Budget 2016/2017 whereby a million was appropriated for this output on behalf of the state and I am shocked to see this million. The Chairperson herself queried this, why is this million which is not normal? The response of the Minister and...pardon me the fence is used from this appropriation to fix it. I am therefore proposing, it is way too much, what it is now is that the fences are too much, more water tanks, it seems to look like a prison to fence up water tanks. There is so much work here.. although I do understand well what the Chairperson of the Finance Committee is saying here.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member I call the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon TUILAIPA AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker perhaps there are more than 200 prisoners in jail now. The Minister will respond to that although this is the only policy. When it comes to policies, then I stand up as that pertains to Cabinet for its decision. This matter is vitally important, which had a view at first, with regards to overseas donors, it binds, if shuttle buses were brought for this purpose, then it was for that purpose alone. And if the State considers selling these shuttles overseas to earn revenue for its developments, or donate and get the agreement of foreign nations. Such is the process for these funds, such is the reason as there are times when we have to contact our Office in Japan, this includes small things like the sign at our bridge, it requires necessary changes however, a request must be made to overseas countries in order to get a new sign.

Mr Speaker this is the main purpose of my upstanding, because we have received several contacts on the use of these vehicles during the games. It is therefore very useful to have your question to get clarification on this matter, that is reason for the delay decision, especially in relation to the other comments received, the shuttle buses are still standing here and there, well for the sake of our people, it is because of these issues. There are processes that the State have to undertake to allow the use of these buses for other purposes, while, if there is an issue and this money is required to be utilized, it can be covered again and must be brought before Parliament. Everything must be brought before Parliament.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– consideration in detail**

MR SPEAKER: To save the time, I allow the member for Anoamaa East.

Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTIA MOEFAAUOUO MALAGAITUTOGIA SEPULONA MOANANU (Anoamaa East): Mr Speaker, I wish to speak of these items individually on the Ministry of Prison and Correction Services. Another thing that seem to not have our support is our prison.

I further see in this budget which is quite, has our support, as other budgets seem to have the appropriation for this project...although there is an appropriation which has other works for this project, although we heard that there will be a prison construction in Savaii without giving the true figures for this project. This does not mean that we will construct a \$20million prison project for Upolu and build a prison for Savaii by portion, no a total cost for the Savaii prison should be shown here. With due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the upstanding Minister I call the Chairperson.

Afioga ALIIMALEMANU ALOFA TUUAU: Mr Speaker, allow me to respond to the question on the \$1,175,170 prison project. Looking at the Report of the Finance Committee there is a detail list for this appropriation breakdown on Chaper 17. The final works for the Vaiaata prison project costs \$311,446. The separate fence for the women's prison costs \$350,000. The power generator is \$300,000, water tanks storage and the recent elucidation on the reasons is \$300,000, walky talkie devices costs \$40,000 and asset unit storage is \$50,000. This is the detail breakdown of the \$1.1million. with due respect.

Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTIA MOEFAAUOUO MALAGAITUTOGIA SEPULONA MOANANU: I have with me the...the spirit I aim to bring is the total....because this means it is only \$30,000 and we have just received a Report of this project. The project I am talking about, it seems that the work in Savaii is not done properly and whether the appropriation stated in the Budget is enough, let us hear from the Minister. With due respect.

MR SPEAKER: I call the Minister.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– consideration in detail**

Afioga Hon TIALAVEA FEA LENIU TIONISIO HUNT (Minister of Prison and Correction Services): Thank you honorable Speaker, and the Chairperson of the Finance Committee for the clarification on some of the things regarding the prison project.

The prison project in Tanumalala was built three years ago according to the Budget that was passed from this Parliament with word to do the job one at a time. To begin the construction for the Prison Project in the start, the appropriated amount of \$25million was allocated to fund it, however due to the insufficient funds arranged by the Ministry of Finance for three years, therefore, the appropriation of \$4300 million is now allotted to complete it. The prison project for Savaii had the funding allocation of \$600,000 as submitted in the previous budget. This project is built by the Ministry and is helping us save costs.

In relation to discussions on the fence, the cost of the 900 meter length fence and 4 meters width on the ground is \$2,175,000. Then the funds that was received from items sold from the SIDS was used. I have talked with the former ambassador from Manunu if a grant can be received from Japan for building the fence. I went first to China and this was declined as China policies does not cover prison house buildings. The ambassador then said that I go talk to the Treasury Department about the SIDS funds which has to go through Japan for approval first. Such is the approval of the \$1,300,000 from their budget...which we were given the appropriation of \$2,000,000 in the 2017/2018 budget for the fence building, there is a difference there. Then we the utilization from the funds received from previous fence building which is almost finished. The \$1,300,000 in this current budget is the reimbursing of funds that was utilized.

If you look at the reduction in expenditure from the main budget it is \$800,000. That is the offset of funds used in expenditure. Other works like the road tar, new water tanks storage which said that after the project, water will be greatly supplied and water tank is therefore needed. The power generator will stand by for the prison, water pump to pump water when it... The main switch board for the prison has not yet been installed for the entire compound. There should be a main switch board for the prison site situated near the new generator we heard about.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– consideration in detail**

Other projects says that... for Savaii alone, it was hope that \$600,000 could build it, we aim to finish the \$600,000 in buiding this project. The digging and burying of land will have the use of other funds whilst the building of the prison project in Savaii will be implemented by the Ministry.

Although other people have gone to Savaii, and have thought that only the prison will be set up there, the admin office will also be set up as the saying goes, what is good for Upolu will also be good for Savaii. There are 50 prisoners in Savaii, 40 in Oloamanu and 300 in Tafaigata excluding those held under custody which amounts to 100 plus. This is far too many fortunately house facilities are enough. The only thing is the food. The total appropriated budget to feed the prisoners per annum is \$300,000. If the number of prisoners is on the rise, then this budget should also climb. This is also the number that is undertaken in Savaii for their plantations, the food supply for Tanumalala prisoners and Olomanu all comes from Savaii. Olomanu is helping maintain the township area. As such, we extend our appreciation to those in Olomanu for this good job in the town area twice a week.

I also convey gratitude to the prisoner of Vaiaata. Perhaps some of you have been to Vaiaata and there is a change in the banana plantations and variety of crops available there. The taro in Vaiaata, it is like the quality of the yam, it is very hard and the soil is very good. Such is why Vaiaata is our main focus in terms of plantations. The prisoners taken to Vaiaata are easier to look after. Regardles, there are more than 50 detainees we have so far who are living in very small houses.

This is the clarification honorable Speaker.

Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: Mr Speaker, is there a chance?

MR SPEAKER: I call the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: It is the State's policies/procedures. If we meet in Parliament, all queries are directed to the Chairperson of the Finance Committee.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– consideration in detail**

The reason for stating this is because it seems that the first question that was made, it seems they do not recognize the Chairperson of the Finance Committee. The policies and practice of Parliament are very in depth. The Minister and all of us here, makes up the State. And if the Budget is submitted, and is referred to the Finance Committee, they are the ones to check this assignment. All queries regarding this budget including those from the Auditor and Government Heads goes directly to this Committee. The Minister's statement is true. Therefore, all queries are directed to them.

Until it is a matter that directs to policy and procedures of the State, the Government can upstand to speak on that.

Mr Speaker, some of you have been in Parliament for quite some time now, and still do not understand the procedures and practices of the House. All Parliaments of the commonwealth are similar. Do not ask here as the Ministers may lie. If you ask the Chairperson, she was the one who was facing all these public officials who came independently to submit their recommendations.

Mr Speaker the first one is clear. As for the part 2, the State includes the Associate Ministers. Listen up Associate Ministers, ask the Ministers, on the account of this matter and that matter.

The prison matter, there was not one nor two meetings by the Cabinet. The report that came to me particularly with regards to the chaos in the country in relation to prison breakout. They break from prison and that is why the Cabinet has decided to build a better and safer one with high security. The words of those from overseas, the State's partners, we do not give anything on that, you do it using your own money. This is the reason for the delay for this major project.

Looking at the approach we see today, escaped convicts who have been murderers and rapists, this act is just unbelievable. The security of the people is no longer safe. This is no good message to the outside world, thus affecting the coming of tourists into the country. I have been interviewed in the Australian 60 seconds program and I have tried to protect the image of Samoa. The fence building is ongoing however it is the people that is just troubling, they seek their own way to escape.

Mr Speaker, security is vital. The safe of homes and all of us. That is why the prison has been relocated to the new site to protect the people and children that are settling in the old area. The aim of the State is to protect. Majority of these prisoners are murderers.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– consideration in detail**

That is reason for taking this prison there. Although, this is also beginning to show in Savaii whereby the number is now up to 50, when majority of the time, it is normally three or four because this act is also seen here, or the attitude that exists here is also surfacing in Savaii.

A Minister that is vigilant and stays alert all the time, should also do something in Savaii. This is why the Cabinet was keen due to the huge amount of funds that was available and the Minister came with a simple plan. There are people in prison who are good carpenters that we could use at a lower cost. Not only will it enhance the prison, it will also improve the prison facilities for the workers.

Mr Speaker, the working environment for the police is very important. That is the reason because giving this and that does not mean that the Cabinet has not seen it. The Cabinet has wholeheartedly given importance to the decision to build the prison facilities for the protection of the country.

MR SPEAKER: Well done, thank you, perhaps it has...

Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: Mr Speaker, just this bit on these individual items, \$300,000 for the standby power generator of the Ministry please. I wish to ask, \$300,000 reserve power generator because I too bought a backup power 200k volts amp very recently, which only cost me \$100,000 Samoan tala.

What say you Hon Minister and the Chairperson, did you have a good look at this overcost? The main intention your honour is the lack of funds we have available. The aim is to save money. I only stood up for one main reason. \$300,000 money allocation when I avow to you, 200kva could provide power for my entire constituency and was bought for only \$100,000 Samoan currency. With all due respect.

MR SPEAKER: The Chairperson of the Committee will respond.

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: Go ahead Prime Minister.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– consideration in detail**

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETEELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: I wish to ask what year was that bought?

Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: It was last year your honor.

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETEELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: The reason why I am asking, is because the State is providing energy. Does that mean the funds of the district went to a waste? This appropriation...that is very pricey. Is it \$100,000 American or what?

Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: Your honor it is a comparison...Samoa. It can provide electricity for the entire district, \$100,000 Samoa. That is the intention and I observe...

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETEELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Is it providing the electricity for your district right now? Well because it is...I have returned from Savaii and the electricity is on.

Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: No lest we have different views Hon Prime Minister. The generator which I purchased is for my own personal use. The comparison I gave is to supply power for the entire constituency.

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETEELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Point of clarification, it is your own property.

Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: It costs \$100,000 your honor.

Afioga ALIIMALEMANU ALOFA TUUAU: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: Go ahead Chairperson.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Motion to submit evidence from the Member of Gagaifomauga No.3
before Parliament within 48 hours**

Afioga ALIIMALEMANU ALOFA TUUAU: Mr Speaker, this figure was not put down idly. We had 3 bidders that was considered by the Committee under the investigation of the Ministry of Police. And this is the appropriate price value which is much cheaper for our prison. This is the response as these quotes were thoroughly checked as submitted with respect.

MR SPEAKER: I call the...

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Your honor I want to see the procurement papers from the member, and I want it tabled in Parliament for verification.

MR SPEAKER: The motion has been set after...are you trying to upstand?

Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: Yes your honor. I can bring evidence for the information of the House, with all due respect..

MR SPEAKER: I have thought to take the easy road, instead you have confessed that you can do it, we will have... I call the...

**MOTION TO SUBMIT EVIDENCE FROM THE MEMBER OF
GAGAIFOMAUGA NO.3 BEFORE PARLIAMENT
WITHIN 48 HOURS**

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: *Mr Speaker, The reason for tabling these documents before Parliament is for all of us to be aware of the verification of these things. If it was a vigilant company that knew about this cost, a tender should have been made. Because there have been cases like this that were unsuccessful.*

24 JANUARY 2020

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– consideration in detail

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. I have thought that the member of Gagaifomauga would only be giving a comparable explanation, although now that you have admitted it, I will have the motion be seconded as moved by the Prime Minister. Anyone to second the moved motion.

Seconded by the Minister of Women, Community and Social Development and the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour.

Motion was approved.

MR SPEAKER: I give you 48 hours pursuant to Standing Orders to bring forth evidence of your statement, the cost, as delivered in the House.

In assistance in accordance to the statement by the Hon Prime Minister I refuse lest it is not mentioned in my talk. Majority of the respectable members have been in this House long enough, however they do not place emphasis on the positions and duties of the Finance Committee. Mind you after the tabling of the Main Budget and the Supplementary Appropriation, the Sitting is adjourned until after 14 days for the Finance Committee to review and report back to the House on the 14th day for us to work on.

They are the people that therefore have to respond and provide clarifications on each of these things when we come to question time for the sake of members who are putting forth questions. This is the useful tip on this matter. The Minister can discuss policies and interjection on this matter is now finished.

Appropriation of \$4,350,729 for Prison and Correction Services was approved.

TOTAL ADDITIONAL OVERALL EXPENDITURES \$23,596,953.
AOAO 2019/2020:

Approved.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– consideration in detail**

SECOND SCHEDULE

REDUCTION IN APPROPRIATION

MINISTRY	DESCRIPTION	REDUCTION IN APPROPRIATION:
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JUSTICE AND COURT ADMINISTRATION:		\$(350,000).
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Approved.

PRISON AND CORRECTION SERVICES:		\$(806,549).
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Approved.

**TOTAL REDUCTIONS OVERALL EXPENDITURES 2019/2020:
\$(1,156,549)**

Approved.

CLAUSE 2: Grant and Appropriation of \$23,596,953 out o Treasury Fund.

Approved.

CLAUSE 3: Reduction of amounts earlier appropriated and re-allocation to other outputs and sub-outputs.

Approved.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– third reading**

SCHEDULE:

Approved.

CLAUSE 1 AND TITLE**CLAUSE 1: Short title and commencement.****TITLE: Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020.**

Approved.

The Supplementary Appropriation (No.1) 2019/2020 progressed without Amendments.

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2019/2020
– third reading**

Afioga Hon SILI EPA TUIOTI: Mr Speaker, I first congratulate and convey great thanks to you and the dignity of Parliament.

We have now come to the end of our Budget schedule and supplementary. I therefore upstand with respect to move a motion, *That the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020 be now read a third time.*

Seconded by the Minister of Education, Sports and Culture and the Minister of Justice and Court Administration.

Motion was approved and the Supplementary Appropriation Bill was read a third time and had passed the Legislative Assembly.

The House clapped their hands to show appreciation on the passing of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill.

24 JANUARY 2020

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020
– third reading**

MR SPEAKR: Very well, I congratulate you all as our session is now finished for today. There is thought that we have become exhausted from our work, regardless, the main thing is that we have passed the Supplementary Appropriation Budget for the implementation of works and service for the wellbeing of the country. Before we adjourn, I will end our Sitting with a prayer.

Debates of the Legislative Assembly adjourned at 1:55pm until 9:00am on Monday, 27th January 2020.