

18 JUNE 2015

**THURSDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2015**

*The Legislative Assembly met at 9:00am pursuant to the Parliamentary Sitting Program 2014/2015.*

Prayer.

**MESSAGE FROM O LE AO O LE MALO**

*Mr Speaker announced the Message from His Highness, O Le Ao o le Malo.*

**“MEMORANDUM to;**

**Mr Speaker:**

Pursuant to Section 59 of the Constitution of the Independent State of Samoa and in accordance with the Standing Orders of Parliament, consent is hereby given to the Legislative Assembly to consider the following Bills:

1. National Prosecution Office Bill 2015.
2. Broadcasting Amendment Bill 2015.
3. Village Fono Amendment Bill 2015.

**GIVEN UNDER my own Hand** this day Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

**(Signed): Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi**  
**O LE AO O LE MALO.**”

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

*Clerk read out the list of Papers pursuant to Standing Order 48.*

1. P.P. 2015/2016 No. 19, Annual Report of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour 2013/2014
2. P.P. 2015/2016 No. 20, Government Responses on P.P. 2014/2015 No. 133, Report of the Works, Transport and Environment Committee on P.P. 2014/2015 No. 16, Samoa Airport Authority Annual Report for the Year 2012.

**Presentation of Select Committee Reports**

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3. P.P. 2015/2016 No. 21, Samoa Life Assurance Corporation Annual Report 2014.
4. P.P. 2015/2016 No. 22, Annual Report of the Legislative Assembly Office 2008-2014.

### **PRESENTATION OF SELECT COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*Clerk read out the list of the Select Committee Reports pursuant to Standing Order 51(5)*

1. P.P. 2015/2016 No. 23, Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee on the Supplementary Estimates of Receipts and Payments of the Government of Samoa for the Financial year ending 30 June 2015.
2. P.P. 2015/2016 No. 24, Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee on the Main Estimates of Receipts and Payments of the Government of Samoa for the Financial year ending 30 June 2016.

### **OPENING SPEECH BY MR SPEAKER**

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe we have been blessed with another day to fulfill our duties as Members of the Maota Fono of Samoa. Even though we have travelled from afar it did not deter Members from coming here this morning to carry out our Proceedings.

I take this opportunity to officially welcome Members of the House, the Hon Leader of the country and Cabinet, the Leader of Opposition and all Members of Parliament gathering here this morning. We give praise unto the Lord because without His love and guidance we would not be present here to fulfill our duties. I want to acknowledge Members for your perseverance and effort to be here today. Our work is never ending and it goes from day to night. There are Members who are also faced with considering Parliamentary matters; I thank our Lord for the strength given to enable us to do our work.

Lest I forget, the support of Samoa in all its honorary salutations. This House appreciates your support; the work that is well supported and well completed.

I acknowledge the respects of *Tama ma Aiga, Aiga foi ma Tama, Usoga a Tumua ma Pule, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga I le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti*, thank you for your prayers from all the different parts of the country.

Our neighbors from the East are listening, the Governor and Assistant Governor the respects of *Sua ma le Vaifanua, Fofu ma Aitulagi, Saole ma Saleaamua ma le Launiu na Saelua, Tama a le Manuatele ma Tootoo o le Faleula ma le Laau na Amotasi*.

I thank the Lord Almighty for His love that has guided us here this morning; we will now proceed with our usual orders. I pray to Members of the House we shall now move onto fulfilling the work as stated within our Order Paper.

### **Opening Speech by Mr Speaker**

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I also want to take this opportunity to convey sincere condolences to the Member Afioga Gafoaleata Faitua on the sudden passing of his wife. I take this opportunity on Behalf of this Parliament to voice condolences to the Member and family especially the Constituency, *Tootooau o Matia Matia Ituau respects of Tapaau ma Aiga, ia te oe le Pule i Aiga ma Salafai*. I strongly believe that the Lord has great plans for us even in life everlasting. We will now proceed with our orders of the day which is the continuation of the debate on our budget.

There is an understanding that the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015 will be deliberated together with the Appropriation Bill 2015/2016. I will now present to the House the Bills as stated within our Order Paper.

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.2) 2014/2015 & APPROPRIATION BILL 2015/2016 - debate on second reading**

**MR SPEAKER:** Pursuant to Standing Order 132, debate on the Bill will progress as it was tabled.

The speeches made should be made directly towards the budget and to the provisions related to the Appropriation. As it is our usual practice the opportunity is given to Members to speak, the Budget as presented by the Leader of the country in the past two weeks is not much. I recommend that Members take into account financial terms in relation to the Budget tabled. There is also the chance for Members to be heard by their Constituencies and the Prime Minister and Cabinet. The Ministry of Finance have been well prepared in putting together this Appropriation.

The floor is now open for anyone who wishes to speak on the Bill. The Member for Faasaleleaga No.2, you may now take the floor.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU (Faasaleleaga No.2):** Thank you Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** Well I will give the Member for Aana Alofi No. 3 the opportunity since he was the first to stand; I call on the Member for Aana Alofi No.3.

**Afioga Toeolesulusulu Cedric Pose Salesa Schuster (Aana Alofi No.3):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I humbly greet the Chair especially the Members of Parliament this morning.

Mr Speaker I will not speak of the matter in general but I do have a few concerns to voice on the matter. Mr Speaker I have noted that there are parts of the Budget Estimates that lacks research since the numbers given are wrong and there are parts that do not have any written information. The concern here Mr Speaker, since the research is not comprehensive in accordance to the duties that are needed to be fulfilled....

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015 & Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – debate on second reading**

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**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion of the Member for Aana Alofi No.3 is now understood. I believe we should proceed since we are deliberating the matter in general, also the clarification given by the Government is in general. Nonetheless we will thoroughly look into the Bill one by one once we consider it in detail.

**Afioga Toeolesulusulu Cedric Pose Salesa Schuster:** Thank you Mr Speaker, I obey the instructions given by the Chair, but this is a concern because we cannot find....

**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion is noted, I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi (Prime Minister):** Mr Speaker this is the exact reason why our Budget is given to the Committee to evaluate. Calculations carried out can be incorrect at times. We all know nowadays we do not write calculations because we use calculators by pressing several keys. If someone has long fingernails they can accidentally press a different number resulting to a different outcome. This is the significance of the Committee; they double check the numbers and make right what might be wrong. There was a sitting in 1987 where the Bill submitted was as thick as this House, half of it had no information on it, which was later on amended.

Mr Speaker this issue is not new especially nowadays we are in the age of technology, if the electricity goes off it damages the computer resulting to this error. This is the reason why some say these machines created by the Europeans are not hundred percent; there is only one thing that is one hundred percent, our brain.

Mr Speaker this is a clarification on the matter.

**Afioga Toeolesulusulu Cedric Pose Salesa Schuster:** Mr Speaker just a reminder, please.

**MR SPEAKER:** Firstly I will give the opportunity to the Chairperson, I call on the Chairperson.

**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang (Chairperson, Finance and Expenditure Committee):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I wish to amend the opinion by the Member. Since there is a difference between the English and Samoan translation as well as numbers and the Committee has noted a few errors which have been submitted to the Ministry. With respect.

**Afioga Toeolesulusulu Cedric Pose Salesa Schuster:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member I will give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015 & Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – debate on second reading**

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** The matter has been corrected by the Chairperson, this is the

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reason why he was chosen as Chairperson. He is a former Minister of Finance... his intelligence can be compared to a fast sailing ship.

Mr Speaker the matter is now clarified nonetheless I recommend that Members not waste time, we are waiting to hear some of your speeches.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo (Faleata East):** Mr Speaker I humbly request an opportunity to speak.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member for Faleata East.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** The issue mentioned by the Member for Aana Alofi No.3 is not a minor error, it involves \$400 million. The Chairperson has responded on the English translation, we do not have any English copies of the Budget just the Samoan ones. We have also asked for English copies yet nothing has been given to us. If we look at the Budget given there is a whole page that is incorrect.

**MR SPEAKER:** The issue raised is now understood. The Chairperson has already clarified the matter.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, I was the one that rectified the Bill, which is the reason I am not taking the floor. I rectified one of the Bills tabled in Parliament perhaps it was about hundred paragraphs missing. I am glad that there is only one page that is wrong, but I rectified nearly a hundred. Mr Speaker there is a phrase that states those who are second should follow the lead of the first.

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe, pardon the Deputy Leader, I believe the matter is now clear, the Chairperson has clarified the matter. As some of the Members have noted this issue has been referred back to the Ministry of Finance. As I stated earlier, the matter debated is not that important compared to the consideration that should be done on the Bill. Therefore whatever mistakes that were noted in the past let us not focus on them at the moment but rather understand and consider the Bill. Nonetheless I want to thank Afioga Toeolesulusulu Schuster for the concern.

**Afioga Toeolesulusulu Cedric Pose Salesa Schuster:** Mr Speaker a humble request to the Chairperson, since I identified parts that needed corrections. A request, can these new changes be tabled so that we can evaluate it, since it has only been voiced and nothing has been given. This will also give us the opportunity to voice opinions in relation to the Budget more precisely. The Hon Prime Minister is right but it is difficult to speak further on the Bill if this whole part is missing. There are parts that are notified by the Committee and also other parts that are not mentioned at all.

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015 & Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – debate on second reading**

This is why it is important that we be given English copies of the Budget together with the new changes mentioned.

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**MR SPEAKER:** The request made by the Member is clearly noted, as the Chairperson has stated maybe by sometime today you will be able to receive these documents.

I call on Susuga Papalii Masipau for his chance to take the floor.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Thank you Mr Speaker and respectable Members of the House. The Chair has already greeted the dignity of the Maota and the respects of our country. I want to thank you for the praises made unto the Lord this morning hence this is an important sitting at this time of the year. We have heard sincere condolences have been voiced to one of our Members on the passing of his wife. I pray that the Lord give you strength especially to your family. I believe this is an important sitting since it will be the last Budget of this Parliamentary term. I hope that you have been patient with some of our requests and recommendations; this is the last speech on the Budget because I am not sure if I will return in the next Parliamentary term. I pray for your patience with the assistance given and the issues raised, it is all for the benefit of our country.

Mr Speaker, it has been noted that minimal changes have been done towards the Budget. I pray that whatever assistance that we give be appreciated by Government considering the decisions made for this country.

Mr Speaker I wish to speak on the Ministerial statement made by the Finance Minister also the Hon Prime Minister voiced in the previous sittings. This statement was a clarification of the Government financial for years ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011, 2012 and 2013.

I quote, "it is the right of every citizen of Samoa to know where our budget is allocated by Government especially to know that financial earnings are used for the benefit of the people. It is the incentive of Government to adhere to the needs of the people especially the provisions implemented within the House under Act." I have read out this part of the speech because it is quite important to me. The truth is, this is the basis of the speech for Faasaleleaga as well as Mago and Luasiufanua for this Budget tabled. Therefore I want to emphasize the speech given by the Hon Prime Minister.

Mr Speaker before I came into this Parliament, I was guided by five principles in relation to the development of the country. First our health care, which I am thankful that it is still a Government priority. Second, education, which is also another Government priority. Third is the cost of living or poverty, whether our people are able to afford food or do they earn enough income to survive together with other aspects of life.

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Fourth is our environment. I believe we are now starting to use solar and wind power for electricity which will greatly benefit our environment and other areas. It is also evident that our roads, access roads and bridges have improved especially with the protection of our coastal shorelines.

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Fifth, we should look at minimizing taxes to assist the general public especially businesses and families so they can be able to develop. I believe that every Government not only here in Samoa but in other countries of the world faces a challenge to implement ways that will develop and benefit the country as a whole.

Mr Speaker the Budget, expenditure and revenue is very important to this Member. I always look at the difference between our expenditure and revenue. Ever since the start of this Parliamentary term I have always looked at these two areas within the Appropriation. The first two years of this Parliamentary term, there was more than \$100+million loss, in the third year it decreased to \$80 million, fourth year it came to \$64 million. As for this year it has increased to \$96 million.

I was pleased with the difference implemented in the past years, however this year it has vastly increased. This is a concern for this Member. What is the objective of Government for the future not only now but for the next Parliamentary term? I personally believe that there should be a balance between expenditure and revenue. I strongly believe that this will be more than enough to assist with the needs of our country. This can also be a challenge for the development of the country.

Our recommendations should be voiced as I have already stated earlier this will be the last Budget of this term. It is important that we voice recommendations for the development of the country, despite whoever will return in the next Term, Faasaleleaga No.2 strongly believes that there should be a balance. There should always be a balance between expenditure and revenue; it will generate the development of the country.

Secondly Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker a point of order.

Ever since the foundation of Government, there is no such Government that has a balance in expenditure and revenue. The reason for this is that Government cannot just put developments on hold especially during times a country is affected by a natural hazard, like the one we encountered not long ago; cyclone Evan and the tsunami, we cannot do this because we have future plans that needs to be executed.

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For an example, we officially opened the road from Samusu to Lalomanu this week. The road was improved to safeguard the lives of people since they moved inland after the tsunami. If we do what you are requesting then it means no road will be done. This is how things work within politics. Once we are affected by such disasters the Government implements development. There is an understanding that it will happen again, if it does where will the people go; people will die which is why we cannot have equilibrium for

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expenditure and revenue. This is the objective to implement Government projects; the reality of the world with what is happening today, it is quite difficult. The only measure left to be done is stop the developments of the country, we can just implement projects through our money earned, let us not seek financial assistance from overseas.

Mr Speaker, I have taken the floor to clarify the matter because if you go and research other countries of the world there is no one country that that has a balance in its expenditure and revenue.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member to continue with his speech.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Thank you. Well, it is our duty as Opposition to give advice but I want to thank the Hon Prime Minister for the clarification.

I believe this is everyone's intention since we do not know what might happen. If nothing happens we should take the time to analyze ideas. This is our recommendation for our future development. Secondly....

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II (Leader of Opposition):** Mr Speaker a point of clarification in relation to the speech by the Member, the Hon Prime Minister has elaborated that no Government has a balance. Perhaps it is only Samoa that has a higher expenditure than revenue. Although overseas countries like New Zealand and Australia always try to maintain a surplus.

**MR SPEAKER:** Afioga Palusalue Faapo your opinion has been noted.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker a point of order. The Member has mentioned New Zealand, but the facts are incorrect because New Zealand is still trying to find a solution to what happened in Christchurch. At the moment they have not yet completed the rebuilding of houses and other infrastructures affected. We have rehabilitated more than New Zealand. This is what happens when the example given is wrong. I recommend that you support your Member and his speech, it is going well.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker I will now amend the statement by the Hon Prime Minister....

**MR SPEAKER:** Leader of Opposition we have just started our....

#### **Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015 & Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – debate on second reading**

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** The mandate for New Zealand, they are hoping by next year they will get surplus, countries compete in these areas, but not...

**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion of the Member is now understood.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker at least it is now being mentioned, but we are talking about the future, it is just a dream, no one knows what will happen in the future. It is what we plan to accomplish nonetheless we cannot ignore

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what should be done once we are faced with such disasters. We have already started a program for the Member Aleipata Itupa i Luga, which includes the rebuilding of the bridge together with drainage all the way to Maagiagi and Lelata. This development is now in progress perhaps it will take three to four years before completion. If we are not able to fund it then we would have to seek financial support from overseas. This is why we were given intelligence, we cannot just sit here, the funds that we have is not enough to implement the developments that Members are requesting. I am astonished Afioga Palusalue of what might happen if you were in this position. It will mean all developments will be put on hold, nothing will be done. This is a very poor decision to put everything on hold, it cannot be stopped.

Mr Speaker this is the point of order. The opinions voiced are very good and there are only a few minor matters that we are amending, the opinion by Faasaleleaga No.2 is well versed. It seems the speech by the Member for Faasaleleaga No 2 is muddled with the continuous interruption.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a point of clarification. Since the House and country understands, the Hon Prime Minister has stated that we cannot...but to be honest we can if we carry it out in a proper...

**MR SPEAKER:** Well the response of Government has been given therefore Leader of Opposition, I apologize we have....

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** I do not think the Leader of Opposition understands the meaning of the word, cannot. If you were voicing what is happening now it would have been appropriate because you are talking of a dream for New Zealand in the future. We are living in a world of dreams but we cannot use dreams to do what needs to be done. I am not speaking of dreams but of what is currently happening today.

**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion voiced is now noted, the speech given by the Member is also clear. I just want to give the Member advice....

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

**MR SPEAKER:** I appease the Member for Faleata West I have now put an end to the matter.

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015 & Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – debate on second reading**

I call on the Member for Faasaleleaga No. 2 let us not rehash issues....

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker even if there are a hundred standing from that side.

**MR SPEAKER:** I give the opportunity...the Member for Palauli le Falefa.

**Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga (Palauli le Falefa):** Mr Speaker I just wanted to remind the Opposition, the time of the Member is being taken up; he has about five more minutes left, with respect.

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**MR SPEAKER:** Member for Faasaleleaga No. 2 you have five more minutes.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Thank you. The speech made by Faasaleleaga No. 2 always moves forward not backwards.

Mr Speaker, continuing on regarding the funding of our developments, like access roads and bridges. I have noted within the Budget it is \$72 million, right? What I am trying to convey here is just the allocation of funds for the benefit of the whole country. What I mean is whether the allocation is balanced and is this Constituency included? The truth is Mr Speaker nothing has been given to this Constituency. This is an issue that should be explained clearly. If we look at it Mr Speaker and Members of the House...

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member speaking; I will give the opportunity to the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Mati Tuigamala Enokati Posala (Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure):** Mr Speaker, the speech given by the Member is interesting, but a reminder there was work done within Faasaleleaga No.2. This is an ongoing program which is the same as the work done for 2009 tsunami.

The program is still in progress for the Constituency, there has been an improvement done on access roads, main roads, water supply, electricity and others in relation to the request that was submitted. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well. I call on the Member to continue with his speech.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Mr Speaker, I want to thank the Hon Minister for the clarification. The request made pertains to my time in Parliament; I am looking at this Parliamentary term. There was work done in the previous Term but for this Term there has been nothing; at least grant one development. This is the reason for reiterating the requests; I also came to give you our requests for our access roads.

### **Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015 & Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – debate on second reading**

The Leader of the country has spoken of the 41 territorial constituencies. I believe if it is then divided within the five year Term, there should be eight access roads every financial year, meaning two access roads per, although there is something missing....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member; I will give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, it is important to clarify the matter. There are two ways in which assistance is given to your Constituency, first one is given for the benefit of the constituency alone and the other is for the improvement of the whole country. These are the two methods of assistance. For instance, for

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the Constituencies of Aleipata Itupa i Lalo and Aleipata Itupa i Luga more than ten million has been spent on developing these two constituencies.

This means that Members for these two constituencies should not take the floor since allocated funds are more than enough even for the whole country. How can you say that nothing has been done but how about the developments that have been implemented? As the Hon Minister stated, not long ago I attended the opening of the solar electricity development that took place in Savaii, this means everyone in Savaii benefits. I stated earlier that there are developments specifically directed to constituencies and others that include every constituency. An example, the road at Maliolio has now been completed; plans have been made on building a bridge there in order to save peoples' lives.

This major development will start soon as requested by most Members of Savaii; it will not only benefit Savaii but also all of Upolu. It does not matter whether the work will be at Maliolio or if a lot of money is spent the important aspect is that we all benefit.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member to continue.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Mr Speaker in saving time, there are several other matters I want to elaborate, I will leave this matter for now. The House and Hon Minister have heard the requests in relation to our estimates this year. The Hon Prime Minister has elaborated on developments in general, thank you because it has greatly benefited the country. Also I am thankful for what has been done for my Constituency.

I now want to discuss the major developments or the Governments vision. I have heard that upgrades are to be done at our airport in Faleolo and a wharf is to be established in Vaiusu. A humble request from Savaii, I believe the other twenty one Members from Savaii will support this idea. I want to speak not on the plans for the near future but plans for further in the future.

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015 & Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – debate on second reading**

We request that Savaii has its own International Airport like the one in Faleolo also a wharf similar to the one at Matautu because if we look at Savaii it is large. The main objective that I want to convey Mr Speaker is that we need large scale developments in Savaii, like a fish market because the truth is...

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member I will give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker a point of order. We cannot label a wharf or airport as international until Government gives notice. The Government has already announced that the airport in Maota is an international airport and the flights include travel all the way from American Samoa. This is a major country compared to us. This is the same for the wharfs at Salelologa and Asau; any

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overseas vessel can anchor within this harbor. It is not the responsibility of Government to overlook these vessels it is the business owners since these vessels bring in goods for businesses.

The first step to take is attracting businesses into Savaii. This is the reason for building the market together with making spaces available for businesses in Salelologa, it is now being slowly settled. Perhaps this should be in your speech. Business owners come to Savaii, once they come to Savaii the overseas ships will come there and bring orders needed by the businesses. The work by Government has already been done and the only aspect left to do is for businesses to thrive, this includes airplanes heading to Savaii as well. I have tried approaching Polynesian Airlines to go to Savaii but they replied that they keep waiting and only one person turns up. If there is only one passenger the plane does not fly but if there are eight it will be able to go to Savaii. Polynesian Airlines is able to fly when there are enough passengers if not then it does not go, we cannot just fly back and forth without passengers. The only thing that will happen is a Technical Knock Out like the first time.

**Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu (Gagaemauga No. 2):** Mr Speaker a Point of Order in relation to the speech. Perhaps he has forgotten our international wharf in Savaii where I recall only part of the cargo ship could dock in the harbor. I just wanted to remind you that there is a wharf but the work is not done completely.

**MR SPEAKER:** The Member for Faasaleleaga No.2?

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker in order to save the time of the Member. A question to the Member, what is your take on the motto of Government, “what is good for Apia is good for Savaii,” Aleipata has been developed with a new wharf and airport. What do you think about this?

**MR SPEAKER:** Have you taken note of the question made by the Leader of Opposition.

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**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Mr Speaker this is exactly what I am trying to convey...

**MR SPEAKER:** I will give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I wish to amend this statement. The airport planned for Aleipata is the same as the international airport at Maota because a 747 cannot land there, only small aircrafts are able to fly between Samoa and Tutuila like the one that flies to Maota.

This is the same for our small wharfs. The only ferries that anchor there are between Samoa West and Samoa East. Nonetheless we are now labeled as Samoa East since the sun rises first in our country and sets in Tutuila.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well. I believe the query made by the Member is now understood. I want to reiterate that there is an international airport and wharf in Salafai.

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**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Mr Speaker I understand the clarification. I will give an example; the proposed fish cannery for Matautu which I believe is owned by BumbleBee? The Hon Prime Minister stated that they came to Savaii but were not satisfied since there were no airports and wharfs.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** The announcement made is incorrect. Before a decision is finalized they go around the country and observe then when they return they say, “we choose here.” The reason they chose here is based on easy access for their fishing vessel. Although it is also our intention to set up in Savaii. These overseas countries have visited Asau many times. It is also the wish of Government to set up this development at the Asau wharf which is close to fish breeding grounds where Lauulu went fishing. Do you get what I am saying? This is the area where Lauulu went to fish and came back with a boat full of fish. This is the reason why the Government wanted to set up this development there, but the business owners said there is only the *filoa* species which they do not want, they wanted the albacore. The Government cannot do much about a decision these businesses make because they know where they can get profits. But it is our strong intention that these businesses be set up in Savaii, to develop the west side.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member to continue, you have five more minutes.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. The main objective of this Member is to support future development, I pray to Government that the next time these businesses come into Samoa bring them to Savaii.

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This request is made in relation to the need of employment opportunities in Savaii because most families do not have working members. If there is such a big development in Salafai I believe that there will be many people employed from these families.

This is why I am quite confident if the Government has the will there will be a way especially for future development.

Also I made this request in relation to our tourists. One of the most peaceful places for our tourists is Savaii. For example if you travel to Itu o Tane, Itu Asau and to the Constituency of the Speaker you will see lots of tourists. Therefore it is the request of hotel owners in Savaii that they need international flights to come there.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker this is exactly what I meant at the start of the speech voiced by the Member that we cannot implement development if you wanted balance. I respectfully ask that the Member deviate from such ideas because if we have balance then nothing will be done for Savaii. I recommend that you not listen or follow what Afioga Palusalua tells you. The matter that

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you should have requested is, encourage foreign investors to invest in Savaii and not talk of maintaining balance.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member I recommend that you start with the issue concerning our tourists as mentioned earlier.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** This is the reason for the increased number of tourists in Savaii, there is good communication. There are websites advertising tourist attractions the only negative aspect is the travel for those from New Zealand, Australia, China and Asia. They arrive at Faleolo airport, catch a taxi and then go to the wharf to get on a ferry then taxi again to their accommodation. They can also be potentially blocked at Sapapalii bridge and Lano since at the moment Maliolio is under construction. This is the same for Sasina if they were to catch their flights to go home. There was an incident this other time when I came from Savaii and I witnessed some tourists crying because they missed their flight. This cannot be helped if the ferry is not fast so they missed the flight.

It is important that we overlook this matter because it will also portray us to the overseas countries. The tourists that visit need peace while travelling to our country. This is what is needed; the hotel owners in Savaii only request two Air New Zealand flights a week for Savaii. This will make it easier for tourists to stay in Savaii if they want to come to Apia then they can travel using canoes, as long as they have explored all of Savaii. This would greatly assist the people in Savaii to get more employment opportunities, if we were to expand hotels in Savaii. I can see within the Budget that financial assistance is only been given to hotel owners in Upolu not Savaii. This recommendation is important.

Mr Speaker another matter is transportation...

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker an opportunity please.

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**MR SPEAKER:** What is the matter Afioga Palusalua?

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** I just wanted to comment to the Member, if Tautua was in power this airport would be implemented. It is important since it will go straight to Savaii.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker this matter does not differ from the issue of supporting the new urban seats and not allowing it to be amended within the Constitution. I am not sure if the Leader of Opposition understands what he mentioned earlier supporting the idea of keeping a balance. An airport cannot be constructed within Savaii if you want to create this balance. The expansion of the airport is implemented using loans, does this mean that you do not want to do any loans? We cannot do it. How are we going to do this? This is what happens if you do not consult on what to say before a matter is voiced. Several requests are made for developments although you object to how Government carry out its work in acquiring more funds to develop the country. I recommend that the Member not mention this matter of keeping a balance as it is not appropriate considering some might think it is right but it is not.

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**MR SPEAKER:** I appease the Member Afioga Palusalue, I will be making the decision.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker I was just responding to the Hon Prime Minister to withhold setting up an airport in Aleipata and upgrade the one in Savaii.

**MR SPEAKER:** Afioga Palusalue, I have put an end to the matter, there is no need to voice this issue since the speech given by Susuga Papalii is quite valid. Let us put an end to this matter.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Thank you Mr Speaker, I also thank you for your patience. I would gladly accept if you do a big loan for Savaii.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I move to respond to the Member that once we get approved on a big loan we will do it. If we were to adhere to this request, Faleolo airport will not be used anymore, this is how business works; a plane cannot just land at Salelologa and then land again at Faleolo. There is only one place where you are supposed to land. I salute the Member for the comment made on acquiring loans to develop our country nonetheless there are so many developments that you want to do. The only matter that I wish to amend is the comment saying, no funds are allocated to hotels in Savaii. The funds are allocated to all hotels including Savaii especially after cyclone Evan every hotel was given funds.

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Also, the internet, as you mentioned communication methods have greatly improved. This project was a success through the assistance from China without interest. This development was set up to assist those who are not less fortunate.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member Susuga Papalii there is an interruption; I give the opportunity to Afioga Hon Leaupepe.

**Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi (Aana Alofi No.1):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I move with respect to ask the Leader of Opposition since the Parliament and Samoa have heard, the prediction of Tautua being Government. I humbly ask, what century will Tautua be in power? So we will be able to prepare ourselves or by that time no one will be here...with respect, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Let us not make assumptions....

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** It seems the former Member for Opposition is making fun of this side. A response to the question I am confident that Tautua will be in power next year. Such statement makes us feel less significant...

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**MR SPEAKER:** Afioga Palusalua, I do not believe this was the intended purpose the Member Afioga Leaupepe made this query.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Mr Speaker if Afioga Leaupepe and Afioga Tuuu came to this side, we would have been Government already. They tried coming to this side but they were not accepted.

**MR SPEAKER:** Let us not rehash the matter and keep interrupting the speech by the Member. Susuga Papalii you have two more minutes.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Mr Speaker I have one more issue to be voiced which will take two minutes.

**MR SPEAKER:** You may proceed.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Mr Speaker, regarding our methods of transportation. I am thankful that our infrastructure has greatly improved. I do have a request related to sea travel. Since we live in Savaii we use this method of transport every week. Perhaps it would be good to voice this concern to the Hon Minister and Chief Executive of the Shipping Corporation present here today. I was hoping if it was possible for Government to allocate more funds to our Shipping Corporation to pay overtime for sailors and captains. I have heard that they have set up their own Union since they have not being fully paid for working hours.

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This is an important area that should be considered, I know that funds have been allocated to the Corporation as stated in our Budget but this is an area that should be reviewed since it will greatly assist with travel arrangements for people in Savaii.

The work carried out by sailors and captains are important because they are the ones that guarantee the safety of passengers and their properties. I believe that this is where the Corporation earns most of its profits especially trips between Upolu and Savaii. If we look at working hours they start from 5am until 6pm which is thirteen hours. I have found out that they are only paid for ten or nine hours a day. It is quite hard for a Member of Parliament to hear such complaints from the public, we have to maintain peace, also there are Members who seem to use their status to get a seat to go to Savaii, ignoring those who live in Savaii that need that seat. The Shipping Corporation gives respect to Members because of status. Therefore we ought to review this area. If employees are treated equally the travel between islands will be more relaxed.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member; I will give the opportunity for the clarification of the Hon Minister.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Mati Tuigamala Enokati Posala:** Mr Speaker thank you, the matter pertaining employees is an internal issue.

Perhaps they would have come forward to voice this concern; nonetheless nothing like this has happened.

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Perhaps this recommendation made will assist in amending provisions if something like this does happen. The work carried out by the Shipping Corporation and its employees is in good order.

The issue regarding seats specifically given to Government Members. Respect is given accordingly and everyone is treated fairly. The work of employees is important and we respect them. There is only one trip every three months that calls for overtime. There is also only one opportunity given to Members of Parliament for a seat on the ferry. Let us not make assumptions especially from within the House, we should emphasize opportunities given to the public. We only spend an hour undertaking site visits before we return back to our usual duties. Therefore I humbly appease that Members be careful of what is said, let us keep the dignity of this House, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neiotti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I am sadden by the comment made since I usually use this entitlement every time I go to Savaii to overlook issues requested by Members of the House. It is the duty of Cabinet to visit areas so that we will know what development should be done. This means visits are made in relation to requests from Constituencies voiced by their Members within the House and at Minister Offices and my Ministry as well.

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This is the main reason why we travel there often to overlook developments and observe what needs to be done for the development of our people.

The ferries are usually informed of these trips when it takes place. Also this does not mean we take up all the seats, there is still a lot of space available for the public. The main reason for taking these trips is to carry out site visits and oversee the progress of developments. This rarely happens hence the public have everyday to travel between islands; the Government only goes once but not all the time. Furthermore I want to clarify to the public in case some may not understand that Government is not withholding the trips that go between the islands. Why would we stop it when there are only about ten Members going there to visit and inspect the development and witness that the work has been done accordingly?

Mr Speaker we do not disregard our responsibility, we do not implement a project then leave it. This is one important objective of the Act on employment. We implement the project then we go and foresee the progress especially to put together a report on what is done. Nonetheless the statement made by the Member is misleading to the public.

**MR SPEAKER:** The time for the Member for Faasaleleaga No.2 is finished. I advise that you conclude your speech. It is with respect that I give you this time.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Thank you for the opportunity, perhaps the Government has already clarified it but it is still important that opinions be voiced so they could be heard. It is also significant that this issue be reviewed, there is the possibility that a ferry be

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charted and be used for such trips, therefore it will not interfere with the everyday schedule. Although if this is how it will be then it is alright. The important aspect is to clarify the matter so those who talk on the matter understand....

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele**

**Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker this is where we use our common sense, how can we charter a ferry just for ten people when our ferry can fit five hundred? This is what happens when we speak without thinking it through, it is the responsibility of Government as well to use our assets wisely.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member Susuga Papalii to conclude.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** I want to conclude my speech with the issue involving taxes imposed on soft drinks and alcohol.

**MR SPEAKER:** The Member for Faasaleleaga No.2 your time is finished.

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**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Our recommendation on this matter is to review this area as there are families that might be affected.

It is applicable to those who consume it, but not to the economic development of some families. Bless our Proceedings and thank you for the opportunity.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well thank you. The floor is now open to any Member who wishes to speak. I call on the Member Afioga Toeolesulusulu Schuster followed by Tofa Lealailepule Aiafi.

I call on the Member for Aana Alofi No.3.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:**

Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. Even though we are yet to receive corrections for our Budget, I move to speak on a few issues that I want to understand. Firstly I want to acknowledge and thank the Chair and also the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet especially the Associate Ministers. Turning to the opposite side of the Chamber, I acknowledge the presence of the Leader of the Opposition and Deputy Leader and all the Members of Parliament. I want to acknowledge and welcome as well the Heads of various Government Departments and Corporations especially the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

I humbly acknowledge the dignity of Samoa, His Highness, O Le Ao o le Malo and his Good Lady, the Member of Council of Deputies and His Good Lady, respects of *Aiga ma o latou Tama o Tama ma Aiga, Tumua ma Pule, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga i le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti*. I acknowledge the never ending prayers of the servants of the Lord whilst the blessings for Samoa.

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The Chief Justice and Judiciary and lastly I humbly greet the respects of my Constituency of Aana Alofi No.3.

Mr Speaker I will now try to voice a few queries in relation to the Budget tabled within the House this morning. Mr Speaker I want to speak upon parts of our Budget that I have noted not only for this year, but for the past four or five years of this Parliamentary term.

First, I believe that there are a lot of major developments carried out by the Government for improvement but there are areas that still need further upgrade. As an example Mr Speaker anyone that visits our country comes through our airport which is in fairly good condition as well as the roads and the town area with the new buildings. There is great improvement also to the schools in villages. Although I have noticed that these developments and how they are used are not thorough. This is why I believe that the Government and the public should look at developing these areas. An example, most school buildings have been renewed and upgraded but there is still a lack of resources for teachers to carry out their work. I believe our teachers are now earning good pay although we still have to look into improving the training and services especially to improve learning standards for our children.

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As noted from the examination results last year, there were some students who completed year 13 and progressed to University. From my village of Satapuala, for the past five years of this Parliamentary Term, only twenty to twenty five students were able to get into University and college. And from that twenty five only about two or three were able to complete the programs and graduate. After the consultation with families, it was noted that students start off at school being impoverished. They do not participate in school activities in primary and secondary allowing them to graduate. Although most of these children want to go to school there is limited financial funds for families to take them to schools, they only attend one semester or one year...

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member I will give the opportunity to the Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture. I call on the Member Afioga Magele Mauiliu.

**Afioga Hon Magele Mauiliu (Minister of Education, Sports and Culture):** Mr Speaker I move with respect to clarify a few matters as mentioned by the Member. Perhaps the Member remembers that it has now been three years since the Government and the Ministry emphasized that education does not only involve teachers, it includes everyone, parents and families, pastors and school committees. This is the phrase emphasized because the education of a child cannot be complete without the support of family especially parents. It is easy to take them to school and to tell them, 'do your school work.' Although there is a major role that ought to be played by parents after school to encourage their children to do their school work or study. It is not a task that can be easily resolved; I have noted that the country is starting to follow the initiative by Government and the Ministry of Education. Therefore I humbly ask that we all work together to improve this sector. There are programs that have been implemented in rural communities

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such as the literacy week which enables the parents to read together with their children and improve reading skills. The statement made by the Member is accurate that children should start learning from a young age also most children at secondary level are illiterate. The Ministry is now overlooking methods together with the support of some companies like, SSAB, BSL and others which are aware of the issue, they also benefit from this development if children improve.

We have seen the many programs implemented. I thank the Members of Parliament who have been involved with the literacy week and some may have noted last year there were only Heads of Private organizations and High Commissioners who participated in these programs in rural areas. It is the initiative of Government that education is emphasized. This means that everyone is given an opportunity to go to school. The Government together with its partners has allocated financial assistance to pay for school fees. At the moment school fees have been paid for students starting from Year 1 to Year 11, soon it will proceed to the next level.

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The Government has started looking into improving preschool education to ensure that teachers have the necessary skills to educate and review the salary so that development in all areas of education as well as the support from the public and Members of the House correlate. I am grateful that some Members are involved with the work of their respective school Committees nonetheless our work is carried out together, it cannot be done hastily, it has been two years since anyone has graduated from University, because....

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a point of order....

**MR SPEAKER:** Let us wait until the response of the Hon Minister is completed.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** I am surprised that the Hon Minister has been given time to respond considering the minutes.

**MR SPEAKER:** I ask for your patience. There is still an opportunity that will be given, I call on the Hon Minister.

**Afioga Hon Magele Mauiliu:** Thank you Mr Speaker. You did give others earlier opportunities. During the speech given by Susuga Papalii you gave Members the opportunity for interruptions which made the Members speech almost an hour.

The Government has started with implementing ways that will improve education such as paying for school fees. It has been two years since anyone has graduated from our University since the change from Diploma to Degree. I am certain that by December this year, some of these students will be graduating with this degree. It is the initiative of Government that pre-school teachers also undertake degrees to improve education standards and increase their pay. As for the issue mentioned by the Member on education, we are currently revising ideas perhaps in the next ten years when we are still blessed with good health we will see the difference. As for now I strongly recommend

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that we work together if you have time for our literacy week, come read a book to our children, we also have our cultural expedition next week, come and dance and be reminded of your culture, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member, the clarification given by the Hon Minister of Education is clear. I recommend the Member for Aana Alofi No. 3 move onto the next Ministry.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:** Thank you Mr Speaker, concerning our hospital. Our new hospital is outstanding with the various improvements on equipment and facilities. There is an issue affecting families which was also voiced within the House on the waiting hours to get a doctor to examine a patient. A humble request with the improved state of the hospital, I recommend that our doctors and staff service also be improved.

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Mr Speaker, this is the same request towards the Samoa Water Authority and the Electric Power Corporation to improve services especially for the future development of the country. The Hon Prime Minister has stated that he hopes that by 2017 we will be powered by renewable energy.

I believe that the hope is not to have renewable energy but to have affordable electricity. I hope by the time we get 100% renewable energy, the price will still remain the same. I humbly request that this be considered to improve services, but also so that prices are decreased especially in relation to the protection of our environment.

Mr Speaker there is another area I want to comment on. In the records from the Bureau of Statistics and the Economic Output from the Treasury, there are 23,000 workers with paid employment compared to the 180,000 of the population. So for example, in a family of 9, there will be only 1 worker. We have been independent for 53 years. I am proud of the many developments that our country has accomplished compared to other small and developing countries. As I said, within a family of 9 there is only 1 worker that provides for the family; school fees, electricity bills and other necessities. That is the reality we are faced with. It is difficult to stretch one person's wages to accommodate the family. Even though there have been a lot of Government developments but families still do not benefit from such areas.

A humble request is for Government to make this a priority, to create more employment opportunities and increase remuneration packages. This will greatly assist families if more people have jobs.

For the Ministry of Labour, 40% of the \$6million is allocated for employee salaries. For the Scientific Research Organization, 50% is allocated to salaries.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, has an estimated allocation of \$10-\$11million and \$8million is given for employee. It seems that 80% of the funds allocated are given for employee salaries.

This is one of the reasons why Mr Speaker the work is difficult to implement projects because there are many....

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**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member I will give the opportunity to the Deputy Prime Minister.

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo (Deputy Prime Minister):** Mr Speaker thank you for the opportunity. The speech given by the Member is quite interesting although there are reminders that must be made and areas that need to be clarified further.

Nonetheless we ought to remember that not only people do work on plantations but they also receive remittances from families overseas. This has greatly assisted the economic status of several families. The comment made on the percentages for salaries within Ministries is also accurate on funds allocated for its personnel because Ministries also have many outputs.

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The Ministry of Labour is the Government agency that collaborates with the private sector. Most of our promotional programs are mainly focused on developments within the country assisting manufacturers and also business owners within the private sector. This is where work employment is created.

These are the areas that should be made known for understanding, if we look at it, this area is progressing. There is also the tourism sector which is one area the Government is continuously developing which has provided a lot of employment opportunities with more hotels being built. I am not sure if you are aware but there is another big hotel that will be opening soon at Moataa; Taumeasina, this is one place that will generate more employment opportunities. This is a clarification on the matter of employment as mentioned by the Member. The Government has already taken measures thus there is a need for employees that will help generate such developments. This is an explanation on the matter questioned, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well thank you. The Member for Aana Alofi in saving your time I will give the opportunity to the Hon Minister of Natural Resources and Environment.

**Tofa Hon Faamoetaulua Lealaiauloto Ulaitino Faale Tumaalii (Minister of Natural Resources and Environment):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. It is not my intention to interrupt the speech given by the Member although I just want to clarify a matter. Perhaps the increase within the Budget is based on salaries of employees. This does not mean that there is an increase because they are paid through contract positions which might be the reason why the number of public servants remain the same. This means that the percentage of people is more than what was mentioned. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member to continue.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker with respect in saving the time of the Member, I want to recommend the Deputy Prime Minister to read the report from ILO, it states everything to do....

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**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** Mr Speaker I have already read the report, this is the reason why I have brought it and this is where my speech is based.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Does this mean that this is wrong? Is the Government wrong....?

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** This is exactly the reason why I clarified the matter.

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** The matter that I am trying to recommend are the numbers stated by the Member, the statistics.

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**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** Mr Speaker the issue stated by the Leader of Opposition differs from what I clarified for the Member. I was speaking on the 23,000 public servants; I was reminding the Member that there are many people who work on their plantations. This is included under the areas of agriculture farming.

**MR SPEAKER:** I recommend that you return the book to Lefau. The clarification given by the Deputy Prime Minister is now understood. I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neiote Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker it is important that I take the floor as well. The number stated is the registered number of those who are paying their NPF, they are paying their PAYE. The National Provident Fund and Inland Revenue have a difficult task on finding those who are yet to register, most businesses are not upfront with paying their NPF and are not registered. This means that there are a lot of employees that are not registered. There are a lot of people in the country who are hiding, they are only found in the records when they pass away.

**MR SPEAKER:** I strongly believe the clarification made by the Deputy Prime Minister together with the assistance of the Hon Prime Minister is now understood. I appease the Members. It is not permitted within our Standing Orders to move a point of order to another Member only to the Member taking the floor. I want to remind the Leader of Opposition of this matter to save the time of the Member currently speaking.

I call on the Member for Aana Alofi No. 3.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. There is truth on the matter about some people who are not paying taxes. This is one area that should be reviewed, perhaps there are other ways in which financial funds can be collected which I believe will assist with some developments of Government.

I will respond to the matter mentioned by the Hon Minister on contracts. The statistics I mentioned are recorded here. If the appropriation for personnel salaries and contract positions, 80% of the Ministries appropriation will be

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used with only 20% of the Appropriation left to fund the outputs. It is a concern Mr Speaker perhaps that this has occurred due to the lack of resources since there are many employees. I humbly request that we ensure that resources are available to carry out the work. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment is a huge Department, not only they do receive funds from Government but they also receive large grants and aid from overseas to implement projects, costing an estimated 8-10 million each year. The main concern within this area is improvement and there is no ill will against the work, I just want to remind the Ministry to do its work well so that they can implement projects within Constituencies....

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**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member I will give the opportunity to the interruption by the Hon Minister of Natural Resources and Environment.

**Tofa Hon Faamoetaulua Lealaiauloto Ulaitino Faale Tumaalii:** Mr Speaker, a point of clarification. The funds from overseas that are given for projects do not include the appropriation for personnel. The conditions of the project are adhered to and the funds are allocated accordingly. The Government is strict on following through with the projects which are a major investment for Samoa. It is true that there are a lot of funds given for projects undertaken by the Ministry; it does not mean that it includes the salaries for the employees.

The employees are paid by the Government; the funds given are allocated only towards the projects that are implemented. It ensures that everything goes according to plan. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well thank you....

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I will set aside the speech by the Member since we have now arrived at our usual morning recess. I will give the Member the opportunity to conclude when we return from recess.

I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly be set aside for its usual morning recess.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside for its usual recess at 10:45am until 11:27am.*

**MR SPEAKER:** I announce that the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly have now resumed.

I am confident that Members have found strength with the tea provided during our break this morning. It is the sole purpose of the office that we are able to carry forward with our work with new found strength. I praise the Lord for His guidance and blessings given to the Members to continue with

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our work. Before recess this morning the Member for Aana Alofi No. 3 was speaking. I call on the Member to continue.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:**  
Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I also want to thank the Chair and the Office of the Clerk for the refreshments provided for the Members and Heads of Government Ministries present here this morning. I also want to thank the Chair for this opportunity given to continue my speech. It is my intention that matters be reviewed for further improvement especially the expenditure.

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An example Mr Speaker, the Ministry of Environment has more than \$8million allocated to personnel. A quarter of a million of this is allocated to the salary of the Chief Executive and Assistant Chief Executives; there are about thirteen to fourteen Divisions. This is a lot of money and the main concern is that the employees are given opportunities and the Government should consider the execution of the work outputs.

Mr Speaker I now come to the area of sports. I am grateful to the Government for the upgrading of our sports facilities which I strongly believe is one important development for the future of Samoa. As stated in the past Proceedings there is a lot of financial assistance given for sports. There are opportunities and contracts available for our children which will not only assist their families but also give them the work and sponsorship. It is quite unfortunate Mr Speaker that we are not using our sports facilities at Tuanaimato. A lot of the Government funds were spent on building these facilities, and it has not been used for five to ten years now. I humbly request that we initiate sports events which will put these facilities to use.

An example is our baseball field. Most of those who play this sport in America and Japan are paid a minimum of a million annually. We are not able to get this benefit because we are not developing this sport and others within the country. I humbly request the Government to further develop these sports. The facilities are good and perhaps the only area that should be considered is the equipment which can be arranged with the Sports Association. Perhaps there are not enough coaches and local competitions to develop this area. I strongly believe that this is one area where the country will benefit with high returns if we invest.

Mr Speaker I now wish to speak on some of the major developments of Government seen last year with the incentive to minimize spending and increase profits. I am saddened with what is stated within the Budget in relation to the Fiame Mataafa and Tuiatua Buildings, these are new buildings.

These buildings were built so Government could earn from it, although it seems as stated within the Budget that nearly a million is spent on maintenance. It will mean more Government spending with difficulty serving loan payments. Is it possible to review this matter, to implement a strategy to minimize expenses and costs towards maintenance work?

For instance the Government has plans for our renewable energy. Has there been an energy audit carried out for these buildings? I believe it will save a lot of electricity if we convert to energy efficient equipment to be used within the Buildings. It will save Government spending which will be beneficial for future development.

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Mr Speaker I now wish to address this to the Chairperson of the Finance and Expenditure Committee. The Report does not detail the Government loans. Also has the Committee been able to foresee annual repayments for the next twenty, ten years. The reason for asking Mr Speaker is based on the way payments are done over the past years with an estimate of \$50 million debt repayments. Although this year it has increased to \$71 million, but there are still a lot of debts that are yet to be paid. Most of the debts made....

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**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** Mr Speaker...

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member, I will give the opportunity to the Chairperson of the Committee.

**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I do not want to interrupt the Member but I move with respect to answer the query on loan estimates. Mr Speaker if you look at our Fiscal Strategic Statement it states our loans from 2011- 2015. This is a response on the matter pertaining to external debts, is this right? It also states the percentage of GDP within these years. Thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member....

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. The clarification is now understood on part of the question replied to by the Chairperson. Therefore what are the Government commitments for the next ten years on expenses allocated to repay the debts? Also are debts categorized under different sections? There is the Asian Development Bank, World Bank, China and other Organizations who have given us financial aids for our developments.

The reason for asking Mr Speaker about the matter is important so that the House is able to see the interest paid whether it will be increased to \$3million? Or \$20 million next year or will it decrease? It is important that we know where funds are allocated and to which developments in the country.

Mr Speaker I can see in the Samoan Committee Report, it is stated within the Budget that \$45 million was allocated in the past year and the upcoming year for the Public Commission. Personally I think the allocation for the Board of Directors is too much money for just three people. Correct me if I am wrong because I have noted that it is not a daily task but the Government has still allocated \$5 million to this in the past year and now the upcoming year. This is my understanding on the matter....

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Member speaking; I will give the opportunity to one of the members of the Finance and Expenditure Committee.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** I do not wish to interrupt the speech of the Member perhaps this is one area that has been wrongly noted which is now been taken into account by the Committee. The total of \$5million is

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allocated for the Commonwealth Games. Unfortunately it was an error. There is still the total amount of \$5 million but it not allocated towards the Board as mentioned by the Member. The sum allocated to the Board to carry out its work is \$60,000 but the \$5 million is now allocated for the Commonwealth Games.

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**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Chairperson....

**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** Thank you Mr Speaker, a member of the Committee has already responded. This is the correction that I voiced earlier which are mistakes seen in the translation from English to Samoan. Since the Member is reading the Samoan copy but it is the English copy that is right. We will be able to put all these corrections in the report once a Supplementary is tabled so that Members will understand the matter. With respect.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker the Member rarely speaks in Samoan because he mainly speaks in English. This means that he did read the English copy and he is aware that what he is stating is wrong. I am glad he is sitting beside a Member of the Committee. You should have consulted and resolved the matter yourselves although mentioning the matter just portrays your foolishness.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Member....

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:** I apologize to the Chairperson especially the Hon Prime Minister, we were only given Samoan copies during the time of the Budget address. We have yet to see an English copy. If the Finance and Expenditure Committee has received an English copy then great. If we also had been given English copies perhaps....

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I am not sure why the Member has not yet received an English copy because we are not withholding it. A Member should be vigilant of what is happening hence he should also go find his own copy which I believe you will find. If you were to go and find kava, you go and search until you find it, this portrays your determination and if you want something you go find it. I believe the reason why you have mentioned this issue is based on the fact that you want to find a mistake to talk about this morning.

**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** Mr Speaker...

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**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Chairperson.

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**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** Thank you for the opportunity. In all due respect I just want to assist the Member. The Report was already available at the time the English and Samoan translation of the Budget was tabled. It is the fault of the Member that he did not want to find out where he could get an English copy. With respect.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** Mr Speaker a point of order. I mentioned this morning that we have been looking for English copies of the report; the Officers of Parliament are witnesses. I have been asking every Member for an English copy but no one has received a copy.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoui:** Mr Speaker it only takes the Member three minutes to go and get a copy from the Ministry of Finance since I always see you hiking towards Tafaigata. If you are able to go all the way to Tafaigata then why can you not walk to the Ministry that is much closer?

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on Afioga Toeolesulusulu Schuster, you have five more minutes.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:** Mr Speaker I apologize. If \$5million is now allocated to the Commonwealth Youth Games, is the money to replace these funds for the Commission coming from somewhere else? This is a major concern because as stated by the Committee \$60,000 is allocated for only three people on a part time basis. Is it appropriate for only three people to have \$20,000 each? Mr Speaker I know their work is important but still I ask that this matter be reconsidered.

Another issue Mr Speaker I heard through the clarification given by the Hon Prime Minister and Minister of Finance last year and again this year that several Ministries will increase their employees salaries or rebase. Most of the Ministries within the country have increased the service fees but it seems the revenue has decreased. Why has the revenue dropped when most of the Ministries have implemented 40% to 100% increase in services fees and why has the Budget for these Ministries not increased.

Mr Speaker I want to conclude on a vote of thanks to the Chair for the opportunity. I want to thank the Ministry for preparing our Budget. The concern and recommendations made were in consideration for the well being of Samoa. Even though this Constituency has yet to receive any upgrade on its access roads I am grateful that some have already been blessed with roads this Parliamentary Term. I will let the Hon Minister decide, we are in need of roads especially at Satuimalufilufi, at the moment it is still not tar sealed. This road is mainly used by the Secondary School and also by the Ministry of Police and Prisons and the Samoa Water Authority for their work.

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I humbly request as well seawalls to protect our coastal shoreline. This is a result to the changes of tide patterns starting from Fasitootai, Vailuutai, Faleatiu and Satapuala. I am grateful that the work at Satuimalufilufi has completed, nonetheless I humbly ask that development be reviewed and if a letter is needed then I am happy together with the Constituency to write one to your office.

These are some of the concerns and requests of this Constituency, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well thank you the Member for Aana Alofi No.3. I call on the Deputy Speaker.

**Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA (Palauli West):** I take this opportunity to thank the Chair for the opportunity given to the Member for Palauli West to speak on the 2015/2016 Budget.

Firstly I want to acknowledge the Speaker for conducting our Proceedings. I want to acknowledge the Hon Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Cabinet Ministers.

I also want to welcome the Leader of the Opposition and Deputy Leader and all Members of Parliament present here this morning.

I want to acknowledge the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Office as well as the Heads of various Government Ministries and Corporations here today.

I also take this opportunity to acknowledge His Highness, O Le Ao o le Malo and his Good Lady, the respects of Samoa from its High Chiefs to our young ones. I want to thank the services and prayers of several church leaders for blessings upon this country.

I cannot forget my Constituency of Palauli West in all its honorary salutations. I thank you all for your support during my five years representing our Constituency in Parliament. As our usual sayings go “a duty that has support is the one that is achieved”. I am confident that all of Palauli West be blessed with good health. I acknowledge the Minister of the Congregational Christian Church of Samoa and the Elder of the Methodist Church in Salafai West and all other theological leaders within the Constituency. I thank you all for your prayers and support given to this Member to participate in the Parliamentary duties as I was chosen.

Mr Speaker the objective of my Maiden Speech on our Budget in 2011 was, “look back with gratitude, walk forward with faith.” This will also be the subject of my final speech for the last Budget of this Parliamentary term. I want to recall all the duties fulfilled for the last five years.

Mr Speaker I thoroughly read the opinions voiced in the 2011 Budget Proceedings not only with my Maiden Speech but all of the Sittings. I voiced at the time an opinion in relation to the issue of debts. I asked the Hon Prime Minister and Government then to make many loans with smaller interest because we all know that we are close to a time of change for Samoa.

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Although a lot of Members objected to this idea, saying that we were too dependent on loans. I responded by telling Members if you do not want to loan then ask for assistance that will develop your Constituencies. Nonetheless we have reached another new year and have witnessed the many changes with our economy. Our Budget this year has dramatically changed, I have witnessed a major change between the previous Estimates to the one we have this last Parliamentary term. I have heard some of the opinions mentioned and I also believe that we cannot have an increase in salaries because this is the final Budget.

I thank the Hon Minister of Finance. You have not satisfied what the heart wants but what the Government can achieve. I believe it is the dream of every public servant that we are given a bonus since we are nearing Elections. However you have not thought of this but rather the benefit of Samoa.

If I look back on some of the developments completed for this year, I am grateful for our hospitals. When I became a Member for Palauli West the hospital at Motootua was not finished but now it is completed. The hospital at Sataua has also been completed, upgrades has started at Tuasivi and overall the service has improved. Our hospitals do not miss doctor visits; facilities have improved together with the nurses services. The main roads and access roads have also improved over the years. Even though the Government does not have much, developments are still taken into account.

Even our schools have greatly improved, I thank the Minister and the Ministry, and there are so many new ideas and learning methods now provided for our children. This development has reached Savaii; there are schools that have been given the opportunity to learn Mathematics and Colleges to learn Science. I also want to thank the Hon Minister for assisting with our teachers. There are certain matters where my opinion differs from what the Hon Minister has implemented. What are these differences? I will not say because I am satisfied with the work and progress made by the Ministry for the last five years.

I am satisfied with the changes made in upgrading the Diploma level to a Degree. I am thankful for your consideration of our teachers. It takes years for a person with a Diploma to achieve the starting rate of a person who graduates with a Degree. This is very accurate, I appreciate your insight together with the Executive.

Thank you Hon Minister of Agriculture, I see in the Committees Report that there are now three different types of taro grown here. I thank the Ministry as well since this is the backbone of the economy of Samoa. I heard that there were six taro containers taken to Savaii. I have noted that the number is increasing maybe by the next two months it will be ten containers.

I also want to thank the Hon Minister of Environment, I am aware that your duty is not an easy one, there are so many Constituencies requesting seawalls. I thank you for the wise distribution; you did not favor others but have thought of the development for the whole of Samoa.

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The Hon Minister of Public Enterprises, I was in Salelologa on Monday drinking tea. I saw that the majority of the market of the upper floor has been closed off. There is only a small space available to be used for small eateries. I was hoping if there was a development that could use this space which is being laid to waste. There are a lot of meetings in Savaii, why not use this space as a Convention Centre, renovate it and have air-con since it is located in Salelologa, it would be great if...

**MR SPEAKER:** I appease the Deputy Speaker. I will give the opportunity to the Hon Minister of Public Enterprise.

**Afioga Hon Lautafi Fio Selafi Purcell (Minister of Public Enterprise):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. It is not my intention to interrupt the speech by the Member for Salafai. I take the floor in response to the issue concerning the market at Salelologa, which is under my Ministry with the Samoa Land Corporation. Perhaps people from Salafai think alike since the request made by the Member is exactly what I was thinking of doing.

At the moment the Ministry is making plans and maybe by next month work will start on rebuilding the second floor at the market. This space can be used as a conference center and where Government offices can be located in Salafai rather than renting or leasing from other people. This is the announcement in relation to the matter.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Hon Minister of Public Enterprise.  
I call on the Deputy Speaker.

**Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA:** I want to thank the Hon Minister for the clarification hence I am confident that the development and use of the second storey space will be profitable.

I now come to the requests of this Constituency. The plans for the development of Palauli West from the Government is now with me, titled Coastal Infrastructure Management Plan. I am grateful for these future plans set for this Constituency.

Other developments mentioned within the Report that have been completed is the seawall construction at Siutu in the village of Salailua, water supply has improved for consumption in Salailua. Now we are awaiting seawall construction for Salailua and Satuiatua situated within the Gagaemalae district. I have noted major changes in the coastal shoreline of these two villages maybe by the next five years when a cyclone strikes it will damage the main road.

I entrust to the Hon Minister the plan for access roads which I have mentioned several times. I am grateful that some of our roads have been upgraded.

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Hon Minister responsible for the Shipping Corporation, a humble request from the people of Savaii. Nearly every day we travel between the two islands this includes the business owners from Savaii. Every time we travel on a plane we get what is called air points. Is it possible that we implement this idea so that those who usually travel to Savaii are awarded sea points? There are some business owners who travel from Mulifanua to Salelologa three times a week. Is it time for us to initiate sea points? If you have a lot of sea points you can get a free trip. This is just a humble recommendation to the Hon Minister and Shipping Corporation; it will also be beneficial for those living in Upolu, you can get hundred points for one trip and when you get two hundred you will get a free trip. This is just a suggestion...

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on one of the members for the Finance and Expenditure Committee.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Mr Speaker the idea given by the Deputy Speaker is quite interesting. I can see that the Hon Minister is trying to think of a method in approaching the idea mentioned by the Member. Therefore Hon Minister I recommend that people be given certificates, this should be given after three trips. Thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** I thought you were going to voice a sound recommendation but it is not at all good.

I call on the Hon Minister responsible for the Shipping Corporation.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Mati Tuigamala Enokati Posala:** Thank you for the opportunity. I believe this is an important recommendation but this Corporation is under Government which is different from how airlines work.

Those companies earn a lot of profit which is the reason why they implement such methods. The Government believes in co-operation and equality between business owners and the public, they do not seek to gain more money but to ensure good services. The incentive of Government is to make sure that everyone is treated equally by looking at the issue in general and not to make more money. Thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well. I call on the Deputy Speaker.

**Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA:** Mr Speaker I have already thanked the Government for the improvement on services provided but that was just a suggestion. It is the decision of the Hon Minister and Corporation whether they will accept my idea, if not I am still grateful.

The Hon Minister of Tourism, I am thankful that you have responded with the new road through Taga. I am also grateful that you have looked into the development of tourism in our country. The truth is, there are more tourists that travel to Savaii than Upolu. There is not a single trip that I return on from Savaii where I do not see tourists on the boat. There are so many tourists that come and visit the tourist attractions in Savaii.

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The only problem now is the poor road conditions which have made it difficult for the tourists to go site seeing. However I appreciate that the Hon Minister has taken this request into account.

Our humble request to the Samoa Water Authority, the village of Gagaemalae is still faced with the problem of saline water. A request that I voiced in previous Sittings was to stop using the water catchment at Sagone, hence it is too saline. The water catchments at Fogatuli, Fogasavaii and Faiaai is good, the water from Sagone has affected supply of water used by the hospital and the people. If we are able to get water from the two catchment areas around Sagone for Gagaemalae at Satuiatua I am confident my Constituency will be satisfied. It was my first request to Government that the water supply from Sagone be turned off and not be used any more since it is saline....

**MR SPEAKER:** I call on the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Mati Tuigamala Enokati Posala:** Mr Speaker since the Member has mentioned Sagone, the road at Sagone has been completed and will be opened next week.

One of the plans set is to shift the borehole at Sagone inland. It is true that this was a request made on the water being saline.

Nonetheless we cannot really stop the program already initiated by the Water Authority; the location for the borehole has already been noted. This work is believed to be carried out next month so it will go together with the road upgrades now undertaken. With respect, perhaps this will alleviate the issue.

**MR SPEAKER:** I thank the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.

**Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA:** Thank you for the clarification, I am well aware my Constituency understands that your Ministry is not ignoring our requests. I am just worried, because there is only one aquifer from the coast all the way inland. I hope that the Ministry will ensure that our Constituency gets good quality water.

Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, I salute you all for the work for the past five years and addressing the challenges faced. The Hon Minister has already spoken on the matters concerning elections, which we will be hearing about tomorrow. There have been major challenges therefore I am grateful for all the hard work and developments done for this Constituency.

Hon Minister of Health I will not forget you, I am thankful that you have given us six beds even though we requested twenty. If you look at it, twenty beds cannot fit within the hospital at Foyalalo. We were hoping that together with the six beds we would get two wheelchairs, but we are thankful we were given two old wheelchairs, now in use at the moment. I thank you for our hospital at Foyalalo, the building for nurses has been completed, and there are now rooms for male and female nurses.

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We also have a new doctor coming into the hospital from the Philippines. I have spoken to him and he speaks Samoan very well.

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Hon Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, I thank you for the hard work. There is a problem faced by our Constituency concerning our cocoa and coconut trees. If we do cultivate the land, our plantations are not that big. There is the Samoan belief that two sacks of taro can buy a new car. The Ministry is aware that if we do not work we will be poor. Nonetheless this is the understanding of some of the farmers that only two sacks of taro can buy a car. Therefore once that is done they will leave the lands and will only cultivate it when they need food. Therefore I am thankful for the implementation of the stimulus package which was discussed on Monday, with the participation of Asau. Those who requested this package are now receiving it, I received mine on Monday, this week we will be given instructions on how to plant cocoa, coconut and also coffee. This program is difficult to be accepted by the people of my Constituency since it takes a long time for it to earn a profit. They do not have the patience but it is a development that can benefit our future which I believe takes four to five years for coffee, cocoa and coconut. There is a complication with the Cyclone Recovery scheme.

We have consulted with the Ministry and we know that we have to wait for financial assistance. Although once it is received it undergoes another process. I hope that we will soon receive this assistance.

Mr Speaker I want to conclude with the Report of the Committee. I want to thank the Chairperson and Members for the detail consideration of the Budget tabled in the House. I have read our Appropriation Bill together with the Committee work which I believe is not an easy task. I thank you all for the Report tabled for the understanding of the House.

There is a Parliamentary Committee for Education, I thank you for the visits to schools in our Constituency. Thank you for the report that was given to me, I will try my best to adhere to what is needed to be done. It is true that we do not all have to rely on the Ministry of Education to do everything; it is the duty of Members and school committees to seek assistance as well. I have already contacted some overseas organizations and they are happy to assist in building our Science Laboratory as recommended in the Committees report.

Mr Speaker these are some of the comments of the Constituency of Palauli West on our Budget. I hope that we will be able to acquire more developments before the end of this Parliamentary term.

I pray that blessings be upon His Highness, O Le Ao o le Malo and his Good Lady, the Member for Council of Deputies and all of Samoa. I thank my Constituency for the support, whatever misgivings this Member has performed for the past five years I pray that you forgive. I have tried my best with the wisdom bestowed upon me by our Heavenly Father.

May the Lord bless the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Leader of Opposition and all Members of the House, the respectable Mr Speaker in conducting our Parliaments Proceedings.

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I pray blessings upon the Clerk and Deputy Clerk and Office of the Legislative Assembly; I thank you all for the hard work in serving this Parliament. Also to the Heads of the various Government Ministries present

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with us today, thank you. God bless our country and may the Member for Palauli West prosper, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you for the speech Deputy Speaker also the Member for Palauli West. I also thank you for deliberating on the Budget. I will now give the opportunity to the opposite side of the House, the Member for Siumu; I can see that you want to take the floor. Is that a no, the Member for Aana Alofi No.1, Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi you pressed the mic just now. It is a no; well I will then give the opportunity to the Member of this side the Member for Falealili.

I call on the Member for Siumu. Are you ready or not....? As I have already mentioned the Chair has great respect for Members to have their say since this is the last year of this Parliamentary term. It would not be respectable for the Chair to convince Members to take the floor especially with Samoa as witness; this is a time to thank your Constituencies and their support. I call on one of the Members for Falealili, Tofa Tusa Misi Tupuola.

**Tofa TUSA MISI TUPUOLA (Falealili):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity given to this Constituency. I believe there will come a time when my fellow Member for Falealili, the Hon Minister Afioga Tuiloma Lameko will speak, hence I will start with our Constituency.

I will not address the honorifics of Parliament since most of the Members have addressed them. These salutations will remain until forever; Mr Speaker, the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Leader of the Opposition and Deputy, the respectable Associate Ministers and all Members of the Parliament of Samoa.

The dignity of Samoa is portrayed through its Parliament in all its honorary salutations. I thank all of Samoa for their support especially to this Parliament for the past five years. I thank you all for your prayers which have seen to the completion for most of our work from 2011 to this year this XV Parliamentary Term.

Mr Speaker before I speak on our Budget I first want to take this opportunity to acknowledge my Constituency. I thank my Constituency Falealili for the support given to me and the Hon Minister by electing us to represent the two seats of our Constituency.

I applaud the support of our spiritual leaders and your prayers for our Constituency. We have reached the last Appropriation Estimates for this Term in good health. I am certain the Constituency has heard that the Constituency will be divided, this is true. Nonetheless this will not mean that we will change how we came to be and our honorary salutations will still remain. Even if we will be divided in electoral votes, I strongly believe that we are from one family; we will do everything together by the Lords grace and His guidance.

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A prayer to my Constituency of Falealili, you can do anything and know everything by not forgetting our service to the Lord and country through the Human Rights Protection Party from the many years of service.

Mr Speaker, I will not speak too long on our Budget. I want to thank the Hon Minister of Finance for preparing the Budget. It is quite an outstanding

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Budget therefore I am grateful for your consideration of the welfare of Samoa Hon Minister and the Leader of the country. I take note of the estimated revenue in the Budget. This reminds me of a saying mentioned not long ago “be cautious of what we desire.” This means that we should all work together for the benefit of Samoa, not to ask for more financial aid from overseas.

Mr Speaker I supported the previous Budget mainly in relation to overseas loans. The reason for agreeing on this provision was for our country to get financial aid to develop our country, not only through development but for public servants in various fields of expertise.

I mentioned last year Mr Speaker that by this year we should have at least a billion perhaps this has been recorded. This was a humble request made to the Hon Minister, nonetheless the opinion of the Hon Minister and Leader of the country has changed, let us be considerate.

I pray that we all work together with integrity so that our Government will benefit and our service be acknowledged.

Mr Speaker and Members of Parliament I think there are three types of needs for any human being in their lifetime. I am not sure if I am right but these are the three needs that I have heard; instant needs which are executed instantly, planned needs which are planned out and executed and delayed needs which can be delayed and executed in another year. These are the categories. I am grateful to the Hon Minister of Finance for clarifying the Budget; my Constituency and I clearly understand now. They have been talking about the Budget tabled, especially for everyone to work together. We should be vigilant.

Mr Speaker this Constituency will only speak briefly on the Budget, we are just grateful. I thank the Hon Prime Minister for his contribution especially for the past five years of this Term; I rarely ask for anything for my Constituency. The reason being your Cabinet has assisted this Constituency on matters that needed to be done. I want to thank the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure for his kindness even though there are still many requests yet to be realized. I am grateful for your discretion. I know that Falealili is not the only Constituency and there are several others. I thank you for your courage and consideration of the developments for this Constituency.

I want to thank the Hon Minister of Education. Our school is now completed especially our sports field for this Parliamentary Term. A humble request to the Hon Minister, I pray that you consider other schools within Falealili that need upgrades. This includes the schools in Satalo and Sapunaoa.

A prayer in consideration of Falealili, we need male teachers for some of the schools especially those teaching Samoan language. This is an important subject especially for our young children. I know the Parliament and the Ministry is aware that the language used by children differs from the Samoan language.

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This is why it is important that we consider this matter, if we have enough teachers in rural areas especially Falealili to teach Samoan, it will help improve our language.

Regarding our colleges, there are a lot of things that need to be improved for our College. There is a need for a sports field for the College at Poutasi, Falealili. A humble request what will be a method to ensure that it happens soon? The Parliament ought to know that the College was relocated inland

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due to the tsunami recovery efforts. Also I humbly ask for assistance in attaining a new bus that can take students to schools especially from Sapoe to the other side which is quite far. I am worried of the safety of the children who are travelling at such a long distance. We have already made a request and now we just need the support of the Hon Minister and Ministry.

Hon Minister of Environment, thank you. I know you have a lot of work to do even though we have yet to realize the seawall project for Matautu Falealili. We were affected by the tsunami and we still have not seen any work done on our coastal shores. If this request cannot be granted this year I pray to the next Minister for this portfolio to put this on their list, a seawall for Matautu. There has been damage due to the rising sea level which has affected our private drinking source when the main supply is off.

There are several other matters Mr Speaker to other Ministers but I want to thank them all for the work carried out.

I want to thank the Hon Minister of Health, Hon Minister of Agriculture and the Hon Minister of Women, Community and Social Development. I thank the Hon Minister for the work done for our women and village councils.

There are programs undertaken by the Ministry in rural areas that have benefitted many villages through women committees and councils.

I thank all the Chief Executives of the Government Ministries and organizations for fulfilling your duties. I pray that the Lord bless you all with good health to carry out our work and serve the country especially for the future development of this country.

I pray that blessings be upon the Clerk and Deputy and the Office for the work done. I apologize for any misconduct on my part and our work. I believe that this is the final speech for this Constituency; I pray that the Government developments be carried out accordingly. Bless our Parliament and the Chair, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** I thank the Member for the speech, I believe this is the appreciation speech from Falealili. I believe this is not the end of our deliberations on the Budget. Perhaps there might be enough time for two or three more Members to take the floor. The opportunity is given to a Member who wishes to speak now.

I believe Members are finding it hard to take the floor this time of day, therefore I believe it is best that we adjourn for today. I will give Members the opportunity to consider that in the coming Monday the Chair will pick Members who will speak. I will give Members this half an hour and tomorrow to prepare your speeches on the Budget.

### **Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015 & Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – debate on second reading**

I believe we have reached the conclusion of our work for today. I have great respect for the Members; this is the reason why I cannot just pick anyone to take the floor by force. The voicing of opinions is done through consent. Since today is our first day, we will tread slowly. The objective is to consider our opinions carefully hence the country listening, since this is the last Budget for this Parliamentary Term.

I take this opportunity to thank you all for today, to Members who spoke upon the Bill also for the recommendations and queries voiced, thank you once again.

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Last but not least our Constituencies, thank you for the support and electing us as representatives of our country to make important decisions for Samoa.

We will now adjourn our Proceedings for today and come back on Monday to continue with our Orders as per our usual practice.

Before adjournment I call on the Member for Falelatai and Samatau to conclude our Proceedings with a prayer.

***Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly adjourned at 12:39pm until 9:00am Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015.***