

THURSDAY, 22ND JANUARY 2015

Mr Speaker took the Chair at 9.00am.

Prayers.

MR SPEAKER: I believe we have all gathered here this fine morning for our proceedings. We have reached another new day through the merciful guidance of our Heavenly Father. Therefore I greet all members of Parliament thank you for your endurance and patience. I thank you all for your participation yesterday.

I want to acknowledge the support of our country Samoa thank you for your prayers. Your support has aided us in carrying out our roles and responsibilities especially the Leader of our country.

We have come to the start of another new day hence I announce that our scheduled sitting now commence and pray that God's blessings be upon each and everyone today.

PRESENTATION OF SELECT COMMITTEE REPORTS

Clerk read out the list of Select Committee Reports pursuant to Standing Orders 51.

1. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 192, Report of the Justice, Police & Prisons Committee on P.P. 2014/2015 No. 12, Report of the Samoa Law Reform Commission on the National Heritage of Samoa –Report 13/13.

NOTICE OF GOVERNMENT MOTIONS – HON PRIME MINISTER RE- APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Prime Minister to move a motion on the Re-appointment of Member of the Council of Deputies.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI (Prime Minister): Mr Speaker I move a motion, *That the Assembly pursuant to Clause 25 (4) of the Constitution of the Independent State of Samoa re-appoint Afioga Tuimalealiifano Vaaletoa Sualauvi II as the Member of Council of Deputies.*

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Notice of Government Motions – Hon Prime Minister Re- Appointment of Members of the Council of Deputies

Mr Speaker this nomination was made in relation to the motion voiced by Government and was endorsed by Parliament by agreeing on the appointment. We must recall that there must be three candidates elected for this position nevertheless the other two can be elected later by Parliament. This is an important role because when the Head of State is absent or not in the country he shall represent and take the responsibilities of the Head of State. Mr Speaker that is the motion.

Seconded by Leader of Opposition, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Revenue, Minister of Women, Community and Social Development, Minister of Communications and Information Technology and the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Motion approved.

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2014/2015
– resumption debate on second reading – Day 3**

MR SPEAKER: Before adjournment of proceedings yesterday the Member for Faleata West had already concluded with his speech. We are all aware of the schedule that was set down yesterday.

I call on one of the Members for Salega Afioga Afualo Wood Uti Salele the floor is now open for your speech this morning.

Afioga AFUALO WOOD UTI SALELE (Salega): Firstly I want to thank the Speaker for the opportunity.

We have awakened to another new day; portrayed through God's loving kindness upon Samoan through its Parliament. It is true that God is a God of Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace and our Creator which is the testament in the Bible.

Mr Speaker I take this opportunity to greet the Prime Minister and the Cabinet especially the Associate Ministers. I also greet the Leader of Opposition and Deputy Leader, Members of Opposition and all present Members today.

I acknowledge the support of the Chief Justice and Judiciary. I also acknowledge the Heads of various Government Ministries and the Media officials. Least I will not forget the support of Samoa especially His Highness O Le Ao o le Malo and his Good Lady the Member of Council of Deputies and his Good Lady. Samoa is a country that has been chosen therefore I simply cannot reiterate its respect. I also acknowledge the spiritual Leaders throughout the country, I thank you for your prayers may the Lord bless you all.

Mr Speaker I want to acknowledge the support of my constituency, Salega and all its honorary salutations.

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Mr Speaker I will not forget the services of the churches within the Salega constituency nevertheless the prayers offered by my close fellow Member Tapuai. This includes the Prime Minister and Cabinet the Opposition especially the Speaker and Parliament.

I now take this opportunity to comment on the Bill under deliberation including the findings of the Expenditure Committee. I extend appreciation to the Prime Minister who is also the Minister of Finance for the thorough administration and wise distribution on this small budget allocation regardless, we urge this allocation meet the many requests submitted particularly those that we prioritize for the development of the country.

I take this opportunity to make recommendations to the Ministry of Police and Prisons. I will be frank for this is the final year. I wish to get a response to the post I requested for my constituency. As simple as you state the decision is mine and the Deputy Speaker's when really it is yours. The constituency of Salega is already prepared as most of the residents are living in the center of Salega. If Salailua is lucky enough to build a development this will be unacceptable as this area involves dense scrubs and bush all the way to Taga pardon everyone here. Whilst the settlements from Gagaemalae to Salega now have easier access to the readily available resources and services around here ad in particular a resort to solving unexpected differences between the youth and families. Although this constituency is safeguarded under the authority of the *Alii ma Faipule*. This is why I asked considering this is the final year for this Parliamentary term.

I convey gratitude to the Minister especially the Prime Minister and Cabinet for setting up a prison especially in connection to the recent news on escaped convicts and settlers now moving inland.

I want to thank the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure. I wish to restate a word of thanks despite the repeated requests we make nevertheless, I commend you for the upgraded road of Sagone that is nearing completion. I believe the improvement of this road has probably taken up two to three Parliamentary terms. In further, we have a few areas that still require this assistance for Faiaai, Fogatuli, Samata I Uta and Fagafau.

I also plead for upgraded roads towards Savaii West College which locates some of government assets like school buildings and Sagone's rugby field. This matter should be taken care of before school starts. Also I want to point out that the water in Sagone contains saline. As requested before, since roads are now undertaken, it would be appropriate to take the water pump inland for easier catchment of water into the reservoir where good water is found for the village's consumption. Because at the current, all water supply is connected from the pipes of Sagone to Fogasavaii, Fogatuli and Samata. Similar problem for saline water is connected to Gagaemalae which situates a hospital. On a thank you note, I wish to congratulate you for the improvement work at the Matautu wharf. Thank you also Prime Minister; what is the latest with our port at Asau, I see no work has been done to it. I think of this wharf as a sleeping giant that needs to be awakened.

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These areas must be considered for improvement especially to sustain and maintain Savaii. It seems that most of the developments are all centered here. As a key objective by the Political Party which speaks for us all, what is good for Upolu is also good for Savaii. Such developments should be considered carefully especially if it benefits the country as a whole. Well done to all the works achieved this year, it is not easy, you have it in planning.

According to the works carried out by the Ministry of Environment, assistance is still required, most of the high land areas do not need sea walls and perhaps the problem stems from heavy rain and deforestation. This is an issue encountered by most villages; Minister for Environment those with water reservoirs, such as Fogatuli. There was a request submitted, that has taken two weeks since the water has not been running. I asked the Water Authority and they responded that they cannot release water to families near it in case the water was polluted. I will leave it unto you for inspection especially places where there are water pumps; most of these areas are now residential. Nevertheless we should draw up a boundary plan along this area to avoid anymore settlements by planting more trees. This is a mere recommendation on the issue considering safe drinking water for villages and all of Samoa.

The Minister of Education, Sports and Culture, I thank you for all the preparations you have undertaken this year. I know some of the changes have been challenging but it must be done. I thank the Ministry because this year marks the third year since Savaii West became a College. Perhaps as the Deputy Speaker speaks, based on statutory provisions the Principal for Palauli West will be transferred to Savaii West and the Principal for Savaii West will go to Palauli. This is a huge initiative that the Deputy Speaker disagrees on rather this is called good governance achieved by a number of former Palauli West Members. Most of the good students are from Salega nonetheless, they now have a college. It's been three years since we had a college and in terms of students succeeding to University level, the first year was not fruitful, we had one in the second year, last year we had two and true as the saying, it gets better over time, therefore our children should be ambitious to study since government has granted this request to establish a college. I am confident that more students are now willing to graduate. I am aware that plans have been made to up skill our teachers although we still need more teachers. This is the same request of the Alii ma Faipule of other villages.

In regards to the recent examination, I have thought if it would be possible to divide the Ministry, separate the primary level from the secondary and college. This is similar undertaking for the management at the University level. Perhaps this is one remedy to solving the many issues engaged by the huge Ministry, and therefore enables the implementation of policies we aim to distribute for a better future for the country.

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The low pass in Mathematics for Years 13 level had the solution through the responses we conducted in seminars. As a personal concern, if majority of these students did not meet the mark, these students will still try out at the University when the mark they got was low. I am not sure whether the University has looked into this. It will be a problem if only 1/3 passed. This problem will tremendously affect their choices....

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Member, I will give the opportunity to the Minister of Education, Sports and Culture. I call on the Hon Minister. Afioga Hon Magele Mauiliu (Minister of Education, Sports and Culture): Thank you for the opportunity, I also want to thank the Member for the queries voiced. The University is prepared and maybe later I will elaborate further on the changes implemented. I have already contacted them and the results acquired were positive, the University is satisfied with this outcome. They are also prepared to respond to these exams. That is the explanation with respect.

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

Afioga AFUALO WOOD UTI SALELE: Thank you. The Minister has explained it clearly rather the matter I was trying to highlight is Mathematics which is the main subject that is a required for Science and Business major courses. As prerequisite if a student does not meet Grade 4 their Commerce and Science majors will also be affected. Nevertheless I am thankful if the University has looked into this in detail.

On to examination complaints, have you noticed this your honor because as an exam drafter by observation, only three hours duration is given to sit an exam which is the same for University level however the entire curriculum is being assessed. Isn't it time to revisit the time duration for exams to properly verify the preparations of... such includes the competency of students to rightfully determine the level of aptitude they hold as majority hold a God given gift. It is fitting to fully prepare students' capacity to meet the required standard. This is the reason I believe.....

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

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker perhaps the Minister has clarified the solution of acquiring more teachers to resolve this issue. This is a huge initiative accorded formally by the Minister. In further, majority of us were teachers as well. I also taught an Audit class and have prepared examination papers.

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From this, I found that the issue stems from the teachers; with poor teachers we also have poor students. This is the how the origination of marks re-grading came about to hide the incompetency of schools and teachers. Thus, this new undertaking by the Minister and the Ministry has been a tremendous experience together with the assistance from the University. That is clarification on this matter but I feel that there are a number of requests required by the constituency including education, the Hon Minister has also discussed it.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you, I call on the Member to continue with his speech.

Afioga AFUALO WOOD UTI SALELE: I thank the Prime Minister for the clarification. This is not what I meant. This is an initiative that should have been carried out long ago. Nevertheless I am grateful for the improvements for the benefit of our children.

On to the Hon Minister of Health I trust that most speakers have skipped you given that you take up most of our time. But I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for the completion of the \$100 million Building at Motootua. I just returned from Savaii after I visited Tuasivi and the current constructed hospital at Sataua. I thank the government for its decision to build the hospital in the centre of the constituency for easier access by the residents. The matter of considering the location at Tuasivi, since there are plans to set up a town in Salelologa why not use Tuasivi where government land is located? We can allocate a few more millions to upgrade the hospital at Salelologa and the many other offices there because most of the patients travelling from Savaii to Motootua pass away on the way. So not only do families mourn but the expense is quite high comprising of the mortuary....

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Member I will give the opportunity for the clarification of the Minister of Health. I call on the Minister of Health. Afioga Hon Tuitama Talalelei Tuitama (Minister of Health): Mr Speaker since we have less questions to respond to, I have respected all addressing concerns. As such I have three hours to give my replies and it is best to respond now to the Member to save me time.

The query about the upgrading of Tuasivi hospital, well we are working on plans and awaiting funds from SWAP to upgrade the hospital. I mentioned yesterday the separation of A & E and Outpatient; this will be the same change that will be implemented at the Tuasivi Hospital. This new phrase will also mean building a bigger place for dialysis. During my visit there last Friday I noticed there are other areas that need improvement hence will make good use of this chance to visit these concerns. There is need for new beds as the rooms are too hot and the Ministry has also recommended an isolated room for patients with contagious diseases. Improvement work is also needed for the patient wards.

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The request made by the Member on the relocation of the hospital is a brilliant idea although this will be a time consuming process. Also it was not long ago since we had dialysis at Tuasivi with a total of six beds used for dialysis patients. Therefore patients do not have to travel all the way to Motootua three times a week for dialysis as we now have a unit at Tuasivi that was not easy to build.

We have made improvements to the mortuary at Tuasivi taking into account quality and hygiene standards. The relocation of the hospital is a difficult task hence I do not think Salelologa is appropriate because of plans for a new hospital at Satupaitea. The land has already been cleared together with the consent of the constituency. The construction of the hospital is delayed based on funds that are yet to be received. Also if successful the travel distance between Salelologa and Satupaitea will take only ten minutes. This is why it is inappropriate to build a hospital in Salelologa however there is a still space between Satupaitea and Tuasivi.

Mr Speaker this is a clarification on the issues raised by the Member in case his time is up, but these are the plans in relation to upgrading of Tuasivi and a hospital at Satupaitea, with respect.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. I believe the clarification given is now understood perhaps this issue will not be reiterated by other Members. I call on one of the Members for Salega, Afioga Afualo Wood Utu Salele.

Afioga AFUALO WOOD UTU SALELE: Thank you Mr Speaker and Hon Minister for the thorough clarification nevertheless as advised, we shall leave our recommendations for your consideration especially now that government has set plans for the town in Salelologa. We can still use the district hospital at Tuasivi and Satupaitea. In view of Tuasivi when I stood there, it would also be eye catching to spot a hotel of three, four or five star to make good use of the white sandy beach and create more job opportunities.

Hon Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Members have clearly discussed the objectives right from the beginning of this Parliamentary term until this year to meet the target of 20% to the GDP which is the Ministry's contribution through agricultural products to the economy of the country. Therefore I ask whether this objective has been reached. Although it is true we have received a positive feedback from our agricultural products and export goods as well as the establishment of the slaughter house. However there is slight concern with the Finance Committee Report on the differences between the Ministry and the Statistics Office on the number of livestock in Samoa. It is important that the data collected is accurate and similar to that of the Statistics Office. The recommendation given suggests that the correct data is the one given by the Minister considering the Prime Minister and Cabinets who implement statutory provisions to ensure that these problems will not recur. Despite thank you for your work this year.

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The Minister for Women Community and Social Development I will be brief, I humbly request that you consider remunerations for our Pulenuu and tamaitai. There were a few who requested assistance on their pay. Nevertheless the Minister has authority on this matter. If our Estimates cannot comply with these standards then it is not a problem. If the Budget cannot address these issues then it is quite alright. The requests nevertheless are dependent on the availability of funds within the country.

The intellect we now have with technology, I wanted to ask the Minister if the internet has reached all schools because Savaii has already received computers which are a benefit to the children.

Lastly the Member Lautafi I know your post is new hence you are well aware of this issue, also the Minister of Finance and Prime Minister on the use of lands at Malifa where a new hotel is being constructed. It is a wise decision of the Samoa Land to lease the land to business owners. This will ensure that revenue earned from them contributes to our economy.

Mr Speaker I would like to conclude with a question to the Prime Minister who is also the Minister of Tourism in relation to the Casino. There are already laws by which alcohol is being consumed hence we have a Committee who is in charge....but it seems as broadcasted that alcohol is being sold until 4 in the morning. My question on the matter, is the casino allowed to operate past the allowed time? I have asked this based on the concerns of the public on rules imposed on the tourists visiting our country. I am thankful for the development at Lamana perhaps most people have not yet been there but it has been a source of employment to the people living in the area. I believe the initiative to set up such developments in Savaii have greatly assisted our country.

Mr Speaker those are a few concerns from the Member of Salega on the Budget. I pray that the Lord bless the Prime Minister and Cabinet with its endeavors this year especially those who taking part in Parliament's decision making. Mr Speaker I pray that your guidance procure peace within the House together with the blessings of the Lord on proceedings carried out. Bless Samoa and its support.

I want to thank the Prime Minister and Cabinet for re electing the Member of Council of Deputies to recommence his duties. The respectable Tuiaana as the saying goes those who walk in the light of the Lord are blessed and at peace. God bless and bless our proceedings.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. I believe we have now come to the end of the Member for Salega speech. I thank you Afualo for the concerns raised this morning.

Tofa MOTUOPUAA UIFAGASA AISOLI VAAI (Vaisigano No.2): Mr Speaker....

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MR SPEAKER: Do you want to speak Member?

Tofa MOTUOPUAA UIFAGASA AISOLI VAAI: Yes Mr Speaker I want to speak briefly on the matter.

MR SPEAKER: With all due respect, the only people left are the twins which are the Leader of Opposition and Deputy for your side. Nevertheless I will give you the opportunity hence you are a representative of Savaii. I call on the Member for Vaisigano No.2.

Tofa MOTUOPUAA UIFAGASA AISOLI VAAI: Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I will be brief, I was not planning on taking the floor hence most of the concerns stated are all issues that were already mentioned over the past four years.

First I want to acknowledge the Chair and respectable Members of this Parliament. I humbly greet the Heads of various government departments also the Clerk and the Legislative Assembly office. I wanted to take the floor to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year also to all of Samoa and my constituency of Vaisigano No.2.

I would like to take this opportunity to voice opinion to the Ministry of Education in accordance with Mathematics examination results which was a huge disappointment. The Chief Executive of the Ministry has already responded that the exams were assessed by lecturers based on school curriculum. Nevertheless I wish to elaborate further on the matter and how saddened I am about these results.

Mr Speaker in the past when we were in school at Samoa College those who took Accounting were looked down upon. Most colleges like Samoa College took Science. Majority of the students who pursued studies in Fiji took Arts comprising of 99%. This is why I humbly ask the Minister that the Ministry review these academics in order....

Afioga Hon Magele Mauiliu: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Member speaking; I will give the opportunity to the Minister of Education, Sports and Culture. I call on the Minister.

Afioga Hon Magele Mauiliu: I want to ask the Member whether he wants the Ministry to go back to how it used to be to enhance student marks. This is the exact reason why students taking Mathematics and Science fail today. Therefore I ask the Member do you want us to reuse this method. Thank you.

Tofa MOTUOPUAA UIFAGASA AISOLI VAAI: Mr Speaker if it is swelling then it should be taken to the hospital for it to be treated.

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MR SPEAKER: No, the Member I humbly ask that you elaborate on a way to resolve this problem.

Tofa MOTUOPUAA UIFAGASA AISOLI VAAI: Mr Speaker I just suggested that the Minister review the matter and find the problem that has contributed to the failure of examination results.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. Thank you.

Tofa MOTUOPUAA UIFAGASA AISOLI VAAI: As I mentioned earlier my speech is quite brief.

MR SPEAKER: I now call on the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker this is quite an important matter also the Minister has already clarified the methods that will be used to review this issue. What other review do you need? The Minister clarified the matter based on the review that has already been carried out. It is important that the public be informed, in case they might think the Minister is not doing anything. Although they should thank the Minister because once he noted these problems he sorted out a way to amend it. This is why I advice the Member not to repeat the same issues as they are already being sorted.

Tofa MOTUOPUAA UIFAGASA AISOLI VAAI: Mr Speaker I only mentioned this so that they are assessed thoroughly.

Nevertheless I will move onto next matter, although it was just a mere recommendation to the Minister of Education, Sports and Culture.

The Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure it seems your Ministry is the one mostly requested by the Members. As I mentioned in our Budget deliberations last year, this constituency has been requesting for fixed access road for nine years now. I have written a lot of requests from this constituency that perhaps your desk is piled up with letters. Anyways this is just a reminder thus we also have a hospital nearing completion. I also request for new street lights fixed on the road side as there is none at the moment.

The Minister of Health I will not speak further about your Ministry as we always meet at the Golf course and discuss these developments. I want to thank the Hon Minister and Government for the close completion of the new hospital at Sataua. One of the Members mentioned that my village used to be the center of all commercial activities like the hospital, school, post office and a police station. I ask the Hon Minister if possible to re-establish a Post office and College in the constituency.

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This concludes my speech, I want to thank the Chair for the opportunity and the Government for your patience, bless our proceedings today, thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. The Member for Vaisigano No.2 has spoken and I hope the Lord assist us with finishing constructing our hospital. I call on the Member one of the oldest candidate of the House, the Deputy Leader of Opposition Member for Falealupo to take the floor.

Afioga Hon AEAU PENIAMINA LEVAISEETA (Falealupo): Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I humbly greet the respectable Members of Parliament this morning in all its honorary salutations. I acknowledge the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet also the Leader of Opposition and all Members of Parliament. I take this opportunity to greet His Highness the Head of State and Good Lady, the Member for Council of Deputies and his Good Lady, our theological leaders for your prayers upon this country.

I also take this opportunity to greet the Heads of various government Ministries present here today. I acknowledge the various organizations being the right hand man for the Prime Minister and Cabinet through implementing our developments. Thank you for assisting this constituency and its welfare. Appreciation to the Leader of Parliament for the Supplementary Estimates of \$10million we have before us today. The country has heard your initiatives, Members have also made comments reference to the Bill. And in truth, we the Opposition only wish to show our support towards the completed projects and developments. It is our role to bring advice and recommendations to the government.

The plans for this year until June have been made clear. Mr Speaker I am grateful for the developments around the country. Thank you for the new hospital at Motootua and the one in my constituency at Itu Asau. I request the Minister of Health if possible to upgrade the necessities at Sataua hospital given the distance. The one at Tuasivi is closer to Apia than the one in my constituency. Various forms of health services such as maternity ward, dental and surgery ward should be made available to the public. Those are the requests to the Hon Minister for better healthcare.

I thought that the Malae o Tiafau hold significant value whereby decision making of the country is made. Also it is significant because it holds the History of our forefathers and the first Government. And whoever wants to become a Parliamentarian must show contribution by coming to Mulinu'u where Parliament began; I disagree with the relocation to Vaitele. Vaitele is an industrial zone. Let us stay here as it bears significance to our people.

I now take the opportunity to elaborate on our Supplementary Appropriation tabled to assist with the development of our constituencies. Mr Speaker this constituency is quite far as it is the location of Falealupo. The Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure this constituency is dependent upon your trust with the work carried out under your authority.

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I am grateful to the Hon Minister of Health and Education Sports and Culture and other Ministers. As for our constituency at the far end of Salafai there are minimal problems that are normal. I am thankful for the site visit program carried out to the Pulenuu. We are very blessed with the water, electricity and roads at our constituency.

The Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure our road at Avata reaching the center of the village which I believe is a mile long, the home of one of the Ministers Afioga Hon Tuisugaletaua Sofara Aveau is tar sealed. We were surprised at how good the quality of the tar is on this road. As I stated earlier Falealupo does not criticize but this is just a comment. I request that the company who did this road be found. I humbly ask whether it would be possible to upgrade our roads. Our people are reliant on these roads access to earn a living. There are three access roads at Falealupo Uta connected to the main road. We have one on the coast which is eight to nine miles inland. It is not in good condition hence a request for its improvements although I wish it was a regular road.

In relation to water and electricity, we share water with our neighbors. However, there are times when the water pressure is weak and everybody else is affected.

I humbly ask the Hon Minister for his consideration on this matter, we are not complaining but we will await your decision on the concern. Mr Speaker as I stated earlier we only have a few requests on areas that need improvement for this constituency.

We are awaiting plans for a reservation area in our constituency from the Hon Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and it would be fruitful if this area is developed.

Mr Speaker these are a few requests from this constituency thank you Members for your submissions especially the work for the Parliament. Bless our proceedings, Soifua.

MR SPEAKER: I thank the Member for Falealupo who is also the Deputy Leader of Opposition for the speech. I thank you for your participation and comments regarding our deliberations today.

I now call on the Leader of Opposition this is your opportunity to speak.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: I move with respect in the presence of the Speaker and Members of the House, we have already sung praises to the Lord above for his love and kindness. We have witnessed the rain depicting that we are never forsaken by our Heavenly Father.

The dignity of the Maota has been addressed also the support of our country Samoa, in all its honorary salutations.

Mr Speaker I will be brief with my clarification. As the matter has already been deliberated thoroughly hence most of the issues have been clarified by Members of Opposition.

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The majority of the issues raised by Members are related to the development of constituencies. Therefore I am certain the task of distributing assistance is not easy.

Mr Speaker I wish to extend gratitude to the nomination made this morning. The re electing of the Member of Council of Deputies, Afioga Tuiaana Tuimalealiifano, has three titles, *Tauaana*, *Taulagi* and *Aiga Sa-Tunumafono*. I am thankful and am in support this re election. May the Lord bless you with the fulfillment of your duties.

Mr Speaker I should say that I am contented with the Supplementary Appropriation not only as a member of the Finance Committee but also as Leader of the Opposition. Why? The budget is accumulated from revenue earned in Samoa. The revenue collected means there are no more debts, and the funds that make up the Budget are saved expenses. Why? This is based on good management and planning of funds which is vital to implement government projects and developments. This is the reason why I am so happy, if the well management of funding continues then this means that there are no more large scale loans. The truth is we do not need such loans. We have foreign partners that are willing to donate us grants.

An example is the wharf at Matautu, this side has been constantly requesting government to make it a priority, to develop and improve it, but I am thankful...

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

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Leader of Opposition. I call on the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: This is the reason why we always interrupt. The speech of the Member for Falealupo was quite coherent. We did not interrupt but if a Member takes the floor and speaks false and outrageous accusations we then take the stand.

It takes three years for the requests submitted to Japan to be approved. And you are well aware of this matter considering that you were a part of this Cabinet. It is true that it takes three years to receive submissions before an approval is granted by Japan. A project must be completed before another one takes place. If a project takes three to four years to be completed, Japan cannot invest in another unless it is finished.

Do you remember these terms Palusalue? I appointed you as a Minister in the Parliamentary term 2001-2006. We implemented a lot of developments. I am surprised by your explanations, why? I do not know what you were doing when you were in Cabinet as denoted in your speech which states that you do not understand these development processes. How could a person who was part of Cabinet turn a blind side over these matters including the Bills?

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I know the Member is aware that for every tabling bill in Parliament, the first approval comes from the Cabinet. I am in awe with his comment, do you mean to say that the Prime Minister makes sole decision on this Bill? A Bill cannot be tabled in Parliament without a Cabinet Directive. I am astonished at the Member and his understanding of these processes which he was part of.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker, point of order to the clarification made by the Prime Minister.

MR SPEAKER: The clarification is nearly finished and the opportunity will be given to you later.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: We cannot just submit a request to Japan and expect a reply the same day. It is a lengthy process by the Aid Coordination Committee, the program planning takes days before it can be submitted. Now what is happening? Whenever a matter is raised Afioga Palusalue Faapo II stands up, he is now doing what we recommended. It is quite immature which is not how government makes its decisions. Do not blame the government for everything that happens. It takes times to evaluate and reach a consensus. We have an established Committee called the Cabinet Development Committee formed to endorse these matters. Look at how long it has taken you to clear your opinion, I did not interrupt your co leader as he was direct with his comments. Although once you gave a different matter we will interrupt therefore I ask that you be straight to the point.

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

Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II: Mr Speaker firstly a point of order, I am not being sly towards the Prime Minister. The Bill deliberated has also surprised your party which means they were not aware of the Bill. Nevertheless I completely understand the process whereby Bills are reviewed first by Cabinet.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Leader of Opposition a clarification will be given to your query.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker does this mean that the Cabinet is surprised?

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: They were surprised.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Who were the ones surprised? Who?

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Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: I will not tell you their names.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: How can a former Minister not know what he did when he was in Cabinet? I am aware that you take the floor to speak on every issue, if he was our Leader, we would have terminated him right? He is weak.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: This is exactly what you have been doing; you should have been terminated long ago. And that is the truth. Also you do not have any right to our party.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: I will just say this to you, every time you will take the floor...

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Member, Palusalue....

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: I will move a point of order and through this your party will lose its trust in you. I know they do not converse with you about it but I am sure they....

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: I am aware Hon Prime Minister that your party is in disorder because of you.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Member but I will give you the opportunity later.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: If you have lied within the House and outside then there is no reason to stop you. I am just noting the lies you already made. Also yesterday I saw that you were on TV1 and in the newspaper but when I stood up to address your schemes you said you did not speak on the matter. Now look at what this portrays? Everyone is aware of it. What is the meaning of your leadership? This is called manipulation.

MR SPEAKER: I appease the Prime Minister and his clarifications.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: I will not respond to such accusation because the public is well aware.

MR SPEAKER: Yes the Leader of Opposition, I recommend that both of you consider your actions and words carefully hence the Members of the House are in your presence. I call on the Member.

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Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: The Hon Prime Minister is always on TV and radio night and day, day and night. Nevertheless I will not respond as Samoa is the judge. Whether I have been manipulative or what it is all up to them.

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker a point of order. The government does not own the TV. Why does the TV come to the government? The reason is based on the fact that plans carried out by Cabinet are all for the benefit of the country. There is another reason why they come given the two governing principles of good governance. In good governance are the two terms accountability and transparency. Accountability is reporting to the country what is being done and second is for the country to understand the developments carried out. This is the main reason why the TV stations come to us, I also see you at every opening and government event hence you are well aware of the work done. I do not understand why you say such negative things. This is the sole reason why the TV and media come to me. Do you see any cameras on you, all four cameras are facing me, I do not mean to say that the TV favors me.

Nevertheless why would they not favor me when they can get all the information that they want from the government side? If they do not get any information for their news, they are fired. This is why they are facing me and not you. Bless our proceedings.

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Leader of Opposition.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker the TV stations are afraid. We have already passed the Bill. They are afraid because once they do not take a comment from Tuilaepa, they will not get paid. Mr Speaker I want to apologize to the Member because it was not my intention and I am not trying to be difficult. The truth Prime Minister is that what we say now is significant to what you say on TV and radio. This does not mean that only the TV and media are interested but the whole country is because they want to know and understand what your side is doing.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Leader of Opposition; I call on the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker I am not trying to find words from you. The comments about me needing words are not true. The terms by which I speak are decisions by this government; Cabinet and Party the Human Rights Protection Party, we all work together. How many developments have we accomplished?

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We are only getting complaints after complaints yet we are not making any mistake. How many? This is the reason why I always say that this party has achieved great accomplishments. This party does not do anything negative.

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Leader of Opposition.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker I am always attending the launching of these developments however, most of the time the Prime Minister is always lecturing me instead of focusing on the launching. The speech should be related to the development. This is why my party and I are hesitant on going, but since this is my duty as Leader to attend these occasions. So this morning, Tuilaepa I am not trying to be difficult but I only intend to assist you with your responsibilities.

MR SPEAKER: I appease the Leader of Opposition I call on the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neiote Sailele Malielegaoi: In case you have forgotten I was referring to matters raised on the TV, whereby I am on TV every night. There are a lot of responsibilities faced by this party also I follow through with the requests made by the Members. But when your party tells you what to do, they cannot find you. It seems the car has been accidentally given to you, it is only you riding on it without your party but it is a much bigger vehicle than the ones used by Ministers.

This is reason for taking the floor to clarify that I did not ask the TV to come here it was their choice. Also the media is a disturbance but once they mention people coming from overseas I see them as my children, if they do not get the interview they will be fired because they have no news to report. All the necessary news comes from the government. I recommend Ministers, Heads of various government Ministries and civil societies to adhere to the requests of the media so that they will not come to me all the time. This will stop the Leader of Opposition from complaining about me talking on TV all the time. Why does it matter when people come to see me? They are not coming to you but me. I always accept them even when I go home, when I am already asleep they come to my house and I am there to attend to their queries. As for you they cannot find you.

Mr Speaker this is just a matter of clarification not an issue of conflict.

MR SPEAKER: I apologize to the Leader of Opposition but I will give the opportunity to the Minister of Women, Community and Social Development.

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Tofa Hon Tolofuaivalelei Falemoe Leiataua (Minister of Women, Community and Social Development): Mr Speaker I pay high esteem to the Leader of Opposition but when he needs clarification I always have the need to justify it. The Leader of Opposition usually says that God is the judge of everything and that he is the first which is why I stood up. The Leader of Opposition has spoken that he is not manipulative but there is an elder Member who was affected by his scheme. I will not say who it is. When I spoke with him he told me, “I will never forgive him because when he went to carry out our campaign that I arranged, I told him to represent both of us from our constituency.” When he got sick he sleeps at our house and cared for my wife and children but after elections he got all the votes. This is what you call manipulation. This indicates that the Leader of Opposition is very unjust. With respect.

Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu (Gagaemauga No.2): Mr Speaker I just want to ask the Member, Are you talking about Afioga Tuiloma Lameko?

Tofa Hon Tolofuaivalelei Falemoe Leiataua: Well the matter depends on the Member but there will be a time when he will be scolded by the old man.

MR SPEAKER: I humbly ask the Leader of Opposition to direct all comments to the Budget Estimates. I call on the Member.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: I am not being tricky this is called playing with fire, anyway I will move on to the next issue. The cost of living is not cheap hence the country today is facing problems with the cost of electricity. As I mentioned earlier Mr Speaker this Budget is well planned together with the management of funds. Nevertheless I have a few issues I want to address to the Prime Minister. The allocated funds for you and the Associate Ministers nearly summed up to \$500,000. There is already an office for the Members here yet again more appropriation is being allocated. If the cost of the office space at the Plaza is added up it will come up to \$1 million. We already have offices and vehicles available for Ministers, whenever they want a new one they always get it without approved appropriation from the Ministry.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Leader of Opposition, I will give the opportunity to the Associate Minister of Finance, I call on the Member for Faasaleleaga No.4.

Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevaga (Faasaleleaga No.4): Mr Speaker, well taking with deep consideration the complaint by the Leader of Opposition, no for the sake of the Opposition Leader, we have our own offices here therefore, we have no other funds allotted for any new offices.

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As for the comment made about the \$1 million expenditure, no that is false, that is an unbelievable amount, with respect.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: I did not know....

MR SPEAKER: I appease the Member but I will give the opportunity to the Associate Minister since you have mentioned that a million has been spent to build the offices of these Members.

Tofa Tuisa Tasi Patea (Sagaga le Falefa): We have four Associate Ministers which means you are expected to receive four responses. The Prime Minister has already clarified this issue, as known we Associate Ministers need to be close to the offices of the respective Ministers we work with. This is why our offices are close to the Minister so we can support them in fulfilling our responsibilities. The truth is we do not want to stay in that building because the Member is spreading nonsense there....

MR SPEAKER: The opinion of the Member is now understood, I call on the Leader of Opposition.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker I would be cautious in saying such statement because the Building is for respectable Members of Parliament. They were officially elected into Parliament by their constituencies. Otherwise, the Member is speaking nonsense about it, the country is listening to proceedings.

I would like to restate the statement by the Member, the building is a place for decision-making of the country and where Bills are evaluated by Parliamentary Committees and not a place of idle nonsense. How can you say such excuse when millions have been spent on your office? The offices here are not even being used. If the Member just turns up to create nonsense then it is all him, his constituency is aware of his behavior. No nonsense is allowed here.

Tofa Tuisa Tasi Patea: I wish to modify my statement.

MR SPEAKER: A correction will now be given pardon the Member for Sagaga le Falefa. I call on the Member.

Tofa Tuisa Tasi Patea: The purpose of the building has been made known hence there are people that come there....

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker rumors are not factual, as the Prime Minister himself always says we do not bring rumors into the House only facts.

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Tofa Tuisa Tasi Patea: There are people like that whereas for us, we are close to the Minister because of the work that we do. There are also payments to these expenses and that is the truth.

MR SPEAKER: The matter is now understood, I recommend the Member to be wary of such statements, such behavior does not exist here lest the public is taking this falsely. If Members wish to converse amongst themselves that is fine but the matter should not go beyond our control. I ask the Leader of Opposition to carry on, your concern is now clear.

Tofa Hon Tuuu Anasii Leota: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Member for Siumu.

Tofa Hon Tuuu Anasii Leota: No one wishes to interrupt the clarification of the Member as I too am affected with the comment made towards this building. I am not sure what nonsense the Member is referring to; frequently we are here and no such thing exists around this place. I humbly advise the Leader of Opposition that if such behavior exists, then we must put a stop to it with respect.

MR SPEAKER: I advice Members not to take this issue seriously, I believe the matter is quite clear and understandable.

We have now reached our normal recess hour, I apologize to the Member for Alataua East that we will resume after morning tea.

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

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside for its usual recess at 10:47 until 11:21am.

MR SPEAKER: I announce that proceedings have now recommenced. I have a strong belief that we have renewed strength from our morning tea break. We should be careful with our health nowadays given the many diseases we have today. Our proceedings for today will carry on until 7pm this evening. I apologize for the food preparations we had earlier by Fepuleai and the staff, we tried our best to accommodate your needs.

Before recess the Leader of Opposition was deliberating various issues concerning the Ministry of the Prime Minister. I call on the Prime Minister.

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Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoui: Mr Speaker and respectable Members of the House, I believe we have been rejuvenated from our tea break this morning to carry on with our proceedings seeing the importance of your participation to the decision making of Samoa. We have gathered here to deliberate important matters for the development of our country. Our young generation is dependent on us and the decisions we make. Also we do not fulfill our duties not so we can be famous but we must heed our God given responsibility, we are his tools. Therefore we ought to use our talents wisely from God for the wellbeing of our people. We will be judged by our actions, let us fulfill our duties with courage and respect, and pray God for his guidance. If the Lord is with us I am confident that nothing will stand in our way and stop us from what we have to do. Therefore we should also thank him for his love and praise his name.

Mr Speaker before recess today the Leader of Opposition was speaking about the millions of money spent on Associate Ministers, I was waiting for this moment to correct this false accusation. These types of baseless comments are destructive, the Budget is quite understandable. This is the reason why the Bill is referred to a Committee because it involves Members from both the Opposition and the Government. The reason why Members are elected this way is to resolve any issues that may arise meaning that it should not be made hidden. This is reported back to the House if it does have any issues. As noted the comment made by the Member is a major one, therefore I will amend the comment since I am the Leader of Government and Minister of Finance.

It seems the accusation made is based on misinterpreted information. I have four Associate Ministers since I am now the Minister for Finance. I have already allocated the bulk of the work to them. This will enable me to have time for the country. If you visit my office Members will be amazed at how many people asking for my help even if I do not know them, but this is our people's ways. It feels that as soon as they see me, their problems are easily resolved. This is the reason why I need my Associate Ministers assistance most of the time. The Member for Aleipata Itupa i Lalo is the Associate Minister in charge of the Tourism industry. He is my right hand man who looks after accommodations for the delegates that attended the previous Conference. We had meetings everyday that meant no complaints during the conference. As for the controversy implemented by Fiji and other countries they did not believe we could host such event saying we do not have enough hotels. The truth is we do not have enough hotels it is our Samoan belief that led us to success. Do you know what happened? My right hand man had attended daily consultations with the tourism business owners he received a warning from these owners. They said that if they are not informed by June, they will carry on with their normal bookings declining opportunities for delegates.

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With continuous consultations, this was a major problem that was handled by the Associate Minister alone. As aware the tourism sector is a major earning for Samoa which amounted close to \$400 million, such is the leading sector setting an example to other future developments. The duty was not that significant which is why he is also in charge of foreign affairs relations. In fulfilling these responsibilities Members are given the chance to experience and get used to the work done by Government.

The Member for Sagaga le Falefa is my Associate Minister in Finance. Not only is he a lawyer but he also holds a degree in Commerce Business and Economics. I am dependent on him to oversee financial matters and attend international meetings when I am not available. I cannot attend every meeting since I also have to consider my time and health. It is important to share the workload; hence the work carried out by the Member is not easy.

As for the Member Lafaitale Leiatuaalesa some of his portfolios include the Central Bank of Samoa which covers all banks in the country and its legislations. One of the vital function placed by the Central Bank is monitoring financial transactions on foreign exchange reserves, so that our economic status is not at risk. If the process is neglected our economy will be at risk, this is not a small responsibility.

The Member Peseta Vaifou has a business intellect and is in charge when I am away in specific the business side. Mr Speaker this is one area the Government is aiming to improve by working together with the private sector. Why? Because they can create employment for our children, this is where the Cabinet and the HRPP Party have given their consent. It is not right for us not to walk the talk. This is the reason why the Government supports projects like road works, electricity etc. These infrastructural developments contribute to the improvement of roads so that farmers can work well. Also the transportation of produce from one side to another should be made easier. This means adding more jobs for road contractors as one of government targets is consulting with overseas countries for assistance so that we can create more jobs for our children. These include the consultation process carried out by Government to upgrading the wharf and airport so Samoa can be a traveling center through air and sea. These are some of the future objectives which may seem unobtainable; it is a vision in the sky. There is always a first step and what is the first step? It is to dream the dream.

I have elaborated this so that Parliament is aware of the bulk of work achieved by these four Associate Ministers. They support the work of the Ministers.

Mr Speaker with the accusation made, we have heard that it has reached a million and what do the people think? The Leader of Opposition has accused his own Associate Ministers with the mention of this used up amount. There are certain things we require such as car fuel for two of the Ministers at the allocated amount of \$5,000. I am not sure where the Leader of Opposition got this million from. The Ministers also need stationery as you cannot do any work without it.

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I recall a meeting I attended in 1991 where I was chosen by Hon Tofilau Eti as Minister of Tourism. This first meeting took place in Fiji; I believe we have some here who also attended that; it was chaired by a Minister in Fiji. Before we started I asked the Hon Minister if we had an agenda. No. Are there any pens we can use? No. Are there any papers? No. How about you provide us with some papers and pens to show that we are holding an official meeting for Ministers? Then we were given pens and papers. When we started I asked again what matter we were discussing? A thick book was given with instructions for us to discuss the future goals of tourism. It took me the entire night to read this book and none of the other Ministers read it. Then I asked who was responsible for writing these ridiculous recommendations? A man from Great Britain was paid for by the European Union to conduct a study on this meeting. These recommendations are just absurd; I want to reiterate the statement here about the appointment of the Board by the Executive. The Board cannot appoint an Executive but the Minister, this is to ensure fair distribution of positions within and around the Pacific, because Fiji might end up taking all these positions. I will tell you one thing that is mentioned here, the Board has the right to seek authority which should not be the case, it should be passed on to the Ministers for fair distribution of positions and appointments within the Pacific. The passing of the Budget is approved by the Board. I told Members that they should take this issue to their respective Cabinet as this sort of matter involves Cabinet decisions. Our meeting took only fifteen minutes as there was no reason to continue, if I had not requested for pens and papers we would not have been given any bearing in mind that this was an international meeting.

Mr Speaker such is the importance of these concerns to ensure that the Associate Ministers are given enough supplies and resources to do their job. As stated here general office supplies is \$8,075 including travelling costs. When we go on business trips, the travel cost is \$60,000 which should not exceed \$200,000. As for the statement made by the Member, he was exaggerating \$5,000, \$8,000, \$60,000 and another \$60,000 how much is that altogether? I will give Members the opportunity to add up, it does not even add up to \$150,000. As for the statement about millions and millions spent on these two Associate Ministers, Mr Speaker these types of comments can cause disorder in the House. This is why I often say to the Leader of Opposition, stop being deceitful because every time you do I will stand up to correct you. The statements we make in this House can spread easily, note that when the first speech was given by that side, the first thing that was mentioned was the Budget...

Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II: Mr Speaker with respect, I wish to know if the Minister has responded.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: I am almost done, our Budget...

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MR SPEAKER: The response will be given according to your query.

Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II: This is my concern lest you reply when you have not done yet with your speech.

MR SPEAKER: No, do not worry I am not yet done.

Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II: Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Do not be anxious you have all the time to raise your concerns.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: The first speech by that side affirmed that the budget was too small by just \$10 million which is the same comment reiterated by the Leader of Opposition. Our Budget is only \$8,254,000, if we look at the composition the total appropriation is \$10,790,305, and by reduction we have \$2,635,000 which is equivalent to \$8, 154,543. That is our current Budget under deliberation, in addition to it is our statutory allocation of \$100,000, the reason why this appropriation is inclusive is because this involves the dignity of Government earnings.

Before we adjourned last December, I gave you two whole months from December to January to read this Budget to get an insight before we have our sitting on the 19th that comes our sitting day you will never understand. How are we able to carry on our work when the Opposition Leader himself does not understand the Supplementary Appropriation Bill we are deliberating? It all started with one of your Members who first said \$10+ million when our Budget is only \$8.2 million. This is why I recommend that Members be specific of what they want to say rather than making misleading statements and be considerate as the public is listening. You also mentioned millions involving some of the Ministers when I have made corrections on that. This matter was reviewed by the Finance Expenditure Committee whereby you should have given them your comments rather than deceiving this House and the general public tuning in. That said, Palusalue, stop being deceitful and misleading because I will not tolerate it. This is the reason why the television crew is attracted here because only truthful information comes from within this House. As for your comments made most of it is misleading and incorrect. I call the Member to conclude his speech.

MR SPEAKER: I apologize to the Leader of Opposition I will give the opportunity to the Member for Alataua West. I call on the Member.

Afioga Lafaitale Patrick Leiataualesa (Alataua West): I will not elaborate further on this matter the Prime Minister has already given clarification.

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The comments made signify a negative side of things for the public making us look bad. The offices raised by the Opposition Leader are not new. We are stationed at the Development Bank or the Central Bank building which is an old building built by the government. But the statement by the Opposition Leader is not good. We are now getting the blame but let me ask, why has Saleaula resigned? The Member for Saleaula is one of the oldest Members of that side. I am not sure if you do not trust him or whether the Opposition is scared of Tapuai? With respect.

MR SPEAKER: I will give the first opportunity to the Chairman. I call on one of the Members for Individual Voters Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang.

Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang (Individual Voters): Thank you for the opportunity. Respectfully I wish to comment on the Member's statement regarding these offices he mentioned as I too have an office there. The statement seems to provide a metaphoric meaning to the term fire. The fire here is best described as a halo over the heads of Jesus' disciples. The bad fire is the one burnt inside of us that can turn us into a clash. It has been five years since I had an office there and never have I heard of such burning bush (tafugaafi) in that building. As such, I ask that this part of the statement be withdrawn from the Member's speech as it involves a figuratively speech/dual meaning. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. I call on the Member for Saleaula, because he was mentioned earlier.

Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu: It is true, as the saying goes, 'One person commits the act and the other is blamed for it.' I am not sure how I am supposed to address this issue. This is probably a real deceit. If a statement is made that I am afraid of Tapuai, well I should be because no one in this House is close to Tapuai Toese who talks with angels every day. This is what that side cannot do. Such is the clarification, but this is exactly what we call deceiving.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. Alataua is there any other comment on this matter?

Afioga Lafaitale Patrick Leiataualesa: Mr Speaker we cannot make inappropriate statements. For the information of the House, my cousin is married to Leva. His wife called me last night from New Zealand saying, "Lafaitale, has Levaopolo resigned from Tautua Samoa." With utmost respect.

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MR SPEAKER: I call on the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker I apologize to that side of the House, whatever misunderstanding let us put it aside. I appease Associate Members for your leniency; let the explanation I made bear sufficiency. I beg tolerance Associate Ministers, no one is perfect. Levaopolo, I also apologize for any disrespect; this is similar tone with our Ministers, they still hold on to bitterness. In the scriptures, we must bear forgiveness. Forgive us for our mistakes and we shall do the same to you, let us carry on with our proceedings.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. Perhaps the clarification made by the Prime Minister is now clearly understood together with the concerns of the Leader of Opposition. As for the clarification by the Chairman in relation to the comment made concerning our offices, we should be cautious of what we say. It does not matter if this is the normal manner of debates however, we should still be considerate. I ask Tuisa to remove the comment which is also inappropriate to the hearing of the public. Whatever exchanges we make we must pardon our wrong. I call on the Member for Sagaga le Falefa.

Tofa Tuisa Tasi Patea: Mr Speaker I move with utmost respect to clarify my comment. The fire I was talking about is the one mentioned in the Bible fire, soul and water. I beg tolerance but that is the explanation.

MR SPEAKER: The comment by the Member has been explained and it seems the meaning is similar to the one given by Papalii, it is the fire of the Holy Spirit. I call on the Leader of Opposition to continue with his speech.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: I thank you once again for the opportunity, the Prime Minister has spoken for more than half an hour, accusing me of being deceitful. If we look at his clarification on page 2-2, I shall read it for the sake of the country tuning in, \$476,806 is being allocated to fund the supporting work for the Minister of Finance's office together with two Associate Ministers who are not given any appropriation in this Main Estimates. Such words are therefore not mine, but the Prime Minister's.

MR SPEAKER: The matter is now understood, let us deliberate the issue. An explanation will now be given on the allocations. I call on the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker I only gave the explanation for Associate Ministers not myself as you are well aware, these trips also involves myself, I too must travel.

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Such were not complaints but I have rightfully made clear about the two Associate Ministers you commented about, you too have clarified it yourself. The statement I made are evidential and documented and some of these obligations solely involves myself. Hence it is my duty to travel and attend international conferences like the United Nations Forum where all nation leaders represent the voice of their people including the Pacific Forum.

With that explanation, the only difference here is that that I am now the Minister of Finance, and trips are processed through the Ministry of Finance. My other trips are different from these ones hence the main trips I must take are the financial-related ones involving the Ministers of Finance. The last meeting I took, I became their Chairperson. I should always attend these meetings involving the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and Asian Development Bank. In order to get to these conferences I do not take a gallon boat or a small airplane I must take the large aircrafts and return to Samoa as soon as possible. I strongly believe that you understand this matter. There was a time when I gave you all a paper to sign to see whether I should go or not, if you did not agree I would not go. Palusalua, do you remember that? I am surprised that you have taken the time to reiterate the issue but you already know it. I am only elaborating the issues raised concerning Associate Ministers the same with the papers considered by the Committee.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. I call on the Leader of Opposition.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUA FAAPO II: Mr Speaker I am not referring to trips. I am talking about the Associate Ministers' offices such as the one set up at the NPF Plaza. What amount was spent on it? Has the office been closed? I am not talking about Tafua and Lafaitale, that amounted to millions as queried by the Prime Minister.

MR SPEAKER: I will try and clarify the deliberating matter. I apologize Palusalua be patient, let me try and explain your concern....

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mind you if we are to discuss those matters then the renting cost for these offices will also be involved. Such rent for one Associate Minister Tuisa is \$15,468. As for others the rent is listed, the Plaza is different it is under the National Provident Fund, \$553,000. If we add up \$15,468 and \$553,000 the total will be \$69,000. The revenue earned by the Ministry comes from the National Provident Fund which is one of Governments enterprises. The funds are not being thrown into the sea. The Member is still in the past as you may recall offices for Ministers are not implemented every year. The two new Associate Ministers cannot be squeezed into that space, they have different offices. This is a clarification on the issue questioned, I recommend the Member to move on to another issue.

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MR SPEAKER: This is the exact explanation I am trying to make, I have been observant of your speech and it is not directed to the Ministry but to the Ministers. We are trying to clarify the million you mentioned earlier. Nevertheless you have also mentioned the \$400,000+ in the Budget, that is the whole Ministry. It has been clarified that only \$150,000 has been allocated to Associate Ministers. An overall explanation has been given by the Prime Minister. Is it clear now Palusalu? If you have any respect we must proceed our work...

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker it seems the explanation given is getting more complicated. There is an explanation by....

MR SPEAKER: I am trying to elaborate and assist you.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: The term manipulative pointed at me is wrong. Being manipulative when more public funds are being affected?

MR SPEAKER: I ask that you elaborate on that matter but not say you do not understand the clarification I am trying to explain. If we were to go into detail and evaluate every word you said then it will clearly point out my intention. How can you say it was a million? If we were to review this million where does it come from when we only have \$400,000 appropriation for the Ministry of the Prime Minister? Palusalu I am trying to assist you through these clarifications but do not say you do not understand the explanation. I call on the Member to continue with his speech.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: I will not talk about this issue anymore, but the country is aware of the offices of Associate Ministers that were set up at the National Provident Fund Plaza.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker the reason why the Leader of Opposition still does not understand is due to his consideration in detail of the Budget which is wrong. That is the last thing we do, consideration of the Budget whereas now, we are giving general speeches. The member is becoming more confused.

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

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker my speech was given in general but when I got into querying the million in detail that is how I got into this concern.

Mr Speaker I heed corrections on these appropriations to minimize our debts and borrowings. Hon Prime Minister I am aware we are trying to seek funds as such is our duty for our wellbeing.

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Therefore we support you for the good of the country. As for the money I mentioned Prime Minister if we could save it, we will be able to use it for other important developments.

I will now move away from this issue...

MR SPEAKER: I recommend the Leader of Opposition to set the issue aside.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: This was the issue you mentioned yesterday and you said that we....

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker there is a lot of confusion here.

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

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: He said save, but the only aspect that will be saved is not doing the work. This means that we will save funds so that we will not have to do any work.

What is the purpose of us in this Parliament? Are we here just to rock our chairs? This is the meaning of the word you implied, not do any work. We came to do our work. This is the reason why we were chosen by our constituencies, to make decisions and implement strategies to improve our economy. In turn it will assist our children by creating more employment. We have an incredible amount of young generation who need jobs. We cannot find employment by doing nothing. The only way to boost more employment is by implementing several projects and developments both locally and by getting foreign partners. How can overseas partners give us funds when we do nothing?

I am aware that you understand the terms by which loans are carried out. You cannot do anything if you do not do a loan. Do you not have loans? Well? I completely understand the issue.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker I understand.

MR SPEAKER: The clarification is now understood. I call on the Leader of Opposition.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: I did not mention in my speech that we should stop working. I just stated that we should plan wisely, not to stop working. This is the reason why it is wrong, the Prime Minister twists everything.

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Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker the Member was a former Cabinet Minister. What were some of the things that we did not plan wisely? We plan everything properly yet you keep saying plan wisely but you seem to be the one without plans. During our time together, you too were one of the good people who was good at planning everything despite the many issues that came up during your time.

Do you recall that I came over to resolve one of the problems you were involved in because some were trying to remove other people?

Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta: Mr Speaker the message that we are trying to portray to the Prime Minister...

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Deputy Leader of Opposition.

Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta: The advice for managed borrowing as we are the only country known by the corners of the earth by the saying, “do not make any more outrageous borrowings/loans.” This is why; we recommend government to not exhaust funds because it will generate bigger loans.

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

MR SPEAKER: The opinion voiced by the Member is now understood.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: This is the only country that any time we ask for loans to foreign organizations, they automatically approve us. Why? Because they look at our debts service capacity which is very strong. It has not yet been exhausted, we have nearly \$800 million expenditure every year on our Budget, we earn over \$700+ million revenue yet only a small portion of this amount is spent using our own earning. We still have a lot remaining. It's like we do the work and you are getting worried? Bless your speech Palusalua.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker it seems I have completely forgotten my speech considering his statement that he came and resolved my problem. He was the one who brought the Europeans to Samoa Tel and all twenty of them. This is why Mr Speaker the only issue...

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: This is not the truth. As you may recall the notice we issued came from the Cabinet to appoint this expert (lauia). It did not take a month for this person to solve this problem.

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From 1972 to 2002 our phones were unfixed due to the wrong location of the house at Lalovaea where the Apaula River flows. This was reason for our dead phones because they got wet. A thirty year old expert came and reviewed the matter and said, the location of the company should be moved to Malua fou. This was one development the World Bank stopped however we requested that it was an important development. The problem was the Committee came to you and asked to acquit the European. Then I responded, “Do not acquit the European until the investigation is over.” The report submitted by the Auditor indicated that the European was right. These kinds of situations occur because there is always the presence of evil. This is different from your duties carried out within your party which is commendable, although I must say we can never know what might happen. We cannot control everything because evil is present in this world.

I ask the Member to continue, you are prolonging your speech. (*to the Leader of Opposition*)

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Leader of Opposition.

Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II: Mr Speaker thank you, the accusations made against our side by the Prime Minister are quite severe, saying that we are deceitful. This side is aware that your work is not easy, bringing companies into the country that generates employment, we support overseas companies brought into the country.

We are only worried that overseas companies might not come into the country because we are blamed for saying negative things overseas. Mr Speaker and respectable Prime Minister the objective of this party is not to defile the country. Even to you and your party, why? It is to keep the peace and ensure that everything is in place on the goal to bring in foreign investors.

The speeches given including those made by Ministers are quite fruitful saying a chips factory will be set up also a fish cannery factory. This side supports such developments; the only issue I want to reiterate is this side will never do anything to ruin our country.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neiote Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Leader of Opposition.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neiote Sailele Malielegaoi: The speech given is admirable coming from within this House other than your speeches given in public through the television. I have watched it as well. If it was not for the television and observer I would not have known the schemes you make behind my back.

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Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE NIKO LEE HANG: First I want to thank the Chair for the opportunity. I want to reiterate the words of thanks and praises to our Holy Father for his love and kindness that has enabled us to come today.

It is with respect that I greet the dignity of the House, the honorable Mr Speaker, Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Ministers, the Leader of Opposition, the Deputy Leader all Members of the House.

I acknowledge the support of Samoa, His Highness the Head of State and his Good Lady, the Member of the Council of Deputies and his Good Lady, the Chief Justice and Judiciary. I also acknowledge the various theological denominations throughout Samoa for your prays especially to our Parliament. I want to acknowledge the supporters of this seat the Individual Voters thank you. I welcome the Heads of various government ministries and organizations also to the Clerk and office.

Firstly I would like to thank the Minister of Finance and Prime Minister especially the Chief Executive and Ministry of Finance for the hard work in preparing our Budget Estimates. I also want to thank the men and women of the Ministry of Finance, the Audit Office, the Public Service Commission especially the Legislative Assembly for assisting us with our report. I pray that the Lord bless you all for your hard work and may he provide strength to carry forward the good work done in serving our government.

Mr Speaker I am certain that all Members of the House have understood the clarification given in relation to our Supplementary Estimates. I will not talk further on the issue thus only on matters that I deem need to be explained further.

Mr Speaker it was noted through findings carried out by Committee that there are a lot of outstanding debts by the Ministry of Revenue. This includes debts on car duty in partnership with the Customs office which is partly paid. The truth is the Ministry has reported problems based on car receipt payments. Some cars have changed ownership yet duty has not been paid in full. A recommendation on this issue Mr Speaker especially the Prime Minister and Cabinet, a review should be undertaken on the Ministry of Revenue to cooperate with the Land Transport Authority. The government should initiate a policy on vehicle registration so they can withhold it until full payment is submitted by owners.

Mr Speaker you mentioned earlier during our Budget deliberations the issue concerning employee benefits for public servants that have been temporarily suspended especially if it involves a Chief Executive Officer. The response that I gave in relation to this issue and save expenses was for government to review its policies to cease benefits from the individual under investigation. This should be implemented until the investigation is concluded, if they are not found responsible then benefits can be repaid back once the investigation is over.

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Mr Speaker this is a very important matter because it has not been long ago when we saw the suspension of two Executives and a Senior Officer not long ago. As the case for the Police Commissioner who was suspended for more than a year which was found out later more than \$200,000 was spent on such benefits. I strongly believe that if benefits were seized there would have been a new sports field as requested by some of the Members like the Member for Gagaifomauga No.1. This is our concern I do not think there will be a problem if we withhold benefits because the individual will be able to get it all once they are cleared and are honest. I am just voicing this concern to the Prime Minister for his consideration especially if it is a way for us to save expenses, with respect.

Lastly I want to conclude with a few requests of this constituency. Mr Speaker my fellow Member has already mentioned the need to improve access roads within our constituencies. The conditions of our access roads are really poor therefore we humbly request for improvements apart from the main road. There is a road that I requested improvements ever since I was a Member of the House, the Minister of Works there is a need for it to be tar sealed, it is the road at Aleisa East the Leopardi road. I believe most of the roads throughout that side have been tar sealed except this one which is now frequently used by people living in the area. I think the last time it was expected to be upgraded was during the time Tofa Matataualiitia Afa Lesa was Minister of Works nevertheless it was stopped due to land disputes. As of today the matter has been resolved therefore I request again the need for improvements for this road.

In respect to all Individual Voters supporters I believe it will not be long now before this seat will be replaced as Urban seat. Therefore once the Bill is passed for these changes to go through, Maualaivao and I will meet with our constituencies to explain these changes. The eligibility of voters under the Individual Voters seat will still remain for the Urban seat. The Voters are only allowed one vote only; if you reside in Faleata area you will vote for the candidate from that area this is the same for the candidate from the Vaimauga constituency. These will be the changes nevertheless once the Bill is officially passed we will come and discuss the changes together with Maualaivao.

Mr Speaker those are a few queries considering our Supplementary Appropriation No.1. Bless our proceedings.

MR SPEAKER: I thank the Chairperson of the Finance and Expenditure Committee. I take this opportunity to also thank the Vice Chairperson and Committee for the hard work. I believe you have worked through day and night in putting together this report. I am grateful that the work has been completed and has been reviewed in detail by Members. Once again I thank the Chairperson and Committee for the work accomplished. This portrays the conclusion of opinions given by Members on the matter.

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I believe it is now time for the Prime Minister to give his response. I believe the queries put forward by Members have all been answered. I now give the opportunity to the Prime Minister and his Cabinet for your responses.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILALE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker and respectable Members of the House I am grateful for the deliberations carried out together with queries raised in relation to our Supplementary Appropriation. I want to thank each Member for opinions voiced also your concern. Therefore whatever the outcome of our proceedings still remain the same, like the saying referred to Faleata, “ *There is much water flowing past Pesega, but it disappears in Oo.* ”

As stated in our Appropriations most of the work will continue as deliberated in our Main Estimates. There is not much added the new estimation is now \$800 million. The overall Estimates are from local expenses and \$196 million are loaned together with overseas grants that are estimated to a cash balance of 4.5 million. As stated within our statutory provisions we have overseas partners for unforeseeable measures. As I stated earlier our Estimates is \$8.2 million which was put together by the Ministry of Finance. This means there is credit and discounts. The budget estimated at \$8,254,543 accumulated from these small discounts. This is clearly stated on the main page of the Budget Estimates booklet and categorized under roman numerals. If you look at (i) it states a Birds Eye View of our Estimates and all the details including soft term loans.

Perhaps Members who were present at the opening of the new hospital may recall my speech; I stated that it took three to four years to build it with only one loan, what does this mean? The loans are continued on to the next year so there is no new one implemented. There is no company in the world that can construct a huge building within a year; it takes years so funds are transferred yearly until completion.

Mr Speaker this means that the development stated within our Estimates are being continued nevertheless creating more employment opportunities. This is the responsibility of government with the assistance of the private sector who takes on these huge projects giving opportunities to people being employed. If a bid initiated receives four companies, one company will undertake the development or two can join and work together if the work is too big. This means these companies will benefit from government. Who paid for expenses? It was paid for by government through talks with overseas partner grants. We do not borrow or loan from banks such as the Commercial Bank it is too expensive. This is the reason why most countries in the world have lots of debt but we have not reached this situation. Although every time we attend conferences these banks always approach us saying they can offer us a loan but we always refuse. Why? We take the easier one because it will be easier to pay back. This is why we still have a lot of developments through the assistance of overseas partners.

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In 1989 three development companies from Italy visited asking to initiate support to our developments. They told me they are from the Development Bank of Italy and they have seen that we needed assistance with various developments. I asked them how much interest will we pay if we were to accept your offer. They said it would take ten years to pay by 5% I rejected their offer. There are other organizations that we are working with that offers ½%, 1% and 2% which can be paid within the timeframe of twenty years. The first five years we do not pay the initial loan only an interest this means we do not have to pay the loan for five to ten years except the interest.

They left and went to the Cook Islands and I heard the Prime Minister accepted their offer to built Sheraton which was incomplete because they could not pay back the loan. These problems occur occasionally but we are always cautious with our decisions. The reason why I have mentioned this is the term consistent planning, at the start of proceedings today there was a Member who said government is corrupt. It was also the term referred to the Finance Committee, before the submission of the Auditors report corrupt was also stated which was the same for organizations. Although what is the meaning of corrupt? It has a lot of meanings hence I clarified this same issue to the newspaper that stated corrupt are bad and irresponsible people. The response I gave them was, can irresponsible implement developments that benefit the country? This term should be used appropriately for an individual who has been found unjust in a Ministry or even a Ministry that committed an offence.

There was a forum I attended as the Minister of Foreign Affairs to speak about Bainimarama to convene government into a democratic state. The response given by Bainimarama to us was, there are a lot of corrupt politicians in the governments, the pastors and also chiefs who in Fiji are called Ratu and Adi for women. He said that he will try and resolve corruption that includes all Ratus of Fiji but Epeli was present there on his left. We asked him about Epeli which surprised the Hon Prime Minister; his reply was all chiefs are corrupt except for Epeli. The Minister commented that he will be in that situation forever. What does this statement mean; even if these issues are resolved there will always be more. This is how life is. Why? Because there is always a voice that seems to overrule, if one thing is resolved another problem occurs, a accident happens and the person is fined yet another accident occurs. This is the same as the situation God was in when his people were taken away from Egypt. What was the purpose of us being in government? We cannot control everything like the story of Moses his people did unforeseeable things, which they were punished for, and the punishment? They were eaten by snakes. What is the importance of this issue? The Lord already implemented his Commandments not to worship a false God, but the people still disobeyed him. This is the reason why his son came to this earth, to cleanse the sins of the world.

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Mr Speaker this is the exact reason for establishing an Audit office, to audit Ministries and organizations because of dishonest behavior. I just want to reiterate what I said yesterday about Jesus and his Disciples, Judah was one of them and he betrayed him yet he saw the sky opening and the voice whispered Jesus is my beloved son. These are some extraordinary things nevertheless it is still happening.

It is like the story I told before when there are praises everyone attends even the poor because they all know the rich will give them money, whereby the Disciples go and give to the poor given the bad living conditions they face. There is silver and gold, Judah then converts it into money. He uses the money to sleep at a hotel while Jesus and his disciples were sleeping at a house that has holes in the roof. He returned and told Jesus of his success and Jesus said, “wait until I finish talking with him.” It only took twenty yards for Judah to question the others. The actions we do are all seen by Christ. We should remember that once Jesus was baptized he stayed for forty days in the desert meditating and pleading God for courage to carry on his duties for everlasting life. What happened? The devil created by God in the beginning together with man approached him. He came there to tempt him. The reason I am telling this is because, today there is a lot of evil in the world. This is associated with the names Satan, Lucifer and Beelzebub.

As stated in the book of Job, God called the sanctified and the devil also along. Where did he come from? Answer, I have been traveling around the world. This is the reason why there is so much corruption in the world, nevertheless the only way to resolve it is by fasting and praying. Mr Speaker this is the reason why there is an Auditor to carry out audits. There are two types of audit, the auditing carried out every day and the surprise checks. If there are any problems then a report will be put together by the Auditor stating an overall check of the budget including costs and income.

This report by the Auditor will present an audit opinion that portrays the work of the Ministry and private organization.

Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta: Mr Speaker the time is running out...

Susuga Hon TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: I am speaking also the Member did not show an opinion on the matter. I was elaborating on a few resolutions....

MR SPEAKER: Be patient, the speech by the Prime Minister is nearly finished.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker this is exactly the reason why the Auditor does audits to make it easier for the cashier to take 2,000 to buy tickets if I am lucky I will pay it back.

If this first take goes unnoticed it will keep on happening over and over. The money brought in to refund the amount taken will be banked, banking will then be held for three days before the money is refunded. This is the reason why there are surprise checks undertaken by the Auditor because of methods used by people. Therefore once they are infiltrated the culprit will be found. This is the main objective of the Auditor to foresee such issues and resolve them.

During the 1950s the time we walked to school we would go through Lepa and some through Aleipata. There are two ways to catch the bus you either go through Falefa or through Falealii to catch the bus to Apia. In order to catch the afternoon bus you have to wake up at 4.00am and most of the time you walk through the beach. If it is too sunny we will walk inland, we always follow the leader because he will point us where to go either on the beach or inland. This is the same as the work done by Audit, he monitors Ministries and Organizations on whether to go this side or that side.

Mr Speaker once the year is concluded a final report is done for the Main Estimates stating all revenue and expenditure. Therefore Mr Speaker this report will show the state of the government. This is why the work of the Auditor is quite important, they eliminate such problems. There are more than twenty auditors undertaking such task with government whom is given the power. These safeguards were implemented by government to protect assets. At the moment developments are increasing and the Estimates now is \$1,800,000, 000. The intention is we should be able to reach \$2 billion next year. This means that expenditure is accumulated from our own people in the developments that create more employment for many people. We have now moved on to become a middle income country we are no longer categorized as a developing country. This is also the main reason for improving and implementing more developments to uplift standards together with employment for our children.

Mr Speaker, this is a clarification, how many jobs have been created? How many developments have been implemented by this government? Is our country affected by it? The country is not affected because this government will never initiate an Act that will affect this country. Mr Speaker I see that it is nearly time for recess therefore our work will start at 3.00pm. The Minister of Police and Prisons will take the lead followed by others if there will be any other queries left I will answer them later on. I hope that everyone have a blessed afternoon. Soifua.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you Prime Minister for the clarification given, I believe the queries and concerns of Members voiced have been clearly answered. Nevertheless we have now come to our usual recess hour, and Cabinet will take the floor later to respond when we return at 3.00pm. The office has prepared lunch for Members and I call upon the Heads of Government Ministries to also come have lunch with us.

I announce that proceedings of the Legislative Assembly are now set aside until 3.00pm.

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Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were adjourned at 1.00pm.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed at 3.00pm.

*Proceedings continued on deliberations of the second reading of the
Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2014/2015.*

MR SPEAKER: I want to thank *Salelesi* for the hard work over these past five years. The services you have provided will not go unnoticed; even through stormy weather you still attend to your duties.

I thank the respectable Members of the House, I believe all have had a say with deliberations carried out this morning. It is now time to move onto the response given by government in relation to the queries put forward, we will start with the Ministers before considering and passing our Supplementary Appropriation Bill.

I call on the Minister of Police, Prisons and Fire Emergency Services.

Afioga Hon SALA FATA LISATI PINATI (Minister of Police, Prisons and Fire Emergency Services): I take this opportunity to humbly greet Members of the House, the Prime Minister and his Cabinet, the opposite side of the House, the Leader of Opposition and his party. Nevertheless to our Associate Ministers, Heads of various government Ministries and organizations and Clerk of the House.

I will not reiterate respectable salutations and dignity of our people. Nevertheless because of the time given I will now respond to the queries mentioned by Members of Parliament.

I will start from Savaii, Mr Speaker this is the issue concerning the transportation of marijuana at the wharf between Upolu and Savaii. It seems that this exchange is mainly marijuana from Upolu. A clarification on the matter there are several criminal offences being witnessed here at the wharf, using luggage. During Christmas the Ministry deployed a search team using the trained dogs through our partnership with New Zealand. There are people who do not suspect the dogs finding what is in their bags; they think the dog is playing with them. Although once the dog stops beside a person we will know that the individual is carrying marijuana in his bag. This is the same for those transporting marijuana in their cars. I am grateful for this service now implemented and it will be employed every time. The only disadvantage is that nowadays nearly everyone has phones where they warn others when the police carry out their inspections. The Ministry of Police is still not certain who exactly are informing these people but it is an ongoing process to find the people responsible for bringing in such narcotics.

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If they are caught they will be taken up to prison at *Ola Toefuataina*, to reform their ways. The minimal penalty is imprisonment for five years although most have served seven to ten years of committing this offence.

The issue of speed driving, I believe this is an issue that is generated from the Land Transport Authority, because they are not trying hard enough to find these careless drivers. Drivers today do not care about life or death, once they get into the car they speed away. I mention this because of the road towards the airport once the cars get to Tuanai at the bend they speed up all through our village. Therefore our youths are recommended to throw rocks if they pass by because they are breaking the law. The truth is youths today are too disrespectful especially during evening services with cars making roaring noise honking engines. But this is also what we went through when we were young right? They are too arrogant, once they show this kind of behavior accidents will happen. Well I....

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker the clarification given by the Minister is quite understandable although what he is saying is youths are allowed to throw rocks at cars. We all hate it when the youth's blast out music and drive carelessly on the road but for the Minister to allow people to throw stones at cars will be outrageous. This will mean people will be waiting on the roads and throw rocks when vehicles pass by. This should be considered because the country is listening in....

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Minister to elaborate on the comment.

Afioga Hon SALA FATA LISATI PINATI: Mr Speaker and Members of the House this is not the correct meaning of the comment stated. Perhaps the Member did not get the meaning of my comment that there are laws to follow, if there were not any people would be free to throw stones at cars. I just recommended that they should not throw stones because it will lead them to jail. I want to thank the Member for his concern but this is also one constituency that is faced with many problems especially with the neighborhood watch. Our police are working 24 hours within this area night and day to monitor such problems. There are many people now living in the Faleata constituency, and most of them are banished from their villages in rural areas. I also have a family living in Faleata, nevertheless I feel sorry for the Member because of the behavior....

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Member, I call on Faleata West or is it Faleata East?

Tofa Aveau Tuala Niko Palamo (Faleata East): Because my constituency of Faleata East is listening, I am not sure if the Minister is referring to Faleata East or Faleata West. Nevertheless Faleata is Faleata. I am certain that people living in Faleata are like the Minister described.

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Afioga Hon SALA FATA LISATI PINATI: We all know Vini is opposite of Tapaga. Tutuila is a neighbor of Aleipata. I apologize if I have offended you Tuala and Aveau who is also respectable to me. This portrays the good relations between Tuala and Sala.

The issue raised by the Member for Aleipata Itupa I Lalo on plans made to set up a Fire Emergency base at Aleipata. I am worried because of the complaints put forward saying that once people get to this area accidents happen. If a Fire Emergency base is to be established, it should be set up together with the airport government is planning at Aleipata. The request made by the Member for Aleipata is true, although if such development cannot be carried out earlier the Fire Emergency Department will still be able to serve that side of the country.

The issue raised by the Member for Aleipata Itupa I Luga on establishing a new Police Post. We just celebrated Christmas and the birth of Jesus Christ, a very humbling person. He was not born at a hotel; he was born in a stable. The Member should be aware that establishing a new post for Police at Lalomanu requires funds which we do not have at the moment. It would have been great if Iulai Lavea would say, “Sala here is \$1 million that you can use to establish Posts for the government.” Every development is dependent on the budget moreover there are various other projects that also need it. We still have not reached the elections. It has been five years since this request was submitted therefore we will grant this request this year.

The issue on the post at Salailua Savaii in the Salega district, there will come a time. I know the Member for Salega, Afioga Afualo Wood Uti Salele has requested this issue for the past five years together with the Member of Palauli West. I humbly ask Members to leave this matter to me; I am a man that follows words. The services we provide are done for the benefit and safety of our people. There are those who are reckless in behavior thinking that we are not doing our work. We are trying our best hence the Lord is witness in all that we do. Mr Speaker this is a brief summary of the work carried out by the Ministry, God Bless and Soifua.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you Minister of Police, Prisons and Fire Emergency Services for the clarification, I believe all Members of the House have understood the response given to their queries. I also want to thank the Ministry for the hard work, the Police and the Prisons division there has been a lot of improvements seen with future developments. I also want to thank the Fire Emergency Department and the services provided in saving lives and improving various developments.

The opportunity will now be given to the Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure. I call on the Minister for his clarification.

Afioga Hon MANUALESAGALALA ENOKATI POSALA: Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity I believe we have reached another new day of proceedings.

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I am certain the honorary salutations have been mentioned several times since the start of this week. I want to thank the Lord Almighty for his protection which has enabled us to reach another new year. I also want to thank his Grace for the strength given to us to carry on our business for the betterment of Samoa.

I want to acknowledge the three pillars of Government especially the various church denominations and all the people of our country. First of all, I wish to convey my sincerest condolences to the families and relatives of the passing employees of the Samoa Water Authority in Savaii. I failed to attend the funerals of these two persons last Thursday. I plead God to provide comfort to the relatives and the village. This accident has served a purpose to remind and urge all Ministries and Corporations to heed safety measures whenever they drive on the road. All Ministries and Corporations are involved in this kind of incident due to high speed vehicles. The Ministry is therefore providing strict measures by implementing a proper system using GPS to monitor the speed of motors as such was the result of the accident that took the lives of some people leaving two behind in critical condition at the hospital.

I start with the Electric Power Corporation; perhaps as I was trying to clarify earlier the Solar electricity now has already had companies that have signed agreements. The assistance from New Zealand is 2.2 megawatts which is now put together and used. If we look at the airport there are three companies working there, land has been given to them for solar farms to set up solar panels. There is also one located at Tuanaimato, an agreement has also been signed with a company under Renewable Energy so our Electricity can be improved and developed.

The Member for Gagaemauga No.2 mentioned an important issue, on the drop to 1 megawatts, it is something that has happened especially during bad weather. We are already devising strategies on this matter, we are worried because once solar electricity drops we need the electricity from the water hydro at Fiaga. This will ensure a balance when the solar electricity is low on cloudy days. The Corporation is working together with the IRENA group, undertaking a stability study to find a way to store electricity so that when it drops it can be used. There is a risk to our hydro power if this happens. There is a Smart System that monitors the safety of electricity not only renewable energy but also Hydro electricity and bio diesel.

At the moment the Energy Sector is working on changing energy efficiencies including the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Electric Power Corporation and others. The Samoa Water Authority, Works and Infrastructure are working together under the guidance of the National Energy Coordinating Committee NECC, this started a long time ago. They have been looking at ways to save electricity and also have cleaner electricity considering the environment, like the Fiaga Power source the generators used are fuel efficiency. The report given to me since the opening of the power plant in June 2013 to June 2014 was \$7 million saved

from the use of the fuel. This is a major benefit and it saves money from using diesel. Another important aspect of this is looking after the generators which are routine maintenance; the generators are used for 4000 hours and are checked every six months. In case some might think that a lot of money is being allocated here, it is necessary because generators need maintenance to improve power supply. As for the reserves from overseas we have planned to buy more fuel for future use....

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Minister I call on the Member.

Afioga Toeolesulusulu Cedric Pose Salesa Schuster (Aana Alofi No.3): Thank you Mr Speaker, thank you Minister for the clarification on the queries voiced including mine. Gratefully, I see that by your explanation, this will provide light burden for the country. The question though, what will be the cost of electricity once this Solar project is completed? I have noted that you mentioned, expenses have been saved but solar power is still minimal. What will the cost be for the use of Solar Power? With respect.

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Minister.

Afioga Hon MANUALESAGALALA ENOKATI POSALA: Thank you. I believe the question has already been answered. As we are aware the prices are quite difficult to determine on a timely basis. The cost of diesel overseas is rising but is down this season, the Office of the Regulator is currently working at establishing set prices for electricity for the next three years. I do not have an answer for the question put forward, nevertheless it is the Government and Corporations vision to ensure that our people are able to afford electricity and improve power supply. The electricity today is in high demand with the expansion of Ministries and businesses and that no family aims to want power supply considering modern technology. I humbly ask Members for their patience while plans are being carried out, we are working on ensuring that these objectives are accomplished.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Minister, I call on the Member.

Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo: Thank you Minister. The Minister has affirmed that it is unconfirmed whether we will get any assistance. Although these type of projects are implemented so people can be able to afford it. Solar power was implemented to ensure that we will be able to afford the cost of living. There should be a plan implemented for such project. The Ministry should know the reason why it was implemented; if the project is completed they can determine how much electricity was used. This will then go into the Electric Power Corporations grid where they can then deliberate costs. If they are uncertain then...

MR SPEAKER: The opinion of the Member is now understood; perhaps what the Minister meant was there is a chance for minimal costs although it also depends on the forecast on what will be an exact number. I call on the Minister.

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Afioga Hon MANUALESAGALALA ENOKATI POSALA: Mr Speaker the Member can be compared to Jesus disciple Thomas. No matter how much Jesus clarified he still did not understand, “Blessed are those who are not here but understand.” I recommend that you trust the plans initiated which took years of planning, review and forecasting. I apologize that only a few are insightful of this matter. It is a life of speculation nevertheless we are trying to establish methods to minimize costs. We cannot know what might happen tomorrow only our Heavenly Father knows. It is our objective to ensure that our people live an affordable cost of living.

The issue related to our street lights....

MR SPEAKER: I appease the Minister for his time, I call on the Leader of Opposition.

Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II: I apologize Hon Minister as we come to this very significant matter. We cannot go astray given our long term vision. This is the reason why this side is vigilant on the issue. There should be praise worthy example illustrating whether there will be a drop in electricity costs. We cannot be doubtful with our vision as we could face serious consequences in the future.

MR SPEAKER: The opinion given by the Leader is now clearly understood, a short answer to your question, the price will decrease. I call on the Minister to continue with his clarification.

Afioga Hon MANUALESAGALALA ENOKATI POSALA: I have already made myself clear given affordable prices and consistent power supply. I am not sure what other explanation is needed by the Member. A lot of requests was put forward for street lights. The normal procedure states that your request must be submitted to the Office for them to conduct a survey to identify development needs to determine the overall costing which is submitted to the Community Services Obligations Committee made up of the Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and the Minister for Electric Power Corporation. We are the ones who decide on these matters although there is a disadvantage because we are not certain which street lights needs fixing. It would be easier to identify areas that need street lights fixed if requests say the poles in front of the hospital or the pastor’s house. Nevertheless we cannot fix all the street lights for the whole constituency.

It is important that a written request be submitted. I recommend the *Pulenuu* that it is their duty to overlook this area to see which poles need lights whether it is appropriate for it to be in front of people’s homes. A recommendation is then submitted to the Committee who review the matter. If the Committee does not approve then nothing is done. This means I do not make this decision alone. I have already elaborated the process, it is the Committee’s decision whether they agree to it or not give your submissions.

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The installation of street lights is quite expensive for one is not less than \$800. This means that we are looking at \$800, \$900 going upward. As for the cost of lights left on that is all covered under the Community Services Obligation. That is the response on the Electric Power Corporation. I move on to the issues for the Ports Authority raised by the Leader of Opposition the....

MR SPEAKER: I appease the Minister since you mentioned an issue...I call on the Member for Faleata West.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker, I appease the Hon Minister but I will be brief. The question related to cash power was to establish an office in Savaii. Nevertheless I am grateful for the cash power services at Vaitele which is 24 hour as stated by the Minister because I am still using the old meter. Therefore I request that this matter be considered for the old meters as more revenue can be generated from it in comparison to the problem arising from cash power it is quite alarming. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Minister.

Afioga Hon MANUALESAGALALA ENOKATI POSALA: Thank you for reminding me, I now recall the request from Savaii. The Corporation is planning on opening a new office at Salelologa specifically for cash power. Another one includes a program that involved the National Bank regarding consultations by the Electric Power Corporation and other banks which will end in March this year. This will depend on the expression of interests so that services will be improved unlike the service of the National Bank that had technical difficulties with outlets in rural areas.

At the moment we are still using the scratch cards which if we look at it is expensive for Electric Power Corporation. We are still providing this service but it will not be long hopefully by next month a new bank will be handling this transaction.

The matter concerning our Ports at Matautu raised by the Opposition Leader, well ever since I came into Parliament, there have been talks on Japanese funding assistance. The Hon Prime Minister was going to sign the MOU at 3.30pm and now it has been established, Japan International Corporation Agency also needs to sign the agreement in order to build the Matautu wharf. Therefore not only will it be renewed but it also be expanded towards Matautu. I heard that the project will commence sometime this year; not three years. As mentioned earlier this project was implemented at the start of this Parliamentary term so all proposals are set, it is just a matter of starting construction.

As for the Asau wharf we are still trying to evaluate plans hence maintenance work is still carried out. We went on a site visit in 2013 and we saw that there was a fishing boat anchored at the wharf.

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The fishing boat is still in good condition. In 2011 companies started coming into the country to meet with the Prime Minister to set plans for the construction of the Asau wharf. I believe that this is one good achievement if the Bumble Bee Company becomes successful using the wharfs in the rural areas. If disagreements arise, then these companies will return. As the public should know these developments by government is for your benefit. I recommend that we work together and support these programs.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Minister I call on the Member.

Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu: Mr Speaker a point of order. I apologize the Minister but it seems that he is generally clarifying to all of us not just for the sake of our Leader.

MR SPEAKER: A point of order Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu... I call on the Leader of Opposition.

Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II: Mr Speaker, a point of order. We did not object to Bumble Bee. As stated yesterday we met with Bumble Bee and we gave them our blessings. This does not mean that it was our fault; it is the actions of Bumble Bee and the government. I do not know who is to be blamed, since Bumble Bee has not responded it seems that you are putting the blame on us. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: I recommend that we not reiterate the matter since we have already elaborated on it yesterday, the Ministers reminder is vital. I call on the Minister.

Afioga Hon MANULESAGALALA ENOKATI POSALA: Thank you Mr Speaker the matter has been defined by the Leader himself.

The Airport, there was a recommendation given that the Airport ought to receive profit. The first priority of the airport is safety. I believe Lealailepule should support this notion because he is well aware of this area. I thank government for the assistance given to the airport on loans that assisted us in 2011 regarding safety measures. The employees working at the airport do not just go when the planes land. They work twenty four hours there is a shift for the night and another during the day. If there is only one plane they still work 24 hours to look after safety and weather conditions. There have been improvements during the conferences, for example the VIPs renovations were carried out within the airport. Also plans have been implemented as stated by the Prime Minister on improvements to the terminal. There have been consultations on upgrading the airport runway through the assistance of the World Bank carried out this year.

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I now elaborate on the matter of Samoa Water Authority by the Member for Sagone. The road is nearly completed therefore plans for improvement will be put into the budget; we have identified the site where the water bore will be for Salega. This means that it will now be accessible once the road is completed. The authority has also started working on the borehole at Faleasiu Uta. I have been notified that the Minister of Health will pay a visit there next week to check the work carried out at Faleasiu Uta. It is the same for Lepale we are planning to pump water into tanks for families living inland. The official opening of the project by Japan at Tapatapao was launched at the end of last year. The treatment plant at Tapatapao will assist people in Aleisa to Faleasiu-uta and Fasitoo-uta.

Another part of this project by Japan is at Vailima. A new treatment plant is to be built at Vailima together with the improvement of water reservoirs which will also assist the urban area. At the same time developments will be carried out for Vaivase-uta and Moataa-uta. It is projected that these developments will conclude in July 2016. It is now underway nevertheless I ask that Members visit these areas to witness such developments.

The Land Transport Authority, the issue is true regarding the services carried out. An aspect that we are trying to change is the contract period which is the end of the year. Another new contract starts in the New Year. This is the time when we are faced with poor weather conditions and most of families from overseas visit our country and they observe the poor routine maintenance. At the moment contracts have been reviewed to be in line with the Budget.

In Tonga and Fiji the upgrading of roads are being done by a company from China. The respond given to the contractors was, 'you are slow and not doing any good.' The Cabinet and government are withholding ties so that our people will get the contract and implement good work. There are other good contractors. There was a Chinese company that asked us, "who did your four lane road, was it an overseas company?" Our response was, "No it was a local company". They observed that the work done was of high standards. The positive side is that we have the skills and machinery to do the work but the disadvantage is the untrustworthiness. This is the negative side of it because it is also happening in families.

There were two companies that I terminated in 2012. This was one issue they were given chances yet they still did not uphold their side of the deal. At the moment I do not think work can be carried out anymore. We try to give opportunities to local companies to develop and contribute to the economy.

There was a notion by the Leader because there were 12 lawn mowing contractors in the 12 zones, he decided to divide it in two. Before it was 50 kilometers now it has been divided into 25 kilometers. The objective is to give smaller lawnmower contractors an opportunity and ensure they do the work thoroughly.

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One team cannot go all over Samoa to observe the work done hence we are trying to implement a strategy to achieve this concern. The Cabinet has decided that reports be submitted in every three months. The report submitted will be evaluated accordingly on whether the work was done well.

There is now a PMU, Project Management Unit who will be in charge of the road all the way to the airport. At the moment they have started on the designs of the work plan. As for the four lane mentioned by one of the Members there are some minor changes already advertised, an evaluation has been completed and we are awaiting the World Bank for an approved objection letter. This will then be given to the Committee the Tenders Board and to Cabinet to approve the start of the project. This programme is allocated under the Emergency Road Access Project. This includes roads at Maliolio and from Tanugamanono towards Vailima.

The concrete roads at Sapapalii, Lano and Sasina are also included in this project. The only issue now is evaluating where the work should start at the moment, nevertheless everything has been approved in the programme through the assistance of the World Bank.

The roads in Upolu, the two roads up at Tiavea that had a temporary diversion on the side, talks are underway including the road mentioned by the Member for Aleipata Itupa i Lalo on the side of Tiavea, Saleapaga and Lepa. These concrete roads are greatly affected especially during high tide which is a risk for cars passing through it. It has already been included within the programme hence works are being carried out.

An issue stated by one of the Members on the poor conditions of access roads. These access roads have been upgraded although the problem seen during our visits is the width of the road overgrown with grass. It seems the village council is not doing any work of clearing it. This causes water to be clogged in severe places and grass growing in cracks that will damage the roads. These projects are done in partnership with the government and private sector, the civil society working together with village council to maintain access roads. Therefore I recommend village councils to assist us in maintaining our access roads. The lawnmowers programme does not cover this area, they only cover the national road which is mainly the main road used by the public. There are a lot of requests for road upgrading; I humbly plead your patience.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker I ask that the Minister be given time to rest.

MR SPEAKER: I give the opportunity to the Member for Faleata West.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: I do not question the many improvements made upon our roads, but the query I stated earlier was a concern on lawnmowers.

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Is it possible as it is risky for vehicles and people passing by whenever there is a mowing? There should be a safety law implemented to protect the cars and people. I want to remind the Minister of the access road at Falelauniu in case he forgets. With respect.

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

MR SPEAKER: I call on Afioga Toeolesulusulu Schuster.

Afioga Toeolesulusulu Cedric Pose Salesa Schuster: Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I move to assist the Minister.

I am grateful for the recommendations given on maintaining access roads in the constituencies. A recommendation for the contractors especially the respective Ministry moving forward, is it possible to make the drains wider. Because when it rains, water bursts and blasts out in the open.

Secondly Minister, the problem of remaining pebbles from road sealing are collected in drains resulting to blockage.

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

Afioga Hon MANUALESAGALALA ENOKATI POSALA: Thank you for the recommendations but I will note these issues for future improvements.

I am thankful for the road at Falelauniu. This is one constant problem because these roads were constructed by the Samoa Land Corporation. We now have the opportunity to be in contact with the Minister and the Samoa Land Corporation and the roads built by the National Provident Fund. The opportunity is given to the Land Transport Authority to supervise these roads, carrying out tests to ensure that the roads are safe. If the companies supervise it themselves I am certain there will be issues nevertheless for improvements we must work together. The Authority is free to carry out spot checks and tests to ensure that the roads are safe. There is agreement that contractors do the work and the Authority will look after the roads.

For the Samoa Shipping Corporation, many have witnessed the changes made at the Mulifanua wharf. The issue of cars parking everywhere outside has been fixed. Road markings and labeling have been sorted and sealed. The same improvement will also be done for Salelologa. An issue raised on locked fence on the eastern side of Salelologa wharf where families are present...nevertheless provisions are in place to resolve this.

A new ferry has arrived which will be very useful hence our services can now extend to Cook Islands, Pukapuka, Tokelau and Tutuila and Manua. In consequence, this ferry will be used between these countries since it also has oil storage underneath and the top is used to carry other belongings. This means the future of the Corporation and country is fruitful for this new ferry.

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The name of the ferry is SSC 40. This year marks the 40 anniversary of the Samoa Shipping Corporation. They will be celebrating this week together with the launching of this new ferry, there might also be special fares to Savaii in token of appreciation for the support of the public specifically passengers traveling frequently between Upolu and Savaii.

However, it is a normal protocol that passengers must leave their vehicles on the ferry given the limited spacing. The only time people are allowed to sit in the cars is when they are too old, but that is not the case even if takes one old person everyone else tags along in the car. The priority of the Corporation is the safety of the public. There are people who want to stay in their cars during travelling but we are not aware when accidents happen.

These are a few matters raised by Members, I apologize if I had offended anyone. I only wish to thank my constituency for its support as we arrive at another New Year, I pray for His guidance upon us, thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you for the clarification Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure. I believe queries by Members have been clarified. I also want to thank the Ministry for all the hard work including some of the major Corporations, Electricity, Works and Shipping. I know that the country has witnessed the various developments you have achieved, I am grateful for the wharf at Savaii and Mulifanua. There have been a lot of improvements with shipping services and water authority.

We now arrive at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the honorable Minister. It is now time for your response to queries raised by Members. I call on the Minister.

Tofa Hon FAAMOETAULOA LEALAI AULOTO ULAITINO FAALE TUMAALII: Firstly Mr Speaker I greet the dignity of Maota Tiafau, *Malae o le Faautugatagi* the place where decisions are made, I acknowledge the Chair, the Honorable Prime Minister, Ministers and Associate Ministers to the Opposite side of the Chamber, Leader of Opposition and party and all Members of the House. I do not forget the support of Samoa, His Highness the Head of State and Good Lady, the Member of Council of Deputies and his Good Lady and respectable Aiga ma Tama, Tama ma Aiga, Le Usoga Pule ma Tumua, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga I le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti.

I also acknowledge my constituency and their support Gagaemauga No.3 in all its honorary salutations. Least I also want to acknowledge the prayers of various church leaders not only in my constituency but all Samoa. I am grateful for the support; I now take the floor to fulfill the duties you have chosen me to do.

Mr Speaker I believe some Members commented on developments within each constituency, which I already responded to and clarified. I have also taken the time to divide the queries of Members through the response I will now convey.

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First the seawall and pipeline developments, Members have reminded that these have not been completed yet submissions have already been given. Others have complained about the distributing works of the Minister and the Ministry yet some Members here have just voiced their requests but have not submitted any written ones. There were no written requests submitted which I have already checked with the Ministry. I will only respond to written requests that were submitted to the Ministry.

Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu: Mr Speaker a point of order....

MR SPEAKER: I appease the Minister what is the issue the Member for Gagaemauga No.2?

Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu: I am saddened with the Ministers response, the requests voiced within the House are more important than the written one. The requests that are voiced by Members within the Chamber should be acknowledged by the Minister. This is my concern, with respect.

MR SPEAKER: The concern voiced is understood; nevertheless I will leave the matter to the Minister since he has just started with his response. I call on the Minister.

Tofa Hon FAAMOETAULOA LEALAI AULOTO ULAITINO FAALE TUMAALII: Thank you Member for Saleaula. In response to the concern voiced the requests you just mentioned are now being aware by the Ministry. There are no written requests where the Ministry can take action to carry out these developments. These procedures must be taken as we have several developments undertaken by the Ministry. Also the process takes time and plus a survey must also be carried out for the security of individuals and the environment. Then we evaluate the costs before we allocate funds to implement these developments.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Minister; I will give the opportunity to the Member for Gagaemauga No.2.

Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu: Mr Speaker when we speak now, you (government) always tell us to voice our requests from our constituencies. Now we are voicing our requests from our constituencies but the Minister has spoken that he will only respond to the written requests. The requests voiced within the House are also important especially if it is a development that will benefit the constituency.

MR SPEAKER: The concern of the Member is now understood, you have heard the clarification of the Minister that application to such requests are to be submitted to the office.

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I believe all Members of the House are aware of this matter as the Minister has stated there is a process that needs to be followed. Therefore he is not saying that voicing requests in the House is less important because all requests from constituencies are voiced here although you still need to submit a written one as well. I call on the Minister.

Tofa Hon FAAMOETAULOA LEALAI AULOTO ULAITINO FAALE TUMAALII: Thank you Mr Speaker with the matter deliberated.

Once a request is submitted to the office I instruct the Ministry to go and investigate this matter and report back if it affects the well being of the people. Another aspect they look at is whether it will affect the environment during natural disasters. They prioritize these issues, there is a list of these developments, funds have been allocated to different projects implemented by the Ministry. This is to deal with problems faced by the country such as weather changes and other natural disasters.

Some Members have approached me to check on their requests. I would instantly call the Ministry to bring the list and the update of these requests for the sake of these Members. We have some here who know what I am talking about. Others say they are not included in the priority list due to the less impact they have on their requests although the aim of the government is to fulfill all submissions. The problem is the limited funding we have available. I have already instructed the Ministry to advise Members about their written requests and let them know which development we are prioritizing. Some constituencies need roads; others want water pipes or a seawall. This does not mean we can all do it at once. As the Chief Executive of the Cooperation and the Manager of the seawall and water infrastructure are listening I hope you are assisting the Ministry. As I have recommended during our monthly meetings, I am always cautious of the response given because they might just be the answers I wanted. The work must be done quickly. I have visited some of these areas around the country that need improvement and have met with the Ministry on these concerns.

Now, on to the raising issue of land lease in the rural areas for businesses developments, a request was made that government lands be made freehold not customary. This is a very difficult situation given the request of the constituents on lands for future purposes. This is the reason why they are only given to be used for development because once it is freehold land people from other villages will be free to buy these lands. These lands ought to be fixed to the community and their development as well as future generations. There are still requests for more land mass/acres saying that there is a lot of Government land that should be used for development.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Minister I call on the Member for Faasaleleaga No.2.

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Susuga Papalii Lio Faavaivaiomanu Taeu Masipau (Faasaleleaga No.2): Thank you Minister for the clarification on this particular matter since I was the one who raised it. There are two parts of the question; the first has been answered, i.e give lands to the village for their use. The other part of my question is the issue of lands at Salelologa. As we recall the Government bought some of these lands at Salelologa. These new land measurements go to the matai, which is a problem because some think that they own these lands. But these are customary lands of Salelologa that has just been evaluated. Some have thought of selling these lands although it not allowed in the Bill. I am just stating this issue considering the future. I recommend that the Ministry look into this matter, since there are people from Salelologa who have visited me at Sapapalii implementing such methods. I have already told them they cannot sell customary lands. If these were lands they were given then they should not be sold but leased. Therefore Minister I recommend that you help these people because this is not only a problem for Salelologa but other constituencies as well.

MR SPEAKER: I appease the Member I will give the opportunity to the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker I cannot understand what the Member is trying to convey, whether he is suggesting that lands be divided in half and sold. The Government is not entertaining such idea. The customary lands are fixed under the constitution and it cannot be sold or used as the Member suggests. The Member mentioned that this land was bought by Government hence lands are returned as customary. I heard some have sold these lands which is criminal offense. Therefore these customary lands are fixed they cannot be transferred as Government or freehold, the only measure taken to lease these lands for development. This provision was passed under the law in the House.

Susuga Papalii Lio Faavaivaiomanu Taeu Masipau: Thank you for the explanation at least Salelologa is listening, customary lands cannot be sold or categorized as freehold. Nevertheless my request was just an advice on this matter, with utmost respect.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, the response is noted. I call on the Minister to continue his explanation.

Tofa Hon FAAMOETAULOA LEALAI AULOTO ULAITINO FAALE TUMAALII: Thank you Mr Speaker, the response on the issue mentioned by the Member is now clarified.

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The other issue mentioned in relation to land was, Government lands should be under one authority. The Prime Minister has already responded and the matter is now before the Cabinet for its decision thus this matter is already listed to be undertaken this year.

The third issue is the improvement of the trail up to the Robert Louis Stevenson tomb. I have already responded I also hiked this trail to the top. I believe the Member was just suggesting a recommendation for another trail to be paved on the other side. This is my understanding a new trail other than the old one we have now.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Thank you Minister, I went hiking last week and did not reach the top because it was raining. I think it was October or August that we went hiking. I recommended this idea because a lot of the older tourists also visited this area. I recommend a new road be constructed through Vaea for vehicle accessibility. This will mean that shuttles will assist the tourists by carrying them to the top and they can take extra walks all the way. This will mean more income for us. Otherwise why not setup a cable car for tourists to go sightseeing. Because taking a hike to the top is impossible for your Hon Minister I think you will only make halfway unless you take the long trail if you are strong like me. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Minister.

Tofa Hon FAAMOETAULOA LEALAI AULOTO ULAITINO FAALE TUMAALII: The Member should remember that this road was made particularly for hikers and exercises. If the size of the road was reduced it would defeat the whole purpose of hiking as most vehicles will only reach halfway. This is why tourists take this road when going hiking. If we make the track shorter there will be no use of the exercise that we do.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: I apologize to the Minister, you are right. We cannot destroy the tracks although there are two trails up in the site. As interpreted for tourism sites and attractions, a trail must be built for easier access to the top. But this trail guarantees that only five percent of tourists are able to reach the top because most of them are old men and women. If I meet on the way I would advise them not to go further up and if we can have some [shuttles available up there, the visitors can take a hike at 200 meters before taking the bus](#) which would make us more earnings as well. If you go to the top today Minister you cannot see the town area because of the trees blocking the view. The trees should be cut down because there will be no use for tourists going up there if they cannot see the view. They will only see the grave that's it. Therefore improve the footpath area and a new trail for tourists and visitors. With respect.

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MR SPEAKER: The opinion given by the Member is now understood. I call on the Minister.

Tofa Hon FAAMOETAULOA LEALAI AULOTO ULAITINO FAALE TUMAALII: I thank the Member for his recommendation, I ask that the matter be left to us so we can evaluate and formulate a solution. We will look at the positives and negatives then consider the outcome. With respect.

Fourthly, replanting mangroves. During the UN Small Island Developing States Conference that we hosted, Samoa signed a Charter to preserve mangroves. We have now started this project to preserve mangroves. Greenhouse gas emissions are a major threat today which has contributed to the change in climate, and mangroves have been scientifically proven to absorb these gases more than other plants and trees. Today several countries have signed this charter which was proposed by Samoa. Additionally the preservation of mangroves in the country protects the fish breeding grounds like the one at Safata. This is what the Ministry is doing to expand mangrove preservations; and perhaps a competition amongst the constituencies would do to ensure that mangroves are well maintained and preserved as often much people would dump rubbish in these areas. There is also an International day celebrated by the world which is titled International Wet Land day, which is next month.

Another issue raised by one of the Members whether an investigation has been carried out on the water boreholes like Fogatuli. This depends on the state of the water whether it is saline, the Ministry carries out an assessment first for its reports considering other factors like the environment and residential areas before a boundary is drawn for this zone to remain unsettled. All these decisions are drawn by the Ministry. This is how the Ministry conducts this matter.

The Green Climate Fund is a fund that was made by the world to assist projects compact Climate Change. This International Agreement aims to achieve US\$100 billion by the year 2020 whereby \$50 billion will be allocated to developing countries like us. Therefore 50% of the funds is equivalent to \$25 billion is allocated specifically for climate change mitigation projects. The other 50%, \$25 billion is allocated to compact natural disasters adaptation however this fund is not yet operational. In a meeting I attended in Peru-Lima, that was the first time ever this funding balance was able to reach the amount of \$10 billion; \$3.5 billion was the share from the US Pledge by Obama, \$3 billion from Switzerland, \$200 million from Australia which amounted to \$10 billion however the required amount was \$100 billion. Even though the fund is not yet operational the Ministry of Finance have already prepared projects that will be submitted for this fund. The Ministry of Finance is the designated national authority to the project under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment which is the implementing agency.

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There are required procedures that must be prepared by the Ministry which they are currently working on and talks with the Ministry have already been carried out to prepare these projects for sooner opportunity to go through. That is the case as Samoa have debated to include loss and damage in this allocation, however Africa strongly feels that loss and damage be removed as it is inapplicable to them but adaptation. Such was the deliberation and as a result, the small islands states in the South Pacific have succeeded to include this portion into the funding allocation. At the moment we have drafted future objectives for projects making the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment the implementing entity to carry out projects under this fund. Mr Speaker this is a response in accordance to the queries raised by the Members in relation to this Ministry, with respect.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. I believe the clarification given this evening is clearly understood. I acknowledge all Members for their submissions. I pray that the Lord guide us with these major projects in good health because we do not know what will happen tomorrow. Matautu I pray that the Lord guide and protect you with the plans set when travelling to attend to these matters. I want to thank the Ministry of Environment for all the hard work accomplished. I thank the Minister for the recommendations on some of the requests voiced in the House; remember written proposals should be submitted into the Ministry. My fellow Member for Vaituutuu I suggest you take note of this recommendation nevertheless you are both from the same constituency. We have reached our recess hour, the Member for Faleata West....

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: I was trying to end proceedings with that Ad on television, *'ua miti tagata.'*

MR SPEAKER: The Ad is far different because it is about gambling not the environment, these are not dreams because we are talking about a \$100 billion...

Tofa Hon FAAMOETAULOA LEALAI AULOTO ULAITINO FAALE TUMAALII: Mr Speaker the clarification given is to elaborate the issue further to emphasize important areas and issues. Just to note several other developing countries are putting applications to this funding therefore it is important that we are prepared. Therefore these are not just dreams but reality, it is real life issues.

MR SPEAKER: I announce that proceedings of the Legislative Assembly be set aside for its usual evening recess.

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Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly was set aside for its usual recess at 4.41pm and resumed at 5.25pm.

Proceedings recommenced with the second reading debate of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2014/2015.

MR SPEAKER: I believe we have all been given strength with the refreshments provided this afternoon. We will now proceed to continue our orders of the day in accordance to the agenda laid out for government responses.

I call on the Minister of Education, Sports and Culture, the opportunity is now given for your response considering queries raised by Members on the Supplementary Appropriation.

Afioga Hon MAGELE MAULIU: Thank you Mr Speaker I believe we have replenished strength in mind, body and soul from our lemon tea.

I will not reiterate the dignity and respects of our country as stated earlier by previous Members, also to my constituency of Faasaleleaga No.1. As one of the Members for Faasaleleaga No.1 Afioga Gatoloaifaana Amataga Alesana Gidlow has already stated its honorary salutations. I am grateful to my constituency for their trust in voting us into Parliament, if a decision is made that I should resign then I am thankful to the Lord for this five year term. If both of us will not make it in the next election then Gatoloai will continue with her business while I go to the plantation to plant taro and bananas to sell.

Mr Speaker the request made by the Member for Alataua West with the support of the Member for Falealupo on a new College building has taken three years. Nevertheless the project is now under the Ministry's agenda, we are not sure when it will be implemented since there are other obstacles that needs to be resolved, such as looking for good teachers and the number of students to make up the school. The first visit carried out by the Ministry had 200 students for Year 8 but the second visit saw the decreasing number of students. This means that it will be difficult to get the number of students to advance to college level especially the need for a new building. These are some of the aspects that the Ministry and Government are trying to look into before further action is taken.

With the Samoan Language in the University, the objective is to provide opportunity for all people to take Samoan as part of the University curriculum and for high honors degrees to take Samoan course composing of our culture and customs. This does not mean that those who go on scholarships overseas have to take Samoan but for students who will pursue the University education. As such I wish to thank the University for incorporating our language and custom into the Foundation level and higher learning levels.

The Member for Aleipata....

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Tofa Agafili Patisela Eteuati Tolovaa (Palauli West): Mr Speaker....

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Minister since the issue discussed affects the Member.

Tofa Agafili Patisela Eteuati Tolovaa: Thank you for the opportunity, thank you Minister for the clarification.

The reason why I mentioned the issue is based on the fact that the course is compulsory at the University Preparatory Year but not when selecting scholarships. The reason for raising this is because the Universities of Victoria and Auckland in New Zealand teach Samoan Language and Culture but it is not a pre requisite for scholarships. I am not sure about Australia. If Samoan is not a pre requisite for students going on scholarships then why not make it optional for them? With respect.

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Minister.

Afioga Hon MAGELE MAULIU: If a New Zealander pursues a scholarship in Britain I do not think Maori is recognized; but it makes sense because we are going abroad on scholarships. We have to prioritize things like the English language whereas the Samoan language is only given emphasis in Samoa alone.

I believe there is option for other students who do not have the chance to go on scholarship.

Mr Speaker our teachers, since the Member for Aleipata is not present today but I asked him before what subjects that needed teachers, his response was, English and Science. I have received reports from the Ministry of Education that there are enough teachers at Aleipata Itupa I Luga taking English and Science.

The issue of sports field Mr Speaker the opportunity is given to constituencies and schools that do not have fields. There are a lot of schools that do not have any sports field but we will try and improve this matter. There is no need to rush because we still have time before the elections if this is implemented later people will remember it. Nevertheless it also depends on our Budget and the constituencies that do not have sports fields. I am not sure if the raising Member had visited the sports field at Palauli but I went there last October. The fields of Palauli College in Vailoa and the Primary school in Vaitoomuli are all in good condition. The only request they have is for new school building which will be funded by Japanese aid.

The role of the Ministry in the field of sports is to pay emphasis on the physical education subject covered in school curriculum. The choice of sports played in school is up to the Principals and teachers. The only two things the Ministry becomes involved in is the Fiafia Sports and the Ministry can come to practice and see that everything is going well.

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The other project the Ministry is involved in the under 12 rugby. The purpose for this development is for Principals and teachers to collaborate with other associations like Netball and soccer under the Sports Federation.

The Ministry does not have a say in the Sports Society because it is an independent body, this is the same for SASNOC. It is the Ministry's role to facilitate communication between the Society and Government in a timely basis. This is why it is hard for me to accept the given recommendation, why not create a Committee or an independent body for sports in Samoa? This is impossible as more funding is required to set up a new body and we already have SASNOC and the Society looking after these sports.

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

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Member.

Afioga Toeolesulusulu Cedric Pose Salesa Schuster: Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity also thank you Minister for the clarification. First Mr Speaker as requested earlier a sports field for Aana No.1 School. I believe this is one of the fields that were established during the international field implementation. Unfortunately it has not yet been completed. There is still no field in Aana constituency from Faleasiu to Satapuala to host things like sports competition. The current field used by the school is in poor condition for rugby and athletics training. The purpose for this request is to ensure that Aana Alofi No.3 will have a sports field used for rugby, soccer and other tournaments. I do not think this will involve much expense as a field is already in place. Thus the field needs to be reclaimed and restructured for safer reasons.

The Minister has already clarified that there is a specific sector in the Ministry that is in charge of sports for schools. I believe the Ministry should help develop clubs for the constituencies. The only areas that has funding for its trainings are the Rugby Union and soccer. Most of the Secondary School athletics do not have the aspirations to continue their profession in sports to raise standards going forward. Such are the areas for the Ministry to look into for future development. Why not let SASNOC deal with this area and the Ministry take over the development of sports in Primary and Secondary schools, thank you.

MR SPEAKER: I believe the speech by the Member is now understood. I call on the Minister.

Afioga Hon MAGELE MAULIU: Perhaps the Member did not get my explanation that the Ministry facilitates the needs between various clubs and the Government for additional funding.

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Mr Speaker what's happening is that the Ministry is drawing back the old methods. So this is not new. Perhaps majority of us here have sat the New Zealand examinations for School Certificate and University Entrance and now those exams no longer exist. We were given the chance to draft our own examination papers. The Ministry was faced with a major problem because it was short staffed and taking examination papers from New Zealand was not easy. This is why we procured assistance from abroad. And these examinations papers were not for free, we had to buy them.

The Ministry at the time did not assume that they would be carrying on like this. Because what happened then was that those who drafted the exams took them overseas for marking and returned. They set the papers and send it back. When they do the marking they would specify the mark inside the line called medium as given by the Deputy Speaker. The purpose for this was to ensure that there is stability in marks like the bell of the Catholic Church that is rung every morning.

If the marks were more on the right hand side, that means that the test was easy. Then they do what they call scaling. They would scale it down to this line. Likewise is the scaling for the other side. The problem with Mathematics and Science is that most of the students were below average. A method was implemented to ensure a balance between student results. For example I asked the Ministry what will be the result if a student has 24 marks? They responded that 24 is only the raw marks once it is scaled it will be 69, 70, or 71.

I was the Executive at the University for eleven years. At the beginning when I started in 1998, I knew the problem faced by the University Senate at the time because of the many students who did not pass mathematics. We should note that the University does not use scaling on markings. Those who were good at Maths from low standard all of sudden reach the Foundation level thought that they should not have taken Maths because they did not pass. I would like to acknowledge those tutors who conducted tutorial classes because that was the practice back then.

Some attend the University at Alafua although some could not due to high tuition fees. All these issues were all pushed together at the UPY Foundation adding more pressure on top of other priorities. This impacted a lot of students including those who had to pay for recount whilst the Senate at the time was busy assessing this problem. This resulted in an investigation conducted by the University to relook into the core hole starting from Primary school levels from Year 4, Year 6 up to Year 13 and the results came out just yesterday. I am not shy to tell you this because I too was a teacher, for the sake of teachers listening in, the good and the bad nonetheless, I thank God for taking us back to where things started particularly for our Science and Mathematics subjects. By reflection of the past, it was then that no one was interested in taking Maths and Science again. Who would want to take it again? It was too difficult for the majority. This resulted in a small number of students taking Science.

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This is reason enough for us to use the past methods. Some Members said to go and take Commerce. We have very few students taking Foundation Science. These are evidence that we should take back the old methods. The poor results the students received stemmed from the teachers. The government knew about this which was reason for the teachers' pay raise and knowledge up skilling.

We have 60 scholarships at the University of the South Pacific for the Bachelor of Science to be concluded in 2016. 12 scholarships have just been received for the first time for students in the Foundation level and top students for the Faculty of Education. The Ministry also has in place laid out plans for continuing education for degree level courses as well as new technological methods. As a concern, most of our good Maths teachers have retired but I wish they did not go because I wanted them to mentor the new teachers.

Mr Speaker....

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

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker the issues concerning the Ministry of Education is very surprising. We should re-hire all retired teachers to teach again and heed the legislations. All legislations are subject to common sense. Now what needs to be done must be done.

The same tone is affecting church schools we should be avoided. It is insulting to note that students are awarded higher marks to portray better grades when in reality the truth of the matter is that teachers are hiding behind this scheme. This is a very disheartening process. This means that they are abiding the law which should not be the case. As such common sense should be considered otherwise, all retired teachers should be re-hired.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Prime Minister I call on the Member for Faleata West.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker, the root of the matter stems from Mathematics results.

That being said, what is the cause for all this because after our sitting yesterday at 7.00pm I called my brother and found that he was already asleep before 6.00pm due to his tiredness from written statements in the newspaper. I told him, 'come to Moanalisa lets have dinner and swim in the pool to relieve some stress.' Then I saw him at church on Sunday with both hands raising asking God for salvation. I felt sorry for him because I was there too and it was not easy. Hence is the request for a clear explanation on this matter....

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MR SPEAKER: I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoui: Mr Speaker, there you have it, the subject of Mathematics is always compulsory in any field. It is a requirement for fields like medical courses, engineering and auditing courses. If you do not take Mathematics you cannot expand your academic choices. I am in awe as this concern seems to have been taken for granted and teachers are becoming used to it. But I appreciate the initiative of the Chief Executive and the Ministry to resolving this matter even though this year is now marked as one with the lowest marks received by students. I too was deeply surprised when I heard it on the news. Regardless, I applaud the Hon Minister and the Executive for putting a stop to this problem by publicizing it sooner. This is a sound decision because it is a very imperceptive idea that can affect students as well. I recommend the Hon Minister to rehire all qualified retired teachers in Mathematics as resolution to the posing issue.

MR SPEAKER: I appease the Member I will give the opportunity to the Leader of Opposition followed by the Deputy Speaker.

Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II: Mr Speaker the Hon Prime Minister has spoken and to be honest, it is good to learn from mistakes. I want to thank the Executive for resolving this matter since this has been a long observing issue. As the Hon Prime Minister recommended we should rehire the old teachers who are good at doing their job, they do not look at the pay but the development of our schools. I request that legislation be drafted to amend the Public Service Commission Act to rehire retired teachers to assist in the school curriculum development most especially the future of our children. Thank you for the opportunity.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. The opinion by the Member is now noted. I call on the Deputy Speaker.

Tofa Agafili Patisela Eteuati Tolovaa: Thank you for the opportunity Mr Speaker. I believe the Hon Minister is aware of where I stand considering the subject Mathematics, I also thank the Hon Prime Minister for clarifying the matter concerning retired teachers. I humbly request that during this rehiring process I ask that my name be listed so that I have two pay considering the upcoming campaign. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Hon Minister to continue his speech.

Afioga Hon MAGELE MAULIU: Thank you Hon Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition and everyone who have contributed to this matter.

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Our University now implements new changes like eligible marks and improvement programs for the Faculty of Education as I presented earlier. The Chancellor who is present with us today has rearranged Mathematics courses based on the University's prerequisites on entry point for Maths. Although marks are now low, the University is now working on revising its work. Such is the appreciation to the Vice Chancellor for all the hard work done for our University.

The Ministry has made negotiations with China and India and have agreed to teachers exchanges to assist and improve our curriculum systems locally. I agree with the comment by the member for Faleata West, these overseas teachers are very bright and committed. We also had some Indian teachers brought by the church who later worked for the public sector.

Mr Speaker the reshuffling of Principals, any change made by the Ministry of Education relies solely on international findings and reviews on best practices to develop our education standards. We deliberated on what was important to Samoa, and one of the significant practices used by overseas countries was the rotation of teachers between/amongst schools. The Principals do not remain in one particular school for a long time. As reviewed in past researches the performance pattern for most Principals and teachers decline and therefore rotating to a new environment revives willingness and enthusiasm to continue with the teaching profession. One school requested not to replace their Principal since they are now close, the response I gave them was, 'this is the exact reason why Principals are rotated.' We do not want a Principal to be too close to the Committee or constituency. This is the main relationship we hope to build between Principals teachers and students. These are a few methods we have adopted for our schools.

Mr Speaker I believe this covers most of the issues mentioned by Members. I conclude with a vote of thanks to the Vice Chancellor of the University Professor Asofou Soo, I thank the Chief Executive of Samoa Qualifications Authority and the Chief Executive of the Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture. I am grateful for the hard work undertaken especially for the future development of our children. Bless our proceedings, Soifua.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you for the clarification given to the Minister of Education, Sports and Culture. I am confident Members of the House have heard and now understand some of the queries explained. Also I strongly believe that parents have been listening in on the radio to this matter considering children are their pride and joy. I am grateful that the Hon Minister has resolved this issue together with the Executive. Nevertheless you have voiced your appreciation for the presence of the Vice Chancellor of our University and also to the Chief Executive of Samoa Qualifications Authority; I pray that the Lord bless you all with the work done. I humbly call on Dr. Hon Leao Talalelei Tuitama it is now time for the clarification of the Ministry of Health.

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Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: I humbly greet Chamber in all its honorary salutations, Mr Speaker, the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet also Associate Minister. The Leader of Opposition and all respectable Members of Parliament.

I humbly greet the Clerk and office also to other Heads of various Ministries and Organizations and support to various areas deliberated by Parliament. I also want to acknowledge the support of our country from His Highness the Head of State and everyone in all parts of the country.

I want to acknowledge the support of my constituency in the past year and years past. I am thankful that we have reached another New Year to commence with Parliament duties.

Mr Speaker I want to thank Members for some of the queries voiced in proceedings today. I am grateful for the queries even though most Members did not mention this Ministry in Budget deliberations. Nevertheless the issues that were raised are quite significant in the improvement of the services of this Ministry. I will now try and answer some of these queries.

I want to thank the Member for Sagaga le Usoga for raising the issue of alcohol. The opinion given is associated to the message promoted by the World Health. This is also the message voiced in September 2011 at the United Nations conference in New York by our Prime Minister. It depicted Samoa's support on the current issues faced with non communicable diseases due to life style changes. At the conclusion of the conference in 2011 a declaration was given titled *United National Political Declaration on Non Communicable Diseases*. From then on forward most of countries in the world have implemented these awareness campaigns. The most prominent of all was the political will. This stresses the statement I made earlier, political will or the collective collaboration of Members in public in fulfilling our duties to remedy health issues.

The reason why I have elaborated on this issue is to emphasize the opinion voiced by the Member. If tobacco is banned through advertisements and legislations, why allow these products to go on advertisements?

This is the main reason why SPAGHL was initiated in Parliament to implement this political will. The abbreviation SPAGHL in its long form is, Samoa Parliamentary Advocacy Group on Healthy Living. The Members include Ministers, Members of Opposition and this side as well. The objective of this group as it is in other countries is to eliminate diseases and *implement health policies in various Ministries*. This means that we are responsible for reviewing legislations to ensure that appropriate provisions are provided for improved health.

I am grateful to the Member for voicing this issue because the awareness carried out by Health is for the understanding of public and Chamber on risk factor that we face today.

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These risk factors include alcohol, which has now being abbreviated SNAD, S for smoking a risk factor for Non Communicable disease. N stands for nutrition which means we should lower our carbohydrates intake, minimize eating fatty foods which resulted to the banning of turkey tails. A stands for alcohol, D is for Physical exercise which I am thankful for the various initiatives undertaken like the programs seen on television.

I believe everyone will believe when I say this, most of our people are obese. This was evident in the 2013 survey which recorded 80% obesity thus we now witness a programme by TV1 titled the Biggest Loser. This programme delivers the message of awareness for people who have obesity to start thinking and live healthy.

I will now answer the question by the Member on alcohol banning due to smoking. As mentioned earlier smoking advertisements on television, radio and newspapers are made in accordance to the Tobacco Control Act 2008 and Tobacco Control Regulations 2013. The implementation of these legislations is enacted by the Ministry of Health.

The Act that regulates alcohol is the Liquor Act 2011 under the Ministry of Revenue or Inland Revenue. The Liquor Board has the authority in implementing provisions such as registration and licensing of liquor sold to clubs and stores. Second they are in charge of enforcing alcohol consumption for those who are under twenty one years.

Thirdly they monitor the consumption and prices of liquor, to ensure that it abides with the law. As some may be aware the Liquor Board also includes the Director General or Chief Executive of the Ministry of Health. At the moment the provisions are currently under review by the Samoa Law Reform Office. The issue here is to ban alcohol advertisements like smoking; this is because it has a lot of effects on people's health. The Ministry of Health representative within the Board is persistent in portraying this message together with the newspaper. They are adamant with the information submitted to the Law Reform Commission. The Ministry has already drafted a copy for an alcohol policy, which is now in a waiting its consultations process.

I am grateful for the support given by the Ministry of Health also to Members of Parliament for the constant mention of the effects of alcohol. Nevertheless awaiting the decision from the Law Reform Commission on what measure to be taken to ban alcohol advertisements the same as smoking. The Ministry believes that once a decision is made it will be beneficial for the public in deciding what is best for their health. This is why Mr Speaker and Members of the House the query made by the Member for Sagala le Usoga is important. Therefore I thank the Member for raising this question.

Mr Speaker I now....

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Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Minister of Health but I will give the opportunity to the interruption by the Member.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: The Chamber is well aware of the measures taken by the Ministry in resolving the problem faced by the country today considering Non Communicable Diseases. It has now been twenty years and evidently by trend NCD's has increased. I just want to question whether the approach taken is right or not.

The Minister of Health mentioned the term SNAP which is new to me and to my party. This means that if we do not understand then it means the public will not either. I am not beguiled by the term SNAP when I hear it. Why not rearrange it to either NAPS or PANS? These terms are more alluring if you say it. Therefore Minister of Health is the same as the new exercise programme seen on television. Even though the programme is new many are quite interested in it now especially with the cooking. This is why respectable Minister of Health the message has been useful since the implementation of SPAGHL where we have been able to visit schools and villages to emphasize these issues. This is a few recommendations on the matter because now we have implemented another approach with SNAP but the matter is still a problem. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Minister of Health.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: I believe this is one Member the idiom like the water off a ducks back applies too.

Every time I discuss such issues in the House this is one Member who does not use the information that I give because he does not seem to voice it to his constituency. He does not know what SNAP is although I already spoke of the meaning of this term in previous sittings. I recommend that you look into the Hansard to confirm what I am saying; nevertheless I will not waste my time explaining unethical questions.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: I am offended with the Ministers comments because if I were to promote these issues it will not take a week for all of Samoa to know and recite these issues. Why not reassess the approach and see whether it is constructive? The only appropriate area where the term SNAP can be used at is boxing.

I am trying to assist the Minister with this issue considering finances spent on the increasing number of people affected by these diseases. I am not sure if the Hon Minister is also affected by this disease as well.

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MR SPEAKER: I call on the Minister to conclude with his speech.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: Mr Speaker perhaps the term SNAP the Member is referring means break.

Mr Speaker there is another important issue raised by the Member for Aana Alofi No.3. He mentioned the state and usage of the Broadband. I am thankful for the report but it is the Ministry of Health that was the first to use this Broadband once it was completed. An agreement was made between the Broadband and Health to establish this at its location which is now set up next to the National Kidney Foundation knowing that it will be very useful for the Ministry. The objective is to maintain connectivity within and around the hospital. Nevertheless I thank the Member for mentioning this matter because during my visit in Savaii on Friday and in Upolu on Monday the system was down. For clarification there are two parts to the Broadband system, the first connection is for Apia area, the second connection is for the rural areas which is wireless. These connections are linked to the towers of Digicel.

Last year in December during power outage the system mounted on the Digicel poles were greatly affected. The reason for the delay in repairing these machines is based on Digicel's consent to go ahead with the repairs. At the moment an agreement has been initiated between the Ministry of Communications, Information Technology and Digicel on resolving this problem. We have another system now used for communications between the main hospital and the one in Tuasivi. I recommend that Members inform the Chief Executive of the Ministry or me about this problem so we can resolve it.

I am certain that if I had not gone on these visits I would not have understood the issue raised by the Member. This concerns the accessibility of information for patients in Apia. The Cabinet has already appointed a Committee to improve the hospitals health system to replace the old ones. As of now it is not being used anymore because it is incomplete. It started in 1999 as private doctors and general practitioners we were given computers to initiate contact in getting patient information from the National hospital. Some patients are not satisfied with one doctor they go to several ones maybe three to four. This will only cease when they are certain that the medication they get is similar for all four doctors they consulted.

If there was a facility like this where doctors can access patient information on whether they had a blood test, an x-ray, or on who examined them and what prescription they were given. This would be helpful especially if it is a click of a button as stated by the Member for Sagaga le Falefa. This will assist with the examination of the patient to minimize prescriptions and work together with other doctors.

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This is the truth about what the Member for Aana Alofi No.3 wanted to know. It has been implemented but not used for the past three months. It can take twenty four hours for a patient in the rural hospital to get medical assistance if they contact the hospital in Apia. The doctor on duty at the time will correspond with the other doctor starting with the patient's condition whether the patient should be admitted at Tuasivi or an IV should be administered. This is the reason why we are trying to improve our communication methods.

This is also a response to the question made by the Deputy Speaker on when they will get a doctor. This matter is not new hence it is a recurring issue. I remember the Hon Prime Minister speaking about it, I also asked considering the doctor in rural areas. There were consultations and research undertaken to acquire information relating to the issue. The objective was to make use of the services of doctors for them living permanently in rural health centers. This means that patients are only able to visit the center in the morning taking ten to twenty patients a day. No work can be done if there are no patients the entire day and this will waste the time of the doctors and nurses. Fortunately the Government has initiated a device to be used by doctors when patients are in need of assistance. At the moment there is a shortage of staff; however I am confident that comes next year, forty students from the Faculty of Medicine University and the sixty nurses will graduate to fill in these positions. Then other options will be taken to reevaluate the schedule of staff to assist our people.

Mr Speaker these are some of the issues raised in the House. I am sure that my assistance has shed light to some of the raising issues.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Hon Minister but I will give the opportunity to the Member for Faleata West.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker I humbly ask for one more question since the clarification is nearly completed. I wanted to know where the CT scan is, because it was mentioned that it will arrive in December yet it is now January.

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Hon Minister to conclude.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: It was just a prediction made during that time, but I am confident that it will be here in January. The Member is right and I will not hide the truth. The funds set aside for the CT scan was roughly \$1 million. Unfortunately during government bidding the estimated price given was \$2 million. At the moment we are awaiting further confirmation from companies that have been given the expectation that January is not yet over. We are hoping that by the end of January we will acquire the funds needed to get this CT scan. I pray for your patience.

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Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker I raised the issue to argue the issue predicted by the Minister. As we all know once the Minister of Health takes the floor we are entranced with his wonderful clarifications. I am quite certain that he mentioned that the Scan was expected to arrive in December. Nevertheless it does not matter what the cost or how many millions of tala is spent on getting this machine. It should be a priority because we are still sending our patients to Tutuila resulting to more expenses spent on all the procedures done. It is vital that we get this machine to equip our new hospital. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. I want to thank the Minister of Health and the Ministry for the hard work. It is not an easy task faced with the responsibility of protecting, safeguarding and curing the sick of different illnesses including accident emergency patients. I would like to thank the Ministry and its various departments hence we have noted that improvement in our awareness programs. The SPAGHL group has already implemented its programme for this year and is currently awaiting the response of the Chief Executive of the Ministry of Education. This is to ensure lapse business set aside from last year as voiced by the Special Committee progresses. I want to thank everyone for their patience.

I call on the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries for his response in relation to matters declared within the House towards his Ministry.

Afioga Hon LE MAMEA ROPATI: Thank you Mr Speaker.

I humbly acknowledge the support of our country and church delegations. I also acknowledge the farmers and fishermen. I will not speak of the dignity of our country.

I stand with respect before you Mr Speaker and House, the Honorable Prime Minister and Cabinet; Associate Ministers, the Leader of Opposition and all Members of his party.

I believe we are also in the presence of the Chief Executives of various Ministries and Corporations of Government especially the Clerk of the Legislative and office.

I now take this opportunity to respond to some of the work carried out by this Ministry. I thank all Members who have spoken on the work of this Ministry. I believe 99.8% of opinions given were all vote of thanks to this Ministry. I am thankful for the gratitude shown nevertheless it is a milestone for this Ministry. I am not the Chief Executive therefore it is the employees that deserve such vote of thanks for the work completed.

I want to take this time to briefly summarize the work of this Ministry since the start of the Parliamentary term 2011 until last year regarding the Ministry of Agriculture Sector Plan and its strategies being implemented.

There are three important objectives, first, to ensure that we have enough healthy food for security reasons. Secondly, have enough agricultural and fish produce for overseas export that will contribute to the Ministry's GDP.

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Third, replace foreign products with locally made products especially agriculturally made, import substitution.

These are three important objectives that we are trying to find methods to develop them. The first objective to have enough food, is an issue that we are all aware of and it is the reason why it has been reinstated in the Agriculture Sector Plan. It is important to consult with several farmers on methods they use and share it with others. This is important because it will then motivate other farmers to do well.

The goal the Ministry is trying to voice to our farmers is, those who sow are the ones who reap the benefits. The farmers are listening are aware that this is the message that is portrayed every year in its Agriculture Shows. The outcome it seems to be working. It is not unknown that this Ministry is constantly criticized within the Parliament also there was a suggestion for it to be closed down.

Those were some of the suggestions in the past nevertheless I am thankful for the changes that have been made. This is why food security is first on the list of objectives. The Prime Minister himself has already spoken on this matter. In 2013 we achieved this objective under United Nations Food Agriculture Organization on Eradication of Poverty and Hunger and Samoa was awarded. I am grateful for this achievement.

At the moment the Ministry has taken measures on the exportation of local agricultural products overseas. The main incentive is to produce more agricultural produce for food consumption. There is no purpose in receiving an award this year if we cannot do it again next year. This is why I am thankful for the reports made on television and seen in newspapers on our taro being plentiful. The people do not know where to sell it too, which markets should our taro be sold too? What have we seen since the emergence of taro? We have now started again with our taro exportation overseas.

I have been vigilant in finding overseas markets for our taro exports which is the reason we need more taro. We are only used to exporting for a limited time because we do not have enough supply. Overseas markets do not want supply for a limited time but continuously.

This is the exact problem now faced by Fiji. The truth is at the moment we have taken over taro market exports. The difficulty that we were faced with was the taro leaf plight resulting to yellow taro leaves. This is the reason we have faced this problem of acquiring overseas markets even though we have tried planting other taro varieties. It is hard for us to export overseas to America, Australia and New Zealand due to their cautiousness in case this plight will affect their plants. This was a difficult time for the Ministry especially the farmers nevertheless we now have eight to nine varieties of taro. We now have narrowed it down to two varieties.

Our farmers have now concentrated in planting number one and number two taro and as for other varieties it can be used for consumption. These two varieties are recommended to be planted since it is the taro type in competition with the Fijian taro.

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We were aware of the situation Fiji was going to be in; since their taro is grown on one small island I am surprised with the condition of its soil. It is not the same as us, once we harvest our taro we leave the land to be rejuvenated. This is the issue Fiji faced which resulted to the use of fertilizers hence it was no use. At the moment a taro container is sent overseas every week. I just hope that our farmers will not quite but be encouraged to meet supply because we are also looking at another method of frozen taro. Overseas markets are also demanding yams, taamu and other crops to be exported. I believe this will develop the services of the Ministry. Perhaps these exports from last year and this year will encourage our farmers to plant more taro.

This is our taro exports but I was also thinking of exporting our fish. The Hon Prime Minister has discussed the Bumble Bee fish factory; I am hoping that it will materialize. I stated in my speech the other day of another fish factory, but I was hesitant to report further on the matter. This was based on the complaints and investigations carried out not only by newspapers but the Opposition. I was doubtful in clarifying it further until it was materialized. At the moment it has now been accomplished and it is not evident since it is in a huge shack at the Samoa Ports Authority. It has been completed and all the freezers have been installed. Perhaps by next month or the beginning of March we will take the exportation of fish by boat and by plane. I am now confident to speak of this new venture. I recommend that Members go visit the site next to the Samoa Ports Authority office.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker....

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Member for Faleata West.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: I want to thank the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries for all the hard work and developments. These are the kind of people that should be here, those who do not adhere to gossip. He does not take rumors spoken by others but does what is best. Also he does not take hearsay to justify his actions. Thank you again Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries for your perseverance and good nature.

MR SPEAKER: Perhaps this fish cannery has been successful since the Member for Faleata West did not know of it.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoui: Perhaps this fish factory is already setup but is awaiting equipments.

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Minister to continue his clarifications.

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Afioga Hon LE MAMEA ROPATI: I want to thank my fellow Member Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi. I recommend that you not praise me but praise our Heavenly Father. I am confident to say that by the end of this year our fish exports will increase. This fishing company fishes in our zone. They fish in Tokelau, Tuvalu and Tonga. All the fish supplies will come here and then be exported overseas. Nevertheless I pray that it will be a success, I am also thankful that it is now being implemented.

This will be beneficial for our fishermen with prices of fish products and equipment such as bait. Nowadays our fishermen are faced with the high costs of fishing equipments and fish bait.

It is very important that we work together in encouraging our farmers, not only will it produce more food for the people but also for exports. This will develop our earnings and contribute to the country's GDP.

Another issue raised by some of the Members....

MR SPEAKER: I apologize to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries. I have noted that there are still a few issues that are needed to be discussed but we have now arrived at our recess time. Therefore I believe we should take a rest. I want to thank the Hon Minister; you will be able to continue with your responses in tomorrow's sitting.

I also thank all Members of the House this time of the day. I believe we have been deliberating long enough since the start of the second half of our proceedings at 3.00pm. I wish to acknowledge the support of Samoa and to Members for your comments and submissions for improvement and is yet to be answered by the Hon Minister.

I also thank the Heads of the various Government Ministries and Corporations present here today. I believe it is now time for us to take our leave with prayer that our Lord guides us back safely tomorrow.

Lastly I want to thank all of Samoa; I believe your Parliament has been able to accomplish its programmes today due to prayers. I pray the Lord bless each and everyone within our country in all its honorary salutations.

Before we adjourn this evening I call on the Member for Faleata East to conclude our proceedings with a prayer.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were adjourned at 7:02pm until 9:00am Friday, 23rd of January 2015.

FRIDAY, 23RD JANUARY 2015

Mr Speaker took the Chair at 9.00am.

Prayers.

MR SPEAKER: Respectfully to the stately Members of the House, we have assembled this new day in the spirit of thankfulness and honour to God. May He continually be glorified for His wonderful enduring love for bringing us together today. Our gathering once again this morning feels like everything is brand new. Well done everyone on your patience, perseverance and commitment to our sittings. We have reached the final day of our sitting in continuation of our scheduled business in the Order Paper. I extend appreciation to the Hon Prime Minister, the Cabinet and the dignified members of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, and this side, thank you for your patience. We shall ensue as usual and entrust our calling as representatives through our far searching wisdom and wise counselling that is highly regarded by the country given your significant constituencies that you reside and stand by.

Thank you Samoa for your support in all your honorific salutations, bear with us today in your prayer and support whilst your Parliament engages with its set business. To the Servants of God, may your word be blessed.

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2014/2015
– debate ensued – Day 4**

SPEAKER: Before we adjourned yesterday, the statement by the Hon Minister of Fisheries and Forestry was about to conclude. Hon Minister, be upstanding you now have the opportunity to...Pardon me I recognize the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoui: Mr Speaker, we exalt God like the spirit of offering this morning as the House has roused together with your honour. Today is a short day where we will end our business at 12.00noon for those travelling to Savaii to attend the service of the week. That is the attempt from our end with hope that before our lunch break, we will complete our work, we pity the many appreciations you give whenever we finish our speeches. That is the assistance to lessen the burden on your shoulders given the short time we have today, do not be concerned, the speeches will follow one after another. Our team is a hard working group that don't rely on words of appreciations and pride given the normal saying, once our work have completed, the only person to give thanks to is God, not servants, because what we do is our job, we are servants of this House and your honour (Speaker). That is reason for taking the floor to ease the burden on the Chair.