

*THURSDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2014*

*Mr Speaker took the Chair at 9.00am.*

**Prayer.**

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe the respectable members have all arrived safety with blessings of a fine new day. I humbly greet you all; we are able to be present in good health and carry out our orders for today. Praise the Lord for his love and kindness.

Yesterday we were faced with a lot of work. The actions, phrases and behavior shown are all clear before the Lord, I am thankful for this morning because members are eager to start with our orders for today.

I also convey greetings to the support from our country. Thank you Samoa for your support and also the prayers of the various church denominations. Our Parliament will now proceed to continue with our orders today.

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

*Clerk read out the list of Paper pursuant to S.O.48*

1. P.P.2013/2014 No.77, Annual Report of the Office of the Attorney General for July 2011- 30 June 2012.

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2013/2014**

**– debate resumed on second reading – Day 3.**

**MR SPEAKER:** Before adjournment yesterday the Hon Minister of Police commented based on the queries made by members on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2013/2014.

Therefore I call upon the Hon Minister of Police & Prisons, Fire Emergency Services to continue with your explanation.

I humbly voice with gratitude Hon Minister and the Ministry for the prayer meeting last night. I also thank our Parliament for your attendance. I convey great thanks to the Hon Minister especially the Leader of the Service and the Ministry of Police. I hope we all fair well this year especially with the duties of the Ministry. I call upon the Hon Minister.

**Afioga Hon SALA FATA LISATI PINATI (Minister for Police, Prisons & Fire Emergency Services):** Thank you Mr Speaker. I believe you have already given praises to our Heavenly Father for His blessings, for we are a country founded on God.

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**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2013/2014  
– debate resumed on second reading – Day 3.**

I greet dignities within the House; Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet and members of this side, also the Leader of Opposition and respectable members of Parliament especially the Chief Executives that are present with us this morning.

I also greet the respectable dignities of Samoa and in consideration of the time given I will therefore try and answer some of the queries put forward yesterday.

Nearing the end of yesterday's proceedings I was discussing the developments made to the Tafaigata prison and Olomanu. There are plans on improvements needed to be made at Olomanu for housing for our police officers. As stated in the Committee reports, there are only 4 officers and there are 60 detainees. The goal is to ensure the safety of detainees and a place for officers to sleep in after work. These plans are already been clarified in meetings also clearly stated within the House that needs everyones support. It all depends on our budget and what the government and Maota recommend for improvement of the Ministry.

The matter stated by the member for Aleipata Itupa i Luga on improvements that should be made to the police station, the issue is considered although it depends on the money available. I thank the Member for the insight because with the support given by members I am certain that these issues can be addressed for the improvement of the Ministry.

The issue mentioned by member for Faleata East on the pending investigation upon the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Prisons. I am sorry to say that this matter is not under my jurisdiction. Investigation is still being carried out by the Ombudsmans Office and I believe there will come a time when a decision will be issued. For the clarification on the accusations made against the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner there were about 126 witnesses who made complaints against the two commissioners.

Mr Speaker the promotion mentioned, as Maota is aware every aspect is to follow guidelines of PSC. The way a person is promoted and also the increase in salary. I, and the Ministry, cannot ignore these guidelines which we should always abide towards. Therefore I am thankful for the support shown towards this Ministry.

I am grateful to members of the House for your never ending support. Also I ask leniency upon the Ministry on some of its actions carried out especially with charges made against the Deputy Prime Minister. This does not mean that one individual will taint all. We all have our mistakes because we are not perfect. The truth is when the Ministry fails in doing its duties I am the one that carries the blame. I pray indulgence on the Ministrys services. I will look into the issue and with your support and advice I believe we will be able to address it especially the relationship between members, we were chosen by each constituency which is the priority of this Ministry. I am really thankful for your patience.

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And that is a conclusion to some of the queries made; I would like to thank my constituency for their support especially to our Parliament and proceedings. God Bless.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Hon Minister of Police, Prisons & Fire Emergency Services. I believe the explanation given to the members are clearly understood. Thank you for the clarification especially the response from the Ministry. I now give the opportunity to the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.

**Afioga Hon MANUALESAGALALA ENOKATI POSALA (Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure):** Mr Speaker you have given our praises unto our Heavenly Father. The misgivings have evaded us and we are blessed with another new year. I humbly greet Mr Speaker, Hon Prime Minister, the dignity of the Parliament especially the support of the Three Pillars of government and all of Samoa from the highest mountain to its shores. I appreciate the speeches made this morning in consideration to our Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2013/2014. If we look into the report nothing is being allocated to the Ministry. So there should have been no queries.

First of all, regarding the Samoa Water Authority. There is knowledge that new water catchments were put in at Vaialele, Tapatapao and Aleisa, but work is still being carried out to lay down pipelines that will cover all areas of the country that need water. Also water pumps have been implemented like the one in Falelima. Also water supply is now accessible in Alataua West and work is still ongoing at Falelima, Tufutafoe and towards Falealupo. Water pumps are also being implemented at Falelauniu throughout the area. The Ministry is still carrying out their duties; requests have been given to families for requests to connect pipelines. Tests are also ongoing to make sure everyone gets clean water where services are available.

Boreholes have already been instigated in Lepa whereby when there is drought everything dries up; the Ministry is trying to make sure that water reaches Saleapaga and parts of Lalomanu. There is also a programme for water tanks and pipelines that will be able to connect water supply which will start from Faleasiu uta. The Chief Executive for the Samoa Water Authority is aware that these arrangements of pumping water should be carried out next week in Faleasiu uta and Fasitoo uta. This plan was on hold awaiting the right equipment to carry out the process. There is a process that must be followed **before carrying out these plans; it is to make sure that the pump used is right.**

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The Ministry does not do everything at once it follows the feedback and requests of the people when they have a problem. But most of them go to the wrong people such as the journalists and that is then broadcasted thus they are asked to submit their requests to the Samoa Water Authority who addresses these issues within the country. It is a major problem we see today, as for the work carried out by the Ministry it is a never ending duty to ensure that people have access to clean water.

Lastly a clarification on water sources, the first stage has just been carried out for the water source at Tafitoala that reaches my constituency last. It has been disrupted since the cyclone. This means that roads have to be reconstructed and new tanks are to be installed. These tanks will be taken to Salafai first because with the cyclone Safata and Siumu have access to water and this process is well underway.

There was an issue mentioned about budget support from EU, where a problem occurred in 2011. This was because the report submitted was the wrong one. It had nothing to do with the slow progress but there were different reports concerning quality of water. There was a difference between the report given by the Health and the one given by the Samoa Water Authority. Therefore a consultation was made with the Hon Prime Minister not only to find a solution that will ensure clean water supply for the country but to make sure reports will be considered by overseas. There are no more problems because the Health Sector, Samoa Water Authority and SROS have collaborated together in finding probable solutions through lab tests. This is making sure we have good quality water and also that reports submitted will be considered from overseas.

We now come to the Electric Power Corporation I believe with the budget estimate in June this year the opening of the Power Station at Fiaga will be ready. These Power Stations are expensive because they are operated with the use of overseas fuel. Also methods have been taken for the use of renewable energy.

There are hydro generators that have been damaged during the cyclone and ADB has offered assistance to reconstruct these hydro generators at Samasoni, Fale o le Fee and Alaoa. Since the establishment of the Power Station at Fiaga with the continuous change in the weather experienced at the end of last year, there have been barely any power outages because the station has been able to generate power for all of Upolu. Unless there are accidents that occur that may result in power cuts. Nevertheless the objective is to ensure that these problems and power cuts will not arise again.

There are also plans to construct more hydro dams for both Savaii and Upolu. There have been consultations on the matter and strategies have been initiated to ensure that we have a maximum supply of electricity making it cheaper. The strategies discussed have gained the support of ADB and Japan.

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As for our solar power, maybe by next year we will commission the construction at Tanugamanono, Vaitele and Salelologa with assistance of Japan. This project is expected to commission in February with 500 kilowatts. There is also assistance from New Zealand as stated by the Hon Prime Minister of 1.6 megawatts. There is expectation during the conference in September that New Zealand will assist us on solar power. There will be a time when panels will be installed on top of buildings this will also benefit businesses and companies by use of solar power.

The wind driven generator has been approved and signed by the Hon Minister of Finance with the assistance from UAE for the construction of 500 kilowatts of wind electricity. This means that the Government and the Electric Power Corporation is not ignorant, they are finding ways so that we can access electricity and also minimize the costs on fuel brought in from overseas.

Also consultations have been carried out by the Regulator and EPC on strategies that will initiate the use of electricity. Although an endorsement has not been given by Cabinet but I wish to clarify the matter. It has been 10 years but the base tariff for electricity is still low. We are all aware of the surcharge imposed on tariff. There are more than twenty who worked with ADB on this issue. The increase planned is 10%. This means that there will be changes on the surcharge we have at the moment if the change is imposed. The use of electricity is also noted with those to have minimum use and businesses that use a maximum amount. These are some of the matters addressed in consultations; this is to inform you all before any of these matters are passed.

Therefore we request for an increase because some do not understand the surcharge. A base tariff should be approved so that we will know how many units to pay. As for its assistance considerations are being carried out within the Corporation and other works will still continue.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon Hon Minister I give the opportunity to this side. I call upon the member for Faleata West.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi (Faleata West):** Thank you Mr Speaker. Let the Hon Minister take a break, the explanation given is thoroughly understood. As for the matter on electricity that I mentioned yesterday improvement of services is not questioned but it is the efficiency, and the money spent on wasted electricity, the Ministry ought to consider this *because it will be easier to monitor this with the Regulator or is there a special person that can overlook costs.* There is understanding that they regulated costs of phones. Is there someone at the moment that can carry out this duty? With respect thank you.

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**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon Hon Minister; I call upon the Leader of Opposition because the same issue was mentioned in his speech yesterday.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II (Leader of Opposition):** Mr Speaker the clarification of the Hon Minister is important in consideration of the cost of a unit. We must remember that once these units increase it will mean a higher cost of living. Mr Speaker I move to question the reason. The country needs to know the reason for the increase of costs, as for the debt it is USD\$ 100 million. This is the reason why I wish to understand these changes especially an explanation to the members on the rise in the cost of electricity.

**MR SPEAKER:** The query put forward by the Leader is clearly understood.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neiote Sailele Malielegaioi (Prime Minister):** Mr Speaker the Leader of Opposition always tries to make known the \$100 million debt. These are grants; the reason for these improvements is because our generators have reached their expiry dates and they are old and new ones are needed. This is evident in the power outage we are experiencing. Only a stupid country sits around and does not do anything when this kind of thing occurs. Therefore the Leader of Opposition should leave the issue of debt alone. As I mentioned yesterday there is not a single country in the world that does not have debts.

Only a stupid country does not pay attention to implementing improvements to develop its country when there is no financial support. Because if the government was not doing this what will happen? There will be no more electricity. The static electricity occurred because it reached its limit. This applies to other countries as well.

Mr Speaker we cannot stop this, if we go overseas to acquire loans for development of the country we must pay it back. The developments where this money is given to is mutual. Mr Speaker I have explained the matter in order for those who do not understand to grasp an understanding.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker...

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe we understand. I am surprised if the Leader of Opposition still does not understand.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** I understand but the discussion made by the Hon Prime Minister on debt is that we can afford it. The country is burdened with...

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**MR SPEAKER:** I believe there is no reason for explanation because...

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker is it not affordable? Well is it affordable?

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** If it was affordable the electricity would be free, but the country will be carrying the cost.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** There is no such thing as implementing this without a rise in costs.

Mr Speaker I do not know why he is acting like that, the cost of living is something we cannot control there are times when it goes up and times when it drops. And what is happening at the moment? There is an increase of food and the costs have decreased. Why are you so worried? The only thing you are doing is complain about the cost of living but you do not have a plantation.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Hon Minister to continue, the cost of electricity is fully understood.

**Afioga Hon MANUALESAGALALA ENOKATI POSALA:** The subject of system losses as examined yesterday is 18%. There is a 7% technical loss, 11% non technical losses. Technical losses cannot be averted. This is the same standard in every country. As for the 11% stated it was not found in electricity use, so work is ongoing.

The issue with the meters that were brought from overseas, spot checks has been carried out by EPC to check any misdeeds. Therefore EPC is working on these matters as is the duties of Government. And for our debts no one does not have a debt. If you do not have debt your family will not be blessed. This is what is seen in rural areas, they are dependent on relatives in New Zealand and overseas. Unless they have loans to look for development or a good house then they repay it. These are modern changes seen today that assist in improving and developing good fortune for everyone.

Another issue is the Samoa Ports Authority. The Hon Prime Minister has decided that changes will be made between the Samoa Ports Authority and the Samoa Shipping Corporation at the Mulifanua and Salelologa wharf. I believe this is a great change so that these services will be under one authority. This step will be taken into consideration immediately so that services will be improved and also to see what is needed to be improved. This new change will help both departments to collaborate, a programme as been set up to implement these changes.

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In regards to bus schedules, I think this is one of the duties of LTA to work together with bus owners on their transportation times. If the bus goes into town around 2.00pm and there are no passengers they will be broke. This means that the bus owners must work out a schedule that is suitable to them working together with LTA and the Samoa Shipping Corporation. If not someone will be sent to monitor the time of buses hence it will mean more money will be wasted, with a scheduled time plan it will make it easier.

As for improvements for the airport work is still being carried out considering the conference this year.

The Land Transport Authority has new programs that are now being carried out. Firstly, the problem with heavy rains and flood that we faced recently. Even though there was no cyclone, heavy rains have greatly come to affect our roads, creating accidents destroying government assets. There are plans to work together with the World Bank to assist the government with providing money needed for developments, which are seen as grants towards the country.

The Enhancement Road Access Project (ERAP) is to construct a four lane road towards Vaitele. The draft of how it will look like are being planned at the moment I believe by the middle of the year advertisements for contracts will be seen and work will then be carried out.

Also advertisements have been put up for companies to design the Leone Bridge. The bridge at Maliolio is one task that has been allocated under ERAP also the road from Tanugamanono towards Vailima. This road needs to be redesigned together with drainage systems.

As for our roads and bridges in Savaii, Sapapalii, Lano, Sasina and Maliolio. All these developments are within the new project, although we should have patience considering the assistance of overseas banks, there are terms and conditions that should be followed before anything can be put into action.

**Afioga Hon Acau Peniamina Leavaiseeta (Falealupo):** Mr Speaker...

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister I give the opportunity to interjection by the member.

**Afioga Hon Aveau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** Hon Minister the matter concerning the bridge at Leone, it has been a year since it was closed and you are still awaiting a design. The rebuilding of bridges in rural areas can wait as for this bridge, reconstruction is very much needed.

Also Hon Minister in Apia it only takes 2 minutes to get from house to house, although now you have to go around three villages Faatoia, Maagiagi and Maagao to get into Apia. I humbly request that the bridge be rebuilt.



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**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion shown by the member is understood, pardon the Hon Minister for your time, I call upon the member for Faleata West.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Thank you Hon Minister you have commented on bridges and how about waterfalls. Or is it under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Natural Resources?

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member for Faleata East.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo (Faleata East):** Thank you Mr Speaker, seeing that the Hon Minister is moving away from the flood issue. I mentioned it based on the floods that mainly take place in the town area. I believe that our roads are not the reason for this flooding, although the Hon Minister has stated that the road will be elevated. This will mean flooding will be worse. Is there another way to stop it from flooding, why not use pumps that can remove water when flooded. Also the Hon Minister is stating this method but when the tide comes in the water will remain.

**MR SPEAKER:** The members opinion on the subject of floods is clearly being justified.

I call upon the Hon Minister to continue with his clarification.

**Afioga Hon MANUALESAGALALA ENOKATI POSALA:** Mr Speaker these are the same questions that are continuously asked. But the performance of work is dependent on insurance and those who specialize in these areas which differs from everyday duties. The government relies on people who specialize and have the knowledge to do the work for future improvements.

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

**Susuga Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker you should record the information given because it is important next time it rains when the tide comes in, then use the pumps to pump it back towards the sea. This information is really important especially when the tide comes in, to use big pumps to pump this water perhaps after three hours the water will recede. Is this is right? *(to the member of Faleata East)*

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** Perhaps the Hon Prime Minister does not understand my meaning.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member.

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**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** There are countries that use big water tanks. If it floods water is pumped into these tanks if not they use reservoirs. When the town area floods we just have to pump the water and wait till it is low tide then release the water. If not there are other countries that...

**MR SPEAKER:** The method mentioned by member for Faleata East is understood. I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

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

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** It is important to have huge water tanks from Apia to here and all the way to Vaimoso so all the water can go into. This recommendation is really important.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** Mr Speaker the reason I mentioned this is in relation to the Finance and Expenditure Committees report during the time the country will host the conference where huge tanks will be given to store water. After it is being used where will these tanks be taken? Why not use these tanks for our benefit?

**MR SPEAKER:** The Hon Minister have you noted the recommendation? I call upon the member for Aana Alofi No.3.

**Afioga Toeolesulusulu Cedric Pose Salesa Schuster (Aana Alofi No.3):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I move to have a say on the matter discussed, I believe a drainage master plan for Apia has been already drafted for water flow. I guess the importance of this recommendation as the public knows; the water from Fugalei and Taufusi flows towards Vaimoso, but the drainage is at Malisi perhaps we can use the pump like that used during Katrina. It was also carried out by New Zealand which was during the floods, we can look into it so that we can pump water towards the sea and not to Matautu and the mangroves. This is one aspect the insurance must look at, because a master plan for Apia drainage system has been already drafted.

**Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevaga (Faasaleleaga No.4):** Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon Hon Minister I give the opportunity to the member for Faasaleleaga No.4.

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**Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevaga:** Mr Speaker I humbly wish to address an issue mentioned earlier before we discuss water further but I want to know what is done to the road at Lano where the accident took place? In relation to my constituency listening in it is mentioned in our estimates but if you look at it this road has been damaged because it is built on a sandbank. As written in the bible the Lord says “do not build a house upon the sand.” This is just a reminder Hon Minister because the beach front is being affected by it. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** The notion by the member is clearly understood. I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

**Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker just a question, is the whole area covered in sand? Should the bridge be relocated inland in the mountains where there is solid ground? If it is rebuilt on the same spot it will be rebuilt on the sand again. As for the verse within the bible it is stating a house built on sand and not meaning bridge, so it is a house not bridge. Anyway there will come a time when me and my associate will have a lesson.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Mr Speaker a point of order, it is not the house or bridge but as Jesus said it is the foundation.

**MR SPEAKER:** You are interjecting the clarification which is not appropriate as in Standing Orders. Pardon Hon Minister I will give the opportunity to the member for Aleipata Itupa i Lalo in the matter questioned. I beg tolerance Leader of Opposition.

**Afioga Tafua Maluelue Tafua (Aleipata Itupa i Lalo):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity while the Hon Minister takes a break. I am thankful for the plans made upon the upgrading of our roads. The question Hon Minister is for the understanding of my constituency and the public. You mentioned that a temporary road was to be opened this week up to Tiavea. This road is easier to access than going around Lotofaga and Lepa. I humbly ask you Hon Minister to advertise the day this road will be officially opened. With respect.

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

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** Mr Speaker I will be brief. The government has been trying for years to sustain this flood problem but now this side has come up with ideas to eliminate this problem. This is the reason for our recommendations given because there seems to be no care. I am thankful for this side...

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**MR SPEAKER:** The Leader of Opposition is listening in, the Hon Minister do not elaborate any further on water tanks. Pardon the Hon Minister there is one more member, because Samoa is greatly affected by floods.

I call upon one of the members for Individual Voters, Afioga Maualaivao Pat Ah Him.

**Afioga Maualaivao Pat Ah Him (Individual Voters):** Thank you Mr Speaker and I truly support the notion and the respectable members of the House. Every time there is heavy rain in Apia, it always floods. In our observation during floods from areas in Taufusi where there is a three way street leading straight downtown. The depth of these floods is evident in front of Ace Hardware and Lucky Foodtown. This means this area is a low area; also there are no drainage pipes for this water to go into because now it is running onto the road.

The problem now is, the water that is running between these businesses are running into the homes of the people. A recommendation to the Hon Minister that new drainage systems should be installed from Taufusi towards Lucky Foodtown and Apia. The drainage systems at the moment are not solving this problem. With respect, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you for the assistance respectable member. I call on the Hon Minister to continue his explanation.

**Afioga Hon MANUALESAGALALA ENOKATI POSALA:** Mr Speaker I am saddened I thought part 62(3) of Standing Orders was, no debate during a Ministers clarification. But it seems opportunity is still been given for opinions.

Also new opinions are being instigated, but we are not even discussing the budget but the work carried out by the departments under my portfolio. As for recommendation on water tanks, we are trying to assess drinking water first using tanks that can be allocated throughout the country. I asked the Samoa Water Authority on plans with the work being initiated by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints which is expensive. If we implement the work we will be using storm water instead of underground water which is a concern for the public. As for the operation requested it is a bit expensive, everything depends on the revenue given to the Ministry. As for such an operation to be put into action it is expensive, the point stated by that side is just a dream.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister; I just want to raise a point. I humbly wish to note the importance of Standing Order 60(a) debates cannot be conducted during Ministerial statements. Thus when we are discussing Estimates the members are given the opportunity to voice opinions upon what they questioned. I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

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**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker the Ministry of Works has engineers to cover this matter. The issue that is seen here, the European is just sitting while Tulai is speaking in English. All these issues are been taken care of by the engineers in charge. In a way engineers are just like doctors. When you visit a doctor you tell him/her your illness, they assess you and your appearance then give you a prescription although there are times when a doctor cannot know, when you come coughing it is noted as a side effect of the flu. So the engineers know exactly what to do because it is what they were taught to do. As for all these opinions shown this morning it seems whomever wishes to say something they say it, the answer given by the Hon Minister is the same answer no matter what the questions given and it is final. Therefore Hon Minister you can conclude with the matter and move on to another issue so that we can carry on with our next discussion.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure; I call upon the Hon Minister of Communications Information Technology.

**Afioga Hon Tuisugaletaua Sofara Aveau (Minister of Communications, Information Technology):** Mr Speaker, the Hon Prime Minister has already clarified upon the matter I wanted to discuss. An advice to the Hon Minister, do not worry about the new engineers, there is a difference between riding a boat but when left out at sea, they drown. If not to drown then to be eaten by sharks. Bless our sitting.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Hon Minister of Health.

**Afioga Hon Tuitama Talalelei Tuitama (Minister of Health):** Mr Speaker because this Ministry and its services was mentioned. The Hon Prime Minister is right about some patients, when they are sick they just go to the doctor and ask a prescription of amoxil. If asked, what is your illness? Then they are given amoxil and the next day they are faced with sad news.

**MR SPEAKER:** Well the member for Faleata East, your recommendation given to the Chair has been greatly considered.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** Mr Speaker I believe most members of the House do not take the matter seriously because they do not live in this area. These plans are for the next 10 to 20 years. Although this is a constant problem in the beginning of the year, as witnessed by one of the member for Individual Voters Afioga Maualaivao Pat Ah Him there are a lot of business owners and families affected by this problem. Therefore these opinions have been given for consideration to overcome such problems.

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**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. The recommendation given by the Member has been noted by the Hon Minister. The matter is therefore given to the Hon Minister to consider. I give the opportunity to the Hon Minister I believe the matter on floods is clearly understood.

**Afioga Hon MANUALESAGALALA ENOKATI POSALA:** Mr Speaker this is the conclusion upon the matter. As for our roads we are assessing and planning the issue. As we are aware utmost importance is given to our road in relation to hosting the conference. The main issue for each village is to have better roads. As for the issue mentioned by the member for Aleipata Itupa i Lalo, because the cement takes seven days to dry. I was informed that the temporary road at Tiavi will open next week on Wednesday, plans are also been carried out to build a bridge to improve transportation.

To my beloved constituency, Afifio o le paia ia Satunumafono o le Falefa o le Ulugatanifa, Faasuaga ma Tapaau na Tausi especially Igoamatua, Taulauniu ma Aitu Tagata ma le nofo a Tula ia Safata ma le mamalu i le Alataua. This is the salutation of my village, the honorary salutation of my people. Also the support of all of Safata especially the various divisions within the district. The support given by the dignitaries of Falealili, Siumu and Safata thank you for the prayers towards the duties carried out by your Government, the changes that will enhance our work this year.

I want to acknowledge my village of Saanapu, because it is a new year and the Parliament should know about the kinship of Afioga Anapu and Toalima, Maopu of Tuiaana especially Fetalaiga Igoamatua and Tuigaleava, the two families and Faletolu there is no reason not to work together and show kindness as it is important for our improvement. Bless the support and bless our House here in Tiafau, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure. I wish to acknowledge you and the duties carried out, it is not a simple task. So whatever the opinions given by members you are the foundation that solidifies it. I also give thanks to the Ministry and the Chief Executive Office it is not an easy duty. The advice given assists in improving the issue which will make work easier.

Then we come to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. I call upon the Hon Minister to answer queries put forward by members.

**Tofa Hon FAAMOETAULOA LEALAI AULOTO ULAITINO FAALE TUMAALII (Minister of Natural Resources & Environment):** Mr Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for conducting our morning proceedings. I am humbled for we have reached another new year. I also wish to greet the Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet and members also the Leader of Opposition and all members of Parliament.

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I also would like to greet our country and the support given especially my constituency of Gagaemauga No.3; Afio Aiga Sa Peseta susu foi le Maopu. E le gata foi i lea o le alaalatai I latou o le Usoalii, faapea le mamalu o le Faleiva ma upu ia te oe Matautu. E le gata foi o lea o le Afio o Maiava faapea foi le susu o Mataia, alaalatai i Aitutagata ma le mamalu ia te oe Satoalepai. These are the honorary salutations of my constituency.

Mr Speaker there were only a few issues raised by members in this sector, for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. I have divided these queries into six categories.

First the assessment of damages imposed by cyclone Evan, also on renewable energy development as mentioned by the member of Aana Alofi No.3. The Ministry is carrying out its usual duties of ensuring environmental rehabilitation and reserves. In September and October last year the rehabilitation of the Vailima Reserve was opened which was funded by Japan under Forestry Protection – therefore I convey my gratitude on such improvements on houses and waterfall and the reconstructing of the tracks up to the tomb site and the replanting of significant trees. Also for Reserves at Togitogiga, visitors resting shelters have been constructed considering concerns for our overseas visitors. This clarifies the activities taken to meet the needs of our visitors especially with us hosting the SIDS conference this year. This includes other tourist attraction sites in Savaii.

The issue concerning renewable energy, this matter is pursued by the Ministry, there are three Ministries working together on the renewable energy project. The Ministry of Natural Resources is one of them, I confess that the Sector is doing its best to adhere to the project, I just returned from Abu Dhabi last week where I signed an agreement on assistance to fund the project. This is funded under IRENA, International Renewable Energy Agency which also funds bio-diesel and gasification. Also including Wind Power Harvest and Solar. The mention of these projects is too ensure that it helps protect our environment and minimize gas emissions that have caused climate change also to have a sustainable source of electricity.

As discussed in this conference I attended countries using renewable energy with 1/3 reduced cost in their total electricity mix cost. This is why the government is implementing the use of renewable energy in the country for the future development of our country. Perhaps we do not succeed at the beginning of such projects but it is for our development. This involves the matter of our seawalls and water catchments.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member for he mentioned this matter, the member for Aana Alofi No.3.

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**Afioga Toeolesulusulu Cedric Pose Salesa Schuster:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I thank the Hon Minister for clarifications given on the queries put forward. I am satisfied with the new houses built at Vailima and Togitogiga. I am still concerned with the trail up to Mt. Vaea which is still in poor condition. I noticed that ropes are being used to help people climb up the mountain. The trails at Togitogiga we all know that within these areas visitors tend to hike to witness the natural environment, so trails must be in good condition. Also at Lake Lanotoo I am not sure whether it has been 3 to 4 years but there is still no proper trail.

This is just a concern voiced to the Ministry to those allocated to clear such areas, not only will it impress our overseas visitors but also for our locals whom constantly use the trail up to the tomb to hike and exercise, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you, I call...

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Mr Speaker on the matter...

**MR SPEAKER:** Did the speech mention an issue you voiced Member for Faleata West?

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** The issue concerning overseas visitors.

**MR SPEAKER:** Well you may take the floor.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** I humbly ask the Hon Minister to look into upgrading this trail so that when visitors come they will be able to access this area also the old people who come on cruise ships they travel by bus and they have to travel by foot another 100 meters, this new road can help us as well therefore Hon Minister of Works Transport and Infrastructure why not look into this idea.

**MR SPEAKER:** The issues under the portfolio of the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure have passed but the idea will be submitted unto the Hon Minister of Natural Resources because they are the ones that are faced with this area including our lands.

**Tofa Hon FAAMOETAULOA LEALIAULOTO ULAITINO FAALE TUMAALII:** Thank you Mr Speaker the answer for the query put forward by the member for Aana Alofi No.3, I did overlook the matter and I told the Ministry to fix and clear these trails and also the water catchments at Vailima. Also I instructed them to clear water drains so that there will be clear water in the area. As for the query of the member for Faleata West, I will consider the issue because it is rather a new one that the Ministry will have to look through.



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Then I come to the queries on the matter of seawalls and drainages. The members for Falelatai and Samatau, Vaisigano West, Faasaleleaga No.4, Aleipata Itupa i Luga, Anoamaa East, Aiga i le Tai ma le Vaa O Fonoti, have similar issues. A project has been taken up on constructing seawalls and water drainages. Today the Project Management Unit Committee is carrying out a meeting to choose a company that will be in charge of the funds from the adaptation fund and grant the World Bank has given for plans on coastal areas and seawalls. This includes water catchments; after the Project Management System selects a company work will be carried out. There are 25 districts included under this adaptation fund and 26 are under the PPCR Project which is the Pilot Program of Climate Resilience. Plans are been drawn and reviewed. Also an Inspector is needed to foresee duties so that standards are followed as initiated by engineers. This is the same for every district whom requested seawalls and water catchments I pray that we be patient. The technical team will meet on Friday to finalize these plans then the work will be carried out. Thirdly....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister; I give the opportunity to the member for Satupaitea.

**Afioga Lautafi Fio Selafi Purcell (Satupaitea):** Thank you Mr Speaker. The Hon Minister mentioned the names of the constituencies that have the same request, but I stand with respect also to ask the Hon Minister that he add my constituency to this request. Thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon Hon Minister but I give the opportunity to the member for Faasaleleaga No.4 who was mentioned in your speech.

**Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevaga:** The request given is nothing new, it is to remind the Hon Minister of improvements for Faasaleleaga, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** The requests from Satupaitea and Faasaleleaga seems to be the same, therefore I give the opportunity to the Hon Minister to clarify.

**Tofa Hon FAAMOETAULOA LEALAI AULOTO ULAITINO FAALE TUMAALII:** Thank you Mr Speaker, I apologize to the members because I have forgotten to mention their constituencies.

The third issue is the cutting of trees for timber to export overseas which was mentioned by the member for Faasaleleaga No.3. Is it is legal the answer is no. On the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 1990 his Highness the Head of State, Susuga Malietoa Tanumafili II signed the Customs Act 1977 that banned logging for export. The only measure that is allowed is the use of timber to build houses and to build furniture to be exported overseas.

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The cutting down of trees is not allowed by the law and it is abided to by the Ministry. If a request is given to cut down trees for building or making of furniture a permit is needed and the Ministry itself will go and inspect and mark post harvest trees. After such period the permit or license will be terminated. Our rainforests are greatly monitored and observed by the Ministry.

The other issue of collecting of rubbish mentioned by the member for Aleipata Itupa i Luga. The Ministry has informed the contractors in charge of collecting rubbish from that side of the island. If they do not abide with their duties a warning will be issued and they will be penalized and the contract removed.

As questioned by the member for Aana Alofi No.1, Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi on the private lands at Faleasiu and Fasitoota. These lands are not under the authority of MNRE but it is under SLC.

I advise the member to make a claim to the Hon Minister who is associated with the Land Board. The only member who requested for land is the member for Aiga i le Tai. I am not sure what lands he is referring towards whether they are under the Trust Estates or under the MNRE.

Also most of the constituencies requested land for lease, the Ministry has taken this into consideration. During visits most of these lands leased out are not used. And when more lands are requested they are not allowed anymore lands unless they work the land and a timeframe is also given for them to prepare this so they will be able to do the work, because there are still a lot of people whom request lands. This is the problem with the people they want the lands but do not use it wisely. But I will try and look at the lands as requested by the member for Aiga i le Tai. As I have mentioned in previous sittings these government lands are not for sale anymore they are only up for lease. It is leased only for development purposes.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister I give the opportunity to the member for Aiga i le Tai.

**Susuga Ifopo Matia Filisi (Aiga i le Tai):** Thank you Mr Speaker I did not wish to interrupt the Hon Minister but as he has mentioned the land. It is the land behind the ones owned by Trust Estates, with respect thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** In order to save your time I call upon the member for Aana Alofi No.1, Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi.

**Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi (Aana Alofi No.1):** Thank you for the opportunity. I convey my thanks to the Hon Minister because the task is difficult. As the Hon Minister stated the lands in Faleasiu and Fasitoota are under Samoa Land Corporation.

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As the Chief Executive of SLC is aware, measures should now be taken in order for lands to be processed. The government is also aware of this; the land should be used for development the people can grow crops on it instead of leaving it barren. At the moment nothing is being currently done to these lands, it should be used for plantations that will earn us money. This is just a reminder, thank you.

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

**Tofa Hon FAAMOETAULOA LEALAI AULOTO ULAITINO FAALE TUMAALII:** Thank you Mr Speaker especially to the member and the request I now understand. I am now aware of the lands mentioned by the member, and the Trust Estate Corporation will look into the matter on the developments as requested.

Lastly is the problem of Myna birds questioned by the Member for Sagale Usoga. The Ministry is working together with a group from New Zealand on the issue. At the moment this work is being carried out in Upolu and it is expected to be in Savaii in March. I asked the Ministry on the Environment Conservation division whom is charge with the matter and that was their response to the issue. The Ministry is doing its best to make certain that these problems are met.

Mr Speaker that concludes the issues raised to this Ministry, I convey thanks to respectable members of the House.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Pardon Mr Speaker because the Hon Minister has concluded his speech.

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

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** I would like to remind the Hon Minister about the issue concerning the town area, the drainage systems especially the creepers seen on electric posts and the seawall. Therefore I ask the Hon Minister for a clarification on the matter.

**MR SPEAKER:** The issue mentioned by Faleata West is clearly understood, I believe the notion was addressed to the Hon Minister for Tourism who is the Hon Prime Minister who will convey the matter later. I convey thanks to the Hon Minister I believe the work carried out is not a duty that ought to be taken lightly. Also it is not an easy duty to fulfill with all the changes we are facing in our world today and the changes of the weather. Therefore I thank you and the Ministry may the Lord above give you strength and guide your work.

The opportunity is now given to one of the important Ministries in the country, I call upon the Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture.

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**Afioga Hon MAGELE MAULIU (Minister of Education Sports and Culture):** I humbly greet Mr Speaker and the dignity of the House. I would like to take this opportunity to greet my constituency of Faasaleleaga No.1 to all denominations, high chiefs and orators, respectable faletua and tausi from Malaefatu to Malaeloa, Avea to Malaetele also Poata to Falemai.

Mr Speaker I also take this opportunity to thank members for their support to the Ministrys prayer meeting also the graduation of teachers highlighting their outstanding work and schools that have greatly improved. I would like to thank those who were eligible this year from Upolu and Savaii especially our school Salelavalu Primary School.

Mr Speaker this is the champion in Samoa; Salelavalu primary school. The Principal and staff are listening in. I thank you all for the hard work also to the Committee. I believe this year it will be the Iva primary school.

Mr Speaker I am grateful for the comments given to this Ministry and support given to some of the projects planned this year. I also thank you all for the support as stated in our Appropriations there is a raise in teachers salaries of \$300,000 for those who were not treated equal in the year 2010, also together with the Ministrys savings of \$600,000. And now \$900,000 has been allocated to arrange remunerations and PSC is working at acquiring this matter before anything is further taken into consideration. The Public Service Commission is working together with the Ministry of Finance to arrange remunerations for our teachers together with entry points mentioned by one of the members. I thank the Chief Executive Officer and chairman of the Public Service Commission. I also thank the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry of Finance.

There is an important aspect mentioned by the member for Aana Alofi No.3 on vocational studies where students will be able to go back to school. This area is an important matter looked into by the Government especially for the age group between 15 and 30 whom are not studying anymore. As I mentioned in my speech the Government is trying to initiate these subjects within schools that will assist our youth to be able to get work that will be related to these vocational subjects. This way they will be able to possess the knowledge. The aim is for our colleges to be open from 9.00 am to 4 pm. Then vocational classes will be carried out from 4pm to 6pm and Saturdays for those who are interested so as to use assets wisely.

The American ambassador has informed me that we will be receiving the TA I requested next month that will assist with this matter. After this report is compiled the younger generation will be able to attend. Our new school timetable for this year are, 9am-2pm for Years 1-3, 9am-3pm for Years 4-8 and for our colleges 9am-4pm. There will be no exceptions on this new time change; all government schools will follow through with this new change. The member for Faleata East mentioned one of the important issues of elevating the standards of teachers, and the entry point of teachers to increase.

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At a meeting I attended I informed the teachers about the new policies implemented by the Ministry and Governments intention to raise teaching standards for teachers. If you need further clarification on the matter visit the Ministrys website. I have instructed the CEO to upload this information for public knowledge.

**MR SPEAKER:** Because we have now come to our usual recess hour I humbly ask the Hon Minister that he continue his clarification after recess. I announce that proceedings are now set aside for our morning recess.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside at 10.45 for its usual recess and resumed at 11.24.*

**MR SPEAKER:** I announce that proceedings of the Assembly have now resumed. I would like to convey thanks for we have reached another half of our sittings. I believe strength has been renewed the belief of the Clerk and Office is to aid our strength so that we will be able to fulfill our duties and carry out our orders for today. Before recess the Hon Minister of Education was elaborating upon the Ministry. Therefore I humbly ask the Hon Minister to continue with his response.

**Afioga Hon MAGELE MAULIU:** I believe strength has been returned with the refreshments provided during our recess. I now elaborate upon the issue on the request for Science teachers from overseas. Mr Speaker this lack of science teachers is not only an issue faced by our country because 2/3 of the world is faced with this problem. A comment made by an 82 year old senior scientist was that there are no young scientists to replace them when they die.

During my visit to New Zealand to recruit Science teachers the New Zealand Minister of Education stated that they are also short of Science and Math teachers. He mentioned that they had just returned from recruiting teachers from Hong Kong and Singapore and this is a major issue for Australia also. There are volunteers in our schools that are assisting with this problem. The Ministry has come up with a temporary plan until this matter is addressed. Ten colleges have combined; four in Savaii and six in Upolu where teachers are taking science.

The other problem is that some take half science and social science. So with this new change the student will be able to take full science. The Public Service Commission is targeting scholarship students who are majoring in Math and Science. Once they return from their studies, they will be allowed to teach. These are some of the strategies in place to await the results of Science scholarships at the National University and overseas.

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Regarding the recommendation given that SROS staff should teach in schools, this incentive has been long employed by the government for the staff to go and teach students. The only problem is that time management does not comply with that of the Ministry; it will not be consistent with their working hours.

Then I come to the question voiced by the member for Alataua West as to when the new college building in Alataua Falealupo will be constructed. I call it Alataua Falealupo as suggested by the member for Falealupo, but the name is really up to you as it is not my job to do nor is there any legal obligation to do so. As for the matter I am pleased to say that 70% of the work has been carried out. Your request has been submitted, and the Government has agreed to build a new college and this is the most important part, for if the Government did not agree then what will be done? The constituency should thank the Government for the opportunity given for a new school to be set up after the investigations carried out by the Ministry. I believe all constituencies and members should be patient because it is not within our budget and if there was I would have given the information already. We are working together with the Hon Minister of Finance requesting assistance from ADB, AUSAid and NZAid to extend this programme to build college buildings. Therefore I humbly ask the members for Alataua West and Falealupo to be patient.

A few men and the member for the constituency came to request a building for the Primary school in Falelima. I told them that they should submit their request to JICA, but the Ministry will carry out an investigation and report on the school building. The report was concluded before the request was submitted although it is not the Ministry's obligation to carry out requests that is the responsibility of the constituency and the Ministry will support. If this process has not been done then after our sitting you must go to the JICA office and get a form and I will assist you in filling out the form.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member for Alataua West.

**Afioga Lafaitale Patrick Leiatualesa (Alataua West):** Mr Speaker I do not wish to interrupt the Hon Ministers speech. But as I have said earlier we are patient with the situation faced by our college. I am thankful to the Lord that a new college will be constructed. We are not trying to push the issue because we are aware that there is only \$14 million allocated in carrying out projects. As for the request given, my village of Falelima has informed me that everything is alright but we are not trying to instigate anything. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** The report given by the Ministry of Education has been finalized and the Ministry is awaiting the report of the constituency given to JICA. I call upon the Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture.

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**Afioga Hon MAGELE MAULIU:** Mr Speaker I now come to Sagaga College. I would like to thank the Hon Prime Minister for his speech. This is one school that has impacted the plans set out by the Ministry every year. This college building was supposed to be completed two years ago in 2012 but due to problems faced with land ownership nothing has been done. This is not acceptable. A lot of work has been done with changing plans and the layout of the building and on top of that, news of this has been broadcast overseas. It seems the people of the village do not wish to have their children educated.

Therefore I thank the Hon Prime Minister, I have considered that after this sitting, two weeks notice will be given and by February 6, if nothing has been done, the Government paid teachers will be removed, the school will be closed and the money will be appropriated to another project.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister but I will give the opportunity to the member for Sagaga le Usoga who mentioned the matter. I call upon the member.

**Afioga Muagututagata Faamausili Auimatagi Peter Ah Him (Sagaga le Usoga):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I also thank the Hon Minister. The comments made yesterday upon the matter was a reminder of your speech during a meeting where you were Chairperson in April 2012, where you said if no land was allocated by the end of the week or was it the month, the land the Committee agreed upon would be used, which is located at Faleula. Faleula is under Sagaga le Falefa and Sagaga le Usoga.

The agreement was for of a land could not be found to be agreed upon, Faleula would be waiting. During yesterdays recess I received word from the leaders of the village that they are awaiting your decision, the problem though with Faleula is it is close to Wesley College. As for comments given yesterday I do not wish to argue on such issues. As I said yesterday the important issue is finding land but not close to Wesley College. With respect.

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker the main issue is that these villages do not have a sense of leadership. I believe the Government will not be ignorant on such issues. The two weeks notice is enough and if nothing is done by then the school will be closed. The students will be transferred to other schools and teachers removed. The member must go and meet with these people as for the decision made two weeks is quite enough then the school will be closed.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture.

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**Afioga Hon MAGELE MAULIU:** Thank you Hon Prime Minister. I will now discuss the matter mentioned by the member for Falealupo regarding teachers who live far from the schools and do not attend when they miss the bus. The Ministry has informed me that they are considering mobile science teachers to service various colleges as a solution to the issue so as not to affect the students education.

Another matter mentioned by the member was the American Samoa officials that are here to recruit our teachers. Thank you for mentioning the matter and this is a challenge for the Ministry. The Ministry cannot compete with the packages offered by these officials but it will be considered. If we had many teachers this would have been a market for our teachers to be able to go and work overseas. Although at the moment we do not have enough teachers and the Ministry will look into the issue and its possible impacts. As for now, the Ministry is continuing its work but thank you for the issues raised.

Mr Speaker that is the clarification on some of the issues stated by Members of the House to this Ministry. Bless our sitting. Soifua.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture for the clarification.

I take this opportunity to thank the Ministry for its close collaboration with Parliament. Great respect is shown through the invitation extended to Parliament to join with the Ministry and the teachers in its initiatives and we congratulate you on your efforts. Educating the children is not a simple task as you toil night and day. The opportunity was given to attend some important graduations and this is how we express the importance of the services and work of a teacher. The important issue is that you follow your goals. Hon Minister, your Ministry and your constituency, where Salelavalu has set a good example for other schools as I have witnessed during the SPAGHL visits. A good leader is responsible for better development and does not question or judge the other. I thank the Principal and school also the chiefs and school committee.

I convey sincere gratitude to the work carried out this year by the Ministry. I thank the Hon Minister for clarifying the issues raised by members.

It is now time for another important Ministry in the country, the Ministry of Health. I call upon the Hon Minister of Health.

**Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA:** I believe we have already given praises to thy Lord for his guidance, therefore Mr Speaker I thank you for your words of wisdom. Also I greet all the members of the House and acknowledge the support of the country. Before I clarify some of the queries given I would like to greet my constituency of Aana Alofi No.1 in all its honorific salutations; Aiga ma le Faletolu ma Fuaifale also to my village of Fasitoo; Taofia o Aiono and Afioga Leaupepe, Sua ma Toleafoa, Falefitu le Tuua ma le Fetalaiga Matua o Tauauvea.



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I also like to acknowledge my spiritual parents Toeaina Faatonu Eti and his wife, Susuga Uta and wife and the congregation within the constituency. I thank you all for your support, thank you for trusting me as one of the representatives for our constituency apart from the Afioga Leaupepe.

Mr Speaker 37 members addressed the Appropriations allocated to this Ministry. I would like to thank members for matters raised, this portrays that the country supports the services carried out and also improvements needed to be done to fulfill these services. The recommendations given by members of the House greatly assists with the Ministry and how to improve their services.

Mr Speaker, I have already elaborated on most of the issues voiced by some members acknowledging the health services. As for other issues raised by members I will try and discuss it in various categories.

The member for Falelatai and Samatau spoke about the new health center that is to be set up at Falelatai. As we are all aware at the moment work is currently being carried out on the new hospital at Faleolo which is expected to serve the three constituencies of Aana Alofi No.3, Falelatai and Aiga i le Tai. Therefore there is no reason to worry; future plans are still in progress as for now we are trying to allocate staff to work at the hospital. Another matter mentioned by the member is OUM. The Government plans for the school to be freely authorized by Government for future improvements that will benefit our students. These new improvements will be addressed in Parliament once the new changes are in place. Also mentioned by the member for Falelatai and Samatau the services of Dr Benjamin in New Zealand saying that a Samoan should be a representative this is also the concern I have heard among people but the truth is Dr Benjamin has been bestowed the title Papalii, so he is a chief of Samoa. This duty is not simple, as the member for Vaisigano No.2 is aware those days it was really hard to take patients to New Zealand. We had to find reliable people to carry through the process.

As of now this process is much easier once there is a patient that needs to be transported to New Zealand for treatment everything is arranged by Papalii and the patient is easily transported to where they are supposed to go. There are already doctors from overseas who have offered their services to perform such services which will make it easier for patients. There is no reason to change this because everything is going accordingly such as the saying if it is not broken do not fix it, once it is changed again it might increase more problems.

**Afioga Taefu Lemi (Falelatai & Samatau):** Mr Speaker...

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister because this is the member who stated the matter. I call upon the member for Falelatai & Samatau.

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**Afioga Taefu Lemi:** Thank you Mr Speaker because there is a continuous mention of this constituency but I do not wish to correct the explanations of the Hon Minister. I am well aware of the services provided by the hospital although Papalii is our connection we should employ other people of the country living in overseas countries that can contribute to this process. Thus the comment was just a recommendation towards the Hon Minister for future improvement.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. I call upon the Hon Minister to continue with his clarification.

**Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA:** I was going to elaborate on the matter later but I believe I should clarify this service was carried out by one of our own before Dr Benjamin. There were many issues with the previous service and now everything is going smoothly. That is the clarification of that matter and changes can be made if they are relevant.

The member for Sagaga le Falefa mentioned customer service which I believe is one important matter, even though the issue was barely mentioned by the members it is significant for public awareness. I am not sure what is happening in Ministries especially our customer service; this is a common problem because I have witnessed it. Also complaints were submitted to me and I do not know why our people are being disrespectful to others. I have seen that this is a major issue faced with the PSC. The monitoring of phone responses or spot checks that determines how long a phone rings before it is answered are just some ways initiated to monitor my Ministry. From the results collected by PSC, most ministries answer on the fifth ring, but it must be answered after the first ring. This is important to the Ministry of Health because some of the calls might be emergencies but with this behavior it will result to problems.

I apologize to the member who commented on the matter, meetings are carried out weekly with heads of divisions to discuss such matters. The Chief Executive of the Health Services has also been notified on the matter. Another problem that occurs here is discrimination when someone comes that they know they will serve that person immediately and if someone comes that we barely know they do not care. This is not a new issue it has been going on for years, this is why Ministries should work together to terminate this problem.

The member for Vaa o Fonoti, that stated he waited for 45 minutes to be served and assisted when he went to the hospital.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister because it was the query of the member for Vaa o Fonoti. I call on the member.

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**Afioga Tialavea Fea Tionisio Seigafolava (Vaa o Fonoti):** Thank you Hon Minister. My complaint regards timeliness. I am content with the 45 minutes and I assume that it would have been 2 hours. It is not a complaint but rather a recommendation so that patients can be checked more quickly.

**MR SPEAKER:** The point raised by the member is now understood he is stating that services should be faster.

**Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA:** The amount of 45 minutes is really fast considering services at the hospital. For the clarification of the House and country, those who visited the Outpatient in the years 2012/2013 were 128,319 as for last year there were 352 patients each day. If you calculate the time per patient for a doctor, that is the time span. And for the waiting period well one or two hours is quite usual but with 45 minutes this is really fast. Also with these patients are those from accidents and emergencies whom are included in the number of 352 patients each day. This issue raised is important for people who complain for waiting two hours before being seen by a doctor.

Another matter I wish to make known is that the number of patients in both Savaii and Upolu is 27, 866 which means 569 patients are checked every day. As we all know our population is 187,000 meaning no one has not visited the hospital. Also others have been to the hospital more than twice with the increased number of patients that has breached the population of Samoa. We must be patient with the work carried out because it is not an easy task...

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister because the member was mentioned in the clarification. I call upon the member for Falealupo.

**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** Mr Speaker I want to ask the Hon Minister, it is interesting that every time to discuss issues you mention figures. But the question is, are you doing anything about these figures? How many doctors were allocated to carry out the work? Is that the only amount of doctors that do the work? The problem is when a heart patient waits for 45 minutes they will die of heart failure. This has been ongoing for how many years? But you are not doing anything about it? This is unacceptable.

The issue now is that there are only 21 doctors carrying out this duty. As for the figures mentioned...

**Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA:** Mr Speaker these ideas mentioned will be addressed later therefore I will elaborate and continue with other matters. But I will also try and address the matter questioned by my fellow colleague.

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For the understanding of the public the second phase of the TTM hospital will be completed this year, the same for the Malietoa Tanumafili II hospital at Salafi. An extra unit has been added which is the Accidents and Emergencies Department. This new arrangement will separate Emergencies and General Outpatients.

This will assist and make work easier when it is an emergency they go to Emergencies division and if it is normal patients they go to general outpatients. This new change hopes to decrease the holdups both in Upolu and Savaii.

As for the query stated by the member for Falealupo on what has been done on the figures mentioned, well 207,000 exceeds the total population of the country. The question is why they are at the hospital, well they are sick. The doctors are trying their best to make sure that these people will not visit the hospital every year. This is seen with the awareness programs broadcast on televisions and radios to exercise every day, quit smoking and drinking and eat healthy foods. So this is the reason why most of the country is preoccupied with these activities with the main message of prevention. We have passed the Health Promotion Bill. So this program is monitored at the moment to see whether it will be beneficial. As for the employment of more doctors, it will not solve anything because people will continuously be sick, especially when affected by NCDs, chest infections and diseases caused by the changes in today's lifestyle.

This is a clarification to my fellow colleague from Falealupo who is employed also by the Ministry. This is one of the doctors paid \$200 an hour for his service. Therefore we must understand we are also using our partnership with private doctors who are assisting with our doctors at the hospital as stated by the member for Falealupo. As for the issue mentioned by the member for Faleata West...

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker why not ask the Hon Minister whether an investigation is possible to overlook the abilities of these doctors who have been in service for years? Some might lack the knowledge based on these modern diseases seen today. Is there a way to carry out this process?

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member for Falealupo.

**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** Mr Speaker I think it is best that I assist in answering this matter.

Mr Speaker for the past 12 years, the Hon Minister and the Manager of the National Health Services requested my services as they already know that I am a dentist when Frank Smith was a doctor. There are patients that cannot be looked by anyone but me, the man from Falealupo. I have been doing this for 12 years now and I studied in Britain. But I do not wish to talk about it further.

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**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member for Falealupo but I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** I now have a clear understanding upon the matter.

**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** Do you understand now? I humbly ask you inform the Hon Minister upon the matter.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member for Falealupo, you can continue after the Hon Prime Ministers clarification.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** The answer is now understood as requested by the Hon Minister. This means that he was requested through political standards and was not tested whether he is still liable. There was a time when I went to the doctor for a dental check up but after I went up to the main hospital. If I did not go there I would not be alive.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member for Falealupo.

**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** First of all you should rephrase your statement, because you did not come to me. Do not lie; there are two kinds of lies, the important and the ugly lies. Do you understand? This is why Mr Speaker, these services must be clarified, a rebase is \$500 but I am not being paid this for my services towards the national hospital. Why? It is my duty to the people to assist in doing the work which is why I am serving the hospital. So the issue is...

**MR SPEAKER:** The member for Falealupo the opinion given is understood. I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I believe that the member remembers that I visited him twice but I did not visit him a third time. The reason for this is because I was scared.

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe the matter is clearly understood.

**Tofa Motuopuaa Uifagasa Aisoli Vaai (Vaisigano No.2):** Mr Speaker...

**MR SPEAKER:** Doctor, what is it that you want to say...

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**Tofa Motuopuaa Uifagasa Aisoli Vaai:** I just want to assist in the query because the question of the Hon Prime Minister is not answered. All doctors; dentists, surgeons or medical doctors are issued annual practicing certificates after satisfying the council, medical or dental on whether their knowledge and skills are up to date. If not satisfied, their practicing license is put on a temporary basis and if not satisfied by the middle of the year then the license is suspended until the council is satisfied. With respect.

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neiotti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker now the answer is correct. But the question to the member, who assisted on the issue, is your license temporary?

**Tofa Motuopuaa Uifagasa Aisoli Vaai:** My license was suspended a long time ago. Therefore do not come to my clinic.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Hon Minister. The important issue is that these doctors are part of the governments plans. I call upon the Hon Minister.

**Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA:** Thank you. The interjection made by the Hon Prime Minister is important for public awareness of the requirements needed by the doctors in order to serve. This ensures the safety of our people also with our program Continuous Medical Education. This meeting must be attended in order for doctors to gain points and be qualified to renew their license.

The member for Faleata West mentioned the matter concerning hospital fees. Well there are people in charge of these duties. As for the clarification of the member now each service has its own cashier. The Laboratory and the Pharmacy have their own cashier where fees are paid and receipts for medicine are issued this service applies to the Blood test Unit as well. Also the X-ray section and the Outpatient both have their own cashiers where patients pay their fees. Also our wards 7 and 8, there is an Administrator who collects their fees. As for the gynecology and pediatrics ward those are the only ones with no cashier because they are free.

For clarification at 9.00am and 3.00pm money is collected from these cashiers and taken to the Finance Manager whose duty is to deposit the money to the bank for safe keeping. As for the other query based on electricity use, well as we are all aware, the hospital lights are on from 8.00 am to 8.00 am the next morning also the air conditions are on all day.

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Just an example, in November 2013, the electricity bill for the Motoootua general hospital only was \$117,162.02. The bill in December for the new hospital was \$130,938.89. The part of the old hospital still in operations was \$117,400.40 and in November, it was \$96,091.18. Therefore we know that the electricity fee at the hospital is really high, but as questioned by the member that is the clarification. This is why it is important that we know how to use solar power which I believe saves us money but I believe with the changes we are now experiencing I hope that we will accomplish it in the near future. A lot of overseas countries mostly cold countries that I have visited use solar power.

Lastly the matter mentioned by the member for Faleata West on the Government subsidies. These are some of the issues that are greatly averted by the Government which caused a collapse in overseas countries, it is difficult to monitor and control. This is the reason why we try to avoid subsidizing. As clarified earlier 95% of the admitted patients are subsidized by Government. But there are plans that if this is to be continued more appropriations are needed yet we are doubtful on the outcome. An example, at the last quarter of 2013 which was October to December 24,110 patients were admitted to the hospital together with the issue of 262 medical prescriptions a day. The costs of these prescriptions were estimated at \$602,874.00 and \$367,753 was subsidized by Government which means part of these prescriptions were free. The total number of prescriptions for the whole year is 94,443 and is estimated to \$2,411,496.00 and part of that was paid by Government which was \$1,471,012.00 and this is a huge amount subsidized by the Government. I do not understand why this is an issue because already 95% of costs are already paid for by the Government.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Hon Minister but I give the opportunity to the member whom asked about subsidies.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Thank you Hon Minister for the explanation. Firstly I did not ask about the collection of fees. It is the time the fees are collected that I am concerned about. I had a patient at the hospital in December when we left no fee was paid but now the fee has increased. Therefore I suggest that patients are checked weekly for fees because there will be times when patients just leave without payment.

The reason why I mentioned electricity is based on a complaint from the Ministry towards the Finance and Expenditure Committee. The fee is too high because the Electric Power Corporation is charging them by commercial rate. As we have heard it is hundred thousand a month but we all know it is not a business it is a Government Ministry.

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This matter must be consulted between the Ministry of Health and Electric Power Corporation as to why they are being charged a commercial rate.

The matter mentioned on subsidies, well it is true that it is a lot, but with the new partnership with private doctors who are highly paid for services, they can assist people in rural areas from going to the main hospital which is expensive. Also with this money it can be used for resources needed in emergencies and referrals perhaps it will encourage people to go to the doctor. But I now clearly understand the clarification given by the Hon Minister, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** I give the opportunity to you Hon Minister whether you want to answer or continue with your explanation if the member does not want a clarification.

**Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA:** Thank you. I am well aware of this unpaid fee, it was when the hospital was experiencing a lack of payments, therefore I ask the Member to go and pay his fee. As for our doctors visiting rural areas they are there to monitor and assist with services to ensure that rural hospitals have the same service standards as the hospitals in Apia. This is to ensure that services provided to the people are controlled.

The concern stated by the Deputy Speaker, the Member for Palauli. He asked why there are various counters to issue medicine. The answer for this is based on the fact that some medicine might be mixed up. As I have stated there are 96,500 prescriptions issued which might result to mistakes. If one counter is used patients medication can be mixed up. This change resulted from a problem that occurred in the past, with the various counters medicine can be specifically given to the right patient. Therefore I recommend the public to check your medicine before going home because it can be disastrous. The arrangement of these counters will greatly assist not only patients but also employees that can explain prescriptions to the patients in various sections.

Mr Speaker these are a few concerns that were voiced by Members of the House...

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister but there is a member who wishes to take the floor. I call upon the member for Faasaleleaga No.4.

**Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevaga:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity also I would like to thank the Hon Minister for the clarification given on some of the queries voiced by members yesterday. In relation to a concern I voiced yesterday not mentioned by the clarification of the Hon Minister about the pediatrics and gynae ward fees.



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Mr Speaker the Hon Minister categorized in his speech yesterday children from ages one to seven are free of charge at the hospital. And I support the notion by the Hon Minister. But if we look at the age group seven to fifteen a lot is spent on this age group when they are sick, if we look at a one year old...

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member, the Hon Minister now understands your concern which is the age group from seven to fifteen.

**Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA:** Mr Speaker I understand the concern made by the member but as I said, the age group is one to fifteen and not one to seven. This is also the same for pregnant women. The reason I have explained the matter again today is based on the member and the time he put forward to ask the question. But if he wishes for me to explain it again I am glad to elaborate it again. The first stages of pregnancy to the time of birth and a child aged between one to fifteen are all free of charge in the hospital.

**MR SPEAKER:** Is there any other matter the member for Faasaleleaga No.4?

**Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevaga:** Mr Speaker that is the matter I wanted to be clarified as this is a very important issue. As I have said the age group seven to fifteen is difficult for many parents. I am trying to clarify the fee I spoke about yesterday.

**MR SPEAKER:** The member for Faasaleleaga No.4 the clarification given is clearly noted....

**Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevaga:** I wish to give a recommendation on the issue because it was not thoroughly clarified. Mr Speaker for consideration of all women in the country. I believe all of members of the House have visited the maternity ward. The query put forward yesterday about the matter was the concern on the time, as stated by the Hon Minister there are no fees paid by pregnant women which I fully support. But I am talking about the time the mother has her child, a fee still must be paid.

Mr Speaker, there is a problem faced by the hospital because I visited the hospital. There are no labor and delivery beds. At the moment there are no such beds and nurses shoulders are used to prop up an expectant mothers legs during the birth process.

**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion of the member is understood.

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**Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevaga:** The matter I questioned Hon Minister is why this is no fee being paid.

**MR SPEAKER:** The matter mentioned by the member is quite broad considering the clarification given was to address the age group of one to seven. But as stated by the Hon Minister it is ages one to fifteen that have free consultation. Also all pregnant women and those who just gave birth are free of charge. I call upon the Hon Minister. The member for Falealupo is there anything you wish to discuss...

**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** Mr Speaker if not mentioned by the Hon Minister the explanation given must be noted. As stated there are free consultations when someone suddenly becomes sick they are rushed to the hospital without cash which means they cannot see the doctor. Therefore I humbly request that free consultations should be given, but they can pay for prescriptions. This will help patients to save and have access to services which is an obligation of Government.

**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion given is clearly understood. The Hon Minister has been explaining the issue and it is thoroughly understood that 75% of patients have free consultation. I believe the other percentage includes those aged fifteen to thirty.

Because we must be attentive to the time I believe the concerns given by both members for Faasaleleaga No.4 and Falealupo is now understood. I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Sailele Malielegaoui:** Mr Speaker the clarification given is distasteful. I believe it is best that the Hon Minister explain the matter. The statement saying that the nurses support pregnant women during birth is disturbing. The Hon Minister should confirm whether these submissions are facts. This just portrays the weakness of the person saying such things within the House because it is disrespectful.

I have never witnessed such a thing at the hospital where nurses have to support a pregnant womans legs. The Hon Minister should assist with this explanation.

**MR SPEAKER:** This is the reason why I warned the member on stating new matters that should not be discussed because the time for these issues has surpassed. The only matter was the concern on pregnant women and the issue of free consultation stated by member for Falealupo.

I call upon the Hon Minister to answer the concerns given together with the concern of the Hon Prime Minister.

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**Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA:** Mr Speaker I am saddened by some of the comments made upon the services that have disrespected the dignity of the Chamber. As for these accusations made, they are false. Our new hospital has special beds that are used by pregnant women. I am not sure where the member got his information from but those are the facts for the clarification of the country. Therefore Mr Speaker I conclude with some of the explanations asked by members in relation to the Supplementary Appropriation (No.1) 2013/2014.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Hon Minister for the clarification. I believe we all clearly understand the answers given. Also managing health services is challenging especially when faced with natural disasters and diseases. I am thankful to the Lord for your patience and providing services that has greatly improved the health standards. I pray that duties carried out with the new phase now open go as planned. I also thank the Chief Executive office and Ministry especially the main office and doctors as I notice there are a few present in Parliament. Also with the awareness programme the Parliament is involved with SPAGHL. The aim of the Leader of the country is to assist and support services. We have now come to another important Ministry in the country, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. I call upon the Hon Minister to elaborate on some of the comments made to his Ministry on comments by the members.

**Afioga Hon LE MAMEA ROPATI (Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries):** I humbly greet you Mr Speaker and the dignity of all members of the House. Also to all Heads of department present in proceedings today especially the support of the country.

I stand with respect on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to answer some of the comments made by members towards this Ministry.

I firstly give thanks to our Heavenly Father for his kindness that has enabled us to reach our third meeting day this week especially as it is the first sitting of the year. I thank the Lord for his guidance and protection for he has given us strength to carry out callings.

Mr Speaker and respectable members of the House most comments were commendations made to the Ministry and me. Therefore I would like to thank you all for the praise as I believe it is not only for our benefit but for everyone especially if it is to honor the Lord. As the recommendations and concerns stated by some members, these matters are greatly taken into considered. We all know that our actions are only justified by the Lord. It is important that we believe in him to guide us because with the Lord everything is possible.

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The main issue raised is the matter concerning our taro exports and the assistance given to the Ministry from the World Bank. It also involves coconut and other produce that members believe is profitable for their constituencies. I will now try to answer some of the queries with the assistance from some of the members of the Ministry.

Firstly, I would like to discuss the concern on taro. The exportation of taro overseas was progressing really well until it was affected by taro leaf blight. During this taro leaf blight most of our taro within the country was affected not only was it a problem for us but also with overseas countries as these countries, especially New Zealand and Australia, did not want our taro anymore because of the blight.

The truth is, once this disease affected our produce all exports were stopped. Also it was for the Ministry to carry out research on the different varieties of taros from overseas and within our country. This resulted in producing better taro which we all have witnessed in the country today with the many varieties but we are still cautious incase this blight might return. Although our taro has greatly improved over the years, overseas countries are still finding it hard to accept our taro because of the disease that happened years ago. Thus the Ministry has taken proper measures to ensure that our taro are quarantined and that overseas markets accept our taro produce with the incentive to help the people of the country.

I would like to thank the farmers for their support and considering the requests of government made through the Ministry to collaborate together. This also portrays the importance of our agricultural shows because it has greatly contributed to the Ministry getting to know the farmers.

Also most of the farmers are now registered within the Ministry and communication is now made easier with not only farmers in Upolu but also Savaii. If not for the farmers participation the work carried out by the Ministry would have been difficult. I am saddened with the continuous requests to export local produce yet people do not know it is difficult. This is the same with overseas countries and their imports brought into the country. It is done to protect countries especially neighboring countries like New Zealand and Australia. I believe there will come a time when everything will go smoothly but I request to our farmers to have patience. Our produce is still vital to our people, a food source within villages and constituencies and good for export overseas. We should also have the faith in the Lord because with him we can be able to carry out plans laid out.

For clarification on our taro exports which is a main concern raised in the comments made, there are three important areas; the responsibility of the farmer, the Ministry and access to overseas markets. The responsibility of the farmer is to plant the variety of taro allowed by the Ministry for export labeled Samoa taro number 1 and 2.

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Also the farmers who are planting taro know that it is harvested between 7-8 months. The taro is thoroughly cleaned, roots and soil is removed then transported to Atele where it is once again quarantined for insects and packed into containers. The size of taro exported is no more than one kilo. This is not the Ministry's requirement but it is by the overseas markets, which is a choice they make and not ours.

The responsibility of the Ministry is the registration of taro farmers who export taro also those who have offered to assist our farmers. Also they broadcast on television and radio when clearance is given that taro containers are needed by overseas markets. They also check the taro to make sure it is clean and pay the farmer on the spot for his produce. This is the new initiative to pay the farmer upfront and we do not have to wait until the money is received from containers exported. Also to sign the permit or file a Sanitary Certificate from Quarantine.

The obligation of overseas markets is to have available markets and payment for farmers as well as arrange for when they need the containers to be exported. They also cover all payments on these containers exported. The Ministry also assists in contacting overseas markets for opportunities for our exports also the collaboration of the Ministry of Agriculture and Quarantine is important to ensure the produce is safe. The Ministry is trying its best to acquire markets for the benefit of the people but thank you all for the advice, if we work together anything is possible.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister but I believe there is a member whom commented on the matter who wishes to take the floor, the member for Faleata East.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** Thank you Mr Speaker, also I thank the Hon Minister for the clarification given on the outstanding efforts on our taro exports. I am glad that you have explained one of the issues debated yesterday on the varieties of taro, the Samoan taro number 1 and 2. The question though is it safe for our taro exported say to Fiji, that they will not plant it and export it. Because the Hon Minister stated that this new type of taro was a result of cross production of overseas taro and local taro. An experiment made through knowledge of the younger generation.

**MR SPEAKER:** The matter is now understood, I call on the member for Faasaleleaga No.2.

**Susuga Papalii Lio Faavaivaio manu Taeu Masipau (Faasaleleaga No.2):** Mr Speaker to save the time of the Hon Minister I am thankful for the explanation given on the importance of the size of taro that are exported. This means there is no need to produce big taro because it only needs to be 1 kilo.

First, does the Ministry have a method of minimizing the size of our taro because as seen today our taro is really huge. Does the Ministry have specialized material that can be used to minimize the sizes of these taros in order to accommodate the size requested. Second, how many overseas markets are there? With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well. I give the opportunity to the Hon Minister of Communication, Information Technology because he is the one that took part in bringing in overseas taro for experiment; Hon Minister.

**Afioga Hon Tuisugaletaua Sofara Aveau:** Thank you I do not wish to argue the matter further but if it was an original taro of Samoa it would not have survived the blight. As for taro from overseas used for breeding that has produced a new type of taro should be called the Samoan taro. As for the many varieties of taro seen today they are all from overseas. This is also the same as the sheep brought in from Fiji when it is bred in the country it is Samoan sheep. Also with cattle from Australia and New Zealand once they are bred in Samoa they are not labeled as Australian cattle anymore.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. I believe Hon Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, the matter stated by the member is that our produce will be stolen when exported overseas.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** Mr Speaker...

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member for Faleata East followed by member for Falelatai and Samatau and then the Hon Minister to continue his clarification.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** I do not want to argue with the Hon Minister yes there were varieties of taro from overseas used for research to breed with our own taro. And it has resulted to a new taro variety only found in Samoa labeled as number 1 and 2 but are there methods to help protect this new variety?

**MR SPEAKER:** Your concern is noted.

The explanation given by the Hon Minister is, experiment was carried out using different varieties of taro from overseas that has produced this new taro.

As for your concern on the protection of such taro the Hon Minister will discuss the matter on what the Ministry is doing to protect this new variety of taro. I call upon the member for Falelatai and Samatau.

**Afioga Taefu Lemi:** Thank you Mr Speaker if we are discussing intellectual property I believe I can assist on the matter from the knowledge I acquired from the University of the South Pacific in collaboration with Agriculture at Alafua. This program is also aided with the help of SPC.

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The experiments carried out in Samoa is the same as what is done in Fiji and these seeds have a duplicate in Fiji. This means if it was only for our benefit it would not be a success and research today is shared between countries.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you for the assistance on the matter. I give the opportunity to the Hon Minister to clarify the matter considered.

**Afioga Hon LE MAMEA ROPATI:** Thank you. It seems the member only wishes to say what he wants and not accept the explanation given. I think this is one member that does not wish to answer anymore of his comments. And I believe the advice given is not appropriate for me to take into consideration. I clearly stated that the taro exported is now labeled as Samoan taro 1 and 2. There are also other new varieties number 3, 4, 5, 6 and experiments are still being carried out.

The explanation given by member for Falelatai is quite true on how the experiments are carried out. The breeding of taro is an experiment carried out between the collaboration of the Ministry and USP also the SPC. This is a project that is carried out with the assistance of overseas countries which we cannot do alone, in order to prevent this disease. The taro we now have is Samoan taro 1 and 2. Unfortunately we cannot expect that it will be safeguarded for our country alone. There are other countries involved that participated with these taro varieties especially the SPC that involves small island states. We should not consider only ourselves to benefit from this but be thankful with the contribution in breeding this taro variety.

**MR SPEAKER:** I humbly defer the speech of the Hon Minister because we have now arrived at our usual recess time. But the Ministry shall continue with its clarification when we return at 3.00pm.

I suppose a brief recess is in order. We shall meet again at 3.00pm.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside at 1.00 until 3.00 in the evening.*

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed at 3.00 in the evening.*

*Debate continued.*

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**MR SPEAKER:** I announce that proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed.

I take this opportunity to thank all the members of the House who are able to be present to continue with the normal orders of the chamber. Thank you for your patience to participate with our orders of the day. We have reached the final phase of our deliberations which is the government responses of various Ministries then we will consider the bill in detail. I strongly believe that we should be able to conclude with our Estimates today then follow through with other important matters. There are bills with certificates of urgency especially bills that are needed by Ministries and the Government in order to carry out the duties for the start of the year. Therefore, let us proceed with our orders as we are nearly done.

Before recess the Hon Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries was answering comments regarding his Ministry. I call upon the Hon Minister to continue with his clarification. With respect.

**Afioga Hon LE MAMEA ROPATI:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity to continue with my clarification in relation to matters raised by members. I believe all members, the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Leader of Opposition and his party have found strength in the refreshments provided. I have already explained concerns on our taro exports and various procedures carried out by the Ministry.

The Agriculture show that usually takes place every year is now scheduled to take place during the September SIDS conference. This is one way to showcase Samoa to the outside world especially with the various delegations visiting the country. The Ministry will do its best to ensure that the show goes without any problems. I believe I have already discussed the Samoa Agriculture Competitiveness Enhancement Programme (SACEP). I am glad to announce that 53 participants have registered within this programme. Also funds have been arranged for them and other things that are needed. There are 50+ participants who will start the program. Also interviews will be conducted next week for new participants that applied and they will be added to this list. It is really difficult to answer all application letters at once because there are more than 1,500. The Ministry is trying its best to comply with all applications on terms laid down by Treasury and World Bank. I am just thankful that this is finally being carried out.

There is belief that this money be used before the time it expires. If there is anything that the public wishes to understand let us know especially in regards to applications. Also the Ministry has again started consultation with applicants; I guess it will also open new opportunities for more applicants.

This is also the same for those who were affected by the previous cyclone. I apologize on behalf of the Ministry because the money given is not from the Ministry. A new workforce is sought out. The positions are advertised and new employees are recruited to implement the project.



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This means that all those working under SACEP now are new and they are being interviewed again. SACEP is doing great and it is following through because some interviews take a long time thus with the participation of the Chief Executive and staff everything is going to plan. The main task I do is persuading them to move faster because I am faced with complaints from people who need this help. Therefore I apologize we are not ignoring our duties but there are guidelines that ought to be followed.

Also this year FAO has emphasized the importance of family farming. They are planning meetings that will address this ideal and any assistance that will be provided for it to be carried out. It is not commercial farming but family farming. Therefore I strongly recommend families to comply with this initiative. I have witnessed that some families have already started their own plantations, vegetable gardens and chicken farms. This way people will not have to go all the way to town to get these goods. Thus plantations are greatly affected by their own livestock. This is exactly what the Ministry is trying to promote because most of these farms are fenced in and their livestock are left to roam free. But it should be the other way round also if they are told they say it is to ensure their animals are tamed. In a way it is fine, but we should consider because this has also affected the growth of coconut trees which are uprooted by pigs. This is an issue the Ministry has advised village leaders to look into because there is a need to plant more coconut trees. Also Chiefs and village leaders must look into the matter.

Another matter is our coconut which was mentioned by the member for Faleata West whom I see is absent. This is one activity the Ministry is trying to promote; the planting of more coconut trees. It is a programme carried out each year whereby students are encouraged to plant a coconut also families. I strongly believe that this source of life, the coconut tree is a goldmine for our people.

In the past we only extracted the oil from dried coconut, but nowadays we can get oil from the green coconut which is a process being carried out by the Women in Business and other families. This oil is used by cosmetic companies.

On my recent visit to Thailand with some of the business owners on this particular area they witnessed that the coconut has many uses especially the oil used for massages and medicine. This has seen the increase of coconut prices. Hence the coconut prices in the country have dropped due to poor coconut conditions. This is the reason why the Ministry is encouraging the public to plant more coconut trees but it is always destroyed by domesticated animals. I believe chiefs and village leaders can greatly assist in this matter to instruct families to fence in their farm animals.

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The member for Faleata West also mentioned the rhinoceros beetle noted by the Ministry with a few villages reporting this problem. The villages affected by this include, Neiafu, Fusi Safotulafai, Safotu, Salelologa, Faga and Patamea. The Ministry assists these villages through monthly checks that help to control this problem whereby two resolutions are initiated to solve it.

These two resolutions involve biological treatment that uses natural chemicals which is a virus, reckless virus. This virus is injected into the female beetle and then freed. During breeding the male beetle is infected with the virus and dies and the virus is then spread to other beetles.

Another resolution is the use of metamerism fungus which is sprayed on the eggs of these beetles inside rotten coconut trunks, tree trunks and rubbish dumps. This method kills the coconut beetles and decreases the number of beetles in the country. These are the two methods used by the Ministry on their monthly visits to villages that face this problem to ensure that this disease does not spread all over the country. We are lucky compared to other countries. I visited Asia and the Pacific, they not only have the rhinoceros beetle but also other small insects. The greenery of the coconut leaves are left bare with only twigs but I am grateful that we are not affected by this problem and I hope it does not affect our country in future. Also trainings are being carried out by Consultants that specialize in this area in villages with the assistance of the Ministry.

The Leader of Opposition also stated yesterday on the matter concerning eggs. This is one issue the Ministry is looking into, but I am grateful to those who have brought up the matter for chicken and egg farms. This type of chicken farming is not like our usual chicken farms because the chicken are fed a special feed that enables the chickens to lay eggs evening and morning. These eggs are then delivered and sold to the stores. As mentioned yesterday 75% of the eggs consumed by the country are local eggs. Our goal is to reach 100% so that we will not have to import anymore eggs from America although it is cheap, but by the time it arrives the freshness is gone. The only difficulty faced with the Ministry is producing this special Feed Mill that enables the chicken to lay more eggs which means not any food is given to the chickens.

The companies and individuals that are setting up chicken farms spends 70% to 80% of their expenses on this special food. This food is made up of wheat, maize and corn. Also the farmers tried using tapioca but the chickens do not like it but it is useful to pigs. The local farmers have been informed that if they need any assistance they should contact the Ministry especially the livestock division.

The World Bank will assist our farmers if this development benefits our country, through fencing in chickens and pigs. In comparison to what is being done by the Chinese farmers living in the country. As for our cattle the number has dropped, which as seen in the research carried out by the Ministry because of too much faalavelave. Also people are killing these animals even if they are still young and underweight.

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There is now a Slaughter and Meat Supply Bill that will be initiated in the next two to three years to monitor the slaughtering of cattle so that we can be able to supply healthy meat to supermarkets. The Ministry has witnessed during obligatory commitments that those who attend the funerals take home cattle meat and sell them to the stores. Then another person who is attending a funeral at Falelatai goes and buys it from the store and then sells it back. It is just like selling and buying fine mats but with the continuous exchange the meat will be unhealthy for consumption.

As for the request made by the member for Aleipata Itupa i Luga on selling his cattle, I have informed the Manager of this division to ask the member because he said he had 5 cattle; 4 bulls and 1 cow. But when it was collected there were 3 bulls and 2 cows so I told him to ask the member again what the decision is on his cattle. Hence I believe the member is understood on the matter and he is lucky he has his cattle because at the moment the government is trying to minimize stock until the number increases...

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister, I give the opportunity for the interjection of the member for Aleipata Itupa i Luga.

**Tofa Fagaaivalu Kendrick Samu (Aleipata Itupa i Luga):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity.

I had no intention of interrupting the clarification of the Hon Minister, hence a matter of concern that I stated was based on how our cattle is taken care of and how it is distributed. As for the payment of each cow it is \$400 and when it arrives to my village it is \$100. And that is the concern, but I thank the Hon Minister for supplying me with more cattle to replace my cattle. With respect thank.

**MR SPEAKER:** The concerns cannot be withheld because I am aware the Manager of the division is present and as the Hon Minister has stated you are free to voice your concern to him making the work easier. I call upon the Hon Minister.

**Afioga Hon LE MAMEA ROPATI:** I guess it was a sheep that was brought rather than a cow with this price of \$100. I humbly ask the Manger to look into this matter whether we gave sheep to the member and return the cattle and give his money back. Because this is a common problem today most of the people want cattle. If you do not want that cattle then the Ministry will greatly assist is removing the cattle and you can have your money back. The matter is really simple.

Thank you and I wish to conclude my speech, I apologize to some whom are not satisfied with answers given. May the Lord give you all strength to carry out your duties.

I would like to acknowledge the support of my constituency and their honorific salutations, thank you for all your support.

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### Motion to extend Sitting Hours

Also may the Heavenly Father bless our denomination the Elder Pastor and his congregation also the various divisions of the constituency, high chiefs, Faletua and Tausi especially the strength of the village also the young generation. May our children find the blessings of the Lord especially at the start of another school year, they are the future of our village and country. Also bless all of Samoa and its support especially each congregation. Bless our proceedings, thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you Hon Minister for the clarification on some of the issues made by members. I am truly grateful for your hard work and the developments carried out by your Ministry, it is not an easy duty mainly faced with the concerns of the people on agriculture and fishery.

I thank your village for the agriculture show, as I have stated to the Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture, a good Minister is a result of a better Ministry and the same is said for a Minister and his constituency. Also it has been noted that the Ministry and its developments has improved a lot with the abundance of food now available. I think it is Savaia that has the number one taro in the country. Well Hon Le Mamea may the Lord assist you with your duties together with your Ministry. I thank the Administration; also acknowledge the farmers and their hard work in developing the country.

### MOTION TO EXTEND SITTING HOURS

**Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI:** I move a motion, *That the debate on the Supplementary Appropriation (No.1) 2013/2014 be continued until passed.*

*Secoded by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.*

*Motion approved.*

*Debate on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill No.1 2013/2014 continued.*

**MR SPEAKER:** This is our new agenda until we finish considering the bill into detail we shall not rest until it is all done and passed.

We have now reached the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development. I call upon the Hon Minister to answer some of the comments made towards the Ministry.

**Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIATAUA (Minister of Women, Community and Social Development):** Thank you Mr Speaker and the dignity of the House, Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet also the Leader of Opposition and members of his party and the various heads of departments present with us today.

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I would like to acknowledge the dignity of Samoa and its traditional setup.

Before I answer some of the comments made by members against the Ministry, I would like to also acknowledge the support of our neighboring island of Tutuila and Manua, in all its honorific salutations; to the President of the Senate of the American Samoa legislature. I convey condolences for the passing of one of the significant figures of Laloulu, Afioga Tamaitai o le Ao faapea foi Tagoilelagi, Tagovailoa ma le Nofofanau, le mamalu i le Usoalii ma upu i lo oulua Toalua Vamasaneai ma Tuiasosopo, aea le saofaiga aua Afuola ma Lauti ma le Fetalaiga ia Uta. These are the honorary salutations of Afioga Afuola Nanai Kalasa Afuola who was the chief supervisor and advisor to the Governor. He was a strong advisor in the decision making of the State. May the Spirit of the Lord console family members, I believe the Lord has his ways of guiding us to be strong together. Also I convey my condolences to families who have suffered the same loss at this time.

Mr Speaker there are a few concerns voiced by members towards this Ministry most of which are family related. Also I am grateful to members who offered thanks to the work currently carried out by the Ministry in development of the people. Also for the work of the Office of the Ombudsman that is under the Ministry. Therefore I recommend members who wish to criticize this Ministry to withhold concerns while I give an explanation.

One of the members queried what the Ministry is planning to do with the upcoming conference that is going to take place in the country. This Ministry usually collaborates together with other Ministries that include the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Natural Resources and the Ministry of Works. I do not think this is a new matter to our country but with this collaboration, it assists the Ministry in developments also ensuring future development of our people.

Hosting conferences is not something new to Samoa but based on the fact that this is an international conference request has been given to the Ministry. This request was from the Samoa Tourism Authority under the guidance of the Hon Prime Minister for the beautification of Samoa, a responsibility taken by the Ministry two years ago.

Before the end of the year a meeting took place between women committees, village chiefs and Government representatives on measures that should be taken to beautify villages. The meeting included committees from Savaii and Upolu and the Faleula Committee which took place at Tooa Salamasina Hall. The Hon Prime Minister thanked villages for their participation in this project in beautifying the country now and in the future.

The culture and tradition of Samoa is really unique as well as our way of living. This is also a country that is hospitable to overseas tourists which is why most visitors love visiting our country. We have witnessed some of the feedback from these overseas visitors about our country and its development and hospitality.

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Mr Speaker and all members of the House, the Hon Prime Minister has recommended the various committees under the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development as well as the village representatives in Samoa and Savaii that they should take action to beautify their villages especially with the upcoming conference hosted by the country. The Ministry is currently working together with villages helping to maintain the beauty of our environment and country. This is carried out between the Ministry and village councils and women committees. So not only are roadsides beautified but also village pools and family gardens, as stated earlier by the Hon Minister of Agriculture on domestic pets, villages are recommended to cage their animals.

I humbly beseech the House and all of Samoa, to assist us in maintaining the beauty of our country. This is our duty to the Government and leaders of the country with the support of various denominations. Also the Ministry has arranged meetings with village leaders and women committees to meet and discuss these matters on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of February both in Upolu and Savaii. I would like to inform Parliament on some of the future goals of this Ministry. I have encouraged employees of the Ministry on being honest in how their duties are carried out because it is the greatest form of good governance to represent our country and embrace our cultural values.

Another matter of concern mentioned by one of the members involves modern technology. Our culture and faa-samoa is a significant part of our lives which is projected through the leadership of village chiefs, teaching a boy and girl manners of respect, the respect between mother and son, parents and children, Pastors and their congregation and youth groups.

This is one important aspect where the Ministry connects with various congregations through pastors working together with them. It is a way for the younger generation to connect spiritually, which means it will teach them not to bring shame upon their parents. This is why it is important that village leaders work with the Ministry of Police and leaders of churches to ensure good behavior.

Lastly is the issue on the independent water scheme. I think there were two or three members who questioned the independent water scheme where the Committee collects a \$200 fee. The fee of \$200 is for drilling water also this \$200 is for a yearly prescription.

In all honesty I clarify that this is a new activity because the association does not drill the water, there are contractors paid by government to do it. The plan was...

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister I give the opportunity to the Deputy Speaker whom mentioned the issue.

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**Tofa Agafili Patisela Eteuati Tolovaa (Palauli West):** Mr Speaker I do not wish to interrupt the wonderful speech of the Hon Minister on the Independent Water scheme. However, a point of order. The \$200 is for a general subscription and \$1 for drilling water for each family. The higher the number of families in a village, the more they pay. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you your point is understood.

**Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIATAUA:** These records Mr Speaker state that \$200 is for annual prescriptions and to drill water. I am certain of this information because although I am old I am not that deaf.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister I will give the opportunity back to the Deputy Speaker.

**Tofa Agafili Patisela Eteuati Tolovaa:** Mr Speaker the statement of the Hon Minister is true. The drilling of water in villages is \$200 but other villages you see do not have only one but need more water. With respect.

**Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIATAUA:** If the member had listened intently to the explanation given he would know that what I said is fact. If the Committee charged \$200 this means that the village has 200 pipes. Although what I meant was that why does the Committee have to collect this fee when they are not the ones drilling the water.

A contractor has already been paid for by the Government. The money given to aid the Independent Water Scheme for the 37 villages in the country is money from the Government. As you can see in our Appropriation as written in the Committee report, a fee of \$10 is paid by Eva for each family in a month. This is what the Government is trying to do for everyone. The only issue the Ministry is faced with is to have enough funds to carry out this project.

There was an estimated amount collected at the beginning from the villages by the association thus there were some problems that occurred and it is the reason why it is now taken under the Ministry's supervision. The money paid by the village helps with the maintenance of the water. The important matter I wish to inform you all is the work carried out by the Ministry together with the Ministry of Health research division and the Samoa Water Authority especially the SROS so that every village will have access to clean water supply.

This is one of the duties of the Ministry to inform villages of these opportunities and helping out without paying for these resources given by the Ministry.

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**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister I call upon the member for Faleata West because he was the one that mentioned the importance of water in Falelauniu.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity I also thank the Hon Minister, the clarification given was quite wonderful. Those who already have water supply through the Samoa Water Authority also wish to be connected privately. Then in the next few years they will want to go back to Government water supply but the task taken to accomplish it is not that cheap. What is the opinion of the Hon Minister and Ministry on this matter? With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Hon Minister.

**Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIATAUA:** Thank you member for Faleata West. The member for Faleata West is one of the most intelligent men I know as he is always alert on matters. I just wish all of the Opposition were bright as him.

As for the concern given, nothing like it has happened. The 37 villages with this private water supply have not asked to be under the Samoa Water Authority under the Ministry of Works.

They are satisfied with the benefits they already have with clean water supply through the collaboration of the three Ministries I mentioned earlier. Therefore whatever you have heard they are just false statements because nothing like this has ever happened and the Ministry is still monitoring everything. There are two independent water schemes mentioned in the Appropriation, Leusoalii and Luatuanuu.

I apologize to the member for Vaa o Fonoti, there are activities that need be addressed as I stated before, but it will not utilize much funds. As for the fees collected, it is kept by the Ministry and used later for water improvements. The incentive is to have access to reasonable water costs under Committee within villages. This is why water supply in Lona Fagaloa is expected to be included in our Main Estimates 2014/2015. I am well aware of other constituencies who requested as well such as Sagaga and Falealili but remember Rome was not built in one day. One of the previous Ministers of Works in the past who has passed stated during such requests to leave the matter to the Government because it will find a way. The opinions showcased are important, it encourages the Government but patience is very much appreciated.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon Hon Minister because you mentioned the members constituency. I call upon the member for Siumu.



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**Tofa Hon Tuuu Anasii Leota (Siumu):** Mr Speaker I was about to mention my village independent water scheme but as it is already mentioned, I am grateful. I believe we are next. With respect.

**Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIAATAUA:** I am respectable to the member because he is older but I do not know what his concern is about. Thus the member has not commented on the matter further but leave it to us we will look into it. Only the water in Lona is planned for next year 2014/2015. As quoted in the Bible those who ask shall receive this is not only within the House but for general understanding. I thank you for the motion also the village of Falealili requesting for private water supply. I believe there are still a few issues need to be elaborated upon although with the time given in order for us to pass the Appropriation I only elaborated on significant matters. Therefore the procedures and legislations made for protection of the Ministry awaiting a Cabinet decision will mean that procedures and legislations will be combined with international agreements Samoa has signed.

This includes CEDAW, CRC Convention Right of the Child and another convention that Cabinet has not yet rectified that is for those with special needs.

I want to thank the Chief Executive of the Ministry also the Ombudsman and his services, the Committee working with the Ministry may the Lord bless you all for the work carried out to serve the country. Also may the Father bless our country and the support given to us. My constituency Faleula, Nofolii and Leulumoega there are only two of us. This member has not done wrong I have prayed night and day for my constituency Faleula and all its honorary salutations.

As for issues I have failed to address, our Father knows all and I am thankful for the support of the constituency and also my Ministry. Therefore acknowledgment to the Ministry is greatly appreciated. Bless our proceedings.

**MR SPEAKER:** I thank the Hon Minister for his clarification and services stated that has been carried out successfully by the Ministry helping with the Women of the country our communities and strengthen our cultural traditions.

It is now time for the Ministry of Communications, Information and Technology. I call upon the Hon Minister.

**Afioga Hon TUISUGALETAUA SOFARA AVEAU:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the patience to manage our proceedings today, I would like to acknowledge our Parliament, the Hon Prime Minister and his Cabinet, the Leader of Opposition and party and all members of the House. I also like to acknowledge the support of our country listening in to our proceedings.

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I am also thankful to the love of the Lord for the opportunity given to elaborate and answer some of the queries put forward by members to the Ministry.

I will start with the issue concerning the Broadband. The target is by March the installation of the Broadband will be complete and operational so that we will be well prepared for the conference at the end of the year. This Broadband starts from within Government Ministries and corporations and that is phase 1. Then it will be distributed towards businesses and the public who wish to use these services. The purpose of the Broadband is to link various Ministries and corporations so that communication between them is made easier by using new technology such as computers and smart phones that we see being used today.

The other query on the Broadband is whether there is internet usage. At the moment with phase 1 there is no internet except internet installed by the Ministries themselves and those who have paid for internet. Also, the only internet connectivity with overseas that we have is with American Samoa. The ICY Cable as recommended by engineers that the capacity is no longer enough for another four years. So at the moment action has been taken for the implementation of another cable to enable connection with overseas countries. At the moment we are just awaiting the World Bank and ADB to finalize plans to install this cable. At the moment we are working together with other companies to ensure we will be able to access information from other countries. A query was also stated on who is in charge of the Broadband well to be precise it is the Government and the Ministry that is in charge of this matter.

The Government has considered with the help from the World Bank and ADB these cable connections that a specialized private company should foresee these matters. This way there will be less problems and suspicions among companies.

The internet nowadays as stated by a few, is too expensive. This concern is accurate although compared with other Pacific countries it is reasonable. Also this is the same as Fiji and Vanuatu the internet prices are fairly the same since it was established within the country. In 2009 the Regulator implemented a decrease in the charges to internet. Also with the competition between companies offering better internet bundles in the country the price of internet usage has decreased. As we see advertised on the television 88 megabytes only costs \$2, which is a huge change from when it was first introduced in the country. I believe there are plans concerning a new connectivity apart from the ASH cable that we have now and be replaced with our own cable. As mentioned before there are four to five options that still need to be finalized even though we have chosen one or two options that are to be finalized by Cabinet.

Another matter is the 2AP broadcasting where a comment...

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

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**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister; I give the opportunity to the member who commented on the matter, I call on the member for Faleata West.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** I thank the Hon Minister for the clarification given regarding Broadband. The only matter of concern is the expensive cost but no internet components because this is a really important aspect. Also with this new system that will be implemented it will only mean links between Ministries and there is no program such as an e-government for other companies such as teachers.

If this is going to be implemented the question to the Hon Minister, will there be more debt added to the debt that we already have to carry out this work? And if by the time it is implemented internet costs are still expensive and the Government will change it again. As stated by the Regulator I quote, internet cost in Samoa will hinder Samoans developments in the future.

Therefore Hon Minister, this is a reminder to the work currently carried out by your Ministry especially our Broadband. Also I thought the MCIT were already trained to monitor these duties and carry out the work instead of establishing another new Ministry. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Hon Minister to continue with your clarification.

**Afioga Hon TUISUGALETAUA SOFARA AVEAU:** Thank you. But that is an explanation concerning the internet and Broadband. For your clarification Broadband is an important matter as an example school net that uses overseas internet. This method is faster as it has been implemented by the Ministry of Education making access to the internet for schools much easier. Planning and installation of internet is a contributor to good coverage, this way the Ministry can assist other departments making it easier.

This is the same as the Ministry of Health who are connected to their offices in Savaii and rural health centres. This is the same for the Police department, prepare your workplaces and the internet will be try and ensure that the internet is connected. The opinion shown upon the findings of the Regulator is true, we will face problems due to changes with the implementation of this system. Therefore planning has been carried out to ensure that things run smoothly.

There was a question on whether there is a classified fee for the electricity by the Regulator? At the moment this is being monitored by the Regulator himself because he has the skills to do so and he is well capable in doing it. There is a specialist and a lawyer working together in monitoring this at the Regulators Office and they are very capable.

They have been trained in Florida America and at the moment they are there on other advanced trainings. They are trained on specifics on electricity charges and how to initiate reasonable electricity fees.

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

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Mr Speaker regarding the training in Florida. Is the Regulator part of this training or are there others attending?

**MR SPEAKER:** New comments will not be answered but I will give the opportunity back to the Hon Minister for his explanation.

**Afioga Hon TUISUGALETAUA SOFARA AVEAU:** I used the Samoan word *aoga* because it is the simplest word to explain training, and yes trainings are being carried out at the moment. It is not a school to get a degree because our people are intelligent; this is to ensure that in the next six years when this individual leaves those in training will take the responsibility. This means that the person trained will be able to implement costs that are suitable to the country.

Mr Speaker that concludes the issues raised by some of the members and I thank the members for the comments made to the Ministry. I wish to acknowledge my beloved constituency Vaimauga East, my village of Lailii; Afio o Leniu, le paia ia Taliulu ma Salevalasi, paia maualuga o Tuisamau ma Ituala e fia. Also my village of Letogo; Afifio ai Tuliaupupu ma Tuliaupupu ma Alo foi o Tuliaupupu, Afifio Usoalii ma Taialii ma Aiga Sa Malietoa, mamalu i le Taua ma Tuisamau.

My village of Vailele; Afio o Samoa ma le Falefia o Alii, le Maopu ma le Gataiala, le paia ia laua Nofoa ma le nofo a ituaiga ia Saleupolu. Also I would like to acknowledge the sub village of Maugafiafia and Vailele Uta to the Elder Deacon and his congregation, Faletua and our future generation. Also my village of Fagalii; Afifio o Alaalatama, Afifio o Tuisugaletaua ma Luamanuvae, Fetalaiga ia Pulemagafa ma le Faiga ma le nofo a ituaiga Saleupolu. These are the honorary titles that I humbly represent and my constituency has entrusted me to contribute to our Parliament.

I want to thank the Heads of various Ministries present with us here today, thank you for your services to our country. Although at times we tend to make it hard upon you but it is the services you provide that benefits our country. Bless the Chair and bless our sitting.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Hon Minister of Communication, Information and Technology for the clarification. I believe the queries of members are now clearly understood. Therefore I acknowledge the Ministry and the Head of the department for their work considering this is one significant Ministry in the country. Because with all the modern changes we are faced with today our country should be able to adapt to these changes. The support of the Parliamentary Committee on Population and Development are thankful to assist in any way with these changes to make our work easier. I acknowledge the Management also the 2AP office for its services to our country.

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We now arrive to the main reason for our proceedings, I call upon the Minister of Finance, Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga it is time for your response.

**Afioga Hon FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE LIUGA (Minister of Finance):** Mr Speaker and respectable members of the House, firstly I acknowledge the Speaker for his patience in managing our proceedings this morning. I thank the members who commented on the Supplementary Appropriation Bill No.1 2013/2014.

Mr Speaker 31 members were pleased with our Appropriation this year. As we are all aware, our country today has seen a lot of developments because of the hard work of our past leaders. The hard work they did to make sure that Samoa moves from a least developed country to a developing state. And this new stage of development started on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2014. It is a proud moment for us therefore we should praise our past leaders for their efforts in the past 51 years. And our younger generation is blessed with this development.

During this new stage whereby we have shifted, development the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and International Community was questioned if this change will affect our funds. The answer given to us who were representatives at this meeting with the President and Vice President of the World Bank and Asia Development Bank was, we are not affected because the classification was made by the United Nations based on the records of the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and financial institutions other than the ones I have mentioned.

The reason why I have mentioned this is because this is where our Estimates are being drawn from considering also our Main Estimates. Also there will still be opportunities to still gain grants from overseas with this transition. Samoa is one of the smallest countries in the world that knows how to manage its economy and wisely use the funds given to develop the country where it is fit.

Mr Speaker the comments made by some of the members I have already answered and I do not wish to discuss it further unless a member wishes to understand or hear the answer. Hence these are some of the queries that I will now discuss as stated by a few members.

The member for Faasaleleaga No.2 mentioned that a fee of \$2 is paid by the elderly to get their pension. Mr Speaker and respectable members the old peoples pension is funded by the NPF through the Westpac bank. If the pension is put into a Westpac account there will be no \$2 fee paid. And \$2 will not be cut from the money earned, if the individual wishes to change the bank to take out their money it is their choice. The Samoa Post pays \$1.50, Samoa Commercial Bank \$2, National Bank \$2, ANZ is \$2 and Western Union \$5. This depends of the persons choice and the financial institution they have their account it is a fee by the bank and not the NPF. If the individual is using Westpac no fee is paid and they get the full pension.

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The members for Aana Alofi No.3 and Vaisigano No.1 questioned grants from overseas that currently assist our budget.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister; I give the opportunity to the member.

**Susuga Papalii Lio Faavaivaiomanu Tacu Masipau:** Thank you Mr Speaker, thank you Hon Minister for the explanation. It seems the problem is imposed by the banks themselves except for Westpac that is free; I believe that the fees for other banks are rather high. The question therefore is whether there is a chance that an agreement can be made with other banks to not impose these fees. Because I know it is not easy for the elderly to change banks. This is the concern and reason I questioned this matter because the fees are too high, we have to help the elderly in this area. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Minister.

**Afioga Hon FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE LIUGA:** I would like to thank the member for the concern shown.

The Westpac Bank has branches in Savaii and in store banking if one wishes to withdraw their pension they do not pay a fee. If we look at the Samoa Post they have decreased to \$1.50 apart from the banks that impose \$2 and \$5 but I will look into this issue and talk with the banks to drop these fees.

The reason why there is no fee imposed by Westpac is because NPF has an account at that bank. If it also had accounts in the other banks, then there would also be no fees. But I will consult with these other banks to ensure that they do not cut out a fee from the pensions of our elderly.

The queries mentioned by members for Aana Alofi No.1 and Vaisigano No.1 on grants stated in our budget. The question whether these grants will continue, the answer yes they will. These grants are given to us half grant half soft term loans. Two years ago, our normal jest between Ministers and Members asked for assistance, now seen with a 100% grant from the World Bank and 50/50% from ADB. This request is to ensure that the banks have equal terms especially in Asia and the Pacific together with other non-region members which involves the Arab countries and the Western world. The answer to the question is these grants are continuous depending also on the developments seen and how it is used. This includes the Asian Development bank, World Bank, European Investment Bank and EU. The EU gives 100% in grant because of the water sector. At the moment it is still in progress and this month the EDF11 programme is being carried out. Also programs are being carried out on private water supply to rural areas. This is the reason why these grants are really important for the budget especially for our developments.

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The member for Vaisigano No.1 questioned taxes not increasing thus comments were made that VAGST assists with our budget. As stated in the Supplementary Appropriation No.1 the Government is not planning on increasing both tax and VAGST at the same time. The VAGST assist the budget through the interests of the Ministries and organizations. This means a 15% VAGST will be charged to the Ministries in relation to the money they use. Member for Vaisigano No.1, that is the clarification on the matter. I am not sure whether the Samoan context is clearly explained but the English version clearly clarifies the issue.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister because you mentioned the member in your explanation. I call on the member for Vaisigano No.1.

**Afioga Tufuga Gafaloaleata Faitua (Vaisigano No.1):** Mr Speaker I do not wish to interrupt the Hon Ministers wonderful explanation, but as of the concern the misunderstanding is with the English version. In the English version it states “Government does not propose to implement any new revenue measures” to supplement this budget. As for the Samoan context it states “government does not wish to raise taxes”, I guess I was wrong. I am thankful for the explanation given.

The Ministerial statement by the Hon Minister mentioned that the Appropriation that was passed will be funded by specific Ministries and their services identified by the Government. What happened was that those who did not understand then questioned the matter on television and in newspapers after the Estimates passed the Assembly. I believe this is an issue that was not questioned and so it will be left unanswered. I thank you Mr Speaker and the Hon Minister for the clarification.

**MR SPEAKER:** The member for Salafai should not get used to watching what is broadcasted on television but try to understand what is discussed in the House unlike the member for Gagaemauga No.2 who usually appears on the television.

I call upon the Hon Minister of Finance to continue with the clarification.

**Afioga Hon FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE LIUGA:** Mr Speaker I now come to the issue mentioned by the member for Falealupo, on Government SOEs and their profits and deposits.

Mr Speaker there are 16 SOEs as trading bodies. There are also other joint entities working together with the community like Insurance and NPF also there are others bodies, approximately 5 known as benefit companies. Dividends do not apply to these organizations also they are exempted from paying taxes and VAGST cuts and dividends. These 16 organizations all focus on earning also developing the countrys budget.

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At the beginning, the Agriculture Store financial year 2009/2010 there were no profits. There was also no deposits to the Government in 2010 to 2011 they had an estimated surplus of \$234,484 which was not mentioned that had been accomplished. For the financial year 2011/2012 it was estimated that \$234,484 would be a profit from the store.

The Development Bank financial year 2009/2010 there was no profit. In 2010/2011 an estimated projection was \$162,663 but the actual income was \$162, 664. This means there was profit in the year 2010/2011. In 2011/2012 there was no profit. In 2012/2013 there was also no profit.

The Land Transport Authority; in the year 2009/2010 there was no estimate in 2010/2011 an estimate of \$2,337,616 and no actuals. In 2011/2012 there was no estimate and no actual, and the same goes for 2012/2013.

Then I come to Polynesian....

**MR SPEAKER:** I interrupt the Hon Minister and his clarification because we have now arrived at our recess hour. You may continue when we come back from our normal evening recess.

I announce that proceedings are now set aside for our evening recess.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside for its normal recess at 4.45pm until 5.25pm.*

**MR SPEAKER:** I announce that proceedings of the Legislative Assembly have now resumed. I want to thank you all for your patience I believed we have reached the final phase of our proceedings this evening. I strongly believe that we will pass our Supplementary Appropriation Bill today. I believe that we have been satisfied with the refreshments provided by the Office. We will now carry out with our program as usual. Before our recess the Hon Minister of Finance was discussing our Appropriation. I call upon the Hon Minister to continue.

**Afioga Hon FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE LIUGA:** Thank you Mr Speaker, also I am thankful for the refreshments as it has given our Parliament much needed strength.

Before recess Mr Speaker I was stating the estimates for one SOE; the Public Trust Office. We now arrive at the Samoa Airport Authority; from 2009/2010 – 2012/2013 there was no estimates or dividends.

In 2009/2010, the Samoa Housing Corporation had \$193, 179 in reserves, no dividend was paid.



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Also in 2010/2011, \$195,395 was estimated and \$310,610 was paid out in dividends. In 2011/2012 \$195,395 was an estimate and \$394,348 was paid. It is also noted that the financial year 2012/2013 estimated \$198,153. In consultation with the Chairman and the CEO this amount has been paid to the Ministry of Finance.

The Samoa Land Corporation estimated \$86,540 and no dividend was paid in 2009/2010. There was no estimate in the year 2010/2011 also no dividends. In 2011/2012 estimates was \$162,970 and \$162,970 was paid. In the year 2012/2013m there was no recorded estimate.

The Port Authority put forward an estimate of \$43,519 and the dividend recorded was \$79,909. An estimate of \$102,766 was noted in 2010/2011 and there was dividend paid in the same year. In 2011/2012 there was no estimate but a dividend of \$118,490 was paid. There were no records of profits for 2012/2013.

The Samoa Post estimated \$297,764.50 and paid \$192,369. In the year 2010/2011, \$118,831 was estimated and \$205,396 was paid. In 2011/2012 \$88,831 of that same amount was paid by the Samoa Post. In the year 2012/2013 there was an estimate of \$196,205 and \$155,570 was paid. As for the Samoa Shipping Services there were no records from 2009 to 2013.

SamoaTel estimates for 2009/2010 was \$2,113,867, amount paid was \$1,727,646. The estimations for financial year 2010/2011 was \$180,928 with a \$5million dividend. Estimates for 2011/2012 were \$2,161,212 and dividend paid was \$5 million. There were no estimates for the year 2012/2013.

The Samoa Trust Estates, from the year 2009-2013 there was no payments. This is the same for the Samoa Water Authority.

Virgin Samoa in partnership with the Government did not have any profits for the year 2009/2010 but a dividend of \$8,698,664.80 was paid. There was no payment for the following year hence there was an estimated expenditure for 2012/2013. Estimated amount was \$578,155 and payment was \$890,196.

This is a clarification in relation to the question made by the member for Falealupo.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Hon Minister for the clarification. I call upon the member for Falealupo.

**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity I also thank the Hon Minister and the clarification given. Firstly *this system is not uniformed. There are transactions that do not have projections, why?* There is also no answer on the projection that is to be provided. Also is this a uniform system?

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Secondly look into SLC in 2009/2010? This is a period where there are profits and also there is no estimated profit which I presume needs to be projected. Is this right?

**MR SPEAKER:** The question by the member is clearly noted. I believe the clarification given on SOEs was clearly explained, but it would be great if the Hon Minister continue with his explanation. I call upon the Hon Minister of Finance.

**Afioga Hon FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE LIUGA:** I have already clarified the matter and do not wish to repeat it again. The member did not ask about a system only on a report of records.

Mr Speaker then I come to the...

**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** Mr Speaker I gladly conclude my query. Although it is very interesting as explained by the Hon Minister that there is a lot of money one year and then there is nothing in another year.

**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion of the member is now understood. I call upon the Chairperson of the Finance and Expenditure Committee.

**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang (Individual Voters):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity.

I stated in my speech the importance of our State Owned Enterprises and their contribution to our budget through dividends. I want to thank the Hon Minister for discussing the input of State Owned Enterprises, as for the estimates stated in the budget a dividend of \$870,000+ is an expected amount. At the time of the budget address there were only three to four SOEs that contributed to this expenditure. This is the reason I approached the topic yesterday so that more SOEs will participate and contribute to our budget.

Another issue Mr Speaker in relation to the Public Bodies Act these enterprises should submit in financial reports every year. I believe that once these reports are audited by the Chief Auditor and Chief Executive of the organization a time frame has been set for it to be submitted into Parliament. Because I believe this is the only time that the Speaker and Members of Parliament will be able to evaluate and review these reports on the work of these enterprises. Hence I am disappointed by the performance of SLC.

The Committee was in contact with the Manager last year when the budget was addressed when reports from the year 2006 to 2012 was submitted into Parliament. I am disappointed though to the Management for not complying with the Committees request and legal requirements...

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon Mr Chairman, I give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

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**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** All these enterprises are guided by the new Government policies. There are corporations like the Samoa Shipping Corporation that are profitable but others find it hard to gain profits. The Government gives them the time to be able to make it. As for these Government policies they are implemented so it will encourage them to do well.

This is the reason why most Chairpersons were removed, also this is a matter clearly understood by the Chairperson of the Finance and Expenditure Committee. Ministers and CEOs also are removed so that the administering and management of these Corporations can be transferred to private entrepreneurs to utilize their knowledge and skills.

As I mentioned yesterday with the reform I advised upon my Cabinet. This was the time the Chairperson was the Minister of Finance. I thought it was going to be implemented in July 2010 yet they requested it be in December. This does not mean he is the only person who is intelligent but he should also adhere to advice given by his group. Then in December another request was submitted for it to be postponed in consideration of the elections. Therefore the change was implemented with the new administration and it was advertised and now in progress.

This is how it should be done, so that we can involve local business owners to share their knowledge. As we are all aware these things do not happen straight away it is a long process that needs patience. A person who expects such is living in paradise but we are living on earth.

Regarding SLC, they go out to collect leases and are met with apologies as the lessors do not have the money. There are two ways to solve this issue, give them a chance or remove the lease. This is not the same as selling herring, pies and cocoa because in stores we usually get profits, but with this we are dealing with people. How are we going to approach this? A visionary Government leaves the opportunity to set up a system. This does not mean it will take one or two years, it takes more than three, four, five years for it to be completed. Therefore Chairperson it does not mean you can criticize the duties carried out because you are not the Minister anymore because there are also duties you did not fulfill. As the saying goes, 'do not judge for you will be judged, do not think lowly of the other because you do not want what happen to another happen to you.'

Mr Speaker this kind of responsibility is done through the capability of the person. A wise person shares his wisdom. But as we see today there are constant changes. And that Mr Speaker is assistance on the matter as questioned from time to time.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Hon Prime Minister for the clarification. Pardon the member for Falealupo I give the opportunity to the Chairperson of the Finance and Expenditure Committee.

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**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. Firstly I apologize to the Hon Prime Minister for the lack of efforts of performance during my time as a Hon Minister. The Lord has perceived that I have given my all in carrying out my responsibilities. But for whatever wrong I have committed I apologize for such weakness. The only reason for asking this is based on the fact of following our policies and the law....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Chairman of the Finance and Expenditure Committee; I give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I did not say to end it. This is the reason why I said to implement a reform to encourage this because there are a lot of difficulties faced by CEOs today. Also there chosen individuals of the private sector who are reliable. If they take part in this they will also be faced with their own problems.

Also there were individuals chosen who are from rural areas and there was belief that they are satisfactory but when they proceed to do the work they lacked the effort. We Mr Speaker, are in an imperfect world where there is good and bad as stated in the book of Psalms. We cannot get the whole hundred percent thus this is what we are vying to accomplish. I am not implying that we should not look at the issue but we must be patient because the Hon Minister is trying his best to address the matter. This is better than just dismissing them thus if we dismiss them how are we going to do it? We can easily give chances to people to correct their mistakes; if they do wrong today they will learn from it and do great tomorrow.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. I believe the matter has been clearly clarified Chairman of the Finance and Expenditure Committee.

**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** Thank you for the clarification on the matter it is now understood. Hence I am satisfied with the answer by the Hon Prime Minister but I just want to ask, it seems that we are not following procedures stated within the Public Bodies Act. The main query here is why is this Corporation withholding this information without submitting it to Parliament? With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** There will be a time when the Hon Minister will address this matter. Pardon the Hon Minister, is there anything you wish to ask member for Falealupo?

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**Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta:** I will just await the ongoing debate, thus I have just come to terms with the means of this system. As the Hon Prime Minister stated there is a system although it takes time for it to be perfected. Although Mr Speaker I am currently concerned with SLC everything was going great but then last year they do not have any projections.

As for the money earned there is a lot but it is stated that there is nothing at all, there is currently a problem here, there is a reason why the money is disappearing...

**MR SPEAKER:** The concern of the member is clearly understood, the Hon Minister has also clarified the issue and I believe we cannot prolong other matters. The Hon Prime Minister has also explained about the reform which was not banned, so there is no reason to argue the matter on reforms further.

I call upon the Hon Minister of Finance.

**Afioga Hon FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE LIUGA:** Mr Speaker especially members of Parliament I am grateful for the answer given by the Hon Prime Minister. Regarding the submission of reports questioned by the Chairperson, I checked they have already been reported. I believe measures taken on confirmation of dates these reports are submitted are the dates by the Auditor. The employees misplaced the file that is the reason they could not find it, until they searched their records but they did all the reports from 2006 together with the one we are currently awaiting. With respect.

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, the Cabinet meeting last week was to make known some of the Ministries and Corporations yearly reports and their financial audits. Most of these Government organizations have met this target, which is continuously reported emphasizing the importance of the work of Committee. This Cabinet therefore initiates a possible solution for Ministries that submit their reports into Parliament late, this also includes Corporations. In my opinion nowadays there not many organizations that are in arrears in financial reports most of them are already well prepared and audited.

Mr Speaker that is a brief answer on the topic and the Chairman and Committee should be grateful because they are emphasizing the issue in case they might think that Cabinet is not taking the matter seriously.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. The Hon Prime Minister has clarified the concern of the Committee.

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Pardon Hon Minister of Finance I will give the opportunity to one of the members for the Finance and Expenditure Committee. I call upon the member for Falelatai and Samatau.

**Afioga Taefu Lemi:** Mr Speaker I have noted some of the comments made today. I think that our issues are mixed up, the reports are thoroughly noted as for the Annual reports there are some that justify these issues. I recommend that the House await this report so that we will be able to evaluate it. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** The opinion of the member is clearly understood, this is the reason why the Chair is pursuing this matter. Hence the issue here is now based on the reports of various Ministries. The Government has responded on the procedures taken if submission of these reports is not adhered too. Is there another matter Leader of Opposition?

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker no there is no other matter but I am saddened by the response given to the Chairman while trying to explain some of the concerns addressed. I am saddened by the Hon Prime Minister because he knows well that the Committee supports there Chairperson.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoui:** Mr Speaker I do not know the reason why the Leader of Opposition is upstanding.

**MR SPEAKER:** Leader of Opposition, this is the reason why the Hon Prime Minister addressed the concern of the Chairperson. Also Cabinet submitted a Schedule two weeks ago that the submission of Annual reports of State owned enterprises is compulsory and must be on time.

The concern stated by the Chairperson was based on some of the findings evaluated by the Committee regarding incomplete submission by the Executive Office. Therefore the Hon Prime Minister has responded and there have been measures taken to foresee the problem. Therefore we must wait, to adjust with the system and the reform set by Government then we can reevaluate. The concern of the Finance and Expenditure Committee has been answered.

I call upon the Hon Minister of Finance.

**Afioga Hon FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE LIUGA:** Mr Speaker, regarding the Hon Prime Ministers comments on the compilation of reports, the Minister of Finance is a Shareholding Minister of SOEs. This is what the Chairperson of the Finance and Expenditure should have done when he was Minister of Finance.

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I have assisted the Ministry in managing SOEs for the submission of reports; also my office is involved with the screening of reports submitted after it is audited.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Hon Minister but I give the opportunity to the Chairperson of the Finance and Expenditure Committee.

**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** I do not wish to interrupt the speech of the Hon Minister but because I was criticized for not doing my duty. I am saddened by such accusation. I have already explained my duties to the Hon Prime Minister although the problem occurred when the Minister was the one in charge of the SOEs. I noticed this problem when I was the Minister as well because I advised the person managing the organization to submit in reports. The problem also was there were no quarterly reports submitted. I clarify to the Hon Minister that I did fulfill my duties as I also pursued this same problem. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** There will be no debate on the issue as the Hon Prime Minister has explained what the Cabinet did in the past is what is past. So whatever duties carried out by the past Minister it is continued by the Minister that is now present. Also whatever good work accomplished we thank the Lord but as for the failures it is the nature of our proceedings to be able to resolve it. The concerns therefore voiced by the Committee Hon Minister is to ensure this system works. This will greatly assist with our budget. I call upon the Hon Minister to continue his explanation.

**Afioga Hon FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE LIUGA:** Thank you Mr Speaker. The Chair and the Hon Prime Minister has explained the matter so I will not evoke the matter further. I have already clarified the issues raised in relation to our Supplementary Appropriation (No.1) 2013/2014.

Mr Speaker I wish to say a few words to my constituency, to acknowledge their support, Palauli le Falefa my beloved constituency. In all its honorary salutations, Tapaau e Fa ma Faleupolu e Fa, also my village Tafua, respectable servants of the Lord and to all within the constituency. Happy New Year and God Bless; thank you for the prayers and support. I will continue in carrying out my duties for the benefit and development of Samoa.

I want to thank the Chief Executive Office and Ministry of Finance on your duties in compiling our Estimates so that every Ministry has a share also to aid our developments. I would like to acknowledge the work carried out each year. Finally, I thank the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and the staff in providing for our Parliament, thank you for your services. Bless our sitting. Soifua.

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**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Hon Minister of Finance, I believe the issues discussed were clearly addressed. Hon Minister of Finance, I believe you are a man of God therefore have patience and may the Lord assist you with your duties because they are not that simple. I also give my support to the work carried out by your Ministry and all the best for the work this year. I also congratulate the Chairperson of the Finance and Expenditure Committee for the work and assistance especially with the Finance Ministry.

We now come to the Ministry of Revenue that is in charge with financing our Budget. Hon Minister of Revenue, this is your vocation.

**Tofa Hon TUILOMA LAMEKO: (Minister of Revenue):** I humbly greet Mr Speaker and the dignity of the House, to all the Ministers and respectable Members of Parliament. The speeches made today, as we have all heard, did not question the Ministry of Revenue. This means, in my opinion, that this Ministry has performed its best because there are no queries. Therefore I will not prolong a response upon the work carried out by the Ministry.

I will just elaborate briefly on our Supplementary Appropriation, especially the economy of the country. I also thank the Hon Minister of Finance and the Ministry of Finance. I also want to thank my Ministry as I believe that 80 to 90% of the Budget is collected by the Ministry of Revenue. So whatever comments made against our Supplementary Appropriation I am thankful for the figures because they are all that matters. I believe the important matter is that our economy is developing. How do we know this? Samoa was categorized under least developed countries. What are we looking at now? At the moment Samoa has moved further and has progressed to another stage and I am proud of our country. What is this conference taking place in Samoa? This portrays that Samoas economy is developing as well as our Budget Estimates and we are here to witness it. It does not mean we are the only country part of this because there are others. The United Nations are categorizing countries through their developments.

Also another issue is the arrangement of the money and policies strengthening in the private sector. If our private sector is well established then our Government will also do well.

The respectable Members of the Assembly as I have stated there are no queries made to the Ministry but I just wanted to elaborate on our Supplementary Appropriation Bill.

I want to say a few words about my constituency of Falealili, this is one village well known in the past with Malietoa who asked the hero Manusamoa where he was from, and he said, "I am from Falepunaoa, Falealili." This was the reason for the saying "Tate fia falealili fua." Falealili is a village known for its agricultural developments.

I would like to acknowledge the Hon Minister of Agriculture and those included in the development of our economy, this includes visitors from overseas as well.



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Mr Speaker I would like to thank my constituency to all its high chiefs and the duties carried out. You do not fail to accomplish the requests of our Government. I thank my constituency for choosing me as one of your representatives, therefore I wish to conclude because as I already stated there are no comments made to this Ministry. So whatever is discussed in the House today we must know that it is done for the benefit and development of our country.

Bless you Mr Speaker, bless the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, Associate Ministers, the members of the House and to the opposite side of the Chamber. To conclude, bless our Parliament and country listening in and may I live in the love of God. Soifua.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Hon Minister of Revenue. I believe it is now clear that as one of the longest serving Members of this Parliament you have served our country well. I thank you for your time and services, also your assistance in the collection of taxes for our Supplementary Appropriations. May the Lord give you strength. I thank your Ministry and the Chief Executive Office. It is now the opportunity for the Hon Minister of Justice and Courts Administration, also one of the female parliamentarians. I call upon the Hon Minister it is now your time to take the floor.

**Afioga Hon FIAME NAOMI MATAAFA (Minister of Justice and Courts Administration):** I take this opportunity to acknowledge Mr Speaker and the dignified Members chosen by each constituency. We are also graced by the presence of Heads of various Government entities, Happy New Year and pleasant welcome to all.

Also I would like to convey thanks and praise to the Lord above who has guided us and given us the strength to be here for our first sitting of 2014. Mr Speaker there were not many issues mentioned by Members against the Ministry.

The matter concerning Court Services, for a requirement of recording equipment to record court hearings. I am glad to announce to the House and to the member who questioned the matter, the Member for Faasaleleaga No.4, that we are now installing this new equipment. I presume that when you go to a court hearing especially the Lands and Titles Court you will witness this new equipment. This will also ensure validity of information during Court hearings as well as a benefit for Judges and their decisions.

One of the members questioned the law policies in the Land and Titles Court on the issue of lying under oath. I believe this is an important matter raised by the Lady Member for Faasaleleaga No.1 on the matter of false information, especially with the Land and Titles Court. This Court must also follow the laws of other Courts so that it is recognized and lying under oath is ceased.

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There are a lot of issues like this we see today, I presume the Judiciary Council is listening in to our proceedings, perhaps this is a way that will inform the country of issues within court. Also to inform the public of the importance of just decisions.

Also procedures have been implemented to solve this problem for the clarification of the Members of Parliament regarding the separation of powers. There are already methods of communication for these changes that occur and villages are encouraged to uphold the laws passed by Parliament.

The Justice and Courts Administration has given great emphasis towards the Land & Titles Court, to signify the importance of this court in the country because the truth is our titles go together with the land. As we have witnessed nowadays land is a major problem we face, most of these disputes are on the ownership of land. The President together with the Court Administration has resolved land disputes as it is an important asset especially customary lands. The problem though it is hard to make decisions on these lands because they have not been surveyed and registered. The Government is also looking at village borders because these borders have not been surveyed and recorded. Perhaps we are all aware that this is difficult and costly process. This all depends on the plan set and also with our Estimates tabled. Therefore the Court has a responsibility to uphold and to help protect these customary lands. It seems these court cases are mainly given under false pretenses, therefore justice must be served accordingly with the truth and what is believed to be just.

Mr Speaker those are a few things noted during the deliberation of the Supplementary Appropriation (No.1) 2013/2014. I also take this opportunity to thank the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure for our new access road now opened. I have been a member for 30 years and this is the second access road constructed for my constituency.

Therefore I apologize to the people of my constituency for the poor road conditions; hence we follow the decisions made by Government and the Hon Minister. Bless my constituency, bless our sitting, Soifua.

**MR SPEAKER:** I thank you Madam Minister and also the Ministry. Also we cannot ignore the relationship of the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet with the Chief Justice, the Speaker and Parliament. These are the mutual relations that govern a responsible government and better future for Samoa.

I would like to acknowledge the Chief Justice and the President of the Justice and Courts Administration who are faced with crimes of the country, land and titles issues and appeals. May you have patience for God has blessed the 30 years of services. These years of service are a long term and I hope you will have another 30 years in future to serve your country and constituency.

I call upon the Deputy Prime Minister it is time for you to take the floor to answer some of the queries made against your Ministry.

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**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2013/2014**  
– debate resumed on second reading – Day 3.

**Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUAFESILI PIERRE LAUOFO (Deputy Prime Minister):** Thank you Mr Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the support of the country, to Samoa and all its honorary salutations, thank you for the prayers and never ending support for we have begun another New Year of a new journey. May the love and kindness of the Lord guide our work this year. Therefore I will not elaborate further on all the honorary salutations of the country.

Mr Speaker we have just passed the bad weather faced by the country and we are faced with a new day to continue our orders. Mr Speaker we are still continuing with our Government projects in strengthening our relationship with private businesses and it is going well. The partnership of Government and the private sector as mentioned by some Ministers is going really well. Our Government has assisted with the selling of our primary products which are locally produced by Samoa. This is not only local products but also the partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture to export local produce.

It was last year in November that the Government in partnership with SBEC held a show in Auckland, New Zealand and this greatly assisted with the support of businesses in New Zealand especially from the Samoan business owners residing in Auckland. There were a lot of orders recorded on some of the products people wanted but the only issue with our products is supply. This means that there is bigger market in New Zealand that will not be satisfied.

This is the reason for the implementation of more programs by the Government and the private sector to implement a scheme that will be able to supply New Zealand markets. The Government is collaborating together with the private sector to develop a scheme to meet the terms of these markets, with the production of local products it will help with our farmers to earn a living.

One of the members asked whether there is a strategy to increase supply of these products for overseas markets. There was a notion for our local businesses to establish their stores in New Zealand so that we can supply our products too, like what the Indo Fijians are doing. The good news is that there is already a businessman who has set up a store, Frankie, a well known businessman in Samoa. We met in October and he told me with his new store set up in Mangere, he wants to sell our local products in his store such as handicrafts and taro. It will also boost the export of our taro into New Zealand markets. Most of the taro exported into New Zealand is from Fiji, and if our taro was sold to markets owned by Indo Fijians they always put [taro from Fiji first. Hence with the Samoan businesses now in New Zealand it has given us an advantage for our local exports.](#)

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**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2013/2014  
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Another way of promoting our exports is through our Samoan communities overseas. One of the locals living in California returned and took some of our local products including taro and these were mainly given to Samoan congregations. The market there is very competitive with taro produce from Fiji, Jamaica, Mexico and taro from South America therefore we are trying to export our own taro. It is not an easy process but we are slowly gaining interests so not only for taro but other local made products, produced between the partnership of the Government and the private sector. This effort in exporting our local products is carried out with the goal to benefit our people and also the economy. Mr Speaker...

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Deputy Prime Minister I give the opportunity to the member who mentioned the matter. I call upon the member for Faleata West.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** As the Hon Minister and Deputy Prime Minister has mentioned exported local products, which is really important. However, I wanted to ask concerning import substitution. How much priority is the Government giving to products produced locally?

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you, the opinion is clearly noted. I call upon the Deputy Prime Minister.

**Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUA FESILI PIERRE LAUOFO:** Mr Speaker, concerning products and import substitution, this process has been ongoing with the importation of goods and products that can be produced locally and are able to supply our markets. Also we can sell these products overseas as for similar products they are banned from being brought into the country.

Mr Speaker may the Lord guide us and may your duties be rewarded. I am thankful for the patience of the Members. I would like to acknowledge the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, Associate Ministers and duties carried out in order for the development of the country. Also to that side of the Chamber, Leader of Opposition as well as their opinions throughout our deliberations. It seems I am your only friend on this side although you have switched sides you are still my friend. You should have stayed with this side but as the Hon Prime Minister stated you have become regretful.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker I want to answer my friend. It is appropriate that I answer before...

**MR SPEAKER:** You can wait until later to answer your friend. Leader of Opposition, have patience, I will give you a chance.

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**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2013/2014  
– debate resumed on second reading – Day 3.**

**Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUAFESILI PIERRE LAUOFO:** Thank you I am well aware of the concern, it is true that it is appropriate, I tell you a hundred percent that the member for Faleata West should be the leader. The Leader of Opposition has served his time as a leader and still he...

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** The matter is going off track I just wanted to assist my fellow member because he has no business over this side thus I feel sorry for you and the situation you are at now.

**MR SPEAKER:** I humbly beseech the Leader that I will give you an opportunity later.

**Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUAFESILI PIERRE LAUOFO:** See what is happening? I am saddened by this kind of behavior the only honorable thing to do is step down. It is the right action to take. It is the norm with the Chamber that after the Member leads that side they can return to this side. Everyone starts on this side then they progress elsewhere.

An example our Hon Minister of Agriculture he has returned to this side. The only difference...

**Afioga Hon Le Mamea Ropati:** Mr Speaker it seems this debate is resulting in no particular outcome. I say to you two that you are too young to ask the oldest member of HRPP.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Deputy Prime Minister.

**Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUAFESILI PIERRE LAUOFO:** These are just friendly concerns because I believe it is time for you to step down. Thank you.

May the Lord show kindness to that side of the Chamber, and I wish you all good health. As I have noted that next year is the last year of this Parliamentary term and after this that there will be no more Tautua members therefore let us work together, may the Lord bless the office...

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

**Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUAFESILI PIERRE LAUOFO:** My constituency Happy New Year. I thank my constituency for your support and never ending prayers. Bless our meeting.

**MR SPEAKER:** The member for Faleata West I am surprised that you are not used to this friendly mockery between the members.

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**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2013/2014  
- consideration in detail**

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** The three of us started this friendship. Then I came here as well as the Leader of Opposition but the Deputy Prime Minister stayed on that side. This means that the position of the Deputy Prime Minister is now appropriate and I should be leader, am I right?

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you I believe the clarification of the Deputy Prime Minister upon the Ministry is clearly understood. I salute you for the effort, thank you for development of our local products and exports overseas. I wish the Hon Minister all the best. As for the speeches and comments mentioned in the House today they are all for the benefit of the country. These debates help to clarify and evaluate matters discussed in Parliament although it may benefit the newspapers more, but the important issue is that the matter is understood. I believe opinions of all members have been addressed and the important aspect is that we carry out proceedings in a mutual way.

I will now give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister for his clarification before we consider the Bill in detail.

**Susuga Hon TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI:** Mr Speaker I am grateful for the progress of deliberations. The responses given have been voiced accordingly and the Deputy Prime Minister has mended ties with the Leader of Opposition. Also I hope that the Chairperson of the Finance and Expenditure Committee and Hon Minister of Finance work out their issues. But we shall now progress to consideration of the Budget in detail.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you Hon Prime Minister. The only problem is that the Chairperson of the Finance and Expenditure Committee is absent at the moment. Hence it does not matter because I presume he is listening in but we shall now proceed with orders.

*Motion moved on the 17 December 2013 was approved for the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation (No.1) 2013/2014.*

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2013/2014  
- consideration in detail**

**MR SPEAKER:** The Assembly will now consider the Supplementary Appropriation (No.1) 2013/2014 in detail. During consideration members are allowed to raise matters in relation to P.P. 2013/2014 No.54, First Supplementary Estimates of Receipts and Payments of the Government of Samoa for the financial Year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013 and P.P. 2013/2014 No.76, Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee on the First Supplementary Estimates of the Receipts and Payments of the Government of Samoa for Financial Year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

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**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2013/2014  
- consideration in detail**

Pursuant to Standing Order 134 consideration in detail of this Bill starts with Schedules.

<b>FIRST SCHEDULE</b>	<b>ADDITION IN APPROPRIATIONS</b>
<b>MINISTRY DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
<b>AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES</b>	<b>\$99,588.</b>
<i>Approved.</i>	
<b>COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND LABOUR</b>	<b>\$72,215.</b>
<i>Approved.</i>	
<b>COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY</b>	<b>\$234,459.</b>
<i>Approved.</i>	
<b>EDUCATION, SPORTS AND CULTURE</b>	<b>\$1,639,529.</b>
<i>Approved.</i>	
<b>FINANCE</b>	<b>\$6,219,288.</b>
<i>Approved.</i>	
<b>FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE</b>	<b>\$81, 072.</b>
<i>Approved.</i>	

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Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2013/2014  
- consideration in detail

HEALTH	\$1,597,611.
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*Approved.*

JUSTICE AND COURTS ADMINISTRATION	\$84,972.
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*Approved.*

NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT	\$2,043,623.
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*Approved.*

POLICE AND PRISONS	\$918,802.
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*Approved.*

PRIME MINISTER	\$271,992.
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*Approved.*

REVENUE	\$77,977.
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*Approved.*

WOMEN, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	\$587,212.
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*Approved.*

WORKS, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE	\$67,918.
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*Approved.*



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**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2013/2014  
- consideration in detail**

**ATTORNEY GENERAL** **\$38,078.**

*Approved.*

**CHIEF AUDITOR** **\$36,906.**

*Approved.*

**OFFICE OF THE ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER** **\$17,142.**

*Approved.*

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY** **\$174, 515.**

*Approved.*

**OMBUDSMAN** **\$4,301.**

*Approved.*

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION** **\$114, 036.**

*Approved.*

**BUREAU OF STATISTICS** **\$229,560.**

*Approved.*

**SAMOA LAW REFORM COMMISSION** **\$10,018.**

*Approved.*

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**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2013/2014  
- consideration in detail**

**TOTAL ADDITIONAL OVERALL EXPENDITURES 2013/2014**  
\$14,620,812.

*Approved.*

<b>SECOND SCHEDULE</b>		<b>REDUCTION IN APPROPRIATIONS</b>
<b>MINISTRY</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>TOTAL REDUCTION</b>
<b>PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION</b>		<b>\$76,620.</b>

*Approved.*

<b>LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY</b>		<b>\$120,000.</b>
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*Approved.*

**TOTAL REDUCTIONS OVERALL EXPENDITURES 2013/2014**  
\$196,620.

*Schedules approved and progressed part of the Bill.*

**CLAUSE 2: Grant and Appropriation of \$14,620,812 out of the Treasury Fund.**

*Approved.*

**CLAUSE 3: Grant and Appropriation of \$9,155 out of the Public Trustee's Account.**

*Approved.*

23 JANUARY 2014

### Adjournment

**CLAUSE 4:** Reduction of amount earlier appropriated and re-allocation to other outputs and sub-outputs.

*Approved.*

**CLAUSE 1 AND TITLE:**

**CLAUSE 1:** Short title and commencement.

**TITLE:** Supplementary Appropriation Act (No.1) 2013/2014.

*Approved.*

*The Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2013/2014 progressed without amendments.*

### SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2013/2014 – third reading

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Hon Minister of Finance.

**Afioga Hon FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE LIUGA:** Mr Speaker, I move a motion, *That the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2013/2014 be read a third time.*

*Seconded by the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Revenue, Minister of Communication, Information & Technology and the Minister of Women, Community and Social Development.*

*Motion approved on the third reading of the Bill and passed by the Legislative Assembly.*

### ADJOURNMENT

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe our orders have concluded for the day, the Leader of the country and Cabinet were worried we would extend our proceedings but thankfully with no interruptions from the Opposition during our consideration in detail I believe the matter is clearly understood. I hope this is the same as other budgets that will be tabled within the House. I convey my thanks to you all.

23 JANUARY 2014

### Adjournment

I will not rephrase all that has been carried out today because each one of us understands what has been said and discussed. Therefore the Chair conveys its thanks for our orders carried out today also we are nearly finished with orders of this month.

I thank you all for the opinions and comments made on the Bill because it is your opinions that accentuate the significance of decisions made.

I believe all the opinions expressed throughout this deliberation were addressed considering we have passed our Supplementary Appropriation Bill. Therefore I give thanks to the Leader of the country and his Cabinet I congratulate you for the responses in relation to some of the queries put forward by the Members of Parliament.

Thus I have come to a conclusion, that due to the Bills in a state of urgency and others that need be considered will have to continue our work tomorrow. I pray that the Lord give us strength to be able to conclude our work.

I thank you all again this evening. I believe we have accomplished our goal. Also issues have been clarified because of the support of the country and the prayers of church denominations. No matter what worldly influence we experience it is with the Lord that we find guidance. We must also be prepared to serve the Lord by delivering his word. Before we conclude our proceedings I call upon one of the eldest Member of the Chamber, the Deputy Leader of Opposition to conclude us with a prayer.

Prayers.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were adjourned at 7.00pm until 9.00am on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2014.*