

**TUESDAY, 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2014**

*The Legislative Assembly met at 9.00am.*

*Mr Speaker took the Chair at 9.00am.*

Prayers.

### **OBITUARIES**

*The Speaker announced the passing of **Tofa TAUA Falaimo** who was a member for Palauli West in the 14th Parliamentary term.*

*He was elected into Parliament in the year 2006-2011. He was a member for the Health, Social Services, Internal Affairs, Community and Social Development Committee also The Primary Production, Commerce, Industry and Labour Committee.*

*The Speaker also announced the passing of **Afioga TAULAPAPA LEAUPEPE Faimaala** who was a member for the constituencies of Palauli West and Aana Alofi No.1.*

*She was first elected into Parliament as the member for Palauli West in the year 1970-1972. In that Parliamentary term she was elected as the Deputy Speaker of the House.*

*She was again re-elected as a member for the constituency of Aana Alofi No.1 in year 1973-1975 using her title Leaupepe.*

*She was the first woman to be elected in Parliament.*

*The members of the House showed their respects by taking a minute of silence.*

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

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe we are all blessed to be here this morning to fulfill our duties as scheduled in our Order Paper. I acknowledge the dignified members of the House this morning. I want to acknowledge the various divisions of Samoa in all its honorary salutations and the support this morning. This was the day chosen for us to commence Parliament proceedings in Tiafau.

It is with utmost respect that I welcome you all here this morning, at the grounds of Faautugatagi for the commencement of our duties. I give praise to thy Heavenly Father for his protection and guidance upon each one of us because without his love we will not be here.

29 MAY 2014

**Appreciation Statement by the Speaker**

Before we adjourn, I call upon the Associate Minister one of the members for Faasaleleaga No.1, Afioga Hon Gatoloaifaana Amataga Alesana Gidlow to finish us with a prayer.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were adjourned at 10.22am until Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2014 in accordance to Parliament Sitting Schedule Program 2014.*

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### OPENING SPEECH BY MR SPEAKER

We bid farewell to one of the members of Parliament who served and took part in the decision making of the country. We thank the Lord for his contributing service to Parliament.

There is also motion by Lualemana on the passing of one of our eldest member for this Parliamentary term let us accept the Lords decision. If time permits we will say our farewell requesting everyone to show your respect and support to the passing member.

I acknowledge the presence of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet, Leader of Opposition and members of the House; this is one of the very critical sittings for us to review and consider the Supplementary Appropriation Bill.

I thank Samoa for the support and prayers whilst your Parliament is engaged with the many roles and responsibilities. Although we are reluctant to progress with our set duties at times but with your support and prayers, we feel encouraged to fulfill our responsibilities for Parliament.

Lastly I acknowledge the support of respectable chiefs and orators, faletua ma tausi, the Government Heads of the various Government Ministries and the private sectors present here this morning. We will now commence with orders pursuant to our Sitting Schedule Program today.

### PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

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

1. S.R. 2014/2, Ministerial and Departmental Arrangements Order 2014.
2. S.R. 2014/3, General Price Order (No.2) 2014.
3. S.R. 2014/4, Prison and Corrections Act 2013- Notice of Commencement.
4. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 30, Government Responses on P.P. 2013/2014 No. 91, Report of the Works, Transport and Environment Committee on P.P.2013/2014 No. 6, Annual Report of the Samoa Airport Authority for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2011.
5. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 31, Government Responses on P.P. 2013/2014 No. 85, Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee on P.P. 2012/2013 No. 51 & P.P. 2013/2014 No. 14, Financial Statements of the Betting Totalisator Agency for the Financial Years ending 30 June 2011 and 30 June 2012.
6. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 32, Government Responses on P.P. 2013/2014 No. 58, Report of the Works, Transport and Environment Committee on P.P. 2011/2012 No. 65 & P.P. 2011/2012 No. 90, Annual Reports of the Samoa Airport Authority for the Financial Years ending 30 June 2009 and 30 June 2010.
7. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 33, Samoa Qualifications Annual Report for the Year 2008-2009.

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### Presentation of Papers

8. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 34, Samoa Qualifications Annual Report for the Year 2009-2010.
9. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 35, Samoa Qualifications Annual Report for the Year 2010-2011.
10. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 36, Samoa Qualifications Annual Report for the Year 2011-2012.
11. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 37, Samoa Qualifications Annual Report for the Year 2012-2013.
12. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 38, Samoa Law Reform Commission Report on the Media Regulation, Report 10/12.
13. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 39, Ministry of Natural Resources Annual Report for the Year 2009-2010.
14. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 40, Annual Report of the Samoa Housing Corporation for the Year 2011.
15. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 41, Annual Report of the Samoa Housing Corporation for the year 2013.
16. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 42, Government Responses on P.P. 2013/2014 No. 107, Report of the Primary Production, Commerce, Industry and Labour Committee on P.P. 2012/2013 No. 76, Annual Report of the Samoa Trust Estates Corporation for the Year 2011.
17. P.P. 2014/2015 Nu. 43, Government Responses on P.P. 2012/2013 No. 96, Report of the Health and Social Services Committee on P.P. 2011/2012 No. 64, Annual Report of the Samoa National Provident Fund for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2011.
18. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 44, Government Responses on P.P. 2012/2013 No. 90, Health and Social Services Committee Report on P.P. 2011/2012 No. 33, Statement of Corporate Objectives of the Samoa National Provident Fund for the Period 2012-2014.
19. P.P. 2014/2015 Nu. 45, Government Responses on P.P. 2012/2013 No. 94, Health and Social Services Committee Report on P.P. 2011/2012 No. 59 and P.P. 2011/2012 No. 66, Report of Operations and Statement of Accounts of the Samoa Senior Citizens Benefit Fund for the Years 2010/2011 and 2011/2012.
20. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 46, Government Responses on P.P. 2013/2014 No. 38, Officers of Parliament Committee Report on P.P. 2010/2011 No. 13, Financial Statements of the Parliamentary Pension Scheme for the Financial Year ended 30th June 2010.

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## PRESENTATION OF SELECT COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Clerk read out the list of Select Committee Reports tabled before the Assembly pursuant to Standing Order 51.*

1. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 47, Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee on the Second Supplementary Estimates 2013/2014 of the Receipts and Payments of the Government of Samoa for the financial year ending 30 June 2014.
2. P.P. 2014/2015 No. 48, Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee on the Main Estimates 2014/2015 of the Receipts and Payments of the Government of Samoa for the financial year ending 30 June 2015.

**MR SPEAKER:** There is an understanding that second reading and debate on our Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2013/2014 and the Appropriation Bill 2014/2015 be carried out today. As it is stated within the Order Paper under Bills scheduled for today.

### SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.2) 2013/2014 AND APPROPRIATION BILL 2014/2015 - second reading debate

**MR SPEAKER:** Pursuant to Standing Order 132 debate on the two Bills will be continued, I advise the members to direct your comments to the Appropriation Estimates in accordance to government policies and procedures.

I believe we now have arrived to the main purpose of this morning the debate on our Budget. I also believe that this is not the first Appropriation Estimates for this Parliamentary term; everyone is aware of the progress of proceedings whereby each member is given the chance to comment on the Budget. I would like to acknowledge the various constituencies for the support shown to our Parliament and decision making. Well I believe it is now time for us to deliberate on our Appropriation Bill.

It is now time for the members of Parliament to take the floor. Firstly the opportunity will be given to the member of Salafai I call upon the member for Faasaleleaga No.2. you will lead us with our deliberations today.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU (Faasaleleaga No.2):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. Firstly I want to acknowledge the dignity of Maota, Mr Speaker, the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Leader of Opposition and all members here today.

I also want to acknowledge His Highness the O Le Ao o le Malo and his Good Lady, the Council of Deputy and his Good Lady also the Chief Justice and Members of the Judiciary.

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**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2013/2014 and Appropriation Bill 2014/2015 - second reading debate**

Nevertheless the support of our country in all its honorary salutations, Aiga o Tupu ma Aiga o Papa, Aiga ma latou Tama, Tama ma latou Aiga, Tumua ma Pule, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga i le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti. Also the support of Church Leaders in various parts of the country your prayers are not forgotten.

I would like to acknowledge my constituency of Faasaleleaga No.2 and all its honorary salutations, also to the servants of God in various parts of the constituency for the prayers and blessings. I thank you all for the support, also to the women and younger generation. Eventhough we have said our farewells to some of our respected elders in the past week, Vii Tauiliili Reupena, Lote Mauafu Gaunamalevaa , Alo Kerupi and Safoini. I believe that it is the will of the Lord that gives us both life and death.

This constituency also offers its sincere condolences to the passing of one of our members as mentioned by the Speaker, respectable Tuiloa. I am saddened by the sudden passing of the fellow member but as stated by the Chair we do not decide on the matter of life and death.

Mr Speaker I move with respect to request the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment about the proposal submitted. As the Prime Minister himself stated we should be persistent with such issues. Therefore this constituency requests a seawall for Faasaleleaga from Fatausi to Sapapalii.

The Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure this constituency humbly requests the improvement of its roads. It is the duty of the member to voice what needs to be improved in their constituency. There is another sub village within the village of Laloaega called Taupueleele where most of the families own cars. The problem is when it rains the roads are flooded finding them hard to travel to the Tuasivi hospital and Salelologa. Also the bridge at Tapueleele is too narrow and very risky during floods. I believe with the climate change we are now experiencing now improvement is needed on the infrastructures. This side of the country also paves significance given the route to Vaiola College and Vaiaata prison.

That is the humble request as we strive to follow through our orders....

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi (Prime Minister and Minister of Finance):** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member speaking but I will give the opportunity to the Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** I wish to know what wooden bridges the member is talking about because that is the route I usually take when I go to Savaii. The roads are securely sealed but I am unaware of this road condition. Where exactly are these roads?

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**Susuga PAPANII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** We've had two requests submitted by the member, the roads to Vaiaata and the road to Tapueleele are greatly affected by the heavy rains causing road blockage. That is the request to the Hon Minister. With respect.

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Thank you. Vaiaata is sparsely populated but situates majority of farmer settlers, as for the rain, it doesn't cause much effect. When the rain stops the water flows down the drainages which is the normal process. I say this because I normally visit this harmless area and the cemented road fix, hence leave your concern to us.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. I call upon the member to continue with his speech.

**Susuga PAPANII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Very well. I believe the Prime Minister has spoken and my request is in safe hands. I now come to the issue concerning our country's economy; I thank the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance for this Appropriation Bill. I believe it is not an easy task to undertake therefore well done.

Mr Speaker I have read the informative Supplementary Estimates booklet covering Government Management Funds provisions under Section 19. From there, I've noticed the clear overview of our economic status and its direction. The main aim stresses the need for the government's economy. The three objectives I wish to talk about, firstly employment creation to generate revenue growth. Secondly, reinvigorate agriculture production and agri-processing. Thirdly, boost tourism sector which is critical to achieving medium term fiscal objectives. I support the employment objective that will help boost government income. The budget constitutes an income employment share of \$61 million to the country's economy. This is a great contribution to our economic stability. But government has proposed plans for more job opportunities given the projected cannery company that requires extra 1000 workers. I request this establishment to be located in Savaii between Tafua and Salelologa if Asau is too far. Yazaki Samoa is already set up in Upolu so let's have the Cannery in Savaii to create further jobs for Savaii people and develop our economic prosperity.

Farming sector was one of the main sectors behind our economic growth in the past compared to today, but thanks to the Minister, CEO and staff. We've witnessed the growing taro supply but we highly support a new market. Hon Minister, the requirement for agricultural products increase is one main objective for stable economic growth.

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You've also spoken about our local chips supply to one of Australian markets, which is the spirit. Tuiloma also asserted the building of Agricultural house for farmers like the old PMD building we had in the past. That is the basis behind my motive but I solely support agricultural production. Is the funding allocation adequate to improve this sector? I am concerned because last year's estimated budget was \$19 million and is now reduced to \$13 million. I strongly believe that we should develop agricultural products as 80% of our people rely on this to earn income. This will benefit our families, village communities and country as a whole.

Tourism sector is one vital component to our economy. Personally, I think we have by far the most attraction sites including legendary sites that we must fully maintain and develop through funding availability. For instance we visited China with the Speaker and given the famous Forbidden City and the Great Wall sites, the main visitors are the Chinese people themselves generating millions a day. The site information is simply conversed in Chinese language acquiring the visitors a full insight of their own sites whereas for us, we nod but never fully get it. But if we can incorporate the same doing, I'm sure we can earn a lot from it. A Chinese friend of mine suggested the idea of establishing a special flight to China to get visitors to buy our local products." Similarly to Fiji they initiated a direct flight to China to earn visitors and travelers into their country.

In the past we used to earn 19 million from the tourism sector and now, we are left with only \$10million. We need to allocate \$40million to STA to improve attraction sites, enhance marketing and promotion materials and educate the village communities. I speak of this as my district hold some of the many tourism sites in the country. This includes Falealupo village and the Nafanua warrior that connects with the story of Sapapalii. The cave of Avarua connects to the story in the Cook Islands. These stories must be well documented and shared with our visitors to generate higher income.

Another interesting section I came across is the title, 'External Debt – Long term projections.' This portrays the sound advice and recommendations that are constantly given by this side. It is now an objective that is significant with our Fiscal Strategy Statement that was also mentioned last year not the past years. This recommendation is a pivotal reminder.

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker these were long stipulated in the Constitution from the past before the member entered Parliament. It was not done yesterday. This is why we are always trying to stress the importance of good governance, principles of accountability and transparency. These provisions are well taken by the government but it seems the Opposition is plainly confused.



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Mr Speaker this is now new. The member reiterates that the reason behind the executed developments is because of their recommendations. These have been implemented long before you enter politics.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you, I call upon the member to continue.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** That is what I meant as I am holding the previous Budget Statement booklet. That is why I've brought all these books from previous terms hence you've now spoken.

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker a point of order. You should've looked at the current Budget Statements because you were oblivious of the previous Parliamentary events. Such were not discussed yesterday.

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

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II (Leader of Opposition):** Mr Speaker a point of clarification. Perhaps it is evident in this report the incessant debt amount existence with additional future dreams targeting 2023 and 2024 for the next ten years. But the aim of this side is to alleviate the \$350+ million debt by 2023 and 2024. The debt now amounts to a billion hence the country ought to be notified of our debit status.

**MR SPEAKER:** The view is well taken, let government clarify its perspective.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker a point of order. The Leader of Opposition should have saluted this side given our set plan for the next ten years. Be mindful that we must not focus on one particular area. The developments we initiate today should be beneficial for us in the future according to the legislation that wasn't written as a sham. Our set plans and developments are always planned ahead given the ten year period.

You should be saluting us now given government strategic plans for the future. These proposed plans will set us to the future. Government cannot set plan on a yearly basis. Nowadays we set our vision strategically for the long run.

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**MR SPEAKER:** I believe your concerns are well taken Papalii regarding new change when in accordance to government response, they have long been implemented. Hence another 10 year programme has initiated, thus I beg tolerance Leader of Opposition, please move on to the next matter. I call upon the member.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Thank you Mr Speaker, I will not talk about the debts but the future plans. The statement stated under this paragraph “the government will manage finances and instigate proper management and utilization of expenditure”. I believe this is a great challenge to all CEOs of the Government Ministries. If we abide with the statutory provisions we can accomplish the objectives in the Budget Estimates Statement. I call the CEOs to be resilient and provide better recommendations to ensure the development of our economy. Hence we must comply with the laws for economic expansion.

I thank the Prime Minister for electing the member for Satupaitea to take up the new portfolio which is quite an achievement to coordinate the public owned enterprises and organizations to maintain revenue. This is one significant issue correct me if I am wrong but it is the duty of these organizations to collect government tax. Nevertheless a portfolio has been created for the Minister to oversee. This will greatly assist with our economy to reduce borrowing. We don't have the minerals like Papua New Guinea, Fiji and the Solomon Island to strengthen our economy but if we work collectively, we can achieve our goals tomorrow. As for the next ten year period, I am confident of its positive outcome in the future.

I speak of the current Parliamentary term and its Budget Statement reports commencing from 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014 and 2014-2015. I take it that we still haven't received the Chief and Auditor General's report since the first Budget Statement 2011-2012 and 2012-2013. Never mind 2013-2014 that we haven't reached yet, but the Standing Orders 107 and 104 clearly stipulates a time period of 3 to 6 months before all reports are resubmitted to the Assembly. I am curious of the delayed reports whether it's due to the Ministry of Finance or the office of the Auditor General. The Standing Orders clearly states that the Appropriation Budget Statement must report back to Parliament after six months, which is the essence.

I also see a \$5 million funding allocation for the implemented tasks involving government building maintenance including the TATTE building. This project costs an estimated value of \$11 million to \$12 million which is very costly.

The Chief and Auditor General's Office executed duties pertaining to Parliamentary work costs \$914,000. This is due to insufficient funding and is probably the reason for the delayed Chief and Auditor General Report given staff shortage. I think if more finance was given to this sector they would've been able to achieve much.

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The Ministry of Statistics includes survey information on Budget Statement, household spending according to government policies and procedures. The previous budgeted project had a total of \$1 million and none for the current Budget Statement. In essence, this survey information is pivotal to our economic stability as it portrays the income level of individual household. I also see that this funding distribution no longer exists for this critical sector taking into account an indication of the households' economic level. That is the basis behind this motive.

With external grants from overseas, I am confused with the utilization of these funds amongst the Ministries. Because I have read through the budget report and some Ministries receive a portion of the budget whilst some do not. I am in doubt as to how this funding is allocated.

According to the Controller and Auditor General's report, they also recommend that these funds should be returned to the Ministry of Finance given the poor funding administrations by the Ministries which is critical. It is appropriate for these external grants to be administered by the Ministry of Finance so that they are distributed accordingly to the Ministries.

I recommend that with countless inner fixed roads and infrastructural projects in the Budget Estimate Report, we have \$120 million estimated value compared to the 43 territorial constituencies involving dual members. Based on observation, most inner roads do not value up to \$1 million. A humble request, why not allocate district funds to be administered by the Ministry of Finance? This will guarantee that each constituency will get new access roads once the Parliamentary term is over. That is the humble recommendation but the discretion is yours Hon Minister. It is Sitafunes decision to do what he deems right considering appropriate economic distribution in the future.

I see that the Hon Prime Minister is making a stand.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neiotti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker the Appropriation distribution is balanced. I am unsure of the continuous mention of this issue by the member when the fund distribution by the Ministry is well taken.

Your number is quite small compared to the majority of the country's representatives on this side. We can have a ratio of 20 from this side to your 1 which is suitably relevant. This does not mean that we should be equal as roughly 80% of Parliament seats are on this side. The distribution is balanced involving not only roads, schools, seawall and hospitals. Regardless, you are always covered in the funding distribution.

But will leave it to the good hands of the distributors and the long road for this Parliamentary term. Why become fearful when we will also receive another Supplementary Appropriation Budget soon?

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I normally say that members aim to fix their roads way before elections that are mindless by the constituents compared to the fixed road two months before the elections, they are considered fresh and new during the elections that you can still scent the new fresh road. Mr Speaker do not worry as the Hon Minister aims to achieve all requests on new road constructions, seawall and schools.

Mr Speaker, that is the correction given the several raising issues by the member this morning.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala (Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure):** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** I give the opportunity to the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala:** A brief clarification to the matter mentioned by the member on the unutilized \$1 million.

I'm sure if the member had attended the launching of the two new roads at Anoamaa last week, he would've understood. The two roads were valued at \$1.6 million, \$700,000+ for one inner road and \$800,000+ for the other. The two kilometers is very costly. Given the execution process, it's all balanced. Implementation works for improved roads have begun in Sataoa which is the district of the Leader of the Opposition.

The water supply for Falealupo has improved whilst fixed works has just reached the district of Vaimauga West, Lefau Harry Schuster. Similarly for Saleaula, Faasaleleaga No.2 and Sapapalii roads which are nearing completion. Equally to Faasaleleaga No.3 and Faleata West whereby, most of the Vaitele roads have been upgraded. Bridges and drainage systems have been urbanized in Vaimoso-uta. Majority of these areas have been accomplished. As said earlier, ten on us and one on you in percentage.

With utmost respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** You do not need to overreact with Papalii's comment.

**Afioga Afualo Wood Uti Salele (Salega):** A point of Order. There is no new road in Salega, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Saleaula (*to the member for Gagaemauga No.2 standing*)

**Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu (Gagaemauga No.2):** Mr Speaker thank you for clarifying this side of the issue. This constituency has not been blessed for the past 40 years whilst other districts are blessed with accessible inner roads. Thank you Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure but let us pray and wait to receive such blessing.

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**MR SPEAKER:** You should have faith perhaps it is the member who bears the benefit instead of the village.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker the member has recently launched new district school building. All these involve government assistance.

The district of Faleata West involves maintained roads from Tuanaimato to Apia hence no developments should be catered for the Opposition side as most of the funds have gone through improvement work and roads of the district of the member for Faleata West.

The reason for stressing this issue is due to the comments of the recent speaker on unwise funding allocation amongst the constituencies which I believe is benefiting the member for Faleata West at a larger scale.

That is the addition as most of the benefits has been received by the constituencies of Faleata West and Vaimauga West.

**MR SPEAKER:** Well Palusalua your roads have already been fixed what else do you want? Do you want another road?

**Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II:** The member's comment is true. The only advice Hon Minister, we have been placed last, fix our roads next year not during the elections as Sataoa road was on the list and still remains unfixed to date.

That is the reminder to the member with due respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the Minister but I will give the opportunity to the member for Vaisigano No.2.

**Tofa Motuopuaa Uifagasa Aisoli Vaai (Vaisigano No.2):** The only matter that saddens me is the new road listing which began from the Leader of Opposition and now ends with the member for Faleata West, as soon as he looked at me and Tuuu he stopped. But I also gave a written request regarding access roads since the destructions from cyclones Valerie and Ofa's, pardon the Hon Prime Minister and his statement about I against the majority on that side. Perhaps the Hon Prime Minister is unaware of the fact that majority of that side are there in body but here in heart.

With utmost respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** I give the first opportunity to the member for Siumu as he is sitting next to the member for Vaisigano No.2.

**Tofa Hon Tuuu Anasii Leota (Siumu):** Thank you, the member for Vaisigano No.2 has given that the distribution has reached this side pardon the Hon Minister why not include me and Toleafoa in that distribution list.

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**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo (Faleata East):** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** Aveautau are you still not satisfied with your new bridge?

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** Mr Speaker this is the reason for taking the floor. Firstly I want to thank the Minister because it seems that no built road has been constructed in Faleata East except for a bridge. This bridge is not accessible by the constituents of Faleata East alone but is widely used by the public. If this road is remained unfixed, majority would not have been able to reach the town area. Nonetheless thank you for the unconstructed inner roads for Faleata East.

**MR SPEAKER:** Since the bridge is located in Faleata East whatever is developed in Faleata West involves the entire district of Faleata. I beg tolerance to all members given the elaborated statement by the Hon Prime Minister and the respective Hon Minister and its distribution. Look at the gesture of the fellow member for Salega Afioga Tapuai Toese Ah Sam, we hardly hear his voice as he continually pray God.

Pardon Afioga Afualo, member for Gagaemauga No.2 and member for Vaisigano No.2, bear with the Hon Minister and the Ministry, your turn will come given this distribution. Is there anything else? *(to the standing member for Aana Alofi No.1, Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi)*

**Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi (Aana Alofi No.1):** Mr Speaker....

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

**Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi:** A point of Order and clarification. I stand with respect to give thanks to the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure for the wise distribution of development work given the priority noted by the Leader of Opposition to firstly complete improved works for his district in the new year which is not fair. That is unwise share hence a point of order Mr Speaker as you are pointing at this side indicating 10% to that side and 1% on this side. I am worried lest I am part of this 1%, I ask to include Tuuu on that side and I on this side. With respect, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Hon Minister given the difficult requests by the members but I shall give chance to your wise counseling.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala:** Mr Speaker this is the best time to discuss inner road issues with faith that it will not be raised anymore.

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The speech by the Leader of Opposition is very clear. As for the constituency of Safata its roads implemented work is currently carried out. If he can be a role model to that side then that is great. Thanks for the letter, work is underway for Vaisigano. Although the Parliamentary term is nearly over, you have just submitted your request; road improvement progress involves all districts. It is good to have a share of this distribution. Bless our proceedings.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well. I call upon the member for Faasaleleaga No.2 to conclude you only have two more minutes.

**Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU:** Thank you Mr Speaker perhaps it is good to shed light on some of the significant issues. Lest this wise distribution is discredited hence the message was given in a form of recommendation for future projects without devaluing development allocation. I believe your wise distribution as an Elder Deacon is fair and square. This is why my constituency has submitted its request appreciating your assistance. Considering our economic stability, that is the assurance by the Speaker. I thank the Hon Minister for Revenue, the CEO and the staff and the implementation of the ASYCUDA World program that will greatly assist our economy. Thus the Ministry is engaged with collecting VAGST and extra levied tax on the imported goods that is valued at \$300 million every financial year. Perhaps if this implemented process is achieved together with the proposed step our economic status will grow significantly including the planned fish cannery in Salelologa that will be of great assistance. That is the contribution to our Budget Statement. I beg forbearance to the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet given our distributed implementation phase that is reviewed to ensure benefits to the economy. Bless the Speaker of the House, bless the members and the country listening, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you member for Faasaleleaga No.2, I am grateful for your contribution that is appreciative to the members of the House especially the Hon Minister.

The floor is now open for further comments. I call upon one of the members for Falealili, Tofa Tusa Misi Tupuola for his clarification.

**Tofa TUSA MISI TUPUOLA (Falealili):** I thank the Speaker for the opportunity given to this constituency Falealili in relation to the Appropriation Bill 2014/2015 and the Supplementary Appropriation 2013/2014.

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Mr Speaker I speak no further of the various salutations of Samoa because and no one can put an end to its divisional significance. I rise with respect firstly to acknowledge His Highness, O Le Ao o le Malo and His Good Lady, the Council of Deputy and his Good Lady and the Chief Justice and Judiciary.

I humbly greet the dignified House and the grounds of Tiafau, the Chairperson, the Hon Prime Minister and his Cabinet, the Leader of Opposition and Deputy Leader and its members, Associate Ministers and all representatives present to make decisions for the country.

I acknowledge the support of Falealili in all its honorary salutations. Thank you also Hon Minister Afioga Tuiloma Lameko. You have witnessed our countless requests, God has abundant days, and the government is ensuring enhanced developments for the economic growth of the country.

Lest we forget the support of Reverend Elder Iosia Tunumoso and his faletua Susana, the respectable servants of God in the district, thank you for your support and prayers which has enabled us to fulfill our duties in Parliament. I pray that the Lord bless you and give many more days for your services especially to our constituency. I also want to acknowledge my theological father Susuga Amosa Vaetoa and his wife Punipua'o if you find that I hardly attend church due to the various Parliamentary duties but I am still willing to contribute to our many church activities.

Mr Speaker this member for Falealili supports the Main Estimates Appropriation as clearly clarified by the Minister of Finance and Leader of the country, the address given was well presented for the year 2014/2015. Despite of the financial instability to fund more developments in the country, we have passed 50 years of independence and going forward, our budget statement should now reach a billion comes the new financial year. We have a number of employments, developments that is proportionally distributed. And I fully support the statement by the Hon Minister and the main objective of consolidate economic growth. This portrays the endeavor by the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet to recover financial stability to secure the smooth running of all implementations involving different sectors. We must work collectively with Parliament, public servants and Samoa as a whole. Such is the saying, "many hands make lighter work". This will ensure that our economy is improving according to the allocated budget of \$700 million but hopefully in the next financial year; we'll reach a billion to end our Parliamentary term.

With respect I wish to comment on the economic security of our budget report. Only on the exception of legal consolidating of the revenue utilization to assist with our Main Budget Estimates annually. But all sectors must coordinate collectively including government ministries and the private sector to improve various developments to improve our economic status.

Then I come to debts. Mr Speaker and members of the House, I agree with building more debts, why worry about debts? No businessman is without a debt. For what purpose? To better our economic development and businesses.



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Some have raised the reduction of borrowing or debts which I do not support. I ask that we must increase borrowing like larger countries abroad. The main purpose is to ensure that our economy and revenue will develop for the benefit of everyone. Mr Speaker....

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a point of clarification.

**MR SPEAKER:** I do not think there is anything to clarify as the member is speaking of his own opinion, he is just....

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** The member is accusing us of reduced debts....

**MR SPEAKER:** The Opposition is not the only one mentioned so the statement is relevant....

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Palusalue be patient. Let us use the time wisely, I appease that the member abide with my request. The member for Falealili is clearly stating his opinions in general; he did not say reduced debts. Pardon the members let's continue with the current member and when the Leader of Opposition is given time, he can address his concerns.

I call upon the member for Falealili to continue.

**Tofa TUSA MISI TUPUOLA:** Mr Speaker thank you to the interruption of the Leader of Opposition, but you are correct I am elaborating the opinions of Falealili not Safata. This is the recommendation to the Minister of Finance and the Cabinet, a government cannot be ruined on debts; rather it assists well with the country's economy particularly future developments.

Mr Speaker these are some of the issues in relation to our budget, I wish to make submissions from my constituency.

The Hon Minister for Tourism or the Leader of the country, I believe tourism is a major contribution to our country's economy.

Reason being is due to the increasing tourism resorts on the beach pardon this morning. I humbly suggest to the Minister and the Samoa Tourism Authority to look into the white sandy beaches of Falealili. If the Ministry could contact us regarding the good beaches from Saleilua to Sapunaoa, the district will highly support this for tourism development expansion.

Considering Nuusafee islet from Falealili this is one frequent visiting spot with rare visitors from abroad. If we can promote this islet we could see the remarkable growth of visitors to Nuusafee. There are plenty of fish and coconut trees around the reef after consultations with a few chiefs from Poutasi Falealili. Also we could earn income by serving the tourists through transportations to these nearby islands including Savaii.

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This is merely a recommendation to the Minister which will greatly benefit our tourism industry and the locals.

To the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the Pu'e site at Falealili could be converted into a tourism site given the Samoan native plants and trees that are variously available. Most of these trees are inhabited by birds especially bats. Some trees and plants are hopeless and should be replaced with local native trees. We should consider building small resting fales for the tourists and the general public during holidays. The seawall construction is arranged for Matautu Falealili. This seawall request was given in 2011 and was overlooked from the tsunami relief efforts. I humbly request good drinking water supply for part of Matautu in Falealili. I thank the Minister for some of the developments carried out in Falealili and around the country.

Thank you Hon Minister of Police and the staff for the ongoing efforts in ensuring people security around the island. One recommendation concerns the growing number of prisoners who tend to call prison as their home. Some are released today and are jailed again next week for robbery etc. Hence I suggest that we conduct a counseling program especially for the young offenders. If these youngsters are counseled about right and wrong they can learn from it. Otherwise it's piece of cake process for them to be taken in and out of Tafaigata prison. But counseling the prisoners about starting anew, turn away from evil and do well for Samoa and the church.

As a former LTA officer in the past the police department does not cooperate well with LTA. This has caused the increased number of road offenders due to police disrespecting the ATOs or traffic officers. According to reports, the police refuse to work together with the LTA. The laws are there to comply by but if ineffective I suggest to review the Act altogether. The main objective is the safety of the people, it is not about those who have authority or not. The safety of the public on our roads is the utmost important concern. This is the recommendation to review and consider as we move forward.

Thank you Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, your sharing is wise and Christian like, given the government insufficient budget but we go according to plans. I pray that some requests of this constituency be achieved before the end of this Parliamentary term, with respect.

Lastly with the upcoming conference that we will be hosting I hope that we all work together in promoting our country and all it chiefly ways. As stated by the Prime Minister we ought to be hospitable and welcoming. Also let us work together to beautify our villages and country so that we will receive positive outcome, nevertheless our culture signifies the Samoan way of life. I pray that the Lord bless our day moreover this constituency supports our budget and the proposed plans. God bless the Speaker and all members of Parliament.

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**MR SPEAKER:** I thank the member for Falealili Tofa Tusa Misi Tupuola for the opinion expressed. I believe members of the House have clearly noted with deep interest some of the issues you have raised this morning. The floor is now open to members who wish to speak, I give the opportunity to the opposite side of the chamber. The member for Aana Alofi No.3 you may take the floor.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER (Aana Alofi No.3):** Firstly I want to thank the Speaker for the opportunity given to express an opinion on our Appropriation Bill. Praised be to the Heavenly Father for guiding everyone here safely. In the same vein, His spirit has securely led us to this financial year. Glory be to Him for protecting us from natural disasters or economic downturn that may cause destruction to the projected plans. I congratulate the government from moving away from the developing countries category. I hope His guidance will enable us to fulfill our duties comes the hosting of the SIDS conference this year.

Greetings to the honorable Speaker, Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet, the Leader of Opposition and members of the House. I also acknowledge the presence of Government Heads this morning.

I want to acknowledge the support of our country His Highness, O Le Ao o le Malo and his Good Lady, the member of Council of Deputy and his Good Lady. As well as the Chief Justice and Judiciary.

I acknowledge with respect my constituency in all its honorary salutations. I move with utmost respect this morning to convey a few words on the Appropriation Bill 2014-2015 debate.

Mr Speaker I respectfully quote a few words from Susuga Rev Kasiano who conducted the Independence Service, "*Sins before the holy spirit are unforgiving,*" in addition, "*moa, moa lulu niu, niu, pulu.*"

Mr Speaker I have quoted these lines to signify the importance of doing what is right for our country and its future. Mr Speaker there are five areas I wish to speak of in relation to the Appropriation Bill 2014/2015, especially the future developments for Samoa.

Firstly, Budget drafting. In the past Appropriation Budgets, Bill Performance framework is a critical part which is difficult to understand. Monitoring frameworks interpretation is quite difficult to determine the inputs in relation to its implemented tasks. For example, the planting of 100 or 1000 lemon trees a year. We cannot determine the changes in the Appropriation Estimates review. This is why Mr Speaker I recommend that the activities outputs or outcomes so that we will know that funds are used wisely. This does not only involve lemon trees planting because planting 1000 will result to only 10 good lemons or even 3 when we are talking funds without notifying the outcome of these 1000 lemons. We can efficiently tell the investment growth of this expenditure for the country.

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Normally we would conduct 250 workshops and 150 consultations yet we do not know the real outcome of this undertaking. That is the request put forward, consider the outputs or outcomes of our Appropriation Budget from its implemented tasks.

Secondly Mr Speaker as mentioned by one of the members....

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member I give the opportunity to the interruption by the Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** We are discussing the proposed budget for the upcoming year. It is not a document that involves completed tasks. This is the duty of the Finance and Expenditure Committee, read and investigate what we call estimates or proposed plans. We can talk about budget estimates or projected plans for the new year.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member to continue with his query.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:** Thank you Mr Speaker I also thank the Prime Minister for the clarification. I agree with how expenditure is spent but I am just concerned about the monitoring frameworks that are used for anticipated outcomes, therefore I will leave it to those in charge of this task. The main motive is to improve the preparation of our Budget.

Secondly, the proposed annual accounts. As raised earlier it has been noted that the last Audit report was in 2011 whilst the last Public Accounts Report was in 2010. As for the current Parliamentary term, we have not yet received any update report in regards to these vital areas. I have also noticed that some Ministries have not submitted any annual reports for the past five to ten years, for example the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, SSC and SLC. I believe it is of great importance that these reports be submitted to determine the inputs and output of these sectors considering its vital contribution to our economy. As stated, we now have the Standing Orders and set laws to guide us with our completed reports before submission to the House. Hence sincere gratitude as most of the Ministry reports have been updated particularly the Controller and the Auditor General's report and the Public Accounts Report. Such is the recommendation to prepare and improve because when scrutinizing the Budget Report, the members have a general overview of the budget expenditure of the previous years and how to best improve on them.

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**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo (Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour):** Mr Speaker....

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

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** The Controller and the Auditor General's report have been mentioned twice this morning. Therefore to save us time, I would like to clarify the issue.

The current undertaking is not easy, noting that the Controller and the Chief Auditor Report direct submission to the Parliament taking into accounts its vital role as an independent body. As of now, the status of reports has been well taken. We have had lapsed business from 2008 that have been in progress and updated.

Currently, the audit work has been completed for all Government Ministries except for the Corporations whereby 90% has been completed until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013. On the same lane, we have undertaken several implementations including the Reforms in the Controller and Auditor General's Office. As known we have passed various laws plus one proposed one on Reforms that is currently prepared by the Ministry.

We did have delayed reports from some Corporations given audited work by the Controller and the Auditor General. Hence there is intention for this report from 30 June 2012 to 30 June 2013 to be tabled in November's sitting. This is a clarification to save us time.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you, I believe the issue has been clearly addressed the member for Aana Alofi No.3 hence when we come back from recess I will give you the opportunity to continue.

I announce that proceedings of the Legislative Assembly now adjourned for its usual morning recess.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside for its usual recess at 10.45am until 11.30am.*

**MR SPEAKER:** I take it that our morning tea has given us strength to continue with our proceedings. I extend a warm thanks to everyone especially the members for sharing your thoughts this morning. I also thank the Cabinet for your responses.

Before I give the opportunity back to the member to Aana Alofi No.3 I give the chance to the Prime Minister for the motion on the schedule this week.

I call upon the Prime Minister.

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### MOTION TO MOVE SITTING HOURS

**Susuga Hon TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI:** Mr Speaker I move a motion, *To change our usual proceedings time starting today from 9.00 to 1.00pm and restart again at 3pm until 7.00pm.* This is the motion with respect.

*Seconded by Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure and the Minister for Women, Community and Social Development.*

*Motion approved.*

**MR SPEAKER:** May I remind the members about the new time schedule, we will break at 1.00pm and return at 3.00pm this evening until 7.00pm.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed with the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2013/2014 and the Appropriation Bill 2014/2015.*

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member for Aana Alofi No.3 to continue with his speech.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I also extend sincere thanks to the Chairperson and the Office of the Clerk for taking care of the House.

I resume by sending gratitude to the Deputy Prime Minister for the interruption and the clarification given. The only concern now is to encourage and promote all government organizations on how to best utilize these opportunities to improve and produce well written reports for Parliament's ease of reference.

Mr Speaker moving on to part three....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member; I give this time to the Prime Minister. Susuga Hon Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker I wish to stress the elaboration by the Deputy Prime Minister who is also the Minister of the Audit Office on submitted reports to the House.

The audit accounts and reports correlate with the completed Budget reports of the Ministries. That is a different task from what we are currently discussing. Budget or estimates are appropriation funds. This is why we call it Estimates because they are not actual funds. We have \$722 million government funds to implement the various government sectors. The \$544 million ordinary receipts implemented are estimates. As given by the member the outputs should have been mentioned in the Budget. That should not be the case except for estimates or projected plans. That is what I said previously, budget is different from accounts. We plan the future plans. The implemented plans is done with incurred expenditures. The auditor's report cannot be completed unless we have the accounted results.

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That is the essence of the proposed plans given by the Deputy Prime Minister. But do note the increase in auditor number we decided in the past to sufficiently execute the auditing role.

Mr Speaker that is the clarification, the auditor deals with analyzing the outputs of the Ministries. The raising Controller and Auditor General's issue also concerns emphasis on government heads to sit in during Parliamentary proceedings and listen to our Budget reports screening to be informed of the House and Committee work.

Mr Speaker that is added notes to the clarification of the Deputy Prime Minister as government takes emphasis on timely reports. 20 years ago, we've had cases with delayed accounts and reports for up to a decade. Today, we are two years behind which is great effort. I'm sure it's the same with the other countries who might've had 20 years backlog whilst today it is much better.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you for the clarification. I call upon the member for Aana Alofi No.3 to continue his speech.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:** Thank you Mr Speaker and the Hon Prime Minister for the elaboration. I then wish to comment on task improvement by the Government Ministries and Corporations. This speaks for the bulky funds spent on them particularly SOEs specifically on electricity, water and built roads. According to records, the EPC has incurred 25% losses and if reduced we can reserve more funds. Water leakage amounts to 60% which can be alleviated to increase dividends to assist with government expenditure. We also have the SACEP aid project since four years ago that includes \$150,000 expenditure on agriculture products. If agriculture is prioritized, we need to improve the service on farming products in order for them to acquire this funding assistance to benefit the local farmers in term of revenue earned. Additionally, the managing of the Climate Change Project by the Ministry of Environment to improve these projects that have taken up 3 to 4 years delay in some sectors. The concern, the more time spent on executing the project, the less money utilized in paying the project officers. Everything relied on the project extension, whereby payment if firstly given to the administrators leaving very minimal amount for implementing the project. Furthermore, the Advisory Board given the Land Management for instance, it comprises of 27 staff in total with 40 advisory board members from Upolu and Savaii. 80 Board Members and 27 we have members in this section.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member speaking; I give the opportunity to the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment.

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**Tofa Hon Faamoetauloa Lealaiauloto Ulaitino Faale Tumaalii (Minister of Natural Resources and Environment):** Mr Speaker a point of order. Perhaps the member is confused with the Land Board and Advisory Board for environment. The Land Board deals directly with environmental related issues. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** The explanation by the Minister is well defined. Member for Aana Alofi No. 3, we have 11 Board Members when you are speaking of the Advisory Board. I call upon the member.

**Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER:** That's correct, according to the Ministry, perhaps the Advisory Board to the Environment holds 40 members each from Upolu and Savaii. I think we've had too many representatives, why not reduce it down to 10 members each for Upolu Savaii? By this we can save costs for other Committees.

Similarly to SOEs and CSO who are receiving a lot of funds for developing these Corporations. In fact, we have noted an estimated \$200,000 spent on the Board Committees to SROS, STEC and the Kidney Foundation with limited revenue earning obtained. I recommend that these Boards scrutinize these areas carefully to capitalize our income generating level and reduce expenditure with improved service for future economic stability.

Lastly I speak of our constituency's requests. According to the statement of the Hon Minister of Police and Minister of Works Satui submitted a request on a new Primary School building several years back including the roads access to Oloamanu Centre. This improvement work will be undertaken soon. Mr Speaker we are not after access roads. Improvement work is also required for Satapuala village.

I convey appreciation to the Minister of Finance, the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet for our budget. The main purpose is to encourage and improve all sector developments. Recommendations given are not to discredit anything but to assist government plans. Have a blessed meeting. Soifua.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you for the clarification member for Aana Alofi No.3. I believe your contribution is significant especially with the support of your constituency. I believe the member for Palauli wants to speak; this morning is vibrant considering your attire.

**Afioga AFOAFOUVALE JOHN MOORS (Palauli):** Thank you for the opportunity Mr Speaker. First of all I want to praise the Heavenly Father for His protection, to the various divisions of the country. I also want to acknowledge the O Le Ao o le Malo and His Good Lady, the Member of Council Deputy and his Good Lady. The dignified House the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, Leader of Opposition, Deputy and the Opposition side, Associate Ministers and the country listening in.



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Least I cannot forget my dear constituency of Palauli East in all its honorary salutations. Some have asked me about the military attire I'm wearing? Hence I wish to clarify the reason why, I wish to pay tribute to one of the members of this side which is the exact reason behind this uniform I am wearing. I also convey my sincere condolences to the family especially his wife and children, may God guide his spirit to eternal life.

Mr Speaker I stand with respect to express a thank you note to the Hon Minister and the Hon Prime Minister for the tabling Budget. I extend sincere gratitude to the Ministry, CEO and ACEOs for preparing the budget statement. I also thank the Parliamentary Committee for investigating and scrutinizing this report. The work is not easy, considering your efforts night and day for all to understand. I wish to connect to the matter by the member for Falealili. A country cannot develop on a small budget. The aim behind any business is to expand and produce higher revenue through borrowing funds with low interest rates that is available for a limited time. When a business wants to expand they search for funds and loans with the basis that little interest is repaid later. If budgeting is managed well from international funding agencies and in compliance with their requirements, that is the most important thing which is credit to us.

The SIDS conference preparations and the heavy load carried by the Samoa Tourism Authority. I wish to thank STA for the laid out plans to promote tourism hospitality now and in the future. Given the lack of minerals found locally unlike Papua, the Solomon Islands, we find it hard to earn more income. The only benefit is through our agriculture products pardon the listeners and tourism operations. We have witnessed the growing income level in some of our Pacific island nations. For example I went on a trip to the Cook Islands with one of the Government Heads. The 777 Boeing was packed with 10% of the Cook Islanders passengers whilst 90% were tourists. Perhaps we can learn from our neighboring islands on how to best capitalize our resources and developments. It would be impactful to allocate more funds to STA to execute their development plans. The funds allocated to the Authority is limited but can be exploited through borrowing to boost tourism developments and promotion.

Mr Speaker I thank the government for the many wise decisions set out in the Budget Statement that must be attainable. Although I am saddened with the declined request from China aid to assist with a new school building at the district. Every time we have the Appropriation Estimate and the Supplementary Appropriation I always raise this issue in relation to the 514 total students and 17 teachers without any school buildings. This has taken us 4 years regardless; even though we have received limited funding assistance from Japan, but rest assure we will try our best to set up a new school building.

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Mr Speaker that is all, I pray God to maintain your strength and wise counseling given your set duties as Speaker. To the Prime Minister and Cabinet you have our support. Leader of Opposition may the Lord give you strength and wisdom to lead that side. May the Lord bless our proceedings and duties thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you member for Palauli. I believe the House is now informed of the stated issues. Lest we forget our brother Tuiloa, he will be greatly missed today.

The floor is now open for further comments; it is good to take turns. I see the member for Faleata East is now ready. I call upon the member who is also the Captain of our rugby team.

**Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO (Faleata East):** Thank you Mr Speaker, I humbly greet the dignity of the House here in Tiafau in all its honorary salutations which decision-making is decided upon and approved.

I acknowledge the honorary salutations of Samoa.

I also acknowledge the constituency of Faleata East from Fugalei to Vailoa. I shall not mention your honorary salutations for we are aware of your significant statuses. I greet with respect all church Ministers in the district.

Firstly, a request to the Hon Minister, thank you for the new bridge. Although the bridge is situated in Vaimoso but this has been very beneficial to the traveling people every day. I also request road improvement for Samalaga. Perhaps the Prime Minister is aware of this route because he frequently takes this route day and night whereby students and buses even find it hard to access. This district covers 25% of the total population census which makes up approximately 50% total contribution to Samoa's economy given its high employment rate. According to the Samoa Tourism Authority Survey the most visited tourism site is Papaseea which is located in the district. Hence I humbly request the Hon Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance to fix this road. This is the only area in the whole of Samoa where buses are inaccessible; people would always travel by foot which takes 7 minutes drive to the town area. With an upgraded road halfway to the USP, I pray of this request.....

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala:** Mr Speaker...

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member, I give the Minister time for his clarification.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala:** Incase my observation is different from that of the member the road to Seese to Papaseea is currently fixed. This is all for the upcoming SIDS conference.

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If the member has time he can tour around the district, but all these requests have been achieved regarding better road maintenance. With great respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member I recognize the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I did not see the member when we had the new road launching last year. The entire road is sealed up to Papaseea. New fales are also available for the visitors to change. The new sealed road has been re-sealed but buses and tourists have visited these areas long ago. That is the clarification as your statement sounds as if we haven't done anything on this since the beginning of times. That is the condition of sealed roads; sometimes they are upgraded and re-sealed.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member whether he now understands the clarification made by the Prime Minister.

**Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO:** Mr Speaker perhaps the Minister is mistaken because I am not talking about the Papaseea road. I am talking about the road that leads to the quarry which is the main source for constructing roads. It has not been tar sealed yet. Also a child was killed on this road.....

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

**MR SPEAKER:** The issue is clear, I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** The reason for the given statement is based on Papaseea you raised, not the road to the quarry. Perhaps we would not have any misunderstanding. As for the quarry road it has not been used for a while and is closed. But I thank the member for addressing this issue.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call the member, it is not the Papaseea road but the quarry.

**Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO:** The main reason why I raised Papaseea is because it is a tourism site that generates income instead of Papaseea road. As for the quarry road, majority resides in this area and the road hasn't been sealed yet but covered with stones. That is the request for consideration taking into account the large contribution this district makes to the economy of the country.

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I have visited the Papaseea road and am very disappointed with how it's sealed. The Hon Prime Minister has spoken that he was the one who launched it I am saddened with the poor workmanship skills. I am not sure if the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure has accessed this area lately. Who exactly is looking after these roads? If you visit this road it looks like it has not been tar sealed before and we are hosting the conference soon. I suggest a review on this as Papaseea was mentioned.

Mr Speaker I now wish to discuss our Budget.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member, I give the chance to the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, the given recommendations should be well packaged instead of giving it in a demanding tone, how then can a Minister take this? This will only disgust the Minister but if you pray to improve this, then your request is acceptable. It's as if the work was done carelessly, but I often take this make rounds to this road up to the Committee *fales*. The House should know that we always carry out site visits to improve the mentioned issues.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a point of clarification. Perhaps the member is pointing out re-sealing on top of the old tar taking up high financial costs. That is what the member is trying to convey....

**MR SPEAKER:** Palusalue the matter is now understood.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker it seems that the member is confused, this is what happens when he sleeps and gets involved with other people's argument. I am clarifying the issue pointed out by the member who understands us. This is the problem with these village roads due to the heavy rain. Similar occurrence is seen in the news in other countries hence I advise the Leader of Opposition to watch the news on cyclones and heavy rainfall.

I have witnessed the destructive roads in New Zealand and America given the bad weather conditions or climate change. The heavy rainfalls causes the road destruction, we have had road specialists and experts who have experimented these areas however water can easily destroy the roads. That is similar case with our road maintenance with the funds we have available.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member your view is now clear given the Hon Minister for Works, Transport and Infrastructure bear with us as improvement works is now underway.

I call the member to move on to a different matter.

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**Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO:** Thank you for the interruption. I apologize the Minister if I have overstepped any boundaries. I just wanted to re-emphasize issues to obtain clear recommendations.

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

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala:** Mr Speaker the only concern I have is the time. As leaders of this House, whenever they find fault –if it’s not under the Minister’s jurisdiction, it’s the Ministry of Works. But if it’s a new issue then this is disappointing. We do not sit around and relax as we also have office work to do. The police have limited staff and the contractors trust their performances. Generally, we assist accordingly to the rising issues and we must bear contacts and communication. That is our leadership role.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very Well. In relation to the issues raised by the member, the Minister has clarified. I believe the member for Faleata East is now clear. The issue has been clarified; you may continue your speech.

**Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO:** I will not elaborate further. I wish to comment on our Appropriation Estimates.

Firstly I wish to thank the Hon Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance for the tabling Budget. Most of the Estimates involve government services expenditure and remittances that assists the work of the Ministries.

In relation to the Budget address by the Hon Prime Minister on top of page 4, the English translation states ‘rebasing of fees and charges’ in the top paragraph which calls for raising taxation with reviewed service rebase for improve services in the Ministries. This paragraph aims to ensure efficient and effective service delivery by the Ministries to increase revenue earning. This service delivery incurs a service charge for overseeing the executed services by the Ministries according to the recommendation in the Committee Report. The levied fees must be omitted when conducting service delivery for the Ministries. The Budget Estimates does not provide for....

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member speaking, the Hon Prime Minister is recognized.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** These two concepts expenditure and service delivery correlate. The service relies on financial support but I am unsure of what the member is saying as majority of these services are outdated given the past decade. That is reason for this five year plan that can be reviewed.

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**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member to continue his speech.

**Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO:** The main motive is could be conducted in sequence for now that we have the raising fees for doctors consultations, electricity tariff, vehicle registration fees, all have gone up...

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member I give the chance to the Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker hospital fees results from high standard hospital facilities including better resources which involves costs. We cannot upgrade and raise quality standards by retaining the costs which should go up. If we want better service, it comes with a price.

**MR SPEAKER:** This matter is precisely interpreted. I believe we have to give everyone the opportunity to comment on the matter therefore the member for Faleata East your speech is commendable.

**Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO:** Thank you, perhaps when I have my conclusion then the Prime Minister will understand but I shall move on to the next matter.

In addition most grants are released directly to the person to assist with their developments involving a huge amount. I will elaborate later on this matter but I now come to the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Central Bank Report last quarterly term states that, "The Ministry of Agriculture is one of the largest contributing sectors to the economy of Samoa." Thank you Ministry of Agriculture especially members of the public who are part of this contribution. Most of the contributing revenue comes from the agriculture sector circular process in Samoa. This includes the large taro supply and nonu exports. The only concern is for the Ministry to ease the burden on the farmers I am talking about the SACEP programme, perhaps the Ministry is implementing provisions of the World Bank financial aid which is a huge amount. This funding assistance contributes hugely to benefit the country. The challenge to the Ministry of Forestry and the funding assistance requirements allocation is a difficult process. Nowadays it is difficult to acquire foreign aid; because they must be sought first or borrow from the bank whilst the grant assistance is distributed amongst the farmers like a bonus but we shall leave it as it is.

**MR SPEAKER:** I give the opportunity to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries to clarify the member's view. I call upon the Minister.

**Afioga Hon Le Mamea Ropati (Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries):** Mr Speaker, I thank the member for his view. There are matters relating to the SACEP project involving the World Bank.

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Perhaps this is not the first time this raising matter is viewed which is commonly debated and clarified in previous sittings if only you were present yesterday during negotiations with the World Bank it's a very difficult negotiating process given the World Bank's terms and conditions and it's their money. That is exactly what we are aiming at, to consider these terms and conditions accordingly for efficient purposes for our farmers.

As for the World Bank grant, these are all covered under the project assuring the World Bank that these funds are utilized wisely. But the aim is to work together with the farmers because some farmers tend to spend on *faalavelave* once they receive these finance assistance whilst the World Bank intends to know of the farmers' contribution. Once this is known then site visits are conducted to see and confirm the utilization of these funds pursuant to the World Bank's requirements. The World Bank owns these funds and has authority over these aid projects. But we are negotiating persistently with them. Pardon me, the World Bank does not handout funds just like that; the aim is for proper fund usage to the farmers by bearing good results. That is the explanation with respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well. I believe the issue has been clarified for the member for Faleata East, I give you the time to continue with your speech.

**Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO:** Thank you Hon Minister for your persistent effort. I always thought that the handout grant is administrated by the Ministry based on their policies and procedures nonetheless I shall not make a mention of this any further.

Secondly the \$5 million distributed to the affected household farming two from the cyclone two years ago. That is the provision that we aim to simplify given the impact the first effect they receive causing a long delay for them not to return. I request the Hon Minister to please consider this concern.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member, I call upon the Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker these grants are in line with international standards, whilst the financial institutions policies set for their own standards. These set policies results from issues happening around the world taking into account the mistakes. That is reason for the laid out provisions to achieve the vision to assist them as well. The reason for this funding assistance undertaken by the World Bank is due to their experience worldwide which shouldn't bother us. We also distributed funds for road improvement. Some confirmed reports reveal that some would use these funds for alcohol which led to government withdrawn from this execution. That is similar to your concern respectable member, we aim to receive but do not question how this fund is used. We don't get beneficial organizations like this who don't really worry about how these funds are utilized.

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Mr Speaker, that is the assistance.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member for Faleata East. I give the chance to the interruption of the member for Siumu.

**Tofa Hon Tuuu Anasii Leota:** Mr Speaker, a point of clarification. I wish to ask the member if there are any request records on this project, and how many declined requests? Because our requests with the Leader of Opposition have been withdrawn involving total bind waste. With due respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Well that is not your investigation, we have the Ministry..

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker, a point of clarification.

**MR SPEAKER:** Did you submit a request?

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Yes. As the member for Siumu has stated has given his statement with clarification, I am pitiful of the country. This is the truth. We went there and our requests were declined given the complex processes. I feel sorry for the people given the provisions stated by the Minister and Prime Minister.

**MR SPEAKER:** Your view is noted. I call the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, a point of order. If this is the normal doing by this pair such as submitting and withdrawing their requests, unbelievably, I am in awe of this continuous doing.

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe the matter has been clarified, Palusalue.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker when this project started it was a huge blessing for our farmers. Today, it has taken up three years and we even raise it during our press release with the media, however funds have been taken back due to the unachieved requirements.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I am confused with the statement regarding various funds released to the majority providing critically wrong information to the House. There are people who have met the requirements and have received funds successfully. This means that they are now eligible to use these funds. Hence, the member for Siumu and the Leader of Opposition intends to use these funds for a different purpose without adhering with the set provisions.



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

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon me Leader of Opposition this is now clear.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Since the Hon Prime Minister has spoken, only \$150,000 is received from the total \$32 million. Consider the difficult requirements we have to achieve?

**MR SPEAKER:** Palusalue I now understand your concern. It was your own free will that your requests were withdrawn. The Minister has clarified the requirements for these requests. We were all present at the first funding distributions at Hotel Elisa for the farmers from Savaii and Upolu for their farming developments that were destroyed in the previous cyclone. But chance will later be granted to the Minister of Agriculture to elaborate further on the matter. I call upon the member for Faleata West.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi (Faleata West):** I just want to elaborate briefly on the matter mentioned by the member. The SACEP project funds are smaller than the stimulus package which is \$5million. This is one project that has taken a delay funding distribution for two years. The total fund is \$700 gift voucher not in cash form. That is the reason for the members' constant queries on the long delayed process but funds are minimal amounts. It's been a year since this funding administration has progressed without records of any funds withhold.

**MR SPEAKER:** Your view is well taken, thank you for the assistance. I call upon the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

**Afioga Hon Le Mamea Ropati:** We were discussing the SACEP project yet the member has now mentioned the stimulus package. The stimulus package is funded by the government alone. The stimulus package is different from SACEP this is a correction on the matter.

As for the issue stated by the member for Siumu, you can untie it gently see the wire here, I am tying it now. When untying you do it gently, see it's not untied. But if we do it hastily it causes a fixed knot.

That is the explanation, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Saleaula we are trying to settle the issue.

**Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu:** Mr Speaker I just wanted to caution the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries not to worry because it is up to the members if they want to withdraw their requests. I also want to thank the Minister for accepting my request.

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

**Tofa Hon Tuuu Anasii Leota:** I want to thank the Minister for demonstrating the untying knot. The reason for being pitiful is that when we got to the Office we saw three men crying over their successful requests however, unless the loan is paid in full then the funds can be released to assist with their farming project. This is the complex process that I am talking about which I am unsure of this untying knot that remains intact.

With due respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Member for Faleata East I believe the matter is now clear. I suggest that you conclude as you only have two more minutes.

**Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO:** My argument is clear regarding the funding distribution from Cyclone Evans. I don't intend to hastily distribute the funds. I only intended to provide easy process requirements to provide efficiency for the country's requests. I also voice concerns regarding the Ministry's list of the affected farming plots including my district. This includes the ones in Apia but I do consider the implication of this matter...taking into account of the implicated farmers in my district.

I speak of business licenses issued by the MCIL to foreign businesses and the permit criteria regarding permanent residence with the Immigration. Evidently, several Asian business people are seen around the country. We began without issues and now we've encountered some issues. This concerns a reserve list for the Samoan local business proprietors who wanted to set up businesses. Regardless, none of this is seen given that the majority of the businesses are all foreign owned. I request the MCIL to effectively look into this mainly the permit issuance and the legal protection of the country.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour.

**Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** Mr Speaker, I wish to clarify the different kinds of licenses including business license. That specific license is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Revenue.

We have the foreign investment certificate that is under the statutory provisions that comes with its own set of requirements. This means that all requirements must be met before a business license is obtained.

We have the foreign investors under the foreign investment certificate. According to the reserve list submitted by the member, there are certain businesses that cannot be established by foreigners. These are the people that are investing in Samoa and have met the requirements with obtained certificates. Hence we have not yet deported any foreigners who have breached the law.

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We did have investors who illegally went against the laws, with revoked licenses and were deported. As of today the Ministry is currently monitoring all aspects that is currently going well so far in the country. If a problem arises the Ministry will enact the law to avoid such happening in the future.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. Your time is now up. You'll be given another chance when we have the consideration of the bill hence please wrap up now.

**Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO:** Mr Speaker I have two more involving technology. According to the mandate and mission it says affordable, reliable and secure communication services. If we look at internet costs today, it is very costly. I request the Ministry to look into internet costs and telephones costs which is very expensive. I ask that you mandate this doing.

Mr Speaker...

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Hon Minister of Communication, Information and Technology.

**Afioga Hon Tuisugaletaua Sofara Aveau (Minister of Communications, Information and Technology):** Mr Speaker these are the core functions that the Ministry is implementing. The statement on high telephones costs is wrong because nowadays these are more affordable then before.

As for the internet, yes it is expensive but the Ministry is trying its best to resolve this issue. We do not have cables to connect us worldwide. The government is currently looking at possible solutions to enable international connections through satellite or cable lines. This will make internet usage more affordable hopefully very soon. Thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. I now call upon the member to conclude his speech.

**Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO:** Thank you Minister. Before I conclude I wish to ask the Immigration Minister about Australian visas as said before this cannot be processed in the country. Additionally, the quota provisions whereby the main reason behind the signed agreement was to provide citizenship which catered for up to 1000 Samoans traveling to New Zealand. Before, there was no work paper provision. Now the process has increased further requirements dropping the number of applicants four hundred to three hundred. The quota was initiated to acquire citizenship for those born in 1962. I humbly request that the matter be reviewed, to evaluate these new provisions. I think that once a person is fortunate to get a quota they should automatically get citizenship. I also had other requests with the Samoa Land....

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I wish to define the member's statement on quota. There were people who succeeded the quota and had to return because they had no paper work. That is reason for the employment paper requirement to obtain jobs for them to live and survive which is pure common sense.

Mr Speaker, it is hard because every country is faced the unemployment issue, the government also suggests that obtaining work permits is vital. All successful quota applicants must acquire employment when moving to New Zealand to earn income to pay for education and living.

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe the matter stated by the member for Faleata East has been clarified, you may conclude.

**Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO:** Although I still have a couple left but I shall conclude here hence apologies to the members of the House, the respective Ministers and the Ministries I mentioned, I wish to discourage anyone but aim for the benefit of our people. I believe we should work together to ensure the development of the country also I acknowledge the Speaker for his work, have a blessed meeting.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you for the queries, thank you for your persistence in consideration of our Budget. We still have second chance when considering the bill into detail should anyone wishes to speak further.

I believe the views accorded this morning are well defined provided the government responses. It is now time for our usual recess hence we should take a break, renew our strength before we ensue with our proceedings at 3.00pm.

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

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside at 1.00pm.*

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed at 3.00pm.*

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly continued with debate on the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2013/2014 and the Appropriation Bill 2014/2015.*

**MR SPEAKER:** I announce that proceedings of the Legislative Assembly now resumed. The time now is 3.00pm, we will proceed with today's orders according to the passed motion. I thank all members of the House for their participation noting that some have attended to business matters during the two hour recess.

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The purpose of the motion is to give us more time for members' comments. The orders in the House shall not be reminded as this isn't our first budget. Time should be complied with hence I commend that members prepare their speeches before taking the floor. This will ease out our work for government responses.

I also urge the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet to respond accordingly to the queries of the members. I ask everyone to take heed of this only or unless the Leader of Opposition demands a clarification from the Leader of the House. The purpose of proceedings is to clarify matters so they are understood, similar to the comments made by the member for Faasaleleaga No.2. Therefore I ask any other member to take the floor now before it is too late. If so our proceedings will progress with a more positive conclusion.

Before recess...

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

**MR SPEAKER:** You may take the floor....

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** I wanted to raise this issue which is not new in the House hence this is why are sittings are prolonged given the constant interjections and responses by the Cabinet members. That is the assistance to the matter.

**MR SPEAKER:** I understand the matter Leader of Opposition, no intention is for government to intervene with the members speeches but to make things easier we can respond accordingly should the need arise. I have also advised the government depending on the order of our debates. In essence we must save time and incase we prolong missing out vital issues that ought to be responded during our proceedings.

Before our recess this afternoon the member for Faleata East was concluding his speech, now the House is free to anyone who wishes to speak. I call upon the member for Aana Alofi No.1, Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi.

**Afioga Hon LEAUPEPE TOLEAFOA APULU FAAFISI:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity, I move to comment on our Supplementary Appropriation 2014/2015.

Firstly I give Samoa's honorific salutations. I also acknowledge our spiritual Leaders and congregation, especially those living in areas of Fasitoo and Faleasiu, I thank you all for the support given to me to have a voice within Parliament. I am thankful to all respectable families and all its honorary salutations.

I take this opportunity to thank the Leader of the House our Prime Minister for his commitment role as a leader which is not easy. We have witnessed a lot of improvements with the developments that have taken place within the country.

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The changes are evident today based on traffic usually when I travel into town it only takes twenty minutes but now it takes an hour given the busy traffic. This is witness with rising number of vehicles and the road switch by the government.

I express gratitude and support on our Estimates tabled as prepared by the Hon Minister of Finance and the Hon Prime Minister. I also thank the government for the various developments established in my district. I will not mention again how thankful I am to the Minister of Works Transport and Infrastructure. Despite a few more requests we have such as improving our water supply and maintain access roads. If we look at it roads are like houses if we do not maintain and look after it, eventually they can be destructed. But I am aware of your many responsibilities. I believe it is best to implement these improvements to promote our developments with agriculture products given the improved roads from the plantations. Well done and a big thank you for your efforts.

I have witnessed economic improvement through the tourism sector and other means of resources that have benefited some local households. Perhaps it is the reason why coconut has not been sold or exported anymore.

I have witnessed that some members take coconut into consideration. I am surprised by the sudden shut down of the Coconut Factory when yesterday, we had a meeting at Tanoa and noticed that we have a Coconut Association. Some think lightly of the coconut collection given the new business ventures whether small sized, medium or large, they earn income by selling ulas, handicraft, niu, coconut or Samoan cocoa on the road. The people are more determined to find ways to earn income other than local produce with the help of government organizations and private sector.

The only advice is to be friendly with the private sector as they assist well with the economic development of the country through job creation. Some are reliant on Yazaki and remittances from overseas. Others rely on fishing, horticulture, taro, banana and pawpaw which is highly noticed when traveling to the western and the eastern side of the country. We are also being controlled by our culture. What is culture? Some people are living through funerals and *saofai* or matai title ceremonies. Those who attend these events receive money, food and other supplies which is part of culture. Our culture is unique and does not exists anywhere else such as having a free meal at someone else's home. There is a system called 'totoma' where people wander around in seek of fine mats that is borrowed without payment which is our custom.

That is why I believe there are various ways to make and raise living standards avoiding coconut production. Compared to what's happening to the farmers and the business owner now, they are struggling. The business people are suffering criminal acts involving theft and fraud pardon Samoa. The root of the problem stems from parents who expect \$3000 of needed money when the boy or girl only is only earning \$200 income.

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The children are tempted based on love for their parents. Even in Asia, we can never be peaceful if these unnecessary acts continue to rise. Similarly to Samoa if theft is unavoidable, we can never live in harmony. Even our visitors will find it hard to visit our shores. These are submissions to assist our government considering both sides.

I express assistance to the Electoral Office regarding fingerprint registrations. This is in collaboration with the Ministry of Police that is enforced to remedy the issue. Why? As part of the Police duty, only or unless they are arrested, then fingerprinting is caught. What about new criminals, it is hard to arrest them until they are being investigated. It is a collective responsibility by all. Perhaps we have about 120,000 unregistered voters left, 150 from 180 fingerprints recorded. With the Police system in place this should be easier to find a solution to the problem without tainting the name of the country internationally.

The issue with the farmers does not involve all due to the lack of produced markets abroad. I am not sure why the market implemented by WESTEC and the Ministry of Agriculture was stopped. Perhaps they had some issues in the past taking up a decade now. Possibly the government and the Ministry should consider revisiting the produce market at Otara. I mention the Ministry of Agriculture because they assess the quality of taro. If we give the authority to another sector it will not be the same quality. Therefore we should give the opportunity to the Ministry of Agriculture to set up a based market in New Zealand where Samoans live to sell our taro and banana. We cannot compete with Fijian taro because Indians who grow it in Fiji supply the Indians there based on blood relation and our taro is disregarded. But the Samoan taro is the best. This must be reviewed. Otherwise we can use the private sector who have the funds to seek competition abroad including the selling of taro, banana, coconut, pawpaw and kava. That is the assistance to the government despite the low coconut selling these days, we should still find a market to make good use of our coconuts.

I take it that this is enough contribution to the government with my total support of the tabling Appropriation Bill. I pray that our Father bless the members of Cabinet, the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister with their duties. Also the Leader of Opposition and his party, I want to remind the House that I am not a member of this side. I appease Ministers during clarification to refer to this side excluding the member for Siumu. Bless our proceedings, thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you the member for Aana Alofi No.1, Afioga Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi for the speech. The speeches given this evening have been outstanding. Well done thank you for your participation. Anybody else? The member for Samoa aao is upstanding; I call upon the member for Individual Voters to proceed.

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**Afioga MAUALAIVAO PAT AH HIM:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I move with utmost respect to welcome respectable members of the House, the Prime Minister and Cabinet also the Leader of Opposition and his party nevertheless all members in Chamber. I also acknowledge Samoa in its honorary salutations. I now wish to express a few submissions.

Well done Minister of Works and the House. I believe the requests given have been challenging considering road improvement whether it be for Falealupo or Falealili; they contribute well to our economy specifically our visitors. It seems that our constituency is discarded but I am comfortable that the Minister is taking heed of our requests. The frequently used road from Lalovaea to Moamoa and Palisi needs upgrading, similarly to the road near the bridge at Sinamoga involving tourism sites. Likewise, the roads of Aleisa, Lepea and Pesega. I humbly ask the Minister to look into these areas. I commend you for your commitment and the new roads opening. These new access are useful for our farmers, the key sector to our country's economy.

But thank you. Perhaps the Minister is.....

**MR SPEAKER:** The member is it not Vaitoloa?

**Afioga MAUALAIVAO PAT AH HIM:** The roads at Vaitoloa and Tiavi also involves attractions sites such as the One Tree Hill accommodation. This is why I am adamant on explaining that these areas should be considered by the Minister.

**MR SPEAKER:** I apologize to the member but I will give the opportunity to the member for Saleaula.

**Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu:** Mr Speaker I just want to remind the member that we have considered requests for Upolu and are waiting for Savaii, as he is the member for the entire Samoa (*Samoa Aooa*).

**Afioga MAUALAIVAO PAT AH HIM:** Thank you for the interruption. I believe I have already mentioned that all developed roads will be useful for the people in Upolu and Savaii whether Falealupo or wherever for our economic improvement.

I speak extensively on the matter issue by the Associate Minister concerning the LTA and the Ministry of Police. It is a recommendation for ease of reference but the legislation shouldn't contradict the duties for the two Ministries all for the safety of the people on the roads. If the LTA is not competent then close it down as we are moving accordingly with their new practice but LTA's work should be enforced by the Police department. The Police should undertake criminal related issues whilst LTA should deal directly with traffic offenses so that the work is codified accordingly for transparency purposes based on our decisions as Parliamentarians.



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We make laws to produce peace, security and harmony through the collective efforts of the Ministries. LTA should consider the use of traffic lights in the night to reduce accidents on the roads. The road lines should assist well specifically during bad weather. The main issue stems from disrespectful drivers, inconsideration, lacking insight or even carelessness driving. Such involves poor knowledge of road signage. That is the assistance to these respective Ministries who are solely responsible for the security and safety of the public on the roads.

Mr Speaker I am grateful to the Minister of Police and Prisons separation. We've had a couple of police officers employed at the Prison site caught of bribery given their sincere bonds with the inmates. Therefore this issue should be greatly considered for the safety of nearby households. It is important that we protect our people from such actions I ask the Minister that this issue be taken into account. Nevertheless I am thankful that there have been changes made to these two divisions.

I don't have much to say about the Hon Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries. Most have talked about the pitiful farmers. Although taro is of poor quality that despite the plentiful supply, we still find it hard to sell them at a lower cost requiring sufficient markets. But I have patience in you Hon Minister; you continue to fight for the benefit of the farmers. I pray that our farmers get equal opportunities from the grants received from overseas. We need finance to assist with the circular flow of income earned as evidently seen in our economic developments and the immense contribution from our agriculture sector. Agriculture is the key contributor to our everyday lives.

That is just submitted advice but try harder Hon Minister and your Ministry. It is not easy task because it has been a while since we exported out taro. The cost of living has increased therefore i humbly convey that these matters be considered. Whether the cost of taro is \$10 and that \$10 tala is budget wisely like \$5million by the farmers. That is clear proof tha the farmers aim high to supply and cater for the country.

The Minister of Tourism our Prime Minister I am grateful for the hard work done. There is a development to establish a beach in Apia that has caused problems for some people. I want to appease the public to withhold disagreement let the government implement this new tourist attraction. The only reason why tourists travel from Europe, China and Asia to Samoa is to go to the beaches. Hence they don't have to travel to the rural areas instead they can use the beach in Apia. I support this idea implemented by the Minister of Tourism. I have faith in you and I believe you will be able to get grants to implement this development nevertheless the comments made by the people challenges this project.

The complaints submitted are challenges which assist you to improve further. Samoa's township is for the whole of Samoa. We must develop likewise to countries abroad to improve and maintain beautification. It has been more than fifty years since we became independent therefore we should change the image of what our capital to attract more tourists.

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I have also heard about canine licensing pardon me. This will greatly assist reduce issues stray dog issues and protect the public.

Another matter the Minister of Tourism that I am thankful for is the proposed cannery development. If upon completion, it will produce more job creation catering up to 2000 employees. The only recommendation is the location viability considering Apia, Falealili or Falealupo. This project will contribute well to our economic growth especially to employment. Thank you to the private sector for creating more jobs locally. Hence those are some concerns for your consideration.

Other matters include airport facility improvement. I was not keen on the new parking ticket system that costs \$5 per day instead of per hour that is doubtful by the majority hence it would be considerable to comprehend this undertaking. I am proud of these new developments because it means that Samoa has improved a lot.

Lastly I wish to talk about the Minister of Justice and Courts Administration.

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** Mr Speaker a point of order, please?

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member I will give the opportunity to the member for Faleata East, what is the point of order?

**Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo:** The Minister stated that it is \$5 tala but this machine is \$5.00 for two hours with .50sene addition when it exceeds two hours.

**MR SPEAKER:** Hon Minister do you approve of this?

**Afioga MAUALAIVAO PAT AH HIM:** Thank you, well if this is the right price then I believe it is, although it is quite cheap.

**Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Enokati Posala:** This undertaking is giving permission to vehicles. The two hours waiting plus additional costs if two hours exceeds to free up the parking space for other customers.

**MR SPEAKER:** I give the chance to one of the members for Aana Alofi No.1, Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi.

**Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi:** Mr Speaker I move to submit only factual information to the House please.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member to continue, we now know that two hours costs \$5 tala and extra .50 sene if more than two hours.

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**Afioga MAUALAIVAO PAT AH HIM:** I do not speak false information, I am just concerned with the low price, in New Zealand less than half an hour costs \$8 dollars if we convert that into local currency, it is \$16 tala.

I want to address the Minister of Justice Court and Administration on a constant raising matter involving the Individual Voters. I am unsure of the submitted requests in relation to repealing of this district. It is like I am about to be destroyed. Regardless, we attended a conference with the Speaker in Mexico and I cried over the addressing note by the Speaker on behalf of our government. After the speech, everyone was very keen to know about Samoa and its location. Accordingly, the statement by the Speaker implied that, "Samoa has moved from the least developed country to a middle income country." One of the focal points he made was, "It is one of the most politically stable states in the South Pacific. Most stable." The key word here is 'stable' how long have we been self governed? The reason why I say this is because the Individual Voters have contributed well to the government's stability for the last fifty years. Has Individual Voters accepted any financial aid? Have we challenged the government's stability? No. That is why this district has been stable for fifty years now, through service. Why should this constituency be removed now when the government is stable? This is foolish. I appease the Hon Prime Minister to heed this request, some districts have been divided and yet still successful whilst us, we are being divided, cut and omitted pardon the House.

We have served since the beginning and the men would say, "Go bestow chief titles before you become representatives". Now that we are chiefs and again, you say, "Go now your time is up." How is this done? Why was it called the Individual Voters? How was it done? This district was provided in the constitution and we served earnestly. That is what I meant about the Speaker's statement in Mexico, 'stable', this is one district that paved way to the government's stability. Despite of the unfixed inner roads, but we still strive our best under the coconut trees to make abundant market supplies. Pardon the Hon Minister for any irritating words, please make a change and make a stop to this but we shall continue with this district.

The budget tabled before the House, the Minister of Finance and Prime Minister I have noted the rising expenditure. I believe that if budget is spent wisely we will never run out. I hear that we must loan again and borrow more. Why loan when we have enough budget? I appreciate the tax free effect on our revenue earnings and economic growth. This is evident in the small health charges. When you are sick, you are individually affected by these health charges not the entire country. I request with utmost respect to the Chief Executive and Ministry to carry out the set duties pursuant to statutory provisions. The selection of CEOs is similar to Cabinet. They are selected based on credentials and experience. The only aspect the panel is unaware of is the candidate's leadership skills denoting transparency and accountability.

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This calls for the minimal allocated budgets that can be managed wisely given the CEO's wise decision making and your wise distribution. The budget is well developed. Hence I fully support the tabling Budget Estimates.

Mr Speaker, thank you for the opportunity. These views and comments portrays our in depth concerns that shouldn't be ignored. I will leave it to your decision and correction if I am mistaken. Have a blessed meeting to the supporting people of the country and Parliament especially Mr Speaker.

Soifua.

**MR SPEAKER:** I thank the member for Individual Voters Afioga Maualaivao Pat Ah Him for the speech. We all should be aware that this Bill is rather complex and was not easy. Nevertheless I will adhere to the submissions presented as the Chairperson of the Standing Orders Committee and will review them accordingly together with comments on the Budget Estimates.

I call upon the member for Gagaemauga No.2.

**Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity given to elaborate on our Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2013/2014 and the Appropriation Bill 2014/2015. I believe our prayer has been much appreciated this morning. It is the Lords guidance that has enabled the Prime Minister, Cabinet and members to be present here this morning to carry out our duties and responsibilities.

I want to acknowledge the dignity and respect of our country, our churches and government in all its honorary salutations.

I also take this opportunity to acknowledge my constituency, respectable Tapaau and Saleaula for your support to this member representing the voice of our people to Parliament. I believe you have heard the apology broadcasted through radio and TV1 about this member and the serious accusations made against me. I thought that the CEO would've rendered her apologies to me given the serious allegations. Nonetheless, let God be our judge and for us to undertake.

Mr Speaker our Budget this year I wish to make brief recommendations for the country's development.

Firstly Mr Speaker we shared the developments and improvement for the districts. This involves inner roads. Is it possible to allocate funds directly to the constituencies through the village councils and incorporate or set up central offices in the districts?

Reason being is that this district has not yet received any assistance from the government in terms of development for the past twenty years. I believe if we implement it this way it will be fair to every citizen of the country and every constituency. I will leave it to the Hon Prime Minister and government to decide given a new consistent system for Samoa to provide equal benefit for all.

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Secondly Mr Speaker the EPC project at Vaiaata is a vital development at an estimated budget value of USD\$12 million to renew it and buy generators for Salafai, considering the solar energy. I recommend to the Minister, Ministry and government to implement solar power and keep the ten generators at Salelologa as back up for Savaii.

Also must save funds from the Vaiaata project for another development. We should also consider that this area is where the water catchment for Faasaleleaga is located. I recall the government initiating a project in connecting all water catchment around Savaii to assist Asau and other villages who still have not accessed water. Although if this electricity project is implemented I believe it will greatly affect water catchments within this area in future.

As stated by the previous member the problem today is that people do not understand the meaning of the Acts that are implemented. This is the reason why there are so many problems the Acts are not been discussed and explained to the people by the Ministries. An example is the issue of turkey tails that is brought into the country by the people from Tutuila involving levied taxes. A box of turkey tail is imported for commercial use is sold at 300% levied tax. It is clearly stated within the Tax Bill that the tariff is \$500 which is the duty concession for anyone that travels from Tutuila. When the people travel by plane to Tutuila they are able to take a carton of corned beef. Corned beef is not stated within the manifesto although when people bring corned beef and turkey tail through Lady Naomi a freight tax is paid before it is listed in the manifest. This manifest is recorded within the ASYCUDA system of Customs. The ASYCUDA system manages fee payments once duty is paid the package is released but for airplanes there is no payment needed for these packages. Mr Speaker a box of turkey tail is \$USD 26 and \$59 Samoan tala, if you have one box there is no concession fee. When you have nine boxes, a fee of \$500 plus needs to be paid. This matter requires clear clarification to the public.

Another matter is the Auditors report which everyone is aware of its content. I recommend that the Prime Minister adhere to some of the issues raised because if we look at the summary most of problems stated....

**MR SPEAKER:** I interrupt the deliberation of the member for Gagaemauga No.2 as we are not yet discussing the report. I want to elaborate that the report has been deliberated and we are now awaiting the government response given the three months period. Pursuant to the Standing Orders we cannot deliberate a matter once the House has passed it.

We still have time when we have the government responses before we proceed with the normal process hence that is prohibited pursuant to Standing Orders. This is clearly stipulated in Standing Order 82, Contents of Speech (4) it shall be out of order to attempt to reconsider any specific question upon which the Assembly has come to a conclusion during the current Meeting.

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I remind members that the issue raised will be reviewed once the response of government is submitted given the three month period. I want to remind the member that he should move on.

**Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU:** Thank you Mr Speaker but as I said, I will not talk about the Auditor's report. The only intention for stating this is for government to improve and avoid such reports from arising again in the future. Firstly internal auditors for the Ministries should consider their work appropriately considering government assets. Secondly, the role of the legal advisors is to advise the Ministers, CEOs and staff about the legal framework and policies of the Ministries. This is why the Auditor drafted this report hence I recommend the Prime Minister and Cabinet that if these public servants are incompetent, they must be terminated and allow more capable and reliable people to take over the job. We must comply with the legal provisions and accomplish....

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker I am confused with what the member is saying, he is speaking about work that is currently carried out, maybe he is trying to be smart and therefore should not make a mention of the work that's been executed.

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

**Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU:** Mr Speaker if the work was done properly we wouldn't have received an Auditor's Report in Parliament. Another issue Mr Speaker....

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, we are talking about the Budget Estimate and the Member is discussing the Report which is unnecessary. The member is being smart. What are you trying to indicate, the tasks are currently being implemented whilst we are discussing the Budget Estimate.

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

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**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker a point of order, the budget address involves all aspect of the economy, if job is not done properly, such is not indicated in the Budget Report. These are general comments of the members.

**MR SPEAKER:** I get it now Palusalue.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** This is the problem, we are currently talking about Estimates for next year. These two issues are vastly different. Accounts relates to the report whereas Estimates is for the upcoming year. We are not talking about expenditure but proposed budget plans.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker, this is the statement by the Hon Prime Minister against the member of this side on Estimates. He is speaking in general which is the current situation nowadays....

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well Palusalue your clarification is now understood.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker we are considering the Budget Estimates for the upcoming year.

**MR SPEAKER:** I commend that members take their seats let me explain....

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** The report of the Auditor General is based on expenditure once we consider these reports then we will comment accordingly. But at the moment we are considering the Estimates for next year, public expenditure.

**MR SPEAKER:** I advice the member for Gagaemauga No.2 this is the exactly why I reminded you earlier, the report of the Auditor General is a complicated matter. That is why I advised you to leave the Auditor's Report alone as it involves more than one reports including the current amendments to the Controller and Auditor General Report. But you are concerned with the Government Heads and their performance and the competency of those who can undertake the job. The Hon Prime Minister has given, the tasks are currently performed. No job bears fruits as soon as it's done, no this requires patience, Rome was not built in a day; the aim is to stop the unachieved from rising in the future.

I recommend the member to move on to the next matter; the reason why such issues occur is due to the poorly implemented tasks. The government has given its response. The member for Gagaemauga No.2 move onto other issues.

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**Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU:** Thank you Mr Speaker, the presentation relates to the Appropriation Bill and the country's economy. If I see an issue that affects our economy I shall speak directly about it.

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker we are discussing an estimated value of \$792 million for development work next year. This is why it is titled Budget Estimates, estimates for the next year. As for expenditure, we shall review it when we have the reports. We will consider these reports once the Auditor submits it, hence we are considering our Budget.

**Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU:** Mr Speaker....

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

**Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU:** The overall objective behind this motive is that we are speaking \$700 million lest it repeats the same doing in the Auditor's Report, that is the meaning of my explanation, but we are not pointing fingers here.

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Let me say this, you are talking about previous years you are unaware of the current year and the previous. You are speaking of three, four years ago, I am talking about the current Budget Estimate whilst the member is speaking of false information.

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

**MR SPEAKER:** The Leader of Opposition with all due respect but you are disobeying our Standing Orders.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** The Hon Prime Minister's statement is incorrect.

**MR SPEAKER:** You cannot correct a point of order by interjecting. That is the Standing Order but I am still giving opportunity out of respect. I repeat a comment through interruption cannot be corrected. The member for Gagaemauga No 2 I believe the statement given is now clear, let us move on.



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The Audit reports stated by the member is from five, six years ago 2008/2009. Have patience as we await the report of the Controller and the Auditor General. Your views are vital to improve and assist the Government Ministries; I call upon the member to continue.

**Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU:** Mr Speaker you have identified what I was trying to explain. I was not speaking about the Controller and the Auditor General's Report but was only providing advice to the Hon Prime Minister and the Government. May God bless guide us all for the country.

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** I move to say that the member believes that he is more articulate than the Government employees. The grants received from overseas assists us with our developments. The member thinks that he is smarter than the law and the management of funds. Mr Speaker we are discussing the future Budget whilst the member is speaking of the past.

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

**MR SPEAKER:** I appease the Leader of Opposition, I call upon the Minister.

**Tofa Hon Tolofuaivalelei Falemoe Leiataua (Minister of Women, Community and Social Development):** Thank you Mr Speaker I nicely take the views of the member for Saleaula, Gagaemauga No.2 according to the past reports, the Standing Orders is precisely defined. The member should know very well the Standing Orders providing false intention to the public. read it again because he. The Hon Prime Minister has clarified the matter and it is true. These accusations are serious....

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

**Tofa Hon Tolofuaivalelei Falemoe Leiataua:** I appease the Leader of Opposition. Do not ride like the cheap fish, have patience. The allegations against the public servants are quite severe. Not all Ministries employ internal auditors which is not government requirement. The House has already made a decision hence the member and the Leader of Opposition should not speak of things that they find doubt in.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker you should adhere to what is been said by the member to this side especially the Prime Minister.

**MR SPEAKER:** I understand the clarification the Leader of Opposition.

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**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** We are giving recommendations not rehashing reports of the past. Mr Speaker the points are directing to the Budget not being smart.

**MR SPEAKER:** We should not fight over these things, the member for Saleaula is also valuable he is very calm. This issue is well taken likewise to the view of the public servants. Thus I ask that the member move on to another issue, you have five more minutes.

**Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I apologize to the Minister I never intended to accuse the public servants. The only problem is that they have failed to do their work.

**Tofa Hon Tolofuaivalelei Falemoe Leiataua:** Saleaula is my younger brother through lineage, he is respectable yet I am surprised that the member for Gagaemauga No.2 is giving such comment. It is the Ministers duty to overlook such issues within the Ministry and government gives the final decision. The member is trying to prolong the issue so that the people will think that he is right, he is lecturing people on how to do their work. I am well aware of such behavior during my time as Speaker; I have observed every different aspect of this House while in session. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** I recommend the member to proceed onto another matter your time is nearly over.

**Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU:** Thank you, it seems the issue has been misunderstood altogether by the interruption of the member, Mr Speaker a question to the Health Minister. Several issues is evident today with patient treatments, do we have an annual competency performance assessment to assess the doctors treating the sick? I apologize for saying this but I believe the doctor in my constituency is part of this group. We need honest doctors, to tell the patients the truth and avoid time wasted by referring families elsewhere if the illness cannot be remedied. That is the question but I will give you three hours to respond.

**Afioga Hon Tuitama Talalelei Tuitama:** Mr Speaker because the member is asking me directly.

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

**Afioga Hon Tuitama Talalelei Tuitama:** I believe it is best to respond to the query incase the core essence to the matter is forgotten. The question is there a way to assess the competency of doctors on how patients are examined.

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For the information of the member, an annual performance review assessment is conducted to obtain an appraisal report on a six months basis by the division heads to be reported to the CEO of the clinical that is assessed by the Manager before submission to the Board Committee. These assessment reports address the need for any identified issues the CEO addresses the issues with the doctor including disciplinary action issues. A Continue Medical Education CME is conducted every Wednesday to improve the doctors' performances including issues involving the treatment of patients. If there are cases where the patient needs surgery abroad, a request is submitted to Cabinet for the patient to be taken overseas. This is a clarification on the query by the member, once a person becomes a doctor they do not practice without policies and guidelines because the Ministry monitors everyone. The doctors are also given the opportunity to pursue further education abroad to obtain knowledge expansion on the various health related issues and cases.

This is a brief explanation but if the insists on further clarification, I can start from medical school until retirement.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well, I believe the issue questioned by the member is now understood. I call upon the member for Gagaemauga No.2 to continue with his comments.

**Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU:** I humbly request all doctors to inform the families about the condition of patients once they get worse or when it is too late for the government to assist. As for the response by the Hon Minister everything is going well. I advise the doctors to be honest with your patients if you cure them. This way the families will find other ways to help treat their member who is sick whether to take them overseas if government is too late.

Mr Speaker I conclude....

**Afioga Hon Tuitama Talalelei Tuitama:** Mr Speaker a brief explanation on the matter as mentioned by the member.

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

**Afioga Hon Tuitama Talalelei Tuitama:** A useful recommendation as members of the House is aware when a doctor graduates he or she takes the Hippocratic Oath. This oath is recited every time new doctors graduate. There is a statement during oath that states, "do not be prideful but ask for assistance when needed on patient you are treating. Our doctors are not perfect because there are times when they tend to forget based on the different services. It is alright to ask another fellow doctor who is higher or older for assistance and advice when a case is complicated. This is why these week sessions are taken for doctors to consult and share ways and solutions to remedy the patients. Thank you.

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**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. I call upon the member to conclude his speech.

**Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I do not have any other issues as my time is up and I can see that the Prime Minister is about to have high blood pressure. I move with respect to thank you for the opportunity also I apologize for any indecency, I pray that you forgive Saleaula. With respect, God bless our proceedings.

**MR SPEAKER:** I thank the member for his contribution; well there is still time for members to comment before recess.

I call upon the member for Vaimauga West Tofa Lenatai Victor Faafoi Tamapua.

**Tofa LENATAI VICTOR FAAFOI TAMAPUA (Vaimauga West):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity, firstly I wish to acknowledge the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Leader of Opposition especially Members of the Parliament. I also acknowledge the Heads of various government Ministries and private sector, the Clerk Deputy Clerk and officers of the Legislative Assembly.

I want to acknowledge the support of our country in all its spiritual, traditional and democratic factions now and forever.

I humbly greet my beloved constituency of Vaimauga West. I praise the Lord for his love and strength. I thank the Minister of Finance and the Ministry for the work done putting together our Estimates. I believe it collaborates well with the work of various Ministries for the years 2014/2015. This member supports the Appropriation Bill now considered.

Mr Speaker I want to take this opportunity to voice a few requests of this constituency, the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure I am thankful for the work which now has reached us. The roads of Vaimauga West will now be upgraded we are sorely blessed.

Firstly, the road to Magiagi reservoir and Vaivase uta. This part is densely settled by the people of Moataa, Maagiagi, Vaiala and Matautu including freehold settlers. If this road is tar sealed the residents will benefit as well as the public travelling.

I have consulted with the Fire Emergency Services Association or FESA and they said that this is one road that leads to a safe zone area for our people. The villages of Moataa, Vaiala, Matautu, Magiagi, Apia Park and Vaipuna are greatly affected by natural disasters like cyclone Evan because they are prone to the coastal areas. FESA needs the availability of this road at times of emergencies. Such involves easy evacuation by FESA and provide further assistance.

Secondly, the road in Faatoia from Vaivasetai at Vaai store to Leone and Vaipuna all require improvement.

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Thirdly road improvement is needed from Vaivasetai, Tanugamanono and Vaoala especially during the heavy rainfall.

Fourth, in front the EFKS church at Vaipuna water saturation during the rainy days is an issue. The problem seen here is drainage system, when it rains for two days the water remains for a whole week. Therefore I humbly request that the Minister and Ministry look into this matter.

Fifthly, since we are hosting the SIDs conference in September and the cruise ship delegated to accommodate other participants, we should improve the seawall areas from Vaiala to Moataa. The visitors and tourists will take walks and take pictures of Samoa and keep memories of Samoa. I want to thank the Minister of Police and Ministry for enforcing the canine registration law. Hopefully we will not encounter anymore problems comes the conference in September.

**MR SPEAKER:** I apologize to the member as we now arrive to our recess time, you shall continue after our break.

I announce that proceedings of the Legislative Assembly are now set aside for its usual recess this evening.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside for its usual recess at 4.45pm until 5.20pm.*

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe we have found strength with refreshments provided this evening by the Clerk and the staff. We have reached the first half of our proceedings as scheduled therefore I want to thank all members for your patience to continue with our proceedings. Nevertheless I hope that the refreshments provided have satisfied members to carry on for the next few hours. I commend that members not take services provided lightly and tomorrow is not far away for us to indulge breakfast with fried eggs and other servings.

Before recess the member for Vaimauga, Tofa Lenatai Victor Faafoi Tamapua was speaking. Therefore I call upon the member to continue his speech.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly continued with debate on the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2013/2014 and the Appropriation Bill 2014/2015.*

**Tofa LENATAI VICTOR FAAFOI TAMAPUA:** Thank you Mr Speaker, I believe you have refreshed well with the refreshments provided.

A humble request to the MNRE, Moataa mangrove reserve needs a new road. A seawall needs to be built for the families that are currently living here due to the high tidal wave causing inaccessibility for the people.

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Secondly Minister is the trail up to the tomb of Robert Louis at Vailima, to improve it so that people will be safer while hiking up especially our tourists who visit the site constantly. I met about 30 American tourists yesterday who went hiking to the tomb.

The Minister of Education I request a new school for the village of Moataa. Mr Speaker I thank you for the opportunity, may God bless you and members of the House and Samoa especially my constituency of Vaimauga West. May the lord bless our proceedings this evening, Soifua.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you to one of the members for Vaimauga West, Tofa Lenatai Victor Faafoi Tamapua I believe the House has heard your concerns this evening. I now call upon the other member for Vaimauga Tofa Lefau Harry Schuster.

**Tofa LEFAU HARRY SCHUSTER (Vaimauga West):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity, I acknowledge the Hon Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Cabinet, the honorable Leader of Opposition and all respectable members of the House. I also want to acknowledge the support of Samoa and my constituency of Vaimauga West.

Mr Speaker, I thank the Hon Minister of Finance, the Hon Prime Minister, the CEO and the Ministry for preparing the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2013/2014 and the Appropriation Bill 2014/2015.

Mr Speaker as seen in our Appropriation Bill 2014/2015 government is placing emphasis on tourism and agriculture as two key development sectors to developing revenue earning including government tax.

The private sector is one component that we can rely on to boost our economy and creating more job opportunities for our people.

Today, most of the services are provided by the private sector including lawyers, auditors and medical practitioners but very few manufacturing products sold overseas. This is an area that will ensure the economic growth which has just begun. SROS is one important sector that contributes to the developmental research based on agricultural products.

If SROS has our support in terms of further product developments, we can also support the private sectors to selling these products and earn money for our exports.

For example, the Wilex Company that produced and manufactured cocoa conversion into chocolate and the oil extraction for our agriculture produce. Based on my understanding, this extracted coconut oil mixed with lemon blend together to form lotion creams for women makeup. This produces more income which should gain our assistance to accumulate higher income and employment opportunities.

Mr Speaker I speak of the requests for this constituency as majority has already been given by my fellow member. I apologize to the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure if I have continuously give requests.

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I request assistance for the appalling roads at Vaoala after the Mormon Church to your right. The road at the Mormon Church is good as for the road at Bank Street the tar-seal is only halfway done.

Another area that needs consideration is the opposite side of the Cross Island Road which is too narrow. I know this is costly, but if we look at the well built roads at the New Zealand High Commissioner by Rudi Ott Company it is possible to reconstruct. There was no footpath area before but now it's done. The access area near the New Zealand High Commissioner also has not been upgraded for a while hence assistance is required.

Another pressing issue involves the areas of Fugalei and Taufusi during the rainy season causing flooding. The residents in these areas elevate and build houses above ground to reduce the flooding effect.

Another request is the seawall for Moataa and Vaiala. The abundant vegetation shoreline has been destroyed by tidal waves. I urgently request this be looked into for proper seawall construction. The seawall is mostly visited by the public for relaxation and is preserved by the government. If you visit this site in the afternoon Hon Minister you will discover that most the people found there are public servants.

The Minister of Natural Resources and Environment I second the request put forward by my fellow member to improve the hiking trails to the Robert Louis Stevenson tomb. Most tourists would access these sites for hiking and recreational activities. These trails must be safe both for the tourists and locals alike.

Mr Speaker I thank you for the opportunity, bless our proceedings.

**MR SPEAKER:** I thank one of the members for Vaimauga West, Tofa Lefau Harry Schuster. I believe the House has heard your requests submitted by your fellow member, Tofa Lenatai Victor Faafai Tamapua.

We will now hear from Salafai, I call upon the member for Vaisigano No.2.

**Tofa MOTUOPUAA UIFAGASA AISOLI VAAI (Vaisigano No.2):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I acknowledge the presence of all members of the House this evening, the honorable Speaker, the Hon Prime Minister and members of his party, the Leader of Opposition and members of Opposition.

I also acknowledge the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and office, the Heads of various Government Ministries and the private sectors present this evening.

I also acknowledge Samoa and all its honorific salutations.

I'll be short. I was aiming to speak in the night as the radio coverage does not reach my constituency during the day only in the evening; anyhow this are a few minor concerns to our Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2013/2014 and the Appropriation Bill 2014/2015. I have assessed the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2013/2014 and the Appropriation Bill 2014/2015 and it seems that it is lesser than last year's budget.

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An overall conclusion in my opinion is that revenue received from the implemented activities has plummeted. I also observe that most of the Ministries have expanded....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member taking the floor; I give the opportunity to the interruption of the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neiote Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker there is a vital explanation to the reduced Budget this year due to the continuous use of grants received for Cyclone Evan rehabilitation efforts. At the moment most of the efforts have been completed, we benefit greatly from natural disasters given these foreign aids to assist us. Also these funds may help improve the roads for Siumu amounting to higher costs as stated earlier in my statement.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well, I call upon the member to continue.

**Tofa MOTUOPUAA UIFAGASA AISOLI VAAI:** Thank you. Mr Speaker just a matter of concern, bureaucracy expansion has given rise to the number of government employees however government remunerations are insufficient lowering production at the same time. I am not an Economist but this is what I see in the tabling Appropriation Bill today.

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neiote Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker no I was giving projections earlier. If we look at the Appropriation Bill 2014/2015 on the first page in Romans on top of the Ordinary Receipts we have \$544 for the current Financial Year whereas \$540million from the previous year. This means that we have received revenue increase. If we look at the External Grants figures last year it was \$244million considering the events I mentioned, this year it has reduced to \$178million. This makes up a difference of \$66 million due to the cyclone relief development grants.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well, I call upon the member to continue.

**Tofa MOTUOPUAA UIFAGASA AISOLI VAAI:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I reach out just this once to the Hon Minister of Police and Prisons, we now have a new Commissioner for the Ministry of Prisons. What is the latest update for the next Commissioner of Police, have you reached a decision yet Hon Minister and the Government. Because the Ministry is waiting as to who will lead them perhaps reinstate the former Commissioner or the Deputy Commissioner.



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I recall previous requests from the last Parliamentary term for a new Tafaigata Prison. What is the status of government plans for this establishment? I extend appreciation to the Hon Minister of Works for the assistance received by this constituency. Only this to remember, you distribute assistance like this. We have also submitted a request for road upgrade at Fagasa and Sataua. This request was put forward in 1992 yet we are still waiting. I pray that the Minister consider this matter with urgency.

Hon Minister of Health, thank you for proposing a new Health Centre for Asau that will provide convenience location for my constituency. The only concern regards the tabling Health Promotion Bill. I recommend that you reconsider this Bill with the Government.

Health Promotion is a common activity that has been conducted over the years considering youth age group from 19 to 21, they now have blood pressure. The only cause of high blood pressure and glucose is the lack of exercise and easy access to fatty foods. We can overcome this by visiting the plantation because if we look at the shape and sizes of people in the past they were never obese. Nowadays people are exercising by going to the gym, dancing, walking or hiking. When I look at the percentage of people with high blood pressure, hypertension and diabetes, perhaps after a decade the number of dialysis patients will rise to 400.

Therefore I recommend that the Minister review some of these issues with your Ministry. I believe this Health Promotion Bill was never conducted during my time, but should be done.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member taking the floor I give the opportunity for the interruption of the member for Faasaleleaga No.1, Afioga Hon Gatoloaifaana Amataga Alesana Gidlow.

**Afioga Hon Gatoloaifaana Amataga Alesana Gidlow:** Mr Speaker I do not intend to interrupt the member's speech, but there is a Committee that reviews this Bill. So he is welcome to make submissions to the Committee during consideration of the Bill. Thank you.

**Tofa MOTUOPUAA UIFAGASA AISOLI VAAI:** Mr Speaker the problem is that the Minister is part of our Committee at least the Chairperson has heard your recommendation. If it sounds irritating, the intention is to promote good health for the country. The major problem seen today is that a lot of people have diabetes and high blood pressure. Perhaps in another ten year period the budget for the Health sector will increase to \$200million.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member; I give the opportunity to the Minister for mentioning of the Ministry.

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**Afioga Hon Tuitama Talalelei Tuitama:** Mr Speaker based on the fact that the Health Promotion Bill has been mentioned I take it that time will come for its consideration nonetheless, now that it's been talked about in general, I guess I will leave to our fellow doctor to provide a short explanation about it. The main basis for implementing the Health Promotion Bill is to deteriorate the tsunami of NCDs such as premature death and obesity. Obesity is a global affliction that not only affects our country but the whole world. Therefore we are trying to implement ways to minimize this threat. The World Health Assembly has set policies and guidelines that must be complied with to produce healthy lifestyles. These are the exact guidelines that are implemented by our Health sector. This is the first time this Bill has reached the House and has been debated in its second reading. We will have another chance when the Bill is referred back to Parliament in the future.

An overall objective of the Bill is to promote health. This means people should not get sick by creating preventive measures to minimize these health risks from reaching our people. This was the focus our leader agreed to in 1995 at a meeting in Yanudra Fiji. It was identified as Yanudra Island Declaration and as the Health Ministers of the Pacific labeled it healthy islands. We hosted the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference last year under the theme Health Promotion. The World Health Assembly is still promoting healthy lifestyle around the world to prevent deadly diseases and other diseases like diabetes, hypertension, high blood pressure and heart disease. Also smoke free with the assistance of the Tobacco Control Act. An official regulation has been drafted to minimize smoking. This also includes alcohol free and food consumption reduction to minimize obesity with the assistance of the Parliament under SPAGHL. They collaborated with the Ministry of Education in rural area primary schools to stop selling fizzy drinks and fatty foods by replacing them with pure water and fruits for lunch.

This initiative is extended to households as stated by one of the members in previous sittings; parents should take control as promotion starts in the homes. If the child is adapted to drinking water instead of soft drinks, we can also replace them with coconut juice and fruits if they want something sweet. We should avoid feeding them with unnecessary food like cake, ice cream, twisty, candies and chocolate. We have various local fruits available to feed our children and they can easily adapt to healthy eating while growing. This will assist well to promoting healthy living preventing early death. 60% of deaths today results from NCDs such as obesity, heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes and cancer.

This is the clarification on Health Promotion that government now commits to with more amendments to come in the future. If this legislation is not useful then we can repeal it and initiate another. The expenses to initiate the Bill is not much because there are already people within the Ministry who will carry out the work needed to be done. I believe that if this Bill is a success we will be able to save costs especially patient fees.

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Overall I believe we will save more than what will be spent on implementing the Bill.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you, I believe the matter has been clarified. I call upon the member for Vaisigano No.2.

**Tofa MOTUOPUAA UIFAGASA AISOLI VAAI:** Thank you for the opportunity, the Minister has talked for twenty minutes to clarify the Health Promotion Bill. The issues I conveyed will be clarified further during consideration of the Bill. A health promotion concept is when a patient comes to me and I tell them not to use salt.

Mr Speaker, this activity seems to focus specifically on NCDs involving diabetes and high blood pressure. Today, all sorts of new diseases are on the rise, how can we prevent them? Nowadays, we have rubella, TB, cough and malnutrition, 4 children died from malnutrition this year. It looks like they are more focused on other diseases instead of prevention? Despite I shall continue.

Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture, as mentioned in past sittings the school at Asau needs relocation to a central point of the district at Fagasa or Sataua. A lot of the children from Neiafu and Falelima do not go to school anymore because it is too far away. When the school was situated in my constituency children would usually attend school but now, the children of Afega seems to be attending school at Falefa when Apia is closer. I hope the Minister of Education Sports and Culture will review this matter and humbly ask you to visit the site and consult with the elders of the village.

Lastly, I am tired of people asking me of who I represent whether it's Vaisigano No.2 or Gagaemauga No.3. The Europeans initiated the voting numbers when we first had our voting system. Why not use the old names like Faleaseela and Lefaga. I wish to represent Sataua and Fagasa, not Vaisigano No.2 which signifies me as number two when I am also number one.

Mr Speaker and the House that is the comment today. Bless our proceedings this evening and bless the members of Parliament.

**MR SPEAKER:** I thank the member of Vaisigano for his speech I will not mention the number this time. I believe the Electoral Committee have heard the requests but we shall discuss and review the naming of constituencies when we meet.

I now call upon the member for Vaisigano No.1.

**Afioga TUFUGA GAFOALEATA FAITUA (Vaisigano No.1):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. Before I start I firstly wish to acknowledge Samoa in all its honorific salutations.

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

**MR SPEAKER:** What is the point of order the Leader of Opposition?

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** I move to say that members of this side should be respected. Do not disrespect the dignity of members.

**MR SPEAKER:** I appease the member on the matter, the address made of shadow member is not at all disrespectful. We all understand what the term means therefore it is the individuals.....

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker it looks as if you are the one insulting the dignity of the House. This is exactly why such comments are being spoken because of you.

**MR SPEAKER:** It looks like the blame is on me I am only trying to protect you. Do not blame the hand that is shielding you.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker this issue has risen due to the mention of a Shadow Cabinet. I am not sure about another translation for this term. It is simply Shadow Cabinet. *O Kapeneta tu I le paolo*. Is there another Samoan term? The English translation has been translated into Samoan. The Leader of Opposition had raised this and now that the translation is given he is upset.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker it was the Prime Minister who brought up the Samoan translation, 'Kapeneta faa-olioli'. This is the accurate Samoan translation; whilst you are twisting the meaning....

**MR SPEAKER:** The Leader of Opposition, what is the English translation of Kapeneta faa-Olioli?

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi:** The term is translated directly from its English context which is shadow. The member for Vaisigano No.1 is one cultural oriented man. Therefore the statement is from your own translation.

**MR SPEAKER:** I will give the opportunity to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

**Afioga Hon Le Mamea Ropati (Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries):** Mr Speaker I sat at the exact seat of the current Leader of Opposition when I was a former Opposition Leader. We initiated the term, "Shadow Cabinet," I was adamant and disapprove of this given the reasons we are witnessing today. We will be taken as a joke by other members.

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This is why I recommend that we change the context of this term altogether to avoid being treated ridiculously by other members.

**Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II:** Mr Speaker this is exactly why the past Opposition was weak. This is the democratic term, Shadow Cabinet. Maybe in the near future it will be Kapeneta faa-olioli.

This is why the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries leave it to us; those were the reasons of the past because today Opposition will be recognized and respected. What is the importance of Cabinet without anyone in Opposition? We are trying to clarify the matter because if we translate Minisita Lagolago into English...well it is up to you.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the member for Vaisigano No.1 you have translated the term correctly.

**Afioga Hon TUFUGA GAFOALEATA FAITUA:** Perhaps it is the Associate Minister for the next ten years.

His Excellency the Chief Justice and Judiciary perhaps these are the three pillars of government, to various Heads of government Ministries and the private sector. Nevertheless I want to acknowledge the support of my constituency in all its honorary salutations.

Mr Speaker I want to convey my sincerest condolences to the former member for Gagaifomauga No.2, Fetalaiga Tuiloa Anetelea. I also pay my respects to his constituency in all its honorary salutations.

Mr Speaker before I speak on the Appropriation Bill 2014/2015, I want to voice a few requests of this constituency for consideration of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

The village of Vaisala has tar sealed roads from the previous Parliamentary Term and yet we are still awaiting bamboo pipes for this same road. New street lights and built seawall construction are additional requests. However I now see that this Budget is mainly estimated for the SIDS conference and the Commonwealth Youth Games.

The village of Auala has a sealed road for years and now it looks like it was destroyed by an atomic bomb. The road to school and Matia also requires improvement. Further requests include new electricity poles, road pipes installment, road widening and expansion for Ogaala and Utuloa. FESA, SWA and MAFF also require relocation as this area can be converted into a hub like the Tuasivi area where all services are available like a one stop shop. The member for Vaisigano No.2 is correct about the Health Centre location but the chiefs of Falelima traveled all the way to Asau to place a request to the Hon Prime Minister on the use of government lands. This involves a collective request by all member of the district. Mr Speaker the key to marketing requires needs.

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**Tofa Motuopuaa Uifagasa Aisoli Vaai:** Mr Speaker....

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member I give the opportunity to the interruption of the member for Vaisigano No.2.

**Tofa Motuopuaa Uifagasa Aisoli Vaai:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I did not intend to interrupt the member but Tuasivi is different from Asau. Asau is quite distance whilst our district is mostly covered with wild bushes. As mentioned earlier our constituency is in the center which is distantly miles from Asau and Aopo providing extra miles for Falelima...I am unsure about the consulted chief you mention but the majority enquired to have this Centre which is the best case scenario for the district. This calls for a central area for nearby districts to access the available services in this area. That is the assistance Mr Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** Pardon the member for Vaisigano No.1 I ask that you take your seat. I recommend that both of you take caution of your different views and requests for the district of Vaisigano. Perhaps a meeting should take place to sort out this matter in case it disrupts the projects carried out by the government. The government aims to benefit everyone by focusing on the developments for the constituency. I call upon the member for Vaisigano to continue.

**Afioga TUGUGA GAFOALEATA FAITUA:** Mr Speaker the Minister has already addressed this matter I am not certain if the member agrees.

I have requested the Hon Minister of Justice to set up a Court House in this part of the island. Nevertheless I will adhere to whatever the Prime Minister and his Cabinet believes is right. I have also requested in the start of this Parliamentary Term for additional school building given the growing number of students. We received responses that the Budget has been passed undertaking a new school building for Sataua. I have thought of seeking the Chinese funding assistance however the member of Palauli has mentioned that this assistance has been ceased by the government for other developments.

Mr Speaker if we look at the budget allocation of \$792 million this is equivalent to 69% of expected revenue received locally. We have accomplished a great deal that almost completes the pie like the normal children saying, 'the brains and the ball-headed' meaning we have our own intelligent ways to acquire revenue.

The external grants amounts to 22% known as profitable interests at 9%. Predictably, the collected income is enough to assist with government development distribution for the next 12 months. We ask that the Ministry of Revenue work closely with the private sector to collect taxes that will help boost our economy without having to rely on external grants.

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But with the assistance of these grants, this will help build major projects and developments. Similarly to family businesses, if we want to borrow funds to build one, we can always pay back once it becomes successful. This is government's purpose, borrow for a good cause to grow Samoa's economy in the future, I support the Budget Estimate 100% to 200%.

Mr Speaker I am grateful for the raising economic standard and the long struggles engaged by our former leaders that we now benefit from its fruits. Sincere gratitude to the Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet and various Government Ministries on the dedicated efforts and dedication we now achieve. I thank the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries a gold medal recipient for attaining one of the millennium goals. Thank you honorable Speaker for the opportunity, God bless everyone and the private sector Thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you the member for Vaisigano No.1 for the comments given and recommendations in relation to our Budget. We still have time for two or three more members; I give the opportunity to anyone who wishes to speak.

I call upon the member for Aleipata Itupa I Luga to take the floor.

**Tofa FAGAAIVALU KENRICK SAMU (Aleipata Itupa i Luga):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the chance to present views on the Appropriation Bill 2014/2015.

Firstly I want to acknowledge the House and the dignity of Tiafau, the Hon Prime Minister, Ministers and Associate Ministers.

I also greet the Leader of Opposition and his party this evening. I welcome the presence of the Heads of various Ministries and private organizations that have contributed to the welfare of this country.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge my constituency of Aleipata Itupa I Luga from Ulutaotogia to Vailoa especially my village of Lalomanu in all its honorary salutations. Least I do not forget *faletua* and *tausi*, *saoao* and *aumaga* especially the children.

I do not forget my village of Vailoa and Ulutogia and all its dignified salutations.

I also thank the support of Elder Isaia Tiatia and your prayers, I believe my constituency is aware of the issues discussed in Parliament. I also acknowledge the servants of the Lord that have prayed for this constituency. This constituency supports our Appropriation Bill and I thank the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance for the preparations. I also thank the respective Ministries involved with compiling this Budget Statement. Mr Speaker I wish to submit and remind a few requests before the Cabinet.

Firstly the Minister of Finance and Prime Minister perhaps you have received a request from Lalomanu in relation to the government lands. We don't intend to argue against these lands but support the government and its proposed plans for the people's benefit.

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A humble request to the Prime Minister, why not exchange the government-owned land plots that is hugely settled by the village people with the village unused land masses situated further inland. Factually, most dwellers are unaware of this government owned land in the past. I guess the aim of this development is also central but we seek your approval for land exchange by a measure of 60 acres of Lalomanu area in the inner side land piece, to be used....

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

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Lupesoliai Aiono Neiotti Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker the wind electricity project is nearing completion. You should have given this request before we started this project last year otherwise we will deal with it. We did visit this area and decided to build the development on this unused land however that is not the case. We also received reports from the wind speed and power experts who confirmed that the area where government-owned land situates generates more wind speed which is rightfully the intention. But we shall review your request.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well. I call upon the member I believe the request put forward has been heard by government. I call on the member to continue.

**Tofa FAGAAIVALU KENRICK SAMU:** Thank you Prime Minister. As I have mentioned the land starts from the coastal shoreline and is widely covered with settlements. As for government project we were never consulted by the Ministry which is reason for the delay. But that is the request I wish to submit.

Secondly we wish to thank the Housing Corporation, the Development Bank and the NPF for its services to our people, the only request to the Chief Executive of the NPF is to increase the pension for the senior citizens.

The Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, we've given several requests. But I convey sincere thanks for the roads at Aleipata. The work was not easy considering the high expenditure but we are grateful to the new road access. This road is important because the people are now moving inland incase of future natural disasters.

The Tiavea Bridge that was destructed by flooding is now replaced with a temporary road for the tourists. They travel through this road to go to the rural villages given the risks from the heavy rain. The floods erode the top soil putting people into great danger. I submit a seawall construction for the village of Tapaga that locates one of the legendary sites in the country.

Sincere thanks to SWA for assisting the public with their water supply. Please note the distant households that hasn't yet reached water supply, provide water tanks and water trucks to cater the need every day particularly the majority of these constituency who have relocated towards the inland area.



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The EPC we need fixed electricity poles along the streets mainly to avoid road accidents. I thank EPC for executing the wind electricity projects in this district which is a major achievement and development for Samoa.

I wish to thank the Deputy Commissioner for the services carried out by the various divisions of the Ministry regardless of the difficulties at times. I commend your efforts. The only issue I wish to express relates to the Police shelters in the constituency considering the old hospital clinic they currently reside in hence assistance is required for this area. Additionally, the case between Aleipata and Safata Marine Protection Area is another vital development and contribution to the district. I request the latest update on this case to provide more benefits for the district.

Hon Minister of Education Sports and Culture thank you, I am grateful for the new changes implemented in schools. The school at Aleipata is now a College but lacks teachers. I humbly ask the Minister whether it is possible to allocate more teachers to our College. I also wish to know about the provision of school stationary for the students whether it's supplied locally or from overseas, why not make a deal with reliable business owners to cater and provide school stationary to lessen the burden on the Ministry.

Thank you Hon Minister of Communication, Information and Technology, for the services provided that we are now able to watch TV1 after a decade. Although we still receive problems with power cuts either way, thank you. Sincere thanks to the Hon Minister of Justice and Courts and Judiciary and the Ministry and the incorporated changes. The only issue is the interim orders and the extent of this authority that is constantly ignored. This undertaken should be conducted by the police the *Pulenuu* and the *Sui o le Malo* is a waste of time. The interim order is left here whilst the work continues. When it is time for the hearing the person who receives the order wins. And if removed they say that they cannot due to high costs.

I want to thank the Minister of State Owned Enterprises Afioga Hon Lautafi Fio Selafi Purcell who used to sit at the opposite direction and is now chosen as a Minister. All calling is from God. God chooses and removes our calling if we are at fault. Congratulations. Do not discard us whilst sitting at the throne of David. I ask of government lands with SLC as lands are gifts from God. I have received a couple of people from my district querying about their lands in Falelauniu and Nu'u. I humbly seek your consideration into these matters considering your delayed response.

Lastly, we noticed that during golfing, the water pump trucks service is not provided. It would be wise to fix and make good use of this service; it will help greatly with our developments.

I would like to thank the MNRE, the Executive of SROS and STEC. I believe the task is difficult but with God and his enabling strength and power, we are able to serve our country. The only request is the building of seawall areas for the future.

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Lastly Mr Speaker I commend you for your patience in maintaining our proceedings least the intention of making accountable decisions for the country. Also I thank the Clerk and his staff for their support and assistance to us at the TATTE Building. I do not have the blessing; it is the Lord that gives you blessings. Saleaumua has concluded, have a blessed sitting this evening.

**SPEAKER:** I thank the member for Aleipata Itupa I Luga for his interpretation. I believe the House and the Cabinet have heard your requests. There is still time for another member to speak before we conclude this evening. The member for Tuamasaga is upstanding; I call upon the member for Sagaga le Falefa to close tonight before we resume tomorrow.

**Tofa TUISA TASI PATEA (Sagaga le Falefa):** Thank you Mr Speaker, I believe the night is falling whilst the sun is setting down which is the exact spirit we have today, this is the sacred fields of Samoa, the House of the Legislative Assembly.

Mr Speaker firstly I wish to acknowledge the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Leader of Opposition, Associate Ministers and all members of the House this evening. I humbly greet the presence of the Government Heads this evening tasked to serve our Government.

I acknowledge Samoa in all its honorific salutations.

I cannot forget my constituency of Sagaga le Falefa and Faleula in all its honorary salutations. I acknowledge the Pastor for Faleula Fogaa for his prayers and support as well as the village of Saleimoa. I also acknowledge Afioga Lu Collins especially Deacon Susuga Ioane Livi and Susuga Avea Vagana and the Congregation.

I firstly submit the many requests from this district. Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, you have received the several written submissions and approach from us, hence, I pray that you will consider and review them.

I begin with the roads located along the residences of Maopu o le Tuiaana and the Pastor for the Assembly of God Church as submitted in our written request, this requires urgent improvement. The Aelee road needs upgrading for easier access by all. Majority of the churchgoers reside in this area and some have relocated inland due to the natural disasters like tsunami. Then I come to....

**MR SPEAKER:** I interrupt the member's speech as we near adjournment time. I thank you all for the work that we have accomplished today and to all members who have spoken on the Bill. I appreciate the speaking members and hopefully the same tomorrow. In order for us to complete our work we all have to work together. I also advise all to be pleasant to one another. I thank the various Government Heads and the private sector for your patience.

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Thank you Samoa for your support, I believe it is now time for our evening prayer as your Parliament aims to fulfill its duties. I pray God to guide us safely home and bring us safely back tomorrow.

Before we adjourn this evening I call upon the Deputy Speaker to conclude our day with a prayer.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were adjourned at 7:03pm until  
9:00am Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2014.*

*WEDNESDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2014*

*Mr Speaker took the chair at 9.00am.*

**Prayer.**

**MR SPEAKER:** I believe we have arrived to another brand new day. We have reached a new added day of business this week. I extend sincere appreciation to the dignity of the House and its endeavours.

We are indebted to God for the wealth and strength. I convey sincere thanks to all the members for your patience and dedication. Let us commence with today's sitting programme as I trust that everything will go accordingly with God's guidance.

Unforgettably is the support and prayers of Samoa as a whole. As you lay to good rest, your Parliament continues to serve its calling. We are undeserving but pray that Parliament's set tasks is fulfilled through your harmonious support. Gathered amongst us today is our Government Heads, we are grateful for your patience this morning. We commence with today's tasks depending on God's presence throughout the day.

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

*The Clerk read out the tabled Papers pursuant to S.O.48.*

1. P.P.2014/2015 No.49, Government Responses on P.P.2013/2014 No.43, Report of the Office of Parliament on P.P.2012/2013 No.18, Annual Report of the Accident Compensation Corporation for the Financial Year 2010/2011.
2. P.P.2014/2015 No.50, Government Responses on P.P.2013/2014 No.57, Report of the Works, Transport and Environment on P.P.2011/2012 No.60 & No.92, Statement of Corporate Objectives of the Electric Power Corporation for the Financial Year ended 30 June 2011.
3. P.P.2014/2015 No.51, Annual Report of the Office of the Attorney General 1 July 2012 – 30 June 2013.