

18 JUNE 2019

TUESDAY, 18 JUNE 2019

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed at 9:10am pursuant to the Parliament Sitting Programme 2019/2020.

Prayer.

MR SPEAKER: I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed. I take this opportunity to voice greetings to the House, respectable Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, Associate Ministers and all Members of Parliament. I further acknowledge the Chairpersons of Parliament Committees and Heads of Government Ministries and Public Enterprises present here this morning to witness our meeting. I also greet the respects of Samoa gathered here today to observe the proceedings of Parliament this morning.

For the clarification of the House, the Civil Society 2019 participants for the Second Parliamentary Programme are occupying the public gallery. This is an ongoing awareness program to aware people of Parliamentary roles and functions pertaining to Members and Parliamentary Committees.

The participants include women representatives and Government representatives from villages and constituencies from Salafai. Part of their programme is to witness the proceedings and progress of the Parliament Sitting this morning.

On behalf of Members of this Parliament I officially greet and welcome your respects to the House, I pray that God will guide your program the rest of today.

“WARRANT OF APPOINTMENT

PURSUANT WITH provisions of Clause 84(2) of the Electoral Act 2019, I, **TUIMALEALI'IFANO VA'ALETOA SUALAUVI II**, Ao o le Malo, hereby give the Warrant of Election of the candidate named to become a Member of Parliament of the Independent State of Samoa.

NAMULAUULU LEOTA Sami Leota

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Swearing in of Member for Faasaleleaga No.2

GIVEN BY my hand in Vaialele this day the 25th of March 2019.

Tuimaleali'ifano Va'aletoa Sualauvi II
AO O LE MALO

SWEARING IN OF MEMBER FOR FAASALELEAGA NO.2

MR SPEAKER: Before the Member comes before the table to take his oath, I call upon the Member to be upstanding while I read out the Code of Parliamentary Ethics.

I call on the Member.

CODE OF PARLIAMENTARY ETHICS**STATEMENT OF INTENT:**

It is the personal responsibility of every Member of Parliament to maintain the highest standards of ethical behaviour to protect and maintain the integrity of Parliament and to make every endeavour to uphold the principles of the Constitution.

The following principles are intended to provide guidance to, and standards against which each Member of Parliament, individually and collectively should discharge their duties and responsibilities.

THE PRINCIPLES:**(1) Loyalty to the nation and its people.**

Every member shall uphold the contents of the Oath of Allegiance at all time and maintain the dignity and integrity of the Independent State of Samoa; its institutions and its people.

Swearing in of new member for Faasaleleaga No.2

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Swearing in of Member for Faasaleleaga No.2

(2) Respect for the Law

Every member shall uphold the laws of Samoa and safeguard the principles contained in the Constitution.

(3) Respect for all Persons

Every member shall treat other members, the public and officials with respect and dignity, honestly, fairly; and acting with integrity at all times.

(4) Proper Exercise of Power

Every member shall:

- (a) Arrange their private affairs;
- (b) Use any and all information obtained from their public office; and
- (c) Exercise any influence or authority obtained from Public Office,

only to advance the public interest and where any potential and actual conflict of interest arises whether in the member's private, financial, pecuniary or any interest the member shall be required to declare that interest and take any steps to remove the conflict or withdraw from the particular process of transaction.

Special Requirements for Ministers and Other Officeholders:

Every member who holds parliamentary office of any kind is required to adhere strictly to the principles outlined above and shall not under any circumstances undertake any decision or exert influence in any form whatsoever in respect of a matter in which the member will derive personal gain or benefit.

SANCTIONS:

Breaches of this Code may be dealt with by the Privileges and Ethics Committee or as determined by Parliament

MR SPEAKER: For the swearing in of the oath, I call on the respectable Member for Faasaleleaga No.2 to come before the table to take your oath of allegiance. You may read the oath and call out your name.

*18 JUNE 2019***OATH OF ALLEGIANCE**

“I,, swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the Independent State of Samoa, and that I will justly and faithfully carry out my duties as a Member of the Parliament of Samoa. So help me God.”

MESSAGE FROM O LE AO O LE MALO

“**MEMORANDUM** for:

Mr Speaker:

Pursuant to Article 59 of the Constitution of the Independent State of Samoa, consent is hereby given to the Legislative Assembly to consider the Bill mentioned below:

1. Customs Tariff Amendment Bill 2019.

GIVEN BY my hand this day 17th June 2019.

Tuimalealiifano Vaaletoa Sualauvi II
O LE AO O LE MALO”

NOTICE FROM THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Pursuant to Standing Order 76 of Parliament notice is hereby given to the Legislative Assembly for the consideration of the following Bills:

1. Miscellaneous (Ministerial Assignment) Amendment Bill 2019.
2. Arms Amendment Bill 2019.
3. Law Reform Commission Amendment Bill 2019.

GIVEN ON this day 17th June 2019.

Hon TUILAEPA Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi
LEADER OF THE HOUSE

*18 JUNE 2019***NOTICE FROM THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE**

Pursuant to Standing Order 100(2), notice is hereby given to the Legislative Assembly to consider the following Bills under a Certificate of Urgency.

1. Miscellaneous (Ministerial Assignment) Amendment Bill 2019.
2. Arms Amendment Bill 2019.
3. Customs Tariff Amendment Bill 2019.
4. Law Reform Commission Amendment Bill 2019.

GIVEN ON this day 17th June 2019.

Hon TUILAEPa Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi.
LEADER OF THE HOUSE

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

Clerk read out Papers tabled before the House pursuant to S.O. 49 (2).

1. P.P.2019/2020 No.69, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour Assessment of Submission of Instruments to the Competent Authority of Samoa – Legislative Assembly.
2. P.P.2019/2020 No.70, Samoa Law Reform Commission Review of the Exchange of Information in the Public Sector – End of year report 24/18.
3. P.P.2019/2020 No.71, Annual Report of the Office of the Clerk 2016/2017.

**PRESENTATION OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES
REPORTS**

Clerk read out Parliamentary Committee Reports tabled before the House pursuant to S.O. 52(5).

1. P.P.2019/2020 No.72, Finance and Expenditure Committee Report on P.P.2019/2020 No.21, Second Supplementary Estimates 2018/2019.

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2. P.P.2019/2020 No.73, Finance and Expenditure Committee Report on P.P.2019/2020 No.22, Main Estimates 2019/2020.
3. P.P.2019/2020 No.74, Report of the Economic Sector Committee on P.P.2018/2019 No.138, Annual Report of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour 2017/2018.
4. P.P.2019/2020 No.75, Report of the Infrastructure Committee on P.P.2018/2019 No.53, Electric Power Corporation Annual Report 2016/2017.
5. P.P.2019/2020 No.76, Report of the Infrastructure Committee on P.P.2018/2019 No.59, Samoa Shipping Corporation Annual Report 2016/2017.

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.2) 2018/2019 & APPROPRIATION BILL 2019/2020 - debate on second reading

MR SPEAKER: Pursuant to Standing Order 133 debate will continue on the two Bills mentioned, opinions should be confined to the financial and economic state of Samoa and the Government's financial policy. I now give Members of Parliament the opportunity to speak on the second reading of the Bills stated. I call on Members to start taking the floor to speak on the Appropriation and the Supplementary Appropriation Bill.

I welcome the Member for Faasaleleaga No.2, considering that the Member is upstanding, henceforth, you shall lead our orders for today. Gratefully, I believe the constituency has given support for your presence in the House this also includes other Members who have shown support during your oath taking, I believe this will be your maiden speech in Parliament. This will seal your position as a Member of this Parliament.

I call on the Member Tofa Namulauulu Leota Sami Leota.

Tofa NAMULAUULU LEOTA SAMI LEOTA (Faasaleleaga No.2): Mr Speaker, I do believe that the floor is now open to the dignitaries of this Assembly to share ideas and so I take this moment to contribute on behalf of my constituency in respect of this paramount forum, the Parliament of Samoa, and recognising also the taboo support of our people.

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The adage pertaining to Fagaloa is such that, “I stand on the mountain top of Fao and crossing to the mountain top of Malata to gather rain water, a source of life to enable the Chief fisherman to succeed” But alas, I long for the ufi but I fear the rock. I crave for the pigeon but am terrified of the snake. It is the reason I am beating around the bush, so as to throw the frangipani upon the land out of respect for its sacredness. This day is indeed complete with all the prominent leaders present. I therefore respectfully say, tulou, tulou, tulouna lava.

Hail the arena at Tiafau, the court where wisdom and vision of the Aiga ma a latou Tama, Royal Families and the Royal sons is heard. It is the sacred place where the conviction and persuasion of the oratory group of Tumua and Pule, Ituau and Alataua, Aiga I le Tai and the Vaa o Fonoti became victorious. This is the court where our covenant with God was made, through the holy deeds of the messengers of the Good word whom oppressed our dark days, and consequently claiming Samoa to be Founded on God as your ancestors and our fathers were responsible for. Rage ends and Samoa celebrates and reveres the wonders of our Lord in Heaven’s wonderful grace.

I firstly greet the support of Le Ao o le Malo and the Members of the Council of Deputies. The dignity of the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, the honorable Speaker of the House and the esteemed Members of the Parliament of Samoa. Lest we forget the support of the Chief Justice and the Ministry of Justice.

I also heed that side, the respects and honorifics, *i le Faleagafulu ma le Manuatele aua le susu o Sua ma le Vaifanua, Fofu ma Aitulagi, Ituau ma Alataua, Saole ma Saleaamua ma le Launiu Saelua, tainane le nofo a Maopu, le afio o le Laau na Amotasi, Alii Faatui ma le Auvaa o Tootoo ma upu ia te Oe Manuatele.*

I further greet and acknowledge the Governor and General Governor, President of the High Court, the Speaker of the House and the three branches of the State of Tutuila and Manua, and the Servants of the Gospel and your callings in various churches of Samoa. Greetings to good health.

Mr Speaker I am of the belief that, such is our sacredness, and let our venerated honorific salutations remain, for I may err, it would anger the gifted orators and metaphorically speaking, will curse every principal meeting place from the matasaua in the east to the fafa o saualii in the west.

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What is the reason for this? What is the reason for this? Genealogies defines us, our ancestors have already classified Samoa, and therefore, no one can take that away from us. No sharp mind neither any bright artistry can rearrange or re-evaluate the House of Samoa's leaders. For it has been properly sorted by our ancestors, so leave it be.

Mr Speaker, praise and glory should not be minimal unto God whom Samoa is founded upon for days like this. It is with great belief that my upstanding before the respectable members today is due to my calling from God. I thank God for His blessings. I implore God's help upon my duties and let all glory be unto Him and not anybody else.

From the bottom of my heart, I heed this opportunity to voice my sincere gratitude, to my constituency in all its respects Allow me this golden moment to accord the feeling of this representative from the depth of my soul, the gratitude and commendations to the dignitaries of my constituency.

Hail the court at Mataniufeagaimaleata, the court where Gods banner was put up, the court where Samoa became known to the Heavens and eventually its Kings turned its back on barbarity and revolved to worship God and its Kingdom for eternity.

Mataniu is the principal place for the Malietoa Family and its many branches. It is also the residence to the Royal sons and the orator Mago lives here with the two Luasiufanua and the various families of Sapapali'i. Alas! What shall I say? Our legends are true, "The path of a King need not be declared" For Samoa have just witnessed and heard the vision which seeks victory, and in the words of a male poet, "I have gained I have scored, Oh I have slept between two women." Well done, thank you. Saua have unanimously agreed and Matautunaaai have concurred.

I salute the court at Fuifatu where the one rolling mat is tossed for Su'a the king that was served, the orators of Fuifatu and Faasaleleaga. Hail Fuifatu the debating place for the brotherly Six-Rulers of Salafai, and the final place for Tumua's search for allies. It is the court where your reverence Leilua Pealii and your Leilua family resides. It is also the abode for the five Chiefs and the Alalatoa clan, it is also the rightful place of Malietoas sons and the Patriarch.

This also resides the ruling ones, Tuilagi and Namulauulu. The prince as well takes his place here and Tufuga and the court guard, the remaining orators of equal standing, the orators that resolves disputes and the notabilities of Safotulafai.

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I applaud your wisdom compared to a powerful tree, which strong winds cannot sway. Why? It guards me; the said oratory is your collective conviction.

My appreciations for putting me on a pedestal. I applaud the desire of the Namulauulu family in all its factions to seek victory, and orator Tuilagi and its side, my gratitude to the Maopu Tufuga and the rest of Safotulafai.

King David's lamentation to Jonathan was, "Your love for me was wonderful, more wonderful than that of women." Such are the emotions evoking within me my people. The house of my soul has been destructed due to this great honour and your profound love for this person, which was delivered from your womb, with all due respect. Thank you.

I acknowledge the abolished factions of Salevalasi, the orator Fuga and the dignitaries of Safotulafai, our village of Tapueleele; I salute you for your bravery and participation. The light on its lampstand and the city on the mountain cannot be concealed. Our triumph has been made known like in the game of predictions, with appreciation and great thanks.

Thank you to all the men and women of our village here and afar for your perseverance. Thank you for your love, thank you for your patriotism. *Lau susuga i le Tooa na Lua, lau Afioga Tuitogamotoe, lau susuga Tata ma Tei*, thank you. Mothers and Women, you are described as the pae and auli which is your salutation, your arms are weapons to fight the war, although, broken weapons could still defeat me.

Your advice is the most important aspect in times of suffering and fear, your arms will safeguard the village council. Thank you.

I also extend thanks to the chiefs and orators of our constituency, and my opponents pardon your honorifics whom we vied in the by-elections, Papaliitele Taeu Masipau, Maileiomalo Eneliko Pau and Lemai Faiosio Sione who offered to serve our constituency. The will of our constituency is now pointed towards me. I appeal that we work together in contribution for Samoa and its decision making. In reality, when called no man is an island, God's days are plentiful.

Words of appreciation are overwhelming for Afioga Sefo Pau, who took over and represented this district. Although you are gone, the good works you did are still following you. I pray to God to give me strength to carry on these good works. May God bring sympathy, hope and peace to the wife and family.

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I especially wish to express great appreciation to my spiritual parents, clergy and your faletuas within my district, and Samoa to its entirety including the whole world. Words cannot express the hope and sacredness of your prayers, which has restored me good health, and no word can bring color to your hard works. I pray that the Holy Spirit bring power in you Servants of the Lord for your prayers and blessings upon Samoa.

I further wish to voice my gratitude to the Hon Prime Minister and all the respectable members of the HRPP Political Party for accepting the appeal to welcome me on board. In truth and for the record, actions speak for itself and we have seen the work by the winning party in all of Samoa including Faasaleleaga No.2. You (HRPP) have many enemies, but with God by your side, our vision for the betterment of Samoa shall continue and we will succeed nonetheless. Well done to your service and perseverance.

In further, I can never forget, my Federal Pacific Group family in Samoa and overseas, the Chairman and the staff, although we are not blood related you still showed your love and support towards me, for that I thank you.

I also wish to thank my business partners and friends, I have felt it in my heart and soul your total love and support upon me. In truth, thank you very much for the less load that has uplifted this occasion, thank you all ever so much.

To my immediate and extended families whom I considered my shield, our elders will say that when the rain pours heavily, one drinks from the rainwater running down your body. I cannot hide the outpour of your devoted compassion, your complete family oriented gesture of giving, and showing in a huge way on days like these where hard life decisions are made, especially with big occasions like this, well done thank you.

Today marks a significant day for me and I wish to especially acknowledge my parents who have contributed a lot in bringing me up in this life journey. Thank you to my grandparents, Reverend Setu Namulauulu and Avalisa Fetui Fuamatu Namulauulu, parents Fuimaono Joseph Konesane Fuimaono, Vevesi Tugaga Fuimaono and Luaao Leiatatimu Vialipu Setu Namulauulu for your contribution in nurturing me and educating me since my early years until today, no doubt my life has been a success.

I also heed the support of my parents currently in New Zealand, Taulapapa Leota Fau and Ututaufaomalesami Namulauulu Leota who could not be here due to sickness in health. I thank you my parents before this audience that may God continue to grant His blessings upon you both.

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Finally, I wish to thank my wife and children. Everytime I talk with my wife, I feel gratified to the Government of Samoa for the opportunity for our children to pursue scholarships abroad to broaden their studies, as this is exactly where I met my wife during my traveling to Australia. When I received my results for the first year, I contacted the Office about it. Truthfully speaking, the Office contacted me that I will be sent back to Samoa. I then sat down and thought, I contacted my aunt who was looking after me in Vaimoso. I notified her ‘look mother, I cannot pursue my education, I will come back to Samoa.’ The norm of the old lady, I always get the scold and end up saying, ‘son, if you can’t finish your education, find a white girl and bring her to Samoa.’

Mr Speaker, to cut her scold, I would say to her, very well, I will do as you wish without her knowing, she was adding more burden because truly, I was still learning my English back then.

Mr Speaker, what happened when I befriend my palagi friend, I managed to pass my education because I refused to fail, I returned home and ended my friendship with my current wife.

May I take this opportunity to thank my wife, Maria, I want to thank you today, without a doubt, you have been my hidden strength. I want to thank you for standing by my side right through the good times and the tough times.

Mr Speaker, we have already covered the honorifics and traditional set ups, whereas for this part of the day, this district will make a submission in accordance to the deliberation under discussion. Thank you Hon Minister for the clear budget set out for this year, the objective is well given, let us work together for the benefit of Samoa. As one of the members of this Committee and in accordance to our review on this Budget 2019/2020, I will not say much. A time will come for our chairperson to make a summary overview of our report.

Firstly, I wish to acknowledge my appointment to be part of the Parliamentary Finance and Expenditure Committee. I further wish to voice the support of Faasaleleaga No.2 to the tabling Budget 2019/2020.

Mr Speaker, I extend great thanks to the State through the Minister of the Electoral Commission for some of the recent significant and sensitive Laws passed from the House. Faasaleleaga No.2 goes down in the history books of Samoa as the first Constituency to have first implemented new election laws.

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This Legislation has had various views and thoughts, although, '*e ui lava sa tetele i Pesega, lele ua matua i le oo*'. We have observed the many positive parts of this Bill.

Firstly, this Constituency is the first to implement new election laws such as mandatory voting in the constituency and elderlies and those with special needs to be given permission to vote before the actual election in Apia. I appeal to the Office of the Electoral Commissioner to consider announcing these services way ahead of time to get the message out.

Secondly, the Electoral Commissioner to inspect carefully the qualifications of electoral candidates running for office to eliminate the many rising issues during the elections, especially those who do it knowing that it is illegal.

Thirdly your honor, have a look at the role of the Village Council in their respective villages. The faamatai is one of God's given gifts to Samoa to govern and lead her people and government. This is living witness today thus bearing freedom and harmony amongst Samoans today for 3,000 years and more until today. The concern your honor is that there is no law that protects the rights of the Village Council Chiefs from conducting their duties within the villages.

I wholeheartedly believe that Samoa is founded on God, with its culture and Samoan traditions. Mr Speaker, that is the request, have a look at the importance of our matai system especially during our elections. I do not intend to make this point known to the House as this is the house of matais chosen by the whole Samoa, it is the house of all Samoans. I do not mean to instruct anyone, but just a word of advice before your honor and the State.

I further acknowledge the assistance from the Japanese Government for the Fogapoa school building and renovation of classrooms in Safotulafai. Afioga Maugaileatuolo who is one of the matais of this village, I thank you for approving this funding assistance in renovating the school building in Safotulafai, may God continue to bless you and the Government of Japan. I also acknowledge the efforts and developments implemented by the Ministry of Works at Maliolio in Samalaeulu and Sapapalii particularly the construction of the bridge over the Maliolio river. The major concern is the harmful effects upon the lives, lands and crops due to floodings.

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I thank the State for the reconstruction of the road that connects Safotulafai to Patamea, Samalaeulu and other villages. I request to prioritize the Tuasivi road as it is an evacuation route in times of natural disasters. Furthermore, I request the Ministry to address the dire need for the reconstruction of roads within the Constituency, as well as the need for seawalls especially for families living along the coastline to counter the effects of climate change and sea level rise. The Ministry has also received our request regarding road repair and our total support of the plans of the State for our villages of Fogapoa and Tuasivi for this road.

In terms of road improvement for Patamea and Samalaeulu, the Ministry has stated that this will cover the concrete bridge in Vaiaata towards the coastal area in Tapueleele. This is a huge blessing for my village especially for Vaiola College and residents in this area given the inaccessibility of this bridge for many years due to floodings in times of bad weather.

No doubt, we have seen the effect of high sea level rising posing great risk to the seawall areas of my district from Sapapalii to Tuasivi. I beg of you to look at the seawall building for our district especially for the sake of settlers living near the coastal area and their protection.

Mr Speaker, we beg forbearance to the Hon Prime Minister Cabinet, members of Parliament and Samoa as well as the Servants of God, *Tama ma Aiga, le Usoga a Pule ma Tumua, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga i le tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti*. Forgive us if we have mistaken our words, the orators has the saying that goes, *e leai se faiva e leai se lafoai*, 'E ui lava foi ina poto le tautai ae se lava lana atu i ama', even a wise fisherman will make a mistake every now and then. If we have erred you in any way, forgive us, and let us redirect to God where all sins are forgiven.

Nonetheless, may God bless our day. Soifua.

MR SPEAKER: Well done to the respectable member, your speech was lengthy and so as our intention upon our time and chance. Nonetheless, since this is your maiden speech, we heed the support of your district and Samoa. Thank you for that wonderful speech and thank you for heeding our work for today.

Parliament and Samoa tuning in have heard your statement. This is the chance for another member who wishes to speak. I call the member for Lefaga and Faleaseela.

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Afioga TOLEAFOA KEN VAAFUSUAGA POUTOA (Lefaga & Faleaseela): Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity granted to this district to make a submission in contribution to the distribution of Samoa's economic welfare for its 2019/2020 Budget.

It is said that Manua is a community, Saua being the starting point and Fitiuta at the other end and I then express salutations. It is said that Tapusalaia is a community with Utuma and Salega being the starting point and Faleseu, Faleogagamoe, Laloifi and Falesau making up the end point and I then express salutations. It is said that Upolu is a community, Matamatagi in Aleipata being the starting point and Tulatala being the end point and I then express salutations.

It is said that Savai'i is a community, Faasaleleaga being its starting point and its end point located at Vaotele in Tufu and Toloa, I then express salutations. Such is the outline of Samoa from the rocky side of Tau right through to the rock where Puletuu was elected, it is the point of convergence of the honorific salutations of this country, most respectfully.

Greetings Samoa, *i le paia o Tama ma Aiga, o Aiga foi ma tama, le usoga ia Tumua ma Pule, Ituau ma Alataua Aiga i le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti*. The respects of Samoa is admired in the fields of Tiafau, the fields of *faaututagitagi*, founded on God, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

I greet the Le Ao o le Malo and his Good Lady. I also greet the Member of the Council of Deputy and his Good Lady, the Chief Justice and the Judiciary, Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet, Associate Ministers, Chairpersons of Parliamentary Committees, honorable Speaker and the Parliament of Samoa. I also greet the heads of Government Ministries and Corporations, Private Enterprises most of all, foreign dignitaries in Samoa. I further greet Samoa tuning in, not forgetting the various Servants of God in the country. Well done on your jobs, physicaly I feel warmth, God does not forsake Samoa due to the power of your support and prayers. Lest I forget the support of the government of Tutuila and Manua. The honorable Governor and Deputy Governor and your government in all your honorific salutation.

Before I proceed with our Budget, honorable Speaker, I wish to note a word of thanks for this new Meeting House in Tiafau. This is the First Appropriation 2019/2020 that Parliament is about to deliberate in this House.

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Great job Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet for your perseverance, thank you also to the Government of Australia for the support upon Samoa on this job. Let us discuss and share thoughts in this meeting place for the welfare of Samoa tomorrow.

Hon Minister for Revenue and your Ministry, thank you for all your dedicated effort and good preparations upon this budget. It has equipped the Parliament of Samoa for the welfare of the nation. The most important thing is that our debts are manageable in terms of payment and the distribution of our funds is going well in operating the country especially the Ministries of the State. The advice to you, have a strategic outlook in areas where we can acquire more revenue in assistance to the developments of the country. Well done to you and the Ministry for this job.

Hon Minister of Education, the country has witnessed the Pacific Games event and its ongoing preparations. I heed appreciation to you for this plans and the support of the business communities and the Private Sector and the entire country. This is perceived in the beautification of some parts of the country where these games will take place.

I extend immense gratitude to the Government for spending half a million for our children's scholarship abroad due to the communication difficulty with our scholarship committee and the State. Thank you once again to the Minister for all the good works achieved for the Ministry. Just a recommendation Hon Minister, have a look at the degree certificate in our University. I see that this is not acceptable in New Zealand and Australia. For students succeeding in quota scheme, in order for them to be eligible in attaining good jobs and good salaries, they must first pursue a diploma certificate in New Zealand. This is the request Hon Minister.

Thank you Hon Minister for the good attempt in swiftly resuming our flights for Samoa Airways, which was not an easy undertaking in order for us to maintain this aircraft.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the speaking member, I allow the interjection.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: I wish to make a brief response to the statement of the recent speaker in regards to graduates. The truth is, many have graduated from the National University of Samoa and have achieved high standards. If anything, do not blame the University; blame the person for being dishonest.

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There is also the field of education that is significant for our students in terms of trades not only with our technical and vocational training, also, there is the assistance from Australia. There is also the involvement of apprenticeship training program. Despite similar knowledge for the two, the only difference regarding these two certificates, if they go to New Zealand or Australia, they do not look at the passing grade. The only thing they look at is where this certificate came from.

Such is the appreciation to the Government of Australia for this training school and the issuance of certificates that is all here now, regardless of the type of knowledge, the certificates are all from Australia.

If you take that certificate to Great Britain together with these two, they will take the one holding the certificate from Australia. That is the nature of life. Even if a graduate lawyer holds a degree with high honors in comparison to another lawyer from the University of Cambridge, what is the reason for that? It is the fault of the person itself. Such is why we must take heed of this area, and reason why we have our University. I wish you luck on your speech.

MR SPEAKER: You may resume your speech.

Afioga TOLEAFOA KEN VAAFUSUAGA POUTOA: I acknowledge the assistance of the Hon Prime Minister. I understand the nation is clear on this matter, I wish to extend my appreciation to the Hon Minister for the aircraft. I request the Hon Minister to consider having two aircrafts; the support by our people is tremendous. I propose the route from Apia to Wellington and Wellington to Apia be continued. I recognize also the many project implemented by the Ministry and I am grateful for this development.

I come now to the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, I first acknowledge the magnificent work completed on the road from Afega to Malua with a slight proposal to prolong the work from Toamua towards Afega. Therefore, I humbly recommend the Hon Minister to consider this matter. We take into thought the work in progress on the bridge in Vaisigano, for this we are grateful.

Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang (Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure): Mr Speaker...

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

Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang: I wish not to intervene the Member on his speech but I wish to clarify a matter just in case a Member brings it up as a subject. The junction to the road in Afega, the project is underway with all due respect.

MR SPEAKER: I suppose all Members have now heard the clarification, please be mindful not to bring up this matter, the Minister has answered. I call on the Member to continue.

Afioga TOLEAFOA KEN VAAFUSUAGA POUTOA: Thank you Hon Minister for your explanation. We express our gratitude for the connecting road done and implemented at our airport, which has enhanced this development bringing the new change we have today, great job thank you. Just a reminder to the Hon Minister I know we met; you spoke of how bad the road is in this constituency. I understand you mentioned once the Budget is approved, I merely ask that you be blessed with wisdom in allocating the funds and prioritizing the work from Matautu, Gagaifo, Savaia, Tafagamanu, Safaatoa, Faleseeela to Matafaa. I humbly ask for your kind consideration Hon Minister.

I extend my appreciation to the Hon Minister of Works; I received word the Samoa Shipping Corporation is attaining an additional Vessel to replace the Lady Naomi.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the Japan Government for their kindness. I thought aid will no longer be provided by Japan for a vessel, but I suppose it was the Hon Minister determination that has convinced the Government of Japan to assist once again. Regarding the 2021 election, I ask the Hon Minister to reconsider if we have enough vessels for this purpose.

I come now to the Ministry of PUMA. I wish to acknowledge the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure for including PUMA under his Ministry once again in order to make it easier to obtain work permits and other aspect of developments in Samoa.

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I come now to the Hon Minister of Health I acknowledge the Hon Minister for his service, efforts and job well done to the Ministry for the many years of service. On behalf of this constituency, we extend our appreciation in taking our people off island to seek medical treatment. Thank you for your love, and for taking into consideration this member, we only ask God for his good grace to be upon the Hon Minister in rearing the new Ministry.

Hon Minister of Health Tofa Hon Faimalotoa Kika Iemaima Stowers, Rome was not built in one day, but do place your priority where it should be. The prayer of this district is that you look at our outpatient area. Often enough, the country had to wait for a doctor.

The recommendation of this district is to get doctors from China to help our hospital in serving the public and their illnesses. Hon Minister of Health, just a reminder on behalf of this constituency, that we do not have a hospital we humbly pray for a clinic sub-centre to provide health service for the people of this constituency instead of traveling to Leulumoega.

Another aspect Hon Minister of Health what is your recommendation, someone has traveled abroad and gotten ill. He was treated at a hospital in New Zealand, we humbly ask for your consideration in looking into a government aid, because the bill is not cheap, or better yet, either half for the individual and half from the government. We ask for a Government subsidy.

We ask the Hon Minister, that may God bless your calling, may God bless your Hon Minister, as you serve, stand and promote health in our country.

MR SPEAKER: I remind the Hon Minister that there are other opportunities available to each member. Well, in detail, there are two opportunities 15 minutes each. Some other aspect I suggest to leave it for the two 15 minutes, but I ask you conclude so we may proceed with our work.

Afioga TOLEAFOA KEN VAAFUSUAGA POUTOA: Thank you Mr Speaker, it is not long now before I conclude.

Hon Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, a simple reminder about Gagaifoolevao and Faleaseela seawalls, Hon Minister and Deputy Prime Minister we ask for your assistance.

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Hon Minister of Agriculture we humbly ask as whatever the case is with our sea cucumber project. We humbly ask for a continuation of our tunnel houses, to help the fruit growers. Thank you for the rhinoceros beetles program, which was implemented in my villages of Safaatoa and Faleaseela.

Hon Prime Ministers, and Cabinet, congratulations on the wonderful construction in front of the Government House. Some developments have been accomplished in preparation for...

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

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, I would like to make note of the matter stated by the Deputy Prime Minister that the member is mentioning as his seat is vacant.

For the sake of the House, with significant matters nowadays, one in particular, the topic of climate change by the Deputy Prime Minister has become a serious problem faced by the world. That is why the seat is vacant, because the Government has sent him to voice our intentions and Samoa's contribution to global efforts in protecting the country, the planet on which we live in. Well that is why the seat is vacant, but I am warming the seat, lest you forget to put forth any concerns. Do not be discouraged, keep bringing matters up, however how many concerns you bring up, there is not enough agenda to address the current crisis facing the world and the important role we should play.

This is an opportunity also to our country listening in, because most of our country does not value climate change, but it requires the strong leadership of high chief, matais, to act as one in spirit in regards to the crisis alarming the whole world, and the contribution of all nations of the Earth, to show unity in combating the great tragedy faced by the world today.

MR SPEAKER: I ask the Member to conclude, that is one thing I have advised. For one important thing is timing, when the time is right, it is bad that the Hon Deputy Prime Minister is not present, but the rest of your talk is towards the Hon Deputy Prime Minister.

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I recommend your advice be put forth to the two 15 minutes opportunities...where you can address all issues related to your constituency. I ask the Member to conclude.

Afioga TOLEAFOA KEN VAAFUSUAGA POUTOA: I acknowledge the assistance by the Hon Prime Minister, and Mr Speaker, I suppose this constituency have convey all our opinions and requests. This constituency fully supports the Budget. I acknowledge the support of my constituency in all your honorifics, *Aiga Satuala, Alalatai Savailuu, Afio le Aiga Taulagi ma le Matua o Satuala* and the rest of Faleaana, not to forget my spiritual father. May the Hon Prime Minister, Mr Speaker, Cabinet, Parliament, and the support of Samoa be blessed. Soifua and bless our Sitting.

MR SPEAKER: Well done, I acknowledge the Member for considering the recommendation. During your remarks on Lefaga and Faleseela road, I notice the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure hand movement in writing, meaning that he is taking note of your request. Well done, thank you.

I call on any other Member who wishes to speak. I call on the Member for Urban West

Afioga FAUMUINA ASI PAULI WAYNE FONG (Urban West): First off thank you for this morning, Mr Speaker, that side of the House, Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet, as well as the Deputy Prime Minister, this side of the House, Members, and community who are able to gather here today.

I understand we have in our midst the Heads of Government Ministries, greetings to you all today. To our Samoan people, do give me your full support as I convey an opinion on the Budget.

We express our gratitude to the Hon Minister of Finance today. The main objective of our budget proposal is “Bold decision” or decision with courgeousness in the process. Hon Minister the objective for this year’s Budget is excellent. Although the income and expenditure are unbalanced, it does not matter. We put our hopes in God to balance our budget.

It is also possible that our country is cheering us on, and helping us achieve this hope for 2019/2020, in terms of revenue and expenses.

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I like to express my sincere gratitude to the Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture for the Pacific game preparations. The preparation is wonderful. Thanks also to every village, district and schools, who decorated our country for hospitality. We have never hosted a Pacific Game with insolvency. I suppose from my perspective the Hon Minister has carefully planned the revenue and supply chain for the event. Even our country became involved; they love to decorate things with their own money, which is imperative. Hon Minister I humbly ask for your consideration on this small issue with our University. The children noticed that once they leave the University with a desire to attend the University of the South Pacific in Alafua, the student will start again with courses they have taken already.

The University of the South Pacific does not seem to accept courses that the students have already taken at our University. It may seem unacceptable or unbelievable, the University of the South Pacific should be very careful especially when they are located in our country, and they should take into consideration the work the Government is implementing, furthermore, they should also accept foundation level classes. I suppose once you have a Ministry Head for the University of the South Pacific then everything will go well.

In the context and situation of our Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, I humbly ask the Hon Minister and the Hon Prime Minister who is in currently charge, to look at the situation with Government lands, and customary lands leased by the Government. In order to make the leases, rather than taking it for yourself Hon Prime Minister, to have some conditions in place, that after the land is used then it shall be returned.

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

MR SPEAKER: Apologies to the Member, I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: This is a member who sits in the Committee and take questions and endure honesty which is important. The taking of land by the State has two ways, in a form of lease and seized land. Such is the State's vision, but you cannot understand it unless you ask and participate in the Meetings.

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However, coming up with such issues, what do you think? We take notice. If you do not understand then go ahead and talk to the Minister, and do not bring it up here, because when it is brought up here, we cannot sit still, but will stand up and make correction, there are two ways to do this, there are reasons...

Afioga FAUMUINA ASI PAULI WAYNE FONG: Mr Speaker this is the House to bring up matters to the Speaker so if... if not here, I am not sure where...

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

MR SPEAKER: Apologies to the Member, I call on the Government to make correction.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: I am telling you, we have many gatherings where you could bring up these matter for us to explain. We do not prevent you from going directly to see the Minister and he will explain the situation, the two ways why the Government will take land. Again, I speak to explain to our nation. I will give an example, road leased for public road fix works, think about it. If the road is through the village, do we lease it? We cannot lease it; we have to implement in order for the community to use. It is that simple Mr Speaker. As for the member who has no desire to gain insight, there is an opportunity to meet, but the problem is you do not attend meetings to explain the matter.

MR SPEAKER: Well done. There are matters, which require clarifications as I am of the view that perhaps, we have two more years left for our Parliamentary term. However, all of these raising points have already been explained within our Political Party gathering. This is vital as I have the chance to help explain all that has already been clarified.

I extend my apologies to the Member to avoid being too keen, but look at the other side of the matter... the issue is interesting but not the... there is an opportunity to ask the Minister, that is my explanation.

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Therefore, when the State takes a piece of land to build a road, then land should be taken by the State as the road will be utilized for life. Although leasing also comes with aspects. It is clear to the Member. I only ask that you move away from this matter.

Therefore, when the State takes a piece of land to build a road, then land should be taken by the State as the road will be utilized for life. Although leasing also comes with aspects. It is clear to the Member. I only ask that you move away from this matter.

Afioga FAUMUINA ASI PAULI WAYNE FONG: Thank you Mr Speaker, I will put aside the Ministry for another time.

To the Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure. Hon Minister, in the case of revenue from the Ministry through the Treasury to each Government Ministries, I humbly ask that you take into consideration the problems with the engineers in charge of the Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure. These engineers payroll are relatively big to the Ministry through the Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, in the Land Transport Authority, the Samoa Water Authority and Electric Power Corporation. Unfortunately, the Ministry cannot control the engineers who carry out inspections, for Government projects. I ask the Hon Minister to consider a raise in salary for the engineers in these cases to prevent them from...

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

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Member, I recognize the correction from the State.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: The State has announced the full structure of the public service. We have a Committee for sorting out the salaries of public servants in various levels.

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The Committee began their work in 2001-2006, which completely changed the pay structure to better the pay for the government workers and the Private Sector. They are the ones working from behind the scenes. The salary structuring has now been set out appropriately to prevent travelling; most especially considering the main focus of the State is the development of the Private Sector. That is the intention. A person can never be satisfied such that an engineer will always want his or her salary to be raised. Even though their salary have increased, some people are never satisfied.

As verification of this, the Government has put up a significant raise of 40% due to the very low salary scale for public servants and this Parliament for the year 2005 to 2006.

This salary structure was arranged for three years for the Government to properly sort out the salaries of the State in accordance to the private business community. What happened next? Some doctors objected because they wanted their salary to be higher. This country is not a country like America where oil and honey flow. The Government determines its salary scale according to what it can afford.

Most of the engineers receive over hundreds of thousands of dollars from the Private Sector. However, in comparison to the size of our country, especially the wise? The reason why they became wise is because of the country's money. We cannot compare their wages with the wages received in New Zealand.

That is why we must plan accordingly. Although, we must us not criticize the public service, because despite the complaints made, the Government will still follow the set policies for the development of Samoa.

Afioga FAUMUINA ASI PAULI WAYNE FONG: Mr Speaker, point of order, the public servants are not being criticized. The idea...

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, point of order. From the very beginning of your statement, everything you said are negative comments...

MR SPEAKER: It is like that, may I also remind the honourable member, any other statements that will be made, there is a saying in relation to the sea. "*E malu apefoe ae pisia ai fofoga*". The statement can be offensive to some members.

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Motion to amend Sitting Hours

For general talks, speak directly about the financial matters and the economy of the country as a whole. Because it seems that we are talking specifically of this one matter when that is what we can discuss later.

Nevertheless, I assist the member and I bid no disrespect to you, in compliance with our Standing Orders, once we are off track on a point of order or a point of clarification, the Government cannot leave it. That is for the information of the honourable members to be cautious of, this is just a suggestion from me.

Since we have arrived at our normal recess hour, the Legislative Assembly will be suspended for normal recess for the member to catch his breath.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly will be set aside for its normal recess.

Proceedings for the Legislative Assembly suspended for its normal recess at 10:41am and resumed at 11:33am.

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

Before I call on the member for the Urban West to continue his speech, I would like to call on the Leader of the Government or the Leader of the House for a motion in accordance to our work.

MOTION TO AMEND SITTING HOURS

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker, thank you for the breakfast as it has given the honourable members additional strength. We now turn to the House for public speeches on the Main Budget, and I respectfully rise to move the motion to amend our sitting hours.

We will rest at 1:00pm as per usual, and resume our meeting from 3:00pm until 7:00pm. There will be another adjustment after the Main Budget is passed including other Legislations during our orders this week.

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The main spirit for this sitting schedule honorable Speaker is to ensure that the Main Budget is approved immediately for the sake of our constituencies and our people who are awaiting a push on other developments that need to be implemented right away as outlined in the Budget.

That is the motion with due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Well done, the Hon Prime Minister has moved the motion to have our work be completed at 1:00pm and resume from 3:00pm until 7:00 in the evening.

Seconded by the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, Minister of Women, Community and Social Development and the Minister of Finance

Motion approved.

Debate continued on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2018/2019 and the Appropriation Bill 2019/2020.

MR SPEAKER: I respectfully invite the Hon Member for the Urban West to continue your statement, you have 15 minutes left. May I also advise you about the progress of our work as the government is yet to receive the approval of the Main Budget that is currently under discussion.

I call the honourable member to rise.

Afioga FAUMUINA ASI PAULI WAYNE FONG: Thank you Mr Speaker. Firstly, I would like to thank the Office of the Legislative Assembly for the food served for the Speaker and rejuvenation upon the Hon Prime Minister and Members of our Parliament.

Mr Speaker, before I continue my statement, I would like to raise an issue in clarification of this matter. For the information of the country and fellow members, I am the member of the Human Rights Protection Party and these are all the members of our Political Party. Whenever each member gives a statement for this Party, there are statements by some Members that the old men would like to hear. However, there are other members whom I personally am aware speak on...

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**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti
Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, point of order.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member...

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti
Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi:** Members are not restrained from speaking as they please, that is their individual right and this Party is also a Party for Protection of the Rights of Humans. In saying that, we are not fools sitting in this Cabinet. Whenever we hear speeches stating these things, we know very well the kind of talks that are made on point and with good intentions and talks that are meaningless which should not be left unclarified. The member's statement started with provocative remarks. It is like holding and throwing around.

The backside does not take notice but that I am reading your statement carefully, talk about unbalanced budgets, and talk about folding money.

It will take this whole day for me to bring forth the false issues you are raising. By personal observation whilst taking my seat, I noticed the seriousness of the matter you have brought up.

As such, you are new to this House and therefore, I will not tolerate statements that are correct and are made in a positive and formal manner. However, when it comes to these kinds of rhetoric that is embedded and sharp talks and so on, that is what I do not condone. Our meetings today are much better, compared to the sittings held during difficult times in 1982, 1984, 1985, and if you look at the words of the current debates from our Parliamentary records, they are extremely spoken. Our Council has not reached that level yet.

On that note, the words I am using is in accordance to those words, they are completely pure. It can reach the obscurity level if the member is not advised. Even if it involves the members of this Party, I must correct it. This Party comprises of people who made it diligently to become Members of the HRPP. There were also those who wanted to join HRPP, but were not trustworthy. I cautiously know that.

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Mr Speaker, I did not become a Leader yesterday, I have a deep vision. Mr Speaker, that is the advice to the member, but I can tell you that the issues you bring up are very important, but there are also words from a song, the Congregational Christian Church hymn, '*Aumai ma le matagofie ma le filemu, e toafilemu ai le loto*', 'Bring forth with beauty and peace, as it will comfort the heart'.

However, when it is brought in a way that undermines the beauty of the matter, well we are in a Meeting, and this Sitting does not mince words. Even in the distribution and dispersal of the wealth of this country, words are not minced. This is hugely important. Another thing is grooming, preparing the Leaders of this House for the future.

Mr Speaker, this is the assistance to the member.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you, perhaps the assistance of the Leader of the country has been noted according to the opinion of the member. The same with our attempt, we must not let perseverance bring harm to the opinions of those working.

After all, the plans of the State is not based on one view, it is based on the majority who are... have a look at the public gallery above and those visiting this Parliament, the seats are occupied by tens of those from Chief Executive Officers and Assistance Chief Executive Officers, who are preparing all areas to assist and advise the Government in accordance with policies to implement and operate.

As for us, let us not make speeches that are pleasing to those behind, but upsetting to the desire of those who are working earnestly and virtuously in seeking success for the support of the country. That is our assistance, but I call on the member to stand, it would be good if we move onto another issue for the improvement of the Constituency.

Afioga FAUMUINA ASI PAULI WAYNE FONG: Thank you Mr Speaker. Opinions are getting away as I was only making comments in relation to the statement, however, the Hon Prime Minister has a different view from what I was attempting to bring forth. I will continue on the situation we are in honorable Speaker...

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Then I come to our plane, Samoa Air Ways. Hon Minister, I plead that we should obtain a permanent aircraft quickly so that flights can be resumed at this time. As you can see our aircraft is on lease, and we would like to make a permanent lease, so that we can have a permanent aircraft to continue our work.

I also advise the Hon Minister, it would be good if we apply the IATA or International Air Transport Association, in terms of foreign affairs and the aircraft so that our passengers can travel and take routes to other countries. When arriving in Auckland, this will enable the selling and buying of our tickets by other Airways to resume traveling around the world. This is very important your honor, especially for our cargo, so that our cargo can carry on with other planes and reach places beyond New Zealand and Australia. But I ask the notable member to keep trying, as the plane we have now is good for now, if only it was our own aircraft. And then I come to...

Afioga Hon Lautafi Fio Selafi Purcell: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: I allow the Minister of Aircrafts.

Afioga Hon Lautafi Fio Selafi Purcell: I have noticed that there are two members who have risen, and have brought in good opinions concerning our aircraft. I thank the honourable members for their comments. Nonetheless, it is better that I stand up, as I feel that there are many more who would like to speak on the matter regarding our aircraft and its improvements.

Firstly, I would like to thank the support of the community shown so far. The conditions that the honourable members have shown are the only information that can be said at this time, they are all the conditions that our Government is trying to obtain a permanent lease, and also our own planes we can use for a long time, but there are a few problems. The Ministry as well as the Government are still working to find ways that will stabilize our developments in the near future. All the things mentioned by the representative concerning the cargos and continuation of travels to other countries, well are preparing process for that. Unfortunately, it is not easy. Although there is still work being done to ensure we have what we need, as it is known the situation affecting travels around the world at this time due to the incident that occurred, and it is even more difficult to establish a permanent aircraft, because there are no available aircrafts.

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There are no available aircrafts for longer lease, because the aircrafts we were interested in, the other countries have acquired them, as the MAX8 and the MAX9 fleets are out of order, which is grounded by the world.

Well, that is the situation, with all the ideas raised our government is trying its best for us to get two planes, and gain the opportunity for us to continue our travels to other countries using the same ticket, unlike what is happening now. Also, keep in mind that we are trying to improve our one plane, perhaps in the long run, these are all the things we will encounter.

In terms of freight, our plane is attempting to carry a lot of cargo because it will generate more income for us. That is the point of clarification your honor, in case someone brings this issue up again, they bring good ideas, but it is better to clarify all of it now to save time. With due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Well done. Now the issue has been clarified. Thank you. The member may continue his statement.

Afioga FAUMUINA ASI PAULI WAYNE FONG: Thank you to the Hon Minister for the clarification. Try harder to obtain our aircraft.

Mr Speaker, I now turn to the Office of the Electoral Commissioner. Thanks to the executive of the Office of the Electoral Commissioner, as the electoral system is stable and efficient, especially in terms of voter registration, as well as laws that have been laid down to be obeyed. Please, the Ministry of Environment and Resources should examine the village boundaries/borders that are affected like our villages of Tulaele and Vailoa. There is a belief that Tulaele lies on the east side of the road at Tulaele, but on the west side where the school is located, that is Vailoa. It has been noted, that there are others who live in Vailoa and register in Tulaele, but the boundary is set between Tulaele and Vaiusu. The boundary set between Tulaele and Vaiusu is impossible, Tulaele should set boundaries with Vailoa, and Vailoa has a borderline with Vaiusu.

At present, there are others who are registering this way in order to define this bordering situation, and so, this is for your information Hon Minister of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, especially the honourable Electoral Commissioner.

Well, Mr Speaker, there are other issues, but I believe I will end here, that is enough, this is my endeavor however it seems that my effort is made flawed however, we will go straight to the Minister in charge of our Sitting today.

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I would also like to thank Mr Speaker for leading our Council today. Good luck and thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. I call on the Hon Prime Minister to stand. Malo faafetai. Tulai mai lau Afioga i le Palemia.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoui: Mr Speaker in case the member has forgotten, there are only two opportunities given in Parliament for members to stand for any member, either stand on a point of clarification or a point of order. That is the intention from me and the Cabinet Ministers on a matter that needs further clarification or a statement that needs correction.

These are two things under our Standing Orders that are often annoying to the members that make statements, but we stand to make things easier and to clarify because there is no other time to correct it. The normal procedure, the only time to straighten a crooked metal is when it is still hot. We do not wait for you to finish your speech and then correct it later, by the time we correct it, the people who are firmly rooted in the hearing know that the statement made by the member is legitimate. I also apologize to the member if you have noticed us standing up because when it comes to matters that reflect a Government decision or Government policy, we cannot sit still but always stand to clarify as that is HRPP protocol. Whenever we talk and raise an issue, we respond during our meetings.

That is why it is important for you to attend our meetings, it is almost a month now and I have not seen you in a meeting, and that is why you still do not understand things. Nevertheless, if you had come to the meetings and asked your questions, it would be easier to clarify things. I apologize, there is no other time because this is the only time I see you when you do not attend meetings.

That is my assistance Mr Speaker.

Afioga Faumuina Asi Pauli Wayne Fong: Mr Speaker, no, I apologize to the old man, in his opinion that....

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No, if I was available for the meetings I would have attended but there are family commitments that I must attend to which is reason for my absence, and there are also times that I travel overseas your honor. Although, I have intense eagerness to attend the meetings Mr Speaker, especially the old man, that is the final clarification.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, I will try to believe and accept your apology. But you must remember, the Government will make the final decision, in case you stand for the one hundredth times, I will stand for the one hundredth and one times. This is because this is where the final decision is made in any debate.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. That is the spirit I was trying to clarify the concern mentioned by the Hon Prime Minister, as the Speaker has also forgotten to announce that you had asked for permission for your trip abroad due to physical sickness. Perhaps God is aware of this situation.

To illustrate these issues, our Standing Orders contain what we want to clarify and what we want to correct. Whenever a member rises to speak and the Government thinks it needs clarification, the Government intervenes and stand to clarify and correct. The member also has the opportunity to speak on what he wants to explain and what he wants to correct when the Minister speaks in terms of clarifying an issue raised by the honourable member. But also keep in mind, an explanation of any issue, the last speech of the Government is to clarify the issues, and that is the final decision that should be accepted by the honourable member.

But because of our current work, the Government clarifies and clears-up the policy settings of plans by the Government and clarifies to the members what was raised, but the member again rose to give his explanation. It seems like this is the reason why the House is in conflict, together with the Government. We will not gain anything from being hesitant and in disagreement, but if we follow our Standing Order, then our responsibilities can be conducted clearly and peacefully.

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I would like to apologize to the member, lest Samoa tuning in with their support, say that I give opportunities to the Government, and the Speaker is restricting opportunities for the members, or the Government is restricting issues from being raised by members of the House. No, that is not the case, because the Government must correct and clarify some of the points made in the statements of the members. Although the member should remember that the last statement is the final statement from the Government.

Respectfully, in order to clarify the progress of our work and for the sake of Samoa, lest the people misunderstand our work thinking that we are restricting opportunities for the members while the Government has more freedom to speak. Well due to your own decision whereby you have concluded your statement, you finished your statement with ten minutes left.

I suppose you think you have two more chances for every 15 minutes to make up 30 minutes, which is another half an hour. Therefore, another member may stand up and speak.

Well, I have noticed the member for Gagaemauga No.2 is up standing, you may rise, this is one of the female members of the House.

Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Duffy Stowers (Gagaifomauga No.3): Mr Speaker it is Gagaifomauga No.3.

MR SPEAKER: It is Gagaifomauga No.3 please. The Chair has forgotten that the glasses are not good.

Afioga FAAULUSAU ROSA DUFFY STOWERS: Thank you for the opportunity. This is the only constituency with two members in Parliament, and that is how extraordinary the district of Gagaifomauga No.3 is.

Greetings to the Hon Prime Minister and the honourable Members of the abinet and Associated Ministers as well as honourable members of Parliament, Heads of Ministries and Corporations and Samoa listening in and all its honorific salutations. I would also like to speak on the Bill mentioned in the House. I will start with the main objective of the Budget stated by the Hon Minister of Finance, the equal opportunities and appropriateness. So let me first say I fully support the Budget.

Before I go any further, I would like to express my congratulations and thanks according to the Budget for Annual Reports of Ministries and Corporations; it reflects the progress of our Government and its efforts in its various developments.

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Congratulations to the Hon Prime Minister, the Cabinet and Associate Ministers, especially those involved in the implementation of the work, to the Chief Executive Officers of the Ministries and Public Enterprises. I say this because I watching the compilation of the Governments overall cashflow that reflects the rise in our revenue and actuals.

It is true that the budget has not been met, but there is still an increase in income, and then I come to expenditures, which shows that we are saving our expenses, and that shows that the public servants are working, congratulations and thank you for the developments and efforts for our country in various developments that are currently underway.

As such, I would like to thank you for the quarterly report subitted in quarters by the Ministry of Finance. This is where the current information that comes into the Parliament is submitted to inform the honourable members on the situation of the economy of our country. Thus, I believe that the economy of the country is improving. There are things that are complex on the internet, and I do not know where these policies come from. I speak for myself, as I have seen all the written work as conducted by the Audit.

Well I offer information in contribution to our meeting. Neither a Minister nor the Hon Prime Minister should interrupt while I offer my contribution as this is not intended to be forwarded for any other reason, it is given to improve our system.

As the goal of the Budget, equality and fairness is where we base our opinion on in terms of minimum salary, or the minimum wage we have in our Government. If there is a way, we can raise the current minimum rate. It should also be noted that in our country, many of the people need help with loans, but that is the only way a family can develop, in the cases that they do not have families overseas or people going for seasonal work. This is the only way to get loans for family occasions and other matters.

Therefore, the point is, please look at the interest rates and fees charged by lending services to small financing services, as I believe, no one in this House goes to these Offices to borrow money except for low-income earners, please have a look into this matter to see whether their fees can be reduced or regulated.

The Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture, what you have done is great, issuing license to teach those who want to be teachers, it is very good. Where did you get the budget for these licenses? What I am praying for at this moment, is the Minister of Police.

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Which means it is the Prime Minister, if a portion of the budget of the Minister of Education, can be given to your honor to make licenses for bus drivers and taxi drivers, and those who transport people. As I have noticed, I have now preached three times in regards to transport vehicles, the danger is noticeable, but when we ask them they say that the brakes on the buses are bad. As you know, the major accident that happened in Savaii was very dangerous, and that was the same answer they gave us, my plead to the member is to initiate a training so that all these bus drivers and taxi drivers can attend to learn, because it seems they are missing common-sense. This is why I am enraged, from my understanding as a driver, even though my eye sight is bad. Well, while we are together here I beseech the honourable Minister of Education, in terms of our sports grounds that is...

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

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoui: Mr Speaker this is where we will be asking for assistance in case others will take this opportunity.

There is also no school that studies common sense, if there was a college that could use people with this profession, I guess it will be full. There are standards in regulations that I see and I also plan to talk about these with those who are drafting the Bills because what I am saying is particularly to the bus owners and bus drivers.

We should look into heavy penalty charges for bus drivers who breaks the law and also to impose the use of out post in the rural villages by the Ministry of Police. We have plenty policemen working in out posts back in the villages and I have no idea what they are doing back there. The one thing that they should be doing is to stand on the road and look out for these kind of bus drivers. The bus that was involved in an accident lately hold seats for 30 passengers only but it carried 60 plus passengers. This is what is happening, dishonesty of bus drivers in their field of work, the reason is easy, he only gives the owner 20 and the other 40 passengers for himself, cruelty and selfish when it comes to money. So this is why I am giving advice which should be used and valued by the Commissioner of Police sitting at the back of me because if I was not going to stress this out, the Commissioner will surely forget this right after this sitting.

This is exactly why you should not be angry if other Ministers tend to address this same issue.

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MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you. What the Prime Minister has said is no different from when the players go on field to play without their brains and common sense. This also goes to the bus drivers who drives, leaving their brains at home and common sense.

I call upon the Member to continue.

Afioga FAAULUSAU ROSA DUFFY STOWERS: Thank you Mr Speaker, I also know that you also own a bus business. To the Prime Minister, the interruption is good thank you for the good useful points given. Minister of Health, I humbly ask if its possible to establish a centre in Aopo particularly for the elderly people in my village, as we are very far away from the Centres in Sataua and Safotu. Then we come to quality of products that are being sold in shops. This is what I have noticed, a lot of products, we cannot seem to find on the shelves in the shops out back in the villages its when delivered, it will not last long on shelves because it is cheaper.

This is why I am asking the Minister of Health and the Minister of Commerce Industry and Labour to look into ways to check the quality of these products that are sold in the villages especially in Salafai. Some products have mentioned to be expired and with villages out back, they have difficulties in telling whether a product is expired or not so if we could look into this matter for the safety and health of the people living in the villages out back.

There is another thing that I want to talk about, there was this one day I went to buy myself smokes (cigaretts) and to my surprise the shop that I went to sells the \$4.00 one. I believe that we passed the Bill that the cost of the half packet of cigarette is \$6.00+ and the this time, people are able to buy two packets of cigarettes for only \$10.00.

I recall the reason why we had to increase the cost of cigarette is to discourage people from smoking. I am asking to please look into this matter Hon Minister to see if this is not breaching the law by selling a small packet under the standard cost which is 6+.

To conclude my speech I would like to encourage the Hon Prime Minister, respected family of Cabinet Members, and all the Government employees, to fight the war as I trust we need further projects and I am aware that we still have some big ones coming soon. One of those big projects includes our wharf at Asau. If these were to be instigated as soon as possible, it will be worth it. As the Prime Minister have said before, there is a way and a method to get rid of the bedrocks for the ships to fit in the dock.

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That is my only wish Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet, is that we also initiate developments in Salafai but starting from the wharf.

Thank you Mr Speaker for this opportunity, thank you also to my Constituency Gagaifomauga No 3 from Aopo, Letui, Sasina and Fagae for the support. I would also like to thank the Church Ministers who are preaching the word of the Lord and their support through prayers. Thank you and God Bless.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you. This is also an opportunity for another Member who wishes to speak.

I call upon the Member for Siumu.

Afioga FAALOGO IOSEFA SOPI (Siumu): Thank you Mr Speaker for this opportunity. I would firstly like to welcome and greet the Speaker of the House at this hour of the day and the hardwork that you have been doing also I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the Legislative Assembly in serving the Parliament of Samoa.

I would also to like to greet that side of the House, Hon Prime Minister leader of the Country, respected Cabinet Ministers and their Associates. I also bring greetings to the Members of the House, Chairpersons of different Committees, CEOs of all Government Ministries and Public Enterprises and the Private Sector and Samoa who are listening from the villages at this hour, his Highness the Head of State and his Good Lady, Deputy Head of State and his Good Lady.

Mr Speaker I would also like to take this opportunity to greet my Constituency of Siumu who are listening from Siufaga all the way to Faletele. Let your dignified be accord as your Member will try and say a few things regarding the Budget. Mr Speaker I initially would like to voice my thanks to the Minister of Finance and the Ministry for the well prepared Budget and the effort they have put in, in the main Budget 2019/2020, as well as the second Supplementary Appropriation Budget.

I know it to be a very hard job that you are doing, I have seen the Budget from the other years and its objective and goals, however I am thankful to the Ministry for this year's Budget and its main goals and objective.

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Mr Speaker I would also like to advise the Minister of Finance come the next financial year, in the Budget to please take priority of our roads. I am troubled for the Budget may not be able to cover the expenses of repairing and maintaining of the roads. I have also consulted with the Minister and he has referred my request to you respectfully. This is why i humbly ask that in the future Budget to consider fixing and mending of the roads, because the way I see it, it is in bad condition. Other roads are badly damaged that it has to be reconstructed, the weather also contributes to road destruction and so it has to be maintained.

Mr Speaker I will now voice our requests to the Ministers for the things that we need to improve and better our constituency, but before that, I would like to express sincere thanks to all the Ministers for the well effort in this year's Budget.

I wish to voice out to the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure our request for the maintenance of our roads at the village, I know I have been saying this in the beginning of this Parliamentary Term that we need roads to the center of the village and also a road to the Coconut Resort. These roads are in bad condition and therefore needs maintenance for the people of my village.

Then, we come to access roads, we find it hard to drive to the plantations because of the bad conditions of the access road to the backside of the village. Please Hon Minister if you could look at this request. We have a fall at the village which really affects the families living on the river side during heavy rains. The problem is that the pipe that connects waterflow from the mouth of the river is too small for outburst water supply, so when there is water outpourings on top of the pipe it causes damages to the crops and family properties. I also ask if this can be taken into consideration too, but thank you, we have good running water all throughout the village.

Hon Minister of Health, I ask to please look into the Health Centre in my village, it needs proper maintenance and stock up for the the people at the area if this could be considered as well, as I have already spoken on this request with the Minister of Health before you.

The other issue that I have now realized is the fact that last year we had money set aside from the Budget for AIDS, and I do not see any allocations for AIDS this year with the Budget that we have, I wanted to ask whether we have AIDS in Samoa or not since this part of the Budget has been removed.

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Hon Minister of Commerce Industry and Labour, I want to express sincere thanks for the Aeroplane that we are using this time of the year. We all have to understand that, it takes 5 to 6 years before we look at a profit from this industry, it does not make profit over night.

Just an advice to the Ministry, one more plane to buy then we are all set, maybe loan from somewhere to get us another aeroplane for the benefit of our people.

I would also like to thank you for the quota scheme, that is benefiting our citizens to work overseas to support their families, also for those who are going on Carpentry work in New Zealand and Australia, I urge you to please look into appropriate salaries fitting for our trades people that our people are doing in places like Christchurch and other areas in New Zealand lest they are not paid well for the hard job they are doing.

Hon Minister of the Office of the Electoral Commission, I believe what the other Member has said about an improvement in the voting process and how we conduct it is very aspiring, I believe that it is a good process to avoid encounters and trials in the future.

Hon Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, thank you for all the hard work that you have been doing for this Constituency, everything is going well. Thank you for the new buoy outside of the reef whilst awaiting for the buoy to be used inside of the reef for the people of my village have only canoes and small alia that can only fish inside the reef.

Hon Minister of Education Sports and Culture, I would like to voice sincere thanks for the effort that you have been putting in preparations of the Pacific Games in a few months time, thank you also to all the schools, from primary to colleges, I have seen the great work by the students, I also offer assistance and support whenever it is needed in making the games possible.

Mr Speaker, I believe that is all we have to say at this time, and we support the second Supplementry Budget and the Main Appropriation Budget.

To my Constituency, be patient, I believe that we will have our roads fixed and all the other things that we need by the end of this financial year. Thank you Mr Speaker for this opportunity.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you to the Member for the well structured thoughts, I believe no interruption means that they have noted everything down for the developments. We have the floor for any other Member who wishes to speak, Member for Aana Alofi are you trying to stand or not?

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The good thing about speaking today is that you can start off the morning tomorrow...

Afioga Tapulesatele Mauteni Tamasone Metuli II Esera (Vaisigano No.2): Mr Speaker, apologies for standing while you were speaking, these guys are urging me to stand up to speak, should I sit down again?

MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you. I call upon the Member for Vaisigano No.1.

Afioga Tapulesatele Mauteni Tamasone Metuli II Esera: Apologies Mr Speaker, it is Vaisigano No.2. I believe that you are aware of this Mr Speaker, I just think that it just slipped your mind, I say this with respect.

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the Member to stand up Aiga o Mavaega and Leauga and Falefa o Sataua.

Afioga TAPULESATELE MAUTENI TAMASONE METULI II ESERA: I humbly greet the Speaker of the House, thank you for presiding during Parliamentary proceedings, I would also like to greet the other side of the House, Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet Ministers and Associate Ministers. I would like to welcome the male and female Members, Hon Chief Justice and the Judiciary, Clerk and the Deputy Clerk of the Office of the Legislative Assembly.

I would also like to welcome CEOs of Government Ministries and Corporations and the State present here today. It is utmost respect to address His Highness the Le Ao O Le Malo and his Good Lady, Deputy Head of State and his Good Lady and especially the Island on the East.

I would also like to acknowledge the work of Church Ministers who are constantly praying for the safety of this country, also to my Constituency Vaisigano No 2. From Papa, Sataua to Fagasa.

Mr Speaker, I just want to say a few things regarding the main Appropriation Budget 2019/2020 and we fully support the Main Appropriation Budget. First of all I would like to address the proposed projects that the Government has implemented in our district, village and country.

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Mr Speaker I would like to express sincere thanks on the projects that we requested for my constituency, I am happy to say that the projects are now in progress. Education wise, I thank the Hon Minister of Education Sports and Culture, CEO of the Ministry and the staff. Just a few things for schools in my constituency, the school in Papa and Sataua together with Folasa, we now have a new school building funded by the JICA and I would like to extend sincere thanks to JICA for this very important project.

The new school building has 8 classrooms from years 1 to years 8, and extra rooms for the library, a computer room and a staff room which adds up to 10 rooms to be exact. On behalf of the Alii and Faipule and the whole village of Papa, we would like to thank the Government for this great work. I also thank my village of Papa for assisting in this wonderful and great work. The intention was, for us to try and complete the work within the 10 to 12 weeks that we were given, and we are happy to say that we were able to do, we are also thankful to the Hon Minister for being available everytime we requested help.

I also thank you for endorsing the requested number of teachers for the schools in Papa and Sataua and also for allowing the continuation of service of the Principal of Sataua. I give thanks and praises to the Lord for guiding the college students of Asau to safety from the tragic bus accident that happened recently, I would also like to thank the parents, teachers and Church Ministers for your help during this tragic accident, may the Lord guide those involved into a speedy recovery.

Mr Speaker, I would also like to welcome the new Hon Minister of Health and the Associate Minister in your new role. I further wish the former people in their new appointments they are now undertaking. This is for good guidance upon the new responsibilities, the Government have also merged together Ministry of Health and National Health all thanks to the Hon Minister and the Associate Minister for this new change, and also the doctors and nurses and all the employees of the Ministry who have supported this alteration.

My only advice is for the Ministry to use the experience and the knowledge that you have to support and protect the health of our citizens so that their good health is maintained. I am also thankful to the Hon Minister and the Ministry for having doctors to stay on call in villages out back for the people living in those areas. This is a matter that the Director have spoken of, the patient should not wait, if patient is to be scheduled on a Friday, he/she cannot wait for Friday, if its Monday, it has to be Monday.

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So this is why it is important to have doctors to permanently stay posted in the villages out back. I have also seen improvement in the services provided by the nurses who are working at the hospital. Another thing Hon Minister, I would like to remind you of the stocks for chemicals and medications for the hospitals in the villages like Sataua.

In the matter of ambulance vehicle, there is a need for ambulance in the villages given that we are very far away from the main hospital but we still have the ambulance that was given for Sataua operated and in good condition. I would like to also take this opportunity to thank the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, Associate Minister and the Executive for the work that has been done to the road at my village as I have requested, i am thrilled to say that it has been tar sealed and maintained. I also ask for the road in Fagasa to be maintained seeing that there are a lot of people living in that area and also there is a church there, the road is in need of maintenance for easy transportation of the villagers.

I also thank the Hon Minister, Associate Minister and the Executives of the Ministry of Water Authority, we have completed a huge project of providing water for Sataua and also installed pipelines for the water to reach parts of my constituency, I have seen the cleanliness and the purity of the water and the work that you have done. This is very important to maintain healthy lifestyle of people in my constituency. Hon Minister I am grateful for the work that you have done for this constituency, I know we were also requesting for access roads in Papa and Sataua, but I believe that there will be a time for other projects like this one in this financial year.

In saying all this, I would like to thank the Hon Minister of Finance, Associate Minister, CEO and the Executive for a well prepared Main Appropriation Budget 2019/2020 and I also thank the Ministry of Revenue for doing a great job as well.

Mr Speaker, I am thankful to have learned that there is an increase in the revenue to \$18.4 million or 2.9%, and there will also be a decrease in the expenses of the country by 3.3% which adds up to \$914.1 million.

The huge projects that were funded by our other stakeholders have come to an end and this is why I also want to express sincere thanks for the good work been done that has reflected on the Main Appropriation Budget the support of the IMF in policies and proper planning of our country in trying to develop our economy.

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I also thank all the partners of our country, who have been supporting us in funding projects for the development of our country. I further extend appreciation to all the Government Ministries and Public Enterprises and each Public Sectors who are advocating for the development of these projects.

Mr Speaker, I would also like to voice heartfelt thanks for the initiative of the Government to help fund the school fees for those who cannot afford to pay University fees of their children through sponsors.

MR SPEAKER: You have 5 minutes left...

Afioga TAPULESATELE MAUTENI TAMASONE METULI II ESERA: I support this initiative and I hope this also includes Technical and Vocational Educational Training school.

The other matter is the establishment and the maintenance of the road in Vaiaata. There is ongoing works to the road from Fusi Saoluafata East to Patamea West to the connecting bridge in Samalaeulu. I thank the Government for this road works, it is the work that should have been done a long time ago. This is also an opportunity for the Government to assess the maintenance of access roads leading to Vaiaata since the road there is very bad.

Mr Speaker I would also like to voice special thanks to the Government in maintaining international standards now that we have hosted international conferences and the Pacific games in the next few months, I should say that this is a very good opportunity for the development of our country and our economy. I believe the time is up for me as the Mr Speaker have said, so I say that we support the Main Appropriation Budget 2019/2020 and again thank you to the Hon Minister and the Ministry for the hard work and effort put into this.

Mr Speaker, to conclude my speech, I would like to take this opportunity to offer encouragement and support to the Hon Prime Minister being an athlete in the upcoming Pacific Games representing Samoa. I know for a fact that you are trying your best to be a role model for the young youth of Samoa in this sport and I hope that it is the gold medal that you are aiming for.

The same goes out to all the athletes who will be representing Samoa in the games, I hope we will get medals for all the hard effort. God Bless Samoa, thank you Mr Speaker for this opportunity. Soifua.

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MR SPEAKER: Very well, now that the Member for Vaisigano No 2 has finished his speech, this is an opportunity for another Member who wishes to speak. This is a good timing too, you can speak today and also tomorrow however, it is time for lunch break. Parliamentary proceedings will be set aside and will commence at 3.00pm until 7.00 in the evening.

Legislative Assembly Proceedings set aside at 12:52 in the afternoon.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed at 3:11pm.

Deliberations resumed over the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2018/2019 and the Appropriation Bill 2019/2020.

MR SPEAKER: I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed. I trust we shall proceed. I call the respectable member for Salega West.

Afioga TOOMATA AKI TUIPEA (Salega West): Thank you Mr Speaker, I delayed as I am part of the Finance Committee. I see that the House is reluctant to take the floor. On behalf of this constituency, I wish to make a contribution on this Budget 2019/2020 before us today.

Before I make my statement, I firstly wish to thank God for his love and kindness in guiding us safely here to do our work for Samoa and its welfare tomorrow. I wish not to state your respects and salutations Samoa for they are forever remained. *O le paia o Tama ma Aiga, Aiga ma Tama, Usoga a Tumua ma Pule, Itua'u ma Alataua, Aiga i le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti.*

Briefly, this is our Committee's report. I wish to note a word of thanks to the Hon Minister of Finance, head of the Ministry and staff and all other respective Ministries who have contributed to this Budget.

According to personal observation, this Budget is superb. Not only does it indicate avenues for income generation, it strategically envisions plans to execute work developments for Ministries and Corporations of the State in order to serve Samoa and her people.

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In comparison to other countries of the world, Samoa is a nation with limited distribution, her economy is insufficient due to no resources available unlike other countries of the world. We rely solely on our revenue earnings from customs, taxation and dividends earned from Government Ministries and Public Enterprises in order to execute the services of the State for the people.

As such, I heed appreciation to the Leader of the Government, Cabinet and Associate Ministers for the wise distribution that has enabled us to develop. Not only with the works of Ministries particularly some of the major projects we have witnessed. In comparison to countries like Venezuela and other countries where milk and natural resource is found, whereas for Samoa, it is only through our prayers, faith and praises to God because if we compare Samoa to Venezuela and other countries.

Despite being plentiful in resources which are being deserted, there is still conflicts in those countries. That being said, I appreciate the preparations of this Budget, although funding is limited, we aim to meet all demands.

It is true that our project developments rely on our revenue earnings. What is vital to me is the layout of this Budget where most of it goes to the salaries of public servants. The second salary increase/raise by the State has continued to raise families and children who are the future of Samoa as they rely solely on these public servants for their education given their role within any Ministry. In saying that, we extend our great appreciation for the preparation of this Budget that has enabled us to execute our works and developments not only works that are ongoing as well as projects that will create employments for our children as there is a growing number of them who have graduated and are still hunting for jobs.

There are also those who are unable to continue school due to the lack of money from parents to pay for their school fees but thank you to the State for the assistance upon our education in paying the fees for students.

I also thank the State for having our locals take up the jobs in New Zealand and Australia that has enabled them to bring so much assistance economically in raising our families and their daily living. Because the truth is and in regards to our crops, we do not gain money from it everyday.

It does not guarantee money everyday to raise our families although it is difficult to work the plantations, but earnings received from it is still not enough. Even with exports, it comes with several requirements that must be met which is an issue for our exports to New Zealand and Australia.

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But I appreciate the State's endeavor in taking our people to work abroad especially those who are unable to find jobs in the government or companies locally to serve their families, church and the State.

This is the view of Salega, we appreciate all the lay out plans that have been achieved and ones that are ongoing for the improvement of Samoa and its people. I also heed our Budget and avenues in seeking ways to improve our revenue earnings and the undertaking by the Ministry for Revenue on ways to collect income through Companies, Private Sector and also the State, in order to assist with our insufficient funding.

Possibly looking at the layout of revenue within our Budget, only 3% relies on grants. Whereas the rest of it comes from our internal services and foreign partnerships who are assisting us. Although we have these grants but truthfully, there is trust for this State and its administration that has made it easier for us to receive these grants. We would not have it if there was not faith in the current government and its leadership, thank you.

Only this to say, let these funding assistance be continued in the future in order for us to execute our developments for our children particularly the youth. Thank you for the appropriations to improve our roads and access roads in Salafai seeing that most of these appropriations is for our roads fix in Upolu which should be the case as Upolu situates our township area. Just this request before your Hon Leader of the Government and the Cabinet, consider the development of our big island in Salafai.

It has been 57 years since our Government became Independent, and we trust that the State's endeavor is to develop the big island of Salafai because I normally hear the saying, what is good for Upolu should also be good and sweet for Savaii and the rural areas. Such is the attempt given that it has taken 57 years of Samoa's independence for you to consider if possible to seek ways to efficiently develop Savaii given the rising number of youth traveling from Savaii and thus our identity will be lost due to our rare visit to Savaii now and then.

But why else would you go back to Savaii when milk and honey is flowing in this land (Upolu). Why stay in Savaii when you cannot find anything there to raise the family? That is the plea honorable Speaker, have a deep look into it.

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There is the wharf in Asau, perhaps I have heard this countless times before I came into Parliament, a fish market will be set up and other businesses, thankfully, you have now stated that this rocky area can be demolished, the rocks can be drilled to make way for further developments like cruise ships towards the town area and create more employments and to set up additional manufacturing areas or factories there. We have our partnership with China to make things easier, we can ask them to look at these projects to see if possible to set up a bridge from one island to another. Have a look into this matter so that our island can be developed quickly to avoid the fingers pointing at us.

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

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the speaking member, I recognize the interjection.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: This is the second member from Savaii to have spoken on this very matter.

This Sitting is very important for the listening public, in attempt to push the betterment of our existing ports today particularly the wharves in Asau, Vaiusu, Aleipata and Mulifanua and us. Huge consultations were undertaken and there is hope that the final feasibility study should be completed this year to verify the receipt of our funding.

I have mentioned this given the many false statements made publicly by the locals and those in New Zealand and Australia that aim to ruin the major developments of the State. This point directly to those who are making these deceiving statements. If it is possible to achieve these developments, the economy will grow well particularly for the sake of our several small crafts that could make better use of our small ocean; these crafts could also use our maritime borders for fishing. It is easier to catch fish here and we can help sell them to overseas markets. Otherwise, others are attempting to make false statements saying that the Chinese fishing boats are fishing illegally in our waters when the purpose for these wharves is different. Why chose and come all the way to our tiny island of Samoa in these big fishing boats and where exactly will they anchor.

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Mr Speaker, the strong support of those from Salafai will greatly push this matter for the State to achieve it. Because there is a strong argument by the big nations in terms of pure political interest against us the Small Island States, that is taking advantage of us and other people who believe this.

Such is my thankfulness to this House given your farsighted wisdom. Because these vital developments are publicized on the internet for the world to see. Specifically, Savaii should be prioritized and developed given its massive landscape and is the biggest island for generations to come. Mr Speaker, this is the word of appreciation. It is necessary to voice these kind of speeches to drive and develop our Government.

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Salega West.

Afioga TOOMATA AKI TUIPEA: Thank you Hon Prime Minister. We are not included in that list of people defaming the country. The spirit through your leadership is for us to bear benefits, as we never know the will of God, lest anything happens and we can still survive, with respect.

Mr Speaker, I wholeheartedly feel the importance of these developments set out in the Budget. As I said, I am a member of the Committee of Finance, I will speak further on it... a time will come for the Chairperson but that is just a small explanation.

Our main objective and concerns especially in accordance to the status of Savaii today, it is witnessed that the Government is not sitting idly, although the many challenges and problems along the way, thankfully, there is far seeing wisdom. We have seen a lot of challenges and complaints, but gratefully, you are ignoring them.

The only advice from Salega, do not take it seriously. Stick to God and maintain farsighted wisdom, uphold faith in God then you will find success.

In regards to the Budget, I only wish to speak on a few things Mr Speaker. An allocated appropriation proposed for tax collection to assist us has been made. Well done to the Ministry of Revenue and the Ministry of Finance who are working in collaboration to collect funds so that by the next budget, the interest of 3% will be dropped to 1% for borrowings or even none if we are able to collect enough from taxation through the services of Ministries and things like that. I extend great appreciation seeing that there is small money allocation we are relying on for our borrowings. The rest of the budget is made up of money generated from us and donations from overseas.

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I wish to second the word of thanks for the access roads, thank you Hon Minister of Works now that the roads of Fagafau is almost improved, and there are also other requests before you. By the time of the General Elections, these small roads are complete which costs small.

I request with respect that I will come to you office again and kneel before you until I have your authorization and the approval from Cabinet. Secondly, to the Ministry of Justice...

MR SPEAKER: Conclude your speech as it is finished...

Afioga TOOMATA AKI TUIPEA: I will conclude and I will obey. To the Ministry of Justice, the appropriation for setting up the house in Salelologa has been approved for the relocation of this office. This is a very important office in Savaii as it is situated in the center of Salelologa township area, which is easily accessible for the traveling public where everything else is available like restaurants, taxis, buses etc. I am not sure whether to voice this other matter before the Minister of Justice, never mind I will raise it in your office.

MR SPEAKER: That would be good...

Afioga TOOMATA AKI TUIPEA: To conclude my statement, I wholly support, 100% this Tabling Budget before us. The Main Estimates and the Supplementary Appropriation (No.2) 2018/2019 and the Appropriation Budget 2019/2020.

I beg indulgence honorable Speaker, if the statement sounds too harsh, the aim lest we sit mutely leading to not knowing what to implement. Possibly, there will be another chance with all due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thank you to the respectable member. I see that the member for Falealili is ready. Or is he being deceptive. I call the member for Safata West.

Afioga LEANA RONNIE POSINI (Safata West): Mr Speaker, thank for the chance to express the view of this constituency upon the Budget. Firstly, I wish to greet the Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet and Associate Ministers. I also greet the support of Samoa especially the constituency of Safata West or Safata, as it is one family. I will speak upon the Budget.

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I wish to firstly thank the Hon Minister of Finance seeing that your work is not easy especially the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry and the staff in preparing this Budget, in short, we fully support the Budget tabled. I heed appreciation to all commitment and service for the country. Notwithstanding, the distribution of funding for the wellbeing of the nation as a whole.

Firstly, I wish to give a list of requests from this constituency before I proceed with the general services for the country. Before any further, I wish to extend thanks for the access roads program whereby this is where we rely mostly on for our survival because without them, we would not have any plantations. I highly appreciate the construction of all our access roads especially Saanapu which is the largest village we have. I think statically speaking we can find it in maps the records for this information. Personally and based on observations, it is important for this village to gain access roads although there are existing access roads already, additional ones is still a requirement given the huge land space. The abundance of grown taro in this village, if you do your research, this village is by far one of the strongest village with various taro exportation. Therefore, there is a need to prioritize this village in terms of building access roads.

The lands of our village stretches from the sea towards the boundary of the Tanumalala prison and I trust this is a good chance for those of you prisoners who are using the lands of this village, please restrain from using our lands illegally.

Another access road for our village of Vaiee which is one village that is abundant in agricultural products, have a look at improving their roads your honor. For our roads in Sataoa where majority of the settlers live, thank you now that the member has mentioned that it will be fixed. This is the same as the Salamumu road given the passing law the division of constituencies, I must say something about this road in Salamumu. This village of ours is four kilometers away from the main road and I asked and they said that the length of the tarred road is only one and half kilometers. I beg Hon Prime Minister to extend this tar towards the coastal side. Mind you we have the Samoaana Resort and there and many tourists visiting this development however due to this bad road, not many visitors are going there anymore. This is the plea to the Hon Minister.

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I come now to our health service. I heed gratitude to the Hon Minister and the Ministry given the many years since this Saanapu district health clinic has not been in operation, yet I see it will be operated again. By observation I see that most of these district hospitals have the same construction designs but according to our findings, they are smaller in size. Such is the appeal for a Saanapu health clinic, why not have a different design for it and make it a bit bigger, otherwise, I extend great thanks for the ongoing program of constructing district hospitals.

Hon Minister of Environment, since the start of this Parliamentary term, I have been talking about seawalls for our villages of Sataua and Saanapu. The seawall in our village of Sataoa, perhaps it has taken 20 years since our wait to have this completion, but I trust we remind you Hon Minister to look into this as there are a lot of residents settling in Sataoa Tai.

The program conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture on collecting the alamea, i see that this program is no longer carried out.

I bid the Hon Minister, this village is again looking at replanting cocoa and coconut especially banana that we talked about, the only thing is that I did not receive that banana but as you explained, we are going back to our old banana. Just an additional request for those bananas for our district to plant.

Another matter honorable Speaker is street lights, I ask that you assist the Ministry in this matter.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon me, I allow the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure

Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang (Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure): Mr Speaker, since the respectable member is again raising street lights that was raised in the previous Budget. The process was clarified whereby your request has to be taken to EPC for them to do a survey to assess to see if possible to install street lights. There is a committee that deals with assessing these requests lest another member brings this up again when that is the procedure. If there are requests, bring them over to EPC as that is the process. With due respect.

MR SPEAKER: There you have it, the Minister has enlightened other areas.

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Afioga LEAANA RONNIE POSINI: Thank you Hon Minister for the well-versed response. Perhaps I have raised and talked about it last year and before I have that speech in Parliament, I did receive this request so that is reason for raising this matter again. So this request has been over a year and no response has been received. This is the clarification of this matter

The last request from my constituency, can the State look carefully at building a wharf in our district as these are important projects. Recalling that our district had the location of a marine in 1947 when the marine ships sailed through Lotofaga, it would be beneficial because district locates some of the various tourism operations and when have a cruise ship on island, it will be very convenient. It will also create employment for the district.

Then I come to public services. Firstly the Tourism Authority, upon arrival at the airport and entering the arrival area, would not it be possible to display several posters of attraction sites to showcase our country. It would be good to have several promotional materials or posters for the sake of a tourist traveling into the country although the problem with the lack of tourism promotional materials is maybe it is costly given the Airport Authority fees at the airport for these promotional displays.

I believe it is not the money that is important rather, we must look at the overall view of our economy to increase the number of tourist arrivals, this is my observation, because when I got in, I see only the Digicel and Blue Sky posters when it would be nice to have a lot of promotional materials display of our attraction sites and hotels in our airport...

MR SPEAKER: I call the Minister of Tourism.

Afioga Hon Sala Fata Lisati Pinati (Minister of Tourism): Mr Speaker, I thank the member for his truthful speech. Well done in raising those good thoughts. The intention is for us to work together, share and pray for us to provide responses. The spirit is for us to work collectively so that we can achieve something fruitfully. Whatever you speak of today, do not worry, never week if by next week the airport will be packed with Samoan posters. With due respect.

Afioga LEAANA RONNIE POSINI: Thank you very much Hon Minister. Note that our part is to inform if useful to you, thank you very much.

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I now come to foreign applicants who are applying to our local vacancies as I believe we now have the Samoa Qualifications Authority or SQA. If the credentials for foreign applicants is in doubt, take it for a check to the SQA as we have had problems in the past, with foreigners applying for jobs here, and finding unofficial qualifications or certificates from these people, I take it that this person was a doctor and these were his responsibilities at the hospital, many people could have died due to the wrong treatment for our people. This is why it is important, if there are people who are interested in applying to these vacancies, make sure you have proper qualifications.

Then I come now please honorable Speaker, as I note that the State has \$600,000 was allocated to pay the Medcen hospital in Vailima, seeing that is is a lot of money. See whether possible to make good use of this house that was built using a lot of funding so that this money spent on it could be earned back through revenue.

I now come to the Housing Corporation, thank you to the State and the reason for establishing this Corporation seeing that a lot of houses have been upgraded due to the assistance of this public enterprise. The only advise honorable Speaker especially these borrowings that we call securities of \$20,000 which takes I think 5 years to repay with an additional \$11,000 to make \$31,000. Can there be a slight arrangement to this proposal.

The question to the corporation, how much percentage for those borrowers who are unable to meet their repayments for loans of up to \$20,000. How much percentage? Because I trust this is thought provoking whether borrowers are given higher percentage for not meeting their loan repayments or is everything going smoothly. That is my advise to this authority.

On to the Electric Power Corporation or EPC, I think I raised this issue last year stressing the need for security. I trust Hon Minister, I know there are different contractors apart from EPC that are tasked with fixing electric poles. I did emphasise safety last year during my speech. I see that this job is now outsourced, is there plan by the Ministry to do trainings on security especially for the elderlies.

I trust there is carelessness along the way, this is the advise for those working on electric poles to be aware that our lives could be very risky from this job. I recommend that contractors take trainings on these jobs, if they are not qualified from teachers who are experienced, do not take them to carry out these jobs, ensure safety on things that could likely endanger our people's lives.

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I am again readdressing the matter on vehicle bright lights. Observing this issue lately, this concern is not lessened. The main thing is that the security and vehicle inspections is now under the portfolio of the Ministry of Police and so majority of the vehicles now have these bright lights in the rearside which is hard to see during the night. This is very dangerous for vehicles coming from behind and could cause accidents. Just an advise Hon Minister, thank you as the Ministry of Police is now working 24 hours because LTA were only on the job until 5 in the evening. Since this issue was mainly carried out in the night, it is strictly prohibited in the country.

Mr Speaker, in the past week I went passed a nightclub that had just been dispersed round midnight, I was curious about the Ministry of Police on this matter. Should there be road blocks by the Ministry round those hours given the numerous toxicated people and travellers driving round that time. I speak of the security of our people because when I come in the morning, I find scattered bottles lying on the road and no doubt this is from the drunks in the previous night causing trouble to drivers along the road.

Regarding ambulance vehicles, and reflecting on one of the emergency cases in Poutasi, there was no ambulance and the ambulance from Apia had to travel all the way to Falealili to transport this patient.

I trust more pain fell upon this patient given the long delay which does not only apply to Poutasi and the hospital alone, it also applies to all district hospitals for your attempt Hon Minister and the State to have a thorough look into this matter on ambulances please.

I wish to thank the State for the Loto Samasoni bridge, the road leading to Maagao, I trust it would be good to extend this Maagao road to Faatoia connecting to Vaiala Uta and Moataa Uta leading to Moataa so that travelers can come straight to Malifa and the hospital. Thank you so much seeing that this road project is soon to start, and taken from the statement of the Minister, for the sake of our people, this project will be launched before the Pacific Games.

Another matter honorable Speaker, have a look again at the penalties for crime breakers. The way these penalties are being publicised on social media, I get irritated of these allegations for some penalties. The State should consider these penalties as in my belief, the influence from abroad is very strong whilst we are trying to protect our own laws. Not only that, the village councils should also look thoroughly into these matters as it is easy to tell the villages publicising offensive and inappropriate information for the sake of the people.

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I come to the Hon Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour, thank you very much as personally searching for foreign people who came to bring their... they are foreign investors, I have sought the FIC issued by your Ministry, there are foreign investors in the country that have been here for over twenty years and so far they have not received any FIC for the purpose of businesses that they came here to set up. Thankfully, you now have this new program which is renewed after every two years in my belief and trust that this is very significant in your work and things like that.

The use of the Maritime Training School at NUS and the Maritime of the Samoa Shipping Corporation I raised with you Hon Minister, have you thought of merging these two trainings schools together as it seems it is the same training school and a Maritime is already set up at the NUS. It is a lot of money spent for the Maritime School at the Samoa Shipping Corporation.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, the Member has 2 minutes left

Afioga LEAANA RONNIE POSINI: Mr Speaker, I am almost to the end of my speech, just a few things. The other thing that I have noticed are the companies from overseas, they bring in equipments in which people buy and use for their work. The problem is with this, when these machines are damaged and broken the people go back to the sellers for the maintenance parts only to find out that they have spare parts for the machines that they are selling.

Hon Minister if you could look into this matter of bringing in machines to be sold without spare parts. If these machines are damaged and for 3 months without spare parts, I believe that the business will not be able to remain in business. This issue regarding an increase in water bills by the Samoa Water Authority has come to light. Mr Speaker, the increase in water bills should not be stressed out with the schools because schools are not businesses that makes money. It should have been just for the businesses alone. Mr Speaker and the Hon Minister if you could please reconsider this matter for the sake of the school back in the villages.

I now conclude my speech and I would like to say thank you to the Hon Prime Minister, I know we may have gone overboard with the requests given to the Cabinet, but believe we are only helping out, and reminding you that we are supporting you all the way. I hope you will use our opinions for the good. God Bless Mr Speaker as well as the support from my Constituency. Bless this Sitting.

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MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you to the Member for Safata for your speech. I believe the floor is open for another Member who wishes to speak. Very well, we are familiar with this situation regarding the Main Appropriation and the Supplementary Appropriation Budget.

I believe the Finance Committee will take the floor soon enough and I also believe the Chairperson have prepared to speak if however Members take long to speak I will let the Government reply as we have other work and responsibilities for today.

I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, I seek your opinion if possible for us to start responding, as we progress with our response I trust we will find more thoughts along the way to voice out. If it pleases Mr Speaker we will start.

MR SPEAKER: I believe that our practices may change whilst our foundation remains, and since we are at our new Parliament House, we can start like that.

I call upon the Member for Salega East. Very well. The Member is making the work of the Speaker easier.

I call upon the Member for Salega East.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI (Salega): Thank you Mr Speaker for this opportunity. I took the time to stand up due to the utmost respect towards other Members, if I and Laauli are done speaking then everything is done.

Mr Speaker I believe that you have already voiced praises and thanks to our Heavenly father for God is God, God of Peace and a God of Counsellor. I also believe Mr Speaker, that we are blessed with the presence of the Speaker of the House, respected Members of the House, as well as the Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet Ministers and Members who were chosen, faia mai le fuifui. I would also acknowledge the Government Heads, the dignity of the media in their role in broadcasting of our Parliamentary proceedings, and the support of Samoa in its honorifics. Well done to everyone for your perseverance.

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Mr Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Hon Minister of Finance, CEO and the Ministry for the well prepared Budget tabled. A job well done also to the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson and the entire Finance Committee for the hand in preparation of the Budget for this year with the Committee Report submitted. Thank you.

I would also like to thank all the Government Ministries for your contribution and assistance in the development of our country. I would also like to thank private organizations for their support and their contribution in developing Samoa and its economy. I also thank all the countries and the IMF for all the grants and aiding projects and for allowing us to loan for the development of our small country.

I further thank all the paramount chiefs of Samoa residing overseas and in the country especially those who are contributing and serving the country from afar. The thing is, your service and contribution is appreciated and we thank you all for being thoughtful and the love that you have for this country.

Special thanks to my Constituency of Salega East for your silent support while I carry on as your representative in opposing the strong HRPP administration in particular, that comprises of 46 Members. They hold the strength to power and we thank you all for the great support, encouragement and prayers.

Mr Speaker, I believe that Samoa has heard of the boundless support they have given us on this vital Parliamentary Sitting, where we come together to deliberate and converse for the benefit and the progress that we are in. Since I am also devoted to the Bible, I would like to use the phrase at the time when Jesus was feasting together with his disciples, Jesus words of encouragement to his disciples "*I will make you fishers of men*" Jesus did not say "*I will make you, so that you could eat from the catch of other people*" Mr Speaker, that is word of encouragement to the House.

I now address the Budget Mr Speaker. I wish to voice the respectful and humble opinions on behalf of Salega East on the main Appropriation Budget and the Supplementary Budget on what lies ahead and what might not happen in the next 12 months. If we look at this situation Mr Speaker, we are opting to what we can achieve and what we cannot.

I will speak Mr Speaker on the matters as of last year if we have achieved them within the financial year last year up to this year because the truth is, whether the achievement of the development goals of the State were intended to benefit Samoa.

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Mr Speaker in the financial year 2016/2017, the development goal that the Government was looking into, is to level our wants with the means that we had. This was the best goal we came up with which showed deep consideration and love for our country. That was the goal then before the financial year 2017/2018. It has not been 5 years and the goal has changed, to strengthen policies to enforce the Laws. This is when I knew that something was wrong Mr Speaker, we have disregard our first goal which was to limit the wants according to the funds we have available. I believe, at that time it was getting hard managing the debts. Then we come to the financial year 2018/2019, we have to make brave decisions. We have to make solid decisions and disregard anxiety and other statements made because during other times it is not done using bravery rather it is trying to be brave and after that, then they get into...

MR SPEAKER: Apologies to the Member for Salega East, interruption from the Member for Faleata West.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi (Faleata West): Mr Speaker, I believe this is the second Member to have discussed the same goal of making decisions with bravery and boldness Mr Speaker the correct wording of the goal is to make decisions with confidence as indicated in the English version. With all due respect thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, thank you to the Member for Faleata West for assisting the Member for Salega East.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: Mr Speaker, the reason why we say the word is bold is because the Minister himself said bold and this is what we are following given the explanation of the Minister which is very important to Parliament particularly for Parliamentary Sitting records of the House.

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the Prime Minister

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, there is an apostrophe in front of the letter 'a' you must have missed that, then the whole word would be (to'a) in English its confidence.

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This happens usually when we have these sittings, the person who gets lost in the Samoan Language is the very person who did not attend the pastor's samoan classes where we were taught the pi tautau or the Samoan alphabet starting from A, E, I, O, U so you must have been taught the other pi tautau which is Fa, Fe, Fi, Lo, Lua and it explains why you missed the apostrophe. Mr Speaker this is when you use common sense and experience. There is no classroom that teaches experience, but you will only find it as you work and learn from the mistakes that you make along the way, it is here where you will find experience defined as learning from the mistakes. This is said to be very expensive and you must know these things, the difference between to'a with an apostrophe and toa without the apostrophe.

This is to clarify the matter and help the Member as I see that he does not know the samoan pi tautau very well. It is the pi tauatu (samoan alphabet) not the other pi koso.

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the Member.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: Mr Speaker point of clarification and order for the Hon Prime Minister. In our village we have 3 different religions and if you visit all these churches, you will see the pastor's wife sitting with the pi tautau or the Samoan alphabet teaching the children. So, there are 3 samoan alphabets in my village that I read everyday.

As for to'a and toa (confidence and brave) if you are confident you are brave, and if you are not confident, then you are afraid. So there is no real difference between these two things.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, there is a huge difference, the problem is, it is like you are not living, you have only been there yesterday. You are lucky to be here instead of the old man who was supposed to go, if that old man would have contested you, sure enough you would have not been here.

MR SPEAKER: Let us move on.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: Mr Speaker, he speaks too much but he cannot do what I am doing, if i had a chief title in Lepa, he would have not stand a chance. Mr Speaker....

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MR SPEAKER: Let us move on from the matter of bravery and confidence.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: Mr Speaker, that is the advice of Salega for the Hon Prime Minister and our Government, let us try and cut down our debts, it is debts that I wanted to talk about. I know that we are loaning, but we lessen our borrowings. The words of wisdom, “E sili si mea magumagu a o maua i le filemu”, “*It is better to gain something small peacefully*” for it is here that we will find happiness and freedom for our people.

MR SPEAKER: Apologies to the Member, interruption by the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, I have talked about this matter so many times now, it has been raised in the previous Budget and we still managed to earn profit after the debt was settled. This is important to see how capable we can pay off these debts. The amount of debts is not important, the amount of work to develop our country and create employment for our children so that these debts can be settled. For example, our new airport lounge that was built with the money that we loaned from China. Thanks to the Government of China that the airport is now in good use whilst we have more time to settle this loan from them. Mr Speaker, these are very easy situations. We have also publicised after our caucus meeting that we are only paying cents from the tala to start paying off this loan. We have also laid out in the Budget distributed to you, the allocated amount set aside to pay off the debts. Secondly, we have also set aside the amount to operate the country.

Thirdly, we have money set aside for our projects. Now see the huge amount left to fund our projects and same time, we still have ongoing projects that are funded from our constant borrowings that could go to 3, 4, 5 years for the clarification of the Member. How many years since we started working on the bridge in town? We did not do it in a year, this is the second year since we have started on the project and we still have the grant from the Japanese Government which is not borrowed money.

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Mr Speaker, there is no country in this world that would give this kind of huge amount in a form of grant when they know that we have piled up debts that needs to be settled. The statements that you continue to make clearly indicates the lack of insight you have of our financial matters. Mr Speaker that is the situation.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, I advise the Member to please refrain from debating this matter for the Government has the final clarification, the Member also has been in the Finance Committee for quite some time and he also knows and understand the Standing Order. So, in saying this, I pardon the Member to please move on to the next matter, the Prime Minister has already responded to that matter.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI (Salega East): Thank you, Mr Speaker, we do not have a disagreement with the Hon Prime Minister, we are just taking it slow, and in the sense that I lack understanding in money and budgeting, i believe it is the same with managing of my pancake business in Savaii. I loaned \$1,000 to start up the business, however we are talking about millions here in developing the country that is the only difference with the amounts but it is all the same style on how this is done, and I do understand this very well.

Mr Speaker this is why I am advising because it is not just me who is asking and observing these debts. Conduct constructive and worthy projects. Have a look at the project regarding the wharf in Vaiusu. Why build it when there is no ship to anchor there? The boat only comes once a fortnight thus adding another billion on top of the debt that we already have, this debt is not appropriate...

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, we have not yet come to that point...

MR SPEAKER: Apologies to the Member, interruption by the Prime Minister.

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Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: The project has not come to its end. This is another person who is spreading false information on this matter which correlates with the project in Asau, however he is from Savaii.

This is why there is a rejection with this project being established in Vaiusu, because they thought that there will be an establishment of another wharf for war ships in Savaii. How can we fit a war ship in that teeny reef that is used only for canoes and fishing boats. Mr Speaker, this is one Member who is working against useful projects of the government. I just want to say, it is time for you to think outside the box. I do not know if this is your fourth term as a Member yet you do not speak of anything that can benefit this country, you have only spoken false and wrong opinions and accusations, if you can make use of your time in the Parliament wisely your constituency may have benefited a long time ago, repudiate, this is all you do.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, I wish to apologise to the Member, I advise you, these are the things to enable the progress of our work, I believe that there will be no debate on this matter. As usual, when the Government has the final clarification on any matter raised please. Move on to the next point as I see that you have a lot prepared for us. The Prime Minister has clarified that matter I ask the Member to not be dismayed for we are here with Moses and the Prophets.

We have 13 Cabinet Members. The CEOs and Government employees are the ones who are working in support of the Government by giving advice to the Leaders of the country. Pardon the member of Salega, move on to the next matter, you have less minutes left.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: Thank you Mr Speaker, I am not on my own at the moment, my God is with me now, he is on my side. So, I know that what I am saying, I am not giving any false accusations, I am only advising on our debts and that is also the advise of the IMF to guide the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet for Samoa to gain back its good economy. There are a lot of flaws at the time hence I will not talk more on that matter.

Mr Speaker, speaking of the development goals we set as guideline to guide the developments of the State. I was elected in 2006, debts were limited to 40%, 2007, 2008 and 2009 up to this year, debts have gone way past half of the revenue at a limit of 53%.

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This is the reason why IMF is always considering lending us a hand because we are in the depths of hell with our debts.

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

MR SPEAKER: Apologies to the Member, just a minute...

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: I want to ask the Member, do you understand what you are talking about? Tell me, do you understand?

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: Yes, I understand very well.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: Can you tell us, how much is the revenue do we have so far in our economy? In millions

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: It is 2.2 your honor.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: 2.2? billion? See! Now you see that, it is 2.2 billion.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: 1.1 billion.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: What is the state that we are in? We have just got out of the poor zone. I must say these word out loud. We have been broke before the year 2014, now we have just got back up. Who do you think did this? The United Nations. We are not to be classified under the least developing countries as Samoa's economy has now reached \$2.2 billion.

This is what I am trying to say as everything comes out in the open no matter how hard you try to hide them. Mr Speaker, that is the situation. Whatever that is thrown at the government that I know is not true, we will not sit back and let it rest, we will always drive to counter all the time.

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But do keep coming, I am happy to see you coming forth with your concerns for the country to find out just how slow and weak you are on what you are discussing.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member for Salega the Member is also a senior member of the House and is a long serving member for the Finance Committee, and should be well aware but there is a difference as known.

The Prime Minister has spoken using straightforward remarks for the people tuning in and in simple words, we have moved away from the category of very poor. However this is your own view member for Salega, you are being bothered but do not worry, have faith and trust in the Cabinet and CEOs of the Ministries who are working to bring advise to us.

As such, pardon the member, I refuse to cut your time lest I get the blame. Keep in mind that I have all the right to stop any conflict during Parliament proceedings in this House. On that note, you have one more chance before it is over. Also note that we do not have gangs in here as that is left outside of the House, when we come in, pardon me, move on to another matter.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: Mr Speaker, as noticed, the state we are in, I assure you that nothing is happening, we are just on disagreement on some thoughts. The Hon Prime Minister has asked me how much revenue and I have already responded it is 2.2 billion.

MR SPEAKER: Respectable Members of the House, I see that Laauli is poking you, and trust that you two are colluding to anger the old man. I advise you two not to anger the Prime Minister.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: 2.2 billion and 1.1 billion are very nice digits.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, point of clarification, I am happy that everytime I ask I get a reply, it means that he understands the matter.

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The Member knows and understands the situation that we are in yet he still look around for loops to make it seem that what the Government is doing is wrong. So, I suggest that you keep trying, the more you counter the matter, the more the country thinks that you are weak and unwise.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: Mr Speaker, the 2.2 billion in our economy were all cleared by assets. 2.2 billion or 1.1, these are all money.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Member, you have just got the answer correct, at the time when the Prime Minister asked you, you gave him the wrong answer. Interruption by the Prime Minister, apologies to the Member

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoui: This is one thing that the Member usually forgets, when it is our time to speak they all sit down. Listen while I clarify all these matters, this s just showing how unwise you are. Because these debts have different periods of repayments, some have a period of 30 years to repay and by the time these projects are repaid, money have grown from these developments and are used to pay back these debts.

When we came into Parliament in 1982, there was less debt and what was available then, there was only backbone chicken and various ships bringing in these goods supplies that everyone had rushed to get to fill the empty shelves in the shops at that time. At that time, an old man would find it hard to find a sack of rice or a box of tin fish to resell at the shops in Savaii.

Mr Speaker, that is the difference. Our country has developed and all the other countries of the world they all depend on this kind of situation in order to grow. We do not have enough money, if we have enough money and if we ask people to pay tax they complain.

Mr Speaker, this is why we depend on the tariffs and duties from imported goods, yes these are also called tax and we cannot depend on this alone. Why? Because if this is the case, and seeing our children growing, and by the next election, we see the growing number of our children from 5 years, 4 years, 3 years, 2 years, 1 year olds and newborns. What do we do with these children? We should use them, instead, you are only emphasising debts and not intending to build any developments, that is not how a government works.

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MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you, I call upon the Minister of Finance. Apologies to the Member for Salega, interruption by the Minister of Finance.

Afioga Hon Sili Epa Tuiofi: Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity, for the sake of records, I want to correct the current debt amount starting from the month of December 2018 is \$1.06 billion, which is 49% of our GDP, and if we look at the amount spent at the end of each year such as in December and debts repayments it is \$71.70 million and this is the estimated amount paid every year. As aware, we have always prioritized paying our debts and statutory expenditures. The amount that is available to pay for the debts is 11.5% from the money that is earned within the country. If we look at our foreign reserves, we only have 16.1% that is used into pay our debts. If we also look at the money we get from our exports and imports we have only 8.9% and this is also used to pay our debts.

Therefore, we have more than enough to pay our debts. The other thing that you should all be aware of is that the debts has gone below 50% and is improving from 47% to 45%. So the State is carefully monitoring our borrowings and repayments. Parliament should also be aware the reason why we had high debt is duuring the time we were struck by a natural disaster and we needed financial assistance to regenerate the productivity of our infrastructural projects espically our roads.

In regards to loans from the world banks, we have the most debts if we combine both the ADB and the World Bank, the percentage rate of borrowing from the Chinese Government is lower. If we add the money we owe to the Japanese Government and other Arabian Funding Organizations such as the open fund that we got money from to fill our oil tanks hence seeing improvement as we move forward, the amount of our debts is improving as it is getting lesser as priority is being given to it.

As I have mentioned regarding our loans repayments, there is no need to panic. This is final clarification on this matter regarding the debts of the Government seeing that we are able to repay them with the assistance of our foreign exchange to repay these borrowings and we should not be worried. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you well done.

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Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr, Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, the Minister of Finance has elaborated, since we were talking about percentages. I will give the exact numbers to make it easier.

Our revenue this year is \$826million, then we paid our debt with \$70million, leaving the remaining \$750+ million, which is being used by the Government. The government has allocated more than \$80million for our development projects. The Government is trying to ensure that there is enough money to implement the developments as these developments will provide employment, and to carry out the needs of your constituencies. Debts have already been paid and financial appropriations has also been achieved for the State thus leaving \$80million to help put into action the demands of your constituencies.

As for the ongoing \$166 million funded development, therefore, another \$80million will be added, where will it come from? It will come from our ongoing developments, because there are still developments underway with the assistance of foreign governments. Mr Speaker that is what the Minister stated in percentages. As I have made it easier to understand by stating the actual numbers. Nevertheless, there is an important point, as he mentioned 11.5%, which goes into paying off our loans. All that money comes from our revenue; only 11.5cents is less from \$1, only 11.5cents is less from each \$1. However, there is still 80+ cents left from each \$1. That is the balance shown here in percentages, when converted into whole figures; it is \$750million remaining balance after paying off our debts. That is why, since you seem to be worried about the debts. The full payment of these debts for this year has already been clarified. But there is still more money left for the Government operations. Once the operating costs for the Government is removed, there will be \$80million excess from our own development funds.

Mr Speaker, thank you to the Minister of Finance as this is his responsibility. I offer my assistance as to explain it more. I think it is time for tea break.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thank you. I apologize to the member for Salega. The Speaker does not intend to stop you from making your statement. I have thought that you would speak until recess, but since it is time for our break.

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I believe your time is up in terms of our work. So... in the spirit of the Chair, I refuse to end a speech, but it has been ended because of our recess, which also ends the time for the member.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: Mr Speaker, I have yet to greet and thank my constituency. I ask for another opportunity if possible... because it is not yet time for ours.

MR SPEAKER: You will be given 15 minutes each for each individual matter. But let me announce, now that we have reached our normal recess, the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly will be set aside for its recess.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly was suspended for normal recess at 4:49pm and resumed at 5:27pm.

MR SPEAKER: I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed. I believe that the honourable members of Parliament, the Hon Prime Minister and the honourable members of Cabinet as well as the representatives of the Nation have additional strength to continue our work. It is also expected that the Chief Executive Officers and Public Bodies have renewed strength.

Before recess, I apologize to the member for Salega East, as his opportunity and time have expired. I invite another member to rise and speak.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: With respect your Excellency. There is one more issue...

MR SPEAKER: I call on the member for Salega East. Anything else...

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: Two more minutes to conclude my statement Your honor, we will finish our statement in two minutes with respect.

MR SPEAKER: Even though I have already made a decision, but I pity the member. Make it short, and then conclude your statement.

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Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI: Thank you Mr Speaker, I wish there was enough time, or another thirty minutes, but it is very difficult because this member is respectful to the Speaker and your decision.

In concluding my statement Mr Speaker, I offer advice to the Hon Prime Minister and our government, we should accept this opportunity we are given. Please have empathy, be cautious with our debts because...

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr, Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, the Budget has been discussed and issues will not be repeated. Talks on the budgets for all Ministries have... already been submitted to the Cabinet. The reason for upstanding is due to the speech of the member, it was not properly clarified. If you look at yourself, you are alone, and you have not worked in the Government, where the financial affairs of the Ministry are being discussed yes you seem controversial. I am not saying to stop your objection, but I feel sympathy towards you, because all of these strong brains of the country were scholars abroad. They are preparing all Ministries and all Public Enterprises along with the Ministers. These Ministers are not dysfunctional Ministers, some of whom hold special expertise, lawyers and business related matters. They are special developers, because the Government does not bring in unproductive things. But you have talked about this issue over and over again, as if the Government is not preparing the budget properly.

Mr Speaker, these matter are regularly discussed between our Government and foreign States as well as foreign Institutions. The member knows that all experts are scattered all around the world where all funding assistance comes from and although they submit their own suggestion, they know very well that our Government is planning things carefully.

They also were of the view that the planning of our bus stops were not implemented well and were displeased when it was built by the strong efforts of the Government. The donating grants were put on hold, as they thought the decision made by the Government was wrong. So, I think in about eight to ten months time, we will look at the preparations of this project before we make our apology and reopen the inflow of these funds to resume the works of the State.

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Mr Speaker, I am reluctant to tell you these things, because it has not been one or two although, there have been several negotiations between our Government and Foreign Financial Institutions. Many of them are also government employees who are working in financial positions, and have worked abroad in the Washington provident banks of the world and have also worked in the largest banks in the world, Asian banks and that they have returned with adequate knowledge and are ready. Mr Speaker, it is easy to look at these numbers without understanding, which is why these types of thoughts are surfacing. But you must sit down and try to understand the information that is given.

How many years has it been since the Human Rights Protection Party took office? Are the things of those days still available today? This is just a question to the member. Is there a struggle for rice bags? Is there struggle for sugar? Is there a shortage of cigarettes for six months? That is the case Mr Speaker. You cannot hide things from the Government, because it is very clear where we came from. It is what we came through with past governments.

That is my assistance your honor, because the member is still trying to make sure his opinion is correct, the Government is saying that this is where the final speech comes on this issue.

MR SPEAKER: Well done, I apologize to the opinion of the Leader of the Country, due to the changes of the decision by the Chair. The idea is that, with the witness and support of the country, for those who do not fully understand the work we are doing now. But these are the areas of concern, because the member never ceases to rise and state his own opinion, which makes the Government uneasy. That is why they stand in point of clarification to make previous issues clear, because the member also, pardon me if the language is offensive, was also a victim in the times of struggles for rice bags and boxes of herrings.

The statement made by the Hon Prime Minister is true, these were the things of the past that no longer exist today. However, I offer my opinion to the member for Salega East, pardon your desire, lest I get the blame by this side of the House for giving you multiple opportunities, but these are the concerns of the opposition. However, you spoke in the biblical words at the beginning of what Jesus said to his disciples, 'Go forth and become fishers of men'. Therefore, leave this matter as it is and let another member speak, I apologize to the member for Salega East.

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Probably... the member for Aana Alofi No.2 is upstanding. Although he is one of the members of the Finance Committee, no, speak of things that can benefit the constituency.

Tofa ILI SETEFANO TAATEO TAAFILI (Aana Alofi No.2): Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I believe we have already regained strength from the meal we had earlier. Pardon the sanctity of the Legislative Assembly of Samoa and the dignity of this Sitting day and the Meeting of Samoa.

To the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet, Associate Ministers, and the presence of the Chairpersons of each Parliamentary Committees and members of the House of Samoa. Greetings also at this hour and the presence of the Heads of each Government Minister who are the working hard for the sake of the Government.

It has been a long day for the dignity of the House of Representatives to spend their efforts in reviewing of the 2019/2020 Budget.

Before we begin our remarks, and express our views on the Budget, we cannot forget the support of Samoa, his Highness Le Ao o le Malo and your Good Lady, as well as your excellency the Member of the Council of Deputies and your Good Lady, the Chief Justice and the Judiciary, and Samoa in all of its honorific salutations. Thank you for the support and the prayers.

Now, we rise with respect, given the issues brought before the House of Representatives of Samoa thus, we trust that this is a Meeting Table for us to state our views and requests, to the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet in accordance to past years and the journey that we have embarked for the development of Samoa. Not only with the new developments, but also ongoing work and improvements. Now that we have arrived safely at the end of this year and the ending of this Budget, we are now planning another financial year.

We express gratitude to the Leader and the Government for your continuous hard work. And if there was a problem, then in the normal words of the country, *e le atoa ni ia i se vaa o se tautai*. But our prayers and support, true is the word, '*ia ua tuu tasi lava faiva o Pili*', to you and the Cabinet to handle. This has fulfilled the saying given to the pigeon snare, '*ua se togi le seuga na lagatila ma faapulou le tualima*', well done to the great works.

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Now that we have expressed our gratitude at this time as we move forward from the previous financial year, but at this hour, let us just express our feelings about the few requests to the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet, for the development of communities. The truth is our wants never ceases, our want is also based on the economy, our wants also depend on what is necessary from time to time.

Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, I thank you, the road extension from Leulumoega has been nicely done from the coast, which is just right for this season whilst the road towards Faleolo is also being developed. Because this had been problematic not only for Aiga i le Tai but also us who are struggling in the morning to transport our children. Thank you to the honourable member for this wonderful work.

Our only request is that this road is always dark in the night and we have already submitted our appeal to the Electric Power Corporation for some lights to illuminate the roads for the country to travel in dark night. That is our request to the honourable member.

Another request regards my village of Nofoalii, there is an internal road that runs through the village connecting the road that passes the village Primary School and Nuuausala. That is the road used by the children to attend school at Nuuausala College; it is also, where the Primary School of my village is located. The situation is dire because during the dry season, they are completely dusty. It is affecting families living nearby. Even in the rainy seasons, they are soiled by cars. As I said before, persuasion is a disrespectful custom, but I will leave it with you.

Hon Minister of the Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment, even though the seat of David is not occupied, I notice the attendance of the Associate Minister, my request before you as you are equivalent to the Minister himself, the seawall of my village of Vaialua we have been requesting for the many years, unfortunately it still remains the same.

Then we come to the Minister of Education, I humbly pray and request the Minister and the Ministry, if we can receive a little increase or extra funds for the pre-schools. Attempts for better education for the children is difficult, as in most cases, teachers are paid by the villages themselves. Sometimes, when the village has no money, pardon me, we would sell sacks of taro in order to pay the teachers. Hon Minister, see if possible to have an additional raise for teachers in Pre-Schools.

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The Hon Minister of Health, we are aware that you are new to the Ministry, but you are not new in dealing with these issues. There is no ambulance for our Hospital in Leulumoega, and if there is a serious illness, there are two ways to handle it, either the family takes the patient to Motootua or wait for an ambulance to arrive. I also sent an appeal to the former Minister, but nothing happened.

The other thing, Hon Minister, there is a permanent doctor. However, the testimony of the people, pardon me, let this not be perceived as inferior, it is the current female doctor from the Philippines. People have testified that the service provided is quite unacceptable sometimes, when she scolds the patient, it is as if she is scolding her children. I ask that your honour look into this matter, with due respect.

I believe that concludes our requests of wants, we will leave it to your honor the Leader of the country and the Cabinet, as you are responsible for implementing the requests such as the normal saying of the State.

At this hour, we would like to express our appreciation to my beloved constituency of Aana Alofi No.2. The support and prayers of the reverends of Leulumoega and Nofolii, your prayers have strengthened the member, as we seek for a better future and success for our constituency and Samoa. Congratulations to my village of Nofolii in all its honorary salutations.

I turn to my village of Leulumoega in all its honorary salutations, as well as Matuanatogi, you who has been appointed to take care of the sanctity and glory of our district, as well as Samoa. Nevertheless, at this hour, let me speak a bit on the 2019/2020 Budget. The fact is, it has been two weeks for this Committee to deal with the review of the Budget that was attended and submitted by each Authority. Woe to your inadequate share made from time to time, praise be to God for He is a God that provides and the attained funds for the benefit of the Samoan Government. This is the only prayer to God for blessings, so that Samoa will not be affected by natural disasters, because that is what will devastate our economy. However, we will not be discouraged as we continue our prayers to God to bless Samoa and its Government.

Mr Speaker, you are the conductor and the director of the House, we appreciate your patience, as there are times when friction occurs during Parliamentary meetings. Rather, with your composure you guide and manage the decisions for Samoa, so that our Parliamentary Meetings are maintained and glorified.

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May God bless you with more years so you can continue your duties. That is our statement for today; bless the Parliamentary Sitting of Samoa, while the man from Aana lives, thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you to the honourable member for Aana Alofi No.2. This is also an opportunity for another member. I call on the member for Falealili West to stand.

Tofa AUMUA ISAIA LAMEKO (Falealili West): Mr Speaker, thank you for the opportunity at this hour of the day. The floor was set this morning, and the House is in discussion of the Main Estimates for the 2019/2020 financial year together with the Supplementary Appropriation Bill No.2 2018/2019.

Before I go into the details of the Budget, I would like to greet His Highness the Head of State and his Good Lady. I also offer greetings to the honourable Member of the Council of Deputy and your wife, and greetings to the Hon Prime Minister and the honourable Cabinet Ministers. I also acknowledge the presence of the distinguished Chief Justice and the Ministry of Justice. I also salute the Speaker, and the honourable members of Parliament, as well as the holy servants of God. I offer greetings also to the Chief Executive Officers of the Government Ministries and Corporations, as well as our private business partners in Samoa. I also acknowledge the presence of the chiefs of our villages and communities.

The sanctity and glory of Samoa cannot be forgotten, for eternity and forever. In further, I cannot forget my constituency of Falealili and its honorary salutations. We express our gratitude and congratulations, thank you for the prayers and the support. Thank you also for your backing of the Government programs over the years until this day.

The overarching goal of our Budget under discussion today is unity for a prosperous future of Samoa. Firstly, I would like to thank the Ministry of Finance, the Hon Minister, the Chief Executive Officer and the entire staff. Thank you for compiling this Budget. It is not easy; the reason why it is not easy is that we have prioritized the games that our country will be hosting. In addition, the beautification of our front yard, our Apia Waterfront, which has reduced funding for the development of Samoa.

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I pray and offer a suggestion for next year, if you could raise another \$100million, for our infrastructures, works on our access roads, fords and concrete roads and bridges for the use of our people every day this year.

To the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour, I would like to thank the Hon Minister and the Ministry for their dedicated work. This is the type of work we are prioritising, by sending our people to work in foreign countries to get resources to be allocated in supporting their families, in works like the apple picking in New Zealand, part-time work in Australia, but now our Government has also provided the opportunity for those with various traits in carpentry work.

The Government has prioritized these types of work in various traits, because I believe, if we develop and improve the skills of these people in various fields of work, they will be able to return and help in developing our country.

The only thing that should also be, for our recommendation, it is certain that there is no longer a committee called the price control board. As in previous years, the Government has passed competition for the prices of goods. The percentage for the product with the high price is increased, and then we have the competition to see and find who has the cheapest product to make it affordable for those who use the product.

Our only request and recommendation is to examine some of the products such as the conditions of imported vehicles from overseas, like second hand vehicles that are being sold to our country. In addition to safety, there should be a scale for profit earnings to be used by car dealers. Furthermore, some businesses are using electronic devices like laptops today for promotions. A committee appointed under the new Act should consider this matter.

The Minister of Agriculture, we offer congratulations and thanks to the Hon Minister and the Ministry for the rhinoceros beetle project in attempt to reduce, and to encourage the replanting of the coconut. Additional thanks to the Samoa cocoa planting project and the noticeable change in the cocoa growing plant in Afia and its distribution to the members of the public. Just a plea and request to the Hon Minister regarding an additional fishing pole for Falealili in Poutasi. I did request for this in the previous Budget and the temporary status of our wharf, so that the fishing boats in our district can use it.

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To the Land Transport Authority, I would like to thank the Hon Minister in accordance to the hard work done over the years. We believe that it is the Government policy, adjusting its roles and responsibilities from time to time depending on its capacity. From my point of view, this is one area that the Government should also look into, and we advise that the LTA to focus on our roads. What I mean is to prioritize our roads, we should have inspectors known as road compliance standards inspectors, to examine and ensure that the contractors are complying with the road standards they were tendered to do during the time the road tendering was advertised. In addition to checking that the road is well paved, or see if there are ditches for the roads. As well as examining the tar thickness or set percentage of tar used on the road. This is our request to the LTA.

We have also discussed with the Hon Minister of Works regarding other roads, although there are concrete roads under request. The pavement road at Satalo, when the water flows... it is very similar to the water mentioned by one of the members for Siumu, it rarely flows, but when there is heavy rain, then the water will burst, making it impossible for people to travel, including cars.

The other concrete road we request is the pavement in our sub-village of Piu, which is used by the Samoa Water Authority. It may take some time, before the SWA can have the money to build this concrete road, so it can be used when we have floodings. The internal roads within each of our villages, starting from Saleilua, I have asked for a road to the village of Iliili, to find a way to implement it. The road to Poutasi is being used by the hospital and the tar is in very poor condition. The road next to Vaovai, at the end of last year road contractors paved this road.

To this day, the road maintenance team has not gone to repair the road, but the road is badly damaged at this time. When you go through this road, it will connect you to the other side of Vaovai neighbouring the village of Matautu. There is also another inland road that goes through the other side towards the school building at Matautu and Vaovai, both of which are impassable to the coast. Similarly, in our village of Matautu, the road is good going inland, but the situation is very bad halfway down the road. I request to those who are repairing the roads if they are doing maintenance to find ways to fix this problem.

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The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, your member has noticed the status of the contractors mowing the roadside public road areas. Not only with the public roads that goes to Saleilua and Sapoe and Utulaelae but also inland roads which have already been tarred. The mowers arrive too late, but I ask that the Minister and the Ministry look into forming a partnership with these villages, to let them mow this part of the road. The good thing about this is that it will provide jobs for the young people and it will beautify the community.

The Ministry of Police, I would like to thank you for the good work you have done in our post in Poutasi, as well as here in Apia. Conclusively, this constituency supports the Supplementary Appropriation Bill No.2 2018/2019 and the Appropriation Bill 2019/2020. This is also an opportunity to wish good luck to the Hon Prime Minister and the Samoan team for the Pacific Games.

These are your blessings and good luck. Falealili in its honorary salutations, that is our contribution, may God bless our constituency and the country of Samoa.

Mr Speaker, may the House be blessed and thank you for the opportunity.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thanks. I call Afioga i le Gafatasi who is one of the senior memberse of Falealili.

Afioga FUIMAONO TEO SAMUELU TEO (Falealili East): I think it is good to speak after my dual representative for my district. This is why I have spoken last, in case he slips anything and I will remind briefly. Things should be similar, since he has used his glasses; I too will copy the same.

I am of the view that our journey is nearing the end. When we have overcome the physical, emotional, and spiritual challenges. The ways have been deep, the weather sharp. We have witnessed the bright colour of victory when the leaders are joined together in good health and fine spirit. The worst has passed and vanished into the cruel sea.

The spirit of God has been upon the House of Samoa in Tapueleele who guided the leaders of the House. Tiafau is sanctified, for it is the House where our grievances are heard, wisdom is observed and perfected, the stage where we search for constructive vision for the welfare of Samoa today and the years to come. The words of David, 'Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good...' May God be glorified forever more.

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I acknowledge the honorable Speaker, Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet, the dignity of the members of the House, the presence of the Judiciary. You are the hands and feet of the Government works, the CEOs of the various Government Ministries, thank you for your services and works, well done to you.

There is a common adage that goes, when you take your rightful place on your throne, your defender is ever watching, such is the nature of our relationship. There is view honorable Speaker, we should never forget the support of His Highness Ao o le Malo and his good lady, the member of the Council of Deputy and his good lady. Also the Church Ministers of various denominations who are praying for spiritual life for Samoa. Lest we go overboard, our representative has already touched upon our honorific salutations

There is view Hon Minister, bear with us as we do not have that many requests, if we have already presented it to you, just for the sake of reminding you for a time of less than three or a half, that is the reminder.

I will start with the Minister of Health, thank you to the Hon Minister who was in charge, perhaps it is the normal plea, bear in mind a Health Clinic for our district. Poutasi is remote. There is a health clinic in Salesatele, there is no house there just a house foundation. If a small clinic can be set up there just to assist the populated district by providing basic health delivery and offer help for the patients.

It would be very productive to revive the Programme of taking doctors back to the rural district areas where they used to have baby weight measurements and immunizations. I think this would have been a good chance for the elderly and other people to come when they have this baby weight measure day to also take their sugar level and blood measurements and make good use of other health services that is available at the hospital. It would be a very good opportunity to have this revival role back. The setting up of Health Centres will ensure a big help for the elderly in my district in terms of easier travel for them.

I wish to extend a big thanks for the services rendered in Poutasi, I will not discuss the need for an ambulance that is already being raised by another member to station at Poutasi Health Clinic for the sake of emergency cases.

Hon Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour, thank you. According to findings we had, revenue increase has been lifted 3 months ago for our aircraft. I have sought the raise for other things...

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The program being conducted in the rural communities is very good, there are those working in markets, including a man that is used as a spokesperson to promote programs on our aircraft. This covers funerals, matai title bestowment, conventions, church gatherings and this is all good. Because this is also targetting our people where our airplane is traveling to. This is a very good chance for our aircraft in terms of promotion. Thank you very much, the only thing do not compare our airfares with that of the Air New Zealand. Whether the Air New Zealand goes up, let our airfares be lowered to make traveling cheap for the country.

Hon Minister of Tourism, Sala, the man who says he has a ten storey building house. If you have whispered to the Minister of Works in regards to inspections that took place, hopefully the whisper has reached him, fix the roads of the district. There is no doubt, when you take a ride one night, there you will see the road going towards Salani Surf Resort, there is no streetlight there.

I have made a request on... to brighten, even the road going downwards, the road leading upwards is being tarred, and waterflow is being witnessed here pardon me. I will leave it to you, I pray that you will settle this Hon Minister.

The road in Utulaelae is very problematic towards the village. It is beyond maintenance, and I do not think there is anything other than beyond maintenance, or maybe this is it. In plea, we have the request before you, it is a reminder because I know, there are many requests of other members and you only have a small pocket that you carry around with you.

I come now to the tar sealed crossroad starting from the bridge in Salani which all tourists take when going towards Aleipata area. For the information of the Hon Minister, I have already requested the Ministry, because even if we patch the potholes the rain will keep on putting potholes there. What are other ways to fix this instead of burying this road to await the time to tar it? The advise here, it is useless to bury it. This road is beyond maintenance. It needs a new tar. I rode from Fagalii uta to Vaivaise and the road there is very smooth for the tires due to the good tar. It would have been really nice if this tar had reached the ruralside area, it would not have required any maintainance until after 10 years. Because the current roads will have potholes after 2 to 3 years time.

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The plea your honor, the road I requested to be an escaped road during natural disasters. There is an access road to Salesatele that leads to the main road. This road connects the access road of the village and a lot of settlers live along here. I have requested whether possible to patch this road for vehicles to pass it and for the sake of natural disasters and children and those living in the coastal area to access it and escape to and find refuge further inland please your honor.

The road in Salani is already buried, the problem with this road is that it is near the church, the soil mount is storing up water resulting in the removal of this particular road please.

That said, there is a need for two concrete pipes to be installed here for the water to flow freely, pardon the House although it does not matter whether this road is not sealed. Just bury it for vehicles to access it safely when going to the school, these roads have been tarred than the access roads we requested...

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

MR SPEAKER: I call the Leader of the State.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: To save time for members on raising again this issue concerning road improvement as discussed by the Cabinet. In truth and based on observations, the normal process is to improve roads one after another and allocate companies to fix and maintain road divisions. Cabinet has discussed that this doing is no longer useful. Poor maintenance of roads by some companies has been an ongoing issue and the member for Siumu is well aware of it, the General Manager of the Samoa Works and Engineering Limited or SWELL. This is also what he said clearly about his company.

The plan consulted by the Cabinet, it is better to cease funds and all companies come together to fix the roads one after another. It is a norm to fix these roads with the mindset to make good use of the money to buy machines to further improve the roads. The sure thing is, we do not know where the money is going exactly and all we are seeing is failing machines and deteriorating roads.

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The Cabinet has already talked about this issue and the Hon Minister is listening here, Cabinet has visited this concern and it is better to stop that old doing. The reason why we go by this practice is looking at the international undertakings for roadworks improvement whereby the potholes will have to be dugged up and widen them. So far, what is happening now? Even my roads and I ask that you look out for the Prime Minister, I look and find that they use brooms to tar the road and while fixing the road, I have never seen a country that uses brooms.

There was a time I advised the Minister to go and see this doing and a machine arrived and was filled with.... I find huge machines that will end you up becoming very shaky and the tremor would even reach the other island countries like Fiji because of the strong force from these machines, I later found out the story, the machines on the lorry are all off, it was for the purpose of LTA to look at and that was it. That is why it is critical for LTA to do their job with honesty including the Committee, what a waste for this Committee. They should look at these things properly, it is found that they would go ahead and do the job without informing the Minister. The Cabinet is considering this concern properly and the Minister has looked at this new system several times such as the long road fix towards Aleisa that have all been enhanced. This undertaking is now being done in turns.

That is why the Hon Minister had intended for enough money to fix these roads because it is true that roads must be fixed, work has now begun, so bear patience.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, I allow the member you have limited time left.

Afioga FUIMAONO TEO SAMUELU TEO: Thank you honorable Speaker for the clear clarification. We pray for the Hon Minister of Works, we do not want to see these unfixed machines in our district. We need good ones that are shaky and works well to fix the tar properly.

Lastly please, I have already signed a contract for my road improvement, good news we have had a machine to dig up the road and roadside area with the intention that it will be fixed straight away however, two months later, we are sad to announce that grass has outgrown on this digging soil without any road fix. We want to know the conditions of these contractors and what their deadline is and when we called up the manager of the contract and the respond came that they are looking for a battery to bury the road.

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Then I said to myself, how can this bid win when all these conditions were not met. Just saying your honor, it is not a complaint but a reminder to urgently meet this road inland of Siuniu please.

This is the concluding remark Hon Minister of Finance, thank you for the presentation upon the Budget. There is no area....

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Your honor I do not get you, what village are talking about?

Afioga FUIMAONO TEO SAMUELU TEO: It is the small village Siuniu, like Bethlehem where Jesus was born.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Who?

Afioga FUIMAONO TEO SAMUELU TEO: It is Siuniu.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: The reason for questioning is that I come from Atua, and I have never heard of Siuniu before.

Afioga FUIMAONO TEO SAMUELU TEO: Siuniu is different from brave and confident that we discussed.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Please is this the village of Vavatau?

Afioga FUIMAONO TEO SAMUELU TEO: That is the village of Piu. Piu is different from Siuniu. Piu is quite problematic, whilst Siuniu is better. I conclude your honor...

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Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Our discussion seems like a laughing matter but for clarification as...it is now aware it is Siuniu. Maybe because the i and u is mixed together, it is not Siniu it is Siuniu right? It is now undertandable it is different from Piu. These are the villages that should be inspected and I will come and see these roads myself perhaps by the end of the week because of the fact that we should not be demeaning. All the roads listed here, I will come and see all of them myself.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. Conclude your speech now. See if your village is not covered in the doing whereby after the workers do the job, they would sweep the rocks to bury their houses.

Afioga FUIMAONO TEO SAMUELU TEO: No we do not have that only Aana. Lest you talk of Piu first when Piu is opposite Sapunaoa. For your information, Siuniu is located opposite Salesatele. In regards to our Budget, I wish to talk about it, I appreciate it your Hon Minister. I have observed the seminar cautiously very recently, the query asked by the majority as clarified by the Prime Minister and the Hon Minister in particular about the ten cents.

My plea I gave to the CEO, why do you worry about loans and not make more borrowings to make our developments because if revenue is increased, we can always pay back these debts. Because what I said, if ten cents is from the budget...

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, I beg your pardon, the reason for stating these things is because this is the language used by professors in regards to financial matters, but do not worry these are just non living things.

But leave it to us as the Minister of Finance is working on all those matters, and if we see that, none of us is worried due to hope rendered towards you, except for the member who is absent there due to uneasiness. But we know that all focus is on Pili with respect to the operations of money matters and that is reason why we are...if you see that we are happy is it because there is no problem.

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MR SPEAKER: Thank you. You may conclude now.

Afioga FUIMAONO TEO SAMUELU TEO: The last statement to the Hon Minister is that we support this Budget wholeheartedly one hundred percent plus one. We pray for strength upon the honorable Speaker to take on your duties in Parliament. We also pray for strength upon the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet and your duties which is not simple. If you are mistaken, we are all mistaken.

We pray for blessings upon you and your callings and blessings upon the support of Parliament and the Heads of Ministries and Public Enterprises who are the hands and feet of the State, particularly the support of Samoa, bless the Sitting of Samoa and may I live, thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thank you for the wonderful statement of the member for Falealili for the sake of your district. The floor is now open for another speaker, our time is enough.

This is a good opportunity as the constituencies are all at home listening, pardon if my words are offensive, with the election coming up the member should display his good qualities to the people.

Well, I called on the Deputy Chairman of the Finance Committee if he could speak first, and then the Chairman, while your Committee continues, because there are members that are not part of the Committee so it would be good if they would stand to make a statement when they are ready.

Well, I call on the elder member of this side of the House, honourable Laauli from Gagaifomauga No.3.

Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA (Gagaifomauga No.3): I respect the honourable Speaker, and the House is weary as the sun goes down in the evening.

I believe this is a good opportunity for this constituency to make a statement, as the female member of this constituency has started to voice her desires as well as tips and advice to shape the economy of our country. It was also considered that today would not be long, as I thought that we would voice our opinions tomorrow, because we wanted to give the honour and priority for the Maiden Speech by the Principle of the Chairman in Salafai, the honourable Namulauulu.

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Since it is at the request of the honourable Speaker, it will be done, as this morning I would like to state my concept and desires. May my words from my mouth be acceptable, O Lord; you are my rock and my salvation, the one who redeemed me.

As the Leader of the House prayed fervently at the dedication of this House, the Leader said, "O God, dwell in this house, O God, dwell in this house and may the commencement of the Parliament of Samoa remain." These are the opening statements in my attempts Mr Speaker.

As Samoa and its honorific salutation shall remain for the holy trinity in which we were founded upon is present, the living God is the Almighty, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, to which the Constitution of our Government is enshrined. As the twilight voice of Aana carried the motto, I will rest, as this is your time. The prophecy of salvation travelled by the sea and arrived in Sapapalii, Manono and Leauvaa. That is our freedom Samoa, as those were the joyous mornings of our country as blessings fell upon Samoa from the beginning to the present. So let us prioritize God as we have changed the course of the battle, but we will raise the banner of victory, because he is the reason we were victorious.

I acknowledge the honourable Speaker, as no one is greater than the Chair for the Parliament of Samoa is obedient to you. I will not speak further on your achievements honourable Leaupepe Toleafoa Faafisi, your hard work and services for this Parliament and this country have been written in stone.

Hon Prime Minister and honorable members of the Cabinet, you are the members of the constituency to be elected by Parliament, as well as all the dignitaries of Samoa from the different constituencies and all its honorific salutations. I offer greetings and good health on this part of the day.

As the words of Jesus Christ, in the times when you get a good rest, that is when we are still working to serve my Father, it seems that this afternoon is similar to that. The sun is now setting in its place, but the Parliament is still working for the betterment of Samoa for today and the future.

Greetings also to the Chief Executive Officers of Government Ministries and Corporations, for you are the hands and feet that carry out all that is passed from within this House.

The presence of his Higness, Le Ao o le Malo and his good lady, greetings. The member for the Council of Deputy and his good lady. I also acknowledge the spiritual leaders of the various demoninations around the country for the Will of the Lord.

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Our neighboring island on the East, we do not intend to state anything, we are one father, one mother and one family, the Governor General, honorable Speaker and the dignity of the House and the State. Thank you Namulauulu for the wonderful maiden speech given, well done to you in taking over your district. You have covered everything including the mentioning of honorifics in your speech and for that, I feel the spirit of thankfulness. All authorities admires the founding authority. Leaula and Letufuga were authorities that went and thoroughly considered the seat of Authority. Let wisdom be upon you for the sake of our relationship. May you find far-seeing wisdom for the sake of our relationship.

Honorable Speaker, this is a good time to state the contribution of this constituency. The matter regarding myself is thoroughly known and with due respect to the views and points I made in the past. You have responded Mr Speaker and so as the Leader of the Party and members of Parliament. In truth, I do not intend to go against you and destroy anyone. No that was not the order I came to do. This was the sole decision of sa-Tupua and sa-Malietoa in serving our constituency.

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

MR SPEAKER: I interrupt the statement of the respectable member.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: I was thinking... of a point of order. I thought the Member would not have gone back to the matter already discussed. Especially when he was one of the Members that Parliament had selected as the Speaker and one, which I appointed as one of the Ministers of Cabinet. He is well aware of the Government Parties procedures.

He used to be in that Chair administering the work... he understood the principles of being a member of the Human Rights Protection Party and the provisions why he chose this Party, he signed an agreement knowing what to expect of this Party. In further, those who come last should listen to those who came first. This also happened when his father was in Parliament. These issues need not be discussed in Parliament and therefore, I will not clarify any further as these issues must not be discussed in Parliamentary Sitings.

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Nevertheless, I cannot just sit back and listen to the Member, making his remarks on these concerns. I must interject. The Member is well aware of the practices too as he used to administer proceedings as former Chair in the House regarding the rights of the Party and the rights of a Member. Whenever two members enter into conflict, the Member is well aware of the decision that will come.

These are not matters that were just implemented yesterday, it was established when this Party first started, therefore the Member should be well aware of the provisions and such is the reason for taking the floor, I cannot sit idly while you voice absurd matters which I must avoid.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Member; I want to clarify the matter. There are different addresses made to Tutuila and Ape such as the term used in relation to their relationship. Therefore, I appease the Member and his opinion. Since the Hon Prime Minister has made an interjection there are reasons why we should be cautious of stating such matters. There will come a time to discuss such matters moreover there is a difference in the opinions of people.

I apologize to all of Samoa, because it seems we are going back to reiterate other matters which differs from the orders of the House. This is why to make our work easier; I apologize once again to the Member that spoke earlier. The view of the Hon Prime Minister has already been given and I call on the Member.

Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: I apologize Mr Speaker. I have showed respect also the statement given was not voiced with hatred. The truth is I am hesitant to make a statement outside of this House because all of Samoa already know the matter; there is no one in the world that has not known of this issue. This is why I thought on terms of professionalism I have taken the floor to express a sincere apology on this matter.

I apologize to the Chair, this is the reason why I requested your guidance in the beginning. I apologize if there have been differing views at this time. I also apologize to the Hon Prime Minister, I know the Lord is witness to all this, especially with the opinion voiced on such important Bill. If the opinion voiced has not met expectations then I ask that this humble servant be forgiven.

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I am grateful for our Party, I cannot forget I will not abscond like Faleata or disappear like that of Aana. I come before you all with the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation.

You have answered my plea I only ask that you show kindness upon me as a sign of the agreement we made. Our relationship was not done on paper but by talking with one another face to face. I pray the sun remains on Gibeon, and the moon on Aiorona, for our Party.

I cannot take the floor and voice disappointment on this issue, I cannot Mr Speaker. I only want to convey that I love this Party, I have great respect towards it nevertheless, I hope for forgiveness. Mr Speaker I cannot do anything further also I have followed our principles by withdrawing as a Minister, this is why...

MR SPEAKER: I am concerned lest we go back and redicuss what we already talked about. As I stated earlier, there are different point of views like in the words of Aana. Nevertheless, I get your view and so as the Hon Prime Minister and therefore, leave us this matter. As for the opinion voiced by both members, I apologize as we have different orders to discuss. With respect to Samoa tuning in, we cannot deliberate in accordance to set policies and procedures for this body and that body.

The Parliament is well aware and during the swearing in of the member for Faasaleleaga No.2 given the Code of Conduct and Ethics, this is Parliamentary related and there are of course other provisions for Government Enterprises in accordance to the decision making of the State.

Such is the reason why I am hesitant to revisit this matter again. Nonetheless, your views are well taken and possibly, this is the opinion of the Hon Prime Minister as well. I therefore humbly request the respectable Members taking the floor that your raising views at this time is it, there is no fear. '*O Samoa e leai se gaumatau na o le gaualofa*'. "There is no fear in Samoa only love that will last you forever."

The main thing is that we should abide and walk in God's righteousness. This is the most important aspect. Whether I speak with the tongues of men and angels but have not love, I am only a clanging cymbal or brass cannon. All those things are based on the Law and the Law is based on policies that are created in accordance to the love from God. As such, pardon the respectable member, move on to the next point and the Budget.

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Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: Thank you Mr Speaker I have shown much respect for this House. As for the matter of removing the trust put on me it is not easy to accept, Mr Speaker this is what I want to say...

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker this is the only matter I wanted to talk about according to the view of the Member.

This is 2019, in 1979, this Party was established, and this is the fortieth year ever since the HRPP was established, with its policies that was changed. Mr Speaker, such changes were based on one aspect. To maintain unity of the Party. In 1989 thirty years ago, the term for one of the members who was Chairperson for the Finance Committee was officially ended in this Parliament, the reason was because he could not be trusted anymore by the Leader and the entire Party. The reason for mentioning this.

I therefore am talking about the history of this Party and why this Party is in union. This does not mean that a person can just stand up and do whatever he or she wants and object, stand before the law that affects our Constitution. No member had ever done that since the establishment of this Political Party except for other small Acts that had the decision upon one of the members that resulted in his Leadership for the Opposition Side. The Policies of this Political Party should not be brought into this House. I am referring to the procedures of this Political Party, the member is well aware of it particularly during the time he was the Speaker of Parliament which I reminded and advised him of about these things.

Mr Speaker I thought the member will remember such procedures but it seems something has clouded his view due to a reason. I have attempted to resolve and reconcile their case with the member sitting behind me, he is well aware of this, come into good terms in front of me. It took me almost three years for this reconciliation to come through. But due to disagreement, this resulted in the resignation of this member and became dissatisfied all along and ended up in this doing. I refuse to talk about these things, but I only wish to keep up amusingly, that is the exact reason for trying from two to three years to amend with respect so that this case between them will not reach the court. What now? It is now before the court, and it is now more expensive and is causing more disgrace upon them both. I have tried to resolve this matter between these two, however what has this case come to?

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Mr Speaker, I refuse to go into detail on this matter. If however, the member keeps taking the floor to bring it up, I cannot tolerate and ignore group principles.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. Such aspects includes Members like Gagaifomauga No.3. These are the areas I am cautious about, I apologize once again it is my intention to maintain the dignity of the House especially our country listening in to proceedings. It is with high expectation that we fulfil our duties with integrity.

This is the matter, I feel compassion as well. Although if we analyse this matter with humility we will arrive at a jubilant solution this evening. The main intention is to fulfill our duties with honesty.

We are nearing the end of our work for the day, I humbly ask the member that whatever the problem...

Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: I apologize respectable Chair, I convey sincere apologies on the matter which might differ Tutuila from Ape, the Hon Prime Minister has mentioned the court. Nevertheless I tried avoiding this matter from stating, I was saying a different matter altogether. The case between me and Afioga Peseta Vaifou has concluded, it is done. The truth is Mr Speaker it is finished and I am certain everyone in Parliament already knows the decision from the court.

Although the matter being discussed now is between me and Government, the Government is now against me and the matter has now been undertaken by the Attorney General. The only disappointment Mr Speaker is the long years of service to the Government but now they want to eliminate me?

MR SPEAKER: I apologize the member should be aware that there are procedures for Government Parties to comply by to maintain cohesion. This is exactly what is being implied.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker there is a matter I cannot withhold, since the Attorney General cannot respond, the comment made by the member is very wrong. It is the duty of the Attorney General and the Office to oversee these matters. There was a member who resigned from this Parliament that came to my house and asked for my assistance.

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I felt sorry for him since the case was under the Office of the Attorney General, it is not the existing Attorney General but the former one, a charge against a spouse. Personally, I pitied the guy and poured anger towards the AG to which he responded, this is their oath especially with the recent court case which was advertised openly in the newspapers saying it was I who forged the complaint. At that point, I was so surprised. With regards to democratic system and Government recognition of the rule of law, this is what the world is monitoring.

The Attorney General then said that this is their Founding Law, to protect the Government, especially when it goes before the Court delivering a confessed crime without the assistance of the AG, what does this indicate? The Office of the AG is greatly affected in overlooking the Laws of this State.

This gave me light on this issue, also this cannot stop them from doing their job based on their oaths of allegiance, adherence, observance and protection of the Constitution which is the supreme law of this Government. Look at what is happening overseas, the Prime Minister of Canada is charge for trying to stop the AG from prosecuting a businessman, this is also the case with the Israeli Prime Minister. Even the Samoan Prime Minister was also charged, Hon Vaai Kolone. Vaai did not do anything, he did not use his power as the PM to stop the Police Office neither the AG on these charges.

Mr Speaker, these are the procedures, I feel for those who are charged by the AG, nevertheless, I cannot stop the Attorney General as he is adhered with the Constitution of this country to uphold justice. Once the AG pursues a case there is no other power that can stop it. The member might think I am not assisting him on this matter meaning that I am protecting this Government. This is the reason for taking the floor as the AG cannot respond to the decision of this House.

This is why I refused to speak on this matter. This matter just arrived when I have not met the member nor has he participated in the affairs of this Political Party in a very long time. As such, I wish to remind the member, our relationship, the only ones I am aware of, are those who conveyed honesty with their sworn oaths. This is the reason why I did not disputed the decision I made on you, it further does not intend to remove you. What was your announcement? You have resigned from the Party because this is what you did, this is also the conclusion that you must resign.

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I did not publicise that I dismissed you, I took it to the Party, our Committee and before our Caucus meeting, and they agreed on the decision regarding our relationship. Mr Speaker, I apologise to the member but if you came to me and told me what I publicised, but because you have raised it in the House, I therefore must respond as Samoa is tuning in, this is the procedure of the Office of the AG, even if it is the Le Ao o le Malo, Prime Minister or the Speaker and if the AG sees something unfit, charges must be pursued.

Mr Speaker, that is Governmental justice and protection for the country from other Government relations around the world, Samoa is governed by a Law that regulates the integrity of all its people. Mr Speaker this is the brief explanation.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. Pardon the Member I want to assist with the matter. I believe this matter cannot be left unsaid by the Chair since it has now been clarified and a situation I am worried about.

I have a different matter in mind, I thought of the divisions voting that was undertaken, but it seems this is a different matter altogether. Therefore in accordance to Standing Orders whatever matter discussed that has been put before the court that mentions a name of a member of this House, the Parliament cannot deliberate the matter since those involved, Senior Officials cannot respond to such issue. Especially if it is a matter that has been put before the court based on the law. Therefore I will put an end to this matter, and the time for the member is also concluded as I have tried with respect to resolve this matter. This does not mean that I am on the side of Government or the member. I believe we should follow the provisions implemented under Standing Orders.

This is a notice with respect. I appease the member, I will not give you another opportunity because if I do give Laauli Fosi Schmidt an opportunity the Government will take the floor again. Therefore I apologize to the member...

Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: I will not dispute your decision Mr Speaker. I will not go back, I will abide with your decision with respect. I will not speak further on this matter, I just want to say that I did not do anything to despise the Hon Prime Minister or use him to stop this issue. It is very clear therefore I will go forth and foresee the court hearing.

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Mr Speaker I have submitted a letter incase I might not come next week but I will be standing before the court to answer to the charges put forth for the fourth and fifth time. I did not do anything with respect to the Hon Prime Minister.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member, thank you. The matter has now been concluded. The member has seen that the Government will not let such matter slide, they always have to take the floor to respond and amend a false accusation.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker the reason for taking the floor again is to remind the member the years I have tried to reconcile their differences and settle the matter outside of court. It was nearly successful but the only lapse was the member rejected the idea, but Afioga Peseta Vaifou agreed. These are matters that should be settled behind the public eye. He also agreed on it but there was one small matter that he objected which resulted to this reconciliation being unsuccessful.

Afioga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: Hon Prime Minister, God is my witness.

MR SPEAKER: I appease the Member Afioga Laauli...

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: Now you have gone and taken your issue to court based on the decision you both made.

Afioga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: The Lord is my witness. It seems the Company and Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevagaena are trying to put all the blame on me. But how about other people in the company?

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: This is what I stood up to correct, the mistake that you stand up several times to make.

MR SPEAKER: I appease the Member.

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Afioga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: This was a scheme to save the company and Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevagaena which resulted to the blame being put on us.

MR SPEAKER: The Chair has the power I know the Member is aware of this since you have been in this seat before,

Afioga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: I apologise Mr Speaker if I have said anything to offend you...

MR SPEAKER: There is an understanding that such action should never happen.

Afioga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: Whatever word of offence said I ask that it be returned back to me. I apologise to the Chair for the words and actions that may have offended anyone and the country listening in, especially to my constituency since it is not cheap for me.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you.

Afioga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: Apologies to our Parliament as well, our Party, the love given is the same as the one I give in return. I am grateful that Members have thought of me. I forgive those who see me as their enemy.

MR SPEAKER: Apologies to the Member.

Afioga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: I will leave the matter to you, apologies once again but Sina will now return to Futu.

MR SPEAKER: Okay thank you.

Afioga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: The support of Samoa I will go and see to this matter. When it is done I will be back.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you, put our faith in God.

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Afioga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: Thank you. Bless our proceedings.

MR SPEAKER: There is nothing difficult before the Lord, let us have faith in him. I am grateful for the consideration given to the Chair, since this was also a duty that the member undertook over the previous years. I am glad that you have thought of me and the duty, I am grateful for your consideration.

I apologize to members of Parliament this evening, this is just how our practices are in the House. Honesty as everyone heard, in taking the oath the member for Faasaleleaga No.2 agreed to be honest in fulfilling our duties.

On behalf of Parliament I apologise to all of Samoa listening in, thus this is how the leaders of our country deliberate. No matter how many disagreements are voiced in the end we all want what is best. It is good to find the solution elsewhere, because...

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

MR SPEAKER: Yes...

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: You should not feel hatred into the night. The reason for taking the floor is to apologize to the member, I also forgive you for any flaws. I also have been waiting for the member on when he will be able to come and talk about the matter, ever since the previous sitting he has not come to see me.

Afioga Laauli Fosi Schmidt you should come and have a cup of coffee with me and talk about this, nevertheless I have forgiven you. Let us conclude this matter this evening.

MR SPEAKER: Well this is how things work at times. As I stated earlier no one is pointing out the faults we only sympathize, but it is important to consult on such matters.

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There are a lot of opportunities, the person has a lot of time for themselves not enough spent with the Lord. This is why if there are any difficulties or problems, seek the guidance of our God for He will make everything easier. This is a statement of response to this issue with respect. Since we have...

Afioga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA: I want to take the floor again to respond to the remarks by the Hon Prime Minister, with respect I accept your opinion on the matter for I am an understanding person. But after this matter is taken care of next week then I will be back. I will be back to have a coffee with him. Bless our proceedings.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: I would like to conclude with this, Afioga Peseta Tevagaena if you two could reconcile on this matter everyone else will be happy. I was prepared to be the one to resolve this dispute but it seems I am now being dragged into it. If both of you agree to settle this matter discreetly then let us talk about it. As for the matter itself I do not have any authority over the Attorney General. As for our companionship nothing is affected.

MR SPEAKER: There is a saying, '*e a ulu tafega ae selefutia Vaisigano*'. Meaning one does the deed while the other is affected by it. In this case, it is the issue of the two members but it seems the leader is being affected as well. Both of you should feel remorse and should go and kneel before him for forgiveness.

I apologize for any rude behavior to all of Samoa listening in to proceedings, this is how life is at times. But as the Hon Prime Minister has stated he feels empathy for these two members. This is the opportunity for you both to reconsider, but once again I apologize to the country on this matter. There are times when issues that have been unclear are clarified, each person has their own opinion on certain aspects, they think of themselves. If the matter was discussed there will be a better outcome especially with the guidance of the Lord.

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Since we have arrived at the conclusion of our work for today, therefore I believe we should end our session with a prayer. I respectfully call upon the member for Falelatai and Samatau, Susuga Assistant Pastor, to conclude our day with a prayer.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside at 7:15pm until 9:00am Tuesday 19th June 2019.

WEDNESDAY, 19 JUNE 2019

The Speaker took the Chair at 9:15am.

Prayer.

FOFOGA FETALAI: I announce the proceeding of the Legislative Assembly resumed.

Greetings to everyone on this blessed new day we are able to gather here under great circumstances and not in distress for the continuation of our proceedings. I greet the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet and all the notable members of the House. I acknowledge the support of the Chief Executives Officers of all Ministries of the Government.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

The Clerk read out the Papers pursuant to Standing Order 52(5).

1. P.P.2019/2020 No. 77, Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee on the P.P.2018/2019 No.151, Annual Report of the Samoa Qualifications Authority for Financial Year 2017/2018.
2. P.P.2019/2020 No. 78, Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee on the P.P.2018/2019 No.163, Annual Report of the Samoa Rugby Union for Financial Year 2017.
3. P.P.2019/202 No.80, Report of the Economic Sector Committee on the P.P.2018/2019 No.135, Annual Report of the Samoa Land Corporation for Financial Year 2017/2018.
4. P.P.2019/2020 No.81, Infrastructure Sector Committee Report on the P.P.2018/2019 No.58, Annual Report for the Ministry Communications and Information Technology for Financial Year 2016/2017.