

TUESDAY, 24 JANUARY 2017

The Legislative Assembly met at 9.00am pursuant to Parliamentary Sitting Schedule Programme 2017.

Mr Speaker took the Chair at 9:00am.

Prayer.

OPENING REMARKS BY THE SPEAKER

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

With all due respect I take this vital chance to greet the entire dignity of the House to its very first Sitting of the year through God's awe-inspiring grace and peace upon us this morning.

May the God of hope and love fulfill our tasks and works the start of this New Year. Greetings all in good health and spirit from the Hon Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and the Cabinet, Associate Ministers and the notable members of Parliament as well as all the Parliamentary Committees most especially the support of Lana Afioga Mamalu, O Le Ao o le Malo, and the Members of the Council of Deputies and Samoa, your divisional honorifics remains untouchable, Church Ministers or the Church Leaders and their prayers for the blessings of this Parliament.

I also take this opportunity to greet all the Government heads here with us this morning. I also greet the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and the staff of the Legislative Assembly.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

1. *The Speaker tabled the P.P. 2016/2017 No. 153, Report of the Controller and Auditor General to the Legislative Assembly on the Operations of the Samoa Audit Office for the financial year 1 July 2014- 30 June 2015.*
2. *The Clerk read out the Papers tabled pursuant to S.O.48.*
 1. P.P. 2016/2017 No. 142, Samoa Law Reform Commission Annual Report August 2016.
 2. P.P. 2016/2017 No. 143, Development Bank of Samoa Annual Report 2016.

20 DECEMBER 2016

Response Speech

Tofa ILI SETEFANO TAATEO TAFILI (Aana Alofi No.2): I rise with great respect although the point is towards the most senior members of the House to respond nevertheless, you have my blessing if everyone has your agreement.

RESPONSE SPEECH

Tofa PAU SEFO TAUMATA PAU: Thank you Leulumoega. Fuifatu and Maauga is the same person. Hence thanks for the blessings.

I wish to congratulate the Hon Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister and the Cabinet and Associate Ministers for your continuous efforts from the previous Parliament term to this 16th Parliamentary term. Great job for your carrying out the old roles/tasks to the new roles. We give glory to God for his guidance and assistance of our weak minds. I acknowledge the works carried out at the start of the year. I salute for your perseverance all for the wellbeing of this nation. Briefly, thank you to the Speaker for another chance to resume your works in this House. To all the members of Parliament although we have had three sittings within this Parliamentary term, regardless this shows how dedicated the State is towards the developments of our country. To Samoa and its honorifics *Tama ma Aiga o Aiga ma latou Tama, Tumua ma Pule, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga i le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti, e faapea foi o tatou uso i sasae, Sua ma le Vaifanua, Fofa ma Aitulagi, Saole ma Saleaamua, Faatui ma Tootoo o le Faleula*, well done. faamalo.

In conclusion, may God bless this Parliament and may we find a joyful Christmas and a prosperous new year. Soifua ma ia manuia.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you Safotulafai for your response speech in accordance to the statement by the Deputy Prime Minister, that speaks for all of us here from the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet as well as the entire Parliament, well done thank you.

Motion approved.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly adjourned at 11:00 until 9.00am on Tuesday, 24th January 2017 pursuant to Parliamentary Sitting Schedule Program 2016/2017.

24 JANUARY 2017

Presentation of Parliamentary Committee Reports

3. P. P. 2016/2017 No. 144, National Kidney Foundation of Samoa Annual Report July 2015–June 2016.
4. P.P. 2016/2017 No. 145, Samoa National Provident Fund Annual Report 2016.
5. P.P. 2016/2017 No. 146, Samoa Senior Citizens Benefit Fund Report of Operations and Statement of Accounts 2015-2016.
6. P.P. 2016/2017 No. 147, Samoa Airport Authority Annual Report 2016.
7. P.P. 2016/2017 No. 154, Report of the Controller and Auditor General to the Legislative Assembly on the Operations of the Samoa Audit Office for the financial year 1 July 2014- 30 June 2015.

PRESENTATION OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Clerk read out the Reports of the Parliamentary Committees pursuant to S.O. 51(5).

1. P.P. 2016/2017 No. 148, Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee on the First Supplementary Estimates 2016/2017.
2. P.P. 2016/2017 No. 149, Report of the Social Sector Committee on the Police Service Amendment Bill 2016.
3. P.P. 2016/2017 No. 150, Report of the Social Sector Committee on S.R. 2016/5, Prisons and Corrections Regulations 2014.
4. P.P. 2016/2017 No. 151, Report of the Social Sector Committee on S.R. 2016/10, Prisons Weekend Release Regulations 2016.
5. P.P. 2016/2017 No. 152, Report of the Economic Sector Committee on P.P. 2016/2017 No. 78, Annual Report of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for 2013-2014.
6. P.P.2016/2017 No.154, Judiciary's Reply to the Report of the Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry into the Lands and Titles Court.

NOTICE OF MOTION

MR SPEAKER: I ask the Hon Prime Minister for the motion.

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI (Prime Minister): Mr Speaker I move with respect the motion, *To set aside Standing Order 139 to allow the reshuffling of the Assembly's Proceedings or Businesses.*

Seconded by the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour, Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.

24 JANUARY 2017

Ministerial Statement

Motion approved and the Standing Order 130 was set aside.

MR SPEAKER: Since the motion has been approved to set Standing Order to prioritize the Budget, I therefore ask the Hon Prime Minister for his Ministerial Statement.

I call the Leader of the Government.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker and respectable members of the House and Samoa tuning in.

Aside the traditional honorifics of the House and Samoa, the significant divisions and honorary status are known and everything bows before the Almighty God who was leading our long journey from last year to another blessed year that has started.

Praise and Glory be unto the Divine for His guidance and protection upon us. This is the same God whom we find hope and faith in with regards to safeguarding and achieving Samoa's voyage this New Year 2017.

Mr Speaker with great respect I wish to make a short statement on the Report of the Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry.

This House was appointed to seek ways to improve the decisions for the Lands and Titles Court as most of the general public is seeking solutions to unsettled decisions reached at the Court. I also wish to speak about the tabling Judiciary's Response. I have stressed and emphasized the Lands and Titles Court because this is where majority of the decisions are made in relation to lands and titles conflicts and differences that involve everyone including our unborn children.

Mr Speaker the emphasis of the Lands and Titles Court is the impact that binds all of us and the future through its decisions. I refer to page 17 and part of the Committee's Report in quote, "the reminder of the Committee if a person has completed its charges and is set free at the Crimes Court from the decisions reached at the Lands and Titles Court finding this person guilty based on incorrect, corrupt and baseless decision that affects the diseased parents and the youth that are living today and unborn generations". Therefore, these are some of the very serious cases received by the citizens of Samoa involving the decisions of the Lands and Titles Court. Such is reason for the emphatically word or words, "our Lands and Titles Court", given pivotal evidential thoughts that this Court affects all of us. Henceforth we have a duty, we have a right, if we know something that aims to assist the improvement and raise the standard of this Court because it can affect us, and such is the role of this Parliament, to provide the necessary assistance to further improve this Court that involves everyone through its decisions.

24 JANUARY 2017

Ministerial Statement

Parliament is therefore not trying to point out its rights or surpassing the role of the Judiciary rather the aim is to provide great assistance in support of the community as a whole through making Just decisions.

Mr Speaker and respectable members of this House, I do not have to say it or sit idly because not only is this a serious sin, that is, knowing the right thing to do and not do it rather, we aim to add on to this wrongdoing constantly. This is the outcome of accepting a serious mistake with assurance in replacement of something good which corrects the saying that goes, *the only way for evil to triumph is for men to be silent.*'

Mr Speaker, the world we live is not perfect. Relatively if angels exist in this world, male and female judges should be a lot closer to these angels. Why? Because their decisions can affect all of us unlike the decisions of this House whereby, when legislations are passed and new amendments are required for improvement of these bills, they ought to be put back into this House for approval. That is similar to the Cabinet's role where decisions are made based on consciousness prioritizing what needs to come first on a timely basis. The same with God's Servants, whenever they preach the Bible on Sundays, they always use different angles and interpretations the following Sunday essence to providing a different but essential perspective to getting God's message across. Decisions and interpretations provide opportunities to sending a message accordingly. And in regards to the decisions of the Lands and Titles Court it comes with special conditions called judgement in rem. What does this mean in English? It means, all the decisions of the Lands and Titles Court can affect anyone whether or not an investigation was involved.

This is a simple example during our time that binds our unborn children whom were not present during the time these decisions were made. This is the same decision made long ago that is now affecting our youth today. In saying this, if a broken High Chief (Sao) of the family takes over and all its assets are washed away due to the carelessness and inattentiveness of this High Chief, these decisions cannot be readdressed. Such is the interpretation for this English words judgement in rem! Mr Speaker, this is what I meant, if we have real life angels, only the Judges of the Lands and Titles Court should be close to these angels given that this is the nature of the decisions they make that binds the people of the current time and unborn generations. This is also why the appointment of a suitable Judge should be based on integrity and one who has never committed an offense for inappropriate behavior so that they are able to make just decisions that reflects the truthfulness of God in their lives and Judiciary works they are called to do. Such is the necessary requirement for these appointments to be reviewed constantly because there is no such thing as perfect, and that sitting idly can mistake us further whilst for the Lands and Titles Court, it should never make the mistake of appointing the wrong people.

24 JANUARY 2017

Ministerial Statement

Mr Speaker I do not think anyone here did not reach the Lands and Titles Court and that each one of us has had complaints and piled up suspicious with the decisions of the Lands and Titles Court. By reason, given the absence of policies and procedures in monitoring the works of the judiciary; or to be in line with good governance that guides the administration of any investigation. In other words, there is a huge chance for the public to file complaints when faced with uncertainty as existing policies can act as a guide other than unexpected suspicious that arise given that we are only humans. However, with existing policies and procedures, it can help us determine the issues that have failed to follow procedures. The heart can also be at peace when the decisions of the Court are following set policies and principles.

Mr Speaker I wish to thank this House for supporting the moved Motion to set up a Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry to investigate and recommend ways to improve the decisions of the Lands and Titles Court because with no support from this House, nothing could be done.

I also express sincere thanks to the honorable Chairperson and the respectable members of the Special Commission of Inquiry for the difficult task and assistance sought by the public because they do not know where else to find help. Such huge role you played deserves acknowledgement particularly the submission of various vital recommendations in your Report. The establishment of this Special Commission of Inquiry has therefore driven the State to progress some of the investigations within other Public Ministries and Enterprises who have received complaints from the public due to the lack of services. This is also a good opportunity for the public to share their views and submissions on ways to improve this service.

Opportunities like this come rarely so as representatives of the Constituencies we can never speak for the public. Matters of this sort can never be resolved anywhere else other than this House through the views of the Parliamentary Committee members. Regardless of the denied request by the Judges (of the Lands and Titles Court) to come forth and assist the huge task engaged by the Committee, nonetheless, thank you for your Response on the vital recommendations provided by the Committee. A time will come for the members of this Committee to generally speak on it.

I wish to go back to the word I mentioned on request (*faatalauula*). The Committee had requested the Judiciary of the Lands and Titles Court however, they declined it. The word request (*faatalauula*) points to plea (*faaoioi*) or respectable plea (*faaoioi faaaloalo*) or asking with dignity (*valaau faaaloalo*) or request in a respectful manner. The reason for this request is given that we have respect. This respect was outrageously rejected by the Judiciary; they refused to come and assist with the works of your Committee for the sake of the people. This only comes down to one main interpretation, the Judges refused to come.

24 JANUARY 2017

Ministerial Statement

In meaning, they are scared to respond to the Committee about the constant insolence in the court house in regards to their vulgar and offensiveness behavior shown on judicial matters and the many complaints made against their efforts at work and poor preparation of matters into investigation they were called to do. They are afraid and ashamed lest they are queried for making poor decisions for the public, and cases involving their families or conflict of interest in Court.

I do not intend to remind you Mr Speaker and the notable House, the power is vested in your hand Mr Speaker and Chairpersons of Parliamentary Committees to bring forth anybody whenever required by the Parliamentary Committees. What is our normal Parliamentary practice? Even I who is the Leader of the House including the Ministers of Cabinet, we too must come forth whenever we are called by the Committee, we would come and sit outside the meeting rooms until the Committee is ready to call us in. That is the meaning of respect by Cabinet whenever this Arm of the Government call us. Why? Due to respect. This is our Governmental practice or Parliamentary system as Leaders of Samoa that we must learn to recognize and comply by.

Mr Speaker I do not intend to instruct, rather I highly recommend you to avoid such foolish acts from happening again in the future. The chosen Committee is the decision of the Parliament of Samoa and there is no other Sitting above it or below. I do not intend to be too mean but if any meeting this is the paramount meeting of Samoa. That is the meaning of the traditional address, the Legislative Assembly of Samoa; it is a Meeting for all Representatives of Samoa where it completes all the traditional honorifics of the country.

Anyone who withstands this message from this Assembly is called contempt of the dignity of this Parliament and a decision should be reached accordingly. Perhaps this House recalls the Ministerial Statement I made on June 2016 regarding the setting up of this Special Commission of Inquiry where I mentioned the role of the Arms of Government, the Parliament, Judiciary and the Executive. It is important to bring this reminder again given the negative mindset that says, one of the arms should not be overlapped by the Three Arms. That is, there is a gap like a concrete wall in between whereby one arm cannot overlap the other. That is not so, the simplest example for this, any Directive by the State that needs to be constitutionalized; only one House, it is here where it is all passed. Such is similar doing with this Supplementary Appropriation 2016/2017 that we progress to pass.

Another example, any appeal trial pertaining to electoral matters after the General Election must be presented to this House. Why? It must be submitted to us the lawmakers for our thorough review in regards to these appeal cases to further improve the electoral systems and its legislations.

Mr Speaker in response to this question and whether appropriate to remain independent or whether it is important to bear assistance? For Samoa alone, we are a country with limited funding and the vision to bear in mind is wise spending.

24 JANUARY 2017

Ministerial Statement

The main objective is to manage well our duties and responsibilities. If internal matters is a concern with one arm and the leaders become idle in performing their duties, where else do they turn to for hope and assistance? Only God Himself can do that, whereas, a human being needs help all the time. This is similar to our Government system and reason for the principle, *pule e faafeagai* where the Separation of Arms comes in which provides the checks and balances and the sharing and exchanging of viewpoints. This is therefore a significant opportunity for improvement whenever one arm falls into the pit of hell as nobody is an angel. There are also times when we make terrible decisions that can affect the sinless. The best example is *ato fevailiai* or the sharing of views/knowledge such that the Responses of the Judiciary have been submitted with their recommendations on the Report of the Commission of Inquiry to Parliament for the improvement of the Lands and Titles Court. When you look at the Judiciary's Responses, there are a lot of important thoughts on it. This is the meaning of *ato fevailiai* or sharing ideas and knowledge which rightfully goes well with the saying, "*o le tele o sulu e maua ai figota*," meaning that we have received so many good thoughts for the State to further improve the Lands and Titles Court. In light of that, if it wasn't for this House and its Commission of Inquiry we would not have had any hope for our people and the public who have resorted to us for help whilst the Court is not doing anything about it.

If the State had not raised this with regards to the people's concerns, the Judiciary would not have done anything about it. Now, we have received the critical recommendations of the Committee and the Judiciary's Responses. In query, is there any other better, effectual, logical and free given opportunity system than this? This is the importance of being aware of the roles and functions of the Arms of Government in order to check assist and share views for the prosperity of Samoa.

When you look at the Government structure, the Constitution distinctly states that the service of a Judge for the Supreme Court can be terminated based on the advice of the House to the Le Ao Mamalu o le Malo. This is clearly stipulated under the Constitution. Such is the vision and result to the role of the three pillars of government that we should not take lightly. Everyone is aware of the swearing in of the two Judges for the Supreme Court recently which makes up 7 Judges in total; that is only 5 Judges for the Supreme Court and 2 for the District Court. However once this Government looks at a decision, they become aware instantly, the mistake takes as far as Sydney and seeks to investigate the reasons behind it. The onus of this Government is to thoroughly assess wise spending. Furthermore, decisions that affect the budget cannot be ignored as they can be wisely spent on other priorities of the State. Because the workload for the Supreme Court and the District Court carries similar weight whilst the difference between the two is that the Supreme Court now has seven Judges whilst the District Court has two. This means that perhaps very soon we will have the appointment of more Judges for the District Court. This court seems to have a very popular virus called malnutrition that is like a kid, pardon me, with a thick head and tiny feet.

24 JANUARY 2017

Ministerial Statement

We therefore have the Committee's recommendations and the good response from the Judiciary on the appointment of two Deputy Presidents for the Lands and Titles Court to assist the President. However, all decisions rely on the revenue we have available. It does not regard our wants which are endless. On that note, what should we prioritize on a timely basis? This is it.

Mr Speaker we have significant recommendations submitted to this House by the Committee in the Judiciary's Response that I wish to talk about. Not only does it involve the importance of the recent investigation, I can also say, the results are good and works should thoroughly be considered by the State before implementation is undertaken.

The Committee's recommendation number 15 states, "*For an appeal, the President has the discretion/power to review poor decisions.*"

The Court's response recommends for a judicial review to the decisions of the Lands and Titles Court as the President of the Lands and Titles should not review its own decisions.

The importance of this judicial review is to refer the Lands and Titles Court appeals to the Supreme Court which is not only very costly but also, very little chance for these appeals to be recognized. Therefore, this is a very senseless recommendation. It is expensive because they are used by lawyers and less opportunity for these appeals to be approved by the Supreme Court unless individual rights and freedom of people are protected under the Constitution. Therefore, either the decision of the Lands and Titles Court is correct or not, this is the weakest point in the Judiciary's recommendation.

Instead, the system by the Judiciary recommends the Judges of the Supreme Court who are used to these judicial review processes, will similarly be practiced by the Lands and Titles Court which requires no cheap lawyers for the public, and will therefore ensure the Review of any errors or contradictory decisions by the Lands and Titles Court. This system is essential whereby lawyers are not required to handle family cases as both the lawyer and family members do not have similar alacrity upon these family matters and that lawyers are not well versed with the real happenings in the home and village.

The good ending is the chance to revisit these reached decisions specifically those decisions that were reached mistakenly and contradicting. I am sure there are people in this House who are blinded by some of these decisions made by the European in the last century. In some cases, two parties are involved and at the end of the day the reconciliation only becomes something else whilst the two parties involved has the decision of the Court. Other decisions permit the authority or pule over the land or title of the two parties involved without the knowledge of the other members of the family. We have had several cases involving poor decisions by the Europeans in the past. Evidently, this requires a huge task and detailed assessment in order to find opportunity to review these matters that have reached the decisions of the Court. Therefore, guidelines should be thorough in order to re-appeal these decisions.

24 JANUARY 2017

Ministerial Statement

The Attorney General will look into this challenge through further consultation processes and to submit a recommendation to the Government to ensure a system or precedent is set with the Court in assistance to the members of the public, in Review of matters that ought to be reviewed, to avoid further disputes in the Court.

The crux of this recommendation and response is to allow the public, that when a decision of the Lands and Titles Court is contradicting or incorrect, not only does this allow the public to appeal to the Supreme Court if the rights and freedom are violated in accordance to the Constitution, it further allows them a chance to appeal in accordance to the new system of the Lands and Titles Court upon a party's confirmation of the contradicting and incorrect decisions by this Court.

As such, this is where the Constitution separates the Lands and Titles Court and the Offender's Court on the basis that the Lands and Titles Court does not need the Supreme Court anymore unless an interpretation is provided in the Constitution and people's freedom subject to it.

This House should be well aware that this Government does not take anything lightly. The aim remains that this House carry out consultations on the Report of the Commission of Inquiry and the Judiciary's Responses and that this Government will not delay any further. Because if we are to wait and delay whilst Proceedings are still ongoing, this will further delay the necessary assistance we need to make for the members of the public. The sooner we give help the more relief our people will have. Such is the initiating assistance that the State is currently undertaking for the improvement of the Lands and Titles Court.

Firstly, the Attorney General's office have initiated plans to propose a new legislation for the Lands and Titles Court taking into account the critical recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry including further fruitful thoughts from this ongoing consultation.

Secondly, the Office of the Attorney General is looking at incorporating the Lands and Titles Court Rules to progress with matters received by the Office of the Registrar in managing the proceedings of the Court.

Thirdly, the Attorney General has also looked at the recommendation for separating the Lands and Titles Court from the Offender's Court to give more priority and importance to the Court of Lands and Titles.

Fourthly, the Attorney Generals' Office has also looked at establishing a Commission for the Lands and Titles Court to administer the works of this Court specifically in appointing and reviewing the appointments of the Court.

And fifthly, the State is also considering some appropriate benefits for the Judges of the Lands and Titles Court essence to attracting good and qualified people to become Judges.

24 JANUARY 2017

Ministerial Statement

I see that the Hon Minister of Finance is looking directly at me as money is required to finance everything. This means that the Minister of Finance and the Minister for Revenue will be very busy in finding avenues in order to fund the following recommendations submitted through the far-sighted wisdom of the honorable Chairman and his Committee?

Mr Speaker this Ministerial Statement includes the view of the State on the Report of the Commission of Inquiry and the Court's Response. Furthermore, this written Response is important as these fell as did not attend this investigation. The most important thing is that the public's suffering is now heard through this Report. The Court has now responded to matters stated in this Report and the State will now progress to implement the criticality of these recommendations that were a priority. This investigation has been very useful for the Judges of the Lands and Titles Court to be aware of the complaints and views of the public and note well that we are not God but servants of Samoa appointed to serve Samoa with dignity and do justice for God.

In truth, not all Judges are poor Judges for the Lands and Titles Court. Only very few judges make foolish decisions that ultimately leads to making proper decisions to have them sack. The appeals from the members of the public should discontinue given the unqualified, dishonest and violent abuse of our people where it reflects a very bad image for the Court of Samoa including all of us who are the Leaders of this country. Because this will not avoid the comments from the public for these things to happen and where are the Representatives we nominated in Parliament? Such is the proposal and initiation of a New Law for the Lands and Titles Court. The day this House approves this legislation will be the day for the vacancy advertisements for the position of the Lands and Titles Court Judges based on the selection criteria and requirements to ensure that suitable candidates must be honest and qualified for this position.

A Commission for the Lands and Titles Court will also be set up to monitor and review the continued service for these appointments to ensure that these Judges are qualified and fitting. We can never rely on Judges who make good decisions but are unqualified. The best Judge makes the best decisions. The most reliable Judge makes the most suitable decisions.

Mr Speaker and the respectable House, the Ministerial Statement is done and I now wish to move the motion, to progress deliberations on the Report of the Committee and the Court's Response.

Mr Speaker I move, *That this House now progress with the Report of the Commission of Inquiry and the Court's Responses in accordance to Standing Order 33 and Urgent Public Business. I have already read out the agendas for the State to look into for improvement of the Lands and Titles Court for the time being to avoid anymore comments on it except for critical matters on the Commission of Inquiry and the Court's Responses Report. That is the motion with respect, blessings and soifua.*

24 JANUARY 2017

Deliberation on a Matter of Urgent Public Business (T.T.33)

MR SPEAKER: Well done thanks. The statement of the Prime Minister is done.

Seconded by the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour.

Motion approved. Debate progressed in accordance to Standing Order 33.

**DELIBERATION ON A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC BUSINESS
(T.T. 33)**

MR SPEAKER: The House has heard the Motion through the Ministerial Statement of the Hon Prime Minister. The Motion has also given the names of those who will speak on Urgent Public Business pursuant to Standing Order 33(2)(b).

I announce that only those whose names have been called will be permitted to speak on this matter. Speakers are only allowed no more than 5 minutes. Discussion on this matter should not exceed an hour pursuant to Standing Order 33(2)(a).

This is the order of speakers in accordance to the motion through the written request of the Prime Minister. The speakers are;

1. Tofa LOPAOO Natanielu Mua – Chairman of the Special Commission of Inquiry.
2. Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta – Member of Falealupo/Member of the Opposition Side.
3. Afioga Hon FAAOLESA Katopau T.Ainuu – Minister of Justice and Court Administration.
4. Afioga TAFUA Maluelue Tafua – Member for Aleipata Itupa i Lalo.
5. Afioga Hon GATOLOAIFAANA Amataga Alesana Gidlow – Member of Faasaleleaga No. 1 West.
6. Tofa Hon FAASOOTAULOA Pati Taulapapa – Member of Gagaemauga No. 2.

I have stated these names for the sake of Samoa. The final chance will be referred to the Prime Minister pursuant to Standing Order 33 (4) (e), and the State will have the chance to respond should the need arise for any further clarification. If we have all the speeches due in time and we still have time left we can allow the floor the chance to speak. However as proposed this debate should not take more than an hour or 60 minutes. With respect I allow the member of Vaisigano No. 1 for your statement and I wish to remind the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly to take note of our scheduled time.

Respectfully I allow the member of Vaisigano No.1.

Tofa LOPAOO NATANIELU MUA (Vaisigano No. 1): Thank you for the chance for our Committee to make a brief statement.

24 JANUARY 2017

Deliberation on a Matter of Urgent Public Business (T.T.33)

I greet the Leader of the Government, Cabinet, Associate Ministers and the notable members of this House to good health and spirit. You have already planted the coconut tree within our borders essence to saving time.

I only wish to deliver a note of thanks to the Leader of the Government for the small work/Report achieved. I beg indulgence just a small addition given our calling on this assignment on behalf of the Parliament. Significantly this Parliament now has the chance to make its decision presented in our Report in this House specifying the 30 recommendations and the additional two.

For your information this was similar intention of the Committee when we received the Judiciary's Response regardless we will not reassess anything. The Court is responsible for protecting our properties and assets. Notwithstanding, it also maintains and upholds our custom and tradition which is the rightful intention and reason for our Committee relative to our respect in the Samoan way with our fellow members in the Judiciary. Regardless the statement of the Hon Prime Minister has our support. May blessings be upon this Sitting and Samoa as well as the Judiciary. Soifua.

MR SPEAKER: Alright thank you now we have the member of Falealupo.

Afioga Hon AEAU PENIAMINA LEAVASEETA (Falealupo): Mr Speaker it is with privilege and great respect for me to stand before Parliament this morning. Our prayer of thanksgiving has been delivered to God this morning. The Hon Prime Minister's Statement is well taken this morning. It is a statement that is well heard and true, why? Because everyone is now aware of the State's objectives and plans for this Parliamentary term.

Personally and briefly, we must all discuss the Report of this Committee given the State's set out proposals to ease our work. These are the intentions, may peace be upon this Sitting, thank you, soifua.

MR SPEAKER: Well done. We have come to the statement of the Minister of Justice and Court Administration.

Afioga Hon FAAOLESA KATOPAU T. AINUU (Minister of Justice and Court Administration): Thank you Mr Speaker the statement is short given that the Government's view is revealed before everyone hence I extend thanks to the [honorable Chairperson of the Commission of Inquiry for assessing the works of the Lands and Titles Court](#). Well done to your great efforts and the fulfilling work and your instigations of the judicial matters which have been very thorough and detailed given your inspections shown in this Report. I have also received the Judiciary's Response. On this chance I express sincere appreciation to the Chief Justice and the President of the Lands and Titles Court for your contribution. Lend us your faith as the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet will achieve the recommendations you have put forward in your Report and time will reveal our response for your thoughts.

24 JANUARY 2017

Deliberation on an Matter of Urgent Public Business (T.T.33)

May blessings be upon the honorable Speaker especially upon this notable Sitting, thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you for your statement I respectfully call the member of Aleipata Itupa I Lalo.

Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA (Aleipata Itupa i Lalo): Thank you Mr Speaker for the chance and the golden opportunity for me to say something this morning.

Firstly, I beg indulgence to the House, Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet, Associate Ministers and the members of that side. I also greet the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and staff of the Legislative Assembly, heads of Government Ministries and Public Enterprises and Samoa listening in most importantly the Church Ministers.

This morning, the love of God is glorious and as one saying goes; the most wonderful thing in the world is felt by the heart but cannot be seen. I have been listening intently to the awe-inspiring speeches delivered this morning.

I trust that our country and Laws are honored through our custom and tradition. These two go together such as the saying, 'man is safe in its own land'. The Hon Prime Minister's presentation this morning was well put and I wish not to speak further on it, the only specification I wish to make to the State, the Report of the Commission of Inquiry and its recommendations are clarified. Parliament has now received the Responses from the Judiciary or the Ministry of Justice regarding their duties and rights. I was one of those who made a submission on this regard, speaking from a member's perspective; there are three pillars for this Government. These three are Executive, Judiciary and Parliament. I have thought that these three arms are independent and do not overlap each other. However, I have keenly listened to the Hon Prime Minister's constructive statement about necessary works for improvement for the Judiciary henceforth; although these arms are self-regulating they also have a role to play for each other. This was therefore in line with the view I submitted to the Judiciary's Commission. Is it possible that we are greater than the Judiciary? Or is the power of the Judiciary greater than us and so is the Executive? Then it crossed my mind, through advice, your statement to the judges is very fitting due to their refusal or objection upon the request of the Committee and as you stated, they became scared and ashamed of being interviewed before the Legislative Assembly, and you are correct, it was a plead given to them in a very respectful manner. However, since the Judges have refused to come, for me personally as a member, it is only you Hon Prime Minister through the honorable Speaker, pardon me, this is enough words said - they have become scared and embarrassed to be queried in accordance to the request of the respectable Commission of Inquiry.

MR SPEAKER: I wish to assist the member, in regards to this subject matter, do make up your own expressions and not readdress the views of the Hon Prime Minister.

24 JANUARY 2017

Deliberation on an Matter of Urgent Public Business (T.T.33)

Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA: This is relevant. I will state my view as I was only giving advice through your honor; let us bear forgiveness and respect. The essence of my advice to you and the State, let us forgive the Judiciary and let us not keep track of things, everyone makes mistakes.

I only wish to bring advice, this is enough statement you made, they have become scared and embarrassed to approach us, for me this is enough statement on them so let us move forward, our custom is based on love and respect. We must uphold respect and functions of this Government.

Mr Speaker this is the statement from Aleipata Itupa i Luga & Aleipata Itupa i Lalo in expression of our submission, but let us bear forgiveness this first Sitting of the year. Thank you for the specified plans and guidelines by the State for the Judiciary's improvement, blessed morning.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, we now have the member of Faasaleleaga No.1 West.

Afioga Hon GATOLOAIFAANA AMATAGA ALESANA GIDLOW (Faasaleleaga No.1 West): Thank you Mr Speaker for the chance to voice our contribution regarding the subject matter this morning. Since this is the first Sitting of the year, I bring greetings for this new year to the honorable Speaker, Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet, Associate Ministers, heads of the various Government Ministries and Enterprises.

I also bring greetings to the Clerk and staff of the Legislative Assembly and the Le Ao Mamalu o le Malo, members of the Council of Deputies and their Good Ladies, Chief Justice, President of the Lands and Titles Court and the Judiciary. I also greet Samoa and the Church Ministers praying for the wellbeing of its people.

Mr Speaker, with great respect, I appreciate the statement by the Hon Prime Minister, an in depth and far-reaching presentation in accordance to the vital Report by the honorable Chairperson and the Committee investigated on the Judiciary matters for Parliament. I do not have anything further to say on this; rather the main intention is our support of the Special Inquiry's view as supported by the Hon Prime Minister paying great significance to the Samoan Court. This is where our custom and tradition comes and one we live by, the right of a Samoan where importance and priority must be maintained.

Foreign judiciary in regards to rights is different, and if you look at the various court cases in the Ministry of Justice; it is specific to individual rights. And if the rights of foreign countries were sought, it is specific to the right of a person. If the right lived by a Samoan is sought, it involves collective rights, extended family rights, village community rights and country rights. Personally and in regards to the views of those cases in Samoa, it should give emphasis to the general rights of families and village where harmony/peace is founded for Samoa at large.

24 JANUARY 2017

Deliberation on an Matter of Urgent Public Business (T.T.33)

Because this is also affecting the rights of *suli* or those who are no tendering any service or *tautua* in the families but are working/serving for the development of families rather, they are being affected by this individual rights and for someone who has not had any contribution, assistance or service to the family, when it comes to Court, they become one heart, one right or collective right by every individual in the family.

Hence, such is appreciation to the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry through the Chairperson and all those who have been tasked with this work and the address by the Leader of the House for Samoa to reconsider its custom to maintaining peace within Samoa and uphold God's blessings and glory we were founded on.

That is the addition Mr Speaker, thank you have a blessed Sitting Samoa.

MR SPEAKER: Well done on your statement and now we have the member for Gagaemauga No.2.

Tofa Hon FAASOOTAULOA PATI TAULAPAPA (Gagaemauga No. 2): Praise the Lord, entrusting that we must seek God first before we have our thoughts and so forth. Let us seek God through prayers for His Holy Spirit to be upon us so that we are able to envision deeply the blessings for tomorrow.

Thank you Mr Speaker and the Hon Prime Minister for the clarified statements heard this morning. Thank you also to the Deputy Prime Minister, Cabinet and the entire Parliament. I extend great thanks to the Committee tasked with this assignment. Anything is possible if we rely on God because all callings and decisions are from God.

We should not complain nor become angry nor muttered because if we trust God, the Leader has asserted that we should believe, all authorities comes from God; all leaders are from God, whether you are smart or not regardless, God can do great things if we trust and hope in Him. I acknowledge the Committee's work through this Report and trust that this thing called decision is not an easy task to do. It is something that you ask God about, you sit and stand like the words of the Bible, *'do not depart from Jerusalem but wait for the dissension of the Holy Spirit which you have heard me discussed'*. We have heard the statement of the Hon Prime Minister and you have seen the one who led this Government. Regardless of your position and knowledge we rely on the authority credited to you and me by God, may God be with us and our discussion today, soifua.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, thanks. I call the Hon Prime Minister whether you have any clarification.

24 JANUARY 2017

Deliberation on a Matter of Urgent Public Business (T.T.33)

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETEELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker the main purpose for this matter is to discuss our assistance for the Judiciary to remedy the various hurt and help sought by the members of the public on their assets being affected by the State.

Mr Speaker I have made several attempts with the public which is not my duty but the Judiciary's. Letters of requests have been countless put forward to me by the public for assistance upon their seized assets. From there, I had to sit down and think where else can the public turn to? I did send a letter one time to the Ministry of Justice pleading their assistance upon the public's requests that have been falsely referred to me. I was shocked when I received a complaint by one of the Judges saying that I have been meddling too much with their work and had no business to send these documents over to their Ministry. These documents have been sought by the public in assistance to seeking response through this Parliament's representatives. We too have a constitutional role to play as Parliamentarians in assistance to the public. I have made this statement due to these wordings, 'may we bear forgiveness in our hearts'. This is not about forgiveness; we are here for one purpose only, to do something good for the people who voted for us. Why? Because we only have five years before the next election, some go and some will be here, it is unaware what exactly is happening and people do not know where else to turn to. Talks of the many finished trials and whenever the Judiciary sees a Parliament member, they attempt to sharpen their knives that would instantly faint a member. This is something else, lest the members of the public think that we are given special treatment whilst for some Judges in Court, as soon as they see some of you (Members) in Court they sharpen their knives. No matter the wrong decisions they make, they still go ahead with it.

Mr Speaker, one of the hearings that ended up in one of the talks we had from 30 plus years ago about a matai title bestowment had just reached a decision very recently. Based on the assessment of five resolutions and five appeals, the result ended our side to repeal.

Mr Speaker that is process, some of the Judges are becoming very rude. This is reason for their refusal to attend to our calling which they take lightly whereas in New Zealand, Australia and Great Britain, whenever the Assembly of the Whole meets and call the Judges to come forth, how many times have I been summoned by the Lands and Titles Court and have only read a statement signed by a kid whom I am unaware of saying that I must attend a court case before this date, otherwise, the police will come and arrest or lay charges against me and something like that. Therefore whenever the Court calls me I cancel everything in order to attend or whenever I am called by a Parliamentary Committee we leave our Ministerial duties and go.

24 JANUARY 2017

Motion of the Government

This is the first time a Parliamentary Committee has given a call and they are in shock and tend to forget the roles and functions in our Constitution. No one objects to the power vested under this Parliament whenever a call is made whether it be the Chief Justice or whoever. Such is the correction to the member who is directing its remarks on this side, saying we must bear forgiveness; this is not about forgiveness, we are here to find solutions and assistance for the people and their disappointments, otherwise we must resign from our callings because this is exactly how/why we are judged in regards to our oaths. It is the oath for us to do the right thing without bearing fear.

Mr Speaker that is the final words, I am not trying to be nice to the Judges rather it is our oath to do good and greater things for the people. Mr Speaker that is the response.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thank you. I only wish to remind the Motion for the Cabinet's decision. We shall proceed I ask of your patience whilst we have the Hon Prime Minister.

MOTION OF THE GOVERNMENT

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker I stand up with respect to move, *That the two Reports be submitted to the State for its decision. This is the motion with respect.*

Seconded by the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour, Minister of Health and the Minister of Tourism.

Motion approved and the two Reports were presented to the State for its decision.

MOTION OF THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION

Tofa NAFOITOA TALAIMANU KETI (Deputy Chairman): The speech made this morning have been well put hence the honorifics remains forever. Mr Speaker I move with great respect, *That this Assembly approves the Assembly Sitting Programme for the 2017/2018 Parliament given hereunder as approved by the Parliamentary Commission.* Presented with due respect.

<i>Month</i>		<i>Day</i>
<i>March</i>	-	<i>07</i>
<i>May</i>	-	<i>30</i>
<i>June</i>	-	<i>20</i>
<i>August</i>	-	<i>22</i>

24 JANUARY 2017

Motion to amend Sitting Hours

<i>October</i>	-	17
<i>December</i>	-	19
<i>January 2018</i>	-	23

Seconded by the member of Palauli le Falefa.

Motion approved and the Parliamentary Sitting Schedule Programme 2017/2018 was approved.

MR SPEAKER: For the sake of Samoa tuning in the proceedings of this Parliament is direct and clear based on integrity. Hence is the assistance.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly suspended at 10.41am and resumed at 11.23am.

MR SPEAKER: I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed. We have been rejuvenated from our morning break to resume our work. I recognize the Prime Minister for the motion.

MOTION TO AMEND SITTING HOURS

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker, the Supplementary Budget under discussion regards limited funds for ongoing projects and works until the end of June this year. Relatively speaking, there are funds in the current Main Estimates other than a few minor things that requires supplementary appropriation. As such, we must amend our Sitting Hours to swiftly reach the finished line.

Hence I move, *To amend Sitting Hours commencing from 9.00am to 1.00pm, 3.00pm to 7.00pm and this remains until the Supplementary Budget 2016/2017 is approved.*

Seconded by the Minister of Health. Minister of Finance and the Minister of Women, Community and Social Development.

Motion approved.

Deliberations on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017 resumed.

24 JANUARY 2017

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading

MR SPEAKER: Pursuant to Standing Order debate on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017 progressed.

This is the chance for members to speak on the Budget and the Economy of Samoa as well as the Government's Financial Policy.

I also wish to remind that we will not specifically of each Individual Items as normally do in the general talks of members. We will progress with the details after the deliberation of this Bill through the second reading.

This is the chance to the member who wishes to speak first. I call the member of the Urban Seat West.

Afioga FAUMUINA ASI PAULI WAYNE FONG (Urban Seat West): Thank you Mr Speaker. Welcome everyone, honorable members of the House this morning. I have a short comment on the Supplementary Budget in regards to the second half of this year's journey.

With disappointment I beg indulgence to the Hon Prime Minister who oversees the Office of the Legislative Assembly and the slight allocated funds to achieve the works of Parliamentary Committees. We have 5 Committees comprising of 22 members and with the given budget allocation it is insufficient. The intention is to work these Committees and to perform our duties well even for overseas trips as most of the times there is no money to fund these trips and we end up standing outside until it is time to start our meetings.

Another concern is vehicles used by Committees. I trust these vehicles were used by previous Committees and that these Committees were mocking around whereas for the current ones, we are doing a very good job. Members should bear the same right when using good conditioned vehicles. The only difference, members on that side are now with the Government whilst members on this side have gone to the Opposition. The intention for the Hon Prime Minister or the Minister to the Office of the Legislative Assembly is bearing equal rights at work so that everyone is happy. That is assistance on the Legislative Assembly.

I see there is no Supplementary Budget for the Lands Transport Authority under the Ministry of Works and Infrastructure Development. Just a main concern with the roads of Falelauniu given the mistake between the Samoa Land Corporation or the Land Transport Authority Hon Minister of Works, have a look into it, you must stop that fight and fix our roads for the sake of settlers along this area. Those are some of the thoughts but leave Moamoa out of it as it is covered in the new list for tar sealed roads from Malololelei thus this is a good chance for the rural settlers to visit the beauty of this hidden district of the country through Moamoa road.

That is the explanation. Have a blessed Sitting with respect.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you for your speech. I call the member of Lefaga and Faleaseela; I see that you are getting up. Go on.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

Afioga TOLEAFOA KEN VAAFUSUAGA (Lefaga and Faleaseela): Thank you Mr Speaker. I will not mention the honorifics of Samoa.

I will speak directly of the Supplementary Budget which I support with great respect. I see that talks falls more on the health and education sectors. I have a request to the Minister of Education about students disappointing results. I trust that the Ministry should have a look into this concern because of their carelessness and costs to do students recount. We must practice wise spending if our economic level is limited.

On to the approved appropriation for the Health Sector, I specifically support this additional fund for patients seeking medical treatment overseas. That is the contribution of this district on the Supplementary Budget.

Have a blessed Sitting. Soifua.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. I call the member of Vaisigano No.1.

Tofa LOPAOO NATANIELU MUA: Thank you Mr Speaker. Well done to the House for your perseverance.

Respectfully and briefly, I see no mention of water contamination remedy in this Supplementary Budget for our village. I trust the reason why the Ministry of Health is indolent in executing its job is probably the lack of funds as this is their priority to manage and monitor good water source.

I have asked and got there port from the Ministry of Health on the 22nd about the water assessment of Auala, Vaisala and Sataua. In receipt of this report, water standard was not safe for consumption. We are still waiting for the Ministry to turn up and make their announcement to our district regarding this concern. If people die because of them, I trust this is not the Minister's fault but the Ministry because the head of the Ministry is also rocking her chair and not doing anything about it. Is this the intention of these people to allow our village to get sick? If funding is short, talk to the Hon Minister because that is what your Office is saying because this is a very significant issue to us. As said before, the Hon Minister has already been contacted however, he said this is not their job and that a consultation process must be conducted in Savaii but then again they also say, fund is lacking. Hence this is what they should prioritize under the Samoa Development Goals or SDGs, improved health for healthy living, otherwise, if the *job cannot be done, then they must submit their resignation pardon the House.* With great respect.

MR SPEAKER: I have thought of employees' protection lest we become desperate for the fish and end up breaking the net, this is the challenge from this Parliament to consider this concern and achieve good drinking water for this district. Well done thank you.

I call the lady member of Gagaifomauga No.3.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

Afioga FAAULUSAU ROSA DUFFY-STOWERS (Gagaifomauga No.3):

Thank you Mr Speaker I wish to assist with some of the services we have today. The problem with the service deliver in Safotu's Health Service is the shortage of doctors however; female nurses are now doing the job and make decisions for the patients. I trust there is fund available to assist/improve this health services which is something urgent for the Hon Minister of Health to look into.

Similar request goes for the Hon Minister of Education given the end to this Parliamentary term that is drawing near, there is still no positive change in the schools on this side of Savaii. We have already contacted the Minister of Communications and Information Technology for communication access from Malifa to the big islands of Savaii. Those are some thoughts and trust you have received it well.

Respectfully thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you for your speech.

I call the member of Vaisigano No.2.

Afioga TAPULESATELE MAUTENI TAMASONE METULI II ESERA (Vaisigano No.2): Mr Speaker, I acknowledge the Sitting of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Samoa and the support of Samoa, the Office of the Legislative Assembly and the presence of the various Government heads.

Mr Speaker I convey great thank for today's works. Greetings Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet and members of this Parliament. I attended the first service of the Pulega or Faletolu overseas and I wish to stressfully make a mention of the critical blessings by this special gathering upon the Speaker and this Parliament. Briefly since the member from this Constituency has already spoken, reference to the Hon Minister of Finance and talks on the Supplementary Budget. In regards to water whether or not it matters, there is proposal by the Water Authority for fresh water supply for the district.

Proposed plans for a borehole drill in Sataua will be carried out in the hope to speed things up given that this project was supposed to go through last September and now its January thus we hope to achieve this before the end of the month. However the cause of the delay is due to the problems with the drilling machine. I wish to happily announce that a borehole for this district will press through before the end of the year. Safe consumption is something that must be prioritized.

Some Ministries have budget allocations for special inquiry committees. We have tons of inquiries raised during this Parliamentary term however, hopefully all goes well comes next month.

Hence appreciation goes to the Hon Minister of Finance for all the good plans especially the education sector and the health sector. I support this Supplementary Budget.

Have a blessed Sitting.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

MR SPEAKER: Thank you member of Vaisigano No.2. The floor is open for anyone else.

I call the member of Alataua West.

Afioga ALIIMALEMANU ALOFA TUUAU (Alataua West): I greet all from Speaker to respectable members of Parliament. I also greet my constituency of Alataua West. Although this is the Report of the Revenue and Expenditure Committee however I wish to contribute to the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2016/2017.

I request a school building for the district Hon Minister of Finance. As aware, approval has been granted for the division of this district into three made up of 12 villages and one school building situated at the end of Asau village a couple of years ago. As observed most students would get up at 3 o'clock in the morning to catch the bus to get to school in Asau. I know the State is trying to budget and wise spending prioritizing the most necessary projects and developments for all Ministries however I plead the long request of this district in setting up a new school building. I trust the request of Neiafu has long been before the House for a ten plus acre land plot to construct this new school building which is the district center including Falealupo, Sataua and Papa Sataua.

Such is the long awaited request with respect that was given six years ago. Thank you Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you for the wonderful speech.

I call the member of Palauli le Falefa.

Afioga Hon FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE LIUGA (Palauli le Falefa): Mr Speaker, thank you for your initial statement. Your appreciation should speak louder to reflect your inner being which symbolizes the temple of God that replicates peace. Thank you also to the Committee that was tasked with the special investigations of the court. This morning signifies God's peace for you are as chosen representatives of Samoa for generations to come. Let us set a strong foundation to mark your faith and well deserved services.

Mr Speaker I was a bit worried when our Chairperson stood up thinking that I may not have a chance anyway thank you. Noting the Prime Minister statement and the norm in Parliament, collective effort and do not mince your words nor our advice. We only have a supplementary of \$353,000.

So, special requirement by the Minister of Finance for \$5,200,000 is not a very big amount. The reason for raising this and why the Appropriation Budget is small is in relation to existing policies and procedures that the Hon Minister of Finance is aware of, the difficult times in the past if we reflect back to Government reforms when the Hon Minister was in the private sector. That's one way to look at it, although the Appropriation Budget is small, it can create a huge impact on the set policies serving the State.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

In the meantime, I always hear statements about fund shortages and delayed implementation processes. Sili I have thought that you were not this scared. You have targeted a deficit that has destroyed everything else. We have a remaining balance of \$7million yet the Salelologa wharf has not been built. We also have close to \$10million remaining budget for 2015/2016. Furthermore, external grants and soft interest close to 60% for Government Ministries and therefore the total unused funds is close to \$50million.

Why have these unused funds not been utilized? We did not know anything about these unused funds. The Ministry responded they have no idea. We asked the Ministry why they couldn't carry out a seminar to clarify these funds and the Ministry of Finance responded it has been done.

During my former time as Minister of Finance and us working together night and day to implement public reforms cancelled many times by the Cabinet, I am shocked that you do not recall. The resolution for putting up this public reform was delusional which could affect 400 plus employees.

What is the policy? You are aware of that, our developments, our economy, develop the Private Sector. What is happening now? Is the Private Sector developed? We are further getting engineers for the Ministry of Works. The policy implemented by the Cabinet at that time was to support the Private Sector which is the engine growth to our economy. The solution is getting the engineers. We had one engineer allocated to work the Private Sector and another to assist the Chief Executive Officer and with accumulation of works, it stopped. What is the remedy?

Develop a Project Management Unit Centre to implement the Town Work Plans and do follow ups. This is one thing that the State should encourage. Follow up work did not progress well which should be done by the CEO and staff not the Minister. What is the ingredient for this? They are morale building and motivation. If employees are motivated there is high productivity, no work no fruits bore which the Government has given much of. However what's happened now is like we are going backwards; most of the Ministries are now producing a Deficit. This is because of your approach with the International Monetary Fund or IMF. If you ask them to look at America's deficit they say it is not permitted because the Federal has the authority. So why do they bully us?

Samoa has a brave heart and no European dare frightens a Samoan. Let us work together and support each other. I know you Sili, you are a man of God because of faith. In the advice of one preacher 'refused to accept, fear and doubt in your conscious.' Let us work together to find appropriate ways to reserve finance for the economy of Samoa. God bless you, Leader of the House and the Cabinet.

In the words of Solomon, '*You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows*'. If you are holding the cup there is no need to move it by jumping back. If you shake it the cup will spill backwards and that is what you should do, shake it until it...

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member....

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
 – debate on second reading

Afioga Faumuina Asi Pauli Wayne Fong: Mr Speaker I move to add 15 minutes to the member and his pleasing speech this morning. This is the spirit with respect. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: No I did not cut off the member's speech he still has enough time.

I call the member to resume his speech.

Afioga Hon FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE LIUGA: I think the member has forgotten that the remaining minutes of previous speakers are now added to my time. Never mind I am about to conclude. I thank the State for plans to relocate the Police office and the Justice office from Tuasivi to Salelologa. Thank you.

We have proposed plans next month for another hospital to serve three districts from Palauli le Falefa, Satupaitea and Palauli. The Ministry of Health has reserves of over \$200,000.

Why not use it to fund the hospital in Salelologa as Tuasivi has too many humps that could kill the sick? I see the attorney for the Ministry of Works, I will give him my views in detail.

Thank you Mr Speaker and notable Parliament with due respect, soifua.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you, well done. I see the member of Salega East is prepared. I call the member of Salega East.

Tofa OLO FITI AFOA VAAI (Salega East): Thank you Mr Speaker. I note it is our Committee's turn before we conclude.

I rise to voice a few words on behalf of this constituency in relation to this small Budget we have this midyear.

Mr Speaker I thank the former representative for his engagement and achievements for this Constituency. The only request is the roads of Fogasavaii which is the main access to its many plantations. In addition, a new borehole for Sagone has had the State's relocation plans because of its salivated taste. That is the reminder.

Another request to the Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture is a lawn mower to maintain the rugby field in the College of Savaii West. This is not for us but for everyone in keeping our environment clean as intended by the State in the past.

I appease the common problem about our children's results and the public's complaints brought to our attention countless times.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading

It is an insult to the Ministry (of Education) for a student not to gain one or two marks in its results. Now that the students are doing recounts which cost them \$50 yet this is just adding on to the mistakes they made. The usual response received on this matter is because of the system but who makes the system? It is the employees. Hon Minister this matter should be carefully considered and resolved as this is no easy matter to the parents and the public.

Most of the members have addressed the shortage of teachers. The Samoa National Broadband was set up by the Government for at least 5 years now or close to 10 years. Millions of money was utilized to improve the Health sector and Education sector. The main objective of the State was to educate all children by this one teacher in Apia which could have been possible. Even with the Ministry of Health, the concern is not known exactly which person is tasked with this doing. Even in questions no one knows who should initiate this, however I believe the Ministry of Communications should be the ones to initiate it. What I do know is that there are no civil engineers in the Ministry and I advise that this job be outsourced. Given that there are several companies who have already done this kind of job, we should give it to them. We have already carried out tests and the entire country have watched you talk from Asau and returned talks from here, however it is not known why all this could not be achieved. Another sad thing is the sudden shutting down of school internet which is a total waste of public funds. On to the Hon Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, a visit was undertaken at Vaiaata landfill where different wastes disposals were seen without any waste circulation process for soil production. In different, the Tafaigata wastes are sorted.

Pardon me sewage wastes were also visited with continuous renewals of proper sewer. In query, where to from here? That is the reminder to the Hon Minister for your consideration on the possibility that this concern on water contamination may most likely affect this district of Savaii.

On to the Ministry of Justice and Court Administration and the blurring gap between the Judiciary and this Parliament, I believe the Judiciary lacks insight because for any country, Parliament is the highest Court or the Supreme Court. However, it is disappointing to see them not adhering to the law when all of us must abide by the law. And if I were to ask anyone here which of them stood before the Court and had been forgiven, none of that is happening. As for the matter on hand, I beg indulgence; this matter is too unpleasant to the hearing of the public and how this decision by the Samoan Parliament was not being respected. That is exactly my point, the call from Parliament and their request speaks for the entire country. That is the assistance for your consideration. With respect, have a blessed Sitting.

MR SPEAKER: We still have chance for anyone else, I call the member of Vaimauga East.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA (Vaimauga East):
Thank you Mr Speaker. I wish to acknowledge the Hon Prime Minister, Afioga Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi Leader or the Father of the nation, Deputy Prime Minister and the distinguished members of the Cabinet and Associate Ministers. I wish to make a statement since this is my first time honorable Chairperson, I greet the honorable Associate Ministers, female Parliamentarians, Government heads and the private sector in this House. I also greet the Ao o le Malo of Samoa, Afioga Tui Atua Tupua Tamasese Efi and your Masiofo.

I further greet the Members of the Council of Deputies and your Good Ladies, Samoa, Clergymen and their prayers for the benefit of Samoa.

Lastly, I greet the support of Vaimauga East Constituency. Thank you for the chance for me to speak on this Supplementary Budget. Looking at this budget thoroughly, \$3,503,362.00 is not big. The overall thought to the Ministries receiving this budget allocation most specifically the Ministry of Health for transferred patients to overseas countries for treatment utilizing large sums of money. From what I see, is there a doctor resident in New Zealand who is running a business reliant on these patients' referrals? There is no follow up of these schedules such that at the end of a patient's heart treatment in New Zealand, he or she returns to Samoa and dies in Samoa because of no follow up processes. That is the recommendation Hon Minister of Health as we too have a good doctor in Samoa for this sort of treatment.

With However the Ministry of Works and Infrastructure, I notice another finance allocation for vehicle hirage as there was no such thing in the past, what is the correction on this? In regards to the salary of the legal advisor, the salary for(ACEO) assistants' level is \$80,000 however the amount here is too low. The request is to raise it a bit.

Wise spending by spending less I can affirm the land of Vaimauga East is where we can earn more revenue. How? Through its land that is now public land. This district is still recognizing the State's plans to resell its lands to the residents of Vaimauga.

The State should consider appropriate amount that is affordable as these lands used to belong to our constituency. That is the intention to the Hon Minister of Land...

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker the plead to lower land price is not new. For instance, the current value per quarter acre from here to Vaitele is roughly \$150,000. If a request for lands in Vaitele were allotted at \$8000 each, the Chinese will buy it at \$150,000 next week and people will ask. Why is this happening? This was given out of love and today, people are no longer stupid.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
 – debate on second reading

Once we had these lands allocation for Vaivase, they were traded for \$50,000 per dual acres which means to say that almost no more Vaiala or Moataa resident lives there anymore because these lands have been sold using the current rate. Other land plots sold at \$32,000 have nearly been taken by business people. The land lease at Vailele I think back in 1980 had the Vailele people saying that most of them have now been owned by the business people. One old man came and said to me, Tuilaepa I have a land that I want to give to you...

Debates were interrupted for 9 minutes due to power cut.

Debates resumed on the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017.

MR SPEAKER: I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed. Before our break the statement and response of the Hon Prime Minister has concluded in accordance to the raising matters by the member of Vaimauga East. I call the member to conclude now.

Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA: Thank you Mr Speaker for the extra chance. Given the power cut this morning I trust my speech has had the support of my constituency. Thank you Hon Prime Minister for your intention. I wish to confirm that given the power cut our constituency is willing to regain this land through your approval.

On to the Ministry of Education in accordance to our Committee's thorough review on this Ministry which is this constituency's priority for our children to be well educated. With the dropping rates of Mathematics and Science in the country, we should look at foreign qualified teachers to assist our education sector. Thank you also to the Ministry of Education for the Committee's allowance within this Budget. Having one Associate Minister per Minister for this Parliamentary Term XVI is a good change to saving money in comparison to past Parliamentary terms. Thank you Hon Minister for all these improvements.

I was quite disappointed with the Ministry of Communications and the removal of the Samoa Tel nonetheless I appreciate the setting up of the Tui Cable or the Afamasaga Cable for effective communications we now have. The only request put forward is finding the most reliable service provider company to generate more revenue for the State.

I plead the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, I see that we have recent additional things to improving their services which is not reflected in the Budget Appropriation, have a look into that Hon Prime Minister and see whether some of this money is wasted. Because I note that there is supplementary appropriation for those people living abroad instead of our locals.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

I conclude with the Ministry of Justice, thank you very much Hon Prime Minister for your far-sighted wisdom from God to instigate an inquiry into the Lands and Titles Court upon this matter for us to reach a decision on in accordance to Standing Order in order to improve the services of the Ministry of Justice in regards to the long standing concerns of the public.

Thank you especially to the honorable Chairperson and those who were part of this Parliamentary Committee, as we all know, there is power vested in this Parliament to summon those who refused to turn up and lock them up in prison. Based on countless attempts by the Hon Prime Minister on respect and the mistake made in the previous Parliamentary term XVI for the Chairperson who did not do anything about these people who rejected the Parliamentary request for the benefit of the country. Why did this have to happen? Because if the Chairperson and his Committee did summon the people who rejected this call, then what? Then we will end up in Court, and they will have to judge together with this Parliament. Such is the word of thanks for this well maintained respect we had. I have been serving this Government for 33 years. When a businessman called one of the senior workers and asked what capital gain meant? This old man came up to me and asked, Sulamanaia, what is the answer to this? I gave him the answer. This businessman again called and told the old man, what exactly are you doing in that Ministry? How do you perform your duties? The response he got from this old man was, it is done out of respect. That is the spirit honorable Chairperson and the Committee who were tasked with this assignment, the dignity of this Parliament will not be compared to...

Proceedings were interrupted for 20 seconds due to power difficulties.

Debate resumed.

Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA: This is a milestone achieved by the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and the Cabinet for this Parliamentary term. Have a blessed Sitting. Thanks.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thank you member of Vaimauga East. We have time for another member. I call the member of Salega West.

Afioga TOOMATA AKI TUIPEA (Salega West): Thank you for the golden opportunity to make a contribution on behalf of this Constituency of Salega East. I wish not to touch upon your honorifics as they remain forever.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

I first of all say that I wholly support this Supplementary Appropriation (No.1) Bill 2016/2017 one hundred percent. As part of this Committee, I therefore do not have any statement for the Budget however I wish to specifically thank the Hon Prime Minister's ability to uphold justice by establishing the Special Inquiry on the Lands and Titles Court with regards to the public's complaints, lapsed and unreach decisions most particularly unsigned decisions reached by the Lands and Titles Court. Thank you for your fearless efforts in regards to the existing legislation which seems to produce a gap between the Parliament and the Ministry of Justice. I particularly speak for my village because if the files of the Court were sought, perhaps if a person was new in our village they would start raising these lands and titles matters before the court as protection is warranted to village assets (measina). As such if our village is tuning in, let us endure what it says here and hope that every other villages uphold peace and harmony within the home, village and the community. Cases before the court further exists between siblings, children and spouses and so forth. Like the Judges normal saying, what is your decision as heads of the families when this is now reaching the Court. On that note, the Judges are not doing a very good job in their decision making which is pitiful to the measina or family assets of the public getting the decision of other people.

As delightful to the hearing, many of the decisions were reached by the European who lacked insight of the Samoan tradition and custom. Such is the appreciation to the Hon Prime Minister and the distinguished Cabinet for this Special Inquiry.

There are various complaints from the public in this Report. Great appreciation to the Chairperson and the Committee for voicing the concerns of the public and attempt to resolve the issue. We too lack, because despite the solutions we attempt to initiate now, there will always be conflicts in the future. Only this, let us plead help from God upon our weaknesses in order to resolve these issues that is separating our families, village and community.

On to the public services by the Ministries and Public Enterprises, thank you to the Minister, Government heads and your assistants for your quality and dedicated efforts and service delievery to the public.

The issue here is money. Despite our demands, if money is short, nothing can be done. Seeking funds is also not easy for the State. In the motto of the HRPP, what's good for Upolu and Apia is also good for Savaii. 54 years now since Samoa became independent. Based on personal observation and being a former public servant myself, the normal things I have seen starts from the ferry services. In regards to public commutes to Savaii, is there any other means available for public transportation.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

During the public holidays and the weekends, there is always a rush for people specifically the senior members and youth members working in Upolu to get seats on the ferry for both Mulifanua and Salelologa. In thought, when is Savaii ever getting out of this? When? Who will disenslave Savaii? Your Hon Prime Minister this is not a complaint rather it is good thought for us to improve and be able to get out of these problems in the future.

In regards to traveling, I appreciate improvement plans at the wharves and so forth. In plea with respect, have a thorough look into this for the future. If this is not included in this Supplementary Budget, then note it down for the Main Budget 2017/2018. The Ministry of Health did receive some cases during the holiday such as a disease that affected some of my relatives and an accident. When I got to Tuasivi they said operations could not be carried out in Tuasivi but Apia.

Psychologically speaking, why do they say, what's good for Upolu is also good for Savaii yet it is only in Apia where operations can be done. If someone dies, who do we blame? As pleasing as it sounds in previous discussions, there are unused funds. Why then do we not use these funds to improve the health services in the big island of Savaii?

In regards to access roads, those are some of the requests, but just to stress out please, have a thorough view of the next budget, give two or three roads for this constituency for improvement. Our roads are very problematic and if part of it is tarred then that is good improvement for us. The youth of today is far different from the old days, they are always on facebook even in the plantations they would sit with their cell phones and sleep under the tree without doing any work. Such is the need for these roads to be fixed for the youth to do some work.

With that I thank you all respectable members of this Parliament, O Le Ao o le Malo, members of the Council of Deputy and Samoa in all your honorifics. Blessing and Soifua.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you to the member for your speech. We have now reached our break time in accordance to the set motion at 1.00pm and recommence at 3.00pm. Therefore, we shall proceed at 3.00pm until 7.00pm.

I announce with respect that Proceedings of the Legislative will reconvene at 3:00pm.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly suspended at 1:00pm.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed at 3:00pm.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

Debate resumed on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017.

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

During our break the member of Salega West was concluding his speech. Parliament is now available for any other speeches. I call the member of Falealili West.

Afioga AUMUA ISAIA LAMEKO (Falealili West): Praise God for his love and kindness upon our Sitting at this hour.

Mr Speaker, thank you for the chance for me to speak on this Supplementary Budget. I begin my statement with our Public Sector Reform which was implemented some years back, I think back in 1990 to 2000. The intention of the State at that time was to reduce Public Service from 27 to 24 and to encourage public servants to become multi-skilled. This was the vision of the State to allow more budget allocation to implement other works. However, until present I notice the need for this review to be reassessed given the increase in our public service. I start with the Public Service Commission, this Parliament has had a constitutional amendment to remove the role of ‘service and termination’ from the PSC to the Ministry heads. Hence the number of public service should drop however by the look of it; the number of public services is still increasing for the Public Service Commission.

Another example is the new Ministry for Public Enterprise which had the division called the SOEMU or State Own Enterprise under the Ministry of Finance which had about eight members. Right now the structure now has a head of the Ministry (CEO), five ACEO levels and ten plus staff members. It reflects the repeated doing for our Public Service perhaps the Government is intending to improve services and to make relevant review whether these plans are in line with the future and the saving of funds.

On to the Ministry of Works and the employment of Civil Engineers which has my support noting well that the Ministry of Works and Infrastructure has the Regulatory Function that manages the development of sealed roads and how well they are undertaken. In thought, we must have qualified Civil Engineers. We have so many students pursuing scholarships overseas on Civil Engineer and hopefully after they graduate, they will return home to serve the Government. I support the additional number of workers for the Ministry of Works.

The time is near for the Yazaki Company to be closed down. The question that comes to mind, how will the Government assist these people who will become unemployed? How is job creation done? We should have incentives for the local investments. We should increase our small businesses and Government should give them some funding assistance to operate these businesses to create job opportunities for our people.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

Thirdly, money allocation for the Samoan Rugby Union in regards to the Ministry of Education and personal observation, the Ministry should look at increasing more funds because personally, this regards our local Manu Samoa players whether it is the sevens or the fifteen, they are promoting our country during this time. Perhaps the Tourism office should have some budget for this promotion and marketing purposes in assistance to our rugby union. We also wish to request a rugby field for our Falealili College. In the meantime, there is no rugby field rather we have had consultation plans with the land owners regarding land lease to construct a rugby field, and hopefully very soon we will have a written proposal on this to the Hon Minister.

This is all, have a blessed one Leader of the Government, Cabinet and Associate Ministers and everyone on that side. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Well done go on member of Safata West.

Afioga LEANA RONNIE POSINI (Safata West): Thank you Mr Speaker for the chance, greetings everyone from the Leader of the Government, Cabinet, Associate Ministers and Parliament. This constituency would like to make a submission on this additional Budget. First up is the need to construct a Health Care Center in Saanapu because the one in Poutasi and Leulumoega are too far to eliminate the need for people to travel all the way to the hospital in Motoootua. On to the Minister of Education, Sports and Culture, Safata College comprises of 12 teachers only who are teaching roughly over 500 students. I have also sought other Colleges close to Apia and they do not reach 400 students but have thirty plus teachers. Such is the request Hon Minister, this College of ours is getting more number of students and the need for more teachers is a requirement, otherwise, these students will attend the schools in the town area.

Another significant area is Secondary School levels such as what I mentioned in the Main Budget in regards to classes from Years 1 to 3. I have reiterated this doing for one teacher teaching Years 7 and 8 that policies should be in place to have one teacher for each subject in a class. As I said, if a teacher likes Samoan or Social Studies, this teacher will be teaching the same subject throughout the entire year. However, our teachers must be well aware that Primary School is the foundation for any student pursuing education until the University level. If the education development for the Primary school is improved, I trust the standard of education will improve in the country.

On to the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, the roads of Sataoa and Vaiee are very poor and by request these two roads needs improvement. The vehicles could not access the roads of Satitooa and Vaiee due bad condition of these roads.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

On to the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment or the Deputy Prime Minister, I wish to make a statement on customary land lease and the process which involves the Ministry who stands between the land owner and the Company who wants to lease this land. Have a look at the terms and conditions so there is some requirement assistance for these land owners especially land lease in relation to tourism developments. I also believe that the Samoa Tourism Authority should have some assistance to the agreement or accommodation standards to avoid any discrepancy in the future.

In regards to the Maritime School and international standards, we now have one hundred graduates who are able to take up maritime jobs internationally. I suggest the Samoa Shipping Services seek both local and international vessels that can provide employment opportunities for these graduates. I believe this is one good opportunity for us small Pacific island countries for the welfare for our people. The Samoa Shipping Services has similar accreditation criteria/requirements with that of the Maritime University. This will help save us money if we were to accredit these international standards for this particular maritime school to save public funds. Because subjects are basically the same, that is the assistance Hon Minister for your consideration.

On to the Minister of Finance and the \$12 million noting well the surplus amount we had in our previous financial year of \$23,600,000. This is a huge amount/surplus given the Main Budget 3 to 4 years ago. Have this amount been utilized with any other event? This amount as you suggested is saved for other State projects. But if this fund is not utilized as we are getting half way through this financial year, then I trust this is addition to our Budget in assistance to soft inter\$236,000 is not used, then this is free interest on us.

Lastly I thank the Hon Prime Minister for your statement this morning. We agree with you and your statement. If this has not happened before thankfully it is happening in our time because what's happened will happen again in the future. Thanks for your courage and bravery in raising these matters for this Government. That is the explanation from this constituency. Have a blessed Sitting. Soifua.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thanks to the respectable member. This is the chance for another member to speak. I call the member of Aana Alofi No.2.

Tofa ILI SETEFANO TAATEO TAFILI (Aana Alofi No. 2): Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. Praise God for this part of the day and the blessings upon the Hon Prime Minister and this Parliament. I wish to make a contribution on behalf of Aana Alofi No.2 in relation to this Supplementary Budget (No.1) 2016/2017.

Firstly I greet everyone in this House and Samoa listening in from top mountains to the least in this country. I trust we can achieve anything through your prayers and support. Your honorifics remain forever.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

I also greet the constituency of Aana Alofi No.2 now that we have made it to another year most specifically the works of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you for your prayers as any task that has your support will no doubt be blessed.

I first of all wish to comment on the Hon Prime Minister's statement. I wish to express my sincere appreciation to you and the Cabinet for the far sighted wisdom in raising a Special Inquiry in response to the various cases of the public and their assets due to inappropriate decisions. If the works of the Lands and Titles Court are being reviewed, so be it as we have been independent for 54 years and for that amount of years, a review has just been carried out on the works of the Lands and Titles Court, so personally this is not being inquisitive rather it is work that is thorough and appropriate.

Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure we have before you the request of Nofaalii on their road fix however it has come late for this Supplementary Budget and in the words of Paul (the Apostle) faith comes from reminding consistently. Even if we are being reminded and there is no fund, this is just useless. In a little while we will again discuss the next Budget 2017/2018 and we appeal that our request be accepted. For now, we support the Supplementary Appropriation 2016/2017. With respect, thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you. I call another member. I call the member of Falealili East.

Afioga FUIMAONO TEO SAMUELU TEO (Falealili East): Well done thank you Mr Speaker. I trust everyone has been restored from our break.

The submission will be very brief as attachment to the comments of previous speakers. There is a saying when the wise show courtesy represented through heavy rain, water flow through the rocks and rich soils. The statement of the Hon Prime Minister is very agreeable because the public have been waiting for this response for a very long time including passed descendants.

I also congratulate the Hon Minister of Finance for this Supplementary Budget. Very soon the song of this Parliamentary term will end reference to the things that require improvement in the constituencies.

I express gratitude to the Hon Prime Minister for the Special Inquiry in regards to some judicial issues and ways to improve the roles, services and appointments of the Judiciary.

Thank you to the Chairperson and the Committee tasked with this investigation which was no easy assignment. This is where the Supreme Power lies through this Parliament of Samoa. I was one of those who came to this Committee in tears for what? Because of incorrect decisions made. Regardless and gratefully, this raising concern has made things much easier for the public.

Thank you to the members who assisted in this investigation which has lightened the burden for this Committee. We hope that that our recommendations will be achieved any time soon.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure just a small addition, anytime we get the requests I see the writing is by the Associate Minister. Please honorable Associate Minister, note it down in your book I believe the first book you used in the beginning of the year is full. That is reason for the change in the color of the book you have today.

Thank you for completing light works for this constituency. Thank you also for commencing tar sealed road as requested by Salani however, they are still awaiting the completion to this job.

For 28 years the roads of Utulaelae has not been dug out, please note this request plus access roads and the roads of Salani. The main thing is to dig and straighten up these roads as this is one generating income to our economy. The farmers' work will be easier when the requirements are well supplied.

Other requests will be made known as I trust we have limited funding available. Have a blessed one Mr Speaker, Hon Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Ministers and this side of the Government.

Blessed Sitting.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thanks respectable members. Great job to the member for his speech.

I call the member of Gagaemauga No.3, honorable Deputy Speaker.

Tofa NAFOITOA TALAIMANU KETI: Greetings Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet, Associate Ministers and that side. We give God glory for another day added to our lives and the first Sitting of the year 2017, well done.

As the Deputy Chairperson of the Inquiry Committee, the main explanation during our investigation stems from the intention of the public through your statement Hon Prime Minister. Such is the word of thanks for this work now that we are seeing the other side of the statement, the Judiciary has now given its response, thank you. This matter is now referred to the Cabinet and we will have further thoughts on it at a suitable time.

The main purpose for now is to voice the contribution of this district on the Supplementary Budget 2016/2017.

I wish to express great thanks to the Hon Minister of Finance. Seeing this Budget Statement, I still recall the vision from the Main Budget, 'strengthening the foundations building of Samoa for tomorrow'. This is the main objective when looking at the Supplementary Budget and the Gross Domestic Product or GDP. In the statement of the Main Budget from the previous year, 'live within our means'. Such is our support for this Supplementary Budget. Money distribution is not easy. Hence thank you to all those who were involved for putting together this Budget.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, thank you for the collective efforts and good works in strengthening the foundation for our future welfare. Our constituency has already given its requests in writing in response to natural disasters; the road access of Safai requires improvement to get to Gagaifomauga. Furthermore, Satoalepai is known for the availability of the growing tilapia resource in the country, and is also requesting for road improvement. I also suggest a recruitment of two full time civil engineers to ensure continued quality and effective services in this area.

Respectfully I heed the Hon Minister of Education Sports and Culture whom I have met before. Anything comes with issues. Samoa has heard your statement; we will leave it to you.

I suggest a focus on the development of boxing and weightlifting. In regards to Parliamentary Committees, additional funding allocation is required to ensure that Committees are able to achieve their responsibilities particularly in terms of site visits.

On to the Ministry of Police and Fire Services this is one sector that can drive revenue for the country. We have noted the increase in overall unemployment and lack of national employment opportunities. I suggest the Minister of Labour and Employment look at providing education for different trades which may open up international opportunities for locals such as with the United Nations.

Those are some of the submissions Mr Speaker for the development of our country. May blessings be upon the Leader of the Government, Cabinet and this Sitting. Soifua and God bless.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thank you. I call anybody else as we progress with our work. I call the member of Siumu to speak.

Afioga FAALOGO IOSEFA SOPI (Siumu): Thank you honorable Speaker. I wish to note a word of thanks to the raising concern by the Hon Prime Minister at the start of today's Sitting on behalf of this Constituency. Briefly, I thank the Hon Minister for the First Supplementary Budget before us today; although it is small, at least the Ministries are receiving the requested funds they made to implement their works.

On to the Minister of Works, perhaps you have our first submission and with that, we have additional requests. The water next to the district school is affecting nearby settlers and the school building in the district. We had the Prime Minister over the previous year and our constituents brought it up with him again nonetheless, we ask that you speedily consider our request.

To the Minister of Health and the allocated funds to medically treat patients overseas, we too have a request on that for some people who are requiring this assistance.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

Minister of Women, I have a view in relation to village mayors and female representatives in the village. With the many village meetings, I suggest that village meeting be held at one time and after that, both women representatives and men representatives meet again to discuss any/the necessary matters.

Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture, you have our sports field request, and perhaps a lot of the talented players are also playing from our constituency.

As such, I extend special thanks to the Hon Ministers for all your works for the country. Thank you Mr Speaker for managing our Sittings. Thank you Leader of the Government, Deputy Leader and Parliament. Have a blessed Sitting, thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Well done member of Siumu. If there is no one else I now give the chance to the State to respond in accordance to the raising issues.

We shall progress. I now call the State.

Susuga Hon TUILAIPA AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker I wish to thank everyone for their contribution towards our short Supplementary Budget, this is no big Statement, only a few additional appropriation, whilst the works of the State are operated from the Main Budget.

Most of these requests are in progress by the Hon Minister of Works and for awareness sake, most of these things are subject to tendering process. In regards to ongoing water and road fix, the most significant part about this Supplementary Budget for us as Ministers; is taking note of these reminders for the following tabling requests.

In terms of implementation processes, the first process for design plan proposals is unavoidable. However, leave us your requests because five years is long and if we were to fix them now, no one will remember any of this, but if we leave it until the last minute, people will remember you. So despite the many works achieved by other members, after the elections they never make it back.

We shall proceed as per usual from that end and whatever is left, I will speak on it in final. That is the explanation Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thanks. I call the Minister of Communication and Information Technology to speak on the raising matters by the members and direct your speech to them, thank you.

Afioga Hon AFAMASAGA LEPUIAI RICO TUPAI (Minister of Communication and Information Technology): Thank you Mr Speaker I wish to speak directly on the raising issues related to this portfolio.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

Matters being raised aim at benefiting the health and education sectors and the installations of the Tui Samoa submarine cable.

I trust most of the comments all pointed towards one thing which is to provide efficient and effective communication network for ongoing projects of the State in assistance to the current shortage of teachers and doctors. We are now moving on to the next step which is enhancing submarine connectivity across the Pacific islands and that our National Broadband Highway is properly installed so that by the time the Tui Samoa cable arrives, effective communications are widely accessible in all parts of the country creating low cost and speedy network. All enquiries and comments voiced today are all ongoing to provide better transmissions, speedy and quality connectivity for everyone.

Well done everyone for today's works, great job also to my constituency and your prayers and support upon the State and its engagements for Samoa this part of the year.

Have a blessed Sitting thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you Hon Minister of Communication and Information Technology.

This is the chance for the Hon Minister of Justice and Court Administration to respond to some of the matters raised by the members.

Afioga Hon FAAOLESA KATOPAU T. AINUU (Minister of Justice and Court Administration): Thank you Mr Speaker. Observing the comments and submissions made today, none is being directed towards this Ministry other than notes of thanks to the statement by the Hon Prime Minister and the improvement works for the Judiciary. That is my own reflection of the remarks and statements made.

With respect.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. Well I guess that is correct as I too agree with the member.

We now recognize the Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture.

Afioga Hon LOAU SOLA KENETI SIO (Minister of Education, Sports and Culture): Thank you for the opportunity. We are yet to conclude our work given the statements from that side of the House. Thank you everyone for all your contribution towards this Ministry. We had nine speakers who spoke about this Ministry.

Most of the comments and recommendations in your statements aim at improving further education within the country. Such is the spirit today given your support upon our works. It is no secret that the various complaints from the public have been received by the Ministry in regards to students' results as discussed by some of the members of the House.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
 – debate on second reading

In truth, the Ministry has made a mistake in accordance to procedures. It is good to learn from these mistakes for future improvement. Truthfully, every year from 2013 to 2016, we always find mistakes/hiccups due to several processes and the issue of the change of the Ministry head from year after another with their own set policies and procedures under the aim to make improvement. So whatever mistake we have this year, well now you have it. I am not hiding anything. By the end of this year, we will have the students' results such as the complaints we had. In saying this, we submit our sincerest apologies to the public for the negative effect of this continued issue by the Ministry.

You are correct about the shortage of teachers. We hope as the Hon Minister of Communications proposes that effective communications are installed to assist distant schools on the rural side areas to ensure better education through advance technology. It will not be long now before we have the installation of the Tui Afamasaga cable for our children in the countryside areas.

The request for sports field is very true. Many of the sports fields were constructed for various constituencies plus several proposed ones in the near future. And with improved communications and advance technology this will enable us to raise the standards of sports fields for the development of our children.

Those too are the Government strategic plans through the Ministry of Education in develop sports fields and further improve the development of sports within the country.

In terms of good teachers and appropriate plans in managing the secondary level education raised by some of you, that is very correct. Those are some of the objectives that we will look into for improvement in the future. Mr Speaker well unless there is anything else...

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai (Salega East): Mr Speaker just a small...

MR SPEAKER: Pardon me Hon Minister I allow the member of Salega East.

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: The issue regards recounts for students' marks due to difficulties with the Ministry's system however the trouble is now on the parents who will have to pay \$50, is this appropriate or not?

With great respect.

MR SPEAKER: I call the Hon Minister.

Afioga Hon LOAU SOLA KENETI SIO: Thank you to the members for your speeches, it is true, this is one burden undertaken by the Ministry in regards to recounts or remarking of examination papers. Some students want their papers to be remarked entirely whilst some aim for recounts. Accordingly, the Ministry will look into it thank you.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

I guess that is all. Thank you for your assistance upon this Ministry. We will thoroughly scrutinize this matter and see that it will not recur.

Blessed Sitting.

MR SPEAKER: Very well Hon Minister well done thank you. Rome was not built in one day and eating taro settles the heart. Next up is the Hon Minister of Finance.

Afioga Hon SILI EPA TUIOTI (Minister of Finance): Mr Speaker and the dignity of the House, I wish to extend great appreciation for the many advises you have put forward to further improve the Ministry of Finance.

Thank you Ministry of Finance for your review of the Budget Statement and your support of the budget allocation for each Ministry and your many advises to further improve wise budgeting. As aware the previous Main Budget address had clarifications of the main objectives for this year's budget and reasons for its set policies and procedures including the current Supplementary Budget under discussion that should now be consolidated. Such procedures should govern the distribution of our budget considering our revenue and planning because we can never spend/utilize if we do not have any money to fund our developments. As you also know the Main Budget Address I gave regards the review of our duties and taxation and so forth focusing on the increasing requests in the country and ensure that money is sufficient to achieve the State's various developments. Some have raised the delay implementation of other major developments that have received foreign aid and the utilization of funds. One of the State's challenges at the current is capacity building upon the Ministries and Enterprises to speedily implement these project developments.

In regards to the request submitted to the Hon Minister of Works for Civil Engineers to assist the Ministry, as aware, the services of this Ministry is mandated under their policy and regulations. Rather, the implementation course is carried out by the Lands and Transport Authority and others as outsourced to the Private Sector through a tendering process. The Ministry requires Civil Engineers who can receive an oversight of the LTA policies and regulations because the Civil Engineers from the Ministry can never report directly to the LTA as this is under the LTA's jurisdiction. The purpose is not taking back the old system by the Ministry of Works before we had the reform.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Hon Minister I allow the interjection.

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga: Mr Speaker thank you for the opportunity.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading

I do not intend to interrupt the Hon Minister's productive speech. It is good for me to make a mention of the Ministry's Public Reforms which was in the pipeline. A directive was approved for a Civil Engineer to undertake a special training under the World Bank's funds because the head of the Ministry at the time was not a Civil Engineer but an administrator. This person returned as a qualified top engineer and was shortly employed under the Ministry before he took employment with the Private Sector. A second person was taken for this training and the same thing happened. Right now, the current CEO is a qualified engineer and I trust this engineer is more sufficient to civilize this type of work for the Private Sector. Members of the Private Sector have more independent views than these engineers. The existing CEO is also a Board member for the LTA however, there is a conflict of interest within this particular sector comprising of transport, aviation, maritime and so forth and therefore, they will be reviewing their own work without having any independent review.

With great respect.

MR SPEAKER: Go on Hon Minister of Finance.

Afioga Hon SILI EPA TUIOTI: Thank you Mr Speaker; this is the time when we were formulating the Reform for the Ministry of Works, whereby Isikuki Punivalu was former CEO of the Ministry and an engineer himself. The member is rightfully correct; this is when the World Bank Project was funding our locals to undertake a special engineer training overseas to be able to return and assist with this reform. One of the outstanding works for this reform was the salary scale for civil engineers by the Public Service Commission such that salary scale were standardized in comparison to the Public Service Commission. Another strong recommendation at the time given the small number of Civil Engineers we had that we could not hold back because of low income earnings at the time. This is the main reason why the Civil Engineers are now moving from the Public Service to the Private Sector and possibly something for the Ministry to look into.

As for the Ministry's oversight responsibility, it is a must to have a Civil Engineer to assist the CEO. Because if a Director makes policies and regulation and furthermore becomes involve with these contract discussions whilst overseeing the Ministry, therefore a review must be carried out on this conflict of interest matter.

Therefore, this is one assessment under proposal to review for the Public Service Commission and the structures of Ministries for these reforms. As aware, that was then the works of the Public Service was reduced because most of them were outsourced to the Private Sector. What we see now is new Public Enterprises with increasing number of employees and additional works they have to do.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
 – debate on second reading

I have voiced it in the Main Budget Address; this is one review that the PSC will look into, the restructuring of these Ministries and a review for the Ministry of Public Enterprises or MPE and their administration of our state owned enterprises. There is no....

MR SPEAKER: I allow the member.

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga: Mr Speaker I wish to acknowledge the Hon Minister for accepting our recommendation. Hon Minister, there are other ways to make things cheaper because what will happen is more problems in the Public Sector when yet there are other ways. What's happening here is that whenever a question is asked, they say it is not good, but if a central part called BMU was set up, the first accumulation seeks as justification for the existing accumulated works. Three years ago, unused funds of up to \$350,000,000 came from foreign aid. So planning is poor and it is not about the monitoring of works rather it is the planning and the implementation processes. A retain arrangement must be established with companies to develop the Private Sector in assistance to the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Works who are overseeing our works. This is one way to look at it, as the cost per engineer in total is \$200,000 per annum.

With due respect.

Afioga Hon SILI EPA TUIOTI: Thank you Mr Speaker. Yes we are considering all these issues. As aware many of our major projects are being funded by foreign institutions like the World Bank and the ADB. Most of these projects have BMUs or Building Maintenance Units and the Ministry of Finance are looking at centralizing some of these units specifically for financial management, monitoring and evaluation processes. Such was the concern whereby assistance from expatriates by way of capacity building to up skill our local employees in the Ministries is good to have without having to rely on foreign workers anymore. Meantime, works are currently ongoing in assistance to the implementation of our works.

Perhaps the criticality of the members statements submitted today is in regards to the improvement of the Main Budget 2017/2018. As I said, this Appropriation Budget and the First Supplementary Appropriation is the continuation of the Main Estimates whereby very small changes are inclusive. The entire purpose for these reviews is for us to pay taxes in review of the Ministries structures and review of mandates and one of the concerns for most of these Ministries is the lack of coordination and sharing of information.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading

Perhaps another thing to consider is leadership within the Ministries and Enterprises so that decisions are made speedily because this is why our work is delayed because we are depending too much on the officer level who are not seniors who find it hard to make decisions for those above them. In specific leadership skills programs should be established for senior member staff so that they are able to make more conclusive decisions on behalf of the top level positions and in their absence. I commend all comments in preparation of our Supplementary Budget 2017/2018. I appreciate all your comments in improving and planning wisely our spending for the execution of our works to avoid unused money at the end of the fiscal year.

Thank you Mr Speaker and members of the House for your great contribution and assistance today.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you, now up next is the Hon Minister of Women, Community and Social Development.

Tofa Hon FAIMALOTOA KIKA IEMAIMA STOWERS (Minister of Women, Community and Social Development): Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity, well done to our Sitting for your patience and everyone is getting tired. I appreciate the Leader of the House, Cabinet, Associate Ministers and members of the House, Government heads and the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, well done for today.

In response to the request of the member of Siumu, there are difference amongst different villages, all of which have specific preferences for meeting times and procedures. The practices within each village are dependent on the respective *Ali'i* and *Faipule*. The Ministry initiates the meetings with the *Pulenu'u* to discuss matters pertaining to government services. The *Pulenu'u* are representatives of the Government, and all developments within the various villages are channeled through the *Pulenu'u*. A proposal is to be presented to Cabinet regarding various requests from villages. We appreciate all the good works by the Government through the Ministry of Women who is working closely with the Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture and the community and the youth members to achieve life enjoyment and blessings for Samoa.

The Ministry has initiated this doing so that they can meet with all the government representatives of Upolu and Savaii. The State will also travel to Savaii to give its acknowledgment to these representatives as the village council or the dignity of the *Alii* and *Faipule* are the key to anyone entering the villages. I thank the member of Siumu for raising these concerns for us to bring awareness about the launching of the Ministry's Corporate Plan at the end of last year for the next 5 year plan. Hence we are yet to make this submission to the Cabinet for their approval.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
 – debate on second reading

If the Ministry needs improvement on anything do feel free to contact us. Depending on the whisper from the Holy Spirit, we are all government representatives of Upolu and Savaii, although we have the *pulenuus, sui tamaitai o nuu and the sui o le malo* however we must ensure collaborating efforts with these Government representatives to improving the village communities. Through us and through these representatives, they become the Chairperson of the villages made up of these government representatives. So whatever ongoing programs we bring, the *faipule* are there for us. The *faipule* are well aware of their natural resources within their own districts and so to save funds through these programs, whichever Ministry or Ministries that comes and bring awareness, the Ministry seeks everyone assistance and collaboration to strengthen our work and push for the community as a whole. As you hear this, I am not beating around the bush. There are pulenu'u who are not doing their job. I trust some of them are tuning in and have brought forward this complain with the Ministry.

Working together for our communities is the objective of this Ministry. Although villages have their own systems/authority, the main objective for the village council and government representatives is to take into consideration the contribution of women within the villages.

As a mother and leader of the Ministry of Women, that is our assistance rather the authority lies within the village councils. That is our intention, if only our words and plans are spoken together with collaboration or us working together. Most of the times, the State is given the blame such as through this Ministry who say, the State is again calling the authority of the village councils. That is not true. The authority of the Alii ma Faipule is independent and the Ministry is not relying on them. Let us bear this in plea, because if the State is being blamed, my question is this. Who is the State? This is everyone's heritage, everyone born in the lands of Samoa this is our heritage from God we were called to work and live on in any way. I trust this is the destiny for any nation that bears harmony and collaborate together. Thank you Hon Minister of Finance and the Chief Executive Officer for this Budget Statement that has our support and as you suggest we distribute according to the means that we have. Thank you.

Have a blessed Sitting Mr Speaker and the respectable House. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you Hon Minister. With respect I call the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.
 Go on Hon Minister.

Susuga Hon PAPALITELE NIKO LEE HANG (Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure): Thank you honorable Speaker. Before I respond to the raising concerns of the members, I first of all wish to greet the dignity of the House, Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet, Associate Ministers and distinguished members of the Parliament of Samoa.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
 – debate on second reading

In addition, I wish to extend sincere appreciation to the Ministry of Finance and the Hon Minister for the thorough explanation of this Budget. Thank you also to the Chairperson and the Committee for Revenue and Expenditure Committee. Before I respond to the raising matters, firstly and briefly I wish to make a response to the Report that seems to involve the Ministry of Works on matters pertaining to the verification of a request for public servants. I first of all wish to stress the plea on insurance in accordance to the regulatory role to the State set out long ago for this undertaking to be outsourced to the Private Sector. However, the Public Sector should still maintain insurance given the 3 specific requirement areas for civil engineers which are planning, infrastructure and assets management and regulation. In regards to roads, the Ministry has completed a standards test however it became evident that the standards employed in Samoa will differ according to the standards the technical advisor (private sector) chose.

Most of the infrastructural works have been redone because they were not properly managed and executed in the beginning and therefore, we cannot avoid the complaints from the people. This was one of the concerns with one of the Ministries regarding our infrastructures. Such is the need for a proper coordination of our Civil Engineers to respond to this issue. In regards to our roads for the sake of this Parliament, a standard review has been done and findings have it that the contractors are using different standards. We have all sorts of standards from New Zealand standards, Australian standards, British standards, American standards, and whenever an employee from the LTA comes to work, they use their own standard. Such is the issue, and whenever there's a problem with our projects the contractors will lie because of these standards. But we do have a set standard by the State for any implementation process and perhaps this is the solution to all these problems. Such is the assistance but we need Civil Engineers.

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: I call the member of Palauli le Falefa.

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga: Thank you. In regards to recognizing our own local engineers has that mentality which is public asset. In regards to Private Sector, we should second guess the Private Sector because the only thing they have in mind is money and they prioritize their businesses. I do not mean to say or intend for independency. There is independence upon our engineers, the entire sector all comes under you and therefore all civil engineers listen to the CEO or the Minister. Outsource this to someone else to reflect independency. Lest professionalism is questioned, at least we have amongst us those who are well aware of the reasons why this undertaking was transferred to the Private Sector. The CEO knows it very well.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
 – debate on second reading

One of our very own locals had undertaken this training and returned home without completing the course, this was a total waste of money and now he has gone to the private sector. This is similar with the next guy who had undertaken this training. Most of them have gone to the Private Sector, so the Hon Minister has spoken, salary will improve however that is not the solution to this issue. I would have supported this doing if it was long term.

In the meantime, once all accumulated works are achieved, these people will be isolated because they are caught of boredom, with great respect.

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

Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE NIKO LEE HANG: There is no intention to reduce professionalism in the Private Sector and their applying services for the State's developments. However, the main concern is the level of professionalism is becoming short. This is why we should have a regulatory body/role to be executed by the Ministry of Works in order to improve this undertaking/services for the State by the Private Sector. There is no doubtful intention such as the lack of trust as said before; there is no perfection upon any professional engineers.

Another thing is the \$200,000 salary raised by another member. The Ministry has already sought engineer consultants to assist in undertaking this particular part-time job. However, the Ministry have investigated that this is not for part-times alone. One of the consultants offered a price of \$400,000 which does not cover the entire year. Such is the salary range in accordance to the raising standard of services we have now that is getting very expensive and if they were to go overseas, this is the kind of money they will be looking at. However, the Ministry will never afford this kind of salary to employ such expensive consultants. As such the Ministry is moving to employ these kind of people for only a short period of time not part-time. Such process is ongoing and we need special engineers within the regulatory role of the State through this Ministry to achieve this purpose for...

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member of Palauli le Falefa I allow the interjection of the Prime Minister

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker since it is now recess hour let me tell a short story. As debates were going on about the road switch, suddenly, a tension occurred between two engineers and one of them was a former member of this party.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

The reason for this tension stems from the fact that one engineer avowed that our roads were made significantly for left hand side vehicles. This means that we will have to dig up the roads again as they were made specifically for right hand side vehicles. Then one engineer replied this is the first time I have heard of such thing, the main standard to note is the road mass regardless of which side of the road whether the steering wheel is located on the right hand side, left hand or in the middle, the road mass will still be the same. I think this argument will go on until 13 tonight skipping us through our tea break. I advise that we now go to our recess.

MR SPEAKER: Well this is the end to this matter. Since we are now on our break time.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly suspended for our break.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly suspended at 4:46pm and resumed at 5:22pm.

Debate resumed on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation (No.1) Bill 2016/2017.

MR SPEAKER: I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resume. During our break the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure was speaking.

I call the Hon Minister for his speech.

Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE NIKO LEE HANG: Thank you for the chance to resume my response. We have been rejuvenated from our break to resume our work. I have one matter about the raising concern on CEO utilizing the civil engineer to perform their works without having to specialize in their role as civil engineers. Is the correct advise? I have a different view on this. The CEO has a job description and therefore he or she should not be involved in these processes but rather oversee the entire Ministry and so forth.

In regards to the raising matter between LTA and SLC by Faumuina, supposedly this matter will go on forever.. In personal view, whatever land owner that has a sub division is the same person that will be responsible for fixing the roads, electricity and water supply. I refer to the roads in the Falelauniu area and my agreement with these road condition that are very appalling and in dire need of repair.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

At the end of the day the Government is responsible for maintaining these public roads. As such the LTA is responsible for this and if they are listening in, have a look into this and stop arguing about it and get on with this job. We do not have funds for this road but let be hopeful of the future Budget to further assist us through the Hon Minister and the millions mentioned by Faumuina for road improvement. Such is the response to this matter because I have received so many Church Ministers on this concern. I have also seen the roads myself, they are as problematic as the wars they have in Israel and... it is nearing separation and I pity them for this.

We will have to scrutinize this mandate because by definition once the roads are being accessed by taxi, buses and private vehicles they are known as public roads and omit these roads from the responsibility of the SLC. This was the law in the start however they do not have a maintenance programme which is reason for the appalling roads condition that is not in the LTA mandate. So the Ministry is looking for assistance into this road matter. Such is the emphatical statement to the civil engineers to fix these roads properly for the long run. The residents of Asau should only pay 50% of their water rates, owing to the poor quality of the water which is fair enough.

In response to the water issue raised by the member for Vaisigano No.2, Tapulesatele, personally, I have verification from the Water Authority that land clearance will start next week and hopefully when the borehole machine is fixed, based on investigations, water source is plentiful in Sataua in assistance to water supply for the entire Sataua district. I plead that you endure patience for the time being.

In response to the borehole request by Sagone, the water pump is no longer in Sagone, it is in bad condition. Whilst the water pump in Fogasavaii, it is used to supply water to the district. If this is not the case, then do notify me and I will have to talk again with the Samoa Water Authority whether these statements are true for me to respond to.

In response to our ferry....

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker please just a small bit here.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Hon Minister, I permit the interjection of the member of Salega East.

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker I wish to remind the Hon Minister that the constituency has two water pumps that were in the constituency, one in Fogasavaii and one in Sagone. The concern is that only the borehole in Fogasavaii connects this water supply to the entire constituency including Palauli West and increasing settlers close to Salega East.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

One other concern is the water of Salega is salinated and we had this request before by the member of Asau which has our agreement.
With respect thank you.

MR SPEAKER: To save the Hon Minister's time, please state your view about the water of Fasitoota. It is good that water is available but contains salination whereas water is not available in Fasitoota. You can just speak it whilst the district is listening.

Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE NIKO LEE HANG: It is correct the water of Lepale and Faleasiuuta is not yet available otherwise the Ministry is making attempts to achieve this for the honorable Speaker's village.
I have thought that the raising matter by the member of Salega is due to the fact that water is not available when it is.

MR SPEAKR: Go on Hon Minister.

Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE NIKO LEE HANG: Thank you for the raising matter by the respectable member, this is now in record if possible that the Water Authority is seeking another borehole for the district of Aeau should he have this agreement.

On to vehicle on finance lease by Sulamanaia, this is not a car rental, it is one way to finance public vehicles when funding is limited instead of making a one off payment, make partial payment. So without payment for finance lease, the vehicle will go to the State. That is it, otherwise this is not a car rental used by the State.

In response to the addressing matter by Toomata on rushed members of the public traveling to Savaii, I did not see it that way, the public would walk leisurely without any intention of swiftly occupying the seats on the ferry, although there are times when ferry schedule becomes very busy for Savaii ending up thinking that we must have another ferry. After the busy holidays like Christmas, White Sundays and so forth, the trips to and fro will become slow. As a concern, additional ferries would be costly and may end up not being fully utilized.

That is all I have to say on this matter, and also note that these ferries and the Salelologa wharf are all well maintained for the traveling public. Furthermore, regular monitoring processes for these ferries are carried out in order to satisfy the traveling passengers.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

On to the raising matter by Safata West on the employment of sailors on international ships and the recruitment of our local sailing crew is carried out by two main companies which are MSG Italia that currently employs 248 sailors and another vessel, I am trying to find the name. So, two of these vessels are used by our local recruits. We have a long waiting list, and we have more qualified sailors who are prepared to fill up any job opening and such opportunities. The name of the company is Neutron that is...

Afioga Leana Ronnie Posini: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: I allow the member of Safata East.

Afioga Leana Ronnie Posini: Thank you for this raising matter, however according to my research there are so many international shipping services companies but in regards to the Minister's statement, we have only two companies for our sailors. Notably as I said before, we are getting hundreds of graduates every year and I see that we only have two hundred plus students. Based on personal research, we should have a specialist union for people with special knowledge and experience for us to be recognized by foreign countries for our people to find jobs. But thank you for the clarification Hon Minister.

Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE NIKO LEE HANG: That could be correct. There are various companies but for us we have only two. Right now it is not easy for us to make partners with other shipping companies.

There is a long waiting list. The fact of the matter is, if we had found any other vessels companies, we would have used their services for our maritime graduates. In terms of bidding for an organization, that is allowed for the sailors but not the local shipping agencies considering high expenditure. That is all for this Ministry perhaps that has...

Afioga Leana Ronnie Posini: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: Hon Minister I give the chance to the member of Safata West. I allow the member.

Afioga Leana Ronnie Posini: Thank you very much your honor. One last thing as the Hon Minister is concluding, Sailor's training conducted by the Samoa Shipping Corporation and the recommendation to them if possible to discontinue this training as we already have the National University of Samoa NUS to save up further costs to the Corporation.

With great respect, thank you.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE NIKO LEE HANG: I beg tolerance to this member for your query. You are right; this is a very good training for the local sailors specifically for sailors traveling between Tutuila and Savaii. As for those trained for International Vessels we will have to talk with the Shipping Company on that to save money and resources but thank you for that recommendation.

In regards to roads, the Ministry conducted a road assessment for both Upolu and Savaii and sadly, if only we have sufficient funds to fix all this. Pardon all those who have forwarded their road requests, endure patience as work is still ongoing essence to some funds to achieve and fix all roads. The main constraint is insufficient funding; I plead the Hon Minister of Finance to allocate more money for the next budget to satisfy the needs of Parliament members as this is the same request we get over the years, it is all about roads. If we do not get any funds from the Minister, then roads cannot be fixed.

With great respect.

MR SPEAKER: It is now your turn Hon Minister of Tourism.

Afioga Hon SALA FATA LISATI PINATI (Minister of Tourism): Greetings Hon Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Cabinet, Associate Ministers and the dignity of this Parliament. I do not intend to make any requests. I wish to extend congratulations to the Committee on the judicial matter before the House. I trust that God is a God of authority, God of all hope and a God of righteousness. God has been so merciful to us since the beginning. This is the spirit of thanksgiving as blessings come from above. Well done to the Leader of the country, Samoa and the various denominations. Samoa is blessed due to your good leadership. May the God of hope pour blessings upon this House and bless my constituency and their support as well my dear wife Peseta and children. I am only a weak servant. The works I do come with wise decisions and you all know my intentions. Previously I have conveyed to you my dear wife and children my utmost gratitude to the Lord for these past three Parliamentary terms I have achieved and after this five years, I will give another person the chance to continue this service for our constituency and Samoa.

In conclusion, right now, although there is thought to serve, my service is now through this title for the constituency, as the senior members use to say, choose a wise person, your service is enough. That is where we find peace for our village communities.

May Samoa be blessed as well as this House. Soifua and blessings.

MR SPEAKER: Very well I call the Hon Minister of Health.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA (Minister of Health): Mr Speaker and the esteemed House I wish not to address your traditional honorifics rather I will move directly to the intentions of today. I will respond accordingly to the members' raising concerns.

Mr Speaker I am in awe with the spirit this morning and your peaceful management of our Sitting such as the saying, the wise *'even a skilled fisherman entangles the bonito in the outrigger.'* There are times our speeches become disorderly and disrespectful however the main spirit is for us to work together bearing respect and assistance for each other. Despite, *e momoe lava manu ae sau mala e atiae* meaning we sleep with blessings but trouble or grief will soon surround us, *e lama pea foi le fili* or the enemy is still alive *e lele lava le se ae lama le tiotala* meaning the grasshopper flies about but the kingfisher watches him. In similar meaning, this applies to peaceful times. This is why we should be watchful of our journey and be extra mindful of the devil's strong forces and influences.

I wish to extend our sincerest appreciation to this Parliament for all your raising concerns and comments. Perhaps our responses are dissatisfying you as the works and loads could not be achieved in a day for this five year term.

I wish not to respond to the raising matters this morning. In regards to matters regarding the Ministry of Works and the Water Authority, like many other Ministries, they work collectively and effortlessly together given the long debate about the member's comment on the water issue. Which Ministry deals directly with this concern? The Hon Minister has also said it, the quality of water is now referred to me and truthfully speaking, the roles/functions of these Ministries is now clarified, the Water Authority is responsible for managing and supplying water from the water sources to each family.

The role of the Ministry of Health is to ensure the safety of water supply is pumped from the main source to the families otherwise the Water Authority is advised to resolve this issue. The raising problem with this water is that it contains a bacterium that is risky to the health. In regards to this concern, the Ministry has already alerted the district about this concern through its member and has further provided solutions to this problem. Before I speak of these solutions, I must post a question. How is this bacterium found? As known these water supplies are sourced from the boreholes which are underground water. How do these bacteria reach the earth? Could it be from water entering the pipelines or water exiting the pipelines? Most likely in my belief it is water exertion from the pipeline. Such is the question, how did the bacteria get in and who is responsible for this? Generally speaking, the State has ongoing programme on this. This bacterium is found in rubbish disposals, animal wastes and stray animals that reach the soil and therefore the soil carries this bacterium to the water. How does it reach this water supply? There is one explanation to all this, a programme on....

MR SPEAKER: Hon Minister I call the member of Vaisigano No.1 please.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
 – debate on second reading

Tofa Lopao Natanielu Mua: Thank you for your presentation, I note that your Ministry is providing the necessary action to this issue. Specifically speaking, I did request an investigation to be carried out in November and following up on this investigation, the reason for this investigation is because I knew of the water salinity and a request was made for the Hon Minister to lower the costs. However, your Ministry turned up and otherwise gave the results that a virus was contained in this water from this water salinity test and alerted me about it. I asked what solution they have and by email, they recommended that we put up an advertisement. I went to our village and implored that this water be boiled, whilst the Ministry was requested to conduct another assessment to determine the possible disease we can get from this virus and the remedy.

Mr Speaker up to this stage the Water Authority is doing nothing about this concern. Hon Ministers, as I said to you in the beginning, what you should have done is take immediate action as soon as something happens. During the festive season, I waited long enough for the Ministry's arrival however, they did not come. For any mindset, when harsh statements are made, it is mainly because we are talking about the lives of this constituency.

Hon Minister and honorable Speaker, the main reason is because we have four kids of the same age from this constituency who are diagnosed with colon cancer. One of them died last weekend, another is in New Zealand, the other has returned whilst the other is preparing his application to go. That is the plea Hon Minister I don't blame your Ministry but consider this statement and carry out an investigation to see whether this saline water has anything to do with these problems.

With due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Well done. You may resume Hon Minister.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: Thank you for your statement. I observe that nothing has changed. As I said, the reason for revisiting this matter is because a thorough clarification has already been given. The statement this morning sound offensive to the two Ministries although the matter was made generally, nonetheless, the employees who are doing the job are affected by it. As such, the matter must be clarified as you lack insight of this specific matter. The Ministry received your call on the 12th of December and the Ministry came and conducted a test on this water on the 14th of December and on the 16th of December, this report was submitted to you. So you did make contacts with the Ministry. I have made attempt to give clarification on this matter. I see that this water not only contains salinity but also contamination.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
 – debate on second reading

I am now concentrating on contamination as salinity is not our problem. There is nothing we can do to purify the salinity of this water. Neither is the job of the Ministry to desalinate this water by using sugar. No, that is the Water Authority's responsibility and not the Ministry of Health. Our main responsibility is the virus here.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Minister I allow the interjection.

Tofa Lopao Natanielu Mua: Thank you Mr Speaker and the notable House, I do not blame the Ministry for the salivated water, the statement I made was well put. Rather I blame the Ministry for not doing their job properly because if the Ministry is hurt, they should be, because they are not doing anything about it. Our district is listening in; nothing is being done. If you have told me that the Ministry is doing something about it, I would have taken my words back.

I am full of respect to you and such is my attempt, however, you did not thought deeply about it. This is why the State is given the blame due to the various jobs yet we are also doing good works.

With respect that is the assistance to the matter.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: Mr Speaker I cannot end my statement due to the constant interjection of the member.

In regards to the cause of colon cancer from this bacteria and so forth, I will resume my statement on this bacterium. How is this bacteria contained? We have found the solution to this problem through the Government by receiving plastic septic tanks to preserve clean water. The suspicion for this water contamination source is due to the leakage from these cemented tanks and if an earthquake shakes, the tank would crack from underneath and water would seep through the soil causing water contamination. Therefore, the Ministry has already identified this water contamination issue and the respective Ministry has already been notified. In regards to the letter given to you on the 16th, and your talk with the Chief Executive Officer, which gave one particular recommendation or cure from the Ministry, water blockage and cease access to this water. The district will not be satisfied with it. A provision is now provided that water should be boiled first before using.

Tofa Lopao Natanielu Mua: I think the Hon Minister's statement is a threat.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: The Ministry is still doing its job. Boil water and secondly...

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member let me finish...

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: Be patient and let me finish first, you should bear understanding as soon as I am done.

Tofa Lopao Natanielu Mua: He is irresponsible... I want to say something.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: The point I am trying to make is more important than that day.

Tofa Lopao Natanielu Mua: Is that how it is when you are angry. It should not be like that, it is something that is beneficial for the country.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: Mr Speaker, he is constantly disobeying orders. A ruling must be given to take him out.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon me Hon Minister both of you have white hair which symbolizes that you are getting old.

We don't intend to satisfy your intentions in regards to this clarifying matter. Pardon the member of Vaisigano No. 1, this matter will now be considered by the Minister which is also my intention, that the Hon Ministers look into this matter and find a swift solution to it thank you.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: Mr Speaker the man of Tupuivao had three definitions to grey hair and I refuse to read them out, the only thing I can say, is my own grey hair which is regarded as matured white hair.

Mr Speaker, we shall leave it like this, the Ministry has already given its recommendation as the blame is now pointed on them such that they did not do anything about this. Note that these things require planning procedures which is the role of the Ministry based on good suggestions and recommendations to solving these issues and not only do they work together to source in funds and have the engineers involved as this regards the entire environment and distance and not just part of the community.

Such is the explanation, but opportunity is still open for further clarification on this matter. I beg indulgence, whatever clarification we now have, we have provided enough in response to this concern, whereas the motive for these employees is that they are doing their best to serve the State and its people. In response to district health care, this is the objective of this Parliament and the public through the strategic plans of the Ministry and the reshuffling plans to reach out and achieve health care clinics to avoid the increasing number of patients and to reduce the distance from homes such as coming all the way to Apia and Tuasivi hospital. As such, the Safotu Health Service has our great support and its assistance towards the works of the Ministry. Your contribution to the Ministry is unforgettable.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading

I have visited Savaii twice and during my recent one, the hospital was packed with patients, doctors and the nurses were doing a very good job. In regards to connectivity for central services and peripheral services so that the patient in Savaii can talk or connect live with the doctor in Motootua, such is the advance service we have today. If such was the member's view of the service in Safotu, the nurse in Safotu might have followed the procedures and instructions of the doctor in Apia or Tuasivi through this network. For your awareness, antibiotics cannot be prescribed neither issued directly by the nurses only or unless they have the instructions from the registered doctors. We have three means of communications which are telephones, wireless networks and computers or emails which are all functional and are connected to the doctors for their instructions.

That is similar assistance with our district hospital in Saanapu where it has the Ministry's...

Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Duffy-Stowers: Mr Speaker can I get a chance?

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Minister I allow the interjection by the member of Gagaifomauga No .3.

Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Duffy-Stowers: Thank you Mr Speaker for the chance.

No. Hon Minister I believe that was the time the doctor was there knowing very well that you (Minister) will be paying a visit to that hospital.

Secondly in regards to your statement, no this is only an advice. I trust that the Ministry is doing its job but just be aware, there is no computer there and literally nothing, the female nurse have stated that there are no doctors in Savaii. But it is good that we are aware now that there are no more doctors in Savaii and if we do, maybe just two. Well that is for the sake of the Minister lest someone here gets high blood pressure.

With respect thank you.

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker, just a query as this all sounds new to me, a doctor consulting with a nurse about prescribing suitable medical supplies. **How is this talk connected with the stethoscopes used for patients in Safotu?** Is the doctor hearing the heartbeat of that patient in Safotu, please? Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: I advise the Hon Minister not to respond to this new question rather you can respond to the member of Gagaifomauga No. 3. Go on Hon Minister.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: Mr Speaker I do not intend to respond to this stupid question. Rather...

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
 – debate on second reading

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker no this is not stupid question, the Hon Minister's statement is stupid. How in the world can a doctor prescribe medicine from here to the patient in Safotu?

MR SPEAKER: Pardon me, you are not a doctor. The doctor is speaking instead you are rejecting it.

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Point of clarification, is there a stethoscope that uses the wire of his cell phone for him to hear the heartbeat of the patient in Safotu?

MR SPEAKER: The talking Minister is a doctor so he is correct whereas you are not a doctor; I call the Minister to resume.

Afioga Hon TUTAMA TALALELEI TUTAMA: I beg tolerance to the member you did not come here to gain medical education if you want that then go find an international university.

Mr Speaker the idea is to get more assistance to this programme to be in line with the current programme that has the support of the World Health Organization. Often much it is said in this House or in the Samoan translation or be responsible to works pertaining to culture and tradition and the rural community organization'.

On to the query of the member of Vaimauga East regarding transferred patients for medical treatment overseas. With all due respect, perhaps this notice was what I said in Parliament rather I do not blame the querying member because he is new in Parliament although this issue is not new. This matter was clarified before but if the member insists, I can still give an explanation for his awareness.

This gentleman was...

Afioga Sulamanaia Fetaiai Tauilili Tuivasa: Mr Speaker can I get a chance?

MR SPEAKER: The response is about to be given and now you are up.

Afioga Sulamanaia Fetaiai Tauilili Tuivasa: It seems that you are regarding me as new, no the seat of Vaimauga East is not new. The intention is our patients being medically treated by foreign doctors. The reason for raising this concern is because there is no follow up process on these patients. After they are treated abroad, they return home and die because of no follow up processes. That is the intention for this advice whether this local doctor has done any research with this Indian doctor on behalf of our local patients. Because in accordance to the question I gave them, if a local patient is referred overseas based on the report from our local doctors, the response we get is to leave the patients here until they pass, due to what?

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
 – debate on second reading

That is the whole point in view, have a look into this doctor and consider a review on him. Rather, the seat for the member of Vaimauga East is not new please.

MR SPEAKER: I call the Hon Minister to resume.

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: Thank you Mr Speaker for the chance; that will not take away the fact that you are still new whilst the Seat is old.

The mentioned gentleman is Papalii Benjamin who is a Samoan matai that works for Samoa. He is assisting us by providing the necessary arrangements with overseas specialists for the direct referral of our local patients to get fast treatment to avoid the waiting in line process which was a problem in the past. Patients would sit and wait until they get their chance to be operated. In the meantime, this communication process is making things easier according to the priority list they have for our patients to get quicker medical treatment. Otherwise, the New Zealand patients are queuing up because priority is given to us through this network. Another important thing is the need for a local worker to carry out this process for us in New Zealand. For your information this is the only person to be given this matai title and the bestowment was done by former Head of State Malietoa. Furthermore, and for the record, this is not the only assistance that this gentleman has provided for the country. He has further donated 200 beds; 250 mattresses and recently another 250 pillows and 250 bed sheets for our main hospital. Such is the explanation because you are listening to here say and rumors when I am giving you the correct statement and hopefully negative talks on this gentleman will be minimized. Truthfully speaking, I did not intend to raise this; rather we did have our own people who used to assist us on this regard from New Zealand; however, there were a lot of complications back then and the more reason why we had the current gentleman and his assistance for us until today which is going very well.

Mr Speaker I think that is it from me and if I have offended anyone, the navigator is clever; however, it can fail at times essence to clarification for the sake of the House, have a blessed Sitting.

MR SPEAKER: Well done I call the...

Afioga Leana Ronnie Posini: The Hon Minister's statement is nearing conclusion. Thank you very much although I see that you have mentioned the district hospital in Saanapu. That is the same request noting the Fusi district hospital is now closed down and therefore I request another district hospital to assist the up number of constituents in this area, with respect thank you.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading**

Afioga Hon TUITAMA TALALELEI TUITAMA: I have thought that the member has received it when I was speaking of Saanapu. This is one strong supporter of the Ministry of Health's works. The Ministry furthermore does not take this district lightly. There is intention for further works as you bring forth, which is also our objective rather, it all depends on the availability of funds although, Saanapu was long targeted for further developments.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you, I guess most of the raising concerns have been now clarified. Well done and thank you Hon Minister of Health and now we have the Minister of Labour.

Afioga Hon LAUTAFI FIO SELAFI PURCELL (Minister of Labour and Trade): Thank your Mr Speaker, first up I wish to greet Samoa in all your traditional honorifics. I also greet my constituency of Satupaitea from Malaeaoa essence to working and serving to the best of my ability and knowledge and hopefully no trouble will get in the way.

Mr Speaker I don't intend to compare your maturity with that of the Hon Minister who said that his grey hair signifies that he is ageing whilst yours is unruly.

Mr Speaker the member of the Urban Seat mentioned roads fixed by SLC. I have talked with the former Minister on this matter I have thought this matter was over however it has been raised again, however we will find the rightful person to fix these roads and hopefully find a solution to this matter.

In regards to the request put forward by the member of Vaimauga East on customary lands being resold by Vaimauga East to its residents, well it is difficult for the Ministry to process all requests when there is a long standing list of approximately 3,000 requests particularly from residents in the rural areas and in Savaii. The Ministry is trying very hard to meet these requests.

Most of the members have also submitted their requests in 2016 but have not yet received any response. We also have outstanding requests from 2004, 2006 for land requests that the Ministry is working on. The issue is we lack public lands for land divisions otherwise work is still ongoing. I beg the member to seek clarification from the Ministry for the sake of the constituency.

Thank you to the member of Falealili for the very constructive advice for the improvement of our works. For your information, the State is going through a lot of processes, and the closure of Yazaki is not the end. The State has long been aware of this closure and attempts have been made to avoid any impact this closure may have upon the employees. The State's main incentive is to ensure that former employees of Yazaki are able to transition to other jobs without increasing the rate of unemployment in the country. Meanwhile, we have a lot of employment incentives such as the RSE Scheme and additional opportunities for seasonal workers in New Zealand as well as Australia for apple picking and so forth.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading

Furthermore, the agriculture sector will also have advertisements on agricultural related employment such as banana plantations, pineapple plantation, orange plantation, milking cows pardon me and so anything that could earn employment for our people. Moreover, we attended the recent launching of the Ministry's National Employment Policy and I appreciate you for attending that evening. The State further had initiatives that were launched in hope to achieve further employment. Such is assistance of the online registry for the job seekers but you must get registered under the system in order for the job finders to assist you more effectively. We are also looking at conducting trainings for the job seekers for them to obtain jobs faster. We also have the... labour market information system for the youth groups by the National Youth Council to employ those in the formal sector. The purpose is to create job opportunities, to give them the opportunity to work and start employment and be keen to find employment. The State is further looking at ways to enforce the approved Citizen Investment Act by the end of this month to further attract more business investors to set up businesses in the country. Mind you the policy stands that for one expatriate is equivalent to four local workers for one particular company which is one good employment incentive for our people. We also have the SBEC and concessions to developing our local small businesses for the development and creation of job opportunities for our locals. The aim of the government is to find employment for our people with the assistance of foreign partners and the private sector.

In closing and in response to the assertion made by a member about the Ministry of Public Enterprises, this Ministry is only two years old and the reason why this Ministry was set up by the Hon Prime Minister is because of the Public Sector Reform. The problem with this Public Sector Reform is there was no structure plan to govern the State Owned Enterprises or SOEs. We currently have a total of 28 State Owned Enterprises and in 2014 the State noted that is has been 13 years since the reform begun however this reform had no real impact from our SOEs. Unfortunately, this was a huge investment by the State which costs billions of money however we have not received any good returns due to poor monitoring of performance. We had the State Owned Enterprise Monitoring Division or SOEMD under the Ministry of Finance and the works they did was nothing compared to the works of this current Ministry as the main job they performed were database taking from the SOEs and that was it. Now we have a new Ministry **and staff that monitor the performance and financial performances** of all these 28 SOEs for the State.

If you see the difference between the performance of this Ministry and the SOEs, there is justification to the staff number we have now for this Ministry. There's a purpose why this Ministry was established. The Ministry's Organizational Structure was submitted to the Public Service Commission for their approval which was relevant with the existing mandate of the Ministry at the time.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– debate on second reading

As confirmed in their Annual Reports before you, none of it says 2006, 2007 such as it was in the past, we now have 2015 and 2016. These are some of the achieved works for this Ministry by encouraging other Ministries to ensure efficient preparation of their audit reports to be submitted to Parliament. Since the establishment of this Ministry two years ago, a target of \$7million dividend was collected from the State Owned Enterprises in comparison to the past where we had nothing, well other than the Unit Trust of Samoa UTOS and SIFA or Samoa International Finance Authority were we they are expected to produce a return. Such is the assistance from this new Ministry and the returns they made to fund other Government projects and assist the budget of the Hon Minister of Finance, otherwise, some are already talking about the growing number of staff in this Ministry. My utmost concern as this has happened before, lest the House and the public service find what we call, tall poppy syndrome. In meaning, when a tree flourishes and blossoms, people want to cut it down and relatively speaking, whenever a Ministry is doing well, people would start throwing accusations and negative thoughts to it. That is not the intention of this Ministry neither the Minister; the main objective for us is to work together with honesty for the sake of earning revenue for the State and achieve our work according to the Act.

MR SPEAKER: Go on.

Tofa Aumua Isaia Lameko: Thank you for the opportunity Mr Speaker, an advice was given with regards to the strategies of the Public Service and reforms to reduce the number of public servants by increasing multi skill people.

When SOEMD was under the Ministry of Finance, my question now, do we see any improvement now with the Ministry in comparison to the past? Because the dividends the Minister is referring to...

MR SPEAKER: I beg tolerance respectable member, new questions are not permitted given our Standing Order, and further question has to be in written form. If any statement requires clarification or correction, then we have interjection otherwise the Hon Minister's statement is almost finished.

Tofa Aumua Isaia Lameko: No I mentioned in my speech Ministry of Public Enterprises MPE otherwise, thank you.

Afioga Hon LAUTAFI FIO SELAFI PURCELL: Thank you for the chance; I have made attempt to give clarification on the difference between now and then, not only with work that's achieved and what's happening now and revenue earnings received. If the member is not satisfied, you can come to my office and I will give you further clarification.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
 – debate on second reading

The member of Palauli le Falefa mentioned the hospital well he forgot to mention the district hospital at Satupaitea lest the Minister of Finance thinks it's a hospital in my district, no that goes for all three of us, thanks for the reminder and requests.

In regards to Private Sector development, the Ministry is preparing a submission to the Cabinet hopefully in a nearby meeting to hold talks between the Public Private Partnership and the State. The aim is to work in collaboration by outsourcing the works of the Public Enterprises to the Private Sector to develop the Private Sector. Perhaps we will have the talks by the Cabinet on this matter, while...

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga: Mr Speaker I wish to get a chance.

MR SPEAKER: Go on.

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga: Thank you. I wish to thank the Minister for his good statement. The correction I wish to state that our health care center is situated in Satupaitea whilst service is provided by Palauli le Falefa, Palauli and Satupaitea.

This is the notice because this health care is not particularly for this district; it also serves this West side of Savaii. Therefore, it serves the Vaisigano No.1 area to Salelologa and is also why it is enlarged like Tuasivi, with respect.

Afioga Hon LAUTAFI FIO SELAFI PURCELL: Thank you to my fellow member and our thrice support towards our district hospital.

This is all honorable Speaker, pardon me if I have offended anyone, the intention is to provide explanation for everyone's insight.

Have a blessed Sitting and may blessings fall on Samoa, soifua.

MR SPEAKER: I call the Deputy Prime Minister for his speech.

Afioga Hon FIAME NAOMI MATAAFA (Deputy Prime Minister of Natural Resources and Environment): With great respect I greet the honorable Speaker and the esteemed members of Parliament. I trust it has been a long day and I wish to speak briefly on the Supplementary Budget as there is no addition to this Supplementary Budget. Although this is the Supplementary Budget on top of the Main Budget Statement, this does not avoid the members' submissions. Only a few members raised concerns towards this Ministry. We are still deliberating in accordance to the State's policy on the issue regarding land. Meanwhile, the Cabinet is in the process of reviewing public lands. As you are aware, different Ministries like SLC, STEC and the Lands Board are tasked with overlooking these lands.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
 – debate on second reading

Personally, I think the State is looking at ways to manage and develop these lands so that...or the integration of a public sector and all I can say at this time is this process is currently ongoing. Some of you have talked about land needed by the districts whilst others have stated the leasing of customary lands executed by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.

I trust that this is one area the State is reconsidering in order to set out further relevant policies on public lands. The SLC works have been in the pipeline for quite some time now in regards to our customary lands and ways to generate economic growth. This land issue is very sensitive concerning the various views of the public particularly with regards to impounding of family assets or lands. Mr Speaker, no one can do that, these are our customary lands which is our other major source of revenue. Although we have a lot of people asking for private lands we should still look at our customary lands and if this demand is increasing, what does it indicate? Who manages this? Who is looking after 80% of these Samoan lands? I guess we all relate to these questions made for the country's economy.

In regards to customary lands lease I think that the lands Act should be reviewed again to obtain the specific processes for customary land lease.

Mr Speaker, another major issue regards rubbish disposal in Savaii and I appreciate all of you that raised this problem which is a major concern for us all. How do we tackle this rising problem in the country with regards to general wastes, littering, electronic wastes as well as sewer waste I beg your pardon everyone. This is a collective effort by everyone not just the government. We have all heard about the water contamination problem due to contained bacteria, and therefore, all this is caused by human beings. Every move we take, from the homes, farming areas that can affect our surroundings and drinking water.

These are the challenges as it can affect our lives every day. I appreciate this raising issue for Savaii, policy of the Ministry on rubbish like most of the other Ministries; this matter is being outsourced to the private sector. This should not avoid the State from taking the necessary action in managing this sort of work continuously and I believe that a special investigation should be carried out to find out what's happening in Savaii. Mr Speaker, this is all the raising concerns towards this Ministry I am supervising.

Have a blessed Sitting, soifua.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you. I call the Hon Prime Minister for his additional statement.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker I see that there are no matters left, and for the remaining 4 minutes we might have 3 more Ministries before it is a wrap up.

I now recommend that we proceed with the Consideration of the Budget.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– consideration in detail**

MR SPEAKER: Well done thanks. Debates on the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017 have been completed and the question will now be put.

Motion approved and the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017 was now read a second time.

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 2016/2017
– consideration in detail**

MR SPEAKER: The Assembly will now proceed to consider in detail the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017.

In the consideration in detail stage, members may refer to the First Supplementary Appropriation of Receipts and Payments of the Government of Samoa for the Financial Year ending 30th June 2017 and Report of the Revenue and Expenditure Committee for the year ending 30th June 2016, and the Report of the Committee for Revenue and Expenditure on the Supplementary Appropriation 2016/2017, P.P.2016/2017 No.148.

Pursuant to Standing Orders 135, consideration in detail of the Bill commences with the Schedule:

FIRST SCHEDULE

ADDITION IN APPROPRIATION

MINISTRY	DESCRIPTION	APPROPRIATION
	COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:	\$709,885.

Approved.

	EDUCATION, SPORTS AND CULTURE:	\$1,934,828.
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Approved.

24 JANUARY 2017

Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– consideration in detail

FINANCE:	\$225,000.
<i>Approved.</i>	
FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE:	\$353,570.
<i>Approved.</i>	
HEALTH:	\$825,080.
<i>Approved.</i>	
JUSTICE AND COURT ADMINISTRATION:	\$125,000.
<i>Approved.</i>	
WORKS, TRANSPORT & INFRASTRUCTURE:	\$157,105.
<i>Approved.</i>	
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:	\$274,134.
<i>Approved.</i>	
NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES:	\$680,000.
<i>Approved.</i>	

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– consideration in detail**

TOTAL ADDITIONAL OVERALL EXPENDITURES 2016/2017: \$5,284,602.

Approved.

SECOND SCHEDULE

REDUCTION IN APPROPRIATIONS

MINISTRY	DESCRIPTION	REDUCTION IN APPROPRIATIONS
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FINANCE:		\$(2,600,000).
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Approved.

WORKS, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE:		\$(7,076,900).
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Approved.

TOTAL REDUCTION IN APPROPRIATIONS 2016/2017:		\$(9,676,900).
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Approved.

SCHEDULE:

Approved.

CLAUSE 2: Grant and Appropriation of \$5,284,602 out of Treasury Fund.

Approved.

24 JANUARY 2017

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2016/2017
– third reading**

CLAUSE 3: Reduction of amounts earlier appropriated and re-allocation to other outputs and sub-outputs.

Approved

CLAUSE 1 & TITLE:

CLAUSE 1: Short Title and commencement

TITLE: Supplementary Appropriation (No.1) 2016/2017.

Approved.

The Supplementary Appropriation (No.1) Act 2016/2017 progressed without Amendments.

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 2016/2017
– third reading**

MR SPEAKER: I call the Hon Minister for the motion.

Afioga Hon SILI EPA TUIOTI: Mr Speaker I move, *That the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2016/2017 be read a third time.*

Seconded by the Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Minister of Justice and Court Administration and the Minister of Education, Sports and Culture.

Motion approved and the Bill was read a third time and had passed the Legislative Assembly.

ADJOURNMENT

MR SPEAKER: Well I take this chance to extend great thanks for your perseverance and noting well the matters of today. This is no easy job given the presence of the Government and everyone in this House. We have achieved today's agenda in response to reducing the works at the beginning of this year.

I call the Hon Prime Minister for anything else otherwise we will conclude our Sitting and adjourn until tomorrow.

24 JANUARY 2017

Adjournment

We have arrived at the end of our session for today.
Before we adjourn I call the Deputy Speaker to end us with a prayer please.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly adjourned at 7:09pm until
Wednesday 25 January 2017 at 9.00am.*

WEDNESDAY, 25 JANUARY 2017

The Speaker took the Chair at 9.00am.

Prayer.

MR SPEAKER: I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed. I humbly greet the Hon Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and the esteemed Cabinet, Associate Ministers especially the Chairpersons and Committee Members. I also welcome the Heads of Government Ministries and Public Enterprises especially the Clerk and the Office of the Legislative Assembly and the support of Samoa. Thank you for your perseverance this morning.

**MOTION BY THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON
UPON PERMISSION TO A REQUEST**

Afioga ALIIMALEMANU ALOFA TUUAU (Chairperson of the Finance and Expenditure Committee): I bring greetings Mr Speaker, respected Members of the Parliament and Samoa.

Mr Speaker I move a motion, *That the Legislative Assembly grants a time extension approval for this Committee to review the Fees and Charges (Miscellaneous) Bill 2016 as findings have yet to be concluded and report back to the Assembly in the March Sitting 2017.*

Seconded by the Member for Faasaleleaga No.1 West.

Motion approved.

**CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL (NO.1) 2016
– second reading**

Susuga Hon TUILAEP AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI (Prime Minister): Mr Speaker I move the motion, *That the Constitution Amendment Bill (No.1) 2016 be now read a second time and I wish to clarify it.*

Seconded by the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour together with the Minister of Health.