

*19 JUNE 2019****WEDNESDAY, 19 JUNE 2019****The Speaker took the Chair at 9:15am.*

Prayer.

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

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

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS*The Clerk read out the Papers pursuant to Standing Order 52(5).*

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

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

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

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5. P.P.2019/2020 No 82, Infrastructure Sector Committee Report on the P.P.2018/2019 No.117, Annual Report for the Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment for Financial Year 2017/2018.

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (No.2) 2018/2019
& APPROPRIATION BILL 2019/2020
– resumption on second reading**

MR SPEAKER: The Sitting adjourned yesterday after the member for Gagaifomauga No3 concluded his statement. This is an opportunity for any member who wants to make a statement pursuant of our work.

I call on the member for Vaimauga East to rise.

Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA (Vaimauga East): It is a great honour for me to have the opportunity to initiate our statements this morning extending from Siufanua to Saua as we assemble here today, in the goodness and mercy of God.

I rise this morning I rise with reverence I also speak with fear and tremble, as in the honorary salutations of the lands of Fiame and Salevalasi. Why am I afraid and trembling? Unfortunately, this House is sacred and dignified, as Tiafau is the sacred land of Samoan culture. Lalotea is said to be the lands for Tumua, but it is said Tiafau is the lands for Samoa. That is why I am fearful and fluttered. Why?

The reverence in this House is the glorification to Orators and Chiefs of the country that were chosen to serve our country. I am ecstatic for the opportunity to make the opening statement this morning. These lands akin to Tuisamau, and these are holy lands. I did not make a statement yesterday because I wanted to give respect to the new member, but these lands are my lands that I have jurisdiction over, which is why I am boastful as we are all gathered here today for our debates and clarification of issues. The proceedings previously held on the lands of Faleata, but these lands are the genuine lands of Samoa.

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Before we continue with the clarifications of the Bill or the allocation and the distribution of the country's economy, I first want to greet and acknowledge the Hon Prime Minister. Although the Hon Deputy Prime Minister is not present today, my constituency have strong respect towards women, which is why my constituency is proud to support the Hon Deputy Prime Minister, or the Hon Sao Faapito or the Hon Sao Papa, the Sao Falenaoti who is advising the Hon Prime Minister. That is why Samoa is sailing smoothly. Due to what? There is a woman that embodies the spirit of mother Mary who advises her son. You are not Jesus, but Mary the advisor/counselor on behalf of the women, which is why Samoa is successful.

I offer greetings to the Hon Ministers as well as the presence of the Associate Ministers, as this constituency acknowledges the presence of chiefs and noble members of the Parliament of Samoa, most importantly the honorable Speaker and the Deputy Speaker.

Why? Because they are still providing service, and if we notice how old our country is, 57 years, we are still young. Nevertheless, what has happened with our economy in this era? It has matured because of what? Because of the way our country is governed. The word of the country is that a person with lower rank cannot serve. Only who? Only the Kings/orators. You are orators and chiefs.

That is why when people ask, why do we use the grounds of Tiafau for our Meetings? It is because it represents respect and wisdom for the chiefs of Samoa to come and meet, this is where prisoners live, whoever comes here, whenever the House speaks, it is finished, this is our identity.

We will not forget the prayers of His Highness the Le Ao O Le Malo, Your Excellency Tuimalealiifano and your Good Lady from Vaimauga, her Excellency Maposua, as well as the presence of the Members of Parliament. I acknowledge the support of the Members of the Council of Deputy and his good lady, and the honourable Chief Justice as well as the male and female Judges behind the country who are entrusted with justice and fairness. I offer greetings as well to this side of our country.

We cannot forget the support of the holy servants of God at different alters, especially those who dedicated their lives to kneeling, fasting and praying for the betterment of Samoa and its people. Thank you for the prayers, thank you for supporting the affairs of our country.

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But I will never forget the solemn support of my Constituency of Vaimauga East in all its honorary salutations, as I am in good fortune because of your prayers and support.

I ask for encouragement as I contribute to the development of our country.

First, I would like to thank the Hon Minister of Finance as well as his Ministry, the Chief Executive Officer and the Management. The preparations for the budget is not an easy thing to do and for what? It takes time, months, and you cannot rest until you have contacted all the ministries to show up for questioning for the interest of our economic development.

From my observation as a member of Vaimauga East since the start of this Government, I have seen the distribution of the Minister and the Ministry, it was possible, pardon me, to cut our expenditures, for what? Love for the country.

In the first Sitting, it seemed like we were suffering, and now we are here for the second time, even though the member of Vaimauga is questioning how we will obtain the assets to make up our excess expenditure, which is greater than our revenue.

But I believe that whenever this country has accomplished something, it is placed on the alter and is put before God to give us this blessing from time to time through the wise distribution of our country. Good work Hon Minister.

Just a few suggestions from my constituency in terms of the Supplementary Appropriation 2018/2019 and the current Main Estimate, a few advises before the Hon Minister and the Ministry, the Budget is yet to be approved yet I see the allocation of appropriations to the services under the Ministry of Police.

We are yet to receive the official approval of these plans on vehicles passing under the Ministry of Police, which is the question from this constituency; I have thought that the Police were to oversee the traffic, but now they are also jurisdictioned to check the registrations of vehicles. That is the thought. The concern is that we are looking at this plan now thus overseeing the revenue earned by LTA; it seems that this duty is going back to the Ministry of Police when LTA has managed to earn a lot of the country's trust...

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member there is an interjection from the State.

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Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi (Prime Minister): Mr Speaker, the issue mentioned by the member is important, it is good that he brought up this matter. In regards to planned distribution of public funds, whatever money raised by a Ministry, they all end up in the same place, which is the Ministry of Finance. There are also appropriations listed under the income of your Ministry for areas like passports, visas or funds from our Foreign Relations using our domain name. Regardless of where the funds come from, they all end up with the Ministry of Finance, which has their division and distribution.

The reason why is because we are intending for clarification, transparency and accountability, and full accountability so that everything is clarified. If a practice is a go for each Ministry to make money and manage their own money, it will never come to manageable level and be able to fully aware of the status of expenditures, and therefore, the money is brought to the Finance Office and is referred to Parliament for its thorough review. In saying that, all the Ministry funds are collected and submitted to the Ministry of Finance to sort out and record in the Budget booklet, so that expenditures and revenues is easy to identify. However, if things go disheveled, then we will have issues.

I am just saying that because it is impossible to see these works behind the scenes and so with you getting in the way of things, bring all your concerns to Parliament so that decisions can be made from the different sectors of the country.

Mr Speaker, I am glad that the member has raised this matter which he is aware of as this matter was also brought up by LTA. What about the funds we rely on? The answer, there is nothing that you can rely on secretly, everything is clarified, and there is only one avenue for all these funds to distribute from. Mr Speaker, I hope that bit is clear now, but I am grateful to the member who raised it for me to earn the chance to explain it.

MR SPEAKER: I see that the Minister of LTA is upstanding, any addition?

Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang (Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure): Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity, but just to add on to the clarification by the Hon Prime Minister.

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I think this is another issue that could be raised in the speeches of members who have not spoken in the House. The tabling of this amendment has been made including the raising concerns on the report of the Parliamentary Finance and Expenditure Committee.

I think it is necessary to comment on these concerns, because these are the same concerns that questions the funds owned by the Land Transport Authority, and as stated by the Hon Prime Minister, all funds goes into the Governments pocket. Henceforth, the plan now is for the Authority to make transparent use of its funds in assistance to its revenue earnings, to aid with the road constructions although, it is clear under the amendment that this will all go towards the Ministry of Finance. The revenue that was not able to be received by the Authority will go towards the licensing of vehicles and the licensing of drivers will all now be collected by the Police and will go towards the Treasury.

That is the case, other concerns regarding additional costs incur to seek buildings for vehicle passing, well according to plan, and the police will have to use all the existing buildings in Upolu and Savaii under the control of the LTA. There is no extra charge in this case.

Other concerns by the Finance and Expenditure Committee is the difficulty in transportation or a matter regarding conflict of interest probably due to the impact on employees, this situation is all set. As is the case with the Ministry of Police, it also plans to send more people who wants to serve in the Ministry, to participate in these trainings to qualify and regain eligibility to serve on behalf of the security forces of the State.

So, we have not yet discussed the Amended Legislation, although I trust that these issues will all be addressed in it, thus I am only highlighting these concerns which I trust will again be raised by others in their statements. The Hon Prime Minister also stated clearly the preparation for our Amendment Bill, which involves the transfer of other responsibilities that were under the LTA to the Ministry of Police.

I hope this was a helpful clarification on the issue. With all due respect, thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Well, the point is clear in regards to the raising concerns of the respectable members.

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Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA: Mr Speaker, the member understands fully, I thought the Minister would support this argument so that... Because LTA, this is the funds they fall back on especially the Minister of Transport that we often talk about however he stated that their money is insufficient, and now that we have this budget...

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

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, the importance thing to know is that the Minister of Works is not sitting idly, all requests being submitted will have to be implemented as once our roads are laidout, the Ministry will set priority by putting forth the working process for these roads.

Therefore, once set priorities for this process is scheduled, the Minister will not sit back, he will check the conditions of the roads together with his Ministry, because it is true that you are submitting your road conditions as representatives of your constituencies, but keep in mind that a lot of roads were implemented during the past Parliamentary terms.

The Ministry will have to see and arrange the process before submitting their recommendation to the Ministry of Finance for completion, and so, the Ministry of Finance and the Minister should pay close attention to these matters, as this is part of their duty. As I said yesterday to the member for Falealili, given the roads brought up yesterday, this indicates that this matter is very important. Specifically and importantly, we must inspect the conditions of roads before the layout of plans so that the Cabinet is not in the dark with your views. There is no need to worry because as long as the Minister of Finance and those who support the project see the importance of this, it will mean that an allocation of a huge appropriation will be set aside to execute these plans.

Remember that the cake we share does not move but stays still. When that cake is shared, once another has a larger piece, another one gets a small share, but all of these things are important, we should build hospitals, we should build schools, we should build this and that.

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In that case, you will only get the full picture plus the money to spend once we have all this finance, to review and bring forth the recommendations before the Cabinet and recommendations to the Parliament through your Finance Committee. Whilst on the Finance Committee and other Committees, this is very important Mr Speaker to call the Ministries to come forth and give their testimonies. This involves the calling of other people by the Committee regarding various issues or issues that affect the public.

That process is known as consultation under good governance principles. Note that good governance principles are the ways to guide a State, good governance. First, Laws are for everyone to understand. Second, the Laws are to ensure that there is no situation where it is unclear who did this work and who did that and whether the work was prepared well and so as reports. That is why it is important for these Ministries to attend so that they know that all submitted reports are up to date, as it is useless to submit a delayed report from three to four years ago.

At the end of the year, all reports are to be submitted; so that you are aware of your work progress and status. Such is the duty of Committees; call them over with other members of the public. Those who attend must trust and recognize the Law of the House that guides their work. What Law? The Law of confidentiality, whatever issue they present to you, they have knowledge on it. Note that the Chief Executive Officers of the Ministries are well aware of the work they are doing, and have good understanding of the Laws that guide their work and witnesses brought forth. They are aware that all matters submitted are confidential meaning that you must comply and endure integrity so that reports and recommendations before Parliament are accurate which is what Parliament requires.

However, if a member is sitting in and leaking information, well this may be of some assistance to you, if the staff is aware of an unscrupulous member sitting here, a member that leaks their recommendation, no CEO will give you the truth anymore but lies only. Why? Because they know that Judah the betrayer is here and is publicizing information that should remain confidential leading the CEO of the Ministry to say, it is a problem that is causing this, the Minister is problematic, the CEO is there and a driver is misusing the vehicle.

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The CEO or a foreigner can no longer give you a fair report because they know that the Committee is the root of injustice. That is why your reports will be prosperous if you adhere to the Law and whatever is given to you, it is given to you in a way that enables you to apply and submit to Parliament in a just way and no report should be leaked. Mr Speaker that is my assistance, these are very important matters as I did receive some recommendations regarding these issues in the past. Failed attempts to reaching the CEOs in the past did occur; instead, they would send their subordinates. That is one reason why CEOs fail to turn up because they know it is information that they are required to bring forth that is vital for your decisions. However, the problem is that there are other people sitting in here that would go and publicise their witnesses and possibly end them into trouble with the Law.

Mr Speaker, this is why the Committee should take into account the reports that witnesses come and take. Not only the public servants but also the members of the general public and perhaps, that is one reason why our Committees fail to call the public to come and make submissions because we know exactly why. When they express an opinion, someone will publicize it especially when the newspapers pay them. Have a good Sitting.

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai (Salega East): Mr Speaker... point of clarification, because the pervious statement seems to be directed at me. Mr Speaker, the Standing Orders of the House is clear. Whenever we come here... why raise the issues, one piece of advice... to the Hon Prime Minister and his administration, do not hide it, do not leave the country in the dark. The country needs to understand these things.

MR SPEAKER: Sit down.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, the only matter is... Point of order... Mr Speaker, I did not say any names. I anticipate that he is the one that changed his Committee and leaked the information outside. It was he, who disclosed the information and no one else.

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MR SPEAKER: The Prime Minister's address explains the work and the presence of CEOs of Government Ministries and Corporations to the various Committees, so that the recommendations and reports before the Committee remains confidential. The confidentiality of these things are not arbitrary neither go unnoticed. Those are our Laws.

The submissions presented by the CEOs of Government Ministries and Corporations cannot be leaked, when called by the Committee. This does not apply specifically to the Finance Committee but all Parliamentary Committees in order to maintain confidentiality. Evidence and reports submitted by CEOs of Ministries and any Samoan who makes a submission on a Bill or whatever a Parliamentary Committee engages. The statement is useful to generalize the situation. It is not just for the Finance Committee but also for all Parliamentary Committees. The current speaker is from Vaimauga, he has served the State long enough. No matter what he says, there is only one destination. The waterpath is plentiful but there is only one source, the Government, the Ministry of Finance. I call on the respectable member to continue.

Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA: I have a son whom God called home and was a victim of assault. After our Sittings, I would go to my son, and he would say to me, “dad was there a bomb explosion”. I replied, yes a bomb did explode. The bomb exploded as soon as your dad made his statement. Now the bomb has exploded on the Prime Minister and the member of the Opposition Side.

Mr Speaker, the presented Budget, also notes herein the many Government vacancies that remains unfilled. So much so, who is to blame? What happened then, there have been people who have ridiculed our Government due to policies. In the case of the Public Service Commission, why not advertise vacancies immediately, or even the Chief Executive Officers of other Ministries or the one hundred and fifty for Education, our people need income to perform the services.

That is why Hon Ministers and CEOs, speed up the services. This is what this leader is upset about. The country is also flocking there, due to what? You Ministers are also not doing your jobs. Unless the people go up to the Hon Prime Minister then....

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

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member for Vaimauga. Go ahead Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neiotei Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: The issue on advertising vacant positions is not a new issue, it was also raised in our previous Meetings.

The latest update with our Government, work is still increasing. There is a rising number of employees this year, as well as next year. It is still growing and more employees is required. I will speak my final words, just an assistance.

There are those who apply for positions, not that there are no applicants. However, the sorting of these vacancies comes with job and skills requirements especially for top positions which we cannot put anyone in. That is why; there are times when a vacancy of five or six CEO positions is under advertisement without the majority's knowing, the result is that only one person applies.

There is a reason for this, other people are aware of these positions but they do not apply because they know they are not qualified. In saying that, it depends on the qualification if eligible to do the job and experience and academic grades attained. There is another vacancy for a Director, and there were quite a few applicants. When this came to Cabinet, I looked and saw another recent graduate who did not have experience in this job. That is why we cannot just put in anyone carelessly. The shortlisted candidates by the PSC are those that are qualified.

This is normally referred back to Cabinet particularly candidates of three to four are shortlisted for interviews. That said, note that for three interviewers, there are thirteen sitting in Cabinet. Some candidates used to be the head of Ministries and Corporations and Businesses and things like that. Therefore, those sitting in Cabinet are experienced people.

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So for the most part, about 90% of the referred recommendations is approved. Cabinet is well aware of the 10% or issues that the panel have not reached its investigation on. Cabinet therefore can change the decision. However, the difference between one and two and three is very thin. It is similar to the thin shaft that shaves the beard. Any one of them can do the job but Cabinet will always try to take a closer look at the advice that is given and the qualifications of applicants.

Mr Speaker, there are other applicants who have very good passing marks, excellent and high qualifications; however there are also some that have shortcomings. This is the lack of common sense as stated yesterday. There are also a few flaws, and the Committee has not yet reached its decision but the Cabinet is well aware of it. In saying that honourable Speaker, this is no mistake on the State's part, whilst the status of the current person, it is not commensurate with the works implemented. Probably for the next two to three years, then you can apply to earn this. There is another one about an incumbent judge, but we talked about the game of golf.

Then the representative said, "I have applied seven or eight times, I wonder if there is a malpractice when I applied to the CEO of that Ministry. But now that I have been appointed as the CEO of this Ministry, I noticed that the advice from the Committee was right and so I now know that I am qualified".

Mr Speaker the selection process is not a simple thing as raised before, regarding many issues. I reprobate... perhaps a week to discuss various issues affecting the decisions that should be considered by the PSC, the panel or Committee who are conducting the interviews including the Cabinet if they make it before a decision is reached. There is another position for another major organization, the recommendation was submitted four times but was withdrawn and the Cabinet was well aware. During the fourth time, the Cabinet saw that this was the suitable person, they needed. Mr Speaker, things are working out right and this person is very good.

In saying that Mr Speaker, the selection is not easy.

MR SPEAKER: Well done... I give the first chance to the Minister.

Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang: Thank you for the opportunity your honor, point of clarification. It seems that the scold is on us, and you do not understand what exactly...the Hon Prime Minister has spoken...and perhaps this is the response on public servants.

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However, it seems the reprimand is on us. Therefore, I want to understand. If you are about to bombard us with your bombs, then say it straight to us, because some of the Ministers are also asking who exactly your speech is directed to please, thank you.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: The Minister is upstanding and all matters related to this Minister and that Minister, personally it is implemented perfectly. There are times since the beginning of my tenure as a Minister; there were some adjustments made by the Hon Tootooalii from one time to another. That is the nature of... so this is not specific to Samoa; it is the same with other countries. Other office adjustments take place almost just before the election. However, I would like to thank the Hon Tootooalii, for practices made in those days; it gives me more chance to expand my understanding of one Ministry after another of office reshufflings that I used to work in.

During my appointment as the Minister of Tourism in 1991, I have just bore insight of tourism related activities. When appointed, I went to Fiji to attend a tourism conference. When I got there, American Samoa was disappointed with a statement made several times, I mean Fiji; I then asked what was happening? They said it was a festival.

When I got back, they said there is also a festival in Hawaii and Tahiti that uses different flowers. Then I advised the Cabinet to select a flower to symbolize Samoa, which was why we had the Teuila. Keep note that New Zealand has their own flower, which represents them although; it is not a flower but a tail of joy, a leaf of joy. That is what you see when the All Blacks play seen on the side of their jersey is the image of the leaf of joy.

Some countries use the aute whilst others use the mosooi. For us we chose the teuila and the mosooi. After that, we raised this matter and Tofilau and the Cabinet discarded the mosooi as it withers quickly. We needed a flower that lasts long and is good. Then we cast it off, but American Samoa heard about the idea and they too copied us, and they conformed what we were doing. Therefore, these a few contribution from me, because we would not have a Teuila festival today if I had not copied the idea from Fiji, but the things of this world are imitative. We copy ideas from other countries and apply them to our own country.

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That is the case Mr Speaker, to clear this area in clarifying the issue regarding position change, which has made me understood well. This is another part on role adjustment for knowledge expansion, on the saying, ‘variety is the spice of life’. Thus, variety of new things you face, that is the sweetness of life.

Mr Speaker, that is the same statement in case someone raises it again, that reason why I put my trust in the Ministers. Regardless how you perceive us, no that is the procedure of our works. If the Minister has to go abroad, then I will take over. The reason for doing that, is so that I understand the weight of the work undertaken by the Minister, which then helps me to reshuffle the positions, to lighten the burden that have become burdensome on some positions, for the other Minister by sharing it with other Ministers.

Mr Speaker these are just some of the things that some of you do not understand in relation to current Cabinet systems and processes. They are not new; which are also carried out by many countries in the world.

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the member for Palauli le Falefa.

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga (Palauli le Falefa): Mr Speaker the question by the current speaker on unfilled vacancies. The Ministries mentioned includes the Ministry of Education Sports and Culture, they have 150 vacancies for Teachers. It is hard to fill, because there are only 2 or 3 administration positions, but those vacancies, well, as I said... this is one important aspect is interviewing the details on the Main Estimates when filling in these vacancies.

In addition, the staffing table that came with the Budget, I think 4 or 5 weeks before the interview was conducted, the statement by the CEOs of the Ministries is that, most of the vacancies have been filled. The other Ministry that has the most opportunities is the Ministry of Health. However, according to the CEOs, there are vacancies due to the merger. This means that there are potential jobs, and a review is underway, which includes those who are studying at the National University of Samoa to fill many of these vacancies.

The vast majority of vacancies in other Ministries are in the process of filling up, Mr Speaker. There are also other Ministries that are starting to look at reorganizing their work, whether they need more work or not, to save money with all due respect.

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MR SPEAKER: Good job.

Afioga Hon Loau Sola Keneti Sio (Minister of Education, Sports and Culture): Mr Speaker...

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

Afioga Hon Loau Sola Keneti Sio: I rise to make further clarification in support of the Deputy Chairperson of the Finance Committee's statement.

Presumably this is the purpose, since the number 150 is being mentioned, which seems like a huge number, but that is the whole purpose. If you notice, our country is also making a fuss about the fact that there are not enough teachers, or shortages of teachers, these are the opportunities, but only for the Primary Schools. If you look at Primary School with 8 classes, the other Primary School now has 4 teachers, which means there are only 4 teachers and 8 classes. This means there are 4 positions available, so we are also looking at it, in order for these vacancies to be filled.

The other thing is that our teachers who graduate from NUS, they often have their graduation in April. Now that the estimated expenses is sorted, it should also be included in the Budget so that there is money allocation for the salaries of teachers. It is in that spirit, but thank you to the Hon Chairperson of the Finance Committee for clarifying the situation as stated by the member, with all due respect.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, I want to offer my assistance regarding the issue. Thank you to the member for raising the issue, it is important is to show suggestions.

Another senior member of another Ministry does nothing after he finishes his duties. I then advised this person that as soon as the work is complete; use the next 5 or 6 hours to go and do other work that he or she is qualified to do. After advising the Senior Officer, the senior officer objected and said the job they do is the only job they were assigned to do.

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The information provided is helpful and this is one of the reasons why the PSC is keeping track of the Ministries due to the broadening view which leads to the requirement of four people. Therefore, there is a chance for the PSC to advise the CEOs of Ministries to look at the duties of Officials to distribute some of these duties rather than readvertising them, henceforth, there are other chances for workers who are working 8 hours per day. It is not as if though they are busy 8 hours straight in a day.

Mr Speaker, that is the case, there is a huge gap within the Ministries that should be thoroughly looked into, that is where you will see a vigilant CEO. See whether possible to make use of other workers, then do so. That is what I used to talk about with the Minister of Health, try and walk around with the CEO and have a look at the outpatient area because there are times when there are about 50 to 100 people visiting the doctor. And if there is only one doctor on duty, where are the rest of the doctors, they should see that whenever the patients are crowded, they should come forth and provide assistance.

This is why there are programs conducted for doctors in the rural areas so that they could come to the rural areas as some go there too late. And not long do they work, they say they have to take a break because they have to. This means that they have been busy all day long with personal stuff and end up causing the delay in performing their duties when this is the chance for them to make good use of their professions.

Mr Speaker, there are various problems arising that is shared by the Ministers to the CEOs regarding the resources available for them. Thus it is good that you have raised this matter as this is another independent source for the sake of the Minister to consult further with her Ministry.

MR SPEAKER: Well done, it depends on the farseeing wisdom in accordance to the suitability of time, the desire to fill these vacancies, well the clarification has been given by the Hon Prime Minister. I call the member for Vaimauga.

Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA: Mr Speaker, due to the importance of this morning and the speech of this constituency. This member believes, just like Elijah and Elisha, when Elisha would follow Elijah for blessings, Elijah did not ascend but was given blessings.

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That is why my constituency is overjoyed because we have noticed that most of the time...the sacredness of this constituency is in depth.

So, it looks like it has... sadly, the Hon Prime Minister is speaking to that side and yet this side answered. No, leave it be, the oratory of Vaimauga is a big deal. Look at it in general, but not because Hon Loua Sola Keneti Sio and his Ministry attempted it. However, Vaimauga speaks for the most important thing, the overview of the Budget.

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

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member, I allow the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: Perhaps the member that current speaker has forgotten that the previous speaker is an exceptional member. There are three Ministries he was affiliated with, the Minister of Finance, Ministry for Works and Environment, he is also in the Committee and has contributed a lot in that Committee.

Therefore, I can see you are upset, this is what you should do, you should thank the member that was upstanding, because he is the wisest person that responded to you. He can be of assistance to you, as you are his fellow Opposition colleague for our side. You should be thanking him instead of blaming him.

MR SPEAKER: I allow the member for Vaimauga, I also warn that you be careful with your hand movements as you might hit the member for Siumu and the member for the Urban Seat.

Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA: Well the lands I make my speech on are mine. Mr Speaker, the Leader's remarks on the economy and blessings were also a privilege for me. However, the problem is that the beginning was pleasant and the ending was dreadful, I have noticed, the question raised by the Minister of Transport, I feel that...

MR SPEAKER: Alright, I allow the member for Palauli le Falefa.

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Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga: Mr Speaker, the story about Joseph who had a dream, God showed him to ascend, but God prepared him descend. Therefore, from a human's perspective, God is preparing you for great things to come. With all due respect.

Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA: Mr Speaker, the statement by the Minister of Transport, who is this Minister, it is concerning your honor, because you declared to the House that most of the list for this constituency will be crossed out by you. That is why this district has noticed that nothing has been implemented from that time until today.

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

Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang: Mr Speaker, point of order, it seems that the members reprimand is broad. I want to understand so that the Minister you are complaining to can respond, you are clearly talking to me. Preparations for the roads you requested are underway, but it seems that it will now be given directly to the Cabinet to make your road a priority, unfortunately now there is also a change in the methods used to build roads, but now it will be kept under my list, because you seemed to blame me for my works when we are still preparing the work for your constituency. We are reliant on the Budget to implement the work, but you were not patient enough. I am thankful that you are talking directly to me, leave the other members alone, nevertheless, the matter is now understandable. With all due respect.

Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA: Just as I gave you my suggestion, you should have supported it, do not remove the LTA whereby, more revenue is generated from that is now under the Police, so that there is more money in your pocket to carry out the work. However given our several talks and interjections on the Budget, I have not yet said anything to my constituency regarding their development projects.

MR SPEAKER: I ask the member to conclude as you have two more minutes remaining.

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Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA: No Mr Speaker, there are a lot of things I wanted to talk about, as stated by the Prime Minister...

Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang: Just this bit for clarification your honor, I am not involved in this, because I also believe that the funds that will not be available can be used to help build the roads given in your requests when the Budget is finished, but I do not make the decision for this matter, there is an amended Bill presented to Parliament for its review when the sitting day comes, that is the intention. Thus, all these funds goes through the same thing, the Ministry of Finance and is distributed from there to carry out the work that the LTA carries out. So you have nothing to worry about.

As soon as the budget is exhausted and the LTA runs out of funds, there is still an opportunity to make a request directly to the Ministry of Finance for funds if necessary that these works needs to be carried out. With all due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. Conclude now member for Vaimauga East.

Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA: I would like to thank the Speaker for his decision, however, as I said this member is full of respect. The situation in our State, as the Hon member has stated, the constituency and its access roads especially the inner roads are badly damaged.

I advise you as you will be part of our Vaimauga Constituency, I ask that you delay the works on our access roads whilst the inland roads in the villages of Vaialele, Fagalii, Letogo. It will...

MR SPEAKER: The Hon Prime Minister may rise.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, you should not have been addressed the title of Pulemagafa, you are the Speaker, and now the reason has been revealed, he spoke from 9 am and it is almost break time and he is still speaking. What week will he conclude his statement...

MR SPEAKER: Now look what has happened, we have been caught because of you. Well, the member should conclude his statement.

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Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA: Mr Speaker, I would like to express my gratitude for the many developments of my district that I wanted to discuss, especially my lands, we are still awaiting a request and approval from the Minister of Samoa Land, to reconsider the value of land in our constituency. But since we have reached the time limit, there was a lot I wanted to talk about, as the Prime Minister said in terms of the Chief Executive Officers of Government Ministries, I beseech the members, to appreciate the decisions and policies that also affect the men of our country in whom we trust. Some of the men so far have not received a court decision, and yet they are still adhering to the decisions by the Parliament, as well as the Public Service Commission to some of the men who headed the Ministry.

I pray that they be appreciated, because the men are the hands and feet of the government and we are reliant on them. The concern is that, our government may be affected if problems arise due to your decisions and choices. The men of the country are very capable, there is wealth in foreign education with many that have returned to serve our Government, but that is the catch, as it seems. The Hon Prime Minister was also involved in the decision-making process for the election of members, but it seems I am at a level that is close to the Chief Executive Officers. Some do not apply, state that they are not favoured by the Minister.

Regardless of how many times he or she applies, the Minister will not pick them. Please look into this matter. We only have five years of service, but the rest of the country should also be recognised for their services. There is a Ministry that I cannot forget to thank...

MR SPEAKER: The statement by the member is serious. Go on Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, what I want to correct is that after the statements, it will be brought to the Cabinet for a decision to be made.

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It is also quite reasonable for Cabinet to decide not to do what the Minister wants, as the Cabinet considers the compelling written submissions provided in the interview report, the status of each applicant and his or her services for the sake of the Cabinet. Also keep in mind that we are in Samoa, and almost no one is not... everyone knows the majority in service and the integrity of service.

Mr Speaker that is my assistance because the matter mentioned is serious, no matter how much you want it if the Minister refuses to appoint you, then you will not get the position. That is why the Cabinet provisions to bring decisions in here, to ensure the Minister is not biased and so what the member said is correct.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. The statement by the member is very serious. Well that is the clarification. That is your own opinion, but that is not what is occurring. So I apologize to the member but your time is up.

Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA: Thank you, I will now conclude our.... Thank you Loau, I cannot sit down without showing gratitude to you for matters you have raised, it is not a secret that our country is busy with our games.

I give encouragement especially in terms of hosting the games, and I have seen the support of the country in the situation that has arisen, as even the countryside are decorating their villages and schools and everything, also there is support from our hospitals and our government. Well done to all the chiefs and village councils through the Minister, I have noticed that even at the countryside, it has been decorated as if the foreign countries are going to visit the countryside. Please show appreciation through monetary support to these schools.

Well, it is with great pleasure that I thank the Chief Electoral Office, as this is where the terms began with the security of the elections through the Electoral Commissioner. I personally show gratitude because we keep creating laws, and yet they still break it and there is a lot of money going into the election, the situation is not safe from the constitution. Nevertheless, I am grateful to the Commissioner and the Electoral Authority, now that my constituency has taken initiative. Thank God, and that is my gratitude.

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Nevertheless, at this hour I want to thank the Speaker for overseeing our proceedings in the House, if there were any unacceptable statements by this constituency, I ask that it be returned to this constituency. However, I pray to God to prolong your life for the guidance of the nation's sanctuary.

The Hon Prime Minister and your Cabinet, I offer encouragement. Many of the members have already given you blessings for your Games that are going to be held here, as for me, I will not support your game, I want you to go out to the World Cup, outside and not locally, so you can shoot arrows overseas and to take the member for Vaimauga to hold your bow. I give blessings for the Proceedings of our country.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. You were the one that told me he could not shoot, but now you remain seated. Well, thank you for your statement. I call on the Deputy Speaker. I beseech the member for Faasaleleaga No.1 West to give the Deputy Speaker the first opportunity as he also has duties of service, hence why I ask to prioritise the Deputy Speaker's statement.

Tofa NAFOITOA TALAIMANU KETI (Deputy Speaker, Gagaemauga No.3): Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity for this Constituency of Gagaemauga No.3 that is now changed to Gagaemauga No.2. I acknowledge your honorifics.

This morning I presume many requests have been heard, and it seems you have clarified most of these issues, which have also been settled, you also represent Aaron for the glory of the Holy Trinity, because praises should be given to the one who made it possible.

Then there is an idea, leave it to me, for the heavens have heard but there are barriers, as you patiently listen to the requests this morning, so that the proceedings may run smoothly and successfully. I also believe I want to dress this morning in gorgeous gowns, and smell the scent of the gourd until it is a scent similar to a titled woman bathing; however, I am drawn to the girdle of sweetness. I respectively greet the House Representatives and I acknowledge the presence of the Hon Speaker, good morning. I also salute the arrival of your respectable, the Leader of the House, the Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet Ministers, and Associate Ministers. I compliment you on your patience and commitment.

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I also extend my heartfelt congratulations and greetings to the Chairperson of Parliamentary Committees and all the honourable members of the House this morning. We cannot start our statement without respect as that side of the House is of high prestige. As stated by Tuna and Fata, you are the kings of the country. The statement of Matautu will not be given. Most of the time you are renounced as the hands and feet of the Country, I offer gratitude for your patience. As we offer our greetings and blessings.

I also salute the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, and the staff of the Legislative Assembly for the services rendered to the House. Thank you for your work, thank you for your patience.

This constituency will now attempt to make its submission, as for the Budget presented this morning is from yesterday. In my opinion on the Budget, it is clear that there is nothing wrong from what we can see. Why? This is why our seminars held in the past few weeks have been effective, where the Chief Executive Officer of Finance made it clear to the Press. Seeing the Budget from yesterday until this morning, the Main Estimates of Government Revenue and Expenditure, as well as the Second Supplementary Budget 2018/2019, everything is well taken and so, all thanks to the Minister for your hard work.

My constituency has noticed the state of the country and its revenue distribution and its development, Thank you. It is not easy as the country has intense desires for more, and as the House has heard yesterday until this morning, the constituencies are still yearning. Why? The development will help the people of the country live in peace and happiness. Now I stand to congratulate you. The statement made by the Chief Executive Officer was clear and concise, and many questions were received and accordingly, responses were clear and well clarified. This is why the Budget in this constituency is so simple and easy to look at. I stand to deliver our congratulations and thanks to the Hon Minister of Finance who is in the forefront in implementing this purpose.

Therefore, it is supported from all aspects, the second Supplementary Budget 2018/2019 as well as the Main Estimates for Revenue and Expenditure 2019/2020. We do not have much to say, just words of praise. In my opinion, we should finish passing the Budget so that we can start work on Governmental developments. That is to simplify our views so that the needs of the constituencies are achieved and implemented swiftly, as stated by the respectable Members.

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I would like to give a few recommendations and views in general as a member, Hon Minister of the Electoral Commission, we will not comment on the status of the Laws, it is settled and nothing else will change, except its implementation. The previous by-election by Faasaleleaga No.2, there was a report on the results. That is why we recommend that your honour have a look into it, especially those of us from Savaii. The recent general election reflects the difficult situation and the shortage of ferries. It is important to note that this is also the case when it comes time to close the polling stations and it is still crowded, so we would like to have the opportunity to go to Savaii to perform these activities for our country.

Just an idea, in hindsight, I believe this Sitting should have some recommendations, because if it is given next year in the next meeting, it will be too late. However, look at it in a way that caters for everything, attempting to take people who want to vote in Salafai.

I also believe that the advice is useful for you to consult with the Minister of Transport at sea. This member and this constituency are asking for a review of the system that when the clock strikes 2, everyone should already be in Savaii, because the polling stations will close at 3 to 4. The only thing I want to offer assistance on, because if the reports say that 1000 people have not voted in the previous election, the vision of this constituency. What if there are 20 constituencies in all of Salafai, how many will not vote? Then a problem arises that justifies the purpose and meaning of the hope that everyone will vote. This is the intention for giving a recommendation.

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

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, what is the point of view by the member if the people can use the public holiday to travel before the election, maybe 1 day off or a whole week vacation is enough to travel to Savaii to ring the bell?

MR SPEAKER: Thank you Hon Prime Minister.

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Tofa NAFOITOA TALAIMANU KETI: Thank you Hon Prime Minister, your remarks are very inspiring. However, there is also a sense of fluency in the words of our country that the futia and the umele are inconsistent together. I am only interested in solving the issue. I am not requesting for more holidays, that decision is yours to make. However, the main purpose is for the Hon Minister to find ways to resolve this issue. The purpose is to make sure everyone votes. That is the main purpose of the decision-making process, I offer suggestions for you to review, if the reports on the by-elections state that 1000 and more people did not vote, due to statements that they could not make it because of the boat stoppages. These are the issues I want to focus on as there are family functions that occur frequently. That is my request for you to think about as there is plenty of time left, because the only members that think about think about this issue are those from Salafai.

That is what I wanted to talk to the Minister about, to gain more wisdom and prudence in this regards so that it is well prepared so that it can... because I also gave advice, which means, the people are not to blame for this problem, we are in the process of people going to Savaii to cast their votes. They are unable to go, so there is an instant fine, which is the penalty on them.

Well I am not sure, but that is the concern. My feelings is not against the purpose of the Laws that have already been passed in the House, but my resolve to act, so that we reconsider ways that do not affect our people, because there is already a fine of \$100 and so on. It is just my opinion for you to consider but the decision is at your control. The view of the Constituency is not belittled, as we wish you luck. The election in 2021, there is a goal we must achieve as stated in the passed constitution, and that is for everyone to vote. That is the wish of this Constituency.

To the Ministry of Health, thank you for your work, although not long, I believe the Government has noticed your hard work. I have heard from my Constituency that the hospitals at Vaipouli have already been inspected, and there is also word that plans are underway to close it down. I humbly asked with the utmost respect that the Hon Minister and the Advisory Committee delay this process, until Fagamalo and Vaituutuu meet to make a decision on the matter.

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It is important that we are informed about the plans that have been set, although it was not passed, we beseech that the plans be delayed. We believe in our people, and it is difficult travelling inland, as patients cannot be emitted nor are there any doctors available. However, since it was a decision made by a former member, I will not talk about it. As a statement for today,

I humbly ask your honor to delay the plans, we really need the hospital. If it is in a situation where it should be moved inland, then it is appropriate, however the Houses of Fagamalo and Vaituutuu need to meet and come up with a decision and suggestions on this matter. However, good work, changes will occur, and we should find ways to make it easier for our people in the long-term. It is important, but our request to the honourable member, it will be a matter of time before we have a meeting with my constituency and then we will give you our advice.

Now I move to the Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture. Thank you very much. I would like to use this opportunity to show gratitude for the completion of the request that was given. As my constituency is listening, I stand to deliver congratulations from the elders of my constituency. Thank you. Our village and our constituency are aware that there is a lot to contribute for the education of the nation, but thankfully, this was done in our time of need. That is your privilege, may God bless you as you take the position, as we know your duties, as the Minister of Education is not easy, because our Government is prioritising Schools and Hospitals first.

That means that you are faced with a lot of work and monitoring every situation. We wish you good luck and may the Lord bless you, in terms of the games, we are ecstatic. One of the members stated that even the Schools in Savaii have been decorated. All in the spirit of support for the government and to beautify Savaii.

For the Ministers awareness, even if no people travel to Savaii during the Games, we still support it wholeheartedly. Although we are supporting from Savaii, we wish you good luck as our country hosts the games. From what I have seen, the Constituency is in full support with decorations everywhere.

The only issue I want to bring up for the Minister of Roads is the situation on the roads. The road that goes towards Far and Range at Tafaigata. I was there last week, and I ask if the games continued given the unpaved road. If there is enough time, we should look into it lest we forget.

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Motion for amendment of Sitting Hours

MR SPEAKER: I interrupt the statement of the Deputy Speaker. Maybe soon... not too much is left. Since we have now come to our recess time. I declare the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly set aside for its usual recess.

Proceedings for the Assembly set aside at 10:45am and resumed at 11:36am.

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

MR SPEAKER: I announce that the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed. I acknowledge the Members for your patience, and I trust we have regained strength from the break and are now set to resume our proceedings.

Before I call on the Deputy Speaker, I would like to ask the Prime Minister for a motion.

MOTION FOR AMENDMENT OF SITTING HOURS

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA AUELUA FATIALOFA LUPESOLIAI LOLOFIETELE NEIOTI AIONO GALUMALEMANA Dr. SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker and honourable members of this House, I rise with respect, *To amend the Sitting Hours of this Parliament. First, to set aside Proceedings at 1:00 this afternoon, and resume our Sitting from 7:00pm until 11:00pm. As aware, this is opportunity for Cabinet to continue its scheduled meeting for today. In addition, it is also a good opportunity to carry out some of the works of Parliamentary Committees and the works of the Ministry Heads that was not achieved yesterday due to our Meeting.*

Mr Speaker that is the motion with due respect.

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MR SPEAKER: The motion has been moved by the Hon Prime Minister to reschedule our Sitting due to some unforeseen circumstances, not only with the Cabinet Meeting in their respective roles but also in the Committees of Parliament, according to their works. In particular, the Chief Executive Officers of Government Ministries and Corporations are also present at our Meetings, from yesterday until today. This provides an opportunity to perform some of the tasks, duties and work. The motion has been moved to set aside and resume at 7:00pm until 11:00 tonight.

Seconded by the Minister of Education, Sports and Culture.

Motion approved.

MR SPEAKER: The motion will be complied by, as proposed by the Prime Minister. I call on the Deputy Speaker to conclude. You do not have much time left.

Tofa NAFOITOA TALAIMANU KETI: Thank you Mr Speaker, I second the statement made by the Speaker. I am confident that the members of the House have regained strength after having brunch to resume with the rest of our work.

The issue left for this Constituency will not long, because we have yet to address the Hon Minister of Public Works. Thank you for your work, our constituency has received regular inspections. The condition of the work roads is the same as the roads in the cities. We have witnessed that your honour as well as the Committee have looked at the condition of the roads in the villages of Satoalepai and Safai.

Your honour, inside airplanes there are brochures that are guides for tourists about attractions within different countries. Like visiting Tosua as well as swimming with the turtles at Satoalepai. This means that these sites are more admirable to tourist, and the more tourists coming into Samoa for the sites, the more wealth our country will receive. The community has witnessed it, hence it is why we are suggesting to you for a prosperous future, and... lest others think that we are being unfair with our own constituency. Nevertheless, we do not see it like that, what we request, as we have noticed, it is number one if the Budget is passed.

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This is also, why we did not talk much about the Budget, as it should be quickly approved so the requests by villages and districts are met. Now your honour has spoken, we salute you, thank you very much. Satoalepai are listening, the sacredness of Sa Peseta, the Aitutagata and the glory of Satoalepai. As well as the head of Suisala of Safai, the head of Sa Peseta family and the glory of Atifai, that is the spirit.

Thank you very much, now that our community have seen, the inspection is finished, and we offer gratitude to your honour and the committee. We pat the mat and blow the horn, as your honour shares wisdom for the highest dignity of the country and the needs of our people.

Mr Speaker I now move on to the Minister of Civil Aviation. I offer congratulations and thanks, not too long ago my family had a fa'alavelave. I was feeling proud as my family members that travelled from overseas offered me praises. Nevertheless, I told them no, the respectable member should be the one they should praise. Why? In terms of our air purchase, therefore, thank you for your insight. In particular, your honour as our hopes for hosting the Pacific Games is near. This is the first entry point for travellers who want to watch and participate in the Pacific Games. This is why I say thank you and I believe this will provide us some good publications, as our government looks to host this year. I ask that the member look into beautifying the carparks at the airport, although on the overall thank you.

There is only a little bit left and it is the final statement Mr Speaker. The situation keeps recurring, as it is a recommendation for the success of the games. In the case of stray dogs, I would like to remind you that... the Police Department should look into this concern. This is one condition we should prioritise, especially the areas around Faleata and the urban areas. There is a need to look into all these concerns.

I conclude the statement by my constituency by offering blessings to the athletes that are participating in the games as they represent Samoa. Good Luck. We wish you all the best from Salafai and hope that you will be successful as you carry the name of the country into the games. May God bless you with skill and strength for the Pacific Games this year.

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We now return our statement to offer gratitude to the Speaker, thank you for your patience and for leading the proceedings for today and yesterday. Well done Mr Speaker and the Ministerial family. You must heed patience in our Meeting, as this is the nature within these constituencies and dignitaries. That is where the wisdom lies in leading our Government. I commend the Sitting of Samoa this morning.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you honorable Deputy Speaker. I respectfully call on the member for Faasaleleaga No. 1 West.

Afioga Hon GATOLOAIFAANA AMATAGA ALESANA GIDLOW (Faasaleleaga No 1 West): Firstly, I would like to thank you honorable Speaker for the opportunity upon this constituency to stand and comment in accordance to the 2019/2020 Budget. I feel that our day is almost over, and the sanctity and dignity of Samoa in this House is in full swing, especially with our country tuning in.

Some members have already spoken and they have completed their statements. I will not go into detail any further, except that I salute you honourable Speaker. Greetings also to the Hon Prime Minister or the Leader of the country, respectable Cabinet Ministers and Associate Ministers, good health and a clear sky. I also acknowledge the presence of the Leaders of Committee and especially the Heads of our Parliament as expressed by the members of Parliament, who are able to work and support our Government for the purposes set out in our budget this year. I also offer greetings to the Chief Executive Officers of the Government Ministries and Corporations, especially in your engagement with duties and responsibilities. Well done to your services and patience. I acknowledge the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. Thank you for your services Tiatia; you are the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, with the support of the staff. You are the hands and feet of the Parliament, you serve us from time to time.

Mr Speaker, I would like to thank the Hon Minister of Finance, the Minister of Revenue, and all the Ministries and Corporations have managed to collect this money for the Government's use, to improvement the well-being of the Samoan people. Well done for the preparations, thanks for the patience, the set out vision and purpose of our budget, to have a common vision for the future of Samoa.

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I feel that this is the spirit in this House of Meeting for Samoa, because the country has placed their trust and hopes in us, so that we make good and appropriate decisions for the future of our country that is supporting us. There will be no more statements related to the Budget and this constituency feels the support and gratitude to deliver all the conditions set out. In addition, as stated above, those who had engaged with the preparation of this Budget are not amateurs, but experienced people, therefore, trust and support were on the Hon Minister as well as the Chief Executive Officer of the Minister, to be able to implement the plans and objectives in the current Budget.

Nevertheless, I cannot leave without a few suggestions; it is necessary to make, as there are still things that must be reminded and undertake, things that will improve the district as well as the improvement of our community.

Mr Speaker, I would like to make a recommendation to the Minister of Tourism through your honour. Thank you for the ongoing works. I feel, that this is one of the Ministries that has made high revenue earnings, from the money spent by tourists in the country. Moreover, we must look at ways to improve this part of our economy as well. In further, I want to ask the Hon Minister a question, because as stated by the Hon Prime Minister who is the leader of our country, in terms of the effects of climate change this season.

There has been an indication on the extreme rise of sea levels, and the tide is rising to areas that are not usually affected by the rise. The houses that are built for the same purpose are being affected by climate change and without notice, it is sad to see that there is a lot of damage and many works is required to be done to maintain the beauty of our homes and venues used by our foreigners.

Hence, why I ask the Hon Minister, if there is any funding from the budget for climate change, mitigation funds for our Ministry in order to assist the industry in preparing and repairing the affected areas, and not because of their carelessness, or their actions, but because of the changing climate we are experiencing this season.

Therefore, I would like to ask you a question to find out if our Ministry is in the process of preparing, because these are all things that our Ministry must take into account to protect, maintain and preserve the beauty of Samoa, for those tourists that we rely on for profit and for our development.

Then I...

Afioga Hon Sala Fata Pinati (Minister of Tourism): Mr Speaker...

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MR SPEAKER: I call on the Hon Minister of Tourism to stand.

Afioga Hon Sala Fata Pinati: I thank the member for his wonderful speech this morning. In terms of climate change, I think these issues are the responsibilities of the Marine or those in the Environment.

Climate Change is not under the Office of Tourism. Areas of concern for hotels and villages depend on the finances. There are funds reserved for the hotels, but the effects of strong winds and more, I think that there are people that deal with these issues, but it is not under the Tourism budget. But it would be better if we can discuss this issue and perhaps it will give your honour a better picture that will also be beneficial for the future of tourists, and those that are conducting the work, I believe, as you have stated a few hours ago today, we should all work together.

Therefore, whatever we attempt to do, well it is the best we can do. Regardless if big or small, at least there is something, all this work is for the future of Samoa, with due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Well done, the member for Faasaleleaga may rise.

Afioga Hon GATOLOAIFAANA AMATAGA ALESANA GIDLOW: Thank you Hon Minister for your assistance to the thought of the member. I apologize if the question I am going to ask is inconvenient.

But I feel that it is your Ministry that should focus on all matters pertaining to the tourism industry, to get assistance and to get advice from all that is available from different parts of our Government. Anyway, we shall keep in touch, because this is not a trivial matter, many hotels are affected by the rising tide, and we should offer some assistance for them to prepare and protect their properties that cost them a lot of money, due to the effects of the weather, as we cannot do anything about it.

Now I come to the Minister of Education, firstly I offer my gratitude, because of the preparations that the Ministry has prepared, in terms of the issues raised many times, if the foundation is good, it paves a way for more things to come that are well prepared and organized. That is the belief that the Ministry strongly suggested, in terms of reading, and the number of our children that can accumulate these knowledge, so that it can be a foundation to gaining more knowledge and improve their learning wherever they go. Because as witnessed today, our preparations is incomplete after many years.

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Samoa is not alone, but it is a weakness for the whole of the Pacific, as there is a decline in the percentage of good numeracy and literacy for Pacific island children.

Most importantly, I would like to thank the Hon Minister, that there are programs set up by the Ministry to try to address this weakness and shortcoming. That being said, I am very grateful.

The other issue I feel would be more helpful in the set plans of the Ministry; is having libraries for each school. Second, so that the little ones and children can have the opportunity to find a simple book to begin practicing reading, and to enjoy reading so they can improve their understanding. I want to make an appeal to the Minister, as some Primary Schools now have librarians that are looking after the library.

In our village of Iva, there is a library donated by one of the noblemen of the village, and with the help of the village, a beautiful library was set up. Unfortunately, we are in need of assistance for an experienced person that is educated in this field, so that the library is properly used. That is the appeal to the Hon Minister of Education.

I move on to the Minister of Health, we are thankful for you. I believe that your duties are new but your services and performance is not new and it no doubt, the previous work done by the former member will be continued. I would also like to thank the former Minister, because during our visits to the hospitals in the rural areas, it was wonderful to see the improvement of the situation to cater for our country's needs. In terms of the issue concerning doctors, one or two doctors would go to the rural areas to make easier for those who find it difficult to go to either Tuasivi hospital in Savaii or Motootua hospital in Upolu, as there are other doctors at this time that can travel to cater for those who are not in serious conditions. Thus, I thank you for those ongoing programs and programs that are underway.

I believe that it is an on-going plan to have a doctor in our current district hospitals, it is a plan that I support, and I pray that this plan will come to fruition in due time.

However, a word of advice to the Hon Minister, note that some hospitals are not well maintained nor preserved neither sanitary pursuant to the conditions of hospitals. The grounds should be perfectly cleaned and beautiful, and it should be an example of hygiene and well-being.

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From an observation, some hospitals have hired contractors to trim and clean the weeds, pardon the dignity present this morning. However, the statements by those who are dealing with the task, say that when it rains heavily, the weeds regrow quickly. When we contact the contractors, they say it is not yet time to do their job.

That is unacceptable and I offer a suggestion, it would be better if the responsibility be returned to the Committee that looks after the hospital. For people who live in villages that the hospitals are located in can do this task, not only to maintain at any time, but also having a connection to secure the safety of the hospitals and the community workers within that village. That is a suggestion to the Minister, but thank you for the good work as we see changes emerging.

Then I come to the Hon Minister of Works, thank you very much as I have heard that there is still hope for the requests submitted. I pray that you have enough shares so that a blessing or aid may soon come to this district and its roads that needs fixing. This is another constituency, your honour, which has come to notice with a large number of people moving inland, and living there permanently, in attempt to respond to the admonition of moving inland, because of climate change, because the shoreline is no longer safe.

That is why I request to the Minister to consider our roads again, and our opinions, probably here in Upolu it is the usual, but for us from Savaii, when we travel to the rural areas we are unfamiliar with which road to take or where to go... either Lalomanu or Lotofaga. As a recommendation, if you could set up road signs on each street to easily locate and find which way to Apia and which way to Aufaga or Lepa.

Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang: Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Minister of Works to rise.

Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang: I do not intend to interrupt the wonderful statement made by the Member.

However, the issue with the signs have been raised, the Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture as well as the Ministry of Works have prepared all the signs on the roads, to help the public especially the tourists locate the streets and direction of places. It is good to have these signs, so that travellers can go from place to place, but the situation is already prepared. Thank you.

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Afioga Hon GATOLOAIFAANA AMATAGA ALESANA GIDLOW: Thank you for the clarification and there will be no further comment regarding this issue. However, concern is that there might not be enough funds for the all the requests made by the member, but we are faithful. It has been five to ten years and there are still no new roads, so that there is a distribution of funds.

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

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malilegaoui: Mr Speaker, while we are on this issue before the member moves on, the matter that was raised in terms of road signs is important. Traffic signs are very poor in not only the villages but also here in the city.

This is why the Minister in charge of the Committee for Government Representatives or Sui o le Malo raised it. We too must communicate with our Government representatives. Not only the women but the men as well, to support our existing signs in the community. A few signs have already been dismantled leaving behind the pillars; the signboards are also gone, while some have been removed with the poles. This affects every community not just a specific one. However, they are very useful for travellers. Not just for the tourist but also for our locals. Many of us do not know other neighbouring villages, but these signs are set up at the borders of the villages to help identify each village.

That is why we do not know what to do. If we use wood for poles, a family nearby will take the posts and use it to cook their food, pardon the House. Nevertheless, if we use steel poles, these will turn out bent or go sideways, which means it will take a whole night for culprits to try and pull them off the ground. That is why these are very important, as the Minister is listening, but all of us as well. Please when you get to your district, if you occasionally go to your district, and take a good look at the border and see what is happening. If the signs that were made by the Members Association for Gagaemauga No.1 are still standing, because that is why Sala will start giving up on making signs.

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That is the importance of raising this issue, so that our country may also listen. There is still restlessness within the villages, which makes things difficult. There were other signs on the other side of Savaii, the village men are not to be blamed but the Samoa Solidarity International Group, because they went and talked to other village chiefs, to pull the signs down. This is very vulgar.

Mr Speaker, this is why indicators are especially important. Other types of signs indicate the good things that are in the constituency. However, when people want to see these good things, the village chiefs are there to collect the money. Please order those chiefs to go do some work, and not disgrace our country with those kinds of behaviours. The worst thing is that I am the Leader of the Country, and when I visit a village to check the roads, and the village chiefs stops me and asks that I pay money, so they can buy themselves tobacco. That one way will ensure that the roads of that constituency will not be fixed given the fact that the Ministers and I are visiting them to give our blessings, although, useless chiefs awaits us. Then they disrupt our work while we are trying to help them, especially for the benefit of their children who will be working these as well.

Mr Speaker, the statement made by the female member is a good lesson this morning.

MR SPEAKER: I call on the Member of...

Afioga Hon Tuitama Talalelei Tuitama (Minister of Women, Community and Social Development): To save the time of the respectable member, I stand to remind that the Act is under the jurisdiction of this Ministry. As known in the Internal Affairs Act, it provides the responsibilities of village representatives and Government representatives. Section 15 of the Internal Affairs Act states a provision for *sui a nuu* and *sui o le Malo* or village and government representatives. It is their responsibility to take care of public property in a village, as well as many other duties as stipulated under this Part of the Act.

So again, thank you for the reminder even though monthly Meetings are carried out for the *Sui o le Malo*. The *Sui o le Malo* will again be given a reminder of their responsibilities as done on a monthly basis to ensure hygiene for the community.

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It is their duty to notify these concerns to the police regarding damaged public properties in a village or district, to make an order or to order those who are committing misconduct, or to take appropriate action in accordance with the Act. This is to prevent such incidents from recurring in the community. To protect this area, that is in addition to the Prime Minister's statement.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you, the issue raised by the member is important. As the country is listening, it is the role of the village chiefs and council to be good role models to the members of the village and women.

I call on the respectable member...

Afioga Hon GATOLOAIFAANA AMATAGA ALESANA GIDLOW:
Thank you Mr Speaker. It is true, these are rare opportunities, because we are asking for what the constituency wants, but different customs and traditions are being practised behind the scene that are also incompatible with the cooperation and support of our Government. Thankfully, you have given us advice, as our country is also listening. I want to continue my statement Mr Speaker concerning the seawall as.... I believe this is the third time I have spoken about it to my constituency, if there are any funds left for the seawall Hon Minister of Environment. If so, then contribute it, because this constituency is highly affected by the effects of climate for this season.

MR SPEAKER: Two minutes left for the member...

Afioga Hon GATOLOAIFAANA AMATAGA ALESANA GIDLOW:
Mr Speaker, this is... There was a matter that I have investigated and contacted some of the matured men and women who used to work and serve our Government in the past. Currently, 55 is the retirement age.

This matter has already come before Parliament, or other areas of the Government, rather I still wish to reiterate it, what do you think of it Hon Prime Minister, should we could increase the retirement age to 60 or 65. In making this statement, if you look at it carefully with wisdom and foresight as others have mentioned, 65 to 70 is the age when some men and women would stop working as they now have full insight and knowledge of the work they did. In further, it is time to move on to the next stage in life, and let the youth take over.

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Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, I am hasty to answer the request. Now that you heard our book of Laws, do note down 65 now and do not delay it. Have a look at the Minister Sala, he is almost 90 yet, he is still strong. This is very true, or put it to 70. Because that is why there were amendments to the Judges Act.

A Judge is limited to 62 years of age and appeal again to the State to increase the retiring age to 68. However, looking at the recent retiring Judges, they are still at their youth age. I will leave this matter between you and the Minister of Health. If we put it to 80, let it be 80. The retiring age of 65 is vital and thought provoking. Do it now.

MR SPEAKER: The member may rise, you are lucky that the Government has answered.

Afioga Hon GATOLOAIFAANA AMATAGA ALESANA GIDLOW: Thank you very much Hon Prime Minister. I feel that giving appropriate views is easily recognizable hence; thank you if this matter is achieved.

My final comment please, there is evidence or indications of what is happening, as one of the members from Savaii stated, in the case of the people voting from Savaii. Your honour we have tried before the Act was passed. We will still appeal or request, it is difficult for the Savaii voters to go to Savaii

I believe that those who were dishonest in the past have affected those who are committed and have genuine hearts. They want to vote but they are unable to, or for any other reason. So, just a suggestion and an addition, since the Speaker has already stated, there is a report on the number of people that did not vote.

The votes from Savaii would be useless if this is the case. However, it is just a thought for the respectable member, to consider what is appropriate and what is not. I conclude my statement by showing gratitude and thanks to the Finance Committee. Thank you very much to the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson and the members of the Finance Committee for their support and assistance, in providing a report that has enabled the determination to the integrity of the work that the Hon Minister and the Ministry had worked on.

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I would also like to thank my constituency for their support that has given me comfort, I am aware of your prayers especially the Reverends who are preaching from within the constituency for its safety. I pray Mr Speaker, that God blesses you with a long life, so you can continue your services and your duties, as it is not easy to conduct the proceedings of the Parliament.

Hon Prime Minister, I salute you for even though you have been talked about unfavourably and disrespectfully for your services to Samoa. May you find bravery and confidence to continue your service for our country. May the Hon Minister find wisdom and foresight...

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, do not worry, I am also familiar with speeches of people like William, which state 'those who give you those things will earn you points to heaven'. Therefore, I have gained so much, do not worry, I have gained a lot to travel to heaven when the time comes.

Afioga Hon GATOLOAIFAANA AMATAGA ALESANA GIDLOW: Mr Speaker, I am not worried as the Hon Prime Minister is not worried. His duties are being carried out accordingly and may the Hon Ministers bear farsighted wisdom in support of the Leader and the Associate Ministers and the members of the House, may you find wisdom from God, bless the heads of Government Ministries and Corporations present today and the Clerk of the Office of the Legislative Assembly, thank you for the chance.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you honorable member for the wonderful statement, *sausau falele foi le manu nai Utufiu*. In response to that, may God be with you.

I call upon the member for Anoamaa East.

Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTIA MOEFAAUOOUO MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANU (Anoamaa East): I note that according to Sitting procedure, the Speaker demands to fast track our Meeting as time is moving fast. This is why this side of the House has agreed to have me speak on their behalf, Associate Ministers, yes. I will speak in a faatumua style for all the representatives here.

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I will not prolong our session given the statements shared by the honorifics of Tiafau. The honorifics is retained and unchangeable forever. I wish to glorify God for his sacred authority. As the purposal of a person is determined by the merciful will of God. We are gathered here this morning in good spirit, after the offering prayer you delivered this morning.

I wish to add on to our words of gratitude as the God that Samoa acclaims, and one that Samoa is founded on, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. I read my Bible this morning on the book of Samuel Chapter 17, and there was a verse that says, the war is God's battle. God will bring all those people to you. That is the feeling of someone who is aware of the presence of God whom we serve. We are not worried nor alarmed, whatever storm or cyclone that strikes, we believe that God lives.

It is no secret that nowadays, problems and criticisms keep on coming, the advise to this House, be patient and stay calm, look at the peaceful living of the country, this is the most important basis. During the swearing in of one of the new members of Safotulafai, Namulauulu yesterday, well done to your maiden speech, it seems you have been prepared for a long time for the future and days like this. Others have congratulated and have given their blessings, the words of Jesus, you know, when people speaks well of you, be careful'.

The only recommendation from Lufilufi as it is still in Mulivai further down of Lalogafuafua where these men were born. Hence, if Lufilufi does not give blessings, this member will not gain it. On that note Namulauulu, I wish you all the best, this is what I said to the constituency of Pau, one warrior passes and another one takes over, *pau se toa ae tu se toa*. Now that we have it, praise God. May God be glorified for using all of us, we are only weak servants, whatever issues we face, we are cleansed by the salvation of Christ. Amen.

The Hon Prime Minister has mentoined the scriptures by our pastor, this book will bring life to people. Do not read any other bad book that is based on the thoughts of people, the anointed book by the Holy Spirit is the one that will bring life to us. Observing the members' statements, I alone feel fear. I wanted to upstand last night, Samoa is being compared to a pancake safe, yes, my body is feeling petrified by these kind of statements, why? Samoa is full of respect and dignity.

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker, point of order.

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Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTIA MOEFAAUOUO MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANU: Accusations should not be made freely in the House, to compare the State and the Le Ao O le Malo to a pancake safe. There is no balance in these things.

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker, pardon the honorable Speaker, point of order.

Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTIA MOEFAAUOUO MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANU: The thing is, *seu le manu ae tagai i le galu*.

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Pardon the honorable Speaker I need to correct the mistake given by the member, you see notable Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Salega.

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: The Hon Prime Minister had questioned me about it and I do not have any insight of economic related matters as it is not my talent.

I have talked with the Hon Prime Minister, the running of our State is similar to running a pancake stall, only \$1000 capital is spent on it. That is the correct explanation rather I did not compare the country, who am I to compare the country to a pancake safe?

With respect.

Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTIA MOEFAAUOUO MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANU: Who is the State? Is it an Indian State that we are discussing? It is the Government of Samoa, have mercy members, bear dignity, this is the intention, have mercy so that the country is at peace. I too was stunned last night to receive a call from my constituency, saying, Alaiasa...

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker, I beg tolerance to the respectable member,

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Salega East.

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Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: My statement is apparent, the country is also sole witness to this, the Prime Minister's statement is more serious than mine. Poverty-stricken and rotten poor are more serious words than what I said, and God is listening, let him be the judge, what the member is saying, he said that it is his book with Viliamu rather, look at the way he speaks..

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neiote Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoui: Mr Speaker is there something that...

MR SPEAKER: I allow the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neiote Aiono Galumalemana Dr Sailele Malielegaoui: This is the interpretation in the Samoan language, direct translations for least developing countries, so these are not my words. These words are all listed down by the United Nations for all the countries with low economic status. So that is the exact interpretation of the word I gave. If we misinterpret the meaning of words, then they will become ambiguous, that is rightfully why we are giving the direct translations of the words straight from the English Language.

There was a program I attended yesterday that had me queried about the interpretation of the Lord's prayer. The problem with that, we are looking at the translations of the Lord's prayer by the elders sitting under the talie tree, the constituency of the Deputy Speaker. This was translated by the old men in those days from the translations done by the British translators based on the translations of other people from the language used during the time the Bible was written. Therefore there are three types of translations, this is not the direct translations of the Lord's prayer from that language, rather, the Lord's prayer according to the wording by the translators until today, is therefore, questioning me.

Personally, I do not understand these words, honorable Speaker, what I do think of these words, this is the only word I fully understand. Poverty stricken that Samoa was described by and the term rotten. Because I was good in the alphabet learning. That is why I am sharp in apostrophes, periods, because the pastor that taught me was very good.

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Mr Speaker, that is the story, because it seems that these two are getting into an argument, regarding these words, these things, are direct translations so that it is easier to understand and simpler to pick by another. As such, have patience if the interpretation by the member of tumua, these autumua men ought to be listened to. Let us have your insight.

MR SPEAKER: The Hon Prime Minister has clarified some of the things I recommended, do not be stressed over the matters deliberated in our Meeting yesterday, the member of Lufilufi.

**Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTIA MOEFAAUOUO
MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANU:** Your honor, I do not mean to go against you, the Leader of the State has also spoken, these are the comments of the member. Because a stones rot whilst words do not, *e pala le maa ae le pala le tala*, yes, and the recording of these words is retained forever and cannot be omitted by anyone.

My constituency contacted me that they were afraid, Alaiasa, is there 1.1 billion to the additional loan that will be made, I said, I have read the Budget four times and there is nothing. *Ua tuu le au ae maa i aau*. There is nothing except proposed items that will be deliberated, do not be concerned. To my constituency, stay calm, this constituency cannot be falsified with statements. I am holding this Report from the Central Bank, this is in depth information....

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker point of order...

**Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTIA MOEFAAUOUO
MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANU:** They will be translated into Samoan for the old men who are waiting to be aware of the state of our economy.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member I allow the interjection.

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker, I was the one who stated this. The Associate Minister is the number 1 Accountant. If we look at the records, 53% of the debt in 2017/2018 to GDP. The GDP is what we talked about yesterday, 2.2. If the Associate Minister were to calculate this debt, it will come rightfully come to 1.113.

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For me, I am only a farmer but I understand how this is done. These statistics are given by the Minister of Finance. If my word is mistaken to the Associate Minister, then the information provided is wrong, because this booklet was given two weeks ago for us to see. With all due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. I ask that move on to another matter?

Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTIA MOEFAAUOUO MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANU: Your honor, I am referring to the paper that the Hon Minister of Finance was talking about during his address. 1.06, this new figures is still given here. This is what I meant as given here in English, I will translate this document into Samoan and have it distributed to my constituency for their understanding, there is nothing to be concerned about here, the economy is good, and the proposals of the State is going well for Samoa. Otherwise, I will give them the English translations as the old men also have good english for they have long been educated and have good simile.

This is life, whenever our journey is faced with difficulties, the fishermen becomes fearful, why? As I said, Samoa is proud of its respects and upholds its dignity, *seu le manu ae tagai i le galu. E mau a e faalele mau e matau.* Then we say according to this Budget Statement before us, the demands of this constituency have been laid out.

The only plea, another Ministry had attempted to create policies and procedures for project development, whilst the entire policy for any constituency, comes from their representatives, this is what I will do so that I will gain the support of the people. If at the end of the term that nothing is being done by the member, then the member will know where to end up in, the deep blue sea pardon the language. Although setting up these guidelines in all standardized form will be a waste as everyone has different needs.

On that note, just saying, keep in mind some projects for the district. Thank you Hon Minister for some of the achievements, but do note, Anoamaa East namely Lufilufi and Falefa, it has been 50 years for the State and no development has been done, maybe because the men had to go and support the strike against the State, now that we have the people who are supporting the State, take heed of some projects for this district. In regards to talks on ambulance, we have a health clinic in Lufilufi and a site visit had already been taken there. If a patient is traveling to this clinic, the patient will get sicker due to the bumpy road here.

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Have a look into this road which takes about 100 metres because many of the patients have had spilled blood from hanging blood bags when traveling through this road in ambulance.

Thank you for the work done on reservoirs and other roads, may God bless the Hon Minister. Briefly, I offer appreciation to my constituency. Recently there have been two new pastors that were ordained into the district, well done thank you. There have been issues in the district and with the arrival of the church Ministers, it is now complete and going well. A Samoan village is made up of village councils, church Ministers and that is it. Without a church Minister, the lives of the people is hopeless. Since Susuga Tafai Galumalemana became our church Minister in Falevao, his ministry turned out to be one hundred percent. May God bless you both on your calling. And may God also bless Rev Tau Toleafoa in Falefa. Pray diligently and visit our village more often and pay your taxes. If your taxes are paid, your duties will be blessed.

There are roles that are a blessing in regards like this like the church Ministers. I have a brother who is now appointed as the head of the Tourism office that everyone is asking about, Susuga Faamatuainu Lenatai Suifua is from Lufilufi. May God bless your and your new appointment, and may you find wisdom to attract more young female tourists to visit our country, because the guy is still in his youth and handsome.

I have just returned after traveling on the bridge at the airport which is very beautiful. I am not kidding, the standard has improved. What we longed for, what now? We now have the answer. If we were to give in to the various complaints given, we would not have received anything like this and we would not have excelled in these areas.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. The member's time is finished.

Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTIA MOEFAAUOUO MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANU: My dear constituency and your respects and honorifics, your member is well. Yes, I have returned from New Zealand from my medical check up, and my heart is like a chainsaw it is still good. Respectively, the support of Lufilufi and its honorific salutations. Thank you very much for your respect. I am representing our...you know how a Lufilufi member is, it is not easy to face this House and Samoa. Whatever weakness your servant has, I will continue to strive.

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Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker, just to assist the notable member to calm down with his talk as I see that the Minister is getting scared when the election is still far from time.

MR SPEAKER: Although the assistance is not included in the Standing Order, let this matter be laid on your side Lufilufi.

Afioga ALAIASA MUAGUTUTIA MOEFAAUOUO MALAGAITUTOGIAI SEPULONA MOANANU: Yesterday, I was influenced with the fight between these two that even made a mention of my visiting Maa and not Salega. I do not look back on those areas. I too do not believe in going backwards, if I move forward, I aim to do just that. If the district has agreed on me, it is because I love them. As such, all the best Olo. May God be good to you.

In regards to sports in the country, you have witnessed it Samoa, the blessings did not come in vain, you are aware that the Minister used to be popular in sports, and anything the Minister plans, he aims to bring out the best in an event, it is done meticulously to earn points for the honorable Speaker especially the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet.

Then I say, *e poto lava le tautai ae le atoa ni ia i lona faiva*. To Samoa tuning in and the dignity of this House, I aim to talk longer, however, my time is up, I respect the Speaker greatly. If have said anything mistakenly, Lufilufi apologizes deeply. May God endure his love upon this Parliament.

Leader of the House and Cabinet Ministers especially the Parliament of Samoa. Bless your honor, I feel for your attempts, well done on your management, your bravery is unwavering, if I were to talk about it then you will correct me. God bless your honor. God bless the support of Samoa and may this servant live by the love of God. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. The words of a man from Atua, *e sau lava le fuauli e toa ai le moa*. I do not intend to brag. Well done on your speech which is faa-Tumua talk. I see that the works of the State will be done efficiently seeing that this side of the House have already spoken. I heed appreciation, our work is done collectively. We have only the senior members left, if Famuina, Fonotoe and Tuiatua Faanofonofu are upstanding, the Chairperson would have given a response already.

Who is this member standing? Very well I allow the member of Faleata West.

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Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI (Faleata West): Mr Speaker I am not your brother, I am your son. It is not the intention for Faleata to speak now, although the lands of Faleata have been divided for Samoa, it is the fields of tagatia in Samoa. Tuisamau, I did not want to interrupt your speech, Vaimauga, I forbid you to talk like this in this House.

Your honor, it is wonderful to hear, it is not long to go now, we have two more speeches like this on the Budget, as for the future, only God is aware, if chance is received from God and your constituency, use it now. Because the words that we speak of pardon the salutations of Samoa and the House, they are recorded and are questioned tomorrow on how our contributions were in the managing of Samoa.

With respect before the House of Samoa honorable Speaker, Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet, respectable members of Parliament, well done. The support of Samoa in all honorifics, the chosen Ministers of God, His Highness O Le Ao o le Malo and Samoa in all its honorific set ups, I greet you all at this hour. Thank you for your support and prayers upon your Parliament for the wellbeing of Samoa tomorrow.

I greet orator Namulauulu, well done your success, Lufilufi has already given you blessings, I wish you the best and may you earn points for your constituency. The good thing about this Budget your honor, after the hoisting of the Flag, then the Sitting will ensue. You come as a member with a joyful heart and courage thanking God, Samoa is the first country to have become independent in the whole of the Pacific.

You come and ask yourself, what is your contribution and what did you do, if we reflect back in the struggles that Samoa went through in the start, I pity our forefathers. It has been a success now that it has been 57 years since we became self-governed. Then I say to myself, I will try and answer your question, right, this is your contribution, try and retain the independence of Samoa and resume the good works that our forefathers began, we are the caretakers, may God maintain its Foundation, Samoa is founded on God. Because in my firm belief and this Parliament, this is the foundation that Samoa is blessed upon going forward, to be founded on God.

There was the opening of one the workshops in one of the hotels in the start of this year which was launched by a pastor and the Prime Minister, after the launching, we walked with my Fijian friend who had long worked overseas. He said, Leala, during the opening of the Sitting, I was crying, I said, it is no wonder Samoa is blessed due to you upholding your Foundation and prayers to God for blessings.

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Our country is no longer the same, it is no longer a christian state. Most of the prayers in any gathering is now disallowed. If you also say a prayer even a written one stating the name of God it is forbidden, because there are many Gods that Samoa now worship. With many problems, Samoa is blessed, if you maintain that, we will not be troubled. That is why despite the many challenges and difficulties we face, it is life, our Foundation remains and cannot be changed.

On to the Budget, it has been ten years since I was there with Levaio, pardon chief Olo, ten years and if you reflect back to the time Lealailepule was speaking, there was never a time I spoke and rejected the Budget Statement.

Not only did I not reject, I did not reject the debts. Why? We are fortunate to come and distribute the economy of Samoa every year. I will move on to other matters your honor to assist our deficit that is my belief. Personally, the entire Samoa is being satisfied and our demands with our revenue since the start when I came in 2006 the revenue earning that was received compared to this year was very high. This reflects the change in Samoa today through its developments. Once our wants are met on a daily basis, then we try and develop Samoa, and this is why we live in debt resulting in deficit. If a member does not want to develop the country nor develop themselves, we cannot implement anything with the money we are earning. If this is Samoa's deficit that will be used to purchase food and pay us, then I am worried. But if the reason why we loan and bring money to implement our developments, then, we should not be worried.

The important element your honor, majority of us are over 50 years old and have lived in Samoa. It is easy to be flexible mentally. How was Samoa 50 years ago compared to now? That is the measure. It seems that we and the Ministry of Finance are focussing our talks on debt, ratio GDP, service ratio that is being implemented. Those are like theory, it is used by the entire country, they are things that appear.

Although, there are two things, what we call theory and logic, a person applies it in an appropriate manner. We are not borrowing from commercial banks, nor the financial markets. We are being benefited from concessionary loans, as stated by the member of Falealili West. From twenty to thirty years ago, cents were being used to pay the loans, but we need it for us in the future.

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On that note your honor, I wanted to talk about pancake safe as stated by the recent speaker, and have thought otherwise, no, Samoa is not stupid, this is no mixed pancake that Samoa is doing. Samoa will be mocked by this doing.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the respectable member of Faleata, I call the member of Anoamaa.

Afioga Alaiasa Muagututia Moefaauouo Malagaitutogiaia Sepulona Moananu: Mr Speaker, point of order to the current speaker, because he is saying that my statement had covered pancake safe or my speech. I beg tolerance to the member that was not my speech, you should direct it to the person who spoke on that, do not direct it to me as I do not compare Samoa to a pancake safe. With due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Endure patience....

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker point of order, after one expert was mistaken at first, another one is now misguided. Therefore, these are no experts but fire. I have tried explaining these things to these fellas. Pardon me Hon Prime Minister do clarify this to these two boys.

MR SPEAKER: Do note that fire can wrap in a huge fish?

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: I will move on to another matter as Faleata does not eat pancake pardon the Samoa listners, I eat McDonald.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member of Faleata we have an interjection from Falealili, I have thought that, why not wait until we return then we can have the interjection from Falealili as it is now time for our recess. We start again tonight at 7.00 then we can have the intervention from Falealili.

I announce that the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly set aside, and resume at 7.00pm until 11.00pm.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly was set aside at 12:59pm.

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Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed at 7:00pm.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed with the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2018/2019 and the Appropriation Bill 2019/2020.

MR SPEAKER: I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed. Well done to you for your perseverance in resuming our Works.

Before Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly was set aside during day time at the conclusion of the statement for the member for Faleata West, I call the member to upstand. Since there was another one who was upstanding...perhaps the two of you have already consulted the interjection of the member of Falealili East. I call the member for Faleata East to speak.

I allow the member for Falealili East.

Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo (Falealili East): Mr Speaker, there is no intention to interrupt the statement of the member, the main thing for the sake of our records to be set straight. It is not Falealili West. The mentioning of percentage to money owed was stated in the speech of the member of Falealili East. For the records please. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. I allow the respectable member for Faleata West.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: I greet the respects of the present members in the House and the support of Samoa, I trust we have been rejuvenated to resume our work, the Cabinet who had a meeting this afternoon especially. Well done to your patience in resuming our Budget deliberation for the implementation of our works for Samoa.

After our work was set aside earlier today, I will now move on to debts which is very important matter. After the meeting I was talking with my other fellow members, they seem to mock my statement about my being in Parliament for ten years and had never objected the Budget, they were misinterpreting my talk. The meaning of that statement is that I do not reject it. I do not reject the deficit.

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On that statement, I wish to provide clarity on this part, the reason for not objecting is because we are still raising this in regards to debt to GDP and ratio that the country is generally using to measure....there are two vital aspects as emphasized by the Hon Prime Minister at other times, what I want to talk clearly about and is service ratio. This is the most pivotal area which seems to be not being emphasized. If you go and borrow money, there is only one thing that the bank looks at, whether you have the capacity to repay the loan. That is important.

Since this process was undertaken in 1987 until today, the World Bank records has it on their website that, because I am used to Information Technology or IT. This is my field that despite where I am and whether I am drinking coffee or staying at home, my computer is always on for me to view these statistics. I will give Levao some of these statistics to see where Samoa is exactly, in comparison to other countries of the world.

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Point of clarification your honor, I wish not to disrupt the speech of the member...

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member of Faleata West, I call the member for Salega do you want something.

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker and the respectable House, thankfully the statement of the Associate Minister has come to the matter regarding Information Technology or IT and information on the website. I am sure the Associate Minister is the exact Minister for communication related matters. I do not know what information the member is talking about, but if you look at the website, there is still information that it is 2G when we are now 4G, the speed of the statement of the member is now 4G and this is not updated information on the website.

For the information your honor this is the first business check point for foreign businesses who are interested in setting up businesses in Samoa, and this information is not up to date as discussed. That is reason for upstanding, as he now speaks of IT when works on updating information is not being done, as he is just roaming around and I am unsure what job he is doing.

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Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Thank you to my fellow member I will get to that when I come to IT, Levaopolo Olo and I used to work together at the airport, this person is unbelievable. If Olo is not working, no plane can land as he is the one who deals with lights control. Levao's (Olo) insight is still short of 4G when we are now on 5G. Although, let me go back to this matter...

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member for Faleata West, I allow the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker there is something I wish to understand about. Who instructed Olo to turn on the lights? Who gave the instructions?

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the respective person that is responsible...

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: He was intructed by Lealailepule. See now the funny thing about my relationship with my buddy, after we fought I fired him, and he came and tried to do a way to fire me as well, then Faumuina fired him. Now that we are both here again, you see how God plans his ways for us? I love my brother, Mr Speaker, this is not what I wanted to talk about.

MR SPEAKER: Do you mean to say that you are both bad.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Well we are all bad, but I am way better than you honorable Speaker. Pardon me your honor. Regarding this matter, if you look at the repayments of these loans, we are now at 9% as it reduces by 3% but increases when we have cyclones and such. The question I want to ask, as queried by many others, can Samoa borrow again or is the debt too much? That is the question. According to my personal research on the World Bank, there is still possibility that Samoa can still borrow. We are 9% below here for our debt repayments, whilst the set repayment rate of 14% is made for countries depending on their economy status. I thank the Hon Minister of Finance, and the Secretary as well as the Ministry for this is wise planning. We can only borrow whenever there is a need to do so.

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Another thing we should gain insight from is GDP being discussed together with revenue earnings. I and Levao came into Parliament in 2006, pardon me because when we came, the debt in 2006 was 1.35 billion, and in 2010, the debt was 1.57 billion. In 2015, it was 1.91 billion, and this time in March of this year, it is 2.3 billion. Therefore, the additional money for the economy of Samoa is over a billion. If the debt is on the rise, the revenue earned should be planned appropriately. Coming here in 2006, the revenue was only 430million. In 2016, revenue earnings was 650 million. And this year, you see it now before you the additional revenue and appropriations that is almost 900 million plus. What is the measure for us on this? Is it a country that has improved or not? I do not intend to say it, because the figures, that are discussed are confirmed figures, I am grateful to the State and everyone as this is work done collectively to avoid any trouble on us. My constituency is not worried as everyone talks on emails and website, whenever they ask, I respond and they respond back, thank you Lealailepule finished. Because what I am saying, the most millionaire country in the world is America, this country also has the most debts in the whole world, it is number one in terms of economy and number one in debts. The funds we are using from the World Bank is the savings of other countries. These are the savings of other countries that we borrow and and repay with little interest to develop our nation. The country is now proposing the port at Vaiusu, it is nothing new your honor.

Looking at the hansard and the Constitution of this country, this is where the proposal of this wharf was made before Samoa became independent at the same location. Now that we are in this Parliament, we aim to do it, it is something that must be implemented. What does everyone think of the current airport? You get off and come straight into the air conditioned room. Should you not be thanking God for his blessings and to those who are working for the country. There are two things, change and progress, good change. Let us not look at change but take importance of good changes. If we do not implement these wharves, another five years we will see the cost to climate change will be twice or thrice the worth. If we implement it now, this is another future for Samoa in relation to the outside world. The world is globalisation and it has come to one. We therefore must retain our being accessed by air or sea to generate economic growth for our benefit.

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The Faleata port is getting small and must be implemented your honor. As such, this is what we should talk and be thankful about in the leadership of the Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet Ministers, Associate Ministers and members of the Parliament. Well done, I am not praising you.

Looking at the entire countries of the world, even Great Britain and how its Parliament began, the Prime Minister was being ousted, a new Prime Minister is being sought and neither is our neighboring islands like Papua and the unrest in the Solomon Islands which are all our nearby neighbors, what about Samoa?

What are we worried and shocked about, if we abide by faith and the foundation that Samoa undertook from the start of this speech, so be it. Thank you honorable Leader, well done on your confidence, I did not say brave as we are all courageous, but there are also times when we become foolishly brave, but confidence, it is directed to one main thing and that is Samoa to be safeguarded. Because there are times when we have to go backwards, there are times when we have to go sideways, wherever we go, it is important that Samoa is being guided properly.

MR SPEAKER: The member's time is finished.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: I am astonished that I have only said two words and now my time is up. It is now finished when I have not yet spoken to my district. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. I ask the member to conclude your speech.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: I did not said anything about the Budget your honor. I come now to LTA, this matter I wish give an advise to the State, because the Cabinet has surpassed this matter.

Just an advice to the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet, we have here the members who initiated the reforms, Hon Sili and Hon Faumuina, this is one reform that the Pacific is still talking about. The time and effort spent on this is vital, this was not done hastily, what is happening now is that, I plead, if [the traffic has been removed](#), I trust this is appropriate, as this reshuffling was not clarified properly, the police.

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The passings of vehicles and issuing of license and other things, I believe this is the main duty that should stay with the LTA, they have the knowledge and ability in implementing these roles as they are the operator whereas the Police they deal with the Law. What is happening now your honor, I understand that we have been in Parliament for some time now, LTA wants to be the Police. That is why the Police is being dirty-mindedness and thus change their...if this was still part of their core function and what they should have done, there would not have been any problems. What I am pleading about your honor, have a look into this critical matter again.

Another issue is the roads that should have a change in standards, if you travel to the backside of the country, the roads are getting narrower, this was the case in the olden days, four meters is tarred whilst six meters is clear, this no longer applies today as motors do not fit in this size anymore. It was fitting ten or twenty years ago, and the change must be made again to six meters for tar and eight meters for the road width, there is also a rule for safety for pedestrians.

This must all be standardised, one road bump in Alafua should be different from the one in Vaivase, they are all different. All should be uniformed, and if you look at the roads in the ruralside areas, there are roads that are easily cracked. We do not have to study engineering fields to know these things, but just an assistance to the Minister and the Ministry, this is the reason why the State scolds, they are simple, commonsense, have a look into it please.

Another key area I wanted to talk about is I hear that the Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure MWTI now have engineers. My question your honor, why? What is stated under reforms is that there should be no more engineers here as they should come under the LTA. Look at the bridge in Maluafofou, I went there and I asked a boy standing there whom I will not say, who is that Indian guy? He replied, he is an engineer from the MWTI. I then asked again, what is he doing here? He replied he is there to supervise their job. I said, what about your guys? We are the engineers from LTA. Then I said, how can one engineer come and supervise the work of another engineer. How is this done? I advise, this job is duplication of services and more money will go to waste when trust has been given to these people, have a look again at the safety of the roads and any machine or any suitable people with experience on the main roads.

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Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker, just a slight comment to the statement of the member. The member was present in the House when the MWTI Act was discussed and the importance of having Engineers for MWTI as the regulator of works that was implemented by the LTA. What we talked about was useful regarding the monitoring of the work by the MWTI Engineers who are the project managers for various projects in the country. If the member suggests not to have any more MWTI engineers, what else can be done? The engineers that will be hired by companies to implement the projects will free themselves to do as they like. I think that is what the member is forgetting.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. Just to note for the sake of the member... I call the respective Minister for this matter...

Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang: Mr Speaker, the wonderful speech of Lealailepule need not be disrupted. I guess Lealailepule has forgotten about the matter. Nonetheless, there are views that there are times when changes must be implemented. In the meantime, since the MWTI or the Regulator who regulates and oversees our major project developments is in place, although there were engineers in place then. The engineer you are querying about is from Australia and is providing technical assistance with our major projects.

This man has long worked on bridges and so forth and is now used by the Ministry to implement this sort of job to ensure the safety and strength of the project that is conducted by the contractors particularly its worthiness. It is true that the LTA has engineers but there should be a special engineer within the MWTI, as this is the office of the Regulator that regulates, though there are times when the Engineers go wrong, and since major projects like this costs a lot and therefore, this is to ensure that the work is implemented well. That is the information although it is vital to have Engineers within the Ministry. With due respect.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: This issue will not be disputed your honor, the only assistance, we all understand as Levao said, is that these engineers oversee the work. What I am trying to relay to the Hon Minister of LTA is that they are not doing the work, they are regulating the implementation of the road themselves, it is outsourced to the private sector whilst they supervise the job.

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But it seems that we are being distrustful with each other, the engineer from the Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure comes to supervise the engineer of the LTA as they are dishonest. I am just saying.

Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang: Mr Speaker, point of order, it is not that we do not trust the engineers from LTA, it is another extension for assurance as there have been a lot of criticism from the public about the poor conditions of the roads. That is why this area is important so that they could find out the real reason behind the contractors. The LTA is carrying out the job but I have noticed that the Management of LTA is not enforcing the contractors to do their job in accordance to set standards of POQs. That is it but that does not mean that we do not trust the fellow engineers from LTA, the attempt is to ensure that our job is fully maintained and complete. A lot of money is being utilized for our roads, as observed, the roads are not being done properly. That is the situation your honor.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Your help is different. The only thing Hon Minister, I am unsure as to whether you are talking about the shortcomings or the poor implementations of the roads, if the LTA is doing poor, then my word is true, they are not doing their job. Although, I beg tolerance Hon Minister.

On to the Hon Minister of Agriculture, thank you, your appointment is very critical, especially with the many new project developments, particularly with commercial farming that we have aimed to do for a long time, with bananas, chickens, eggs, fish and everything else, thank for all these developments that has brought relief upon our banana plantations.

Since I came into this Parliament, we have been discussing import substitution as we rely on overseas goods for our consumption and use in our daily living, although I trust, that through the emergence of many of these farms, not only will it provide food supply satisfaction locally, it will also produce great export supply for our economy. Thank you Hon Minister for your effort.

Hon Minister of Tourism, thank you. This has lighten the burden and relief upon our local hotel operations that have been affected, where else will our people seek help from? Gratefully, help has been given so that they will prosper. Government has been doing this for many years, what is called tax credit and whether this has been withheld or not, this assistance has resulted in the success of many hotels.

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If this assistance is appropriately rewarded back to these hotels and proposed hotels, the State will have to look into it as this is very significant. Many of these hotels, if we do not present them a capital injection and collaborate, hopefully we can work together with these tourism business developments to try and resolve these issues. Keep in mind that this year, many world conventions will be hosted in the country. The year 2022 will be the largest Commonwealth conference in Samoa.

In my view, I do not think there is not enough rooms for these large events. Rather, I congratulate the woman that had taken over this Ministry, I congratulate her pardon the new CEO. My assistance and suggestion your honor, your work has become complicated due to the complexity of what you do, there is only one core function for you and what you should concentrate on with all your strength. Market Samoa to the most suitable destinations, do not go too far, Australia and New Zealand are not there yet, these markets are enough for us to push us through given the many people there.

For our aircraft, I offer congratulations and thanks. Have a look at other routes such that, if you were to travel from Wellington to Christchurch to Samoa, you will fly Air New Zealand to Auckland. Therefore, once you use Air New Zealand, you have a big chance of traveling to Samoa. Thus I believe, if we can create new routes there and add new flights, this will assist greatly to our work.

Up next is the Hon Minister of Education, thank you very much...

Afioga Faumuina Asi Pauli Wayne Fong: Mr Speaker, I did not want to interrupt the statement of my brother but now that he has mentioned our joint effort regarding the project at Vaiusu wharf.

I just want to ask what suitable time for the port experts to consult with the constituency as our constituency is still waiting for this talk with them for clarification and update on this matter. With all due respect, thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you, do conclude your statement now.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Thank you very much. Point of order, my brother is correct, we are neighbors, the constituency belongs to Lealailepule. With all due respect. Yes. My brother is in the Urban area, the urban area is way different from the constituency, the constituency belongs to Lealailepule.

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Afioga Faumuina Asi Pauli Wayne Fong: Mr Speaker, just a small correction, he is limited to Faleata West, the constituency is mine, Faleata East and West. If combined, it is bigger than the constituency he is referring to, although it is the same thing, the only difference is that mine is bigger and his is smaller to save our time honorable Speaker.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Mr Speaker, as said in the past, we refer to figures. When we speak of rolls, who is bigger, Lealailepule is bigger. Never mind this is a waste of my time.

You see your honor, the old man Ulugia Aukuso, ask him tomorrow, I brought that old man to the Committee in the beginning together with the Prime Minister who oversees major developments of the State, due to what? Mainly because of ports. If he does not attend the meetings it is own right. But I have asked that old man to come to the meetings long time ago. In truth....there is nothing to worry about in this regard.

Afioga Faumuina Asi Pauli Wayne Fong: Mr Speaker, point of order please, the village is awaiting a talk, I have brought this matter up sometimes before, the Hon Prime Minister has mentioned to bear patience until we find funds. Thankfully this will be a go. The old men either, they are very insightful, they also voted for Leala, and so Leala is unaware that they are no longer part of the constituency, the old men have been neglected. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: I advise the two members, take your talk in private.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Your honor it does not matter. Your honor, because this statement needs to be corrected, I can never forget, after the election, I did my traditional gift or o’o, they ate so much including salty beef, thousands of carton fish, chicken boxes, did Wayne do a o’o? Nothing. You see now, even the things that we should not have been talked about, and even gave them \$20,000. If you did not do a o’o, do not talk.

Afioga Faumuina Asi Pauli Wayne Fong: I can never tell Leala about the time I did my o’o, yes. Mr Speaker, Leala is speaking highly of what he possesses, no I am referring to what the situation should be, the question I gave him was very simple. What time will our constituency be consulted about the wharf, they are waiting, I too support it, if they ask then...

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Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Mr Speaker, I beg tolerance to Samoa listening in, note your honor, he is saying that I am high minded. I did not say that, it was him who said it, I have forgotten about the old men whom I neglected. Leala is this high-minded talk or humbling talk? Although, I forgive you, the only thing Samoa is aware of is, Leala did a o’o, the food was not finished pardon the....

MR SPEAKER: The presentation has not yet finished?

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Because I have moved away from LTA your honor, this is where...

Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: The member is correct his o’o was not fully utilized, the debt for this o’o has not even been paid in full.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: I have forgotten to give my brother Olo some of this to do his o’o. Never mind, because I have moved on from LTA your honor, pardon me this is my way to Falelauniu. Hon Minister, I am shocked and refused to say something that I am ashamed of, it has been years and it is according to the amount of people that is residing here which is about thousands and thousands. The Minister has spoken in our previous Meeting, the reason for not encouraging this stongly is because I know and am aware that priority is given to our South Pacific Games. I trust that this agenda is a serious crime if the Hon Minister does not implement it in this Parliamentary term. Is this true your honor? We are still meeting every now and then and we are giving a great number, thank you Hon Minister of Education now that we have talked about our school building request that was put forth from the start. Now that you have responded, it is suitable to implement this depending on the number of people residing here. This is the thousand time for me to give you this request that you may have rubbished, have pity and sign it before the.... the thing with the teachers your honor, we all went to College, there were plentiful Indians Teachers, Peace Corp Teachers, Australian and New Zealand Teachers that we all gained knowledge and wisdom from. If there is still a shortage in teachers, why not bring back these teachers. I am sure these countries are keen to help us with many things. Education and Teaches are the key and thoroughness of everything.

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I give blessings to your honor for the Pacific games, I know this is nothing new to you. You have worked with Faumuina in 2007 and there was no problem. I also trust that you have done greater things, all the best with this event. The Hon Prime Minister is also prepared for this event. Hon Minister, do not make any medals, do a belt. Because the Prime Minister is the first one to try out in the Pacific Games, and the first Prime Minister should get a belt. It is the belt of championship in the Pacific region. So do not do any medals as he will not gain any gold medal.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoui: Mr Speaker, I have my own belt. I do not need other belts to tie my ie or wraparound. The thing with those medals, I have already told you, there are many medals left that I am depending on during the games. There will be excess ones and those belong to me.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Well done, we have one more and it is the Minister for Revenue. Hon Minister for Revenue, well done to your perseverance and courage.

This is the thousand time for me to give you this request that you may have rubbished, have pity and sign it before the.... the thing with the teachers your honor, we all went to College, there were plentiful Indians Teachers, Peace Corp Teachers, Australian and New Zealand Teachers that we all gained knowledge and wisdom from.

We are talking about money collected by the Hon Minister. I encourage you on what is happening today. I pray for you, pray for the EFKS Church, and show some love, the intention of the State, is your slight contribution to the development of the country through what we do. What I want to talk to you about is the prisoners that are bring transported to clean the town area; this is a very good initiative. The town area has been well- maintained due to the works of these fellow prisoners, well done. The only assistance is escaped prisoners. Looking at the pictures being broadcasted on television and newspapers, the hair look like bunk hairstyle, which means that it is not known where these pictures came from.

My belief of a prisoner when served in prison, this is the first thing to do, cut their hair, take the photo, to give the most accurate size of their present faces. Whenever a problem arises, these photos are firstly shown on television or in the newspapers.

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The reason for saying this your honor is because my district is very much affected by these photos. The prisoners then escaped like the recent ones. The police then went and stayed at one of my friends who has a plantation in Fiaga. The father said they came and stayed at his house and he looked after them. What is shocking is, mind you the police are there and are seeking these prisoners through walking. They can never capture the escapees. They should have looked and see if there were any dogs around or the new technology we see today, what we call drones that fly in the sky. Those are the only devices that they could have used for search. You are aware of these prisoners, the police vehicles are slower than these fellas when they escape. This is assistance for the future. The important thing is drugs your honor, I wish to speak on it. It is good to look into scan machines and the help of impounded dogs. April of this year had a drug bust in Tutuila and a total of US\$1.3 million was found. I am not blaming that... Protect the introduction of these things that could destroy the future generations of Samoa.

Your honor I trust this is enough, thank you for your respect to me that has allowed me to finish all this. It is not enough but thank you your honor for the chance. Thank you honorable Speaker for managing our Sitting and your perseverance, if only there were games that we could take in the Pacific games event. If there was a kneeling sport, we would have gotten ourselves a sport to play. Let us support the Hon Prime Minister in his preparation. Have a blessed one Samoa. Respectable members of Parliament chosen from the many, let us endure patience it is not long before we finish. The election is near and I hope we all come back. God bless Samoa and all the Public Servants of the State. Soifua.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you. The floor is now available for another speaker wishing to speak. I call the member for Aleipata Itupa i Lalo.

Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA: Thank you honorable Speaker, it is hard to connect to the wonderful speech of the member that had just finished.

I firstly, acknowledge the House, I extend best regards to the honorable Speaker. I see that you are getting sick your honor, I send you best wishes and pray for blessings upon you, may you walk again. Thank you for the chance.

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Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet, Associate Ministers and members of this side, Heads of Government Ministries and Public Enterprises and the media group, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and the staff. I greet you all this evening.

The speech is short; I firstly greet Samoa gathered and tuning in and the servants of God. Thank you for your prayers upon us. Firstly, I do not have any major request, just a word of thanks to the State, the airport; wharf and slipway have been implemented. Some are quarrelling about no boats and buses to take their voters to Savaii and the rural areas; I will have a plane to take my voters in the upcoming election. Thank to the Government for the developments that have been achieved. I offer a special thank you to the contractors that are implementing the work at Tiavea. For the information of the House and especially Samoa listening in, the constituency has also witnessed that Tiavea has long applied for a road that leads to Tiavea-Tai. This is one such tourist attraction, the village of Tiavea-Tai. The amount as quoted in the past was close to \$2million. The Contractors that are responsible for building the airport have already buried the road that goes all the way to the village, free of charge.

The reason why I have mentioned this, it is so that the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet are aware of the humanity shown by this contractor. This is how the Contractors should act, use common sense and thoughtfulness, patriotism, to implement this expensive road. Perhaps the burial of the road is useful for him, but I have already mentioned it. If the man were to bring in a variation, I hope you show him courtesy. With respect.

Then I move to the Contractor for the water responsible for our underground water source, they dug up the underground water and have not done anything more. I thought they were going to bring in a Contractor that deals with pipelines laid out for the water. However, I am satisfied with the statement made by the Chief Executive Officer earlier; this area will be implemented next month. Thank you to the Samoa Water Authority for this job. Another thing I am grateful for is the burial of the road that extends to where the water is dug.

The problem is that it will be a waste of time to build the road if there is no drainage. I was also informed by Lealailepule, that there was an engineer from the Land Transport Authority who builds the road, and an engineer from the Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure who monitors and regulates how the work is done.

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I confirm this matter because I questioned the Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, who are one of the Ministries that attend our Infrastructure Committee, to explain the problems faced by their Ministry. The problem is that they lack special Senior Engineers that are qualified to monitor the situation of our roads. However, we have offered our recommendation in the reports of the Ministry, as this is a serious problem for them.

Therefore, I beseech the Ministers of the Cabinet, to examine our engineers closely; it is true that the salary analysis and such matters have already been implemented. But we still need special engineers, ‘specialist engineers’ to monitor our roads, pipes, traffic and all other mechanics like this. It is important, the advice is that if the Ministers have the opportunity to travel abroad, if you could request to Japan, Korea or even New Zealand and Australia, to send specialist engineers who have the knowledge to assist in educating the existing local engineers.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, the issue stated by the member is very important. I also thought there were no engineers, but I was shocked when I attended the Meeting of the Association of Engineers, the room was so full with so many engineers. There are plenty of engineers, hence why I am ashamed to talk about this, and to ask New Zealand and Australia for ideas, but we have an abundance of engineers. What is happening is that we really need honesty and commitment from our engineers.

That is exactly what I told the Association of Engineers, special organizations like this, they have their own Committee, Authority and councils. There is something occurring during these special meetings or special committees.

It seems as though they are not tenacious enough in the decisions they should make, for the dishonest members of the organization. It is not as if though we do not have engineers, we do.

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I was shocked that the incident occurred to one of the member's child who was one of the dependable engineers. We do have engineers, but what we need is those in charge, to properly instruct and guide the engineers on what to do. Faumuina knows all too well as it also happened during his time there. It is difficult to instruct some engineers about studying these things properly on road works and report back. I am completely in the dark with what they are doing.

Mr Speaker, even Doctors, there are a lot of doctors, Lawyers, and Auditors. However, there is a shortage of devoted people, to carry out the work, as the Government also invested a lot, in sending them abroad to be educated. Your honour, not all engineers, but there are a few...and those in other Organizations, there are always flaws. Nevertheless, if the disease is incurable, it will spread, remember there is a saying that if you put a ripe orange and a rotten orange together, both will eventually become rotten. It is impossible to put the good and the bad orange together and end up with a fresh orange again.

That is why it is important for those who have been chosen to head the Ministry to look at what we call follow up. That means they have to give instructions and recheck whether the work is being achieved. Because no matter how good the instructions you give, but if you do not check up on them and follow up on what they should be doing, that will be the end result. Hence why, supervisors that are in the Cabinet have daily visits to check if they are implementing the work properly, because they cannot rely on reports, as some reports may be falsified, but in order to check if the reports are correct, it would be better to visit and see it for yourselves.

MR SPEAKER: Well done. I beseech the member for Aleipata, I allow the member for Palauli le Falefa.

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga: Mr Speaker the statement made by the Hon Prime Minister is correct. The difference is that I am not an engineer, but I go and show the Engineers the methods used.

There is another.... the seawall was built on it... the seawall was built on the road, while the shores were left for the waves to break. Then I told them, the seawall is supposed to be located near where the waves break, but not on the road. They were also ordered to make the drainage system small so that the water would flow smoothly into the sea, however, they made it wide and that causes water blockage inland and will not flow towards the sea.

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Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai: Mr Speaker, to save time, it is no wonder that many seawalls are faulty because the member is giving instructions while the engineers stood idly.

MR SPEAKER: I believe that the member should...

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga: Well if it is not the Member for Salega, the honourable Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai, there are no seawalls in the location of the current speaker, but the Constituency of Saleaula that I visited, the seawalls are as high as the tips of the trees, they are very good with all due respect.

MR SPEAKER: You may rise, the statement is not directed to all engineers, it only applies to those who are careless. It is hard to say it as they are unable to respond during our Sittings. Such is always the case when it comes to carelessness, but there are also those who are vigilant in performing their jobs. I allow the....this is the norm when it comes to carelessness although it does not involve all.

Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA: Thank you for the assistance to the speech of this old man. Another thing honorable Speaker, is the road cut in Samusu. I extend thanks to the Ministry for implementing this project.

The only request is the road going inland which is similar to a road curve at the Catholic Church in Tiavea. The chrome pipes that were used have gone rotten and so this road is slowly sinking, but if time permits for our honor to take a look at this curve before the Catholic church in Tiavea towards the Apia town area if not next week or next month at the road please with respect.

Afioga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang: Mr Speaker, I do not intend to interrupt the wonderful speech of the respectable member, I wish to respond to his raising concern, preparations are underway for that job. If it is a matter that requires urgent fix, the LTA will come straight away tomorrow and fix it, although there are works underway for the vans that was swept away killing the lives of some people, a bridge is planned for that site, with all due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Well done.

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Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA: Thank you to the member, that is a different road that has a diversion on the side, but this one is further down that road. But there is no urgency in this matter, although I am only pointing this out lest another accident occurs there in the future.

We had a meeting together with a useful program by the Ministry of Women that was continued by Afioga Faauga with the village majors and young and old women representatives for community plans or whatever they are called, pardon the Hon Minister of Works, I will again readdress some of these things to you that was raised in this meeting, but we shall talk about it afterwards.

Just a reminder because I told them to tune in to our Meeting on the requests of the villages that will be read out, and whether they will be achieved or not, but that is the response I gave them for the information of this House. The requests of the members is compared to the huge size of this House and if these demands are granted, you are lucky, if it will be done next year or the next 5 years, that is the situation put forth to the dignity of the State.

The village of Satitua has a request about their environment, and a refuge road for the elderly when hit by a tsunami and things like that, if the Disaster Management Office or DMO has a chance, can they conduct a drill for this village and perhaps by then, there will be an evacuation road for the elderly.

Utufaalalafa has only 2 requests, to repair their new road or access road and water. The water supply is needed by Utufaalalafa, Samusu and Amaile, as Amaile does not have any running water. There is only a Vai o le Tama that we hear of a lot, that is the only water source that this village community is using.

As such, I request, the Head of the Water Authority has already stated, if the water source in Saleaamua is a success, if the water pressure is strong enough from Satitua to Samusu and Amaile, thankfully, there will be some clean water that will be used for consumption particularly for Samusu, Amaile and Utufaalalafa, and extensively towards Lotopue, Mutiatele and Satitua. I acknowledge the Head of the Samoa Water Authority, I am very satisfied for the testimony that she made. This water will be launched this year.

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I come now to the village of Malaela, a mother said, and the sanctity of this House will anyhow be informed, since cyclone Evan's occurrence, the street lights have stopped working. I explained to her the policies of the State, perhaps this will be useful for the sake of the village mayors and the general public, if the street lights are out, what you do is write down the number of the posts and directly contact the EPC, then the EPC will come over and change the light bulbs and that is it. There is no need to burden the member or the Minister when this is very simple to fix, with all due respect.

This guy, Afamasaga, the Hon Minister of Communications and this man, Lealailepule, these men are people of Anapapa in Amaile, however, the mayor of Amaile always tells me, Tafua, our Television does not work. Not only do they not have water, this is the only village of Aleipata that does not have access roads together with Utufaalalafa.

As the Hon Minister and the Associate Minister are listening in our presence, please, give your attention to our TV or get a pole to fix this Television, the same with Saleaamua and Malaela. If the switch from TV Analog to the new digital TV will be done, then the broadcast will be made available for this whole district.

Conincidentally, I had appointed an old man from our village to be a part of the Committee, it has taken 2 weeks ago since a letter was sent to the Office, I think it was from my friend Lopaoo, the term is almost over and this member has not attended any meeting, due to the reason that he was unaware of any meetings due the TV that does not work. Hence is the request Hon Minister, if time permits, come and visit our village and we can have a talk on this matter. I take it that you and Leala are both chiefs of Anapapa in Amaile.

Afioga Hon Afamasaga Lepuai Rico Tupai (Minister of Communications and Information Technology): Mr Speaker, correction to some of the members regarding this concern. The honorable member is correct, as Leala and I are chiefs of Amaile where Mataafa is from. However, it is very difficult given this change of Analog to Digital. The schedule of our work right now, by the end of October, 90% of the country will be covered with Digital TV.

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As of the current, I apologize to the rest of the country who are unable to watch television at this time, it is difficult for television owners to spend money on the old analog as they are all waiting and saving up on the new Digital TV, perhaps by then, the broadcast will be completed for all to watch, in the meantime for your information, we are trying to restore our 2AP radio.

The work for the pole in Mulinuu is near completion. The 2AP is on through FM for the time being, 91.1 and 107.4, those are the 2 channels that is working and you can tune in to listen to our Meetings. But at the end of this week on Sunday, the 2AP will be operational all around Samoa and our neighboring island of American Samoa, Tokelau, Tuvalu to Hawaii including Alaska. This is for the information of everyone, I beg tolerance to the village of Amaile and our Aleipata constituency, the service will soon reach you, thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, I call the Minister of Agriculture.

Tofa Hon Lopaoo Natanielu Mua (Minister of Fisheries and Agriculture): Mr Speaker, because our advisory Committee was mentioned, something happened to a respectable member who was also part of the Education Committee.

However, when I was being advised and this member was reassessed, an appeal was made to resume this member as his name was returned to the Committee, although, our Committee meets every month lest this is mistaken with respect.

Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA: Thank you pardon this Parliament, being ashamed is a difficult thing. This man for your information was a member of Alaiasa's Committee from the Ministry of Education. Twice the time he attended our meetings at the Education Office and he was being chased out as he was not part of the Committee, since then he never showed up again. Thankfully if he is tuning in, he still has a Committee.

The honorable Deputy Clerk of the Legislative,

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Anoamaa East.

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Afioga Alaiasa Muagututi’a Moefaaouou Malagaitutogia Sepulona Moananu: Mr Speaker I did not receive the... nothing happened with our Committee.

I beg tolerance to the respectable member, if anything like this had affected the member, the essence as stated by the Minister of Agriculture, this Committee meets every month which is the intention, I beg forbearance to the member, we shall check again our records if it is... if not, the member will be paid back for his time... respectfully.

Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA: Thank you very much, there is nothing to worry about, this incident happened in 2016, perhaps you have forgotten as it was a long time ago, the man is ashamed and has long ago already left and will not be returning. Another thing is our road at Saleaaumua, there is a total of 18 families settling in Saleaaumua uta and the road has not even reached this area, people are still traveling on dirt road pardon me, and I am trying to clarify to the Deputy Clerk who sits in the center below from the Speaker, and has marital ties to this village.

The road for this Acting Chief Executive Officer of the Legislative Assembly who is sitting at the lower middle from the Speaker, he is an in-law of this village, this road leads to the land where this Deputy Clerk resides. The road becomes extremely dirty when it rains and is very bushy, the Hon Minister will be reminded of this request if you see the Deputy Clerk of the House. There are chiefs who also have a request perhaps their letter is lying there somewhere, they are requesting about any money left from our budget. I have one question to our Committee.

In regards to Section 39, recommendation 3 concerning CSO or Community Service Obligation. Pardon me your honor I am not very good at... is it 20 or 30 minutes? Very well I got it too. Page 39 honorable Chairperson, \$2 million for EPC and \$2 million for Water. You have recommendation 3 which says, Additional funds is required for CSO. My question here is what is the plan of your Committee and what is your advise. Or what exactly is the amount that is needed by the two Ministries? That is the query honorable Chairperson.

I will move on to the Minister of Justice...

MR SPEAKER: I call the Chairperson of the Committee.

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Afioga Aliimalemanu Alofa Tuuau (Chairperson of Revenue and Expenditure Committee): Mr Speaker, this is the first time for a question to be raised concerning the report of the Committee of Finance. The recommendation is very clear regarding the Ministry of Finance going into the future, to make plans to slightly increase appropriations, to assist the Water Authority and the EPC to extend these services towards the rural areas where appropriate for settlers along the countryside. This is the response; there is no figure, but a request and recommendation to the Ministry of Finance. Thank you for the chance.

MR SPEAKER: I call the member to conclude.

Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA: Thank you for the... We spoke with the people of Community Service Obligations CSO and the figures were not clear, such is the need for clarification, otherwise, thank you for the response.

I come now to the Minister of Aviation, the comment is very short. There are times when our plane fly half full or almost empty, if an announcement is possible to make for three or four days on the radio or television for a drop in airfare prices of say \$200 or \$300 for one-way ticket. This is so that our plane can be made full, because it is unknown whether it is empty especially during off-season times. That is the meaning of my advice with respect.

I want to thank the Hon Minister of Tourism; the work that was appealed in our last Sitting has now been undertaken. Pardon your honor, the work has not yet been finished, then we will have the normal traditions as you said. Thank you to the Minister of Works, pardon me for all the works I have submitted, I have already addressed them but...I had to as the people that I talked to are listening in. I told them that I would submit these matters before the Hon Minister. Hon Minister of Agriculture my friend, thank you Lopao for the funds of \$3,000 bonus win for my village for the plentiful coconut beetles.

Our village will await another \$3,000 win this year and we shall start bringing forth coconut beetles. Thank you also your honor for the assistance provided in capturing these coconut beetles.

The Minister of...

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Tofa Hon Lopao Natanielu Mua: Mr Speaker I will be away tomorrow for an event. As for coconut beetle program, you must bring in the beetles before you are given the money. The program has already been announced to the village representatives at the Office in Mulinuu. There is consistency for coconut beetles count by the Ministry in the country. Time will come for the Ministry to allocate money prizes for this undertaking in the future. This attempt is to reduce huge amounts of coconut beetles within the country that is affecting our coconut trees. Although, this program by the Ministry is still ongoing. The Ministry have already visited all the villages especially Upolu and Savaii to help cut down the coconuts that have been affected by the beetles. A budget allocation has already been set for this doing. Hopefully this program will resume in God's goodness and grace. If a request is made to the Hon Minister of Finance and the Ministry at another time, hopefully it will be met, with respect.

MR SPEAKER: Conclude your statement, your time is up.

Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA: Thank you Hon Minister of Health. There is an appropriation allocation for a bingo at the Minister's place in Lalomanu for mothers of the district for Aleipata i luga and Aleipata i lalo. The funds was specifically for people like nurses or patients who would come and look for a place to rest in the village.

Such was the use of this fund from bingo games to build a resting place to care for the nurses whenever the patients would seek their help. I request your honor whether there is more funds for this undertaking. Possibly, there is more funding assistance from the projects of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment for this proposal to assist the women of the district. Lest there is anything else I have forgotten, will remind it through a letter.

I would like to take this chance to thank the Cabinet and the Ministry of Education, Minister of Finance for your great efforts, \$700 million will be allotted for our priority developments including our entire sports and hostings as well as setting up a house in Auckland and other State's projects. This is all beneficial for our developments. Not only with the Ministry of Education, as well as our students. It is not the money but the televising of the children's programs, so that they can watch them. Although television is not available in the rural area, at least they still enjoy watching their programs whenever broadcasted on television.

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That is it from me, thank you honorable Speaker and Samoa listening in as well as the support of my constituency, particularly the Church Ministers who are supporting me. Have a blessed Sitting.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you member for Anoamaa East for your speech.

Tofa Hon Lauofo Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Lauofo (Anoamaa West): I am starting off our speech, I see that another member is upstanding.

MR SPEAKER: No, perhaps it is an intervention, be brief if it is.

Afioga AMITUANAI FAGAIVALU KENRICK SAMU (Aleipata Itupa i Luga): Thank you honorable Speaker, in accordance to the chance to make a brief submission on behalf of this constituency of Aleipata Itupa i Luga. Tuiatua has already made a statement, then there is belief, it is appropriate that I must speak, *soo le fau ma le fau*. Honorable Speaker, *o lea ua atoa tupe o le fala, Ua atoa foi atu i liu o vaa, ina ua tau fai puea le matila ma le ofeloa. Ua taoto foi ataata o Taulelei ina ua totogo lelei malama* like the words to Paiatea and Paialala. Gratitude to God for his goodness and mercy for guiding you all tonight here to the Sitting of the country.

I first and respectfully acknowledge the fields of Tiafau, the sacred lands of our country. I also acknowledge the presence of the Speaker as you are managing the Sitting of Samoa.

I further greet the Hon Prime Minister, and the dignity of the Cabinet Ministers as well as the Associate Ministers. I also greet that side of the House, honorable Chairpersons of Parliamentary Committees, the heads of Government Ministries and Corporations, ladies and gentlemen and your vital contributions to the development of Samoa.

Mr Speaker, this constituency offers a brief contribution to the Budget Statement. Firstly, I wish to extend great thanks to the Hon Minister of Finance, CEO of the Ministry and the State. Everyone tasked with the preparation of this budget to provide a significant event and to provide a benefit for the country. I wish to thank you all Hon Minister of Finance, Hon Minister for Revenue for finding revenue to meet the demands of the country.

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There are few things I wish to make...a reminder too based on observations. It has been two terms still; our appeals are the same before the Ministers in accordance to their discretions. To the Minister of Works, the member for Aleipata Itupa I Luga has made his statement regarding the airport, in addition to this very important project, I applaud our time, whatever the will of God, this is one point, the airport has been implemented, next year I know it will be completed.

As such, I acknowledge the State and their efforts. This is a sign of our good works for the betterment of the country from one end to another. I request a few access roads your honor for our villages of Ulutaotogia, Vailoa and Lalomanu. In addition, our water supply from the natural disaster in 2009 had enabled us to lift our people to higher ground although; water is one main issue that we are facing right now. I plead that if it is difficult to drill water, at least send water trucks to distribute water for our people. Thank you anyway your honor for granting the needs of the nation for its development.

Then I come to the Hon Minister of Education, thank you your honor, I have received words that license have been distributed, teachers license, the only prayer from this constituency especially our University in Papaigalala, it would be good to distribute license to them with honesty being incrypted on it in teaching the students, because there is still belief, this is where problems arise especially with the students results in the country. For those who aim to pursue education abroad, although there are a few flaws from within our University.

Even though, there is still trust of this constituency, this should never have happened. I plead, *toe timata le upega* and have a look again at these critical factors and concerns for improvement.

Hon Minister of Justice, thank you very much for the Electoral Act. I shall not speak further on the complexity of this Act. The main thing I am after for this Act is to enforce voters at places of residences. This is for candidates running from Salafai and the rural areas and the transportation of voters. The Act now states to vote from your place of residence. Thank you your honor for your deep consideration into this matter to make ease for the voters to go straight to their voting locations or their true places of identities. This is the absolute merit of this Act for our Electoral Office to make such an announcement to remind and inform the voters, to go and make their registrations at their places of residences, except for chiefs or matais who are permitted to make their own freewill decision.

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To the Minister of Agriculture, thank you, with the stance of the market area and the exportation of our taro, I have noticed the hardship with some of our farmers, they demand too much with the shortage of taro grown, the plead to our Farmers, be encouraged as we will still be the ones to harvest our lands.

Hon Minister of Health, regarding the requested areas during the supervision of the hospital by the former Minister of Health. The recent speaker has made an address in relation to us in the rural areas, the main intention for us is a permanent doctor.

This is one major issue for us in accordance to the statement by the CEO of Health, that as soon as the merge is a go, then a Hospital will be proposed, a doctor will come and stay permanently from Monday to Friday. The plead Hon Minister, see if appropriate to achieve this plan. And secondly, a need for a dialysis machine as there are orators and chiefs of this district who have dialysis. And seeing that its takes three to four days a week for them to come to Apia for these machines. There is belief, if one or two machines can be offered to us, it will be affordable for our dialysis patients.

Hon Minister of Women, Community and Social Development, just a small advice, regarding Village Representatives. If they are reappointed by the village council, they should obtain a report from the Police Office, as there are those that have been offenders without the knowledge of the village councils. The main thing is for the consideration of village councils as this is the contribution of these people in each village community. This is the explanation to the Hon Minister of Women, Community and Social Development, with respect.

I come now to the Ministry of Police or the Hon Prime Minister, thank you very much for the services provided by the Ministry. It has been noted, the Traffic Officers of the LTA will come under the Police. Although, it seems that the Police will also be responsible for the passing of vehicles and vehicle licensing. There is still high belief that the LTA will still remain active.

Thank you very much to the Police for their services, especially the Investigations Unit. There were a few serious issues located in the last month, but thanks to the ingenuity and knowledge that has enabled the fulfillment of some investigations for the Police Officers, regarding some issues that occurred in the past.

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I come now to the Minister of Tourism as it has been two terms, since I have associated with his honor. Thank you very much, also for our... here at the Estate Trust, thank you to the State for not removing this body of the State, seeing by personal observation, if this service was expunged, then most of the estates will be taken by lawyers. Here at the Estate Trust, the reason why problems rise is because it is difficult to ask the people for the documents to bring forth for the division of their estates and they do not turn up. It is significant at this time as I too have an estate, we have family lands if our family is listening, in Faleata, Vaigaga, be aware that we have received the decision from the Estate Trust, come and pay the amount so that the lands can be surveyed, as I do not have enough money to pay this amount in full, the fee is quite significant, pardon the family and relatives of the Pritchard lineage, yes come.

Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo: Please your honor...

Afioga AMITUANAI FAGAIVALU KENRICK SAMU: Come and bring our money so we can measure our lands and...

Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo: Mr Speaker...

MR SPEAKER: There is an interjection on that side of the House, I call the member for Falealili West.

Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo: No, it is appeal to the notable member speaking, firstly, if there is time, go and talk with the Minister, and extend thanks officially to him. There are also opportunities at our television and radios to make announcements as we do not make business announcements here, with respect.

MR SPEAKER: There is an interjection, pardon the member.

Afioga AMITUANAI FAGAIVALU KENRICK SAMU: Very well we shall have it on TV upon the availability of funding. I am stating what...

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member for Aleipata until we have the intervention.

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Afioga Sulamanaia Fetaiai Tauiiili Tuivasa: This is the member I normally talk about to the Associate Ministers, they should not have spoken as their jurisdictions are both with the Minister. It seems tonight that they are speaking to each other. I take it this evening that we have wasted our time. It is their Ministry together, however, it seems that the Minister and his Associate Minister are not working together, it seems they are only just meeting in Parliament, yet it is their responsibility together to know what is happening with their Ministry, with respect.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the interjection...

Afioga Hon Tuitama Talalelei Tuitama (Minister of Women, Community and Social Development): Mr Speaker, I did not want to interrupt the respectable member, however given the chance to interject, I guess this is a good time to respond to the question of the Associate Minister in regards to government representatives. According to the Village Fono's Act, the Pulenuu is nominated by the village and is passed to the Chief Executive Officer who informs the Minister about it and is forwarded to the Cabinet for their approval before they are appointed officially.

The village should nominate someone who has not committed a crime or someone who does not take part in leading wrongdoings in the village, and nominate those who are eligible to undertake this position as this is a huge role to play. That is the response to the current speaker with respect.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, I allow the member for Aleipata.

Afioga AMITUANAI FAGAIVALU KENRICK SAMU: I am finished, the only thing I am disappointed about, pardon the entire House, you two do not have any business with me, I am just expressing my own views and thoughts. Until we go out and see what happens tonight, honorable Speaker, that is the entire intention from me, to the Office of the Public Trust, because this is one office that has many of the public's complaints for the reason that they do not bring forth the necessary documents required by the Office for them to receive their estates. It is the same case with me, as this is not broadcasted on television nor the radio, it is good that we have tonight, my family is tuning in, I do not have any money, the bill will roughly be \$20,000, where will I get this sort of money? Show some compassion.

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Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo: Mr Speaker

MR SPEAKER: I call the member, there is an interjection from Falealili.

Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo: I beg the pardon of the dignified member speaking, for our records, the Associate Minister's statement is quite callous and his words should not be recorded in our Official Transcript. The Standing Orders we comply with if there is a provision...whereas what you speak of has our recognition with great thanks, we do not accept this lightly...

MR SPEAKER: I call the Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, there is good intentions made in the speech of the current speaker that perhaps affects the rest of this House. We may laugh but this is a very critical subject matter. This office has all your assets when you pass away, where all your funds are located whether at NPF or wherever, take note that whenever you pass away, all your funding contributions will be ceased, NPF, pension rather they will all be taken under the authority of the Ministry and the speaker we just had now. It has to wait and see whether there are any debts that needs to be paid first, what is left, you must make a will because without one, it will be up to this member and the Ministry how they will distribute your remaining funds.

The distribution will have to be in the presence of children and relatives, some live in NZ, Australia and America, so they must be contacted to come over otherwise, the funds will remain here and no one will touch it.

The reason for saying this is because this matter will surely reach me and people will ask me to abuse my power as the Prime Minister in order to permit them to use these funds for them living here. That can never happen, unless we have all the children residing in other parts of the world, then this can be distributed. Although this may be a laughing matter however there is a huge message behind it for us. Remember we have pensionary deductions and if you do not make a will, you will fail to get anything as it will be ceased. That is why many people come to me requesting that I use my power as the Prime Minister. I cannot break the Law, a Law is a Law.

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Although the Associate Minister is using this matter to advertise his own concern which seems laughable, yet the message behind it is very important for all of us including everyone else and the CEOs listening here, if you do not make a will, that will fall on you. That is the importance of the member's viewpoint although he is using this chance to broadcast his own problem he is facing right now and his failed attempts to contact those living overseas on this very issue.

Mr Speaker, that is the assistance towards this is a very important matter given this commercial brought forward by the Associate Minister without a fee.

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Aleipata Itupa i Luga.

Afioga AMITUANAI FAGAIVALU KENRICK SAMU: Very well, the speech of Aleipata Itupa i Luga is finished. I wish to congratulate our new Minister of Tourism because the God of the village is a God of family. To the Head of Tourism, all the best. *Ia sosoo le fau ma le fau*, if one orator finishes, may another one take over, it is not how young you are, but the blessings of God upon you, it is the gift of God to you for better changes for the Tourism Office.

May God's love be upon the honorable Speaker, may strength be restored upon you in health and spirit, and may farsighted wisdom from God be instilled in you in guiding the sitting of the country. God bless the Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet and that Side of the House, may I find life, have a good evening.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thanks. We have arrived at our normal recess. Before we set aside our works, I advise the member for Aleipata not to cause anything when we go to our break, bear in mind, refrain yourself from being angry.

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

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly suspended for its normal recess at 8:43pm and resumed at 9.29pm.

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MR SPEAKER: I declare that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly resumed. Well done everyone although we are growing worn out from our works, nonetheless at least we have restored energy from God to resume our works.

During break the respectable member for Aleipata Itupa i Luga was finishing his speech. As of now with respect I call the member for Anoamaa West to upstand for your speech.

Tofa Hon LAUOFO FONOTOE NUAFESILI PIERRE LAUOFO: Thank you honorable Speaker that the House has already received their meal, and energy has been renewed to resume our Sitting this evening. I also wish to note a word of thanks and briefly state our contribution in accordance to the Budget. As such I wish to greet your honorable the Speaker, Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet and Associate Ministers on that Side of the House.

Turning to this Side of the House, greetings honorable Chairpersons of Select Committees, members and the honorable Deputy Speaker.

Lest I forget the support of the country, greetings Samoa in all your honorific salutations. I also greet the clergy in various churches around Samoa. Honorable Speaker, I wish to note a word of thanks to the Budget 2019/2020 tasked by the Ministry of Finance and all the respective Ministries that contributed their assistance. Well done. Our navigation in the sea have reached the shores.

Honorable Speaker, all the requests of this constituency, they have already been submitted to the Hon Ministry in paper, other members of the district have also approached the Hon Minister at his office to voice the demands of this constituency.

The Hon Minister has already visited the location sites of this constituency regarding the major projects that needs to be achieved in accordance to their requests. As such I will not voice again the requests except for one request in Sauniatu, where the The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is located, do bear that in mind please your Hon Minister of Works.

Mr Speaker, as I said, I wish not to voice our requests again, I only have three matters in mind, obtained from the development list in the statement of the Hon Minister of Finance on the Budget under the heading “developments prioritized by the State” I wish to make a brief explanation as all other matters have already been mentioned by other members. I wish not to repeat, rather I will speak briefly on a few things.

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Firstly, the five storey building construction in Savalalo. This is very significant milestone achieved by the State commencing in the next financial year on the 1st of July which is next month with the aim to relocate some offices of the government from eleele fou. These good achievements has my total support and is required for our economy especially the private sector and companies who need bigger spaces like this to do their work creating employment opportunities for our people given the different types of jobs that can be made available. This is also a good opportunity to invest funds for Organisations like NPF and ACC to gain percentage, returns, dividends and profit for contributors like NPF.

By reading and observing the NPF's Annual Report few years back, there is possibly 43 million profit earnings in one year. This means to say that finance is well in operation for NPF. Such is the reason in mind to invest our funds. Given the Hon Minister of Finance's programmed list presented in his statement, the members percentage raise will be in effect meaning that members' contributions will increase for public servants.

Executing this will add more revenue for NPF whilst its economic status is going good. Perhaps the NPF made some investments in other projects and developments in previous years which did not go well otherwise, that does not matter. What counts is that we are earning profits one year after another.

Hon Minister of Finance or the Minister of NPF, this project is very important in my belief. There is also view that the equal chance for Companies in the Private Sector in the NPF funds as there are some projects for these Companies that needs to be operated and there is return to benefit the contributors. In addition, Hon Minister of NPF, the percentage will also be raised...perhaps; the entitlement will also be raised for contributors. In most of the previous years, they managed to earn 7% or 8%. Last year, I think they earned 10%. If 10% or 12% can be achieved by next month on July 1st, you will be achieving another milestone during your time in office.

I will not talk more on this percentage as I am aware that there will be a legislation on it. I gathered news that there will be a five-storey building construction at the current flea market location. I also received news that the flea market will be relocated to Sogi. This is all good plans. I also observe that the SLC is able to fund this flea market project. I see in their annual report that they are also earning profits.

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I extend great thanks to the Hon Minister and staff especially the Board for the job they are doing, and profit earnings for this corporation. Just saying, have a look at the location in Sogi whether feasible and see if this decision is temporary or permanent for the time being. Because we have some people from this constituency who also have flea markets saying that the new one will be far away from the main road.

Other former markets were also set up by the State were also far from the main road as this is where most of the buses and taxis patrol particularly the buyers. There are also those who come in cruise ships and it would be easier for them to get here (flea market area). No doubt, that here in Sogi, it has a narrow road and things like that. Have a look at those areas for improvement if a flea market will be set up here such as road expansion to provide better access for buses and taxis.

Hon Minister, the thought I aim to bring is a development and huge funds to build our flea market in Sogi, this will be a good project development for our economy and will be beneficial for Companies that will aim towards building this project. Thank you. With the mentioning of market, have a look at the plans of the State for SLC given profit earnings obtained to make better changes and improvements for our market in Salelologa. I have witnessed that there are several buses and taxis and there must be a new change, perhaps create new designs especially the western side of the market seeing that the small houses there are unoccupied and unoperable. See if possible to demolish them and put them up for small businesses to sell their items in and improve the roads. This further goes for the other end of the market to see what is appropriate to set up there. These are a few thoughts to bring good change and improvement to increase revenue earnings for our corporation.

Mr Speaker, I will briefly talk about our Samoa Airways, as majority have not yet the chance to speak on it. This is a very important development to me. Because if it brings success, it will pour in a lot of revenue for the country. Before any further, I wish to acknowledge the Hon Minister of the airport for the aerobridges mentioned by others. Getting in and seeing these aerobridges is a grateful feeling for me especially for the elderly whom we came together for no more walking out. When our plane landed, we had some rain in Faleolo.

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Finally, it is a great feeling of joy and gratitude to be able to walk through these aerobridges in Faleolo terminal for passengers to avoid the rain given this new improvement. The standard for our International airport has improved and such is the word of acknowledgement.

With our Samoa Airways aircraft, I wish to thank the Hon Minister, Authority and the Board Committee. In reports received, we can now connect through a GVS System, which is a system that can take direct bookings from any part of the world; whenever you reach New Zealand or Australia, people can then use our aircraft. The system is not cheap as it costs about US\$300,000, fortunately, we can use it to connect. Thanks to this connection and this new system and technology that has enable us to connect in terms of improving services and raise the level of our local Company.

I have observed the need for money for our aircraft to execute and achieve their plans. Hon Minister see if possible to reschedule some other developments so that money can be spared to develop our aircraft. Because as of the current, not much expenditure is being used, money from small companies is used for small aircrafts flying back and forth Tutuila. Revenue earned from this operation is supporting our huge aircraft. Because eight years ago, profit is still earned from this small aircraft flying to Tutuila. Seeing their annual report, the profit earnings is no less than \$3million per year. Such is the word of the thanks to the Hon Minister, staff and the Board Committee. Because these funds together with borrowings from UTOS is used to implement our aircraft and its services. Well done thanks.

It has been viewed that a lot of this money is allotted to build up our aircraft. Thanks to our current leased Molinda aircraft from Malaysia, I trust was not easy. I extend great thanks to the CEO and the staff, this aircraft was not easy to find given this short time. It was expected that the new Max aircraft will be brought however, they sought a new replacement for the current one and it was not an easy job. Although there were a lot of complex issues for the lease undertaking, revenue was still available to make deposit for our ski lift in order to bring our aircraft which cost around US\$1.2 million including negotiations of the lease for our aircraft which possibly cost US\$1.4 million per month. Well done to all these ongoing undertakings. In is spotted, there is still need for additional funds. Questioning the Minister of Finance and the Minister of this Company whether is it about time to privatize our Samoa Airways company.

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Open up some shares for sale to the private sector people especially chuches as they too have more money whilst the State can hold other shares. Just a thought before you on ways to seek us more funds to operate our Samoa Airway company.

As I said earlier, I totally support this Airways Company. Because if our aircraft is a success, our hotels will also prosper and so as our restaurants, stores, taxis, bus operations, car rental businesses and all the people of the country, our economy status will also be lifted.

This is why I am keen with this undertaking. Hon Minister there is still time. Some time soon, our Max aircraft will be in our homeland. I perceive that our ski lift deposit has already been made, payment has already been made to train our pilots as well as our cabin crew and Engineers. Is there a specific date for this aircraft of ours to reach our land for the sake of the country? Hon Minister of Finance, shortly I wish to comment on our final project or development, which is the National ID System. I guess this project has been in the pipeline for quite some time and is yet to be achieved in the new financial year. This project is very significant in connection with the birth and death records office.

It is also important to contact the Electoral Office for the sake of people who are eligible to vote. Because regarding this specific matter, it is very difficult for people like us who are working for the Private Sector. An ID is required to verify signed papers and things like that. There is no passport or driver's license as not all people can drive. Other people cannot travel because they have not had any passports. This is another requirement to avoid the deceivers, and those who would sign the papers falsely because they do not have IDs to verify them. With that, I extend thanks for this new project proposed by our constituency.

Mr Speaker, I acknowledge Namulauulu in taking over the constituency. I take my hat off on you Namulauulu; you are the first member to have sworn in in this new House, which will be recorded in Parliament's history book, well done to you. All the best with your endeavors. I trust your time will be long in this Parliament as we used to work together for quite some time now. May God bless your new calling.

Mr Speaker, may God bear blessings upon you and your health, may you find strength most particularly in spirit. May God's love be upon the Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet Associate Ministers and both Sides of the Chamber. God bless the Government heads and all respectable members. The support of Samoa in all parts of the country, have a blessed rest this evening.

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This is our explanation, bless our constituency also and their support, we shall meet again as we do everyday. You have witnessed how energized I am, do not worry, the sun will rise again.

Mr Speaker, we will end our speech now, have a blessed Sitting the rest of this evening.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you respectable member. The member of Faleata East is rising to speak. I call the member to speak.

Afioga SALAUSA JOHN AH CHING (Faleata East): With great respect, I greet the honorable Speaker, thank you so much for the chance granted. I greet the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, Associate Ministers and that Side of the House. I also greet the Government Heads and employees of the State as well as the listening people of Samoa.

I particularly wish to greet my constituency of Faleata East, Vaimoso, Lepea, Vailoa, your honorifics I will not mention your honorifics as time will be saved for us to make our contribution on this year's Budget.

The essence of my upstanding is to extend gratitude and to give encouragement as this Budget is the Budget of this Side that has been prepared and has concluded with the Committee of Finance for their thorough review and see whether it is appropriate.

The speech tonight is a general one on the overall budget. The details can be discussed later on whilst now we will speak on it largely. Because the question made by the old people in the rural village is, how is the economy of the State? This is the only thing they are interested in. Other things on the budget is easy for them, this is the only thing they want to hear, the status of our economy. Time will come for the Chairperson of the Finance Committee to speak on this matter, but that will do for the sake of my constituency.

Looking at the Budget, the economy of Samoa is operating smoothly and the economy is healthy. As such, do not be concerned because there are many false statements circulated everywhere and internationally questioning the status of our Budget.

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When I think about the time when I started working at the hospital back in 1976, this was when I began absorbing the lack of funds for the country, there was a queue of people lining up to get some sacks of sugar and flour given the lack of funding distribution. This was when we had the wholesale for some shops and money allocations was scheduled for months, and there was a ratio for these things, due to the limited distribution of funds, there was money shortage to purchase goods from abroad.

This is what I used to witness back in the days, and today since the start of our Parliamentary term in 2016, I did not make any speech on any of these things, because I have been observing where all this money had gone to? This is to calm down my constituency. As of the current, we are now gaining profits, debts have already been paid in full, funds have already been allocated for developments and the State has reserves. Part of this fund required \$600,000 or so to fund our children's scholarships overseas when there were some issues abroad. Without reserves, how can we make this happen? We too have reserves overseas. Since the start of this term, I have looked at foreign reserves for three months and until the fourth month, what do I see now, our foreign reserves so far is 6.3 months. Therefore, the governing and administrating of our funds is running well. In regards to funding details, how did this come about? How did we do well with seeking money and administrating them? Many people have worked so hard in making this possible and therefore, I must acknowledge their efforts on behalf of this constituency.

Firstly I thank God for his protection upon Samoa, we have witnessed far too many things by the Love of God and His provision to us. As such, thank you God for your care, made possibly because this country is founded on the Most High. Henceforth, may God continue to pour His Loving Guidance upon this country.

I firstly wish to thank the Chief Executive Officer of Government Ministries and Public Enterprises. Following our receipt of the Budget, all the works were being incorporated by you involving Ministries that made revenue collection, Ministries that had the State's expenditures, we thank all these Ministries for your share that has enabled us to wisely distribute funds, because if these funds were used unwisely, possibly no fund will remain.

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On that note, we give great thanks. The normal words spoken in this House, *o lupe faia mai le fuifui*, and you are the rightful ones I refer to given these words. You were the chosen people from the many children of the country, these doves have travelled abroad and have returned home with exclusive knowledge, you are the consultants that the House rely on. May you bear perseverance, whatever comments made to the members of this House, that is the opposing view that must be done for the sake of good governance including the wise utilisation of our funds. This House is comprised of the chiefs of the country. We may also be called the Parliament of Samoa or I should say the Legislative Assembly of Samoa, the chiefs and orators of Samoa are in this House.

I further wish to thank the public servants of the State, as all this will not earn us any revenue or reserves if our public employees were not doing a good job. This money is now being distributed but where from? This is the fruit of your labour, we are now distributing within this House every year. We encourage you to bear honesty and work diligently as we depend on you.

If we do not have these things we can never find anything good. This is also the message to the workers across all levels.

Thank you to the Parliament for your effort in pushing us to seek good things as we press forward for the country. Thank you Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet for this budgetary planning.

Thank you Hon Minister of Finance for shaping this project for the future. This is what our country is counting on through our works. I also thank the private sector as they are part of the country that drives to seek the growth of our economy. I thank and congratulate our Farmers and all those in the village communities that have farming developments for the sake of our economy.

Another thing that involves many of our request like that of members and the rest of us, the demand is too high, but we must take it easy in accordance to our revenues. We must do what the Lord's prayer says, give us this day our daily bread. Thank you.

Another recommendation for our public servants, there is a thought that goes like this, we must improve the means we have available by avoiding new things, only or unless it is appropriate or necessary then it must be done. Because majority of other things, there comes a time for the arrival of other new things and the old stuff are still a setback but these old stuff can still be enhanced to produce new things.

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I am not speaking to the Minister. For us Associate Ministers, we are on the State's side, it is hard for us to speak on things like this. Although I do not speak of time saving, I testify before our constituency, I am resting, I am running around to look for things for the benefit of you. As such, lend me your patience.

That is it, my speech is finished honorable Speaker. This is the only thing I wanted to voice, the contribution of this Constituency on our Budget.

I wish to explain the wharf in Asau as I used to work in Asau for two years, the reason why it is problematic to dig up the rocks to clear a passageway, there were machines in the year possibly 1977 or 1979 that were used for digging combined with the use of barrels, one of them had stuck underneath and could not be lifted. Then the white guy said, you two boys, go down and see what is happening. These two guys swam underneath and discovered that the chain was detached from the barrel. They swam back up and one guy told the other one to report it to the white guy as he does not speak good english. The white guy asked, whats wrong boys? One of them replied, oh boss, it is no good, no good, no good, the bucket and the filifil mokus. Yes. The bucket and the filifil mokus. This is why the Asau harbour is a still problem until today. Thank you if given another chance to rebuilt this bay in Asau.

May God bless the Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet, Associate Ministers, that side of the House, Government Heads and the Ministry of Justice, God bless the public servants of the State and those leading them. Have a blessed Sitting.

Tofa Hon Lopao Natanielu Mua: Mr Speaker, lest you think that its the children from Asau, it is those kids who went with the Associate Minister who owns this english. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thanks. The wonderful speech of the Associate Minister has been well taken.

I respectfully call upon the member for Faasaleleaga No.4, followed by the member of Palauli East. I call upon the member.

Afioga PESETA VAIFOU TEVAGAENA (Faasaleleaga No.4): I wish to greet the dignity of the House this part of the evening. I also aknowledge teh chance for this district to make a submission on our Budget 2018/2019.

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Honorable Speaker, thank God for your strength, we pray to God to sustain the strength upon your honor. I also greet the dignity of the House, Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, respectable members of Parliament and the support of Government heads.

I also greet the support of the country and... I further greet my constituency of Faasaleleaga No.4, if you are listening in tonight, endure patience and perseverance upon me, whatever I say, that will be our contribution.

Mr Speaker, I wish to acknowledge this Budget. Hon Minister, since you took over from the beginning of this term as Minister of Finance, I had no doubt you would be appointed as Minister as you have served the Ministry for quite some time given your adequate experience, gift and talent from God upon you and the Chief Executive Officer and the Ministry as shown in the wonderful Budget thus reflecting improvement for our economy especially with our various project developments.

I wish to express thanks to the Hon Minister for Revenue and the recent Legislation regarding our taxation seeing that most people have complied with it including the clergymen. I am fearless to say this, there are different Laws from one village to another, the same with churches, whereas, with the Law of the State, everyone must comply. The basis of my view is to comply.

Afioga Hon Tialavea Fea Leniu Tionisio Hunt (Minister for Revenue): Mr Speaker, I wish not to interrupt the wonderful speech of the Associate Minister, I just wish to mention that there will be a court case next Monday, can this matter be set aside, the case will be on the 1st of July.

MR SPEAKER: What matter did the member speak about?

Afioga Hon Tialavea Fea Leniu Tionisio Hunt: It is a matter regarding the minister's tax.

MR SPEAKER: Oh, I allow the member to speak.

Afioga PESETA VAIFOU TEVAGAENA: Mr Speaker perhaps the Hon Minister is not getting the intention of my speech, because the word I gave, is obey, it is not mine it is God's.

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If you have read the Book of Samuel 15:18-21 thoroughly, God commanded Samuel, “And he sent you on a mission, saying, ‘Go and completely destroy those wicked people, the Amalekites; wage war against them until you have wiped them out. Why did you not obey the LORD? Why did you pounce on the plunder and do evil in the eyes of the LORD?’” Saul disobeyed God. Saul replied, And Saul said to Samuel, “But I have obeyed the voice of the Lord, and gone on the mission on which the Lord sent me, and brought back Agag king of Amalek; I have utterly destroyed the Amalekites.

But the people took of the plunder, sheep and oxen, the best of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice to the Lord your God in Gilgal.” And what did God say? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice. This is the intention your honor and the contribution of this constituency, as the Laws were principled from this House, and everyone must comply.

I have witnessed the many milestones by the State such as the raise for the public and pensioners and in saying that; everyone must abide by the Law. It is not a Law of your Hon Minister, it is the State’s Law, pardon your honor. It is a Law founded by the State through the Ministry and your honor to implement and therefore, everyone in this country must comply with the Law.

Your honor, I have listened intently to your explanation about the Vaiusu wharf. I will not mention it as majority have already talked about it. Although, just an advice to you, there was a company that came to Samoa and in their report, it says that there is great risk if the Vaiusu wharf is set up there. The reason so is because the harbor is right opposite this proposed port and this is exactly what is happening at the Matautu wharf. Given the constant damages of ships from the closeness of the harbor to the wharf. Therefore, Hon Minister, looking at the report of this engineer, just an advice, this project is more feasible to implement in Vaitele as the Western part of this area is very calm. Just a thought but the farseeing wisdom is there.

MR SPEAKER: I remind you, the Associate Minister that you should prolong your times, just give directly what your intentions are.

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Afioga PESETA VAIFOU TEVAGAENA: I wanted to speak on many things, but I obey the orders of the speaker, you must also bear in mind that the member of Puleono is standing before you. If I abide your orders, pardon your honor, do accept any request I ask of you.

Hon Minister of Education, I heed your support my constituency. Thank you for the school building for my village of Asaga which has been achieved as we near the elections. Perhaps it will opened in a month. Thank you also to the American Government for funding this project which is nearing completion. Thank you very much your honor.

Hon Minister of Health, perhaps most of the respectable members have submitted their views in relation to the shortage of doctors, just a thought before you. I have met with most of the Doctors who come to see the Ministers. Given the shortage of our doctors in Motootua and their busy schedule at work especially urgent cases and whenever they want to see the Minister urgently, I think several years back, the office of the Minister was situated close to the hospital which was very helpful for the doctors. Whenever something comes up in the hospital, the office of the Minister is right next door for the sake of doctors who want to see your honor.

Hon Minister of Works, this is common request about the bridge in Lano. No doubt countless accidents have occurred on this bridge, see whether possible to engage a building bridge remains at Vaitele so that it is...so that whenever there is water overflow, the children are safe to access this area to school. A bus was driven away by the strong flow of water thus killing many lives on this bridge and such is the request your honor, have a look into it.

Hon Minister of Civil Aviation, thankfully we have some good passengers in the business class seats given our drop in airfares although it is a bit pricey, it is better than having no passengers, moreover, it is good that passengers are permitted to bring along their purchases from other countries.

In truth, most of these purchases are not permitted by Air NZ as well as the Virgin Blue during that time. Fortunately, it is good that this is now allowed to be brought on cargo for the sake of businesses and companies in the country, such is my great word of appreciation upon these things urgently.

Honorable Speaker, I have thought of so many things but I do abide with your orders Mr Speaker, in saying that, well done to my constituency. It is not long now, one more year and then we will have the elections. We will meet in another time, thank you for your support, may God bless the Sitting today. Bless you honorable Speaker, Soifua.

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MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you respectable member for Faasaleleaga No.4. It is now your turn member for Palauli East. You may have the floor.

Afioga TUIFAASISINA MISA LISATI LELEISIUAO PALEMENE (Palauli East): Mr Speaker and members of the House, I wish to make a contribution for Palauli East on the Budget 2019/2020. I heed your respects and support Palauli East in all your honorific salutations, as I present our submission to this Budget 2019/2020.

Mr Speaker the honorifics of this House, Samoa is tuning in and supporting us, I have thought not to speak on it, it has already been spoken by other respectable speakers.

Hon Minister of Finance and the Head of the Ministry, this constituency wishes to thank you for putting together this Budget for the distribution of revenue and expenditure of the State. Honorable Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Committee of Finance, well done to your important task and the completed job in reviewing and checking this Budget. This constituency supports the principles especially the Budget for the year 2019/2020.

I wish to extend my devoted love and mostly the support of my constituency and their engagement with the major infrastructures in the previous years particularly the hydropower project for renewable energy.

Well done to you and your support towards the State. I further wish to acknowledge other major projects including the development of our drinking water from Palauli to Puapua.

This is the contribution of Palauli East from the current government of the day. Another thing is the tourism development, a word of acknowledgement to the Hon Minister, CEO and the Authority for renewing our tourism operations development that has been completed.

I wish to note a word of thanks to the Hon Minister of Finance through the Minister of Health, our district health clinic in Satupaitea and Palauli East and Palauli le Falefa have been completed. The advise to the Hon Lady Minister, phase two of our major project has been done with hope that comes a time in the future, we will meet on that site to open and read out the assistance of the Ministry to mark the raising of our health service.

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On to the Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture, I wish to make note of our school net Hon Minister. Right now, the school net is still not on for our district school, we need your assistance on this, and moving on to the Minister of Communications, our district is not receiving good connections with Digicel, can we get assistance on this as the Pacific Games is now on, we need a better reception for our TV.

Hon Minister of Agriculture, we have already spoken outside, our constituency have stood together powerfully for cocoa and coconut to improve and support the strategic vision mainly this program of replanting cocoa and coconut. With climate change, there is belief that this constituency is one that is majorly affected by climate change as this constituency is the source of drinking water services the rest of Palauli all the way to Puapua. It is our small belief that assistance is required for this program under the district development programme in order to aid water catchment areas in designated areas that are mainly destroyed by cows and pigs. In the meantime, I advise the Ministry of Women, Social Development and Community to bring forth a program to assist us with this problem.

These are a few developments made to assist my constituency. To my constituency, your representative is still strong, I hope to build us a new school building, bear with me, we shall meet some time in the future as soon as this Sitting is over, we shall meet in the coming week. May God bless the honorable Speaker, Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet and that Side of the House, Chairperson and the dignified Committee, may God endure His love upon you.

Over this side here and the Government Heads, may you find replenished health to serve the State. Honorable Speaker, may you find good health to manage our work. Have a blessed Sitting Samoa.

MR SPEAKER: Thank you. Well done to the member. Both of you have done your negotiations for the sake of opportunity and individual rights. I call the member for Aiga i le Tai to speak, your speech will not take long as you are the Associate Minister.

Susuga MULIPOLA LEIATAUA LAKI (Aiga i le Tai): Thank you, I guess this is a good time for me make a submission on behalf of this district, it is the Samoan Meeting House where deliberations are made on the objective for the country's economy.

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Samoa is observing how Samoa's journey is steered. The country is holding talks about many people making false statements, however let us not fall easily on those talks. The clergy maintains their godly role as Samoa has bestowed upon them their rightful revered salutation. The honorifics of the country have already been voiced and I wish not to repeat it.

Briefly, I rise to make a statement on behalf of this district, *o lea ua taatia i paga tia o le tautiaga*. One maiden speech involves all the requests of this district but just a reminder. The words from the Bible, 'So then faith comes by hearing and hearing is from the Word of the Lord.'

Just a few thoughts Hon Minister as most of the times, a man's confession is made through a solo. In belief, and the country's saying, it is I who bears doubt. Although we confess but sit on it, it gives me goosebumps.

However, your statement is treasured in the heart including other things already shared in paper regarding the wharf in Manono like the normal saying, what is good for Upolu is also good for Savaii and therefore must also be good for Manono which is small round island. Although small in size, it is inclusive as one of the four main islands in the country. Just reminding your honor about your CEO although I have gone to see him several times, I trust you have already spoken to him, the country is still confused and has be on the alert in regards to a response on grants from overseas, hence the village is still on the alert. Just to remind you sir.

In regards to the Crossing road in Aana, a letter has already been submitted to the school and the Committee and a response is awaiting, because truthfully whenever there is rain, the children would find it difficult to make their way to school as this road has not been tarred since the setting up of this school building. Have a look sir as an inspection has never been carried out for this road. Together with access roads of this district, this request has already been submitted. We had a task not long ago and the priest scolded the pulenuu and the village representatives due to poor road conditions. The village has already dug up rocks to bury this road whilst waiting for the time to receive this share of the distribution. As said before, faith comes by hearing. Just a slight recommendation your honor, well done on all the good works, I have witnessed the near completion of our road fix works from Saina to Faleolo airport.

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Nonetheless these roads are being accessed frequently every night and day, just revising your personal view of these current roads, some areas are smoothly done like from Afega to Malua however, perhaps some fences are built using corrugated iron pardon me, or concrete drainage lid seeing the depth of some drains in the pathway area which is quite unsafe, not only does it have no pathway for people to walk unless they find their own way around this area, if the wheel is not driven properly, they can end up in this ditch.

Therefore it would be good to have some cements to cover the top of this drain as some family houses have connecting roads around their places whilst these areas are becoming problematic especially in Malua, whenever a tire drives misguidedly towards the coastal side, it will run into a ditch and collide into the seawall area, well done everything looks wonderful, and just a few recommendation to improve these areas for our safety.

Hon Minister of Tourism, well done. This is the only Minister who inspects every day of the week, this is an alert Minister who does not disregard the works of the constituency. Is this true your honor, the agreement is never neglectful, sometimes the agreement is remissed by not achieving any work to indicate your agreement.

Mr Speaker, it is good to visit other countries to see and captivate the good things to develop our journey. We visited Fiji with the Hon Minister and other senior officials, as soon as we got off the plane, we heard Bula vinaka and this greeting word would be heard all around Fiji. I said to the Hon Minister, we have been hearing Bula all throughout our journey.

Just a thought Hon Minister, is there a training to upskill our workers on things like this especially at the airport and the wharf at Matautu heeding the word Talofa as we are a hospitable nation. In truth, people would go back because of our frown faces. I went to draw money together with some of the men in my village and I saw 3 to 4 lines queing up in a bank next to us. I told the lady teller to hurry up because the old men had to go and her response was, do you want your money back and go to another bank? I pitied the owner of the bank because if he had known about this, this lady teller would have been sacked straight away due to her chasing the clients away. What I intend to say is that our greeting should start as soon as the visitors set foot on the ground at the airport because people are shouting that we are number one when in reality, that is not reflected in the expressions and language of our workers. This is a collective job.

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The saying of one old man goes, hospitality is not about people refusing to smile, no you must keep smiling regardless of anything else.

Hon Minister, this is the recommendation.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member I allow the Minister of Tourism.

Afioga Hon Sala Fata Lisati Pinati: Mr Speaker, I thank the member. I correct the statement this evening, this is the weakness of our people, this is the same recommendation I would give to our hotel operations that are now failing.

The true essence is first impression. This is where thoughts create a feeling of delightfulness when you are greeted by cheeful and happy people. So I agree with this view that the reason why some businesses are problematic is due to their own fault. Who would want to support your business if you frown? Tell the workers that it is not good if you do not smile. It is a smiling face that shows how hospitable we are. That is the true essence of Samoa. That is why we must work together. If there is any service that is problematic whether at the airport or anywhere else, we must help to correct it or report it or see a manager. If the manager is problematic, he or she should not be manager as no one all of a sudden sits in that position.

The reason why anybody reaches the top position is because there is belief that you are eligible to serve wholeheartedly for Samoa. Give it your best. We must go back to singing. Because there was that saying about too much money spent. The motto of the business people, money finds money. Money will never come to us if you do not seek it, spend money to get more money. With all due respect. Have a blessed evening.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thanks. I recognize the member for Aiga i le Tai, your time is up. See if that statement you mentioned is true.

Susuga MULIPOLA LEIATAUA LAKI: Thank you, I am almost done, this House should not be disrespected by anyone.

Mr Speaker, thank you for the respectful response to the Hon Minister. I apologize also lest *Ulu tafega sefefutia Vaisigano*. No it has been observed that there are a lot of hospitable workers, however, only one person spoils the entire organisation. If this is not resolved in time, it can affect our economy and because of those who are not vigilant, this is the intention of the request.

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Hon Minister of Women, I plead that the village of Manono has doubled the number of its settlers in comparison to the one in Upolu. However the problem is that all government representatives for these four subvillages reside in Manono Tai. In regards to gender equality, why not create a Sui o le Malo to create a balance to government representatives given the high population at Manono uta.

Looking at the statistics figures very recently, the numbers have increased in Manono uta however they only have one representative there. There are many challenges too. One of the programs that was conducted there, I had to assist as one village representative could not afford to take the role alone.

Instead, another responsibility handled by the constituency's representative is that he works as a village representative most of the time in organising these things to better host the programs of the State and private Offices. Have a look into this for the improvement of services in the rural areas.

Hon Minister of Works, one more thing please as submitted in one of our requests is a seawall area for our village of Lalovi. The seawall area in this village is incomplete. By estimate the distance from the sea to the main road is roughly 10 meters and this beach has the same level as the main road. During high tide, the seawater flows towards the main road. I have attempted several times to counter this issue, and am unaware if this is the job of the MNRE and am confused of the boundary line for the LTA to take over this concern. However, this task was engaged by the LTA, leaving aside the 50meters parameter which does not bring safety, however, we have several families who are affected by this high tide. In conclusion honorable Speaker in relation to the economy of the country such as this evening, I heed great appreciation to the head of the Ministry and the Hon Minister in your part which was not easy to take. I have observed in previous Sittings that some countries would just throw us money but I guess no Minister had not gone through begging in his or her entire life.

It is the same with you Hon Minister of Finance, your begging has been outstanding, the good thing for the wise is our several plead for grants. It is minimal on what the public is complaining about, the demand is high, and true is the saying of one old man, a demand has no tail neither head.

In that capacity, have a blessed proceedings in the remaining Sitting of the country today, bless the honorable Speaker, we pray for God's blessings upon you so that we can meet as we move forward for the country, I also heed blessings upon our district in all your honorific salutations, have a blessed evening.

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MR SPEAKER: Thank you for your speech Reverend or member of Aiga i le Tai. We have come to the end of our work, before we adjourn, I see that majority have spoken perhaps we have one or two more before we have the response of the Chairperson of the Committee of Finance before we have the State's response tomorrow.

There is belief with respect, I ask the honorable member of Aiga i le Tai to conclude our Sitting with a prayer.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly adjourned at 11:03pm until
Thursday, 20th June 2019 at 9:00am.*

