

29 JUNE 2015

MONDAY, 29TH JUNE 2015

Mr Speaker took the Chair at 9.00am.

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

Let us exalt God for His love and kindness for the new morning has arrived. We have heard the reminder and Good Message through God's servants from yesterday which is sole reason for our presence this morning.

Greetings to the stately House this morning as we resume today's business in good health and spirit. Your patience and perseverance is highly appreciated as we arrive at the final sitting essence to our families, district, village and church with sufficient energy in mind and soul.

Greetings to the Leader of the Government and the Cabinet, Leader of the Opposition and the Deputy Leader of that side of the House and all respectable members of Parliament this morning.

Deliberations on the Budget are almost complete before its consideration into detail. Unforgettably, we acknowledge the support of Samoa, thank you to the prayers and support of His Highness, O Le Ao o le Malo and his Good Lady, the Council of Deputies, and the notable Samoa in its honorific salutations. To the Church clergies, thank you for your prayers and blessings upon the decision making of your Parliament.

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.2) 2014/2015 AND
THE APPROPRIATION BILL 2015/2016**

– resume debate over the second reading – Day 6

MR SPEAKER: During adjournment on Friday, the Minister of Women, Community and Social Development was giving a response, hence I ask the Hon Minister to resume his statement in regards to the raising matters by the members.

I call upon the Hon Minister of Women, Community and Social Development.

Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIATAUA (Minister of Women, Community and Social Development): With greatest respect I acknowledge the presence of the Leader of the Government and the Cabinet, Leader of the Opposition and the Deputy Leader and that side of the House, Associate Ministers as supporting leaders of the Government. I also greet the Three Pillars and the Church Leaders for their prayers upon Parliament and its duties for the benefit of Samoa as a whole.

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Samoa is a nation of divisional statuses as its normal tradition. With your support, I shall respond to the questions raised by the members. Before I proceed, I greet my constituency in all its honorific salutations.

On the previous Friday, I talked about the water schemes program by the Ministry and their collaborating efforts with the Committee to the village communities where thus 34 natural water registrations have now been completed, 17 is now safe and good to drink according to Government initiative, as such, 4 is currently in the pipeline covering 3 from Fagaloa and Nuusuatia, the one in Nuusuatia is shared by the village of Vaiee and funding is a considerable factor at this stage. However, the financial year commences in July until next year, Fagaloa has 3 other water source from Uafato, Salimu and Samamea including Sili in Salafai. That is the response, the member for Palauli has heard it loud and clear, your water source is now in progress. Despite crossing boundaries, pardon the listeners, we cannot discard your submissions, because the Government needs sufficient funds to fund the many projects in the country.

On to Internal Affairs, as raised by one of the senior members, the *Pulenuu* House will be situated at the Women's building, a new set up is proposed in Salafai for *Pulenuu* and the *Sui o le Malo* to conduct their meetings.

On to village fono and the *alii* and *faipule* authority, the Budget of the main Government sectors is apportioned for project improvement, awareness promotion for women in violence and the authority of the *alii* and *faipule* in the village communities in the Village Fono Act which amounts to a significant total of more than \$1million or \$2million fund allocated for internal affairs.

There is anxiety in achieving Government plans involving all Government Ministries and Corporations and the services utilized by the *Sui o Nuu* and the *Sui Tamaitai o Nuu* paid for by the Ministry of Women. We work collaboratively with the Ministry of Police, Health, Education, Works and Transport, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment etc together with the assistance of the *Sui o Nuu* and *Sui Tamaitai o Nuu*, as well as the *Sui o le Malo* to boost the wellbeing of the village communities, to support the Government and Samoa to uphold good governance and respect.

We are yet to host the Manu Samoa team, that is plea although these teams have not yet met the *Sui o Nuu* and the *Sui Tamaitai o Nuu*, sometimes this week I will meet the new Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry according to Government's appointment. The aim is to maintain the beautification and cleanliness from Apia to Faleolo. That is the request upon the *alii* and *faipule* to work together by upkeeping a clean environment in honor of the All Blacks team and our visiting friends from abroad. As such, we heed your support so that we can work collectively raise Samoa's standards.

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One of the raising matters regards the Samoa Victim Support requiring Government support already responded by the Hon Minister who also heads this Association. Note, this legislation not only involve this Association as approved by the Attorney General was also received by the Cabinet.

This legislation aims to protect children affected by violence under the Samoa Victim Support and their known objective by providing the necessary assistance. Appreciation to the advise of the Attorney General and the dual efforts of the Ministry and the Association for child protection involving physical violence and sex crimes affecting the young ones. The purpose for the youth victims of the Samoa Victim Support Group is to improve personal relationships with their parents and families and ensure to set a proper, safer environment when returning home.

Mr Speaker and the notable House, all these are glued to the legislation once it is enacted. In saying that, we must pray for our Government and their visions to drive and push for child protection. Such is the retained Village Fono Act that must be complied upon the authority of the alii and faipule for Samoa in order to live peacefully and joyfully within the village and constituencies which should not bind the entire nation.

Some have stressed the country's low living standard which they called poverty. Statistically, that is a ratio of one worker per household of nine. It seems that the respectable members forget to note that there are three types of employment in Samoa, the paid employment, self employers and the economically active workers. Thus is the assistance of the alii and faipule to push initiatives towards the communities through the internal affairs by teaching men to visit the plantations to see how one sow or boar is taken care and ensure the lawn is well kept as well as the family. We also have our youth programmes involving school students whereby Samoa became first in the Commonwealth awards three times, thus students ought to utilize this program properly for self development by setting up projects like businesses, print designs, elei, cooking etc.

Such caters to boost the developments in the country. Other initiatives include farming and fishing to sell whilst surplus is used to feed the family. As reminder, the duty of alii and faipule aims to encourage and push children to work in the land and the sea.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Hon Minister I recognize the interjection of the Leader of the Opposition.

Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II (Leader of the Opposition): Mr Speaker, point of clarification. I appease the member for the wonderful speech. I wish to comment on your point about the country's poverty. Water has reached the other village. I know one village that has water cut for all except for two households. That is a sign that the country cannot afford to pay the water bill to good water fixed by the Government.

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MR SPEAKER: I get it Leader of the Opposition.

Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIATAUA: Your point is taken Leader of the Opposition hence I do not want to mention your name.

MR SPEAKER: I call the respectable member for Gagaemauga No.2.

Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu (Gagaemauga No.2): Mr Speaker, to save the Minister's time, since the member has mentioned the point on employment. The only thing lest you forget, economically active is different from income earned by the families I mentioned. If you look at this Stats report, economically inactive employment has very high percentage for your information. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: I am very confused with the member's clarification. I am confused with inactive and active you mentioned. Give your response to the member. I call the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.

Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Mati Tuigamala Enokati Posala (Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure): Thank you Mr Speaker. I rise to address the costly water fees by the Opposition Leader. The water schemes are not covered in this plan, they have the authority of the alii and faipule, but if it regards the Water Authority, these issues have already been raised and have been clarified. The cost of water per 44 gallon is 50 sene. Most of the initiatives carried out by the Authority have not been utilized properly as water is being wasted. Therefore, this is one of the plans to assist users on how to properly utilize water. Underground water is also beginning to be polluted, nonetheless I thank the Hon Minister of Women, Community and Social Development because our constituency has launched a water scheme for Sataoa in 2011/2012 during this Parliamentary term covering areas like Lotofaga and the current undertakings at Niusuatia and Vaiee. Well appreciation for this initiative which has benefited our community at large. With greatest respect.

MR SPEAKER: I give the chance to the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi (Prime Minister, Minister of Finance): Mr Speaker, one of the villages I hold a matai title in has a water scheme. That is the duty of the village mayor, they remind us that the Committee must heed their duty of collecting fees on water scheme during our Monday meetings. Hence the charge is up to us. That is it as majority are only talking about it but do not understand, otherwise the Water Scheme Committee is still doing their duty headed by the pulenuu.

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According to our current economic status, very few are wasting revenue from their production whereas those living on subsistence economy, they are living within the means available in their land and plantations. Lastly poultry farming involving chicken or duck aim for sufficient food to feed the families. This cannot be documented nor converted into currency as such, how many times have you made rounds and buy a coconut, the collected income by these people remains unrecorded.

Today, when you visit Aleipata, you will find several family stalls along the roadside selling small items like tauaga, luau, taro etc which generates high revenue that remains unrecorded. Unless no one conducts any visits around the island, then that Samoan can always stand up in Parliament and ask silly questions on data by the Statistics Bureau, the only data in records is the National Provident Fund tax.

Mr Speaker that is the correction, information is available; majority of the economic share comes from subsistence farming that people are making a living from.

MR SPEAKER: I beg tolerance, I give the chance to one of the members for Aana Alofi No. 1, before we progress with the raising matters. I call upon the member for Aana Alofi No. 1, Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi.

Afioga Hon Leaupepe Toleafoa Apulu Faafisi (Aana Alofi No.1): Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity.

I rise to give thanks to the Hon Minister of Women, Community and Social Development for the speech, the Hon Prime Minister has also made a statement, we are the Leaders of this nation, we aim to drive this spirit because when we talk about self employment, they make more than the private sector similar to family stalls at the villages of Fasitoo, Nofaalii and Leulumoega, almost all families own a market stall. What for? Despite the push by the Leaders of the country, the alii and faipule are always lazy, they do not conduct visits which is just how it is. Some villages cannot plant breadfruit trees because they do not know how, but that is God's gift to us, the problem with this country is that she wants to be spoon fed which is reason for poverty existence. A village known for maintaining the authority of the alii and faipule is one which strives hard and never gets poor. With deepest respect, thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. I give the chance to the Minister. I call the Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture.

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Afioga Hon Magele Mauiliu (Minister of Education, Sports and Culture): Thank you for the chance. The three weeks I spent in Fiji, the Minister of Agriculture gave a speech on unemployed workers in Fiji by 46,000 that have gone back to plant kasava and was supported by the Opposition side. With respect.

Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu: Mr Speaker....

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member for Gagaemauga No. 2 I will end this matter.

Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu: Just this small bit.

MR SPEAKER: I grant the chance to the Leader of the Opposition.

Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II: Mr Speaker the addressing matter is precise the breadfruit is rotten, food is in abundance, the only thing we are saying is that the country water will be cut, why? Bills are unaffordable yet this water development was initiated by the Government. How is this so? Due to high cost and people cannot afford it that is all.

MR SPEAKER: I get your view. Member for Gagaemauga No. 2, make it short please.

Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu: Just this bit please Hon Minister, thank you. As the Hon Prime Minister affirms everything I said were not recorded, for your information Mr Speaker, I was referring to the 2011 Census which was the last counting, the new Census will be conducted in the upcoming year, these questions were relayed publicly. How do you make income? By selling tauaga, cucumber and such. Nothing is concealed according to records, otherwise, if unfound, then the undertaken task is inaccurate.

MR SPEAKER: I call the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, I wish to make correction. Since the destructions by Cyclone Ofa, I flew on a helicopter to Falealupo, we made rounds to see and identify what was destroyed. Although yams were wiped out, some were still good for consumption, I could see it clearly from above. When we came to a stop, an old man gazed at the helicopter with approximately 50 children, I knew exactly what the old man want which was food. Four children held my hand and said, Tuilaepa did you bring sacks of rice? We have not eaten for four days.

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The old man said the same, he said thank you for coming, it has been four days since we have not had food. I responded the kids said the same. Is that what you have been teaching the kids? I asked him to come near, I drew my ear closer to his stomach and as soon as he jiggled his stomach made noise which meant it was full, I said, I hear stuffy stomach that has been well fed for the last four days. I can see plenty food from above.

What happened next when Government was giving assistance, the victims responded falsely in order to obtain more food supplies. That is the reality. They make false statements to make us think that they are poor. So we must be well versed of our own people. Everytime I receive reports and figures/statistics, I laugh at it knowing very well the motive behind it, yet I still give speeches about it. That is reality.

Mr Speaker, that is the response.

MR SPEAKER: I give the last chance to the Deputy Leader of Opposition.

Afioga Hon Aeau Peniamina Leavaiseeta (Falealupo): Mr Speaker, since this district was mentioned, the entire nation and Savaii have heard this statement regarding Falealupo. Mr Speaker, as known, this is fictitious. This is like a dream.

This is exactly the HRPP objective that is controlling the nation, dreams and imaginations that are untrue. That said, do not propose plans that are unrealistic....

MR SPEAKER: I get your viewpoint; I call the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker point of order. These responses are based on gathered information and queries; the United Nations asks the same as practised in Africa. The only difference if conflicts occur in the Pacific such as the coup that took place in Fiji, other nations would not respond nor provide any more assistance to Fiji. Now those are normal practices. Some may view it as a huge impact to the general public.

Someone from overseas wanted my view on this? I replied, those are all wrong, the events in Africa are different from those happening in the Pacific. Whatever happens to a State, the public pursues to live in the communities, when a coup occurs in Africa, shelter is built to refuge the settlers, why? No one is allowed to do farming otherwise they are taken down by the military controlled by the Government. None of that exists in the Pacific, why? Even though the State is at stake, the authority of the alii and faipule is still maintained under its farming program. Mr Speaker, these are not dreams held by the chiefs in the villages, they do not just sit and attend meetings in the villages.

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Mr Speaker, that is reality in the rural communities, regardless of the tensions, the farming programmes are still ongoing by the village mayors or Sui o le Malo to plant crops to develop the livelihood of people.

So whatever is received in the reports, as a Samoan, matai and representative, you cannot just sit and relax in Apia and go blur on the things in Savaii, you must attend the village meetings and be aware of its affairs.

MR SPEAKER: I beg tolerance I give the final chance to the Hon Minister of Forestry and Agriculture before I respond, this is getting clear.

Afioga Hon Le Mamea Lemalu Su'a Leatuavao Tuiletufuga Ropati

Mualia: Thank you, I wish to add on to the Hon Prime Minister's statement. I am in awe of this raising matter, when we have had two Awards Ceremony by the United Nations, one being the Award on Eradication of Hunger and Poverty, a report assessment conducted by the United Nations and their Agencies on Samoa, including FAO, UNDP and such. Another new Award received was the World Food Summit held in 1995, 1996, until this year, 2015 it was not the previous cyclones so I am stunned, let me say something about Cyclone Evans, after this cyclone, we went around the island for the first time in Samoan history, sacks of rice supplies were not needed. The crops were in abundance, namely taro, yams, etc. That is why we should be grateful. We were the only country in the Pacific to have received these two awards and two others received one. We should therefore be joyful that no one is starved to death. That is the assistance with respect. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thank you, pardon the respectable members of the House. Take note of the request I gave before, this matter is not debatable and has been laid to rest. Your views are well respected. The Leader of the Opposition has spoken twice or thrice and so as the members of this Side. I appease....

Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II: Yes, but not to this Side your honor. The chance is granted to that side however....

MR SPEAKER: The Hon Prime Minister has given clarification of this matter so it is clear. The subject raised by Levaopolo given the rescheduling of our records, the Hon Minister of Agriculture has given conclusion remarks, you see now? The agenda is well taken given your raising views. Tolofuaivalelei, please upstand for your presentation, this is the reason why wellbeing exists in village communities.

I call the Hon Minister of Women, Community and Social Development.

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Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIATAUA: Thank you Mr Speaker for your bravery, I am grateful to the matter I raised which has allowed others to comment and respond including the Opposition Leader who has not raised anything. That is relying on other people's views and response by the Minister in order for you to make a comment. Samoa is not poor, those testimonies are all false. I wholly disagree with the statement that poverty exists in Samoa which is extensively severe. In Leulumoega, taro and bananas are rotten and cows have gone fat. See the love of God towards us, all we do is plant whilst God does the growing part for us to eat. In reference to the wonderful speech by the Minister of Sagone, he messaged us, "Let us eat the fruits of our labour." Because this is God's will upon Adam. Yes that is the result of human beings, you eat from your sweat, you cannot gain anything peacefully. Pastor Lotu Taafili also preached on blessings upon the country by saying.....sit down Palusalue....

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

MR SPEAKER: Pardon me I will grant the chance.

Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II: Let Samoa judge the water cut, due to money, electricity cut, due to poverty.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Opposition Leader, I am....Have a look at....Hon Minister you may resume your speech.

Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIATAUA: Thank you. The accusation on water cut also applies to members of my family. I told them they are too careless. The billings I received started with \$20 until, \$40, \$60, \$100, this bill is from the last eight months. However this is due to carelessness. That is what I told them, money is available but they are just too careless.

We still receive remittances from our relatives in New Zealand. We even have agricultural products; however the problem is the carelessness of Samoan families. I plead the Opposition Leader and the allegation he made against the country as a whole, do not involve the country entirely because curse does not come to you in person, please Palusalue, you are a friend to me and I love you.

Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II: Mr Speaker water cut exists to date. I know it as I too conduct visits around the island including Falealili and Safata hence I am aware of whats happening with these poor people.

MR SPEAKER: I get it Leader of the Opposition that is additional duty to you, pay the water bill.

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Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIATAUA: Thank you. The rounds carried out by the Hon Prime Minister only heed positive things whilst the Opposition Leader only aims at faulty things. Nonetheless Samoa is no longer poor as God is with us. I am beginning to forget the things I should have said. Water supply by the Ministry is very cheap particularly water schemes in the village. It only costs \$50 tala. What about the cost of a 44 gallons?

Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II: Mr Speaker I was asked for help by a household on a total invoice of \$6,000, water is rarely supplied to this specific area of Tanumalala. I too am aware of this. This is not a lie, the bill is \$6,000.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, I get your view. However we must be cautious of these matters. If we are to dig the root cause of this \$6000, we will get into more problems. I give the chance to the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.

Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Mati Tuigamala Enokati Posala: Mr Speaker the costs have been clarified. Most of these cases started in 2002 hence I am very familiar with, it could stem from unsettling arrears from previous Parliamentary sessions since 2000.

Attempts seek to find ways to resolve it. One solution the Authority could do is follow-up. The work of the Authority only extends towards the meter line. However the Authority has trespass its boundary by seeking the root of the problem. Unsettled arrears from five years ago are one major issue. Instead you seek the assistance from the Opposition Leader who should have referred the matter to the Water Authority for a remedy. Rather than seeking ways against the Authority, this is the existing undertaking. He is not a good leader. With respect.

Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II: Mr Speaker, there is no other way. The household at Tanumalala is fighting for this, we went and disconnected the water pipe, the unsettling bill is due to inconsistent water supply. The issue stems from the water connection from Lefaga and the family has approached me far too often.

Afioga Hon Manualesagalala Mati Tuigamala Enokati Posala: Mr Speaker, if water is unavailable, that means water is disconnected. This indicates that he lacks insight of the implemented tasks.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, this is what I sought because if we are speaking statistics, there are reasons.

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By recommendation from the House, leaked pipes is due to unqualified plumbers, we have recently passed a law for new plumbers to remedy this problem. Hence this matter must be laid aside, the Hon Minister has stated, \$50 tala for 44 galons. The clean water for sale costs \$10 per 20 liter. You see the difference? Faumuina, do you have anything to say?

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga (Palauli le Falefa): Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. The Leader of the Opposition who is also a Laid Preacher, the Lamented Psalmist says, “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.” The only thing the Leader of Opposition lacks is the lack of imagination.

Secondly, in Tanumalala, there is....

Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II: Mr Speaker, point of order, this is the problem with members who stand up without being mentioned. You are the reason for all this. You know it during your time. You now make statements when respect should be upheld in our Sitting.

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga: No, wisdom shall not be left in this house.

Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II: Another thing whenever I speak, you sit down.

MR SPEAKER: I beg your pardon member I grant the chance to the Leader of the Opposition.

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga: Do you want me to speak? Before I talk, I have known you inside out. Mr Speaker, I only wish to clarify something about Tanumalala. This is one specific location for cattle farming. This particular plot is reason for the increased billing rather than water leakage. If water is utilized, the cost will rise. With due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. Lealailepule, do you intend to speak on Theology?

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi (Faleata West): Mr Speaker, no. As recommendation to the State and the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure be mindful of an allowance for the Opposition Leader who is tasked with collecting bills around the country which is a huge task. I thought he was looking out for more candidates (for our side) instead he is collecting bills.

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MR SPEAKER: I believe this matter is now set according to the Hon Minister's attempt.

I call upon the Hon Minister of Women, Community and Social Development.

Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIATAUA: Thank you Mr Speaker. In advice to the Leader of the Opposition, that seat was where the former member Aloalii had passed.

His normal saying at times like this, do not be surprised with our statements easily as only the fearful is regarded that way. Therefore do not be shocked because you raised it...

Afioga Hon Palusalue Faapo II: This is why our meeting is in turmoil, due to indirect talks on uncertain matters....do not speak like that Hon Minister it is irritating to the listening public. You frequently speak that You are Leulumoega yet look at your statements. They are weak.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, pardon all, our meeting is now in progress this morning, I beg tolerance Hon Minister.

Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIATAUA: I will not comment on the Leader of the Opposition again, the visit to Tanumalala. However this is the rightful reason we receive false reports in the House, due to his attempt to finding votes for himself including the Tanumalala villager we just heard. Never mind, if he breaches the law, fine, he will no longer have a say in here in the future.

Recalling a speech by an old man on God's love for Samoa and His abundant blessings through the various trees we plant and nurture, only God can make it grow and blossom into diverse varieties. That is the aim of the Pastor's sermon, "Note the love of God upon us, the breadfruit tree has flourished, we have oranges, mangoes, and cattle etc. The old man was stunned at the congregation's laughter, and said, "Oh, I think I am mistaken." Pardon Samoa's listeners, those are the fruits from our agricultural farming – we plant and maintain the plants but God does wonderful by making things grow for us. Those are the works of the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development through the *alii and faipule, Sui o Nuu and the Sui o Tamaitai o Nuu* for the wellbeing of the country. The same with the Hon Minister of Agriculture speech on the welfare acquired by the Ministry of Forestry and Fisheries through the support of the alii and faipule and the village communities.

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As reminded from the start, Samoa has received three awards through its youth developmental program, two from Salafai and one from Tumua. This is a remarkable achievement by Samoa for three consecutive years symbolising excellent progress by the youth who are contributing to improve our economic growth.

As such, the work of the *Sui o Nuu and Sui Tamaitai o Nuu* is very crucial in working collaboratively with the Ministry in developing the women, children and youth as well as the *alii and faipule* under this program including internal affairs within the communities. Notwithstanding the Faleula Committee and the Village Mayors Committee for Upolu and Savaii in their roles including those who are sick. In paying off the bills/fees of Coporations, Ministries, Government Printing and even individuals who are unable to pay, according to Cabinet Directive, the Government aims to build a network between the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development to pay up these bills in accordance to the given timeframe upon the approval of the Budget on a yearly basis for our Government Printing to carry on.

Nonetheless, most of the country's General Elections and Bi-elections most particularly Parliamentary Sittings and the services provided through printing here (Upolu) and Savaii. The essence of this service is the collaborating efforts with the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development and the Ministry of Finance to fulfil the tasks including unmet payments in a certain time period.

Mr Speaker, I speak with respect, I wish to make a thank you note to all the villages of the Itu o Aana area up to Apia for keeping your villages and footpath areas tidy and beautiful thus reflecting your true hospitality and uplifting standards for Samoa encouraging our athletes who are representing us in the Olympics Game next week.

Our plea with the Leader of the country, may you be brave and courageous and may light shine upon you as you represent Samoa. God's servants are also praying for good strength in body and spirit and in particular, victory in the end.

Mr Speaker, I congratulate the support of my Constituency, the improvements you intended, well Rome was not build in one day, let us heed patience and tolerance whilst the State is engaged with its wise distribution. Let us bear with the State's objective and its insufficient Budget by surviving through the means we have available. A jacket depends on the available material whilst Leulumoega's final advice for all, "a wise man lives within his capacity and within his income". A smart person lives within its own capacity and earning, so let us rely on God's helping hand, Samoa is not a country of mineral or gold rather it is God's love that we depend on through sweat. Keep that in mind and be brave in taking care of our wellbeing through land, sea and the specific resources we have available.

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God bless the Speaker, Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet as well as the Leader of the Opposition, be courageous and have patience. The same with the Deputy Leader who has....you must listen to the old man next to you who seems very calm. Bless that Side of the House, the entire Chamber and the heads of Corporations and Ministries. Bless the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and staff in all its honorific salutations.

God bless the Constituency and its support, may you find good health and strength. Farewell and God bless.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thank you Hon Minister of Women, Community and Social Development or the Orator of Leulumoega, I take it that the presentation is well received and if the comments from the floor have been addressed, the spirit is not new but for us to share.

The aim of the Hon Minister is to clarify his part which is the norm inside Parliament, we must be patient. Samoa is a country of significant status, the decision making has been heard, Tumua and Pule have six and whoever opposes it is weak.

That is the appreciation hence I beg forbearance, whatever challenge we face, Cabinet must heed patience and regardless of the number of submissions made, that is your role, the Opposition Leader has spoken, his new vehicle has made trips around Samoa, he has not done wrong, his rounds is also vital for Upolu alone and not Savaii.

Up next is the Minister of Communications and Information Technology.

Afioga Hon TUISUGALETAUA SOFARA AVEAU (Minister of Communications and Information Technology): Thank you Mr Speaker for chairing our meeting this morning. Acknowledging the dignified salutations of the Samoan Parliament gathered here. In the presence of the Speaker of the Samoan Parliament, we are joined once again in the spirit of offering you delivered this beautiful morning.

I recognize the presence of the Hon Prime Minister who is the Leader of the country, Cabinet Ministers, Leader of the Opposition, Associate Ministers and members of the House. With essence to the raising matters, I believe majority of them falls on this Ministry of Communication and Information Technology or the Office of the Regulator and the Samoan Post Office, well done thank you. However there is one particular view that was raised I wish to speak briefly on.

The first matter was a request for lower internet costs that is quite expensive. I agree, however, the main objective of the Ministry is to deliver cheaper and higher-capacity internet access that is reliable and highly protected in Samoa. Government's main aim through the Office of the Regulator and the Ministry is to set more affordable, reliable and quality connectivity services.

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They offer a wide range of services including home phones, cellphones, internet, broadband wireless connection, television and radio broadcasts. Starting from the State, appropriate procedures were set out to guide connectivity and communication technologies ten years ago.

Today we are moving towards advance and new information and communication technology through the State, Corporations, Private sector, public, church and abroad. However, these services are very costly in accordance to the Telecommunication and Internet Service Providers. With the distance between smaller island states and bigger nations, there is requirement for submarine cables or underwater cables laid out in the sea that are very pricey. The Office of the Regulator is continuously working on setting out appropriate costs for customers.

For the information of the House, the initial cost of internet per month was USD\$2000 mg and was reduced to USD\$1,100 until we had a conference which reduced the price to USD\$650 after a new service was launched by Digicel 03B, whereby, low price was continuously reduced. High expectations will be received from proposed plans on a submarine cable installation next year to further reduce costs for users.

Another question regards the use of the national broad band high way. Update has it that new development is well utilized. Most Government Ministries and Corporations are now communicating effectively using this technological service in Upolu and Savaii. For your information the first phase for this program is within the country and not internationally and so far, we have a total of 199 locations or Ministries that is fixed to this program. Realistically speaking, 116 have been activated whilst sixty or seventy have not yet been activated for the English language.

This program has setback which I shall not disclose any further given the legal side of things. Plans for the second phase will be in place in the upcoming year to make broadband connection easier with the outside world. Bids are underway for a service provider to administer, control and undertake this broadband service.

Another raising matter is the difficulty with the television in other constituencies. TV1 has affirmed an ongoing program and assistance with households who have not yet received this broadcast. The Constituency of Vaisigano No.1 is one example through their song during the Independence Day. TV1 has also checked all connections however the problem stems from the antenna and tuning in of their televisions. Therefore the antenna must be installed outside to provide a clearer reception. This is TV1's notices to all. I visited the Aleipata area and held talks with three households receiving three different stories one being that a clear reception could only be received when the antenna is installed outside the house. Hence those are some of the hiccups; fortunately, one visible improvement set out is the infrastructure installation services around the rural area by Bluesky Samoa. This programme and notices must be taken into account by connecting your wires to Bluesky connection. As soon as that is set, you are able to receive all programmes on television.

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MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Minister I grant the chance to the interjection by the member for Faleata West.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Thank you Hon Minister, the undertaking tasks is well received. Thank you to low internet costs that will assist businesses and the Government and the re-utilization of the broadband connection. It is true that there are legal grounds otherwise appreciation for this initiative and its launching in the coming year. You also mentioned the advertisement for a company to administer the marine cable on broadband, I thought a capacity building will be conducted for the staff of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology for now as Government should oversee the entire project to protect and provide equal rights for service providers and the involvement of competitive various companies considering the loss from the deal we had with the Bluesky who took control of the gateway which made it difficult for us to reduce costs. As recommended if possible through this private sector or Government body must all come under State control in order to determine the price value and equal rights for instance Digicel, Bluesky and other companies who will be utilizing these services. With due respect.

MR SPEAKER: Well done, I call the Hon Minister to resume your response.

Afioga Hon TUISUGALETAUA SOFARA AVEAU: Thank you, the raising matter by the member is also correct. The Ministry is not blurred with the rising issues such as the relationship with Companies and its current connection to the cable. That is exactly our aim to get a competitive company to administer and regulate all this under the State's control to gain something better out of it. Then I come to – as earlier said, there is a lot of assistance in lowering internet costs or international activity now in progress for the Samoa sub marine cable. For the House's information, our request was approved by the World Bank last week to fund the Samoa Sub Marine Cable Program.

Secondly, we have already contacted all interested companies in Samoa with a total of six investors have agreed to invest and partner with this company before a small entity is established to execute the cable. In the meantime, the Committee and I are still undertaking the tasks and as soon as the new entity is set up in terms of registration and agreement is fixed with the Attorney General, then the transfer is possible. We hope to have the official handover by August this year before bids are open to international companies to establish the Sub Marine Cable. That is the directive, the Cable will be installed to the Southern Cross that is located in Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii and the main land of America. That is the connection but will connect through Fiji which is the cheapest and beneficially efficient for the Company if internet access is utilized for all users.

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Therefore the connection will go through Fiji, Southern Cross to make two connections with the cable connected to American Samoa then the ash cable is installed is connected directly to American Samoa, Hawaii and America. Hence there are two connections for easier internet access to avoid any difficulty we may encounter in the future.

The objective also covers Savaii in terms of internet connection, thus we will have a branch for Savaii. One country in the Pacific is also interested to connect with us through this cable, hence negotiations is still in progress for this to go through and other Pacific nations. This development will go through in the beginning of next year thus communication links is completed with Fiji. Hopefully this objective is achieved and be able to lower costs as we communicate with our relatives and families internationally. The main objective of this program is to produce cheaper and affordable costs for all. Secondly, the aim to achieve communications although in the meantime, internet connection will take a while, hence the motive is to produce and receive efficient communications worldwide in less than seconds.

The last thing that must be controlled locally is regulated policies without having to deal or controlled from overseas.

That is the objective of the Sub Marine Cable for the upcoming year, hopefully it will go through, the total cost of this program is USD\$42million or USD\$43million assisted by the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Australia towards these six (6) companies and the Government who are contributing into this plan.

Before I conclude I wish to take this vital opportunity to....

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Hon Minister as you conclude your speech....I call the member for Faleata West.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker, the matter clarified by the Hon Minister on cable connections will benefit us all. However do note the security difficulties that would be impossible to avoid when the Ministry is well equipped with internet connection. Hence we must be prepared for it. That is the question on the income level we receive from Digicel and Bluesky. The question is whenever I go to Australia or New Zealand, free cell phones and credits are distributed there. What can we do....does your Ministry receive this revenue? Do we get any money out of these promotional sales in overseas countries specially the 2% income received on a yearly basis from Digicel and Blue Sky, because by personal observation I do not think we are earning enough considering the annual trend from the start.

Has your Ministry taken this into account your honour? For the record, we have received higher income from overseas when we had the Post Office. But that is my view on free cell phones and credit put on sales abroad, how exactly is your Ministry monitoring this service. With due respect.

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MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Hon Minister I interrupt the speech of the member, you will give response when we return from our break. I believe we have reached our recess hour, I think we must take a break.

I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly now set aside for normal recess.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were now set aside for normal recess at 10:44am and resumed at 11:31am.

MR SPEAKER: I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly now resumed. I congratulate all for your perseverance this part of the day. We have come to the second part of our sitting schedule program. I believe you have been rejuvenated from our morning tea break, I beg tolerance for the preparations by the Office, the aim is to pass this Budget to obtain an increased appropriation to cater you. In the meantime, praise God for vaisalo and niu available in the fields of Tiafau to prepare breakfast for all.

During our break the Hon Minister of Communications was speaking, the floor is now available for your speech.

Afioga Hon TUISUGALETAUA SOFARA AVEAU: Thank you Mr Speaker, I believe we have been re-energized from our tea break, I will resume this short explanation. The query by the member on how much money we receive from the sales of cell phones by companies abroad. In short, such is achieved through the legislation. Price is invariable.

The initiative and program by these companies outside of Samoa has nothing to do with us. However the income received at the current should be in line with the law depending on audited accounts by the Regulator who weighs it together with revenue earned by the State. Meanwhile, that is the existing procedure hence we do not have the right upon these international companies.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon me, I give the chance to the member for Faleata West.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker, thank you Hon Minister. In regards to the assistance I made earlier, I was right. If a registered business operated from abroad produces earning, it should be taxed. It should be....even with 2% received, personally since this legislation was initiated in 2006, there is no increase in this fund received by Digicel. I am stunned with this doing based on the revenue earning level and the delivered services. Legal protection should exist through the law and audit, we should claim our rights to audit these companies to ensure that they are paying tax to the State.

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In belief, this is a major loss as opposed to profit given the daily expenditure. This is why poverty exists in Samoa due to high debt. This is mismanagement of funds yet we endeavour to.....because according to 2006 to date....it is very small...around \$2million is earned from these two companies Digicel and Samoa Tel. Mr Speaker, this is the advise, consider it, especially in regards to local business ventures that are operational overseas, we should claim our rights by retaining a portion of this revenue earning. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. I call the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker we need to be aligned with the local procedures and legislations. The operating businesses abroad are also complying with the requirements and operations of the countries they operate in including business license in Papua and Fiji. This involves the principles established under the Companies Act. Our rights do not comply with the running of business operations in other countries and beyond the licenses they hold and pay to those countries.

MR SPEAKER: Well, I call the Hon Minister, I believe the member's view is now clarified. Resume your speech.

Afioga Hon TUISUGALETAUA SOFARA AVEAU: Thank you. Well the Hon Prime Minister has responded to the member's comment. The view is constructive, however, we will review this elemental part to....if possible to reschedule, meanwhile that is how it is, how much we do is under the law. We therefore cannot set out the program in place. Note that these companies have branches in Samoa, their main store is located abroad. It is hard for us to reshuffle this, given that the main company is situated overseas, otherwise that is the clarification for now, we appreciate the advise moving forward.

Well perhaps, that is the conclusion of matters that were addressed. I wish to reach out to my district. Vaimauga East, I give thanks....

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Hon Minister, we have a member. I call the member for Aleipata Itupa i Lalo.

Afioga Tafua Maluelue Tafua (Aleipata Itupa i Lalo): Mr Speaker, thank you. I beg tolerance Hon Minister I do not intend to interrupt you, I now conclude with my constituency. Pardon me, I rise with respect, I did convey two things in my general speech which were radio and television. Now both have been well received except for the blur on the Television, the 2AP is also problematic.

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I beg forbearance, is it possible to get technicians to check on this, some of the villages are receiving it well whereas the majority in the district up to Lalomanu according to my findings remain unfixed.

With due respect. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: I call the Hon Minister of Communications and Information Technology.

Afioga Hon TUISUGALETAUA SOFARA AVEAU: Well done thank you. As said earlier, I have visited those areas and have already responded accordingly. The only explanation I can give now is the response given by specialists who are good at what they are doing. If incomplete, the specialists are hearing this hence they will do something about it. As with Television and 2AP well we can extend our rights over 2AP. As for Television, as mentioned before, I have talked with three households in the previous week as raised by one of the members, I visited the area and have obtained findings, I will seek further remedy to this issue.

As earlier said, I wish to touch base with my district Vaimauga East. I extend gratitude and appreciation for your support and prayers for the work you called me to do. I have yet to achieve the requests put forward regarding improved roads, perhaps in two weeks time work will reach our side. Bear wit us, we will achieve all in no time.

Work is still undertaken as intended for other villages. Despite the incompleteness, God is with us. I ask the villages of Laulii, Letogo, Vaileletai, Vaileleuta, Maugafiafia, and Fagalii to bear me your support; we will work together with God to keep the peace and beauty of our district.

Thank you Mr Speaker and the notable House. Farewell and blessings.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thank you for the well presented speech by the Hon Minister of Communications and Information Technology. It is recognizable that you are one of the last Jews and senior members of the Cabinet, congratulations to your commitment and hard work.

I take it that all presentations have been well received specifically the raising matters by the respectable members. Well done on your perseverance. Pray God for blessings upon you as you dedicate your duties and services for the country. You raise all sorts of matters from time to time including education, health etc.

We now come to one of the Ministries headed by the last Jews of this House. I call upon the Minister for the Ministry for Revenue.

Tofa Hon TUILOMA LAMEKO (Minister for Revenue): Thank you Mr Speaker. Before I say something, I acknowledge the dignified House. He was chosen yet now.....well the notable Parliament.

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I wish not to acknowledge the significant statuses of this House as it is with belief that Parliament's respects have been laid at Satuiamaa.

I will now focus on the Budget. Well perhaps you are aware of all the comments and views made towards this Ministry whereby none of them were negative. This indicates positive result for me personally, hence I take it that we have your full support. This Ministry is known as the core sector for making revenue which the Budget depends on completely.

According to the Budget, the total amount revenue received is \$531 million. With this amount, we have an increasing amount of \$470million collected by the Ministry for Revenue which is a significant task. This is also a central area for revenue that the Budget depends on. This core area also centralises the operations for the Ministry that the staff should know. We have had several workshop seminars or capacity building programs held abroad for the staff to upskill them in collecting revenue which is the core function of the State in assistance to its developments. Some have suggested the separation of the Ministry, that is divide the Customs from the Income Tax Returns Section. The Ministry has had a separate department for the Income Tax Returns tasked with processing of documents and those collecting duties of goods from the port. Despite, since the reforms plans by the Government, the merge was necessary. Significantly this merge was a go for the Cabinet to efficiently receive updates on revenue data collected by the Ministry on a monitoring basis. The main objective is to achieve the targeted budget. Pardon me but that is the normal procedure in the Ministry.

Another objective is building capacity for our local staff....contacts with New Zealand and our Ministry to hold conferences to obtain....whatever issues addressed in the Ministry is amended accordingly and policies are set appropriately from time to time. The Budget is prepared wisely and cautiously. The allocated budget is set out well to ensure that Government revenue is set out appropriately and utilized properly in a timely manner.

Mr Speaker and notable members of the House, as I mentioned, there were no....the only speech given was a thank you message to the Ministry. I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has appreciated the efforts of the Ministry and staff. Although we encounter problems at times.... the achieved targets by the Ministry are complete. We should not concern ourselves; we can rest assured that the timeframe will meet its targets in the State's Budget.

The brief note made earlier regards no further comments except a word of thanks to the works of the Ministry. Before I conclude, on behalf of Tusa I wish to say a few words to my district of Falealili.

Pardon the divisional statuses before us....do not take respect into advantage...election is about finding representatives which is the orators game. When I made oratory, none of you came near me. The candidates we veyed were no ordinary people. No person has the gut to do anything against the district. The game is done on a respectable manner.

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Some of us end up unsuccessful in the elections yet we incur so much expenditure. As a result I say to Falealili it is not...there was a sick in the district. We sought a vehicle and could not find one, therefore if injured in Falealili, I plead be responsible and look after each other, otherwise everyone in the district is affected.

No district is close to Falealili and its taro supplies. Thus congratulations to the Hon Minister of Agriculture for the positive outcome on our agricultural sector. The only recommendation is a housing construction for our taro supply and containers. In addition, improved roads, please take note of this as Falealili has contributed a lot to our economy through agriculture.

Mr Speaker and respectable members of the House, again there were no further comments made upon this Ministry. Hence may our election be blessed. Once again, play with respect. That is the explanation.

May the Speaker be blessed as well as the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet. Have a blessed meeting particularly the preparations for the elections. Have a blessed sitting.

MR SPEAKER: Well done on your speech Hon Minister for Revenue. Your presentation is well received in the House. Well it was a wild guess. Pardon the members for Faleata West and the member for Gagaemauga No.2, your guess was wrong. We have heard now that the old member is still strong to run for the elections through respect, that is the motive behind the old man's motto. We pray for good health upon you to continue your journey Hon Minister for Revenue, we support your word. This is the core sector to improving the country's economic status through the Ministry and through your goodself.

I extend sincere gratitude to the Ministry Head and staff, you are the Pharisee and the Publican or Tax Collector to building the Government. Those are your blessings Hon Minister.

I call the Deputy Prime Minister Amomua of Tuiatua, this is your chance. I call the honourable Deputy Prime Minister.

Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUAFESILI PIERRE LAUOFO (Deputy Prime Minister: Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour): Well done Mr Speaker for managing our Meeting and sharing far sighted wisdom upon all the respectable members of the House, well done.

To the chosen servants of God here and abroad, thank you for your prayers and commitment essence to your calling.

Mr Speaker, the House has received various opinions and submissions on the Budget, some have have pointed direct views to this Sector, thus all have contributed well to the Main Budget 2015/2016.

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In the fishermen's saying, *ua o se togi e lagatila ae ua faapulou tualima*, meaning all submissions and comments are very much appreciated, well done. All these are recorded for future purposes to improve the Ministries and observe a positive outlook through this Sector.

Discussions on the Budget need no mention the Ministers have already responded to matters pertaining to this Sector in terms of development and proposals by the State laid out in the Budget Statement and expenditure for new and existing projects.

In thought, all these aim to boost economic growth by interacting with various sectors of the State – to create employment on the overall perspective for the country's prosperity. Money to assist Industrial Estates, State supporting the Private Sector is all covered in the tabling Budget in the House. In further, the State is working collaboratively with the Ministries including the Ministry of Commerce Industry and Labour (MCIL) and the Private Sector in this Sector to maximize production for export.

Reports from the SAME updates brought good news on the 100% raised standard for its marketing and promotions carried out in New Zealand, Australia and American Samoa in the last month of April. This is good news for all business people.

Also covered in the Budget are awareness programs as well as ongoing programs per annum including PSSF which funds variety of international products. Similar program is extended towards new and existing tourism developments in the country thus creating employment. Mr Speaker the motive behind this statement is the good plans initiated by the State to build more jobs for job seekers. Links with the Informal Sector involving fisheries and agriculture also has the State's support through the SBEC program, so far, 300 farmers have been registered under this program set out 20 years ago in collaboration with the United Nations, the Government of Samoa, New Zealand and Australia. As said, the private sector and manufacturers will work closely with the Informal sector specifically on food products involving farmers.

I will not repeat the response by the Hon Minister of Fisheries and Agriculture, hence the quality and supply of exports needs to be raised including the processing of agricultural products in factories. As such it will boost more job opportunities for job hunters – thus creating a positive view for the State and the Private Sector.

Statements on the quality of our local Samoan cocoa at this stage is very positive and the production of chocolate by the Whittakers Company in New Zealand has my confirmation as I too bought this product in Auckland with the Samoan Cocoa label on it which had me very proud.

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This is a very positive feedback from the export of our Samoan cocoa converted into chocolate at the international level. Fortunately enough Mr Speaker, we have also found local businesses interest in chocolate whereby one company has attempted to make chocolate using the Samoan cocoa for over a year now - some of these cocoa products are packed properly in plastics and are exported abroad - thus all are positive approaches to create jobs for the locals.

This is the change in mindset for our agricultural products into business-like development such as the common move by the popular local businessmen in the past that contributed positively to our economic status. These are the State's plan together with the assistance of the SBEC and PSSF and other programs that the farmers are familiar with. One member also mentioned the production of the local chips from banana, taro etc thus a new local company has made contacts with a huge company in Australia regarding the sales of this food item. This is one good initiative achieved by them....

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Deputy Prime Minister, I give the chance to the interjection of the member.

Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo (Faleata East): Thank you Mr Speaker, the Hon Minister or Deputy Prime Minister has already discussed agricultural products including chips. In thought, since Australia is now mentioned, is chips permitted there, on a different note, can the Ministry get assistance on farming tools and equipments to make work easier, with respect.

Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUAFESILI PIERRE LAUOFO: That is the status of our chips export that are properly cooked, packaged and sold internationally.

I have mentioned the programs you question with a few obtained by PSSF hence not all equipments are available rather a few has the State's assistance and negotiations are still underway to widening opportunities for other sectors including programs like duty concession, the duty for equipment is exempted from manufacturing products and other goods such as materials specified under the Tourism Sector. Those programs are all available under the State thus providing additional job opportunities. One of the fundamental things from the international goods exhibition is the rising demand for some of these local products which is impossible to meet due to the high market competition, if order is received, the market supply trend is below average which is reason for working together with the agriculture Sector in their part to cut the grass and plant crops to meet the market demand and supply in international markets.

Mr Speaker....

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MR SPEAKER: I appease the Hon Prime Minister, I give the member for Gagaemauga No. 2 the chance.

Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu: Mr Speaker I thank the Deputy Prime Minister. Regarding manufacturing products I raised, assistance is now given by the Deputy Prime Minister himself according to the law, eligibility criteria and incentives. In the meantime a review must be carried out to extend opportunity towards other sectors and not just the manufacture and tourism sectors alone.

To vye with Fiji on agricultural products, the State must heed farming equipments as Fiji is earning 20 taros per tractor. That is the intention for farming incentives or a tractor to cut overgrown grass....

MR SPEAKER: The view of the member is now well received.

Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUAFESILI PIERRE LAUOFO: That is one plan that the Ministry is considering, nothing that you state is blurring the State. The matter regarding Fiji is also understandable.

Regarding job creation raised by other members, well we have to consider skilled labour as well, this is where other business sectors correlates with other sectors such as education. The NUS has programs to teaching locals on agricultural businesses. Other apprenticeship courses include welding, carpentry and plumbing. Hence we need skilled labourers for the labour force. Such includes institutions like APTC. Therefore all sectors are interconnected.

Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu: Mr Speaker, thank you for.....

MR SPEAKER: I will allow you after, I will now conclude....

Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu: That is basis as the Ministry of Education is sharing this system with the National Universtiy of Samoa who will sit around and do nothing about these skills because they are out of computers.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon me I give the Hon Minister of Police and Prisons the chance. I call Hon Sala.

Afioga Hon Sala Fata Lisati Pinati (Minister of Police and Prisons and Fire Emergency Services): Mr Speaker, I thank the Minister. In 1968, before the European arrival Chanel College for the first time used a tractor to plant taro. Although hundreds of taro crops took half hour toil, hence it still pressed through. With respect.

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MR SPEAKER: In saving your time Hon Minister, I give the chance to the other interjection it could be another tractor he intends to note.

Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo (Faleata East): Mr Speaker, no, I rise to congratulate the Hon Minister for the new speech given, agriculture sector should be a priority. Agriculture is the backbone of our economy and all views link to agriculture. I appreciate the Deputy Prime Minister's statement and its priority on agricultural products for the wellbeing of the country.

MR SPEAKER: The Deputy Prime Minister's speech is not yet finished.

Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUA FESILI PIERRE LAUOFO: Yes, I speak heavily on agriculture due to your statements. I am stressing the connection of sectors because the execution of these developments creates job opportunities. That is the main intention.

As for the tractor that Sala mentioned, yes that is correct as a former Chanel College student hosteller working on the farm those days is agreeable because I too was a hostel stayer and we are familiar with the operation of tractors from the past. I am concerned as those are the different programs by the State. Some of this assistance is obtained by these sectors. As with skilled workers, well we need it, gratitude to the education sector, APTC, Don Bosco and other apprenticeship schools of some ecclesiastics who aim to upgrade skills for the employed. From 2012-2014, 440 workers were enrolled in the Apprenticeship program, the Unitec has the Government's usual support, 50% of the Apprenticeship fee is compensated by the State. 30% is funded by the company that has the placement of some men and women whilst 20% is self funded.

That is the aim for the Apprenticeship Council which further includes members from various Organisations such as the Engineers, Plumber and everyone who are working collaborately to gaining opportunities under this program. That is the long term objective of the Government. Samoa is efficiently advance at setting up entrepreneurship compared to other countries of the world and in the Pacific region given the database on registered companies and the long established reform initiated by the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour (MCIL).

Right now, company registration takes less than 10 minutes compared to two weeks in the past. All the work was carried out by the solicitors. That is no longer the case today, you can just register your company and proceed with other requirements. Four years ago, we had a total of 160 sailors sailing in international waters. Majority worked for the Italian company or MLC. Today, we are looking at additional 322 opportunities and job creation in sailing on United Nation vessels or international vessels.

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Importantly, this amounts to approximately \$400,000 income earning from sailing comprising of graduating students from the Marines and its branch at the National University of Samoa. These students are finding opportunities to work on a contractual basis with the Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure MWTI which is also the headquarters for sailing contract schedule when sailing in international waters. This covers the local sailing number of 320+ with the aim to increase such opportunities. As such, opportunity is rising for sailing jobs and better pay. The remuneration package comes under the International Transport Workers Federation ITF paid in American currency at 9 months or 12 months, take a break before granting another chance to sail abroad. This is the ITF policy to setting remuneration packages that we must comply with as IMO members. These policies are significant to meet to avoid being removed from the white list. The white list labels countries which have been penalized from obtaining a second chance to sail in international waters. It is vital that we take heed of international laws and comply with them when working with.....

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Hon Prime Minister I recognize the interjection of the member for Faleata West. I call upon the member.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Thank you Deputy Prime Minister. We now come to the unsettled issue we had last week in relation to the lack of sailors on board. Firstly the shortage of intake and number is disappointing for overseas graduates.

The returning graduates do not automatically fill the fishing boats in Samoa. You cannot mock on the road and automatically get on a ship. A minimum skill level is required for agriculture and marine courses to meet the standards on board.

This is the recommendation to the Ministry, what attempt have you done to raise the number of students who has interest in pursuing this grade because the number is substantially lacking, opportunity is also disappointing specifically locally. With respect.

Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUAFESILI PIERRE LAUOFO: Mr Speaker I am referring to cruise ships and marine ships that our children are employed in. Thank you for mentioning fishing vessels, the Hon Minister of Fisheries has already given his response on that. Moving forward....

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour I permit the Minister of Education, Sports and Culture. I call Magele.

Afioga Hon Magele Mauiliu (Minister of Education, Sports and Culture): Thank you Mr Speaker for the chance.

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For the House's information, the University is listening in, every year, we think of dismissing students. Majority of them are interested in becoming sailors in fact, two weeks ago I told them that we must control our sailing crew. Therefore this confirms the statement that majority want to become sailors to earn jobs instead of fishermen as spoken by the Deputy Prime Minister. Thank you.

Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUA FESILI PIERRE LAUOFO: Mr Speaker, the aim is to go forward but your recommendation is noted Lealailepule, thank you. Moving forward, we now have it....what do we do about it? The Ocean Campus is almost complete as noted by the Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture. This Ocean Campus has begun construction in Mulinnu and hopefully sometimes this year, we will have its launching thus producing more opportunities to educate our children.

The advantage of creating the Ocean Campus is to pursue marine and maritime training onboard vessels from Officers to Chief Engineer and Captain. Worth noting, the Officer level earns higher pay. We commenced at 160 sailors four years ago fortunately enough, the number has gone over 300.

Going forward, we aim to raise and improve the number to 1,000 or even more opportunities to groom our children to sail on board vessels. Essentially we do not focus on one particularly sector in terms of employment, we look at the overall picture.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Deputy Prime Minister, I recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II: Mr Speaker a point of clarification pardon the Deputy Prime Minister and your plans or dreams. I speak of the fishing vessel. What is your plan because we do not intend to recur the past event regarding huge fishing vessels that are coming in. Although job creation is an advantage however, the disadvantages must also be taken into account – are the sailors' mindsick? You should prioritize these fishing vessels your honor.

MR SPEAKER: I get your view, I call the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: We have had a number of sailing graduates who have returned and to date, some have not been able to go on vessels. Parents are also seeking jobs for returning graduates who have been staying home for months and years. The Shipping Services is also seeking opportunities for our children. We are also vying with other countries like Kiribati in terms of raising education standards. As reiterated by the Deputy Prime Minister, the standards of officers level is now up from sailors training set out in the past.

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Talks with our neighbouring Shipping Line in Tutuila have confirmed final negotiations with the Bumble Bee Company by October which extends open opportunities for all local shipping captains and sailors to work in Tutuila. Thus is the huge international market for our local sailors to sail on Cruise Ships in Europe and the Medditeranian sea.

Therefore the State is not avoiding the chance of finding opportunities for our children. The new Marine and Research Institute is soon to be completed which is additional initiative for our children to be well educated in these fields given the high competition on seafarer in the Pacific region. The raising matter on seafarer refusal is not new given the lengthy time schedule affirmed by former captains.

Mr Speaker, that is the assistance and response from the Government.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thank you, the statement is now clear – pardon the Hon Prime Minister I recognize the Minister of Forestry and Fisheries.

Afioga Hon Le Mamea Lemalu Su'a Leatuavao Tuiletufuga Ropati Mualia: Mr Speaker, thank you for another chance on sailing vessels. For the information of the Leader of the Opposition, we are conducting trainings on safety of sailors onboard at NUS. This is the major concern of the Ministry considering the number of deaths in the sea. When a boat has satisfied all criteria and is granted a license, normally they disregard all this but focus on the fish. Speaking of fishing vessels, both alia boats and large fishing vessels are included.

This is the purpose for this marine course offered at the National University of Samoa rather, majority of them would take up farming at the completion of these course, instead and possibly enough, if focus was fixed at the new pay offer by these vessels, automatically they will return to the sea.

With due respect thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Very well thank you for the assistance Hon Minister of Fisheries and Agriculture. I call the Deputy Prime Minister to resume your speech.

Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUAFESILI PIERRE LAUOFO: Thank you Mr Speaker, seafare careers involves a partnership we had with PFL and NEPTUNE which initiated a scholarship program that were awarded to five Marine Training students from the National University of Samoa, three Chief Engineering and two Cargo ships captains. The program takes up probably five years. Practical is currently carried out in onboard vessels thus as soon as we have the Ocean Campus opening, then we will schedule a six months theory program before switching back to practical under this five year program. Those are the good initiatives by the Government.

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As with exports, Government is also making contacts and communicating with the outside world for Samoa to take part in the World Trade Expo. One member mentioned EPA or the Economic Partnership Agreement which took many years to complete, currently we have a permanent agreement entering to be signed between Britain and Europe which specifically focuses on the fish found in Papua New Guinea, and the entering in Fiji given their sugar demand from Europe, whereas temporary agreement or the comprehension by EPA depends on the availability from the European Commission on negotiations level whilst the most common agreement is the one between Pacific and Europe, other signed agreement have been made with PICTA and PACER and WTO which has thus produce us easier opportunities.

Mr Speaker one of the member had queried the prices of goods for KK Mart at Vaisigano. I agree I too went and saw this, there are two price lists, white and pink, recalling the process I explained in a previous sitting, under the Law, the process involves a three months price review for basic goods items for these price lists. This review is based on the dates given in the price list.

The pink list dated on the 8th May 2015 is the current list whereas the white list dated on the 30th January 2015 is the list used for the last three months. That is the clarification of these price lists that is pinned in stores.

Child labour comes under CRC or Convention on the Right of the Child, seeing the ILO Labour International Organisation that is constantly attended by our local representatives, the events occurring abroad is dramatic. Child labour involves young children being employed in factories such as the size of the market in Fugalei who volunteer to work day and night with a small compensation of food and drink. Locally the right of a child under the assistance of the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development partnership with other Ministries who are working towards incorporating an employment policy involving Child Labour concept. Earlier on this year we conducted a Workshop on Child Labour facilitated by the ILO perhaps very soon we will obtain a report and recommendation on Child Labour in Samoa moving forward. That is one move by the State and hopefully we will receive the Competition and Consumer Protection Bill raised by the member for Faleata West, thank you for the long term vision, I will clarify that when the time arrives.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Deputy Prime Minister I recognize the member for Faleata West.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker, since the Deputy Prime Minister is now on Child, I think we should consider Child Protection and prevention from the existing practice we have today. No Law exists to protect child labour as recommended. The motive is for our children to go to schools.

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MR SPEAKER: To save the time of the Deputy Prime Minister, I grant the chance to another respectable member.

Afioga Tafua Maluelue Tafua (Aleipata Itupa i Lalo): Mr Speaker, the reason for raising matter on price list was to extend gratitude to the Ministry for accepting the Committee's recommendations to review and amend prices on a quarterly basis. The purpose of the two lists was for people to monitor this doing by changing the January list to May list. Thank you.

Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUAFESILI PIERRE LAUOFO: Thank you for that comment, hence the list attached to this quarterly basis list is vital to note the price fluctuation of goods. That is the exact intention of the employment policy to initiate legislation according to the member for Faleata West.

Furthermore, the Minister of Education has given a clear statement on school time schedule. Together with other Ministries, the Ministry of Police are working closely to enforce the law. Notably, parents should also be responsible to encourage their children to attend schools.

Mr Speaker, I thank the support and prayers of my Constituency.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker, I see that the Deputy Prime Minister is about to conclude when we had a number of matters raised before. Your honor, you did mention anything on goods and labelling that was raised. Most goods do not have English labels, only in Chinese and...a law is now in place rather how do we enforce it.

I also see that we have a second new cigarette company in the proposed line. This is new to the hearing, what is the latest on this and is the Ministry aware of this? We have had a number of matters raised rather if you insist to wrap up then we hope to get responses some other time.

Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUAFESILI PIERRE LAUOFO: If you get the summary of the entire response on the matter you speak about. I did not get your view on a cigarette company perhaps the Prime Minister will respond to that, otherwise no update so far on that yet.

Before I move on I wish to remind something, the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development are working on Child Protection Bill and a proposed Bill is in draft at the moment on Child Labour mentioned by the member.

Afioga Hon Aeau Penimanina Leavaseeta: With respect I did not mean to interrupt although I think this point ought to be raised. Can I have a clear clarification of Child Labour, I mean the police are there to assist, see the point Mr Speaker, is there a different strategy that the State can execute. Because we only talk about it when who should be responsible? Thank you, because this problem presently exists.

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Tofa Hon FONOTOE NUA FESILI PIERRE LAUOFO: Mr Speaker I see in my records that the member has not asked anything about Child Labour, otherwise, this is everyone's responsibility. Who does it? It is everybody's responsibility we are the parents to the children, we do not rely on anyone else.

Mr Speaker, I see the time and conclude that we must end here as the raising matters by the members have all been given responses in relation to this sector. I thank the support of my constituency. I also take this chance to say a word of encouragement to our team, 'Have courage and do something to count Samoa in, you have your country's support. The team for next week, have a good game and may it be a success.

God bless the Speaker, both sides of the House, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Heads of the Ministries and public servants. Have a blessed meeting.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thank you Deputy Prime Minister, congratulations on your patience and commitment although no member has raised it but thank you for your respect. Although you sleep and wake up unexpectedly and talk, it is useful to obtain further views.

I call the Hon Prime Minister for the Motion.

MOTION TO AMEND SITTING HOURS

Susuga Hon TUILA EPA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Before I move the Motion, I commence by giving response before Cabinet is given chance. Two of our Ministers are not present, regarding issues on Electoral by the Minister of Justice and Court Administration and matters pertaining to Private Sector, leave them to me. I have already reviewed it, matters concerning the Electoral are very critical. I have thought deeply and prayed for this matter from Friday and I recall the influence this matter had on us by reporters/media saying this country has a corrupt electoral system. The Cabinet has deliberated the issue regarding the Law on traditional gift exchange or o'o. From the legal perspective once a o'o is conducted near elections, this is called corrupt. The only way for Leaders to clear corruption is by removing the o'o before the Election day. This can only be carried out after the Elections. This report has gone viral worldwide claiming the Samoan Leaders as corrupt which is reason behind this new undertaking, until the General Elections are over, then a o'o is allowed to practice. This is the only General Elections that will no longer press charges on traditional giving. Reason for saying this is due to the pressing views on the legislation requirement other than what we think as opposed to the law. I cannot let this pass.

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Motion to Amend Sitting Hours

Mr Speaker I have already responded to the rest of the matters hence I agree that we must consider the Budget into detail.

Mr Speaker I move, *That Standing Orders 31(1) be set aside to allow the change in Sitting hours commencing from 9:00am to 1:00pm and 7:00pm to commence consideration of the Budget.*

Seconded by the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Women, Community and Social Development.

Motion was approved and the amendment of Sitting hours was approved starting today as scheduled in Standing Orders 31(1).

MR SPEAKER: I believe that is the conclusion of our Work this sitting day, Government Responses have been presented in regards to comments and submissions made. That is the utmost spirit of appreciation to the Government this morning.

The Hon Prime Minister has also spoken on behalf of the absent Ministers hence his clarifications and explanations have been well defined.

The motion has been moved hence this is a good time for us to achieve other plans and tasks until we reconvene at 7.00pm. Accordingly, the break is in time for others to attend a funeral.

We have lunch and important notices. We are scheduled to meet again tomorrow but I will notify all as soon as I get confirmation. As of now I extend sincere thanks to everyone and the support of the Government heads this morning.

I now announce the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly be adjourned until 7.00pm.

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

Proceedings recommenced at 7.00pm.

Debate resumed on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015 and the Appropriation Bill 2015/2016.

MR SPEAKER: I greet all respectable members at this part of our sitting session this evening. We have reached this part of our Meeting, hence sincere appreciation for your patience. I believe you have regained power and strength from earlier on today.

I extend appreciation to the dignified members of the House as we regather here to resume our work. To all listeners hearing us, well God's grace to enable us to continue with our duties and tasks today.

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**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2014/2015
– consideration in detail**

Before we disembarked earlier this afternoon, Government responses were already presented, pursuant to normal procedure, we shall consider our Budget in detail. We will now have the motion to be seconded for its second reading on the Bill that was read on the 26th of May 2015 hence the question will now be put.

Motion moved on the 26 May 2015 was approved and the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015 was approved together with the Supplementary Appropriation Bill 2015/2016.

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.2) 2014/2015
– consideration in detail**

MR SPEAKER: The Assembly will now proceed to consider in detail the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015.

In progress of the consideration in detail of the Bill, members can refer to Schedules in the Order P.P. 2015/2016 No.1, Second Supplementary Estimates and Receipts of the Samoan Government for the Financial Years Ending 30 June 2015 and Paper 2015/2016 No.23, Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee on the P.P.2015/2016 No.1 of the Government of Samoa for the Financial Years Ending 30 June 2015.

Pursuant to Standing Order 134, consideration commences on the Schedules.

**FIRST SCHEDULE
VOTES AND APPROPRIATIONS
ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS**

MINISTRY	SCHEDULE	APPROPRIATIONS TOTAL
JUSTICE & COURT ADMINISTRATION:		\$414,000.

Approved.

HEALTH:		\$889,825.
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Approved.

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**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2014/2015
– consideration in detail**

FINANCE: **\$120,572.**

Approved.

NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT: **\$46,847.**

Approved.

NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION: **\$28,236.**

Approved.

HEALTH: **\$1,707,850.**

Approved.

SAMOA SPORTS FACILITIES AUTHORITY: **\$319,489.**

Approved.

TOTAL ADDITIONS IN EXPENDITURE 2014/2015: **\$3,526,819.**

Approved.

**SECOND SCHEDULE
REDUCTIONS IN APPROPRIATIONS**

MINISTRY SCHEDULE REDUCTION IN APPROPRIATIONS

HEALTH: **Total Reduction \$(120,000).**

Approved.

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**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2014/2015
– consideration in detail**

FINANCE: Total Reduction \$(1,169,825).

Approved.

TOTAL REDUCTION IN EXPENDITURE 2014/2015 - \$(1,289,825).

Approved.

Schedule was approved as part of the Act.

**CLAUSE 2: Grant and Appropriations of \$3,526,819 out of the
Treasury Fund.**

Approved.

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

Approved.

SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT:

CLAUSE 1: Short title and commencement.

TITLE: Supplementary Appropriation (No. 2) 2014/2015.

Approved.

*The Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015 now progressed
without any Amendment.*

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**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 2) 2014/2015
– third reading**

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker I rise with respect to move, *That the Supplemetary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015 be now read a third time.*

Seconded by the Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion approved and the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.2) 2014/2015 was read a third time and had passed the Legislative Assembly.

APPROPRIATION BILL 2015/2016 – consideration in detail

MR SPEAKER: The Legislative Assembly will now proceed to consider in detail the Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 and the Report of the Finance and Expenditure Committee on the Main Estimates of Receipts and Payments of the Government of Samoa for the Financial Year Ending 30 June 2016.

Before we proceed to consider the Bill in detail, I wish to make note of the Corrections in the Samoan version to the Main Estimates 2015/2016 on pages 56, 76, 77, 144, 245, 262, 354, 355 & 356. The same has been completed for the English Version for pages 32, 53, 70, 71, 236, 251, 320, 321 & 322. These have already been distributed to your tables.

Pursuant to Standing Order 134, consideration in detail commences on the Schedules.

**FIRST SCHEDULE
ADDITION IN APPROPRIATIONS**

MINISTRY	TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS
AGRICULTURE & FISHERIES:	\$13,638,605.

Approved.

COMMERCE, INDUSTRY & LABOUR:	\$16,255,618.
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Approved.

COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: \$5,973,502.

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Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – consideration in detail

MR SPEAKER: I call the respectable member for Gagaemauga No.2, direct your comment on the consideration.

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: Mr Speaker in Section 5 – the Government's assistance in major projects includes communications. I wish to ask the Hon Minister, do we have funding to upgrade the vehicle. I know the vehicle is no longer in good service and so as its bandwidth which must be upgraded and repaired. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: The view of the member is well taken. I call the Hon Minister of Communications and Information Technology.

Afioga Hon TUISUGALETAUA SOFARA AVEAU: Thank you for the question. The Ministry has sought funding assistance and the total fund requested is now before the Aid Coordinating Committee for repairing the vehicle as mentioned.

Appropriation of \$5,973,502 for Communication and Informatoin Technology was now approved.

EDUCATION, SPORTS & CULTURE: \$79,074,367.

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Gagaemauga No.2.

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: Mr Speaker the question is short regardint Section 14 on achieving Commonwealth Games and the appropriation of \$350,000 on Rugby Union. What about the Rugby League because this is one team that has done well in the country.

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

Afioga Hon MAGELE MAULIU: Well the assistance depends on the demand, the Rugby League has not given any funding requests, perhaps they are self sufficient.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Mr Speaker I saw the Samoan version on students school fees for the National University of Samoa. I thought a submission to Cabinet will be drafted since school will recommence this month. I cannot find this in million in the Budget. With respect, what is the update on this?

Afioga Hon MAGELE MAULIU: Mr Speaker that is the procedure submission must be resubmitted to Cabinet when inserting this amendment.

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Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – consideration in detail

Appropriation of \$79,074,367 is now approved for Education, Sports and Culture.

FINANCE: **\$82,417,045.**

Approved.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE: **\$21,623,483.**

Approved.

HEALTH: **\$79,288,274.**

Approved.

JUSTICE & COURT ADMINISTRATION: **\$11,225,933.**

Approved.

NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT: **\$28,403,227.**

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Aana Alofi No.3.

Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER (Aana Alofi No. 3) Mr Speaker, thank you. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment involves three sections given here. This huge book Mr Speaker stipulates a total expenditure of \$10million on the Ministry whilst the Law is \$13million.

Mr Speaker, the Output 4,5,6,7,8 and 9, has different figures on the Bill and the Budget which has \$3million difference. Some legislations are larger than the one here. The question is directing for what is right. Please Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: I call the Deputy Chairperson. I think they are the ones....Note we are clarifying the matter I read out.

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Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – consideration in detail

In regards to the explanatory memorandum this was excluded due to the slight confusion we had with the entire Budget given in the chapters I just read out. If you can view it properly, you will get the correct numbering like the one on the Table and reasons to the numbering I read out. I will still recognize the Deputy Chairperson.

I call the Deputy Chairperson of Revenue and Expenditure Committee.

Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA: Perhaps that is well clarified, the only thing I wish to remind, before we reach page 122 under Output to 5, it does not involve this bit even in financial terms. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: For the second chance of the member. I call the member for Aana Alofi No.3.

Afioga TOEOLESULUSULU CEDRIC POSE SALESA SCHUSTER: Mr Speaker, the Output 4 incorporates \$989,247 of technical services on land, whilst the amendment by the Committee is \$951,000. On to Output 6, the total is \$2,165,033. However, the legislation costs \$2,171,000, and Output 7 is \$1,480,000 whilst the other paper shows \$1,617,000 with \$3million discrepancy, this is reason for asking to correction purposes submitted in Parliament please.

MR SPEAKER: To save your time, I call the member for Faleata West.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker, the most important thing here is totals which is similar to the totals in the Budget which are all correct. The total in the legislation is similar to the ones in the Main Estimates. Respectfully.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. I guess that is the overall findings of the Finance and Expenditure Committee, thanks for the clarification by members of the Committee. That is a mistake in the output, the overall total is clarified.

Appropriation of \$28,403,227 is now approved for Natural Resources and Environment.

POLICE: **\$26,923,610.**

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Gagaemauga No.2.

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: Mr Speaker regarding Fire Services, total revenue of \$203,000 is not the exact amount received.

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Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – consideration in detail

The Fire Services should bear assistance with housing license and insurance to ensure safety of buildings from fire emergency. If agreeable, then so be it to generate more revenue.

MR SPEAKER: Well, I grant the chance to the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Your honor since we are to get findings, the response to that is that it is appropriate to go through.

Appropriation of \$26,923,610 was approved for Police.

PRIME MINISTER: **\$8,595,685.**

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Gagaemauga No.2.

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: Mr Speaker I wish to ask the Hon Prime Minister what happened to the band we had, is it still existing?

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: The band still exists and is taking a trip to Fiji at present.

Appropriation of \$8,595,685 is now approved for the Prime Minister.

REVENUE: **\$11,039,948.**

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

Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO: Mr Speaker, please on imports. Why is there a minimal revenue estimate from VAGST on imports compared to previous years. The estimate on imports should up the level of revenue received, however there is a drop in the result from last year. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the Hon Minister for Revenue.

Tofa Hon TUILOMA LAMEKO: Mr Speaker, revenue is not the same every time. It depends on the time and season. The Finance Committee has also looked into this and they say it is correct.

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Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – consideration in detail

MR SPEAKER: Well, I call the member of the Committee, I call Afualo.

Afioga AFUALO WOOD UTI SALELE (Salega): In assistance to this, because we hosted the (SIDS) event, that is how we got this high figure and expenditure. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Yes, this is a very active member. I call the member for Faleata East.

Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO: Mr Speaker, I wish to ask the member of the Committee please, this is a huge difference at most \$2million. This is \$1million difference. Note that imports should raise revenue to getting goods, however the money received from tax is almost \$2million difference. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the member, the speech of the Committee member is now elaborated. Starting from the Minister, days are dissimilar, some days are filled some not. Some times our plans will not go as planned.

Total Appropriation of \$11,039,948 now approved for Revenue.

WOMEN, COMMUNITY & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: \$11,267,780.

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for the Finance Committee.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: I wish not to question the Budget which I wholly understand it, but I ask the name change for the Ministry...when is this going to be in place...given the tasks in the Ministry involving children, youth, women, men in regards to the title 'women'.

Shouldnt Community be changed to suit the entire Samoa. That is the question please.

MR SPEAKER: To save the Minister's time....

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: Mr Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister in regards to the printing service, debts are piling up on this, hence I see that \$1.2 million. What is the status on this debt with respect.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Hon Minister, to save your time, let response...one more...I call the Leader of the Opposition.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker. Output 2. Last year we had 114,000 workers in Output 2, now we have a total of 137,000 workers. What is reason for this raise? It is quite high.

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Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – consideration in detail

MR SPEAKER: I call the Hon Minister.

Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIATAUA: Well thank you very much. The first question by the ball headed, there is nothing wrong with the name, it covers all else including children, handicapped, under the term Social Development, whilst Women, well that is precise, Community also involves children and...including the guard from the alii and faipule.

The matter on Printing...I have clearly relayed a statement on reduced costs or appropriated money to improve the work of the Printing house specially during the General Elections, Parliamentary sittings and Savali Newspaper issues, that is binded under the Government and must be printed...those are their tasks.

As with debts, well I have also highlighted that part, the objective is that the Cabinet have tasked the Ministry of Finance to collaboratively with the Ministry.

The question by the Opposition Leader seems lacking as he was former Minister, the office of the Minister should be enhanced for not only local visitations but also our visiting guests from abroad to reflect our warm hospitability and friendliness as well as conferences held locally, we should be prepared for all that.

Well the aim of my response towards the Opposition Leader, he only intends to insult me without considering good points for the Hon Minister, yes with respect.

Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II: Mr Speaker, point of order, this is where the Minister lacks knowledge in terms of Budget, if we are to receive guets, we must have a specific item to execute that, yet you now say that this is included in this output. This is not about hosts hence it now comes to mind, how weak you are, you lack knowledge of your Budget.

Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIATAUA: Your honor, as said before, the Opposition Leader is good at finding points to defame the Cabinet, yet he will never reach the positions we are at now, in terms of services provided at the Ministerial level and achieving the tasks and duties, the budget must be well secured for all this to take place as mentioned earlier.

Never mind that, until you become a Minister if ever that will happen, otherwise that is our notices in the spirit of respect Mr Speaker.

The Appropriation of \$11,267,780 was now approved for Women, Community and Social Development.

WORKS, TRANSPORT & INFRASTRUCTURE: \$47,095,695.

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Faleata East.

29 JUNE 2015

Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – consideration in detail

Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO (Faleata East): Mr Speaker, I enquire the VAGST in the \$7million that was paid by the State for the Electric Power Corporation similar to last year. Secondly revenue received from planet licensing.

It seems that we are incurring a loss from the Estimate. Why is this....or is the figure in brackets \$1,424,000 a debt, other than the revenue obtained in 2014/2015 what does this indicate? Can you elaborate please?

MR SPEAKER: The member of the Committee will respond in the absence of the Minister, I call the Chairperson rather the member for Faleata West can also provide assistance.

Afioga Tafua Maluelue Tafua (Deputy Chairperson of the Revenue and Expenditure Committee): Thank you for the question. Perhaps the clarification by the member is well given. Although the figure you made is different, the appropriation of \$47,095,695 is still fixed for implementation. That is the response with respect.

Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO: Mr Speaker I was referring to the VAGST payment of \$7million in the Budget, secondly I also queried the \$933,975 revenue earned in 2014/2015 from the use of Samoa Planet when no amount is given this year, perhaps it is a loss or a debt, with respect.

MR SPEAKER: The view of the member is well received, I call the member of the Committee.

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga: Mr Speaker the total appropriation to pay for EPC's VAGST is \$21 million per year. This is the State's share to reduce electricity costs.

Revenue earned from planet is now under the Ministry of Finance. All revenue earned is now jurisdictioned under the Ministry of Finance. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: Well done.

The Appropriation of \$47,095,695 was now approved for Works, Transport and Infrastructure.

ATTORNEY GENERAL:

\$4,354,191.

Approved.

29 JUNE 2015

Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – consideration in detail

AUDIT OFFICE: **\$3,497,001.**

Approved.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION: **\$3,576,600.**

Approved.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY: **\$7,436,176.**

Approved.

OMBUDSMAN OFFICE: **\$948,515.**

Approved.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION: **\$4,739,202.**

Approved.

STATISTICS: **\$4,973,594.**

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the respectable member.

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: Mr Speaker, I wish to ask the Hon Minister what human rights research means which stipulates \$60,000, this is the first time I have heard of this please?

MR SPEAKER: The submission of the member is well taken, we are now on awareness programs by the Office of the Ombudsman, the principles and procedures of this Office are reported directly to Parliament and myself, there is a step forward for that in the future, that is my observation, otherwise I will still allow the Hon Prime Minister.

29 JUNE 2015

Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – consideration in detail

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: Under the Statistics Office we have sought human rights, hence this is why I asked, what is this, I wish to know please your honor?

MR SPEAKER: I call the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker, any type of human right is involved in this investigation.

Afioga AFUALO WOOD UTI SALELE: Mr Speaker to clarify this bit, the Office of the Ombudsman had requested that they carry on the investigation of this service since they have the expertise. That was the clarification we received....thank you.

MR SPEAKER: That is the rightful purpose for highlighting this, the Office of the Ombudsman has come forward to assess the huge Bill we passed this year, well you now have it, member for Faleata West, spare the assistance, do not discard the honourable....

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker, I thought you should thanked us for helping that side out, the Hon Prime Minister has briefly responded, you must thank us for....

MR SPEAKER: That is the correct way to give gratitude instead of being impartial. See the huge task we undertook be mindful and stop intervening.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI Mr Speaker we are discussing the Budget and the Report of the Finance Committee.

That is reason we are relaxing because this is the time to query the Finance Committee. If the Committee were unable to respond, then we can fill in. That is reason for your endless questions upon the Finance Committee. If the members of your Committee could not respond, then you must resign now.

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: Mr Speaker this is my second chance. The only thing I am after is investigation of human rights, I am trying to think whether HRPP has changed its manifestos as protectors of human rights to society.

MR SPEAKER: The comment by the member is well received.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker, the member of Salega still is blurred whilst everyone including almost a child now bears understanding of human rights.

29 JUNE 2015

Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – consideration in detail

Afioga AFUALO WOOD UTI SALELE: Mr Speaker, point of order please, I am not a member of Salega, it is the member for Saleaula.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: I just said Saleaula.

MR SPEAKER: Very well Sale is cousins with Sale. I beg tolerance perhaps this is the intention of the member for the coming year, but do not publicise it yet, time is still far away.

Appropriation of \$4,973,594 is now approved for the Statistics Office.

LAW REFORM COMMISSION: **\$1,198,453.**

Approved.

PRISON AND CORRECTIONS: **\$4,677,183.**

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Saleaula.

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: Mr Speaker a short question for the Hon Minister, is there a measure or appropriation for a fence installation for keeping run away culprits? Regardless, we should also be mindful of visitors or relatives entering the premise. Very well.

MR SPEAKER: The view of the member is noted. I call the Minister of Police and Prisons.

Afioga Hon SALA FATA LISATI PINATI (Minister of Police and Prisons): I am sure the member is aware of the State's proposal. Once

appropriation distribution is closed, perhaps China will allocate approximately \$30million to improve the Correction premise. With respect.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker we have the directive to relocate the Prison to a 500 acre plot with funding assistance for a fence installation. This fence can almost reach the moon which nobody can climb. That is reason for seeking foreign grant to build a fence as large as the Babylon wall to avoid escapees and visitors entering prison. Police have completed the task of tidying and drawing up borderline, consequently, constructions must commence hopefully by the end of the year.

29 JUNE 2015

Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 – consideration in detail

Appropriation of \$4,677,183 is now approved for the Prison and Correction Services.

TOTAL REDUCTIONS IN EXPENDITURE 2015/2016: \$478,223,689.

Approved.

SCHEDULE:

Approved.

CLAUSE 2: Grant and Appropriation of \$478,223,687 out of Treasury Fund.

Approved.

CLAUSE 3: Grant and appropriation of \$479,798 out of Treasury Fund.

Approved.

CLAUSE 4: Grant and appropriation of \$14,346,711 out of Treasury Fund.

Approved.

CLAUSE 1 AND TITLE:

CLAUSE: Short title and commencement.

TITLE: Appropriation Bill 2015/2016.

Approved.

The Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 progressed without Amendments.

29 JUNE 2015

APPROPRIATION BILL 2015/2016 - third reading

Susuga Hon TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker I move, *That the Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 be now read a third time.*

Seconded by the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Women, Community and Social Development.

Motion approved and the Appropriation Bill 2015/2016 was now read a third time and had passed the Legislative Assembly.

The House showed appreciation by clapping their hands.

MR SPEAKER: Wel we have reached this important part of our sitting this evening, we have achieved our Budget as deliberated this whole week and the previous week. It was not an easy task, we have discussed and reviewed all areas based on your views and comments as well as the Government's responses. We have approved the Budget yet thanks be to God. We now hand over the task to the Cabinet for their distribution for our developments as witnessed from one year to another. We have counted cents, dollars and now millions. Let God be praised for His love and grace upon us and the increasing level upon our economic growth.

Since we still have lapsed business, we now are through with our Budget that we have prioritized, we now have other vital legislations, first, second and third reading, yet this cannot delay the works of the Ministries given the proposed legislations.

We have in agenda the second reading to some of the Bills and deliberations on it before referral to the Committee as the task by the Finance Committee is also complete.

Therefore we must progress with our work tonight. Based upon your strengths, we shall resume tomorrow before our next sitting next month. I give the chance for the set aside motion pursuant to Standing Orders.

I call the Hon Prime Minister.

MOTION TO SET ASIDE STANDING ORDER 100(1)

Susuga Hon TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker I move, *That Standing Order 100(1) be now suspended to allow the second reading of the Bill in the next sitting day which is tomorrow.*

Seconded by the Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion approved and the Standing Orders 100(1) was now set aside.

29 JUNE 2015

**NATIONAL PROSECUTION OFFICE BILL 2015
– first reading**

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker I stand to move, *That the National Prosecution Office Bill 2015 be now read a first time.*

Seconded by the Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion approved and the National Prosecution Office Bill 2015 be now read a first time.

MEDIA COUNCIL BILL 2015 – first reading

Afioga Hon TUISUGALETAUA SOFARA AVEAU: Mr Speaker I rise with respect to move, *That the Media Council Bill 2015 be now read a first time.*

Seconded by the Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion approved and the Media Council Bill 2015 was read a first time.

VILLAGE FONO AMENDMENT BILL 2015 – first reading

Tofa Hon TOLOFUAIVALELEI FALEMOE LEIATAUA: Mr Speaker, with due respect I move, *That the Village Fono Amendment Bill 2015 be now read a first time.*

Seconded by the Minister of Information Technology and Communication and the Minister of Forestry and Fisheries.

Motion approved and the Bill was read a first time.

**NATIONAL PROVIDENT FUND AMENDMENT BILL (NO.2)
2015 – third reading**

MR SPEAKER: For the information of the House, this Bill had its consideration on the 26th May 2015.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker I move, *That the National Provident Fund Amendment Bill (No.2) 2015 be now read a third time.*

Seconded by the Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion was approved and the National Provident Fund Amendment Bill (No.2) 2015 was read a third time and had passed the Legislative Assembly.

29 JUNE 2015

COMMUNITY LAW CENTRE BILL 2014
– consideration in detail

MR SPEAKER: Pursuant to Standing Orders 106, the Assembly must first approve the Committee report to make the Bill available for consideration in detail.

Tofa TUISA TASI PATEA (Chairman of the Justice and Court Administration, Police and Prison and Lands and Titles Committee): Mr Speaker with utmost respect I move, *That the Assembly approve the Committee Report to allow the Community Law Centre Bill 2014 to progress together with Amendments and Corrections.*

Seconded by the member for Gagaifomauga No. 1 and the member for Palauli.

Report was approved.

MR SPEAKER: I declare that this Assembly has approved the Justice, Police and Prisons and Lands and Titles Report on the Community Law Centre Bill 2014.

The Assembly will now proceed with the consideration in detail of the Community Law Centre Bill 2014. Pursuant to Standing Order 102, consideration in detail commences with Clause 2.

CLAUSE 2: Interpretation.

MR SPEAKER: The Committee has an Amendment and Correction to Clause 2 given in the Order Paper.

Tofa TUISA TASI PATEA: Mr Speaker I move the Amendment to Clause 2 as follows:

“AMENDMENT:

For definition of “lawyer” delete the words “Law Practitioners Act 1976,” and substitute with “Law and Legal Practice Act 2014.”

Correction to Clause 2(1) In Samoan Print only

Replace current definition for “lagolago faaletulafono” (Legal Aid) with “o se polokalame i totonu o le Matagaluega, e faatupeina e le Malo, e tulai o Loia, (e lē galulue mo le Malo) ae mo tagata lautele;”

Amendment and Corrections were approved.

Clause 2 was approved as Amended.

29 JUNE 2015

**Community Law Centre Bill 2014
– consideration in detail**

CLAUSE 3: Establishment of the Centre.

Approved.

CLAUSE 4: Functions of the Centre.

Approved.

CLAUSE 5: Oversight Committee.

MR SPEAKER: We have a Correction to Clause 5 in the Supplementary Order Paper.

Tofa TUISA TASI PATEA: Mr Speaker I move the Amendment and Correction to Clause 5 as follows:

“AMENDMENT:

Clause 5(2)(c):

Insert the word “prescribed” after the word “it”.

“CORRECTION:

Clause 5(3)(g) in Samoan Print only;

Replace the word “aia” with “aafiaga”.

Corrections and the Amendment were approved.

Clause 5 now approved as Amended.

CLAUSE 6: Legal assistance.

Approved.

29 JUNE 2015

Community Law Centre Bill 2014
– consideration in detail

CLAUSE 7: Prescribed requirements for legal assistance.

Approved.

CLAUSE 8: Application for legal assistance.

Approved.

CLAUSE 9: Granting of legal assistance.

Approved.

CLAUSE 10: Revocation of legal assistance.

MR SPEAKER: We have Correction to Clause 10 in the Supplementary Order Paper.

Tofa TUISA TASI PATEA: Mr Speaker I move the Correction 10(e) in the Samoan Print only as:

“CORRECTION:

Replace “ua faia le amiotonu o le faamasinoga e faalēaogāina ai le fesoasoani faaletulafono;” or to “e tatau ona faalēaogāina, ina ia aiaia ai tulaga amiotonu faaletulafono.”

Correction approved.

Clause 10 approved as Amended.

CLAUSE 11: Public Advocate.

Approved.

29 JUNE 2015

**Community Law Centre Bill 2014
– consideration in detail**

CLAUSE 12: Resignation, termination and vacancy.

Approved.

CLAUSE 13: Duties and powers of Public Advocate.

Approved.

CLAUSE 14: Independent..

Approved.

CLAUSE 15: Staff.

MR SPEAKER: The Committee has correction and amendment to Clause 15 given in the Supplementary Order Paper.

Tofa TUISA TASI PATEA: Mr Speaker I rise to move the Amendment to Clause 15 as follows:

“AMENDMENT:

Clause 15(2):

Replace the reference “tolu 3” to “lima 5”.

“CORRECTION:

Clause 15(2) in Samoan Print only;

Replace current translation of 15(2) with the new translation:

“(2) E agavaa se loia e lē itiiti mai i le lima (5) tausaga o lona tomai i tagi ma moliaga faa-Faamasinoga, ona tofia e aveva ma Loia Faufautua Fesoasoani mo tagata lautele.”

29 JUNE 2015

**Community Law Centre Bill 2014
– consideration in detail**

“CORRECTION:

Clause 15(4), (In Samoan Version only;

Replace the word “puleaina” with “faatinoina o isi galuega faale-aunaunaga lautele.”

Correction and Amendment approved.

Clause 15 was approved as Amended.

CLAUSE 16: Volunteers.

Approved.

CLAUSE 17: Values, principles and code of conduct.

Approved.

CLAUSE 18: Funds and audit.

Approved.

CLAUSE 19: Corporate plan and annual reports.

Approved.

CLAUSE 20: Exemption from personal liability.

Approved.

29 JUNE 2015

Community Law Centre Bill 2014
– consideration in detail

CLAUSE 21: Power of Minister.

Approved.

CLAUSE 22: Confidentiality.

Faamaonia.

FUAIUPU 23: Guidelines and manuals.

Faamaonia.

CLAUSE 24: Regulations and forms.

MR SPEAKER: We have a Correction to Clause 24 in the Supplementary Order Paper.

Tofa TUISA TASI PATEA: Mr Speaker I move the Amendment to Clause 24 as follows:

“AMENDMENT:

- i) Insert new paragraph (b):*
- (b) duties and powers of the Oversight Committee.**
- ii) and the current paragraph (b) re-paragraphed as (c).”*

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Thank you Chairperson, but I have a question, there is a number of Amendments to this legislation, could it be due to the drafting of the legislation you reviewed, because this is one of the very important legislations, yes.

I wish to ask the Chairperson, what is the logic behind these Amendments? Is it due to the way it was drafted or did you find several mistakes in the Bill? I wish to gain understanding on this with due respect Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: Your view is well defined, I call the Chairperson.

29 JUNE 2015

Community Law Centre Bill 2014
– consideration in detail

Tofa TUISA TASI PATEA: Thank you Mr Speaker, the Opposition Leader has responded to his question, the legislation is vitally important, that is reason for the in depth consideration and improvement of the legislation by the Committee

MR SPEAKER: That means that your Committee has been working thoroughly on this, that is the complete response by the Chairperson.

Amendment approved.

Clause 24 was approved as Amended.

MR SPEAKER: We have the Committee's general Correction in the Samoan Version only.

Tofa TUISA TASI PATEA: Mr Speaker I rise to move the general Correction to the Bill as follows:

“CORRECTION:

Replace all reference to “Tagata Faufautua o le Malo” to “Loia Faufautua mo Tagata Lautele.”

Correction was Approved.

MR SPEAKER: I call the respectable member.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker in assistance to your job, I move a motion to pass the legislation, none of us has a copy hence let us pass it now with respect.

MR SPEAKER: As clarified, you all have received the Legislation, debriefing and files for all members. If you need anymore assistance we have our staff around to assist. I need your patience now. We shall proceed with out Sitting, in light of this.....lend all policies booklets to the member for Faleata West.

Correction was approved.

29 JUNE 2015

**Community Law Centre Bill 2014
– consideration in detail**

Correction to Clause 24 was approved as Corrected.

MR SPEAKER: We have a Correction. I call upon the Chairperson.

Tofa TUISA TASI PATEA: Mr Speaker I move the general Correction to the Act as follows:

“CORRECTION:

Replace all references to “Tagata Faufautua o le Malo” to “Loia Faufautua mo Tagata Lautele.”

Correction was approved.

Corrections in general were now approved

CLAUSE 1 AND TITLE:

CLAUSE 1: Short title and commencement.

TITLE: Community Law Centre Bill 2014.

Tofa TUISA TASI PATEA: Mr Speaker I move the Correction to Clause 1 and the Title as follows:

“CORRECTION:

Omit the figure “2014” and thereby substitute with the figure “2015”, thus the Bill reads:

Community Law Centre Bill 2015.”

Correction was approved.

Clause 1 and the Title were approved as Corrected.

The Community Law Centre Bill 2015 now progressed with Amendment and Corrections.

29 JUNE 2015

MEDIA COUNCIL BILL 2014 – consideration in detail

MR SPEAKER: Pursuant to Standing Order, the Assembly must first approve the Committee report to make the Bill available for consideration in detail.

I call upon the Deputy Chairperson of the Business, Standing Order, House, and Electoral Committee to take the floor.

Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA (Deputy Chairperson of the Business, Standing Order, House and Electoral Committee): Mr Speaker I move, *That this Assembly approve the Committee report to allow the Media Council Bill 2014 to progress with Amendments and Corrections.*”

Seconded by the member for Aleipata Itupa i Lalo.

FOFOGA FETALAI: I now declare that this Assembly has approved the Business, Standing Order, House and Electoral Committee report on the Media Council Bill 2014.

The Assembly will now proceed with the consideration in detail of the Media Council Bill 2014.

Pursuant to Standing Order 102, consideration in detail commences with Clause 2.

CLAUSE 2: Interpretation.

Approved.

CLAUSE 3: Act binds Government.

Approved

CLAUSE 4: Purpose.

Approved

CLAUSE 5: Act in addition to other laws.

Approved.

29 JUNE 2015

Media Council Bill 2014 – consideration in detail

CLAUSE 6: Media Council.

Approved.

CLAUSE 7: Terms of office and remuneration.

Approved.

CLAUSE 8: Disclosure of interest.

Approved.

CLAUSE 9: Requirements for determination and documents of the Council.

Approved.

CLAUSE 10: Committees.

Approved.

CLAUSE 11: Staff of the Council.

Approved.

CLAUSE 12: Funding of the Association.

MR SPEAKER: We have the Committee's Amendment to Clause 12 in the Supplementary Order Paper.

I call upon the Deputy Chairperson of the Committee.

Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA: Mr Speaker I move the Amendment to Clause 12 as follows:

29 JUNE 2015

Media Council Bill 2014 – consideration in detail

“AMENDMENT:

Insert new Clause 12A as follows:

12A – Association Account - (1) The Association:

- (a) **Must establish and maintain an account called the Journalist Association of Samoa Account (or a name similar to that name)” at a bank licensed under the Financial Institution Act 1996;**
 - 29 **Must ensure that all monies lawfully received by any person for and on behalf of the Association are deposited into the Account;**
 - 30 **May, if it considers appropriate, establish and maintain other special accounts, (in the Association’s name) for specific purpose, including for the purposes of properly managing and investigating its funds.**
- (2) The Executive Committee may determine the application of funds of the Association, including the giving of financial support for:**
- (a) media awards;**
 - (b) training programmes or workshops for association members; or**
 - (c) any other matter approved by the Executive Committee or Association.**
- (3) Fund from the Account must only be withdrawn by way of cheque or other negotiable instrument signed by an officer and countersigned by another officer of the Association authorized for such purposes.**
- (4) The Association must keep proper records and books of accounts of the Account.**
- (5) The Account is to be audited annually by an independent external auditor appointed by the Executive Committee who shall provide a report for the audit.**
- (6) The Secretary must send a copy of the audit report to all members of the Association.**

29 JUNE 2015

Media Council Bill 2014 – consideration in detail

(7) In this section, “Account” means the Association’s account established under section (1)(a) and includes any special account specified under subsection (1)(c).”

Amendments approved.

Clause 12 approved as amended.

CLAUSE 13: Code of Practice.

Approved.

CLAUSE 14: Application of the Act and Code of Practice.

Approved.

CLAUSE 15: Directives.

Approved.

CLAUSE 16: Definition.

Approved.

CLAUSE 17: Who may make a complaint.

Approved.

CLAUSE 18: Complaints may be first considered by the member of the media.

Approved.

29 JUNE 2015

Media Council Bill 2014 – consideration in detail

CLAUSE 19: Referral to Council.

Approved.

CLAUSE 20: Form of complaint.

Approved.

CLAUSE 21: Consideration of complaints by the Council.

Approved.

CLAUSE 22: Notification and processing of complaints.

Approved.

CLAUSE 23: Conciliation.

Approved.

CLAUSE 24: Dismissal of complaints.

Approved.

CLAUSE 25: Determination of complaint without hearing.

Approved.

CLAUSE 26: Hearing of complaints.

Approved.

29 JUNE 2015

Media Council Bill 2014 – consideration in detail

CLAUSE 27: Decisions of the Council.

Approved.

CLAUSE 28: Orders of the Council.

Approved.

CLAUSE 29: No right of appeal without affecting judicial review.

Approved.

CLAUSE 30: Establishment.

Approved.

CLAUSE 31: Functions and powers.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Mr Speaker....

MR SPEAKER: What clause?

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Clause 30 and 31. The whole purpose of the Bill Mr Speaker is to set up a Samoa Media Council. In query do we have a Samoan Media Council now and what power does the legislation to legalize the Media as representatives of this Council. Because according to what I read, there is no power to legalize under this Council and it seems that it is upon a person's freewill to become a member or not. Where

exactly is the boundary drawn because personally I believe...before you become a local reporter, you must attain/obtain a certificate to verify it and to monitor all members of the Media Council as official media representatives in Samoa. That is the question Mr Speaker.

CLAUSE 26: Hearing of complaints.

Approved.

29 JUNE 2015

Media Council Bill 2014 – consideration in detail

MR SPEAKER: Since you are the Chairperson of our Committee who is very much aware of the raising issues on the media, this is in fact everyone's responsibility. The intention of the Parliamentary Committee is to prioritize something in this legislation. The time is unknown rather the controversial issue is still visible.

The spirit is to start now and amend accordingly as we move forward, whoever wants to join can do so in support of the Media Council. Whoever objects, that is your will. The aim of the Bill is to set out a guide and to protect all to avoid problems we have witnessed.

I call the Deputy Chairperson.

Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA: Thank you Mr Speaker, you have clarified accordingly as part of the Committee. For the information of the House, the aim of the State is to incorporate the Media group. In essence we have noted the Councils to radio media, newspapers which are in fact not officially or lawfully guided.

For the information of the Committee member, last month I attended a conference on Parliament and the Media in India. The main objective of this meeting that was facilitated by the IPU and UN was to develop and incorporate procedures and policies to protect the rights of the media by setting up a terms and conditions to regulate media reports on radio and television. I believe this is a good initiative to set a platform through certain procedures and guidelines as we move forward. With respect.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Mr Speaker we do not intend to object the legislation, the only concern is passing this bill that will cannot be fully executed. The objective is to setup power for the law to become more effective. As such, without a Journalist Association, we cannot execute this Law. The purpose is to implement this law that is no difference from the Medical Society and the Law Society and such to execute well and protect the general public. That is all. With respect.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, I call the member of the Committee, Leader of the Opposition.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker, the reason for the raising matters by the members is due to the concern voiced by one of the Committee members. The purpose is to pass this Bill whilst a Council is now established Council. However, during our review the media group was scattered. Therefore, lest the legislation becomes law and the media society is divided when the law is established with an existing Media Association. That is the statement....

MR SPEAKER: Very well, this is well received....in light of this, matter should remain undisputed with the Committee before Parliament.

29 JUNE 2015

Media Council Bill 2014 – consideration in detail

All views are essential. The division of the Media Association will not avoid what must be done. To the media, whoever wishes to support the aim of the State is welcome to join. Whoever rejects, well that is up to you. Thus, we have to start from somewhere before the tasks are laid out. We must bear patience as journalism is not an easy profession, everyone is entitled to their own opinion and in consequence, nothing will stop Parliament from making the right decision. The matter has been reviewed by the Committee for quite some time now therefore, that is the clarification.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker, only a small number of the media group would want to join the Council. The main intention by them is not to set up one, that is the truth. The State does not wish to meet one or two journalists, if the majority agrees, then this must be done.

MR SPEAKER: I call the notable member for Gagaemauga No.2.

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: Mr Speaker a brief note. I thought the legislation provisions something to enforce law in a society, through compulsory membership for the Media Council before a media business becomes official. It is better to have that to avoid....whether this is so or not, it is the law's fault.

MR SPEAKER: We are on Clause 32; on membership. You must admit to the bar of media profession before you become an official media representative.

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: You should have made that statement earlier.

MR SPEAKER: I have already said it, we all bear understanding on this...We now come to our normal recess, we shall go to break before we proceed.

I now announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly is now set aside for its normal evening recess.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly now set aside at 8:44pm until 9:24pm.

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

29 JUNE 2015

Media Council Bill 2014 – consideration in detail

I beg tolerance for your patience and commitment this part of the evening. It won't be long now before we come to the end of our work. I believe you have been rejuvenated from our break.

During our break we were considering the Bill into detail. I will now put the question.

Clause 30 was approved.

Clause 31 approved.

CLAUSE 32: Membership.

Approved.

CLAUSE 33: Entitlement of members.

Approved.

CLAUSE 34: Accreditation.

Approved .

CLAUSE 35: Annual general meetings.

Approved.

CLAUSE 36: Establishment.

Approved.

29 JUNE 2015

Media Council Bill 2014 – consideration in detail

CLAUSE 37: Functions and powers.

Approved.

CLAUSE 38: Interim Council.

Approved.

CLAUSE 39: Protection from personal liability.

Approved.

CLAUSE 40: Regulations.

Approved.

CLAUSE 41: Consequential amendment.

Approved.

CLAUSE 42: Transition and saving.

Approved.

CLAUSE 1 AND TITLE:

CLAUSE 1: Short title and commencement.

TITLE: Medial Council Bill 2014.

MR SPEAKER: We have the Committee's Correction to Clause 1 in the Supplementary Order Paper.

I call upon the Deputy Chairperson.

Tofa AGAFILI PATISELA ETEUATI TOLOVAA: Mr Speaker I move the Correction to Clause 1 and the Title as follows;

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Media Council Bill 2014 – consideration in detail

“CORRECTION:

To omit the figure “2014” and substitute thereby the figure “2015” thus the Bill reads:

MEDIA COUNCIL ACT 2015.””

Correction was approved.

Clause 1 and the Title were approved as corrected.

The Media Council Bill 2015 was progressed together with Corrections.

GENEVA CONVENTION BILL 2015 – consideration in detail

MR SPEAKER: Pursuant to Standing Order 106 the Legislative Assembly must first approve the Committee report to make the Bill available for consideration in detail.

I call upon the Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs, Trade and Revenue Committee.

Tofa SOOALO MENE (Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs, Trade and Revenue Committee): I rise with great respect to move a motion, *That this Assembly approves the report of the Committee which recommends that the Geneva Convention Bill 2015 be progressed without Amendments.*

Seconded by the member for Falelatai and Samatau, member for Palauli, member for Sagaga le Falefa and the member for Gagaiifomauga Nu.1.

MR SPEAKER: I now announce that the Committee Report for the Geneva Conventions Bill 2015 is now confirmed.

The Legislative will now commence Consideration of Geneva Convention Bills 2015.

Pursuant to Standing Order 134, the consideration of the Bill commences with Clause 2.

CLAUSE 2: Interpretation.

Approved.

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Media Council Bill 2014 – consideration in detail

CLAUSE 3: Meaning of protected emblems and protected items.

Approved.

CLAUSE 4: Application of the Conventions and the Protocols under the laws of Samoa.

Approved.

CLAUSE 5: Breach of the Conventions or Protocols.

Approved.

CLAUSE 6: Meaning of grave breach.

Approved.

CLAUSE 7: Legal representation.

Approved.

CLAUSE 8: Proof of application of the Conventions or Protocols.

Approved.

CLAUSE 9: Protected persons.

Approved.

CLAUSE 10: Legal representation of protected prisoner of war.

Approved.

29 JUNE 2015

Media Council Bill 2014 – consideration in detail

CLAUSE 11: Notice of trial.

Approved.

CLAUSE 12: Appeals by protected persons.

Approved.

CLAUSE 13: Reduction of sentence and custody of protected persons

Approved.

CLAUSE 14: Consent to use protected emblems or items.

Approved.

CLAUSE 15: Offence to use protected emblem or items.

Approved.

CLAUSE 16: Forfeiture.

Approved.

CLAUSE 17: Regulations.

Approved.

CLAUSE 18: Consequential amendments.

Approved.

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Infants Amendment Bill 2015 – second reading

SCHEDULE:

Approved.

CLAUSE 1 AND TITLE:

CLAUSE 1: Short title and commencement.

TITLE: Geneva Conventions Bill 2015.

Approved.

The Geneva Convention Bill 2015 now progressed without any Amendment.

INFANTS AMENDMENT BILL 2015 – second reading

MR SPEAKER: For the information of Parliament, this Bill had its first reading on the 26th May 2015 Sitting day.

In the absence of the Minister of Justice, Court and Administration, I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker I move, *That the Infants Amendment Bill 2015 be now read a second time and I wish to briefly elaborate it.*

Seconded by the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Women, Community and Social Development.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker the legislation and the proposed amendments aims to solve the past issue of 1999 to 2005 on the several Samoan adoption cases by the Americans.

That was reason for the swift amendment to obtaining foreign citizens based on the slight requirements that were quite complex. On a different objective, if an application for adoption of an infant by two (2) applicants where one of them is a citizen, then the application is not to be treated as an overseas adoption. This is yet a problem as some cases involve Samoan citizen/blood connection.

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Infants Amendment Bill 2015 – second reading

Such is the aforementioned amendment, if one of the spouses is a Samoan citizen, then the overseas adoption cannot be legalized, as such, overseas adoption for New Zealand will be made easier considering a white and a Samoan citizen who in turn seeks wealth by adopting the siblings children....and if the adoption involves one of the parent being a Samoan citizen, then this is categorised under foreign citizens. Mr Speaker, the legislation is very simple.

MR SPEAKER: I believe we have already sorted this legislation during our De-Briefing that had several questions and responses from the Ministry Head hence this is just a brief summary by the Prime Minister as it has been a while since we had the De-Briefing. Regardless, I trust the Bill is now well defined in Parliament. Well I will still recognize the Leader of the Opposition.

Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II: Mr Speaker thanks for the opportunity. Respectfully lest a submission is suppressed belittling the essence of the Bill. Personally adoption is advantageous for our children to gain citizenship and to seek a better living abroad. Otherwise, I am shocked by the Hon Prime Minister's statement which states the complexity of opportunity for Samoan parents to....

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker perhaps the member is confused....

MR SPEAKER: That is reason for....let me clarify it.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: This proposed amendment act aimed to provide a more complex adoption process by an American couple who adopted a child from a Samoan couple that is no longer heard or seen. That was reason this event took place at the time, because we do not know whether these children are purposefully taken for child labour or prostitution as one deceitful way to sell our children as trade in human beings.

This is reason why there are complexities in this legislation that specifically affects couples whereby one of them is a citizen. Such provision is now well defined in the legislation and therefore, any parent that is of Samoan citizen will no longer be categorised under this complex requirement, rather everything will be made easier for them.

MR SPEAKER: Well done. The member's view is clarified.

I will firstly recognize the member for Palauli le Falefa followed by the member for Falelatai and Samatau, I call the member.

29 JUNE 2015

Infants Amendment Bill 2015 – second reading

Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga (Palauli le Falefa): Mr Speaker, a question for understanding now that all gay marriages are legalized, can a Samoan gay couple adopt a New Zealand child, with respect.

MR SPEAKER: The explanation by the Ministry Head, I call the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: I attended one event and someone said exactly the same thing, this person is just unbelievable.

During the sacraments of the holdy matrimony, the priest said, and now I declare you man and husband, the only thing to take note of is that one must hold citizenship, and everything should be okay.

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Falelatai and Samatau.

Afioga Taefu Lemi (Falelatai & Samatau): Thank you Mr Speaker, I rise to give thanks in regards to this legislation. The purpose of this Bill aims to correct the old Act as the first one focused specifically on the white/foreign partners rather it is good to receive this proposal which incorporates the local citizens as most Samoans now live abroad and are unionship with each other. The views in the House is wonderful to hear, our people are beautiful and when married to the whites, Indians, Negroes etc as many couples adopt children from Samoa.

Thank you for having be correct this mistake to the first Act we had, have a blessed Meeting.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. I take it that the Head of the Ministry's clarification is now clear and no legislation is complete, it is submitted with amendments pursuant to normal procedures.

Importantly, it is good to be aware of the category for our indigenous population, whether it applies to one or two reference to the difficulties we went through that should not remain secreted which alarmed some couples for not seeing their children anymore. Nonetheless, let us move on, this Bill is now clear.

Motion approved and the Infants Amendment Bill 2015 was now read a second time.

MR SPEAKER: Pursuant to Standing Order, this Bill will be referred to the Prisons & Police Committee for their consideration and report back to the Legislative in a future sitting.

29 JUNE 2015

TAX INFORMATION EXCHANGE AMENDMENT BILL 2015
– second reading

MR SPEAKER: For the information fo the Parliament, this Bill has had its first reading on the 26th May 2015.

Tofa Hon TUILOMA LAMEKO: Mr Speaker, I move, *That the Tax Information Exchange Amendment Bill 2015 be now read a second time and I wish to explain it.*

Seconded by the Deputy Prime Minister.

Tofa Hon TUILOMA LAMEKO: Mr Speaker and members of the House, if you look under short schedule, the purpose of the Bill is to allow the partnership of a country with us.

If the information on income tax exchange is required, it can do so based on the law requirements, hence, the written agreement and signing processes between the person and partner countries must be well executed otherwise the tax information from the Inland Revenue must be submitted.

MR SPEAKER: I call the member for Faleata West.

Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi: Mr Speaker I congratulate the Hon Minister for this legislation.

The Bill has advantages and disadvantages, most rich foreigners demanding less tax paid invests in countries like us, this is the move by investors in bigger countries using the local currencies and tax that is spread elsewhere by way of investment and in turn it could affect us under some of the Laws. One such event regards the nation of Greece, most locals invest abroad reducing the circular flow of income in the economy and therefore they are being sought by the country. The same system is applied by Fiji. This is similar to the statement I made earlier today about Blue Sky and Digicel, some of these entities are operated internationally whereby business centres benefit well from.

Sincere gratitude to the Chairperson for allowing these partnerships lest one thinks we are implementing some major businesses free of tax. Foreign investment is also critical to assist our economy. With respect thank you.

MR SPEAKER: To save the Hon Minister's time, the member for Falelatai and Samatau will now have its turn, this is the last chance. I call upon the member for Falelatai and Samatau.

Afioga TAEFU LEMI: Just to note Mr Speaker, a small clarification for understanding, because legislations comes with an assented document from His Highness, O Le Ao o le Malo to indicate the urgency of the Bill. I have received the Infants Amendment Bill 2015 under a certificate of urgency. However it is now referred to the Committee by you. This is the part where I need an insight. With respect.

29 JUNE 2015

Tax Information Exchange Amendment Bill 2015
– second reading

MR SPEAKER: Well, I have not received the urgency lest our work is mixed up, I shall ask the Clerk and notify the House on that. I call the Hon Minister for Revenue.

Tofa Hon TUILOMA LAMEKO: Mr Speaker, I respond to trade purposes in essence to obtaining income tax. The aim of the Bill seeks to sign an agreement between us and New Zealand before information is released from the Inland Revenue, this is just an example. This specifically applies to local business companies and such agreements is mostly signed by the Minister. Hence it is important to ensure that this information is not released on income tax in compliance with the requirements of the law.

I agree with some of you that there are legislations which withholds the releasing of information, hence the law protects this doing, specifically with individual properties, and if...with companies, the two parties must both agree. Respectfully.

Motion approved and the Tax Information Bill 2015 was now read a second time.

MR SPEAKER: Pursuant to Standing Order, the Bill will now referred to the Foreign Affairs, Trade and Revenue Committee for their review and report back to the Legislative Assembly in a future meeting.

POLICE SERVICES AMENDMENT BILL 2015
– second reading

MR SPEAKER: For the information of the House, this Bill had its first reading on the Sitting Day 26/5/2015. I call upon the Hon Minister of Police, Prisons and Fire Services.

Afioga Hon SALA FATA LISATI PINATI: Mr Speaker and the notable House, I move a motion, *That the Police Services Amendment Bill 2015 be now read a second time and I wish to clarify it.*

Seconded by the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Education, Sports and Culture.

Afioga Hon SALA FATA LISATI PINATI: Mr Speaker briefly, the aim of this Bill is to minimize the reduced number of the senior age group with adequate knowledge of police services to assist the current police workers. Perhaps the average age for male and female police today is 35. The gap for the senior age is huge and the number of them has declined.

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Police Services Amendment Bill 2015
– second reading

This is why plans through far sighted wisdom is now used to retain the motivated ones and not the poor serviced....Will leave it to the Director and their choice of the qualified persons and addition to the age group of 60 to 65. Respectfully.

MR SPEAKER: Very well. Well this is the chance for another member wishing to take the floor. I call upon the member for Gagaemauga No.2.

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: Thank you for the chance. The submission is very short. The amendment is fully supported. Since entering Parliament, the absence of specific timeframe due to staff shortage mainly relates to two main Ministries, Education and Police. Conceivably it teaches an approaching lesson to the public. Some of the new recruits lack this approach. This is rightfully why these senior members are required. This also goes with power cut up to two hours producing traffic accidents. This indicates the shortage of staff. So the initiative by the Minister is very good. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Well done. To save you time, I recognize the member for Falealili, Tofa Tusa Misi Tupuola followed by the member for Faasaleleaga No.2, Papalii.

Tofa TUSA MISI TUPUOLA (Falealili): Mr Speaker I rise with respect to show support on the Amendment before the House. The essence of retaining the old age group in the workforce is to uphold respect and good relationship between the Ministry and the public and the community giving support to the work of the Ministry. Hence the significance of this Bill therefore aims to extend the time period for this age gap between 60 and 65 in order to keep their specialty in essence to public relation.

That is the view Mr Speaker, respectfully I support the given Amendment.

MR SPEAKER: Well done thank you. Papalii member or Faasaleleaga No.2 be upstanding.

Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU (Faasaleleaga No.2): Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I wish to note a word of thanks for this Bill to the Minister and the current Commissioner. The Amendment is highly supported. Seeing the retirement age for policemen is 55, the gap is quite huge for 65. Why not put 60 as the retirement age and extend the service until 65. Majority of this age group (senior) is now moving on to contractual basis and performance wise well this is where they will get it. That is the view in regards to the age gap of 55 to 65. Hence the legislation is well supported. Thank you.

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Police Services Amendment Bill 2015
– second reading

MR SPEAKER: Well done. I give the chance to the member for Salega followed by the member for Faleata West. I call upon the member for Salega, Afioga Afualo Wood Uti Salele.

Afioga AFUALO WOOD UTI SALELE (Salega): Thank you for the chance, thank you also for this Bill. Considering this bill in depth, lest the chance is awarded (to the senior members) finding fault to the young ones striving from the bottom.

The Bill itself aims to give chance to the qualified employees. As the country's saying goes, "*E au i le tauola e au i le fagota.*" meaning, "We all get to carry the fish basket, as well as become the fisherman, too." "Always be prepared to step up to the plate when filling someone else's shoes." The Bill alone specifies that some strive whilst some not. That is my assistance to the Bill, in a good spirit. Thank you.

MR SPEAKER: Well done. This is the last chance for the member for Faleata West.

Tofa LEALALEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Well done. The Bill is vital and it has sections that ought to be considered thoroughly. As reiterated by one member if the retirement age is raised then the age difference should also be adjusted because according to the Police Act, the retirement age is 50. This is similar to most international laws. I guess it is to do with the nature of the job extending the service to 55. With the legislation beforehand, it is now 55 to 60 and service extension until 65. Note that part of the job contains special needs requiring strength in the mind and spirit. Age is the only stipulation we have in the Amendment. A provision should specify the retainment of the age range. 65 years is a matured age. This should not avoid the aged that are still qualified to higher promotions. If at 60 and service is still needed, they can be classified into advisory level positions or consultant and avail the permanent posts for other people who are willing to work. In belief, based on the Ministry's long term goals and plans, they can set up a Police Academy of the Ministry that can utilize the abilities and services of this old age group to provide training, teaching and things like that.

One other thing, can the retirees from last year and the following year still apply based on fitness and willingness to work.

We should also consider other Ministries and the consistency of law making because personally the State should have considered the retirement age at 60 given that life expectancy has improved which is a good reflection of the lifespan and economic wellbeing of our people. All these must be considered and if the retainment of the qualified is also a must that is also supported.

If the Ministry can also incorporate specific structural levels for the senior staff member (old) it can do so without intending to affect the Ministry's overall structure.

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Income Tax Amendment Bill 2015 – second reading

With respect thank you.

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the Hon Minister.

Afioga Hon SALA FATA LISATI PINATI: With great respect I extend appreciation to all the submissions made.

As said earlier, *tofa manino* and *faautautaga tatau*, are the two criteria used that qualifies the amendment in place, the decision is not mine, we have appointed those who will be responsible for this job.

As stated, the appointment criteria relies on the qualified person. If your service was outstanding from the start, then why not? Thus, says one man, 'our status is just bad loose'. First priority is given to the good person, and if unqualified, then why give opportunity? Why?

This should be enough information for the House, respectfully.

Motion approved and the Police Service Amendment Bill 2015 was read a second time.

MR SPEAKER: Pursuant to Standing Order the Bill will be referred to the Justice and Court Administration, Police and Prison Committee for the review and report back to the Legislative Assembly in a future sitting.

INCOME TAX AMENDMENT BILL 2015 – second reading

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker, I move with respect on parts of this Bill and as a Leader of the Government I move, *That this Bill be withdrawn to reconsider some slight changes. God's days are abundant hence the next sitting days will arrive soon for this Bill to be brought in again.*

Seconded by the Deputy Prime Minister.

Motion approved and the Income Tax Amendment Bill 2015 was withdrawn to be reported back in a future Sitting.

MR SPEAKER: I believe the notices by the Hon Prime Minister is now clarified whilst he has it now lest we move on, these are changes for improvement hence I officialy approve it in accordance to the motion.

29 JUNE 2015

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL (No.2) 2015
– second reading

MR SPEAKER: For the information of the Parliament, this Bill had its first reading on the 26th May 2015.

I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI : Mr Speaker, I rise with respect to move, *That the Constitution Amendment Bill (No.2) be now read a second time and I wish to briefly elaborate it.*

Seconded by the Hon Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Information Technology.

MR SPEAKER: I call upon the Hon Prime Minister to clarify the Bill.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPFA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker, this Bill amends the Constitution to be inline with the National Prosecution Office Bill which officiates the position of the Prosecution Office that had its first reading just now.

Never mind, there are times when the cart runs first before the horse. In accordance to the Constitution, this respective role pertains to the Attorney General which is reason for the amendment in the Constitution to transfer the duties of the Attorney General to a new Government body (the Prosecution Office) that will focus specifically on prosecutorial duties whilst the Attorney General Office focuses on all civil proceedings involving the Government.

The whole objective of this Bill is to establish a National Prosecution Office. This is a good initiative under Good Governance to neutralise the Attorney General from being involved in prosecutorial cases and therefore remain independent. This is for the Attorney General Office to allow integrity and excute what is required of the Constitution Amendment in order to establish a Director for Prosecutions.

Mr Speaker, that is reason for saying that these two go in line together, nonetheless, this will go first. Without this Constitution Amendment, this newly body cannot be set up, that is the brief Amendment.

MR SPEAKER: I believe the clarification by the Hon Prime Minister is now defined. I will still recognize you, I call the member for Gagaemauga No.2 followed by the member for Faasaleleaga No.2

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: Mr Speaker thank you for the opportunity. I rise to extend appreciation to the Prime Minister in relation to the 2011 budget, you now have it correct whilst the rest...

29 JUNE 2015

Constitution Amendment Bill (No.2) 2015
– second reading

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, I do not recall anything you raised like this before. This is beginning to reveal the mistakes you make.

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: As stated earlier, appointed of Solicitor General is similar to this however you have now changed the name to disprove the correction I made.

Nevertheless, thank you for the clarification for the public's sake, we now have a someone to prosecute the Prime Minister and the Cabinet including all of us, because we also had rumours that we might take over the administration next year and the newly system is in place to affect us, despite, thank you.

Mr Speaker on a different recommendation, it would be good to privatise the Ministry of Police and Prison to collaboratively with the newly solicitor on prosecution cases. I also had concerns with the term "General" which is a worldwide terminology, it is recognizable and dignified. Is there reason for putting Director here versus the Attorney General, shouldn't it be Solicitor General as it holds the same status as the Attorney General. That is the only question.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, the word 'general' in the Samoan context means uncivilized. This focuses on uncivilized cases.

MR SPEAKER: We must heed our words and statements that are affecting the Prime Minister and the Speaker, why charge all of a sudden? Others take the charge for another's crime.

Tofa Levaopolo Talatonu: Mr Speaker I beg tolerance lest the statement is take by mistake. The new person in charge will have the power to prosecute any of us under this section, respectfully.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, we must be protected because holding power does not mean say or do the unlawful acts or doing.

I call the member for Faasaleleaga No. 2.

Susuga PAPALII LIO FAAVAIVAIOMANU TAEU MASIPAU: Thank you Mr Speaker, the spirit of this Bill adds to the many good change in the country moving forward. By observation the Attorney General has held two functions however its prosecutorial roles has now been removed in order to legally focused on the State as an advisor. This is essential for the Constitution which specifically puts emphasis on Attorney General alone whilst the Prosecution Director should be ranked similar to the Attorney General.

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Constitution Amendment Bill (No.2) 2015
– second reading

The Director as the Prime Minister refers to regulate the newly established body, thus I support this new change. Respectfully.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, I give the last chance to the member for Faleata West.

Tofa LEALAI PULE RIMONI AIAFI: Mr Speaker, I wish to note appreciation for this lengthy task engaged by the Attorney General in the previous years. It wasn't an easy task which also helped create capacity building for the employees to broaden their knowledge on procedural processes like prosecute, give advice and translations of the laws. This benefited them personally, however I disliked the term independent. In belief it seems that corruption was involved during the consolidation process as no such event should've taken place if the Ministry had conducted its tasks correctly from the start.

I believe the term independent never existed from the start yet again it is now being removed. I wish query six years. Auditors are Government representatives like Officers hold six years in office including the Office of the Ombudsman and another recent Ministry. The Central Bank and Auditor has a specific timeframe of six years to execute their duties – ends at six years, 12 years. Other State Ministries holds contracts that are renewed over and over again. This produces an inconsistency for these positions. These positions require experienced and qualified people however the concern is that it will not align the changes made to the other Government Ministries holding six years contract before their services are utilized towards other vital initiatives. The main concern is a placement of a consistent system for these new posts as the appointment of the Attorney General is based upon the advice of the Cabinet. Those are the submissions. Another related component is the Ministry of Police, part of the police force with the expertise should be transferred to formalise, train and build this new Ministry.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker all those should be achieved. There is a saying that goes, sue first before we have the new Office, this is nothing compare to the other Offices. That is the situation.

Motion approved and the Constitution Amendment Bill (No.2) 2015 was read a second time.

MR SPEAKER: I am in awe the Attorney General's presentation was also apparent. All these initiatives are for the future which will in time merge the Ministry of Police and Prisons with this Ministry.

29 JUNE 2015

Value Added Goods and Services Tax Bill 2015
– second reading

Pursuant to Standing Order the Bill will be referred to the Primary Production, Commerce, Industry and Labour Committee for their review and report back to the Legislative Assembly after 90 days.

I advise all members, anyone who wishes to make a submission, the Committee is available for those comments, the public will also be notified.

VALUE ADDED GOODS AND SERVICES TAX BILL 2015
– second reading

MR SPEAKER: For the information of Parliament this Bill had its first reading on the Sitting day 26th May 2015.

I call upon the Hon Minister of Revenue and Expenditure.

Susuga Hon TUILAEPA FATIALOFA AUELUA LUPESOLIAI AIONO NEIOTI SAILELE MALIELEGAOI: Mr Speaker this is normal Cabinet procedure whereby it takes turn thus the Bill is very simple. This bill intends to replace the Value Added Goods and Services Tax Act 1992 whereby this was during my reign as Minister of Finance, and a lot of changes have taken place from then and now.

This Bill is important in addressing Samoa's membership of the World Trade Organisation, as well as the improvements to technology, e-commerce and telecommunication services in providing international services nowadays and the ability of the Ministry for Revenue to develop new taxation rules to accommodate for those changes.

Mr Speaker and the dignified House, by increasing the turnover threshold at which businesses have to register, the Bill aims to reduce tax costs for certain smaller businesses. While there is a change in the name of the tax to goods and services tax (GST), the rules in the bill for calculating the tax are largely unchanged. Those are the main objectives given in this Paper for ease of reference and clarification of the Value Added Goods and Services rules to broaden some of its newly introduced roles and tasks.

Mr Speaker, that is a short explanation on this Bill, that is also reason that it should be referred to the Committee for further consideration which perhaps thoughts may repeat itself on this bill as majority took a strike on this bill back in 1994 on the belief that it will cause significant increase in good prices. Instead, none of that occurred otherwise, we were ahead on this Bill. Most countries have enacted similar legislation later on and the Government aims to align its rules and tax payment with other Nations. Therefore the alignment of taxation all depends on a country's improved economic status. Mr Speaker that is the brief note on this Bill.

MR SPEAKER: I believe the Hon Prime Minister's statement is now clarified and is supported by the Hon Minister for Revenue.

29 JUNE 2015

Value Added Goods and Services Tax Bill 2015
– second reading

I give the first chance to the member for Faleata East followed by the member for Faleata West.

Tofa AVEAU TUALA LEPALE NIKO PALAMO: Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I also thank the Hon Minister for the clarification of the Bill. Part of the legislation states the removal of primary production from the list of exempt supplies or agricultural products. If for instance an appropriation of 130,000 generating income is produced I refer to a person holding a container of taro export or something like that, considering that farmers are exempted from paying tax. This Bill therefore requires that tax must be paid whilst exemption is levied on primary production.

Therefore, I ask that the Committee reconsiders the agricultural sector and its great contribution to Samoa's economic growth in accordance to our discussions made in the past.

Hence this section on exempt supplies must be omitted and carry on with what's in the legislation which is good. It seems that we are aligning our rules with the requirements of the World Trade Organisation. That is the recommendation to the Committee that will be reviewing this Bill. Respectfully.

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Leader of the Opposition I call the member for Gagaemauga No. 2.

Tofa LEVAOPOLO TALATONU: Mr Speaker I will be brief, I see that the taxi operators will also be taxed. It is appropriate for all income earners to pay tax. The only assistance I wish to make, is it possible adjust this doing as some families own one taxi vehicle at 4% or 5% for uniformity purposes as oppose to those possessing 10 taxi vehicles or shuttle buses. That is the comment Mr Speaker, thus the Bill is supported, with respect.

MR SPEAKER: Very well, Leader of the Opposition, pardon Hon Minister we have two more – please hurry up.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Thank you for this Bill, the other bill is a lot easier to understand than this which is quite technical. Mind you we started off with exempted tax for the farmers. What I dislike is the part where it says, to be inlined with the WTO requirements.” That is my honest personal view as we read this Bill...

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, check and see which part of the legislation does this state and show me.

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Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Mr, “to remove “primary production” from the list of exempt supplies be inlined with WTO requirements.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Point me exactly to the section you are discussing? The reason for saying this is because that Act has been withdrawn. So whatever you say about it, it has been removed?

This is the problem Mr Speaker, we are leaving aside the main Bill when he is referring to a legislation we have not yet discussed.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: Mr Speaker I am referring to the Value Added Goods and Services Bill 2015, am I correct Mr Speaker.

MR SPEAKER: That is the exact Bill.

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: So Lealailepule is correct right?

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Where is the provision?

Tofa LEALAILEPULE RIMONI AIAFI: It starts from the introduction. Never mind because the cocoa rice was sweeten, I pity the old man. Thank you.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, now I get it, we are leaving our main discussion whilst we speak of something else, the bill he (Lealailepule) is referring to is not here.

Tofa Aveau Tuala Lepale Niko Palamo: Mr Speaker, look at the introductory page following the objectives in bullet points, one, two, three, four where it has “to remove “primary production” from the list of exempt supplies.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, that is reason for upstanding as you now speak of objectives or dreams.

That is reason for asking about the provision that is not indicated to clearly show what you are referring to.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker, thank you for the opportunity. Once GST is raised it will not be easy as it will seem...

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Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, no increase in the VAGST is stipulated. It was stated initially now the VAGST is exempted.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: That is the name of the Bill. How can you say there is no increase to VAGST when that is the name of the Bill.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: The word ‘raise/increase’ is missing.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker, as said during my presentation, GST impacts the entire country including farmers, businessmen will all be affected given this Bill.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Nothing here stipulates increase GST.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: That is what you get for reading the Hon Minister for Revenue’s Bill. How can you say that when once a store owner reaches \$130 income GST is required to be paid.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: That is what I mean, where is the \$130,000?

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: It’s here.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: It is not in this Bill?

Mr Speaker, we are talking Bills that have not yet being discussed.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: It is on Page 4 clause 9, Tuiloma assist him as this is your Bill.

MR SPEAKER: What is the interpretation there?

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Do you want me to read it?

MR SPEAKER: Read it.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: “Part 3: States, Clause 9 states; the \$130,000 (turnover) registration threshold for any person to be liable under the Bill to be registered for the purpose of collecting GST.

MR SPEAKER: State the entire text in the legislation.

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Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: To be registered for the purpose of collecting GST. Do you get it now your honor?

MR SPEAKER: Yes I get it now.

Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo: Mr Speaker may I assist the matter beforehand....

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: These are not my words, they are words in the legislation.

MR SPEAKER: I will now give the Government's response.

Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo: Right now, we are heading towards a benchmark for GST. Currently it was \$82,000 hence it will be raised to \$130,000, now see the less burden this will have on this section.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Even if it increases however this is the income the small businesses will earn, but do not take it that it will increase to \$130,000....

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker the statement here says registered threshold to be liable. Does this mean that \$82,000 will increase to \$130,000 as soon as the Bill is approved? Therefore it has not been raised yet, it is something bad rather it is a gain.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Despite what you say, this Bill aims to find revenue to assist with our Main Budget. Yes regardless of....

MR SPEAKER: Pardon the Leader of the Opposition I give clarification of the matter.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker the word principal cannot be omitted e \$130,000 registration threshold hence those paying a GST of \$82,000 which is the current system, unless you reach \$130,000, then you have to pay, therefore that is additional \$50,000 before you are required to pay GST.

MR SPEAKER: I think this one is now clear and we do not intend to push it, I give the chance to the Minister for Revenue.

Tofa Hon Tuiloma Lameko (Minister for Revenue): Mr Speaker, point of order on the Bill unless \$130,000 is reached then GST is paid, below this amount GST is exempted pursuant to the legislation.

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Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: There is no need to clarify it further, I am well aware of the exempt tax at \$80,000, but note Mr Speaker, the exportation of taro supplies will earn the farmers better income that will be cut however it will be an issue for them to stop working. With only 10 containers of exported taro supplies, this can make large revenue sum given the push towards our farmers....this includes other products.

MR SPEAKER: I get your point however I wish to assist the Leader of the Opposition.....

Tofa Hon Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo: Mr Speaker let me assist in this matter, the export of taro containers does not mean – unless a product is purchased then GST is charge in regards to commercial businesses otherwise small farming businesses we speak of are given this reward.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker despite their tricks, the main purpose behind their motive is for the people to pay tax. I will end my statement and I heed the public to be aware of the raising GST and taxation through them to assist....what is the problem with the country's revenue earning?

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoi: Mr Speaker, under Schedule 3 it states, zero rated supply exports, which means nil.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker irrespective of the several attempts by the Prime Minister, the burden has been casted upon the whole country covering the businesses, farmers, bus and taxi operators, you see the impact this will have on the business people? To generate revenue yes.....That is conclusion to my statement.

MR SPEAKER: The Leader of Opposition's statement is now well taken. Currently, we aim to respond in clarity, the legislation states tax at \$82,000 and unless \$130,000 is reached, then taxation applies. That is well specified....

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: That is reason for deliberating, since the Minister has corrected me and so are you when I am discussing of the legislation.

MR SPEAKER: I am trying to clarify it to you as you do not want to take the Government's response, you see the current \$82,000....

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: I fully understand it.

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MR SPEAKER: Then what else do you want...?

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: It looks like you are taking sides. I am well fed of this matter.

MR SPEAKER: Once I am aware that something needs further clarification then that is my part Leader of Opposition. Right now, we will be using \$130,000 over \$82,000 you see how simple that is whereas the burden being put on the public you mention is a huge concern to them.

Nevertheless, the views you make are also critical, nonetheless the State has given a clear response.

Afioga Hon PALUSALUE FAAPO II: Mr Speaker I beg tolerance your honor, I do not intend to debate with you as I honor and respect you. The only persons I can deliberate with are the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister for Revenue, but I respect you.

Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Fatialofa Auelua Lupesoliai Aiono Neioti Sailele Malielegaoui: Mr Speaker, the first example I gave is under Schedule 3 which is “exports GST exemption” what else is there when the Bill is well defined, the problem is that you are not reading your Bills.

MR SPEAKER: Your honourable Leader of the Opposition, the alleged statement you make on favouritism, brother if I was favouritism there would not be any way you could get through, but out of respect that is how work is carried out. Despite of the several accusations you make, yet I am a holy man with Godly wisdom and forgiveness from God.

The only thing I wish to remind here is that once I give an order you must comply and sit down with the intention that I give chances.

I call upon the Hon Minister of Forestry and Fisheries.

Afioga Hon Le Mamea Tuiletufuga Sua Leatuavao Mualia Ropati: Mr Speaker, the game of professional wrestling has a recipe that has a slipper hole that is hooked onto the neck/throat, and when you hear death, the mat is being hit otherwise the wrestler is dead. That is the attempt we should've had on this one, despite, that is assistance your honor.

Motion approved and the Added Good and Services Tax Bill 2015 was read a second time.

MR SPEAKER: Pursuant to Standing Order, the Bill will be referred to the Foreign Affairs, Trade and Revenue Committee for their consideration and report back in a future sitting.

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Afioga Hon Palusalua Faapo II: Mr Speaker may I respond to the Minister of Forestry since they are now ganging up in fives on me. The rule for wrestling it should have two before the mat is hit, otherwise what's happened is that I am being beaten up by many in Parliament.

Respectfully.

MR SPEAKER: You are regarded as one of the strongest Genealogies that is reason for harming you tonight.

I believe we have reached the end of our session today starting from morning until now, hence we should go to rest.

Well done everyone, thank you for your commitment and patience specially Samoa listening in. The norm and spirit of our work is that we debate, exchange views, accuse one another, that is the nature of our job, otherwise the most important thing is that we work together as one.

As of now, let us praise God for we have achieved our Budget as well as the workload on the Bills, tomorrow will be here soon, therefore we should break at 1.00pm now according to the Cue Paper I thought we would have ended tomorrow. We will have the third readings to some of the Bills tomorrow.

I have been notified of tomorrow's schedule given the exclusive Rugby Match between Manu Samoa and the All Blacks from New Zealand, the selected Manu Samoa team will be in our presence tomorrow therefore, on behalf of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Leader of the Opposition and Deputy Leader and all the notable Members of Parliament and Samoa, the players will show up to have our blessings and word of encouragement. After that we will have our morning tea before they depart for their preparations.

The Manu Samoa versus the mighty Champions of the World, the All Blacks will definitely be very eventful and treasurable. Therefore we are indebted to the Chairman of the Rugby Union Federation for this opportunity for our players whom will meet and bless tomorrow. Significantly, part of this event will conclude our session tomorrow before we watch and witness this very important match for the country.

We will also host the dignitaries and representatives from the Parliament of New Zealand. We will have breakfast at the Tofilau Eti Alesana building in honor and respect of their visit. We will also prepare a special traditional presentation for them (New Zealand Government leaders).

Therefore I ask all members to wear blue tomorrow, regardless whether suit, tie etc, all attires need to be blue to show our support and blessings for our team.

The same with all the Government officials, Legislative Assembly staff, anyone who does not comply with this notice will have my ruling tomorrow. That is the reminder, let us uplift and motivate our team, though small but courageous in spirit. Who knows when we will get another chance like this.

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The All Blacks is not an easy team to get thus we should be thankful to this chance which is during our time because I testify that this entire Parliament had also played for the Manu Samoa, although some played using coconut and sticks as rugby balls (in the past), regardless you are all rugby players.

Essentially, in good health and spirit that is the belief and intention for us all.

Samoa, you have now heard us, tomorrow your Parliament will host the Team of the nation, that is our appreciation and encouraging contribution to Manuvao.

Before we adjourn, I ask the member for Vaa o Fonoti to rise and end us with a prayer before we go to rest.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly now adjourned at 11:00pm until 9:00am on Tuesday, 30th June 2015.