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**TUESDAY, 21 JANUARY 2020**

*Debates continued on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020 at 6pm.*

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I greet the sanctity of the Parliament in all its honorary salutations, we were together in the morning Sitting that is now gone. Coming back from our break this evening, I trust you have been rejuvenated to resume our remaining works according to the motion moved this morning.

I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly have resumed. Proceedings put aside and the member for Vaimauga No.2 was finishing off his speech this afternoon. This is the chance for anyone else who wishes to speak. I call the member for Faasaleleaga No.2.

**Tofa NAMULAUULU LEOTA P. SAMI LEOTA (Faasaleleaga No.2):** Thank you Mr Speaker. The Sitting of Samoa has reconvened once again. The truth is, I long to sing and praise, nonetheless, I respect Samoa listening in. I bid tolerance for this is the Meeting of Samoa assembling today to engage in the decisionmaking process, that said, on behalf of this constituency I will now voice our input given the assembling of Samoa's Sitting.

Mr Speaker, Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet, Hon Associate Ministers and Chairpersons of Parliamentary Committees, honourable members of this Parliament and the Sitting of Samoa. As a member of the Finance Committee, there was a final point made, I offer swift assistance to the honourable Speaker. On another point, this member is new to the Parliament House of Samoa in case I would not get another opportunity. With all due respect.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The member may speak.

**Tofa NAMULAUULU LEOTA P. SAMI LEOTA:** I would like to add on to some of the statements before the House by thanking the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet in managing the measles epidemic that had affected our country. It was not easy, and even though it heavily affected our country, it gave us about several positive messages.

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First, we give praises and thanks to God every day for our gatherings. This is the chance and message given to test our faith and worship in God

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in accordance to our relationship with Him. In saying that, I would like to thank the Hon Prime Minister and the Minister of Health for handling the measles that is now resolved.

Another notable area during the measles outbreak was the unbelievable unity and patriotism shown from our people, not only in the State's cooperation through its public servants, the support and assistance of business entrepreneurs. We also acknowledge support of our overseas partnerships. Another grand highlight is the lending hand of our people residing overseas as observed. This was such a joy for me to see. Although the outbreak happened in Samoa, it was an opportunity that unites the hearts and efforts together to eliminate this problem. During the two-holiday break, I was in my village in Savaii. The statement of one elder goes, thank you to the Government for the holidays, for he now had the opportunity to spend time with his children and family again, but it is also an opportunity for the children overseas to contact him after a long time.

The main spirit for any Samoan, despite our differences, whenever we come across tragedies like this we encounter such situations, there is always that spirit of people willing to offer help for Samoa. We have also observed our own doctors and nurses traveling from far to offer assistance at the hospitals. This is a huge help for us. On that note, I acknowledge great gratitude through the Hon Prime Minister and the Hon Lady Minister of Health and the Cabinet.

During the holidays, I would like to thank the Minister of Shipping. There has been a significant increase in the number of travellers between Upolu and Savaii, as some of the members are from Savaii and tend to travel to Savaii on most weekends. But it has been recognized that hard work and continued service have made it easier to travel. Not only for those who live in Samoa, but also many of the people that claimed to have visited Savaii for their reunions and gatherings, making the shipping company work full time. Therefore I express my gratitude, this may seem like a small thing to others, but the service provided was very important. The only suggestion to the Minister of Shipping and Management is to make inspections, because our boat is a bit old. Yes, it has probably been three to four weeks since the air conditions are problematic. You do know that most of our people in Savaii now have air condition rooms, especially here.

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It seems our people are spoilt because as soon as they get off the boat, when they are asked, how was your trip? They would reply, it was very

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hot because the air condition does not work. Well maybe it is not the fault of the shipping company, but please look into it again as the boat is getting old. I acknowledge our new ship ordered for voyages between Apia and Tutuila, but could you look into obtaining another boat in the future for voyages to the big island of Salafai.

When I was selected to represent my constituency, I had often listen to the speeches of the members of the Legislative Assembly. Most of the time, I would often hear statements on roads and seawalls. When I became the representative of my constituency, I went and asked them about their requests so that I may convey it to the Parliament. Majority of the presented requests were roads and seawall areas. That said, I will now address the Hon Minister of our roads and seawall areas.

I heed great appreciation to your honour, our roads in Eevee is now opened. This is the road that was given in request by our former member, Sefo Pau because for me I am only a continued member. Importantly I want to ask the Minister of Elections, the continuing member for 2019 will end in five years time. That means it will continue for the next five years. I do not know if it is true but it is a farce to me although I am still happy as my constituency is listening, because I am a continuing member.

Well, thank you it is completed. As the contractor did not reach inland with the tar, although the Hon Prime Minister has already stated that day that the request of our village is now approved with the help of the Apia Lua Company, the work is now underway for the inland road at Eevee. Government's assistance in our district is not small. Thank you very much. However, there is still a request given the many families that have moved inland. If necessary with your funding distribution, electricity and water is required for families moving here because of the road.

In terms of the requested roads I raised, especially for my village of Sapapalii. There are roads situated in Sataelea, Aiouli and Vaitolo. Although there are access roads but if you would visit it Hon Minister and the Ministry, you will notice that many of the people have moved inland. I am not asking for the road to be tarred, but that is the only request your honour, it should be noted that most of these families have vehicles. I only ask that a heavy machinery be used to smoothen the inland road by 200 to 300 meters to complete it. Meanwhile, that is the immediate for our village of Tapueleele. Thank you for the fixed road in Tapueleele village. There are also sinking roads there.

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One of the roads is inaccessible by vehicles pardon the House. Cars would have to park upfront and people would have to carry their goods

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by foot towards the village. Therefore my appeal for a few loads to harden the roads as the cars owned by these people are not four wheel drives, they are low cars, I ask that road be repaired so that people are able to carry their goods inland, with due respect.

In terms of the seawall, it is probably no secret that many of the discussions today regards the sea level and coastal area due to climate change right now. As I said, I have heard many members talking about it. Before, there used to be inspections conducted in these villages, from Sapapalii to Tuasivi covering the front side of the EFKS church to Sapapalii. It further included Vaimauga, Eevee, and Fatausi, your honour, the lands and families living there have been greatly affected from gushing tidal waves. Have a look whether there is any assistance for my constituency.

Thank you Hon Minister of Works for the road implemented in Maliolio. The only demand according to discussions on this road, the delay is due to some changes. The only request is the use of our local engineering expertise and the methods used for fixing the roads. In addition, information received from the Korean Company that is implementing engineers for this road, as noted; I know that there are seven variations, which is common for any road works. See whether possible to use our local expertise in the field of engineering in these areas. I know that most of the funding submitted regards the necessary use of foreign companies.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pardon the member speaking. I call on the Hon Minister of Public Works.

**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** I do not want to interrupt the wonderful speech of the honourable member, the reason for standing up is the Korean Company mentioned. That termination of that company was made long time ago. Our engineers are currently working on redesigning the project and are now engaged with this project whilst the World Bank have caught the Korean company due to corruption and have been terminated. The design they brought is causing problems to the project. Our local engineers have rediscovered the variations, as there were many holes found in the blueprint, but they were not visible to the Koreans. In the case that someone talks about this issue again, we are now using our local engineers. With all due respect.

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**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Perhaps this issue is now clear, I call the member to continue, you have two minutes left.

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**Tofa NAMULAUULU LEOTA P. SAMI LEOTA:** Thank you Hon Minister for the clarification. Thank you also to the Hon Minister of Works for the fixed roads to Faleolo. Although another huge problem is now that this road is fixed, it reasons to cause many road accidents due to the slow moving of vehicles. I beseech the Hon Minister and the Ministry as well as the Ministry of Police to look into a solution for this matter as majority of the drivers are frustrated with the slow traffic on this road to the airport.

Thankfully, the measles epidemic is resolved, but we appeal to the Tourism Office to see if the promotion can be a little more aggressive, as the elimination of the measles is achieved in Samoa. Last week, I travelled with one of the members to attend a conference in Australia. There is a statement presented that there are still people who have the opinion and doubt that it still exists. We are still trying, not only the Tourism Association, in particular our contacts with our families and partners abroad telling them that Samoa is safe for visitors and tourists.

I move on to the inland road of Fiaga, I extend great thanks to the Minister of Samoa Land Corporation. In terms of the implementation of this road. There are many taro plantations in the inland of Fiaga, thankfully, the road has been improved, but is getting poor again. I ask the honourable member if it can be repaired again, as plenty of the country's economy comes from this inner road.

My last statement is directed to the Hon Minister of Women, Community and Social Development, regarding the representatives of some of the villages in my constituency whereby two villages comprise of two mayors and one female representative especially in Sapapalii and Fusi. The submitted request is only necessary if the village mayor and female representatives are verified to be very useful in assistance to the implementation of the State's plans and programs. As such, I place emphasis with the Hon Minister to look into this area. If there is one mayor, include a female representative too so that the job is implemented well.

I would like to express special thanks to the Ministry of Police for their support during the measles outbreak and during the holidays. Most of the accidents that occurred were due to drunkards and drunk driving. The multiple police blockades implemented managed to reduce the number of casualties and accidents on the road including those that violate the law.

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It is also noteworthy that in our villages of Fogapoa and Tuasivi there is a police outpost. The police force are working day and night, and a

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word of encouragement, thank you for the current state of the work to reduce and raid those who are planting marijuana and other illegal drugs. Some of the speeches in this House have also touched on the increase in methamphetamine. The Police Department is a safe haven for the country, thank you to the Hon Prime Minister who is also the Minister of Police, I pray for the good work to continue, we pray for your safety, and determination in your work because if Samoa is safe, then all your efforts were successful.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I commend the honourable member that is speaking to conclude your wonderful speech for you are out of time.

**Tofa NAMULAUULU LEOTA P. SAMI LEOTA:** This member will abide with your request. I would like to thank Mr Speaker for this wonderful opportunity so I can voice the opinion of my constituency.

I also offer best wishes to Leader of the Government, members of Cabinet and members of the Parliament of Samoa, we heed blessings upon your work this year. Not to be forgotten are the public servants of the Government, Government Chiefs and public servants who are the hands and feet of Samoa's Sitting, thank you for your service and hard work.

Lastly I would want to thank my constituency, my village of Sapapalii, and Safotulafai and all its honorific salutations, as you support the attempts of your member, thank you.

Lest we forget the servants of God, the messenger of the gospel, as my body has felt the power of your prayers, which has influenced the successful statement of your member. Let us continue our work and discussions for the work this year, with all due respect thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Well done to the respectable member. This is one bright star from the **usoga a Pule. E le tau laeia le maa osofia**. The House and the constituency has heard your statement, well done. God bless your reign that is now continuing for the next 5 years. I allow the notable member for Siumu.

**Afioga FAALOGO IOSEFA SOPI (Siumu):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. Firstly, I would like to greet His Highness the Head of State, Member of the Council of Deputies, Leaders of the Congregational Christian Church of Samoa.

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I also acknowledge all of the Samoans tuning in at this time. I also salute the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet. I offer greetings to that side of our

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Parliament. I further greet the Government Heads here with us today, as I attempt to speak on the Budget before us.

Firstly, I would like to thank the Hon Minister of Finance for this Supplementary Appropriation No.1 this year. Although it may seem that \$23.6 million is small, but that was all we were able to achieve at this time. It is expected that after the rainy season, more money will be added to this Supplementary. Because most of the damage was caused by the cyclones and heavy rainfall. We also thank the Ministry Chief for preparing this Budget. The money appropriated for the Police Academy, I thank the Hon Minister of Police for this initiative because if this academy is a go, this would bring in all Polynesian countries of the Pacific. Although it will allow trainings for the police, it will enable extra revenue for the State in the future. Another useful appropriation is the one allocated for drainage in the town area, from Vaea to the clock. It may be a long overdue task; thankfully, there is additional funding for this purpose.

These drainages were installed before when I was working for the Ministry of Works, they will be reassessed and rebuilt. The only recommendation is for the Ministry of Works to take a closer look at the design, to avoid blockage, as this area is very low. The high tide is causing the block. That is my suggestion the Hon Minister.

Then I come to the Hon Minister of Health. We would like to express our gratitude for all the preparations done for the measles, thank you to the nurses, doctors and all those who contributed to fighting this epidemic that affected our country. The work engaged by the State and the Hon Minister was not easy. Thank you to the Leader of the Country for managing the country during this difficult time.

We would like to express our gratitude for the work done during that time and such circumstances. I would like to make a suggestion to the Hon Minister, after our Sitting, I went straight to the hospital and I noticed there was a long queue, I asked them why they were queuing there and they said they were retrieving the certificate of those who had the measles. Can you look up a way to reduce these queues for the people, as people are queuing in the rain to gaining these certificates please?

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Then I come to the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure. This constituency has repeatedly given requests. For the past 5 years, no

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work was done in my constituency. I beseech the honourable member to look into this issue, as there are 4 access roads within my district which are in dire need for improvement as they are badly damaged and are inaccessible at this time. Another request is the road on Falealili Street that connects to the cross-island road. Because during the raining season, the roads have become foggy making it difficult to see the road, if you could repaint the line marks in the middle of the road and reinstall highlight markers illuminated from car headlights to make the lanes visible. That will make it easier and safer for the people of the country to travel. Perhaps this situation is not only for this road. I request the honourable member to look into this matter. The other issue as previously stated by the member before in terms of the width of the road to the airport, if possible to build passing lanes, one lane on the other side and two lanes on the other side to ease traveling. The other matter is road mending, it is noticed that after the road is mended it immediately fades away.

There is a suspicion that if this road is asphalt, then it should be mended with asphalt, but do not use material that is used on chip seal roads to mend this road, as these two roads are different.

This is the request to the honourable member.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pardon to the member for Siumu, I call on the Hon Minister to make a clarification on the issue you have stated.

**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** Mr Speaker, I do not want to interrupt the wonderful speech of the honourable member. Since the road issues is raised, the member is correct regarding the markings on the road going up to Tiavi and to Siumu, during bad weather the road becomes dark and foggy, but a reminder to the Authority to check if the paint has faded, then repaint it.

This issue raised by two members, regarding the passing lanes towards Faleolo, the work has been set aside as we investigating which side of the road is wider before an additional second lane is built. Preparations for building two lanes from Faleolo to Apia is the road second phase for this project. It is true that the roadblock is common when there is a funeral traveling this way from New Zealand, or people rushing to take a funeral to the wharf for Salafai, it is a similar situation.

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We had plans to expand, but the road advisors said to reduce the size of it due to the weather, therefore the second phase is prepared for this work,



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to ensure vehicles are able to access and travel this road without any traffic congestions and be able to catch their flights in time. Although nothing has been passed yet, we will address these concerns to include passing lanes to the two lane road to make three, depending on the availability of our reserved land, because the bigger the reserve, the more money needed by the Government to compensate for these family lands that will be used for the roads. Such is the objective, thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I think the honourable member is satisfied. I call on the member for Salega East to stand.

**Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai:** Mr Speaker, this is just a matter of seeking clarification from the respectable member as he is extending his statement to the contractors that they only bury the road then leave. Who exactly is the contractor that is doing this job whether this was during the time he had his contractors, what is the exact truth here? With due respect.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you for the interruption. I call on the member for Siumu to continue his statement.

**Afioga FAALOGO IOSEFA SOPI:** Thank you. We will talk about it later and will inform you on these things.

Then I come to the Minister of Education, thank you for all the hard work this season. I have two requests for the honourable member in regards to NUS. It is clear that there is a shortage of teachers; even in classrooms, the number is starting to decrease. I beseech the Hon Minister and the NUS Board to lower the passing mark for University, as that could be one reason why some students are unable to make it. Have a look into it your honour. Maybe after the shortage of teachers then we might have a shortage of doctors and other things; this is looking towards the future.

The other issue, I have never seen any NUS Advertisements about the courses they have available. It would be good to have public advertisements once or twice a month for awareness, as parents must be aware of these things for the expectation of their little kids in the future. Therefore, by the time they make it to University they know what courses they are going to take for the sake of the parents as well.

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Otherwise, thank you very much for the works and thank you for the desks that were required by the school of our constituency. Thank you so much to the honourable member.

Then I come to the Minister for Aviation, we are grateful that the Samoa Airways is still operational at this time. But an idea to the Hon Minister if we can get another plane so we can have two planes because there are a lot of people travelling to Australia, New Zealand, and also for future travels to America. There are times when we are stranded in Australia and we must be aware of what to do in that situation.

Then I come to the Hon Minister of Lands, I offer the request of this constituency on the river of Leloloa, which is in need of help. Perhaps this is the first time for this type of request in regards to the collection of soil segments that is blocking the water flow of this river. These are just suggestions presented, and maybe in due time I will touch more on this issue. Well, perhaps these are some thoughts at this time, but I would like to offer gratitude to the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet, who has our full support. This year has begun and will a busy one as it is the final year before the election next year. Thank you also to the Chief Executive Officers, you are the hands and feet that serve the members of the House.

I would like to thank Mr Speaker and the Office of the Legislative Assembly. Bless us and myself.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** That was a very good speech by the member of Siumu, I appreciate it very much as it regards the correlation with the State. With that, job well done, the constituency is listening in, that is the spirit. I grant the chance to another member wishing to speak. I call on the honourable member for Salega West.

**Afioga TOOMATA AKI TUIPEA (Salega West):** Thank you for the opportunity for this constituency. Firstly, I would like to thank the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet as well as the Associate Ministers. I would also like to thank the Government Ministries for their hard work over the past year in dealing with the duties and responsibilities to serving the country. It is not an easy task especially when making money, but it was possible due to your diligence and perseverance for the good of our country so that our communities and villages maintain good health, good education, and be able to implement all plans for the development of families, communities and the Church in particular.

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At this hour, I will first turn to the Hon Minister of Works for the works implemented last year to this year. The request of this constituency have been voiced and presented together with the prayers to God for this to press through, especially the access roads of my constituency. Thankfully, the road in Fagafau is now open. It was not easy but expensive, although I thank the Hon Prime Minister and the Cabinet especially the Hon Minister for making this work possible.

The member also said it himself that day. There are a few areas that needs improvement especially water, electricity and things like that under your Ministry. I do not have little faith as my village is listening; I will voice the written request to the Hon Minister so that we may receive a good answer in the future.

I would also like to remind you that the access roads for the village Fogatuli has been approved. After the passing of the Budget, I attended the village meeting last year to inform them that the Government has approved the request and the road will go through. I even showed them the copy of the Budget with the name Fogatuli on it. Lest the elders think that I have fooled them, but I will leave it there, in case the year finishes and it is still approved, but I will leave it to you the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet so that this work is implemented. This is similar road that was approved in the previous Parliamentary term, but was never implemented. The survey was conducted twice, three times last year and in 2018, it was not carried out. That is why I have been very persistent, even though I knew that the Government did not have enough funds, but I believe there are many ways to gain more funds. You have the skills and ability to loan some funds to accomplish this task. Fogatuli, if you are listening to the speech of your member, I am persistently asking again. I have never lied to an elder before. Although if it does not happen, then I have lied to my village.

In that case, I ask the Hon Minister and the Hon Prime Minister to have pity, and implement the work that has already been approved in case it keeps getting delayed ending up with nothing being done. That is the request your honour...

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pardon the honourable member speaking, but I want to ask the Hon Minister of Works to respond to your statement. I call on the Hon Minister.

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**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** Mr Speaker, the statement made by the member is true, but keep in mind that there are many roads and plenty constituencies. Therefore, I urge Fogatuli to have faith perhaps when there is enough funds in the new budget in June then the distribution will be made, but be patient as we are trying to properly allocate money so that all members of the Parliament can also achieve their road requests. Do try to be understanding and endure patience, as the time will come for your constituency to receive the funds and implement the work. Although it is true approval has been given but without money, nothing can be done. Pardon me, be patient and supportive.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Presumably, the response is well taken by the constituency; do continue with your wonderful statement.

**Afioga TOOMATA AKI TUIPEA:** Thank you. I believe you an Assistant Lay Preacher; you do not want to deceive anyone. Although the approved appropriated funds, I do not want to be the kid that forcefully takes food from the mouth. That said Fogatuli, if you are listening, I will not lie to you, if it does not happen then the Hon Minister is the one who lied to you.

Thank you for the major developments.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, the Minister has already spoken, the reminder by the member is very important. Perhaps if your community was included in the previous budget, it is something then it must be done. Mr Speaker, you have been heard, so leave it to me. Although I was hesitant to raise the issue regarding the total number of us, 50. Similarly, it is the same reminder to the many villages we met, as after one-member makes a request another one also makes an appeal.

Nevertheless, the important thing I heard is that you have already met with the village regarding the budget appropriated to implement the work, however it was not successful, well, leave it to me. Maybe after three months in the future the pastors will pay their taxes, to increase our funds.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you. The honourable member for Salega may continue his statement.

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**Afioga TOOMATA AKI TUIPEA:** Thanks. I will not doubt, I will sit back and pray that the appeals of this village will be implemented.

To the Hon Minister of Works, thank you for the management of the Samoa Shipping Corporation, I believe that this service will be of great benefit to us travelling from Savaii; especially members who are taking the interisland ferry every week. As stated by the respectable member for Safotulafai, I will not voice it any further. Although, I will speak of the payments made when you miss the ferry, or when changing bookings, as \$29 is a lot of money. It is a huge amount money, especially for us, who go to Savaii twice or three times a week especially when it comes to unforeseen circumstances. When returning, we are asked to pay \$29 and there is nothing in our pockets as it is all gone. Thus, if you could look into this matter, decrease it to \$15 in order to solve the problem of sitting around and suddenly engage in this issue affecting other traveling passengers. I will leave it beside you, you are the Controller and Auditor General, you are aware of such things, especially considering the profit made by the Corporation which amounts to millions of dollars. Perhaps you can help us frequent passengers for Savaii.

On the other hand, there are things that businesses normally do, if they see frequent travellers using their services, they should implement cards to provide some incentives for normal travellers. Because the reason a business or company flourishes is because of us from Savaii. If cards are not a go, do a shareholder for all Savaii, travellers with this shipping company so that some funding distribution is possible if we are able to make profit.

That is the recommendation of the constituency to the Hon Minister for Works. Then I come to my dear friend who is the Minister of Education. Thank you so much for the management of the Ministry, I take my hat off to you, the work is progressing smoothly in all areas.

The list of scholarship students is no longer available at NUS after their examinations, although the list will be made available depending on the grades to be able to apply to University. I do not know the right thing about this, but there is a student from my family who is blessed with this opportunity, he affirmed to me that the list is now reliant on the grades, and students will need to apply to foreign Universities in order to gain this opportunity. As such, very well.

Thank you too for supporting the request of our school in Samatau and Fagafau, we have received assistance from Japan to improve our school. Perhaps it was last week that we had the signing of the funds for the renovation of the school for Samatau Tai and Fagafau.

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There is also another request for the school of Faiaai and Fogatuli, I ask that you boldly sign it so that it is approved. It is very important that children are well educated, especially us from Savaii. The youth of today is very fortunate to not go through any problem we used to face back then. During our waiting for the ferry at the Salelologa wharf, we had several mosquito bites as there were no shelters for us to wait and normally it took us an entire week for the ferry to turn up. Gratefully, we are now experiencing major changes today, especially new colleges set up in districts, which has helped reduce spending for parents. The only thing, have a look at setting up a new Ministry of Education branch in Salelologa.

As stated by the honourable member who said, on payday the teachers from the rural areas would come to signoff their pay. It is the same with Savaii. There should be a few offices in Salelologa together with the PSC branch to resolve this problem, not only with workers desperation to know their total wages, as in the past I remember there was the TY15 with the PSC. If there is a salary increase, the TY15 is brought by the PSC, and it would take an entire year without knowledge of the teacher or any employee in the rural areas whether approval has been given or not to this salary increase. The only way is to travel to your Office in Apia and PSC leaving aside their jobs for a whole week. We are not blaming the teachers or anyone, as we all need money to survive. If a branch is set up in Salelologa for people to go to receive their wages, whether there is a pay increase or not, the workers will have to contact your office in Apia, to reduce the traveling costs all the way to Apia. Just a suggestion near you so that you could solve this problem, everything that is good in Upolu, should also be good for Savaii and other rural areas.

Well, I notice that majority of the buses brought here were gifted to our Government as other ones have been sold. Thank you for the wise spending of the money for the development of the Government. Although I beseech you, if Salega West can have a bus. Many children are travelling long distances, and in the evening, they wait for the last ferry bus to leave before they reach their homes. Protect our children, especially the females. A request to the Hon Prime Minister, it would be appreciative if you could give us a bus. Because I see that the buses are still parking idly and are stationary, these vehicles could wear and tear, and it would be a waste.

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It would best to make good use of these buses for constituency like mine and other constituencies afar to transport children. They will pay their fares, which covers the wear and tear, gasoline and payment for the bus driver and bus maintenance on a daily basis. However, these buses need to be used by every constituency in particular the distant ones, in case they rot away. With all due respect.

The Ministry of Tourism. Thankfully we have noticed the proposed farm in Nu'u. We asked the Ministry Head what kind of farm it was, and he said he was trying to create the Garden of Eden. There, you will find various types of plants including the good and the bad. Well we have observed, it is a wonderful thought, hopefully, it will come true. It is a good idea, but we will leave it to the Hon Minister of Tourism especially the Hon Minister of Agriculture. Have a look at the different types of plants so that it will resemble the Garden of Eden so that we can go there, converse, consume the fruits, and admire the beauty of the plants and trees, which you can exchange conversations with.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pardon the member speaking, I call on the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, to clarify this development, it seems that the development is being mocked and ridiculed. For awareness, this is one flaw faced by Samoa in the attempt to attract visitors to come and stay in Samoa for longer period. Such is the target of many countries given the development of the tourism industry that is generating the most revenue earnings, which perhaps is over \$400million per annum.

Therefore, this development is no laughing matter. That is the entire objective observed; at least there are existing attractions sites for the tourists to enjoy, extending the duration of their visit. It is useless for a tourist to visit for a day and leave the next day. That is the same with Savaii; we encourage people to go to Savaii so they will be in Samoa for some time, to generate money by spending in restaurants, hotels and consider the high number of our people getting employment. The other huge concept now is growing gardens consisting of a variety of plants, ranging from plants with beautiful aroma and numerous hibiscus flowers, despite the various types grown, the nature of tourists is sightseeing. Some tourist are only interested in exploring the mountains and vegetation areas.

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The importance of this matter it to keep them here to grow plants that are rare today as there is a variety of fragrant plants like the lagaali aglaia or the pualulu fagraea also known as the chief of the night which are grown in different places including the fruit plants. There is also the ornamental plants that are of different types, which I saw in Dunedin. Therefore, when tourist liners are here this is one thing they view the whole day or two. There is a woman at Vaivase who implements this very business. Mr Speaker, there was a member who spoke jokily today of the fun park at Tafaigata but all those things have enabled us to create employment for our people.

The only point of order I wanted to make earlier today is the road in that area; it was implemented long time although the purpose was not for this Entertainment Park. Regardless, many people are now gaining jobs from it including the many settlers from Sogi who have moved there and have managed to receive jobs. Such is the aim of the State, to earn more employments from developments like this mainly for our tourism development. This is for the benefit of restaurant operators, car dealers, stall owners and hotels developments. Mr Speaker, this will also provide the opportunity for gardeners and traditional healers, henceforth, all these are available here. If healing plants are required, the people will seek this garden to provide assistance for medicinal purposes. Mr Speaker, this is critical to gain us more benefit if this target is a go.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** My commendations to the speech from the Government. The country at large and this Assembly have all heard, and every aspect of this development is clear and understood in relation to the the Statee's attempts in developing the request of every constituency. I call on the member for Salega West to wrap up his remarks.

**Afioga TOOMATA AKI TUIPEA:** I appreciate the clarification from the leader on this matter, which has my support. My intention is to provide thought provoking ideas for the Ministry particularly all its plans so that they can look at all the different plants that are attracting the people to see. I have also noted that people were being hired to do work. I also advise the use of village committees which are close by to have their own blocks and organize a beautification competition sort of thing with planting and pruning, to maintain cleanliness at all times instead for the sake of tourists and the public.



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Moving on to the Ministry of Police, I extend my gratitude to the Police Commissioner and the force. I remember seeing an item on TV last year showing a police raid on a marijuana plantation. This is complicated as the lives of the staff are at risk, although, for what reason? To ensure that everyone is safe including children. A fellow member mentioned this problem and I have suspicious of a group who are peddling this product to the youths who would also sell it to other youths and school children. I say this because, every time I attend my village meetings, there are kids of my village whom are always being penalised for incidents occurring.

I then ask where they get the marijuana from, and these boys have a habit of coming to Salelologa and perhaps this is where they meet up with the marijuana pushers and they would go and sell it to anyone. The concern is the effect on young children, which results in troubles affecting the safety of the country. My recommendation is to be vigilant. May I also say to the chiefs and orators authority and women committees in villages to look into this situation thoroughly? When villages and the police do not cooperate Samoa will not be safe hence my recommendation, nevertheless I appreciate the great works.

I guess that covers my thoughts, I extend great thanks you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. However, I would like to pay tribute to my constituency in all your honorifics.

I commend you for your support and prayers during my engagement in the Samoan politics. Which is a source of strength physically, mentally and bound by the religious spirit. I applaud you in your role and endeavours around our constituency. Which is the basis of the steady authority of chiefs and orators to ensure the safety of our community in the part year including this year that is now starting. Thank you Soifua.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** My commendations on the speech from the member for Salega West. It is the wisdom of a senior man, which is constructive and important to observe. The Assembly are all ears and so as your constituency, may great things happen for you. We have a belief that the supporter is more important than the one who is engaged in the field. That should be the spirit, bear support to the State. There are numerous constituencies with requests. The Minister of Works and Infrastructure has advised us that there is also another tabling budget, which could possibly cater for our demands. The floor is now open for a member to speak. I call on the member for Falealili West.

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**Tofa AUMUA ISAIA LAMEKO (Falealili West):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity given this evening. I will firstly express greetings to the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Associate Ministers and distinguished members. It is wonderful to see you in good health. I respectfully make this submission on behalf of my constituency of Falealili West for this Supplementary Appropriation No. 1 2019/2020. If you look at it, \$23.5 million is not a great deal of money. I will start my address on this Budget with granting scholarships opportunities for students from low-income families.

I commend the Government, as there are those students who are capable of achieving high standards but their parents are unable to afford the fees. With major projects, one of the government's main objective which they are putting their weight behind, concerns vulnerable changes due to climate change. I have noted in my constituency that the coastline from Poutasi, Vaovai, Matautu, Tafatafa, Malaemalu, Satalo, and Sapunaoa, they are badly eroded by the sea. No one can stop the rising tide and no one can reduce carbon emission, which is the cause of high sea level rising.

My request before the Minister of the Environment regards assistance to build wave breakers, or cement blocks that can break the waves to prevent the problem. Many tourism developments are beginning to shift inland like the Vaiula Beach Resorts at Tafatafa and Le Maota-o-Maa Beach Resort, and others due to the effects of sea level rising. One of the sites within our constituency is the Iliili site where the road is getting poorer whereby, only the four-wheel drive can access it. Another attraction site is the river flow in Togitogiga that ends up in the ocean. This is where a favourite local delicacy of our community the igaga/whitebait fish is found. However, the road has been badly damaged from the high tide. Hence my request for a seawall to contain the problem.

Another explanation is my appreciation to the State upon the project run by the Statistics Bureau. This project regards the Household Income Expenditure Strategy, which compiles the total number of farming, fisheries and business developments, which is very critical for our economy. It measures how much income earning the households and the village communities receive. As such, I express great thanks to the State for the assistance upon this project.

To the Minister of Works, I want to say on behalf of our two villages of Saleilua and Poutasi that we are very grateful to the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet for the sealed road towards the school of this constituency.

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Although the location of the school is along the access road, the tar is now complete and so as the official launching. The road is 600meters long and I request the Hon Minister to continue fix works for our access roads given the number of settlers there towards Saleilua.

I also remind you of the tarred towards the school of Saleilua, Hon Minister and LTA, this road needs sealing as schools start next week. I also remind you of the tarred towards the school of Saleilua, Hon Minister and LTA, this road needs sealing as schools start next week. I will not say anything more on the access roads as I have already submitted the requests to the Hon Minister. Another request is the road to Vaovai in the boundary with Poutasi, which is in very bad condition due to the recent rain. I fervently ask for assistance upon the removal of piled up rocks due to this heavy rain.

To the Minister of the Samoa Airways, I convey my appreciations for our airline service. My only request concern is our arrival cards at the arrival area. When the plane gets here there are no arrival forms supplied on the plane to fill out so it is time consuming for the public to fill these out when getting here. It seems I am not the only one affected from this, other people too. I advise the Samoa Tourism Authority, the Immigration Office and the Airport Authority to try and distribute these forms on the plane to speed up the service provided at the airport whilst for the service and traveling, it is all set.

I take this opportunity to convey gratitude to the Baptist Church for the donation of chairs and tables for our primary schools in Tafatafa, Sapunaoa, the Baptist Primary in Poutasi and Saleilua. This is a huge assistance for our children prompted from our limited financial resources.

Perhaps there is a lot to say in terms of gratitude and appreciation to the Minister of Health. Thank you for your service. Although we were affected from the measles outbreak, I believe that courage and unity managed to stop this problem to ensure a safe Samoa. That said, I acknowledge any entity or group that was involved with delivering this service from the Government Ministries, business collaborates both local and afar for lending their support and assistance, we appreciate you all very much.

I conclude with the Ministry of Agriculture, and Forestry, I extend appreciation to the Hon Minister for the many projects that are ongoing, projects on taro, fruits, coconut and cocoa.

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I also recognise the Samoa Cocoa Industry or SKIA under the umbrella of the Chamber of Commerce. The cocoa project has revived the cocoa development that is grown hugely today. This constituency supports the project at Aeale and I would think that it would be a big contributor. As far as I am concerned, this project can be compared with projects in other countries like the One Tree Hill in New Zealand that is attracting visitors to see one or two days in a row. This is also generating income for people and employment.

Lastly I acknowledge my constituency and the dignitaries of Alalagafa and the oratory group of Falealili, I appreciate your support and prayers upon me during this time. May the Speaker be blessed and this forum tonight, soifua.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I applaud the speech of Falealili, your constituency have heard and commendations on your preparation in your duties. I call upon the member for Faasaleleaga No.1 West.

**Afioga Hon GATOLOAIFAANA AMATAGA ALESANAGIDLOW (Faasaleleaga No.1 West):** I will firstly acknowledge the Speaker for the opportunity upon my constituency. I bid greetings as we are now at the beginning of this new year. I therefore extend my well wishes to the Hon. Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister and Cabinet as well as Associate Ministers. I convey the same to each Chairpersons of Parliamentary Committees. May we all have a prosperous new year.

I salute the Government Heads who are the instigators of the government's assignments and developments. I bid the same to the Clerk of the House and staff for your role in the past year, may you continue to engage in the same manner to achieve more success for this year.

Mr Speaker I want to make special mention of our partners from abroad, as I know their contribution for our developments was immense. We did witness this during the measles outbreak that we encountered for if it were not for the response of our friends overseas I think the effect on us especially the young children would have been much greater than what we saw.

I also note in our Budget that there is also another grant from the World Bank of \$8.8million for long-term goals, which our government and the World Bank have discussed. Before I address our Supplementary Estimates, may I say that I am amazed when I think of our ancestors who were struggling for our independence?

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We are now an independent country, which stands out in the Pacific and the globe. It is a country that was prophesised by Nafanua where she said, “Wait upon the Heavens for your statehood” I then come to our ancestors who framed the constitution. Just take a look, God is proclaimed as our foundation. God of the Christians, the Holy Trinity.

Mr Speaker I have spoken about this as Samoa has just experienced a terrible plague. Our people have just recently experienced the outbreak we experienced 100 years ago which devastated the lives of families, parents at the time. It has surfaced again today. This past week, there has been so much anxiety and distress throughout the country as this is the cyclone season when natural disasters strike. We have notice though, that there seems to be a hand which clears it away and though we do experience hard times and discomfort, Samoa is able to rise up and steer its nation into prosperity where it should be. There is faith that comes from the foundation we seek in order to gain courage, vision to meet the different challenges, which we encounter from time to time.

Such is my explanation on the indepth wisdom and long-term vision of our ancestors up to our current leaders we have today. Such is our great appreciation. We also heed gratitude to the clergy. God is now set as our main source of strength. The prayerful souls are one of our dependable sources upon the works that we implement which we tend to rely on for our wellbeing. Therefore honourable Speaker, I heed great appreciation to the wise thinking and wisdom of our leaders and ancestors since the beginning until today. Well done to you, thank you for trusting God, and the fruits we are bearing today.

Mr Speaker, my sense of gratitude is to the Minister, the Chief Executive Officer and the Ministry for the Supplementary Budget. Although there is insubstantial funds but the allocation is wonderful, giving priority to what is necessary. Thank you, the Pacific games was not long ago yet revenue earning from this event is clearly indicated in the Supplementary Appropriation.

I am so thankful for the shrewdness on avenues to save our finances since our country rely on own selves for what we need. It is true we have given a lot of acknowledgements during the measles crisis and how to overcome it. However, I must voice appreciations on behalf of my constituency Faasaleleaga No.1 West to the Hon. Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and Cabinet and particularly the female Minister of Health.

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I also acknowledge the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry I applaud your fighting spirit as it was not an easy task. You were responsible for the lives of all Samoans. No one could control it so I salute you for your patience in your role. A week ago, we felt some moderate winds, which lasted for about two days, and some damages witnessed. In Savaii, there were many streetlights falling causing constant power outage and things like that.

I express great gratitude to all the utility providers and services during times of emergency. The role of our police service in keeping the peace and during the state of emergency as other people would cause problems whilst others would look for something free.

Therefore, I appreciate the presence of the police force to contain this kind of disorderly behaviour. Almost important is the arduous role of EPC during cyclones and rainfall when the public demand for normal service they are used to during the good days. Your courage to fulfil your duties is well noted despite your small number of employees yet you strive to implement the service. I commend the Minister for monitoring this factor. The same goes to the water Authority for ensuring safe clean water for consumption.

The Samoa Shipping Service was mentioned and it is true that I was unable to come on Sunday to attend our pre-sitting yesterday due to the high number of inter-island commuters. You should have seen the number of vehicles and the backlog during those two days, which caused travel disruptions between Upolu and Savai'i, was unbelievable. I was surprised yesterday to see travel itineraries between Upolu and Savai'i getting back to normal. I commend you for the service done without feelings of discouragement and doing it to the best you can.

I have noticed with excitement the Minister of Finance and the allocation of funds towards the Ministry of Justice building. I like your intentions of pursuing this for the Savaii township area since all of it is necessary to develop this urban centre like Apia. I understand that we have limited financial resources but you continue to implement projects for the purpose of the Savaii town so we are not left out. I know that the Ministry of Education have an objective to erect a building in Savaii to facilitate the operations of the Ministry office in Upolu and Savaii as it is convenient. My only plea is to hurry this up to each the works for those in Savaii.

The other area that must have an office in Salelologa is the Police. Hon Prime Minister you are responsible for the Ministry of Police, there should be a branch for the Police service in Salelologa as the main centre. This township area must ensure security and proper monitoring by the Ministry of Police. My request is for this to eventuate.

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I do appreciate the state of our roads in Savaii; the only thing is the maintenance towards minor areas, which needs attention from time to time. I would think that these roads would be about 40 years since construction. That is a long time but it is still in moderate conditions. However, it is about time to improve these roads again in Savaii.

I will leave it with you as you have the expertise on these things. The other thought that springs to mind and I did touch on it before. Is it not time to construct an interisland road from Salelologa to Asau to form a short cut reducing the two hours travel to one for the Hon Minister Lopao'o to get to his constituency?

I will remind you please of the cement road at the border of Lalomalava and Sapapalii. I do not need to elaborate on the convenience of this road and its effect during bad weather as raised in the recent comment, which disrupted ambulance vehicles and cars in this area. I hope that after the Maliolio construction, attention will be on our concrete road in Sapapalii.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I beg tolerance of the member but I will allow the interruption from the Hon Minister of Works.

**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** Thank you for the opportunity. The member has mentioned the cement road at Sapapalii and has consequently given her own response. Well, the arrangement is that once the Maliolio project is done, the cement road at Sapapalii will follow. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you, resume your speech respectable member.

**Afioga Hon GATOLOAIFAANA AMATAGA ALESANA GIDLOW:** I appreciate the response from the Hon Minister. It is said that if you persistently knock on the door it shall be open. I have been consistently asking the Hon Minister since the beginning of this term for the road at Lalomalava and our constituency. I appreciate the fact that the inspection is done and the project is in the pipeline. If possible with you, for another small road in addition to that. That is a suggestion, a plea.

Hon Minister of Commerce, Business and Industry, thank you very much for our airlines. I am very proud of our airlines particularly when we use our own property. However, is it not time to introduce frequent flyer that the Minister spoke about which an incentive to attract customers to fly our airline? Unlike the member next to me who uses a different carrier.

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Mr Speaker the demands of my constituency, which I have shared, are but a few as my community are tuning in. I thank them for their support. May this Parliament be blessed. Soifua

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I congratulate the member for Faasaleleaga No.1 West for you have generalised your appreciation of the projects implemented. It has been well prepared and came off very well this evening.

Thank you. This is the opportune moment for speeches as everyone are eager at home to hear you. I call upon the Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker it has been over two weeks since the tabling of the Budget, and there are so many projects to be implemented by Cabinet. It is quite frustrating waiting but I suggest that you choose members to speak so as to speed up our work.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The view of the Hon Prime Minister is not taken in a light manner and that is how things should be regarding our Budget, which needs the immediate approval of Parliament. It has been tabled for days and I recognise the member for Aana Alofi No. 2 who is now upstanding.

**Tofa ILI SETEFANO TAATEO TAFILI (Aana Alofi No.2):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity to contribute to Samoa's Sitting at the dawn of this new year 2020.

I will first acknowledge the Le Ao o le Malo and his good lady, the member of the Council of Deputies and his good lady and Samoa in all its ceremonial and religious salutations. I also recognise the Chief Justice and the Judiciary.

Today Parliament deliberates the First Supplementary Estimates 2019/2020. In due course, I will convey my thoughts on it but at this moment, I would like to extend my greetings to the Hon Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister, Ministers of Cabinet, Associate Ministers at this first Parliamentary Sitting

I also acknowledge the Chairpersons of Parliamentary Committees and distinguished members. I cannot omit to accord my compliments to the Chief Executive Officers here today for you are the force behind Government programmes.

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I also bid the same to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and your staff serving Parliament. We have passed storms and trouble seas, and we were sceptical of our journey in the past years. However, we are witnessing today the marvels of this first sitting day for this year and we are certainly basking in this glorious day metaphorically speaking plugging the feathers off a price bird. Although Samoa was struck with troubles as, it occurred towards the end of the previous year. However, we cannot alter the course of the winds of change. There is a saying that goes, “the tranquillity of our lives is interrupted sometimes by troubles” All we can say is, Praise be to God for despite of it all, He has answered.

I particularly praise the Hon Prime Minister for remaining composed when Samoa and its people was initially overwhelmed with the problem. How can we forget the generosity of our friends and governments overseas who are providing aid? Even the United Nations did not forget about Samoa and the difficulties we faced. God of providence will reward the kindness of these countries through their wealth shared due to their compassion for Samoa. We must also recognise the Samoan families abroad who shared our sorrow due to the tragedy we encountered and showed their kindness through all sorts of assistance they gave us.

It would be difficult to list in detail the individual Ministers for the role and projects carried out. I will say, thank you for the programmes to develop Samoa and its people. I will place emphasis on the Minister of Works as you are at the receiving end of the countless request and it is impossible to cater for the numerous demands as you strive to allocate wisely the minimal resources available. I applaud the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure.

I also convey gratitude to the Hon Minister of Health during the disastrous period that Samoa went through. You were at the helm and of course the support of your Ministry during the influx of criticisms thrown at you. Nevertheless, the world we live in, is such that no matter how successful we become there will always be people criticising. I am particularly grateful for the wonderful project done, it was also good as it gave you reason to come over to Leulumoega where you have witnessed some of the good works completed during the recent measles outbreak.

Members have announced their desires to the Hon Minister of Commerce, Business and Industry for another airline other than the current carrier. I would think that perhaps later on this year provided we have the necessary funds the government will sort this out.

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May I further remind the Hon Minister of Works of the road at Nofaalii, as my request has been given to you. The seawall for the sub-village of Vaialua also needs attention and they are waiting for it. Perhaps when the second phase of the road is done, the seawall for Vaialua can be done as my request has already been submitted. I also made a plea for the road at Leulumoega which is in a real bad state. My concern is for the residents living around that particular area. If the Hon Minister finds the chance to visit this area, you will realise the terrible condition of the road.

The other aspect I wish to shed light on, and I would think that the Ministry handling the request are listening here. The road towards Lefaga and Faleaseela from the connecting road to the airport I have already made a request for streetlights along this road as it is very dark in the night for the travelling public.

This particular location is where many accidents have taken place due to no streetlights; perhaps it is very dark, which is about 3 miles inland all the way to Aleisa. My application to EPC for this request was submitted some time ago yet nothing is being done.

I really appreciate the water hole drilled at the inland area of Nofaalii. It is a welcoming project and huge improvement for the residents around those parts, which connect to the main line of the State that is supplying that western end of the country.

I conclude my explanation with the new built road to Faleolo, the view of scattered rubbish is a huge eyesore for rubbish stands on the roadside areas. It seems that people would just throw their rubbish onto the stand without cleaning scattered rubbish on the ground. The rubbish collectors only pick up what is on the stands instead of maintaining the litter on the ground. This is the first thing tourists look at when coming from the airport towards Apia, the ugly sight of dispersing rubbish along the coast. Have a look into this area, we are just giving some assistance to the works that you do.

Before I conclude, I cannot forget my constituency of Aana Alofi No.2 and the support of Leulumoega and Nofaalii. I recognise the clergy for the prayers upon me in my role as a member in striving and seeking prosperity for our constituency.

To my constituency in all your honorific salutations. This is your contribution to the decisionmaking process of Samoa.

My well wishes to the honorable Speaker for conducting our Proceedings. Bless the Sitting of Samoa. Thank you.

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**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I commend the member for Aana Alofi No.2 for his speech. The fragrance of the wild gardenia is all around as this Assembly have all heard your speech as well as your constituency. Therefore, wait for the good fortunes coming your way courtesy of the prudent allocation of the government in developing the numerous projects throughout constituencies.

Since we have come to our normal 15 minutes break, members may indulge yourselves in the refreshments prepared to renew strength. I announce that Proceedings be set aside for its usual 15 minute's recess. Transport has been arranged to escort members to the Tofilau building for your evening supper. The same with the Government Heads they are also invited except for the Prime Minister who will remain in the lounge here at this building given the bad weather.

This is the notice with all due respect. Thank you.

*Proceeding of the Legislative Assembly was set aside at 8pm for its usual recess and continued at 9.01pm.*

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I trust the House has renewed strength to continue our works this part of the evening.

Before recess, the member for Aana Alofi No.2 had completed his speech. The floor is now open for any other member.

I note the member for Vaimauga East is preparing himself to speak, so the member will now have the floor.

**Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA (Vaimauga East):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. My plea at this moment is that we have approached the exact hour for the speech of Vaimauga East. Evening prayers at our constituency are done, and so everyone is tuning in to the TV and radio to hear the speech of Vaimauga.

Before I state the contribution of this constituency, I wish to accord my gratitude to the Hon Speaker if he is tuning in, may the Lord's grace be upon you. I do not mean to praise you Mr Speaker, but I do envy you for earlier on today we were in the same company but now you have been promoted, for you now preside in your lofty chair. Nevertheless, I do have pity on the Associate Minister Lealailepule who is sitting behind even when the Minister does not attend; he remains at where he is.

Mr Speaker, I would firstly like to convey greetings.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi (Faleata West):** Mr Speaker...

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**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I beg tolerance of the member whilst I allow the interruption from the member for Faleata.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Before Tuisamau makes his speech, may I say to Samau that he needs two more terms before he gets to where I am. It is a fair way to go. In this Assembly the Speaker proceeds the Deputy Speaker, where I work, when you come to my office and the Minister is not there you will be seeing me. Yes. When the Minister travels, I go with him and it is the same thing when returning. Do not be jealous. Patience.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** That is now clear; I call upon the member for Vaimauga East to continue.

**Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILIILI TUIVASA:** I will firstly convey greetings to this Assembly to the Hon Prime Minister, the Leader of the House. I extend the same to the Deputy Prime Minister although not present, and the distinguish members of Cabinet and Associate Ministers. I acknowledge the honourable Speaker of the House and the Samoan Parliament. I congratulate you all for your service, your commitment, your compassion for our people, and I do realise that we are at the beginning of this last year for this term. Everything is going well due to God's blessings upon this term. We should be fortunate to have leaders whom are compassionate towards our people, through the leadership of the Hon. Prime Minister and this Political Party.

I cannot forget the support of Chief Executive Officers of Ministries and Public Enterprises of Government and their contribution. Despite this House, you are the hands and feet of Chamber in serving our country. I commend you all for the hard work and effort.

I humbly greet the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly especially the office in serving Parliament, the services provided is seen night and day, you are the kings of this country I commend everyone for the hard work. Least I cannot forget the support of His Highness Le Ao o le Malo and His Good Lady, Afioga Maposua also the Member of Council of Deputies especially the Deputy Chief Justice, President of the Land and Titles Court and Judiciary. I commend everyone in carrying out their roles, it is not an easy calling.

I further acknowledge the Government representatives in the House, representatives of media both television and newspaper, you are contributing in the publication of this Sitting and also in providing records and witness to proceedings of our country.

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I also acknowledge the support of Clergy throughout the country, it is your prayers and fastings that has brought blessings to Samoa, thank you. It is not in vain that you sacrifice to the Lord in bringing blessings to our country.

Last but not the least I greet my constituency of Vaimauga East, *mai lava i Fusi ma Fanuatanu, o Lalotea le malae o le faautugatagi a Tumua. Ia o Niniva foi ma Punialavaa, aemaise foi o Pilioua ma Fatitolo, ia ma fale poulima, po o le paia o aiga e lua ma le nofoatula.* I am grateful for the support and prayers. This member is feeling great and strong because of your support. I pray blessings upon you all.

I cannot forget the elders who are showing their support by listening in to proceedings from their homes, not only here in Samoa but abroad. I humbly ask for your support while I voice an opinion of the constituency on the economy, the Supplementary Appropriation tabled before the House.

This constituency expresses its gratitude to the Hon Minister of Finance. This member has noted since the start of this term the limitation of shares. Least the many expenses you have saved to aid our Budget. Now what? So far this Parliament has been doing very well. Therefore I want to thank you and your Associate especially the Chief Executive and the Ministry of Finance.

Thankfully the Associate Minister is also good, the Hon Minister made the right choice I believe you have a good woman advisor. Any family that has a good economy, is a good family they say it is not the man. Because behind him is a woman who is a good counselor. There is a lady who is an Associate....

**Susuga Mulipola Leiataua Laki:** Pardon the honorable Speaker...

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pardon the member for Vaimauga East I will give the opportunity to the Associate Minister for Aiga i le Tai.

**Susuga Mulipola Leiataua Laki:** Pardon the member speaking but this member is not a woman, if we look broadly at the matter he does not understand the position of this member, I am the covenant to Tumua and Pule. This is the assistance to the member it is not a woman with long hair but a man.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I will not reiterate the respects of the member, I thank you for the clarification, the member may continue.

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**Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA:** I thought the Associate Minister would be happy since his constituency is listening in that he has greatly contributed to the work of the Minister. However I will take back the words of Vaimauga.

The Supplementary Appropriation is supported by this constituency. Why? We do not have many resources or oil found on our lands. Unlike Tutuila and other islands whereby blessings are given to them by bigger countries, we work hard for ours.

I am grateful to the Hon Minister and Management, the Chief Executive and Ministry of Finance with the allocation of funds that has made this Supplementary Budget possible. Most Government Ministries want to increase funds for their Ministries. Therefore I thank the Hon Minister for his insight especially the Chief Executive and Management.

First I want to take this opportunity to speak upon my constituency. It is noted since the start of this term our request was made countlessly to that side of Chamber to the Minister to consider our roads. Up until now nothing has been done.

I am still praying God for a time to be given a response. The Hon Minister of Works and I already went on a site visit, I think it has been a year, still I plead the Hon Minister to consider our roads. If you look at the situation of this constituency I feel ashamed to say it, but if we listen to the radio, roads are being opened in Savaii but how about Vaimauga East, it is in the center of Apia yet nothing has been done. This member is patient, the only thing as my constituency is listening in, I pray that our request has been made repeatedly and it is getting tiring to the hearing.

The speech made by the Hon Prime Minister was outstanding listening to the roads being opened in Savaii. In comparison to the member with respect Afioga Tapulesatele Esera. We barely could hear Afioga Tapulesatele Esera when he speaks, but it was done. The Hon Prime Minister stated we should keep knocking. I do not knock. But the last statement made by the Hon Prime Minister was if you keep knocking and cannot get through then hit it with an axe. This is why I humbly ask the Hon Minister to have mercy with this constituency.

**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** Mr Speaker...

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pardon the member speaking I will give the opportunity to the Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure. I call upon the Minister.

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**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** I do not want to interrupt the speech of the member for Vaimauga East. The member is right, perhaps we have visited his road twice. It is now put into the program that will be considered by the Cabinet tomorrow of its works in progress, your road is included. Although if you keep on stating the matter it may be changed. Be patient for the allocation of Government will come soon enough with the revenue fixed for our roads. With respect.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Before the member for Vaimauga East proceeds, the Chair recommends members to be mindful of the language used. I suggest words be spoken in a manner of respect, there is a different vernacular for Vaimauga however this is the House of the country. It is saluted with respect, with the words used. I call on the member.

**Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA:** Mr Speaker since the country is listening in I want to say that these are not the words of Vaimauga. This is a statement of the son of this country. If we listen carefully to the opening of the road for Afioga Tapulesatele Esera, the father of the country was present. This is why I want to say these are not the words of Vaimauga.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** This is a recommendation.

**Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA:** Nevertheless I will keep on knocking to the Hon Minister as my constituency is listening.

The village of Laulii, Afioga Saofaapito we are related in this village of Laulii. Have mercy on our seawall. I was in our village last week. My family lives near the sea, if you go there and look, this village of Laulii has no reef only the deep blue sea. Therefore the waves are very strong that it nearly reaches the house. Have a look into building seawall areas for Laulii.

Not only that but the roads going inland used for tsunami emergency routes, I thank the Lord for my constituency which I compare to Israel. The Lord blesses this constituency, if we look at the majority of Chief Executive Officers many are from Vaimauga East, they are smart. Not only are they smart but are good looking. This is why most of the beautiful women from this constituency are sort after, like the Deputy Prime Minister, Prime Minister and Le Ao o le Malo. These are women from Vaimauga East. That is why I am so proud of the Lords blessing upon this constituency.

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I humbly ask the Hon Minister to please consider the state of the seawall for Laulii. The constituency have heard the statement made by the Hon Minister of Works, our roads will be done soon starting from Fagalii, Vaialele and to Letogo.

The Hon Minister for Samoa Land, this is one good looking Minister. I believe he comes from New Zealand. Everytime I see a tourist it is like looking at the Hon Minister. A thought of consideration on a request made at the start of this term, to release some of our lands on the price agreed. At the moment many have requested I believe it was \$35,000 hence the request by the member is still on hold. I humbly ask for these lands of my constituency during the time of Estates, an affordable price has been agreed upon by the constituency, \$8,000 or \$10,000 for a quarter acre.

I also convey a request to the Hon Minister of Police. I have noted it is now under the Hon Prime Minister, the airport has been removed from the village of Fagalii. If you look at this village of Fagalii only a ¼ of the land is occupied by the village, why? The majority of its lands are given for the development of the country. This includes the golf course, Government flats and the airport which is now taken away. Now the airport has been removed and our village is in confusion. They told me that they were going to break in and use this area for development but I told them not to, they will only end up in jail together with the member. I humbly ask the Hon Minister for Police, I have noted the area will be used for the licensing of vehicles that was under Land Transport Authority.

I pray since this is a big piece of land, can part of the airport be allocated to be used as a playing field for the village, the school does not even have a sports field even where it is built is quite narrow. Not only will it be used by students but also by the youth of the village who are talented but do not have a place to showcase it. There is no field even behind the village, most of the lands have been taken by halfcastes up to this day, there is no land for such events for Fagalii. This is a humble request relayed to the Hon Minister for lands.

I want to thank Tofa Hon Lopaoa Mua, he is a close friend of mine. Although since he has held the title of Minister it seems he has gotten further away. I request a review on our markets in the country, I have a small plantation. There are times when I come to sell my bananas and have noted some people might be living in the market, therefore when we come, there is no room for us to sell our produce. I ask this matter be considered.

If we look at the matter of...

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**Tofa Hon Lopaoo Natanielu Mua (Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries):** Mr Speaker...

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pardon the member but I will give the opportunity to the Hon Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

**Tofa Hon Lopaoo Natanielu Mua:** Thank you for the opportunity, I just want to assist the member but this is the matter under the designation of the Hon Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour who in control of ACC at the market.

We do not have the authority on who stays in the market and sells their goods there, incase the member makes his speech towards me but he should ask the Hon Minister. Thank you, with respect.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you the matter is now understood.

**Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA:** As for Fisheries the Deputy Speaker and I were in Tahiti during December. The economy of that country on fishing boats and fish is very outstanding. Our country is rich in fish however it is very expensive when you buy it from the market on Sundays. I recommend the Hon Minister to look into this matter about fishing boats, if our people cannot build these boats why not bring in some that can be used by our fishermen since fish today is expensive.

On Sundays if I come to the fish market with \$50 I cannot afford anything. I ask that this venture within our country be reviewed again. If we think about it the Government is not prioritizing the sea, it seems most of the food sources are found in the sea than on land. I ask the Hon Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries to look into this matter. Let us look at the development of the sea through fishery. The country, the Deputy Speaker and I visited was outstanding, five boats would come in then go back out not long after. They are very rich in fish which has assisted their economy, this should be a matter of consideration.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I call upon the Hon Minister.

**Tofa Hon Lopaoo Natanielu Mua:** Thank you for the opportunity, I also thank the member for the reminder, the matter concerning licensed fishing boats, we have seen much criticism within the country. It is said that Government will give it all to China but this is not true. We have to think carefully, in all honesty, Samoa does not have a large scale-fishing zone, and we have the smallest.

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This is why we are cautious of such matters and licenses are based on it. Right now, there are less than 20 licenses issued to foreign fishing boats to fish in our zone. Their contribution to our export taken overseas is more than \$50 million now.

I believe the matter voiced by the member. *Ae ia seu foi le manu ae tagai i le galu*, we should be cautious, thinking of such matters. Our program for licensing of fishing boats is ongoing. Our coastal fisheries are well protected under the authority of our country; it is not governed under the FFA, or the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency because of the mentality that is where our country relies for food and life on our oceans. These are all areas that is reviewed by the Ministry. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The member may continue.

**Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA:** This is a recommendation put beside you. If you look at the constituency of Vaimauga East, I will not mention fish since recommendations have been put forth. There are so many bananas, Jewish bananas is sold on the roadside since they cannot go to the market. They grew this produce for an overseas market. Therefore is it possible to review this matter and have an overseas market to export the Jewish banana, which will greatly assist my constituency. Hon Faimalotoa Kika Stowers the Minister for Health, thank you, I take this opportunity to convey sincere condolences to our country to families who have lost their children to the measles outbreak. May the Lord comfort the grieving families through death there is nothing we can do. It is the will of God but I want to thank the Hon Minister and Associate Minister and the Chief Executive on the difficult situation our country had encountered. The problem has now been resolved therefore, I am grateful these are your strengths. Despite all the developments in our country, life is still the top priority of the Government. Let us see no matter how big the amount of funds allocated this constituency supports whatever amount is given to the Ministry for our health. All this including this Parliamentary term will be all be useless if we get sick. I recommend that we give priority to the development of good health for our people.

The Hon Minister for Revenue, I have great respect for you. This Ministry probably has about 90% of our Budget being administered from by Hon Tialavea Hunt and his Ministry. I am glad that there has been a new change implemented on the Ministry name to include Customs. It was only revenue but I am thankful customs has been used since this is one of its divisions. There was only revenue without customs.

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Nevertheless, thanks to the vigilance of this Minister, they have reviewed it and have put them together. This is our border, it seems Government is only focusing on revenue collection but not looking to our borders. This is where a lot of other things come in that our Government cannot see through sailing ships and other means. Thank you for emphasizing the name change in order to be accessible to that area. I express my gratitude.

■ Another matter, if we look at it a lot of our people bring in their cars from overseas. Majority do not understand the car engines or CC, what does the Hon Minister think about this because I support the year of the car, the duty of the car is dependent on the engine. If it comes with 4 cylinders it will be 3.0 or 2.0. This should be looked into because some say the duty of these cars is more since a car with a 6 and 8 engine consumes more gasoline. I humbly ask this matter be looked into since most of our people get these vehicles as gifts from families overseas. It is brought in and it is 4.0 engine and the year is like that, I ask this matter be overlooked.

■ The Hon Minister of Finance, an appeal to you and the Ministry. Our country is dependent on your generous distribution. I am thankful this is the last year for this Parliamentary term but seeing my pay slip there are a few cents being added. I am grateful to the Chief Executive Officers and members of Parliament. I humbly request that five be given at the same time instead of like this. I humbly ask that this matter be reviewed, for I am very much in favour of our elderly, the pensioners. I do not know but if you agree, add another amount to their pension. I also request an increase in the salaries of Government representatives or sui ole Malo, the Health Bill is now being re-enacted with the use of Government representatives, the pulenuu for men and women, whether there is another increase on their salaries. Another burden have been put upon them, and this is the humble request.

Another matter noted in the Supplementary Budget is another 2 cent has been added in such case I support the source of funds. A humble request since this will be our last year can you look into the matter on petrol. The import of petrol into the country. So far there is only one company, that is bringing it in, nowadays we have so many cars, it was suitable before for this one company as there were not many cars. Today there is road jam due to so many cars.

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Why not reconsider giving a chance to another company so there can be competition. Because most of the gas stations I go to in the past, gasoline was more expensive than diesel, and now, it is \$27.40, diesel is not cheap. I recommend that this matter be reconsidered to have another petrol company, to have a competition, so that our country will be able to have lower prices for gasoline.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pardon the member speaking, I call upon the Hon Minister of Finance.

**Afioga Hon Sili Epa Tuioti (Minister of Finance):** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I just want to remind the member. The matter of picking a company to supply oil and petrol is done every 4 years through bidding. In the previous tender 3 major companies applied, research has already being conducted. The company with the cheapest price is the one supplying our oil today. There is also hope looking at the next few years, we are also trying to have more tanks to store oil, gasoline and so forth. First we must be considerate, in case of a natural disaster that could affect the arrival of ships. Whether it be 3 months or 6 months we must be prepared for anything. There are plans to have more and bigger oil tanks in Salelologa.

At the current, oil is pumped twice a week in Savaii since we do not have enough tanks. We are working on this and we are trying to negotiate for some funding assistance to fund these tanks so that time is enough, perhaps 6 months to do it, when there are problems and there are no ships, or there are wars in Arab countries, still, the supply of petrol here is enough. Perhaps that is one thing that will help in the face of declining petrol and oil prices during this time. As a reminder, we are still carrying out bids every 4 to 5 years from companies. It is then considered who is awarded. This is the process with our company supplying our oil today. With due respect.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you the Minister of Finance has clarified the recommendation. Continue you speech.

**Afioga SULAMANAIA FETAIAI TAUILILI TUIVASA:** This is a suggestion before you. Because even if we keep complaining, there is only one company supplying petrol. If there were two companies, we are like that, however, this we are only giving some suggestions.

The Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture, perhaps this member has the most compassion for you. I believe I have said enough already. The only request of this constituency is to oversee our schools.

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I have already mentioned our school in Fagalii that needs a sports field, and some land to build it including the school building in Letogo. We are looking for another field I have already made a request to the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment but no land has been given. There is a reserve in Vailele, which is situated further down from the cemetery. Is it possible to give it back for a school building for the village of Letogo. Since there are many children now living in the area of Maugafiafia? The public have also come there because it is difficult to go to Letogo Primary school and the primary school at Vailele. Is it possible to set up a school in that area, for them to go to, at the MNRE reserve below the cemetery? Or is this land under the Samoa Land Corporation. This is a humble request Hon Minister of Education. I will not reiterate, this is why Ministers from traditional villages are good, I am grateful for the good work by your good self and your Ministry.

The Hon Minister of Justice, it is good to see this Minister working together with his Associate Minister. Most of the time they look like a couple working together. These are the kind of Ministers I am proud of, they are the ones who are working closely with their Associates. The same for the Ministry Heads and their staff, I do not mean to brag, but do have a look into the old court cases. This family has a case and it has been over a year now and still no word. It is the case of my son, which has put a strain on me, I really want it to be over with. I have accepted forgiveness but I do not know where it has gone to. I ask that past matters of this sort be looked into for our families. In addition to other long awaited trials, this a recommendation made to the Hon Minister. The position of the Chief Executive of Electoral, I am grateful to this man. It has contributed many positive developments for the electoral system. This young man and his Ministry have tried their best to provide services, but the attitude depicted by our country cannot be averted. I am grateful for the many changes, a request since this month of January is the last chance for votes transfers before it is closed.

As noted, majority of this constituency of Vaimauga East have people living on purchased and leased lands. Although, no one votes for the candidacy of Vaimauga as they all go and vote in their own constituencies. I humbly ask if possible to postpone this to another month, perhaps February, for the sake of this constituency and other constituencies, for people to have their votes be transferred in. Some who resided here have gone elsewhere because of family. Now they want to transfer back in according to the new Act, which has my support on this arrangement given the place of residence.

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I acknowledge Afioga *Matua o Usoalii*, I commend you for your stance in that Ministry. Thank you, I believe there are issues because of the poor advice from your Associate Minister, you are different, and you are good at predicting future events. Although we have yet to find the members of OLP, you are working effortlessly; maybe you cannot find them because OLP is behind you. The village of Laulii has no access to television. I humbly request since this area is mountainous, there is a mountain between Letogo therefore is it possible to have an antenna there to provide a clear signal for Laulii. Other villages in the constituency are fine except for this village, even services provided by Bluesky and Digicel are weak, can the Hon Minister look into this matter.

Mr Speaker those are thoughts I have conveyed for this constituency, I apologize on the sanctity of the House, for any vulgar language used I ask that it be returned back, but I hope we have a blessed last year for this term through the grace of God.

God bless you Mr Speaker, you are lucky as you are under the guardian of someone wealthy. When Elisha followed Elijah the only thing he wanted from Elijah was his coat. When Elijah was carried straight into heaven, he threw his coat down and Elisha was given many blessings. Therefore I pray that Lord prolong the life of Mr Speaker, do not be anxious too much of your position, may you gain blessings from Mr Speaker for your calling. God bless Samoa listening in as well.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I commend the member for his speech. Like the saying of the country, that was bittersweet. I remember the last words of Pili in choosing his children, if you are to fight, fight hard, if you are to work, work hard. If you are to speak, speak will all your might.

I want to thank the member for Vaimauga East. Whenever you speak our Sitting comes alive. Why? Feelings are new, winds happen at the turns of ships. This is why I want to commend and thank you. The blessings given to the Chair there is no doubt God lives and has full control over our lives. As for the praise leave it unto me. May the Lord bless you in your duties. I am certain your constituency is listening in and are happy this time of the evening.

The opportunity is now given to another member who wishes to speak. I call upon the member for Gagaifomauga No.3.

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**Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA (Gagaifomauga No.3):** Thank you Mr Speaker at this time of the evening. The sun has set into place, but the progress of Parliament still carries on. Be thy God of power and might, the Almighty God I want to crown thee in glory, for you have shown great love and kindness to this Parliament especially to all of Samoa. I return praises and thanks unto Thee until forever.

*Sa tatou lutia i puava a ua tatou mapu i Fagalele*, we were distressed but now we are at rest from the previous year. Now we meet again in good health with the start of the first Sitting of this year, our lives have been led safely to commence the work especially today. We have now proceeded with our work with the speeches already voiced by some of the members within the House today. Hence it is important that we make decisions that will bear blessings especially with the economy of our country here in Tiafau. It is a place where we make decisions that will bring blessings upon our country.

I take this time to acknowledge the support of Samoa this evening, the presence of His Excellency Le Ao o le Malo and his Goodlady, respects of the Member of Council of Deputies and Good lady especially the support and dignity of our country. *Le paia i Aiga, Aiga ma latou Tama, Tama ma o latou Aiga, le usoga a Tumua ma Pule, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga i le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti*, all of Samoa have gathered.

Lest I forget our brothers in the East. The dignity of *Sua e ma le Vaifanua o Fofu ma Aitulagi, Saole ma Saleaamua ma le Launiu na Saelua, Tama a le Manuatele, Tootoo o le Faleula ma le Laau na Amotasi*. I do not have to spread the mat since we have one mother, one father therefore we are brothers.

I acknowledge the support of our people in many parts of the world, wherever in Samoa or abroad you are listening to this Parliament broadcast, whether carrying out duties or providing services for Samoa and our future.

Lastly I want to voice my gratitude to the support of churches, members of the clergy representing the Lord to the Heads of several denominations, praying and longing for the spiritual prosperity of Samoa. I believe our work has been blessed with the prayers and services for the betterment of Samoa. I am grateful for the support and thank you for serving this Government.

Mr Speaker I am proud to say that this is the first time I have taken the floor to express an opinion on the Budget while you are sitting in the Speaker's Chair, where the Parliament of Samoa conforms. Matautu you are the respects of *Aiga Sa Peseta, afio ia te oe le Maopu, le mamalu i Usoalii, le nofo a ituaiga aua Matautu*, especially you the protector of Government, gagaae and gagaifo are brothers.

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I thank the Lord you have been chosen as the Speaker for this evening. I also extend best wishes to the Hon Mr Speaker Afioga Leaupepe Toleafoa Faafisi.

I greet the Hon Prime Minister, Ministers of Cabinet, Associate Ministers, this side of the House to Chairpersons, Deputy Chairpersons and all members of Parliament. I also acknowledge the respects of tupu and tamalii, failauga, faletua and tausi, saoa ma tamaitai who are the hands and feet of this Government. Thank you for your patience, thank you for the hard work.

Last but not least I acknowledge the support between the three pillars of Government, the Judiciary to the Deputy Chief Justice, the President of Courts, judges men and women of the Land and Titles and Supreme Court. I commend you for your patience and efforts in undertaking your duties and callings.

My beloved constituency if you can hear me this evening, I formally express my sincere gratitude. Come a time I will be there. *Sa Tupua ma Sa Malietoa ma Aiga, Tupua ma Malietoa ma le faletolu e tausi i lo oulua va faafeagai ai, aemaise le afifio o le Aiga o Mavaega, lau tofa i le Tuua, Aiga ma Saeseese*, thank you, the member Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Stowers and I are blessed for all your support.

Mr Speaker we have reached the start of our first Sitting of the year which is important. We have also reached the last year for this Parliamentary term. Therefore let us give praise to the Lord Almighty it is Him who has given us many blessings. As the man who is the time keeper in boxing said at times like this, “seconds out, clear the ring, last and final round.”

The main objective of my opinion will be made towards the Hon Prime Minister and Cabinet for their consideration. Our Government is built together, it is not a Government ruled by that side or this side, it is a Government that we build together for the benefit of Samoa who are giving us support. As I mentioned in previous speeches Mr Speaker, this Parliamentary term is different. Why? It is a One Party State. This was the decision by the country at the start of the term, we were chosen to build our country together. We have gone back to the start of 1962, no political parties, we come here to convey wisdom and insight to fill in the blanks of what have been left empty. Whatever opinions and ideas it is voiced before the House, it is chosen carefully through wisdom and discretion, to convey the spirit of humility and honesty. If it is useful praise the Lord. If it is not then return it, but make use of the opportunity to convey an opinion also the person believes what they want to, but the Lord looks into the heart.

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Thank you Hon Minister of Finance. Afioga Sili Tuioti the Minister of Finance is not chosen arbitrarily by Government, nor is it easy to choose a Minister for Finance, why? Unless the person is all encompassing, skillful, prudent, calm and has a sense of patience, hence all the needs of many will be voiced towards you this evening. Nothing will be left out. But how will it be implemented? By air, by water? No it is with money. This is my only suggestion to the Hon Minister, money is only a tool not a master. Money is only something we use, we do not idolize it like a God. There are ways we can compromise and turn too, may your hands provide equal shares for the benefit of the country.

The goal of your thoughts is to prioritize and plan accordingly, since you have the power to implement, with respect remove other unnecessary plans that can impact a development that is prioritized by Government together with others that should be done. If I note correctly in history, you are the sixteenth Minister chosen for Finance since the year 1961 to this morning. It is an important accomplishment because of your calling. This means estimates are important as depicted in the First Budget Estimates on our needs. Base our needs on what we have. I was very grateful on your first Budget that was tabled before the House.

A few matters to consider Hon Minister of Finance, keep a close eye on the priorities of Government based on what the Government is behind, to have sufficient budget together with the needs requested by members of the House. I have looked closely on this matter on our Tenders Board, I have taken a good look since this where the funds are obtained and given out. I have observed where priority is given on developments undertaken. I just want to remind the Hon Minister that such variations are tricks, this is the right term. If the Tenders Board have set the price and all the materials to do the work, then complete it. Do not just wait for someone to get the job but later on there will be extra costs to be paid. Because who will be affected Hon Minister of Finance? It is the country.

Nonetheless I will leave it unto you to be guided by your good judgement, hence you are working together with the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure. The two of you are the ones that can control it, because some play with it like water, oh yes, they play with it. They love playing. Nothing is hidden, the country is watching and witnessing what is happening, but I will leave it to you two since both are in charge. I am just here to remind the Minister. It has been 40 years since this Party emerged to lead our country. So far if we do not loan, we cannot do anything for the country. Then we estimate Hon Minister of Finance, what can we think of to assist us in our Budget next year by not doing this, we are playing with profits where money has already been allocated to be spent.

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A suggestion, we must look at stakeholders and companies of Government to assist in funding a lot of things, we already have a research center, SROS, a lot of outstanding reserach has been done why are we looking at the private sector. They cannot do it, I tell you they cannot because they do not have the resources to do it. Even if we already make a small product and the private sector were to deliver it to the market, nobody will recognise it. Although if Government goes, a Government to Government level approach will work, this is where the importance of these products are emphasized. The flour made from breadfruit, if our Government produces it, people will compete over it since it is a product of Samoa. With respect it does mean Government has taken over the industry from other businesses. That is not it, there are still businesses undertaken by the private sector and some businesses are overlooked by Government. We have 4 to 5 such companies, once your share is full you get tired of sharing the money.

I say this to the Hon Minister of Finance, look at coconut oil, breadfruit flour and water. This is the reason why the water company at Mulifanua failed, because they cannot approach. A private sector cannot open the market by itself, it needs the Government to be the wind beneath their wings. Look at China, millions and millions of water from around the world is exported to China. We are good partners with China, use it, if we ask China to buy our water they will do it, I am sure they will. CCTV is free, put forward a request to the Chinese Embassy to promote our water. There are tens, millions, trillions of litres of water flowing into the sea at Mataolealelo, Savaii. Money is wasted. This is a recommendation to the Hon Minister of Finance, so you can be able to respond to all the requests voiced by members of the House.

The Hon Minister of Communication, Information and Technology, I commend you for the work and patience. The current despair I am currently faced with is the language being used by the country on social media. Since you are the Minister for Communications I wish to convey this matter towards you, to kindly overlook this issue on Facebook. I feel sorry for our country of Samoa and what it has come to. Mr Speaker spoke of the language of our country, the language of our sanctuary which is the ammunition of our country. If we do not have a language we do not have a culture. If we do not have a culture, we do not have a country. Hon Afamasaga Rico Tupai I trust in you to find a way to filter such matters. The words used are obscene you do not want to look at it. Did we speak such words? I beg tolerance to Samoa listening in and to those who wrote such comments on the internet.

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Unbelievably, there is ongoing war day and night, infighting between sister and brother, criticisms between friends and other people. My goodness, what a huge disgrace. I am just saying it, have a look at some ways to filter this, cyber green, people have become suicidal, it is all happening due to these issues. The reason for bringing forth internet, it is very useful. Facebook is useful for connection, to chat involving all things pertaining to family. This is very instrumental, instead, we must protect the problem we are in right now. It will destroy our country Hon Minister, look at it, what is the use of saying it again and see? Is this our language? It is not. The language is very rude and foul pardon the public tuning in. I also take this opportunity to ask the country and Samoans living abroad, if you have love, let us protect the dignity of our language and guardian of Samoa, now they are spoken out freely, pardon this evening. It is demeaning and disrespectful to the support of Samoa.

The words made against the leader of the country, I will not say anything. Our State should start initiating policies and find ways to do it. China has no effect whatsoever, I have seen how they are controlling this for the sake of its people. See how we can control our language communication so that we are able to do it. Even the killing of people and everything else as we progress. What do they see in the next 10 years ahead? How are we gonna look like? I am just saying Hon Minister.

In relation to our Broadband, I did pose this question first, this is a very important project for the country. I am sure the amount of \$20million was used to fund this project, up until today, I do not know where this project is, and this is before you took that chair, there were others that undertook this in the first place. Even with our school net, it was \$17million. Your honor, please this will be very beneficial to educate our people in Savaii and will lessen the burden upon us who live far away from the town area. It is a disappointment because we are still receiving news that public funds are used to pay the Digicel poles being installed here when nothing is being done to it. Have a look into this Hon Minister, I can never oversee the depth and length of things happening beside me, such is the address with due respect.

Hon Minister of Justice, thank you for selecting our people to become new Judges. I further thank the Cabinet for choosing several other people to become the Judges for the Lands and Titles Court. This is the heart of the country, its geneologies and titles as spoken by other members in regards to charges faced by other judges. Hon Minister, look into this it is pointless to be sworn in and do the total opposite which is problematic, this is also affecting the heritage of families.

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With regards to files, keep in mind the court's files Hon Minister and its immunity as this is the heart of the country. Suddenly that resulted in the sacking of that public servant who was thrown down from the bus and went away peacefully but he did not understand the circumstances. Just an advice, the files of the country stays in the Courthouse instead of taking them home as they do not belong to your families.

Hon Minister of Sports, Loau, thank you very much for objecting the \$40 fee on immunizations.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I interrupt the wonderful speech of the member, as I must remind you, this is the duty of the Chair, to remind the respectable members of Parliament about our Standing Orders, the situation of mentioning names, you are allowed to state the positions held by the Hon Ministers. Just to remind, that in accordance to Standing Orders 78, the names of Ministers and members is clearly stipulated, they should not be stated.

That is the advice upon the member, resume your pleasing speech taking into account our Standing Orders.

**Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA:** Thanks for the reminder honorable Speaker. Hon Minister of Education, Sports and Culture, Loau Solamalemalo Keneti Sio, the dignity of the House has already expressed their thanks upon you, and the immunization, thank you. Did you have an unnecessary connection with the Ministry of Health and the immunization cards, thank you. In truth without that, no student would have been able to go to school. That is the truth. Thank you anyway for your wise thinking.

Our rugby, well I do not mean to say it Hon Minister. Rugby is our best national sport. That is where the heart of Samoa lies whereby you too used to be a part of it, Hon Minister. It is not about the money nor anything else, it is the heart. That was the heart of Papaliitele Peter Fatialofa who dropped out since childhood and ended up making it to the Manu Samoa. You too were chosen Hon Minister.

Where did we end up in? We did it within months. We made it through to the best of our ability, because everybody was representing Samoa from the heart. It was not anything else. We did not care about money or whatever? We came with a huge win. Now what? Minister, where is rugby now?

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What is your view, we have passed from zero moving down to minus .7 and 15. In 2007, I went to lead another group and managed to transit through Hong Kong, it was our last minute endeavor that we were able to win the cup. We came with the cup, yes that was a very tremendous achievement we made in Hong Kong. Due to what? Heart. All the local boys from here, they went wholeheartedly to fight the battle. Look into it, and see what is happening with our Rugby Union now. Have a look into it because this sport pertains to you your honor. Have a look into it and see what method to use.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** You have two minutes remaining to sum up the 30 minutes.

**Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai:** Mr Speaker, add another 15 minutes to the wonderful speech that is pleasing to hear, with respect.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** There is the moving motion, seconded...

*Seconded by the member for Gagaifomaua No.3 and the member for Faleata.*

*Motion approved.*

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Conclude your speech.

**Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA:** Mr Speaker I am used to this, I am used to fingers pointing at me. The only advice, one by one fair fight. Do not come from the back, front. Yes, I am watching you. I heed you full respect...

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

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I recognize the Prime Minister pardon the rising member.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** The current speaker used to be the Speaker and is well aware of our Orders. That is why you must try and finish your speech within the set time given.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Conclude your speech.

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**Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA:** I am full of respect, if I am not finished, God's days is abundant. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 is already been given to the Prime Minister, the Hon Minister of Health.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Conclude now.

**Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA:** One more thing our honor, Hon Minister of Health, well done to the works achieved that was not easy. I also take this opportunity to extend great thanks to those who had worked so hard to ending the measles disaster.

Continue now without doubting. Our constituency aims for success. Some of the members have already addressed on the incident that had happened in Safotu. The only concern is that the blame is now pointed to all the females that are all locked up now in jail. The Court's decision on this matter, there is responsibility that could pose negativity upon the Ministry. Just a plea on your part, the recent death of a kid had this number in total and the kid is a relative of mine. This is reason for the plea, set up a Commission of Enquiry.

Mr Speaker, despite our views and comments, I will move on. I trust, some of my thoughts have been recorded, I will read them out to God tomorrow. Whether these concerns are hidden on this earth, it is like light to God. Whatever good achievements made, praise God. And whatever attempts I aim to put forth and in return my ear is cut, that is alright, after this we can fight outside.

Gagaae and Gagaifo are brothers, do not depend too much on the fish but do bear respect upon our relationship.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pardon the respectable member, your statement is getting off track, you used to abide with our Standing Orders of the House as the Speaker before, thank you.

**Susuga Hon LAAULI POLATAIVAO LEUATEA:** I am now finished. Samoa and your support, any offensive word said today, pardon us.

I also beg tolerance to some of the Ministers whom were not mentioned lest you think I am disregarding your efforts, there is a lot here that I wanted to read out to cheer you up this evening.

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Thank you to my constituency for your great support in all your traditional honorifics, *Lou itumalo, Sa Tupua ma Sa Malietoa ma aiga, aemaise le mamalu o le faletolu. O le paia i le Afioga i le sao, mamalu ia Saitupua ma Tuliatoga, mamalu maualuga aua paia ia Saletolo ma le atumamoe Saulutua, Sa Lealiifano ma le Sa Tautauamo ma le lautinalaulelei. Aemaise le tapuaiga Aiga o Mavaega, mamalu maualuga i le tofa i le tuua, aemaise aiga ma sa eseese*, thank you for your support.

The stern and balance log of the sailing vessel is steady as things are good and I do feel blessed to gain ideas for politics. Thank you for your support and genuine compassion. Although I am facing life challenges and walking in the valley of the shadow of death. The warmth of your prayers is felt. I am overwhelmed with the sheet of thorns and ashes, but God does not forsake me. I bid forbearance honorable Speaker, I am now finished. Bless your stance in managing the Sitting this evening, bless the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly especially the staff and their service. Soia.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Your works need not be praised, you have long served in this House. Samoa has frequently heard you. You possess prudence and in depth foresight. Only this to say, well done to your statement. The words of the Book, 'To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.'

Respectfully as I said earlier, the House is covered with dignity ufi. Instead, your view is well taken in accordance to the protocols of the House. *E matua lava i le oo*, despite the differences it will all come down to a good resolution. Member for Gagaifomauga No.3, good view, the State heard you, bear with them for the safe journey of Samoa this year. As I said, let us bear success and support earlier, *e le sili le tai i lo le tapuai*. Support brings success upon the elders here.

The statements this evening, is pleasing to the ear like the saying given to the mountains in Salafai, well done to foresight to provoke more thoughts. As such, may God bear blessing. According to what you said, walk through the valley of the shadow of death, do not be afraid but bear faith in God in everything, finding strength.

The House is now available for any more speakers. I see the member for Aleipata Itupa i Lalo is upstanding.

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**Afioga TAFUA MALUELUE TAFUA (Aleipata Itupa i Lalo):** I guess it is good that you had some lamb to bear you obedient during our break. Well done. To the dignity of the House and the honorable Speaker, especially Samoa tuning in and the church ministers I beg tolerance. This evening we have received more words of blessings than disastrous words. So many comments have been received from the members on seeking assistance for roads improvement.

I have sat and recorded the many requests of the constituency, and given the piled up requests, perhaps, until we have billion funds then we can implement these requests. The plead is short with respect Hon Minister of Works. Our constituency comprises o 9 villages and therefore, 9 access roads since we had the tsunami, so 2 more villages have yet to have their roads built. I do not know why? Whether it was due to the carelessness of the pulenuu or the former Minister at that time, rather it is now before your honor, it is Lotopue and Utufaalalafa. Those are the only villages in my constituency.

A site inspection was conducted in Savaii at the end of last year and we saw the very good progress of works and wise distribution in Salafai especially the road contractors who are implementing this job. The reason for this is the road size in kilometers according to the past procedures of the State, there is agreement that the roads will be shifted to two kilometers wide and not to tarseal it but dig up only please. This is also the plea for our poor roads. Pardon our constituency, for the meantime do improve our roads by laying it with rocks for the sake of our children accessing it to school. I now come the conclusion of my speech. I wish to voice a few things here. Hon Minister Afamasaga, I just had a talk with Lealailepule and he said it is best to ask you. Leala said it is no use to speak to our Minister but me the Associate Minister.

Alright I will speak to the both of you. I have made several attempts to turn our radio last weekend to see if there was any cyclone as our television is not working, even the 2AP channel there was nothing. There was no reception due to bad weather. What happened next is that our radio had to take a swim to Tutuila and not to Manua. That was the problem, respectfully is the request, our side is very difficult. I also raised this in the last financial budget, your statement went, Tafua do not worry next year, you will have a Digital TV, and now that we have a Digital, the problem still remains unfixed. This is not a complain but an advise and request with respect. I extend great thanks and appreciation.

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Thank you Hon Minister of Justice and our Associate Minister with regards to our Legislation, I will talk about it when we have it in the House. Perhaps comes a day this week, for the sake of the constituency and all those doing registrations in Apia, please do not transfer to candidates running in Apia. The Legislation states well you can vote in the rural area when we have the election. There is no need to do transfer. You now reside in Vaimauga and Faleata, it is stipulated in the legislation, you can still cast your vote in Aleipata. The Ministries and Public Enterprises under the Infrastructure Sector Committee, I heed appreciation to you. The reason being is that many the given outputs put have now been achieved through you for the past years. I guess it is the same with this year as I have read carefully through most of your annual reports submitted. Thank you for your dedication and services. God will reward your good works and efforts because we always say it and do not given any blessings. May you all be blessed.

Another thing Hon Minister of Works, please, I am unsure whether to put the question forth or not, I am very disappointed when I heard that Fagalii is now closed. Although you have already made your decision, but just an advice, it is not a complaint nor an objection. Have a look again at the situation with the airport. Because the Fagalii airport is where the services of about 70,000 people who could be affected is done. We now have the decision of the State but that is my only recommendation.

Many people are affected from the decision on the airport closure. Although this airport is very important. Nearly 70,000 people live within the town area. If we can review and investigate again and if the purpose for change was due to safety reason, well it was safety from 40 years ago. Just an advice your honor with respect.

I have also raised the issue with road bumps for our access roads, which are too high. It is almost the height of that desk over here. What we see now is that the chests of vehicles for families living in New Zealand and Australia are not too high, although the small sized vehicles are affordable for some local families. Many of these vehicles costs \$10,000 or \$20,000 and this is the affordable amount they have for buying a car. That vehicle is necessary for that road. Therefore, if there is an indication for the road bump size, it will be difficult to negotiate with families. I have requested this and the reply goes, the road humps will be fixed. There are so many road bumps roughly about 20 of them and there is not one road from Lalomanu to Tiavea. It is similar to many other access roads that have high road bumps. I ask the LTA Office to look into this area. Not only is this destroying the vehicles of some families but we are also receiving several complaints from this. With respect.

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Another thing, thank you for the road to our school in Saleaamua Primary, which is only 80 metres long, I doubt it is 80 meters. The disappointment for this road, I did put forth this request, please have someone over to monitor the implementation of this road. Now that we are experiencing some rough weather conditions, the water level for some parts is about this high and this road did not even reach a month since it was fixed. That said, this road was not properly monitored and no one was there to do the monitoring process. I plead with respect to please have someone over to look at this again and see the proper undertaking of this road as I have no idea how much money was spent on it. Thus, I thank you for the works implemented, although it is useless to implement something when it is not properly done for it will be a waste of public funds. Have a look into this again please.

Another point whilst I remember is the beautiful garden project in front of the Government building by the State. The footpath area for this waterfront project has no one to monitor this area properly.

I am stunned to see nobody there to monitor this area. I go there every day and this is surprising. Whenever you go there, you get bumpy and I do not know why? This is the monitoring role of the LTA although I do not know who fixes this problem. Pardon me but we are the Committee and I am unaware who does the job we ask you to do. This is the plea before Parliament pardon me your honor.

Respectfully I request the Hon Minister of Education to implement awareness programs for the safety of our schools. If necessary with you and your Executive, it would be good to implement these good initiatives for the general safety of our people from deadly diseases like gout, high blood pressure and diabetics according to statistics particularly diabetics and high blood pressure. As such, if we can implement these awareness programs, I see it on Televisions that fruits and vegetables is good for the health. Do things like children's drawings in their schoolbooks to assist these existing concerns here. If funds is available from the measles, use it to initiate these awareness programs for our protection, with due respect.

I think it was the member for Safata that spoke of braces used by parolees. The good point from Leana's speech is saving money for the Prison if the Hon Minister of Prison is listening; this is a good idea, which New Zealand, Australia and America also use. Prisoners would wear these braces on their feet, hands and they are easily located using the GPS wherever they go in the country. If you look at it, I do not know the price. Perhaps this will be a huge help to the Minister and the Ministry.

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Since Hon Sala is not here but his Associate Minister. The request upon the new house renovations and repairments works for the public toilets are all done and up to this day, they are not being utilized. The tourists are using our family house instead which is also good as we are earning money from it. I do not know why these public toilets was upgraded; it is like an attraction site for our village.

Please your honor, if the Head of the Tourism Office is hearing this, I do not know why this initiative was implemented when it not being utilized. Utilize public funds wisely please. It has taken 6 months since this project was undertaken. Although thankfully, these facilities are still not being used. Mr Speaker, perhaps that is all.

If the constituency is listening in, pardon me I did not bring you a Christmas gift and the New Year. This is the last year for this term. Bless your support. Soifua.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Well done, Tuaitua. The speeches of the elders are very wise and indepth. The words of the country, the taro always satisfy the hunger. Very well, thank you to Samoa for your support upon the constituency's development; I call the member for West.

**Tofa Hon LAUOFO FONOTOE NUA FESILI PIERRE LAUOFO (Anoamaa West):** Thank you Mr Speaker. I will try to conclude before the State give its response.

*E faapopo ni aso ua, ae le tuua ni aso folau.* We are in the cyclone season and bad weather. The normal prayers we say may these bad season pass. Daytime is now gone and we have arrived into the dark. We are basking on the smooth surface of freedom and showing pride to the world. As we are here today in good health congregating in this court of peace and not the field of war. Our gratitude and praises have been offered earlier in the day to the everlasting Heavens, as in the spirit of the speech pertaining to the eastern island where only one light shines. On this first day of the year, Parliament is blessed to arrive in the year 2020. This is the last year for this Parliamentary term. I pray for a safe journey upon this Parliament and country this year. I do believe the heavens are in conformity due to acceptance. We are in the presence of the honourable Speaker of the House, the Hon Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Cabinet, Associate Ministers on that side.

I further acknowledge the honourable Chairpersons, Deputy Chairpersons and respectable members of the Standing Orders Committee on this side. Furthermore, I acknowledge the Heads of Government Ministries and Public Enterprises and Samoa as a whole who are lending us their support this evening.

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I have observed the tabling Appropriation Budget before the House and further financial arrangements set out in the Main Budget Estimates approved in the last financial year in progress now. Mr Speaker, there have been numerous statements on the measles outbreak that had affected the country which I think is more than enough. The acknowledging statements upon the public servants and those people from overseas who were able to lend a hand. Furthermore, the encouraging notes and words upon the affected families, we are all in this together. It is important to obtain a full report compiling all recommendations, which are useful for the measles epidemic. If there is a need for a Commission to investigate this outbreak, that will also be good. This will implement more useful and proper recommendations that will create policies or Legislations for the Health to come before the House for approval. It will also initiate guidelines for us moving forward. We will be exploring more diseases as made aware from other foreign countries such is why protection is necessary for the country. The impact of this outbreak has also affected our Tourism industry. We therefore appreciate the efforts of the State for the appropriated funds to promote our country once again by sending positive messages across to increase the number of visitor arrivals to raise the standard and promotion of our country.

Mr Speaker, this is a dream come true for us, we appreciate this appropriation allocated to establish a special police academy in order to train our police force which will perhaps include the police officers from our prisons so that proper and high security is in place within the country particularly our borders at the ports and the airport areas. I therefore extend gratitude to the Hon Minister of Finance for availing this fund for this development. The project seems small and insignificant, the allocated appropriations is vital in implementing the renaming and localities of business companies and villages within the Apia town area.

It is important for companies to have addresses to give directions the same with residents around the country particularly settlers in Apia. This is vital for setting up business contacts especially in order to connect with foreign businesses internationally. It is also very important for the State, the Water Authority, the Electric Power Corporation, the Health Department, the Office of the Electoral Commission, as individual voting is now given importance within its place of residence except for a matai, it will further ease the search in locations when it comes time for the elections.

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Mr Speaker, before I make an explanation is given to remind the requests of this constituency, I wish to speak about the ongoing progress of our Tiavea airport development project. Perhaps there are different views towards this matter including complaints. From my perspective, this is an elemental project in terms of development distribution. Setting up this airport on this side of the country will be very beneficial for our people living in this area especially our constituency in terms of traffic, it will benefit our small developments like retail shops and market stalls for some families. Furthermore it will help implement better roads towards this side of Upolu. It is similar to this western part of Upolu the people are benefitting from given the Faleolo airport and the Mulifanua wharf on this side. Such is the criticality of this development in my perspective within the Atua district. If the progress of this project is stopped according to my observation, the plea before your Hon Minister of Finance, if appropriation regards some additions, I plead your approval given the significance of this project development as explained.

I wish to remind the Hon Minister of Works about the developments of this district, the road to Sauniatu. All these developments, you are aware of the written requests that was submitted to your office. I have put forth this request for so long as a lot of residents and other church denominations settle along this area in Sauniatu including the access road in Salelesi which has not been sealed after so many years. The same with the road towards Solosolo you are aware of Hon Minister. I am sure you have inspected this area as majority of the settlers reside in the inner land of Solosolo and also there are four different religions situated there although the other issue is the seawall area which has been destroyed due to high tidal waves from the previous weeks and the previous year. Hon Minister, there is dire need for the seawall areas to be improved.

The access roads for the village of Eva also requires upgrading and so as the other villages within my constituency. There is also the need to improve the seawall areas in Salelesi, Fusi and Eva.

I trust you have received the written requests of this constituency. Some of the seawall areas have already had the approval to have its implementation undertaken from the previous Parliamentary term, instead, this is not yet been carried out until today. I beg of you Hon Minister, please look into these requests for my district.

I conclude by extending appreciation to the Judicial Commission and the State, Cabinet for endorsing the appointment of judges for some of the men from this village, not only the Judge for the Lands and Titles Court as well as district court that has had the appointment of some of our constituents. Thank you very much.

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Mr Speaker, I wish you all a very blessed evening, bless you honorable Speaker, members of the House, Government Heads and the support of Samoa. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Well done honorable member for Anoamaa West, the country, constituency and the House have heard your statement. Your requests have also been put forth, we shall hope they will be fulfilled by the State. We have the floor available for anymore speakers. I see we have two more.

**Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga (Palauli le Falefa):** Mr Speaker I have a question, after me then we have hte Chairperson then that is it no more speeches. In saying that....

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** That is exactly the intention here, the same with the Associate Ministers, this is a good chance for you. If not we will have the chance for Palauli le Falefa and the Finance Committee.

**Afioga Hon FAUMUINA TIATIA FAAOLATANE LIUGA:** Thank you honorable Speaker.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pardon the current speaker, the chance is for the member for Faleata East to speak.

**Afioga SALAUSA JOHN AH CHING (Faleata East):** With great respect, thank you honorable Speaker. This evening, I rise to give our say and contribution on behalf of this constituency for Faleata East. I beg tolerance to our constituency, I came into this Parliament as the member for Faleata East, and now, the division of our constituency is now changed to Faleata No.1. On that note, I beg forbearance to our constituency of *Vailoa Faleata le susu o Siliga ma Umusa i le Siliga, alaalatai Nuu ma le Atinuu ma upu ia te oe le Faiga*. So it is not forsaking our district rather it is the new arrangement of our constituency by the State at this time.

The statement this evening pertains to the new constituency of Faleata No.1. which comprises of Vaimoso, Lepea further inland, Sinamoga and Moamoa. The village of Moamoa now divided into four subvillages. It used to be one now it is four. We now have Moamoa, Moamoatai, Moamoafou and the mountainous Moamoa. That is the situation with this constituency, then we have Sinamoga, Alafua, Lotopa, Pesega, Lepea to Tuanaimato, Tuaeifu, and ends in Ululoloa.

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This constituency, I further thank the Office of the Electoral Commission for the new Law and division made towards this constituency. The current figure will signify the true image of the people living in the constituency moving forward. This constituency of Faleata No.1 therefore had a census in 2016 with an increasing population of 13,000. That total population of 13,000 is now under the care of this individual person. This constituency is also growing in number. That was the population from 2016 to 2019 it is not known whether this population is now 15,000 for this constituency. The importance is not the voter but the total population as this is the amount of people I have to care for. I thank some of the members of the general public the orators and high chiefs who are finding a future in Faleata. Majority of our people from Savaii and those from the rural areas have managed to find permanent settlements in the constituency of Faleata No.1, there is also a number of members in this House who reside in Faleata No.1 and I too also care for all of them. In saying that, there will be time for me to speak on it as we move forward. I firstly thank the honorable Speaker, your contribution has been well taken this evening. Thank you for managing our Sitting. I wish to extend great appreciation and acknowledgement to the Leader of the State, Cabinet, Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Associate Ministers and that side of the Chamber. I also thank all the Government Heads, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, the media groups and your support this evening.

This side of the House prepared the Budget deliberated this evening, so, I wish not to say anything further as this is our report. That said, I support this Appropriation Budget. I am very pleased with this was one main concern since the start of our term.

As mentioned by one member, one party state. The concern for this term especially the Leader, lest there is a problem in the future with no Opposition side. In observing the progress of this term and this last year for our Budget, it is progress. There was never a drop in our foreign exchange and foreign reserves. Although it is small but at least it is increasing. On that note, I extend great thanks to the Cabinet and all the public servants of the State.

Because this did not happen for a reason, this could rightfully be true such as the saying in the country. A burden is carried together. We have carried together this burden until this final year of the term. Although we have a one party state, everything is still running smoothly. This is the challenge for all of us, and this is the joy for me too. Arriving at this time and this last year, the Budget was never a problem. Such is the appreciation.

**Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2019/2020  
– second reading debate**

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The explanation in relation to the measles, we have received various comments, sympathetic words upon the affected ones due to God's calling. Although death is upsetting and wounding I trust that majority of our children that have passed is now with the angels of God in heaven. They too will be looking after their grieving families. They will be known as the protecting angels upon their families' everyday. They will also pray for blessings upon their loved ones. We can abandon the measles disease to the deserted island. How so? Allow ourselves to be patient and receive immunization. The measles virus survives in one place only, which is human beings. It cannot live on water neither dry tire nor on animals. To the dignity of the House, the measles virus can only live on living humans. Therefore, with everyone receiving immunizations, this is possible to omitting the measles disease. In support of this statement, the virus can be removed to an isolated place where no one lives. As such, we must be encouraged and give advice. Some parents are having second thoughts whether to immunize their children, mind you, children have their own individual rights upon their health and wellbeing, although that is the role of you parents, you must implement the rights on behalf of your children for their benefit.

The children will not have a say in this matter, they cannot go alone to have their immunizations. They depend on us parents to take them. This is the rights of a child implemented by the parents. In the case with the measles, as I said, we can isolate it to a deserted land.

Then we come to elections. As I said earlier concerning the existing increasing population within the constituency of Faleata No.1, Faleata No.1 has one main priority before this House; it is its roads, which is a requirement.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I interrupt the member from Faleata No 1, since we have arrived at our adjourning time according to the motion moved by the Leader of the House this morning. I therefore take this opportunity to thank you all, to the dignity of the House in your honorifics, well done to you and your perseverance. Samoa has heard your views in implementing the requests of our people. I then conclude to the current speaker, once the House reconvenes tomorrow God willing, you shall resume your speech.

Before Proceedings of the House is adjourned this evening, I call the member for Faasaleleaga No.3 to end our work with a prayer.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly adjourned at 11:03pm until 9:00am on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020.*