

*24 FEBRUARY 2021*

**WEDNESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2021**

*The Speaker took the Chair at 9:13am.*

Prayer.

**MR SPEAKER:** I announce the resumption of Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly.

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

*The Clerk read out the Presentation of Papers in accordance to the Order Paper pursuant to S.O. 49(2).*

1. S.R.2021/5, Immigration Act 2020 – Notice of Commencement.

**SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2020/2021  
– debate over the second reading of the Bill– Day 26**

**MR SPEAKER:** During the adjournment of Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly the Hon Minister of the Ministry of Public Enterprises was speaking.

Very well, with respect, I call upon the Hon Minister. Your statements yesterday were very pleasing to hear particularly for the sake of the constituencies. I take it that the statements about to conclude, henceforth I call upon the member to resume your remarks in accordance to our works.

**Afioga Hon LAUTAFI FIO SELAFI PURCELL (Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour ):** Thank you honorable Speaker. Greetings to all the respectable members during the bad weather this morning. Our prayer has already been delivered this morning, and therefore there is that relationship set between us and the Most High. On that note, let us give praise. The heart is delighted for His guidance, Love and Goodness upon the members gathered here again this morning.

Your honour at the conclusion of statements yesterday, thank you very much for another opportunity granted this morning. Before I come to my constituency, Mr Speaker, I just want to say something your honorable.

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I express our sincerest gratitude to you for managing our Sittings since the past 5 years until today. Your honour, I have sat here and thought, wow, I am blessed to have made it to this Parliament whilst you are still here.

Up until today, there is only the spirit of appreciation and congratulations. Despite the rough times we had faced in Parliament, nevertheless, honorable Speaker you still managed to bear patience during our Sittings taking heed of our cultural values, your in-depth foresight and respect upon the members of Parliament. Even though you lack the strength, but that does not give you inability, nor allow you to give up, as you continue to carry your role with respect to your oath made inside this House. I received that you will be retiring soon. I heed our great congratulations and the spirit of gladness upon your honourable as you start anew to undertake a new role and purpose in accordance to God's calling upon you. Bless all your retiring endeavors, and may God be with you in all your plans. There is also another saying, one door shuts and another door opens from God for you. The prayer of Satupaitea, such is the situation. Bless your retirement and thank you very much for your contribution. I salute you for your long service upon this Parliament, and given your own will you are now going into retirement. Thank God, and may God be with you.

To my other colleagues the Hon Minister Tuitama, Hon Aeau, Hon Faasootauloa, the House is also aware that you will all retire successfully. For that, we are all in the same spirit. May blessings from God be upon your proposed plans for the future, well done to your contribution to our country. Your hair has turned grey, which indicates your long service here. May God bless all of you and all your future plans. I wish you all the best.

Mr Speaker, it is now time for me to make our submission on behalf of our dearest constituency of Satupaitea. In addition this is the final speech for this constituency for this Term. To my constituency of Satupaitea, we have come to the end of our session today, and our journey for this 5 year term is about to finish, the Parliament of Samoa has received us well, we are at the conclusion of our proceedings for this Parliamentary Sitting here in the grounds of Tiafau.

Then coming back to my constituency I would say, well done and congratulations to you. Well done to your consecrations and support. You have placed me here to work in order for Satupaitea to make a contribution in the legislative council. You have continued to offer and uphold your support and assistance upon me. It is there where my courage and confidence come from given your constant support and silent prayers for prosperity. I believe that is the reason we are prospering. As such I convey great appreciation from the bottom of my heart given your true support upon me. Not only the constituency of Satupaitea but the rest of Satupaitea residing here in Samoa, especially children living abroad, and the support of our constituency.

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The reason why you have left our country is to seek wealth for our village, family and church. As for the heart, all your hearts are existing in our constituency.

I wish to voice a word of acknowledgement to the respect rendered by Satupaitea, you have worn me with a large tunic, with a necklace around my neck, and have crowned me with the crown of life, you have lifted me up and have placed me on cross stone through this district role as your representative for this 5-year period. Thank you Satupaitea. The eyes are satisfied and the hearing is pleased with you. In the words of the Bible, “If I forget you o Jerusalem, let my tongue stick to the roof of my mouth.”

I further acknowledge the support of the Servants of God, who are pleading for blessings upon the constituency. The Churches in the district of Satupaitea, Reverend elder Bishop and your faletua for the coastal Subvillage, Reverend Lone and faletua in the Subvillage in the inner area, Reverend Seloti and faletua in Satufia. Reverend Archbishop Faleao Siu Faga, Siufaga, and Taele Lalomati in Ualota 2 for Moasula and your faletua. Reverend Tafai and faletua and the Pentecostal Church. Reverend Toni and faletua, of the Assembly of God. Reverend Lome and faletua of the Seventh Day Adventist and Reverend President Lalofala and faletua for the Mormon Church.

All the Churches in the constituency. This is also why the constituency is blessed, because there are many sacred servants preaching and bearing support for the sake of the entire district

Thank you for your support, thank you for your blessings upon me as your representative for our constituency of Satupaitea for this 5 year timeframe. I have felt it in my heart the touch of your blessings.

I have also embarked to be your voice. May the love of God be upon you I spirit for the positions that God has called you to do.

I heed appreciation to the senior citizens of our constituency who are listening in. Thank you for your continuous prayers and blessings upon me. Well what can I offer to repay you my constituency? I have no gold nor silver to repay your respects, the only thing I can provide is my 10 years service already done for you. My past service of 10 years is entirely for you my constituency. Works are living proof of a person’s job. If you were satisfied with the service provided, it is all the effort we were able to give. I plead God to bless our constituency with good health and strength. May God share us His wisdom, farsightedness and prudence in order to manage our constituency. May Satupaitea be a brightening star in Samoa given its just authority and good governance?

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The attempts for the development of our constituency, I have prioritized the developments that are beneficial for the whole constituency including health clinic service, which we have done together with my fellow member. We are no longer slaves from our walk in Tuasivi, 30 years ago. Many lives have been destroyed on the road because it takes 2 hours to ride over there and return. What are we doing now? We now have a health service clinic in Satupaitea, we have a doctor, 24 hours, lives are no longer at stake in the constituency, we now have the best service available. Those are the developments for the entire constituency. You members must also heed the access roads, bring it to the sub village as that is where the drinking water is serviced for the constituency, which are the most fundamental things.

Very well, the access road of Satufia. There was no access road in this village as it was ruined by a waterfall, and was left like that. Those were things that the heart and soul give priority to, and there was no biasness made to any specific sub village. We now have a playing field to develop the youth for the country, and our constituency. The Manu Samoa is not made up of any particular village.

The statement I made inside this House during my maiden speech, until the representatives of Satupaitea makes it into the Manu Samoa then we can obtain a win. That spirit will remain in me. So do go ahead and use the playfield and the toilet facilities that have already been built for the Union Rugby players, which was set up as an international sports ground.

Our secondary school hall has not been completed, and your member is still working on setting up a new school building. There was an inspection by Japan last week. And the story received from the LTA, in a few weeks time, the work will come to access road fix for the sub village of Vaega, then all our sub villages will each have an access road, before we can develop our yards/backside areas.

There were other developments that were prioritized, however, there was an insufficient funding allocation from our Government, and the cake was not big as stated by the Hon Prime Minister, although many of us wanted the cake. And true is the saying, Rome was not built in one day. Days will come and go, and so as the works implemented. The truth is, all these plans are ongoing, and will be achieved.

We have longed submitted our request on seawall construction. The matter is still laying there. In previous plans, *ua le o faatasi foi le futia ma le umele* in terms of allocated funds received from foreign Organisations, which could no longer be obtained, so regardless of putting aside of this project but it will be followed up continuously.

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The country's preparations for its general elections, the only thing I can say, put our purpose before God, as He will provide results that are fair and true. If my constituency decides for me to work for Satupaitea, I still have enough strength and aim to serve for the next 5 years ahead.

To my constituency, nobody is perfect. If we have done you anything wrong and offensive I beg of you to bear forgiveness. *E poto lava le tautai ae sese lava lana atu i ama*. Cast any mistake of Lautafi out to the uninhabited island. Forgive and forget the mistake of your servant.

Mr Speaker, the final appreciation is to the Lord, for his merciful love of life, strength and knowledge which has made it possible for us to implement our duties for Samoa, especially my constituency this past 5 years. Praise God for His blessings, and may all exaltations be unto His Holy Name. May it not be unto us Lord, but all acclaims be upon You, today and all the days of our life.

Bless the general elections of Samoa, may the Spirit of God be upon you and may Samoa receive peace every day. Soifua and blessings.

*Parliament showed appreciation by clapping their hands after the speech of response by the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Labour.*

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well thanks, well done to the statement given. The constituency has received you well, you have laid out the spear of the tautiaga game, for the sake of the listening public. To the constituency, do bear Afia in mind as delivered and pleaded by the Hon Minister. I salute the blessing done by your constituency through your representative. Hence blessings are done in a way where God appoints our people to different positions. Well done. Thank you, the statement needs no consideration.

We now come to the Hon...I firstly call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi (Prime Minister):** Mr Speaker, well done to the statement of the Hon Minister. I have wanted to upstand yesterday on 2 raising matters by the member of Salega East, who is also not here today. Whenever any 4 of them speaks, all audio recording system for me are on including the antenna for me to receive all speaking lines, as all statements made inside this House brings ugly things prioritizing lies and misleading words. So there were 2 matters raised yesterday. I have thought that it would be good to receive first the statement of the member before I can explain myself.

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The first matter, chicken shortage. The second matter, dirt in rice, bugs in rice also comes with bad spirit. I have therefore responded quickly yesterday, I had waited until all evil things from the heart is received, then I can stand up to make correction. There was also a final time during the last bit where I have thought to move a motion in relation to all notices which I have recorded, a notice for them who have left the Meeting and went ahead to preach misleading and defaming statements and all deceiving statements so as to misguide the public.

Then there is the question. Should we ignore these kind of acts? And permit the country to trust this sort of thinking, what sort of Parliament are we then? Is it a Parliament of Leaders that can do these sort of practices, by making slandering statements? I would often talk about these things. If thousands of locals including this House and everyone else were sole witnesses to the swearing in on the Bible of one of the members to be called a Leader, with the mentioning of God's Name on this particular morning and the witnessing of these revered positions by the entire country. What else is impossible to do when it comes to defamation and making unfounded statements?

This is the reason for me to correct these matters, and such is the importance of our Standing Orders, people are happy to make statements outside of this House as they can gain freedom. I am free. Those were the words that were declared inside this House. We are free. Free from what? Free from demeaning the House where the paramount representatives of constituencies are seated, where wicked behavior starts from, the nature of people with disorderly behavior, when they are called the Leaders of Samoa. Government representatives. Representatives of what? These sort of behavior, such as giving misleading and slanderous acts. These 2 matters honorable Speaker, the shortage of chicken. I beg tolerance to the listening Samoa. The perspective of the Government, it is not necessary to have shortage of various items within Samoa. It is not necessary. Why? Because there is enough savings of the State to order products. There is sufficient. That is the whole idea for having enough good supplies, and to avoid any more future outbreaks in the country before this current administration. Avoid it from happening again. To have enough savings allocation to bring in the necessary goods for the country. If such is the case, what then is the reason if there is a shortage? The Government does not order any chickens.

This is the job of business operators. It depends on inbound and outbound vessels, and so they plan accordingly with the order of goods coming in. They will have to look at the vessels from America, and vessels from New Zealand, and vessels from Japan, and other countries that are bringing in the various good items.

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Then they can plan in accordance to the continuous selling goods, for any items, then the store owners can split the orders that each vessel can bring. So the only thing is it could affect the savings of the Government to placing another order. So the Government is therefore providing an entire solution as mentioned by the member, which I appreciate. The appreciation to who? The gratitude to the executive and this body of the State to the lady Governor, for using common sense and wise distribution. There is no problem whatsoever, although there is only one thing that can affect it.

1. It can create problems, the store owner has made a mistake with the order of supply, if the selling products have sold off too quick, especially when there is growing problems, that does not align with the normal doing

Another reason is in relation to the existing situation, and the portion distribution from shipping companies of their inbound vessels. There was a time a letter was received from the Cabinet and our Committee who oversees thoroughly the schedule of inbound vessels. Then there was a letter which said that Fiji had ceased another vessel. And so what can the Government do, in addition, the vessels travel through Tutuila, what is the plan of the Government, if nothing can be done with this vessel here. I have thought that comes the start of this month of February, there would be a shortage of chicken meat. But another vessel will arrive on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February on that time schedule, which is in 3 weeks' time. There was a special doing by the Committee which changes its plans, that a vessel will arrive and that guidelines will be laid out so as to avoid anyone, if it is our country that this vessel is bringing in this contracted person with Covid19.

Mr Speaker, there were renegotiations, for the vessel's arrival and departure schedule and nothing was affected. Then there was the continuous supply of chicken meat, although there were concerns about the arrival of this vessel. That was the only time I had heard of the chicken supply problem due to the problematic plans of the wholesalers and the scheduled time for incoming shipment. Secondly, is rice. Rice sacks contains dirt in it. Mr Speaker, everyone here buys rice. Why then is the rice filled with dirt, when we are buying them, there should not be any dirt. There is a lot of insults and slandering made against the store owners. Most particularly against the Chinese who are wedded to Samoan women and are operating local stores. There is a majority of Samoans, more than 1,000 that are employed by these foreign business investors.

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Such is the case honorable Speaker that the Government is trying to bring the various business investors, to create employment for our children. Although what is happening now? If an investor is from New Zealand or Australia or Great Britain no one talks. But when a Chinese is seen, there is a lot of slandering. The many insults and fabrications. Mr Speaker, these are no normal acts done by the members of Parliament that is founded on God.

Another thing Mr Speaker, there are a lot of cases involving house constructions for families. Since the continuous migration of our people abroad, to take up seasonal working jobs. That is what I meant as there is no reason why there is shortage in the importation of food supplies since, we do have enough money.

As that is the entire key to the smooth running of trading as we have sufficient savings to plan for our trades. But the reason for the continuous problems is because there is the concern for long term vision of suppliers. But the reason for submitting these things before Parliament is to create jealousy.

Mr Speaker, it is the heart, especially at this time of general elections. The many insulting statements captured by the Government and wasted. There comes a time for the Government to respond to them because we cannot brush them aside, leave aside accusations like these. It can cause chaos in the country in the future. And wickedness is still being carried out and cannot be ignored, and if this malevolent act exists inside this House. Then outside of this House, there is no free defense to doing evil practices.

Mr Speaker, this is why I stood up, to give thanks to the Hon Minister, his statement has allowed for slandering thoughts to exist, and reason I rose to make correction. But it is good to make correction, for the country to be well aware, on reason for making these defaming statements that is misguiding the foresight of people. Mr Speaker, this is the addition. I have thought of giving a clear statement afterwards with regards to our current debate.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well thank you. Is there anything member of Aiga ile Tai...

**Susuga Mulipola Leiataua Laki (Aiga i le Tai):** Mr Speaker, the area stated by the Leader of the Government, I did not want to interrupt the wonderful speech of the Hon Minister yesterday. However I have longed thought and have planned to speak after the statement of the Minister.

This morning, such is the plea, the situation with the statement of the Hon Prime Minister, because these are baseless statements made against this House yesterday. And it is all connected now with the roadshow carried out yesterday at my district.



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Your honor, it is heavy in the heart, since last night, God is listening, I did not sleep all night last night. Why? I had watched the roadshow in the other island. I had also watched again the roadshow in Satuimalufilufi. And have recorded, you have seen here the many pages, which are to record down. My constituency is now full of bad things and false accusations, misguided information which I pity.

Even I, I have been roasted by these vulgar people pardon the language. Mr Speaker, I wholly support the Prime Minister's statement, but pitifully, even the Prime Minister is being disdained by these people. They have been severely insulted without any boundaries. Now where is that respect when they come in here and say, do take it easy with your tasks. Where? There is no harmonious living for the country, I have remained sleepless last night, and my constituency have been contacting me.

**MR SPEAKER:** Who are directing your remarks to?

**Susuga Mulipola Leiataua Laki:** The FAST Political Party, the Hon Laauli and the Party. The statements made were quite serious and for that reason I cannot just sit here vainly. But I am shocked for them to go there on their own freewill whilst construction works are ongoing there, there is the ongoing wharf construction, and the finished garden toilet with 5 rooms, and a bus stop. The wharf was built right there, my water supply is done, and there was an area that was fixed for water supply. Mr Speaker, it cannot be taken lightly. Because even with this House, they are also insulting the meetings we have here. Such is reason I cannot just sit still.

I heed appreciation to the reverend elder, Susuga Maluelue, and the word preached yesterday. I salute the EFKS reverend, who led the service, and the direct word upon the divisive spirit and the hostile spirit which must omitted. How can they lead the Government if all they do is give bad talks. Mr Speaker, this is no light matter to me. Because it seems that I am stupid to the people, but I did not come in here carelessly. My win from the general elections was quite a tremendous record ever since the start of elections for Aiga ile Tai.

So what now, the seat of Aiga ile Tai is being hugely abased and demeaned. They have made insults, the member from Savaii should have been the member for Aiga ile Tai. Why did he not give support to your many speeches in the House a member for Aiga ile Tai. A threshold has now been set down, bring Satui in here, to raise the number for Aiga ile Tai, and the...and two chances for this Term. This member did not come here in vain, but these people have brought forth invectives. I beg tolerance honorable Speaker, Hon Prime Minister, Cabinet and the listening Samoa.

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I appease, there was no sleep the entire night last night. We have given it to God for his assistance today, because it is not cheap. I beg lenience if a statement is offensive, forgive us. The word of the bible, it is not like a blow of the wind. May God bless the Sitting of the country.

**MR SPEAKER:** You are taking two chances, pardon the member. I am bearing assistance; I am starting to give up. Thank you.

**Susuga Laauli Polataivao Leuatea (Gagaifomauga No 3):** Mr Speaker, I wish to get a chance please. Opportunity is now open to make statements for this side please. Honorable Toleafoa we wish to speak.

**MR SPEAKER:** Because that side was mentioned, this is the concern for me Aiga I le Tai, your will is now given. I have stopped it lest you get epilepsy, pardon me, the language given and the weight you are carrying around. All of us are like that sometimes we have to have patience. But since the Political Party was mentioned, I call upon Laauli, do bear in mind to speak kindly, in accordance with the agreement of the country given, such is the nature of a woman.

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** Mr Speaker, this new day we have risen to good strength, through the love and goodness of God, the support of Samoa especially this Parliament. I beg your pardon Samoa, today, there is a different feeling this morning. There is also an unlike level we have reached in our Sitting today.

Your honour, the constituency is sole witness as we were there yesterday. These words are not ours which was reason for mentioning the name of the constituency. The question put forth in relation to our clarification on this matter. It is offense and our policies. This was reason for our response, which was clear and understandable. What can be done to people who sit in the House when the order has been violated? That is how our clarification came in. Based on the conditions of our campaign, to clarify the policies of the Political Party, in order to elaborate the proceedings of the general elections. But there is no intention to defame, to insult the constituency. No, Toleafoa, despite the storm of the day, we have gone through this issue, the point of our story, is for us to meet with the constituency.

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We did not go there to make disparaging remarks. The message given by the church minister, was to give our response, and the floor was connected like the saying. As for what the member is saying Mulipola, it is your offense which has brought this matter to where we are now. But do beg lenience we did not mean to go there and slander you. The word that was said, the House has breached the order. This led us to say our word. What the Hon Prime Minister was saying, Tuilaepa I beg your pardon. The only thing we said is their rudeness toward the country. The statements made against Samoa, has our agreement and respect. Rather we are not causing any disorder within the country. We are just promoting our manifestos, for Samoa to question what we should do, and whether they agree with our purpose. I have given it in the oath I made, is this not enough.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Prime Minister, pardon me Laauli...

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoui:** We are no fools, honorable Speaker. We are all reading the words you are uttering; we are all reading them. Why are you all like that? You have gone to all the constituencies of members to bring insults. Why do you do not go to your own constituencies, all you four here. Why do you not go to your own constituencies to give your clarifications? There are members of constituencies here who can give their own clarifications, instead of you to go and make very vulgar serious statements. Do not betray, you who have just stood up, member of Gagaifomauga No.3. The country is full because of your lies. They are filled, you do not misguide this House.

There is a saying you can fool the minority, but you can never fool the country. Whatever else you utter? What else can you say? Samoa has seen what you have done inside this House. Anything that comes from your mouth, the country is well aware. That is also reason you are visiting the rural areas, because there is no chance for us to make corrections. As such, until I finish, you two are talking. Until I finish my correction, and whatever you can say, all the words you have spoken today, none of it is true. Because we are looking at your propagations...

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** Mr Speaker, pardon your will, the country is tuning in. Tuilaepa that is your own thought. Because you have sole authority to the House. What is our chance here, you are tying us up.

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**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, please whether permission has been granted...

**MR SPEAKER:** I beg forbearance Laauli as I allow the interjection and correction of the Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, we are again receiving these allegations. The freewill inside this House. Which seems to replicate the slandering of the Chair. You have witnessed Parliamentary decisions, the rulings that have been made, yet they have been defamed, insult the rulings already made to approve the Laws. And what is happening now? Slur the Laws already approved, and show the country, why there is objection. When they have all been approved by Parliament. As such there comes a time for me to come to this matter. The decisions already passed by Parliament, as for you to abuse the integrity and dignity of this Parliament. Mr Speaker, whatever the member says, there is no further matter than what we have seen. What is seen inside the House, whatever word he utters, it is only a lizard and gecko that do not know, the nature of this upstanding member.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well thank you. There is the thought...

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** Your honour. I wish not to say anything further, Toleafoa, I will not. Tuilaepa, whether you do not trust me, I do not worry. The only thing I am concerned about is Samoa. As for our relationship, I do not trust you too anymore that is why I walked out...

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

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** I do not worry, nor do you whether you believe in me or not, because I too do not trust you. My trust is gone.

**MR SPEAKER:** I beg tolerance, bear us your patience.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** The only thing I wish to correct, is the member saying he does not believe.

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There is no one else here who trusts you. Not only this House but Samoa as a whole. Because they are watching us here, up until today. Even your letters submitted to me, they are still signed, Laauliolemalietoa. Leave aside your desire to be a Malietoa, you are not a Malietoa.

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** I now get why your feelings are hurt. We are now aware why the Prime Minister is hurt. Tuilaepa, my entire body is the blood of Malietoa. Measure the gap between us, and your connection to the genealogy of Malietoa.

**MR SPEAKER:** Lay it out to the country for their support.

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** Calm down as the country is listening in. The constituency is tuning in, that is my salutation, Laauliole malietoa. If we are to lay out the genealogy of Malietoa, I do not know how you are connected.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, just this small matter. I have heeded appreciation, the small hen which is covered, is now cooing. Oh I pity you; you are too arrogant and very haughty.

**Susuga Mulipola Leiataua Laki:** Just this bit honorable Speaker.

**MR SPEAKER:** There is view, I beg the tolerance to the member...

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** Mr Speaker, it is finished. I will lay aside these words and will...show where the person sits...I will lay it here, Samoa's length will be set aside, because the huge scrubs, until we go to Lepa to point you where you sit. (Do not turn off your mic too often).

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, if we go to Lepa, you know very well what to do. You listen to Fatialofa and Auelua. You are very prideful.

**MR SPEAKER:** The heavy rain is gushing, but I am of the view...Laauli

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** Tuilaepa, bear in mind genealogy, the reason you extend to these matters is because you are the Prime Minister.

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It is all clear and understandable the ancestry of Auelua and Fatialofa. Ask. Ask.

**MR SPEAKER:** I have thought, with the water flowing from the mountains however it has severely damaged Vaisigano, *e a ulu tafeaga ae selefutia Vaisigano* to the listening public. Pardon me Laauli...Mulipola, the view here I beg tolerance. Mulipoloa...Laauli...do bear forbearance.

**Susuga Mulipola Leiataua Laki:** Your rudeness is getting too much...have some respect. You did make those promises and now you are saying you did not say anything against the Prime Minister. We are all respecting that man.

**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** Brother you have just shown respect yesterday...you have just come in yesterday...

**Susuga Mulipola Leiataua Laki:** You have longed been in this House however you are stupid.

**MR SPEAKER:** I beg lenience to Aiga i le Tai, because our sitting seems like... because Samoa is tuning in. But the chance was granted, with the thought you would point out the interruptions, and what exactly they are after. But now that the member of Manono is upstanding, the feeling is like that, because he is objecting to the Prime Minister's statement. We have also requested the Hansard with regards to members' statements from yesterday. From there will we know exactly what Olo was saying. There was accusation on those who have responded to our Sitting. The private sector and suppliers are being blamed on this matter. The cost of goods has been raised when there is a delay in vessels. Furthermore, the sacks of sugar and sacks of rice are not 100% quality, yet we are all using these products; however nothing is being confirmed. Such was the opportunity granted to the member for Aiga o le Tai. Nevertheless, this chance has allowed him to show his disappointment in regards to a visit by the FAST to his constituency. Such is the feeling for me, we all heed patience, but there is a time this becomes too much, because we are no angels. Although there is a time for us to slip away from the power of the Holy Spirit so as to bear the spirit of patience and perseverance. Nonetheless, the important thing is that Samoa is now receiving us. Have pity that whatever happens in this Parliament, stays in here, then there is the thought, I will now cut this matter off Laauli...Manono is upstanding, such is the thought, since this matter was covered in the Prime Minister's statement.

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**Susuga Hon Laauli Polataivao Leuatea:** I beg the pardon of the honorable Speaker, if I have overstepped a word. I bid forgiveness this morning. Just this to say, this is not what we did. I beg forbearance to the honorable Speaker, despite the heated exchanges made, I beg lenience. Bless the proceedings of our Sitting today.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, the matter I wish to talk about, is a serious one for the sake of the country. In relation to the ordering of goods supplies. But the reason for raising this is due to the interjection of the member for Gagaifomauga No.3. There is the saying, a chicken that sticks around the home is thrown. But I have stood up to clarify this bit, and the member of Manono is about to upstand.

In my judgement, my correction is directed to. Because it is serious for the food consumption of the country. As for this interjection, it is reason for the electrocution this morning. As for me alone, nothing is happening. Because there is lack of patience from the fellow member, nevertheless I bid my forgiveness. Mr Speaker, I beg tolerance, because I should have taken the lead by way of forgiveness. I too am a human being and am no angel. The corrections I make, the main essence, is to provide clarification for the sake of the listening public. Because we did not attend their meetings, although we have received all their broadcastings. That is what happens with your live feeds. As such, let us bear forgiveness, as the Hon Minister Sala is way prepared to speak of these matters. It is best that we start with our talks, this sitting day is a long one, which will finish tonight at 10.

Your honorable Mr Speaker, this is the assistance.

**MR SPEAKER:** I beg your pardon Mulipola...

**Susuga Mulipola Leiataua Laki:** Please just a minute for us to say a forgiveness. I also take the seriousness of defamatory allegations made this morning. I beg forbearance to the dignity of the House, and the brother member Laauli. That is how vehicles when it gets overheat. There are two things you can rely on, whether to wait and allow the water tank to cool down or open the water tank like that. So until this overheats cools down. I beg tolerance, I will conclude now. With all due respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well, I call upon the reverend member of Lufilufi. Alaiasa, to bring forth your statement, because you have 2 hats, it is Lufilufi and the Lineage Fenunuivao, 3 the Whip.

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**Afioga Alaiasa Muagututi’a Moefaaouo Malagaitutogiai Sepulona Moananu (Anoamaa East):** Mr Speaker I have observed the proceedings of our Meeting this morning, and your prayer delivered to our Lord this morning, it was wonderfully received and spiritually felt. It is reason there are high hopes this morning upon the respectable members. There have been many comments, and there are those that observe and those that talk. I further pray for the members of Parliament, to not bear refutation, but to remain calm.

The words made to the land and village of Atua Atua, “*Ia ali lava utumo’u ae lilo utumā.*” So whatever issues we have today, may we bear the assistance from the spirit of God. May the spirit of God be upon everyone so that peace is received in our Sitting.

I guess this is our voice bearing the spirit of humility, and may we bear stillness during our proceedings, and may blessings be upon our works from God. As for overlapped exchanges, there is no truth in any of it, there are only lies coming from them. Bless the Sitting and your honor.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well thank you. Well this is exactly what you call assistance. Alaiasa is correct, see there is Laauli and Faumui yet again we have Tuitama and the old man. It seems like... The Old Man seems patient, as for the papers passed from Tuitama is reason why the Old Man is upstanding. Tuitama do not pass those pieces of papers to the old man. I allow the chance to Peseta. Do consider not to interject lest there is disorder again.

**Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevagaena (Faasaleleaga No.4):** Mr Speaker, I was sitting here giving support to the statements made this morning. However I upstand in regards to his matter which I cannot just sit on.

**MR SPEAKER:** What is the matter?

**Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevagaena:** Since the matter raised by the member from Manono, saying it is us who is being affected by this notice made by FAST yesterday.

**MR SPEAKER:** Do bear tolerance...

**Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevagaena:** Mr Speaker I am trying to clarify this confusion.



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**MR SPEAKER:** Afioga Peseta, look. That is how it is. You can see that I am trying to administer our session, but you have thrown stones and create a dispute here. I appease the member there will come a time...

**Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevagaena:** Very well I will abide Mr Speaker, I will comply.

**MR SPEAKER:** Well, let us proceed...this will only cause dispute with you standing up, please be considerate and help with our work.

**Afioga Peseta Vaifou Tevagaena:** Thank you Mr Speaker. That is the case because it has affected me and my district, however I shall abide considering your advice Mr Speaker, but this matter is very serious. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well thank you. I acknowledge you brother for lending a hand. Well, it is the way of life, but the Lord recognizes the truth. The Bible says, "God works good things for the person who is good and close to God." Do not worry.

Tuitama, is there anything that...

**Afioga Hon Tuitama Talalelei Tuitama (Minister of Women, Community and Social Development):** Thank you for the opportunity. Since this member was mentioned and in case the House might wonder what the Leader of the House is passing to me. The Hon Prime Minister is witnessing my attention to stand since it also affected me as I had also bought a sack of rice. He has given me advice to be considerate of our time so that we can proceed with our Sitting. Now I do not stand, but with the utmost reasons I should stand to correct this in case there is suspicion towards me. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** How was your bag of rice, was it good or was it bad? Well, I apologize as opportunities were given to other members. I call upon the Hon Faumuina Tiatia Liuga, member for Palauli le Falefa.

**Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga (Palauli le Falefa):** Mr Speaker, thank you. No, the member for Palauli le Falefa prespective, according to the Apostle.... Mr Speaker, a word of encouragement from Paul to us, do not repay evil for evil, but repay evil for good. That is the important thing that has occurred this morning, the members have forgiven each other.

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These are exact traits of the devil; he is bent on destroying things that are good for people. Right now, it is trying to manipulate the opinions of members chosen by their constituencies to seek the welfare of Samoa. Samoa will not be blessed because of disparities. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well thank you. I call upon the Hon Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

**Tofa Hon Lopao Natanielu Mua (Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries):** Thank you for the opportunity. I rise with respect to deliver some advice to Peseta, the member for Faasaleleaga 4, the house at the back is available if there is still no agreement then you are able to throw hands, but no, do not. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Well. I believe this is the opportunity for Sala, because these are typical gatherings of old men, yes. It starts with quarrels, it is like that, but gradually it progresses to reconciliation. Now that it is over... I believe that the extent of our work today will never again be in a situation like this. With thought, I call upon the Hon Sala to speak according to subjects that had been raised by members.

**Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai (Salega East):** Mr Speaker, I beg your pardon.

**MR SPEAKER:** Oh, have you just arrived in Olo? Welcome, it appears you have just arrived.

**Tofa Olo Fiti Afoa Vaai:** Thank you. Well, it seemed it was I who.... with the subject raised yesterday causing conflict. Thank you very much. I was great listening to the devotional this morning. It was impeccable.

But Lufilufi is right, let us go as it is, let us submit our Proceedings to the Almighty and be with us throughout and everything will be fine. But there is always dispute from what I hear, it is between Laauli and Tuilaepa, apparently these two quarrels all the time. Well, please stop arguing all the time. The important aspect though, is that we had all seen the products that were imported from overseas countries. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

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**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, this is something I must stand up for. Mr Speaker, this is the issue that I stand to explain of what occurred yesterday because the accusations made by the members who have just arrived are serious. That means, he merely does not understand the essence of what was discussed. However, if you are considerate of your Party, accept that you are late. But I thank you since you were the only one that attended yesterday.

Well, Mr Speaker, that is an additional comment.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. I call upon Hon Afioga Sala to speak on some of the issues raised by members, the Hon Minister of Tourism and other Ministries.

**Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI (Minister of Tourism):** Mr Speaker, I had thought that perhaps I would not be speaking this morning. But you are right, storms often are associated with calm. Such is the order of life.

Mr Speaker, I am but a humble person. Therefore, I greet the sanctity of the House in all respects as I stand before you all this morning. This is the member of Malaeola and Gafoga, because we were classified as the district of Gagaemauga No.1, since there has been a change made by Government due to the elections, it is why we had changed the name of our constituency to Sagaga 3. Well to my district, I ask for your support as I stand to voice our duties for Samoa listening as well as the support of our village.

Tiafau stands bravely and sacredly on the grounds where Tumua and Pule fought. Our space is also sacred considering the dignitaries present here. As it is the usual saying, when all respects of the country are gathered, *ua liligo le fogatia, ua pau le tuaau ma fuamalu*. Also, when fishermen go fishing in the reef, they would shout the waves have break and the sea is starting to be calm. Then I thought Mr Speaker this is the image of this morning. I therefore convey my respects, in accordance with the House the Parliament of Samoa. It is said that all respects have gathered. Pardon me.

I acknowledge the support of His Excellency Le Ao o le Malo and your Good Lady. I also greet the respectable Member of the Council of Deputies. Also, with respect I salute the holy servants of God serving in various alter.

I would like to welcome you, Mr Speaker.

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I also would like to welcome the Hon Prime Minister, Men and Women Ministers of the Cabinet as well as Associate Ministers, not forgetting all members of the House of Samoa who are able to gather here this morning.

I would also like to acknowledge and welcome Heads of Government Ministries and Private Entities.

I greet the respects of Samoa, starting from the *Tai Samasama* of the Tuimanua until it reaches the *Taiulaula* of Nafanua. These are the respects of *Tama ma Aiga, o Aiga ma Tama, o le usoga a Tumua ma Pule, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga i le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti*.

Least I cannot forget to greet our Island in the East. The respects of *Sua ma le Vaifanua, Fofu ma Aitulagi, Saole ma Saleaamua ma le Launiu Saelua. Afio le Laau na Amotasi le Auvaa o Tootoo ma upu i le Manuatele*. These are the respects of Samoa settled here in Tiafau, making Parliament grounds sacred this morning.

We are now nearing the conclusion of our work for this Parliamentary term. But I am reminded of the scripture of the Psalmist that states, “After we have done the good job, we say, we are but useless servants.” Then I am reminded, let us look to the mountains where our greatest help will come.

Mr Speaker, I would like to convey my appreciation and congratulations to all respectable members for their speeches, especially the recommendations and advice for developments and the work our Government is currently doing. There are not many issues raised by the views expressed by the members in this Ministry or on developments that are under my supervision. But Mr Speaker, I will start off with developments on tourism.

Many are aware of the impeccable contribution it had to the economy of our country in the past. Now, you are aware of Covid-19, the economy is struggling, there are no tourists visiting our country. It is not just Samoa, but the whole world is suffering and affected. The effects of the Covid-19... have completely impacted a total of 140 accommodations in Samoa, and also restaurants, the attraction sites, taxi drivers, tour operators and many have lost their jobs. Mr Speaker, despite these difficulties your Government is still giving its full support to help in any part of the development of our country, this is also our contribution. I sit here with thoughts, the success of a village, is working together.

If we are divided, then the power is not complete and then we do not have the power that our economy should have.

I would like to mention some comparisons in the previous years in the total income that this industry was able to obtain. In the year 2014 to 2015, the total number of visitors was 133,070. The cash flow was \$347.5 million.

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In the year 2015-2016, the total number of tourists was 146,105. The revenue was \$385.1 million. The year 2016-2017 it was 146,437. The amount received was \$387.6 million, 2017-2018, the total number of tourists was 153,323. Total income was \$454.2 million. In the year 2018-2019, the total number of tourists was 178,564. The total received was \$514.10 million. 2019-2020 it dropped, it dropped immensely.

I believe you are all aware, not only was there Covid-19, but also Measles. There were 124,399 tourists that had visited the country. The total received was \$375.30 million. It was a huge drop in the year 2020/2020. This is the serious effect of the Covid-19. These numbers are compared to those that had visited, 77% travelled from New Zealand, Australia and American Samoa.

Now we come to air travel. The resumption of flights by Samoa Airways to New Zealand and Australia in the year 2017, has greatly contributed to the increase in the number of tourists, not only was there a decrease in airfares, but with the additional seats that were available for those travelling from our main markets in terms of promotion in foreign countries. Samoa is one country that has expensive packages. Ever since the arrival of the Samoa Airways, there has been a drop in airfares and there is more opportunity for Samoa to compete with other airlines.

In terms of the impact of tourism development, there is a large impact on development in the financial year 2019/2020, due to the Measles, which affected the country in November 2019 and Covid-19 in March 2020/2020. This resulted to the closing of flights as well as entry of tourists from overseas tourists. This reduced the number of tourists by 30% compared to the year 2018/2019 because flights were only open 3 quarters of the year. Revenue decreased by 27%, which fell to \$375.3 million from \$514.1 million received in the year 2018/2019. What are the effects, what are the effects of Covid-19 and Measles, and what have caused this? Well, I will read it out Mr Speaker and the respects of the House.

There was a total of 5,651 individuals that had been employed within this sector at the end of 2019. A total of 3,877 or 68.7% of the workforce in the sector whose jobs were affected, due to the low number of tourists. 2,706 of them have been permanently laid off, while 1,171 of them have reduced working hours to 20 hours a week, 20 hours. A total of 1,774 are still remaining and employed at the end of the year 2020.

Projects that were implemented under partnerships with overseas countries. There is not enough gratitude for our partnerships from New Zealand that are continuously assisting with construction and installation of signs and history of each attraction. Some signs have been erected at the sights under the first phase of this program.

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These attractions include the Dwarfs Cave in Paia, Footprint of Moso at Falealupo, Falealupo Canopy Walk and Fafa o Saualii, Vai Suatoto, and the Cave in Laauoleola at Aopo, Pool of Mataolealelo in Safune and the Peapea Cave in Paia. The giant clam Reserve in Savaia and the Fuipisia Waterfall at Lotofaga. The total amount of money spent on these areas is more than \$100,000+ spent on these projects, including Upolu, especially the repair of these signs that have been damaged by our people.

**MR SPEAKER:** Apologies Hon Minister, since we have come to our morning recess, please conclude your speech. I believe there is not much more to discuss today. But when we return from recess you may conclude your speech, Hon Minister.

I announce that proceedings of the Legislative Assembly will be set aside for its usual morning recess.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside for the usual recess at 10:45am and resumed at 11.40am.*

*Debates continued with Government Responses on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021*

**MR SPEAKER:** I announce that the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly have resumed. I believe we have all been given strength to continue the work of Parliament, as well as Heads of Government Departments and Organizations. Before we took a break, the Hon Minister of Tourism was voicing his explanation.

I respectfully call upon the Afioga Sala, the Hon Minister.

I beg your pardon Hon Minister since the Tuiatua Faanofonofu is upstanding, the member for Aleipata Itupa I Lalo.

**Afioga Tafua Maluelue Tafua (Aleipata Itupa i Lalo):** Thank you Mr Speaker, thank you for the opportunity. I rise with respect, as I have acquired your clarifications Mr Speaker, as to conclude the speech of the Hon Minister of Tourism. I wanted to interrupt earlier, but I was worried when you asked for the Hon Minister to conclude his statement. This is why I take the floor with respect. There are 2 parts, to add another day for the Hon Sala to voice his response as this is the senior's last speech.

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Second, standing up to thank and congratulate this kind and wise Minister, in the allocation of income from the Ministry of Tourism. I have been listening to Mr Speaker, but a point of clarification, or the speech conveyed by the Hon Minister. I noted that the amount of money starts from 16 to 385, so it is between \$300+ million. Then in 2018 it is \$454 million, it is increasing. By 2019 it is \$514 million, this is such a big amount, what is fascinating is, in 2020 it still remains on \$370 million. I take my hat off to you Hon Sala, I am not praising you, I am only grateful for the amount of money received. I was right about my speech if you had noticed. I had expressed, this is the only Budget of Samoa that would make economists overseas go crazy and dizzy over. When they listen to our various sources of income. Not only with tourists alone, I assume if these funds were divided, the proximity is either a quarter or half, received from our own people who come here as tourists. This is why I convey my acknowledgement and appreciation to the Hon Minister.

Mr Speaker, I take the floor, to voice that I am carefully listening to the speech of the Minister. For the knowledge of Parliament, everyone is aware of all this. The spin-offs are the benefits we get.... especially by those groups, that own rentals, buses, taxis, hotels and not only that but maids as well.

These women are the ones that tidy the bedrooms and does the cleaning for the hotels. Chefs as well as the general public tend to dine in at hotel restaurants. Museums, I will come back to museums, this is why I stood up. There is something that I want to talk about on museums. Not only that but signposts, this is the important aspect of a sign, it is vital. There was something that happened in Christchurch for understanding...

**MR SPEAKER:** Is this a clarification or an interruption.

**Afioga Tafua Maluelue Tafua:** Mr Speaker I am interrupting because of museums. I want to comment first on signposts, while we are on the subject, because it is very important Mr Speaker for the safety and security of our people. There was a stop sign that was set up down at Christchurch, the longest road is a four corner. The kids stole this sign, took it away, and destroyed the stop sign. People died, pardon me, what I am saying is true, that is what happened.

This is a suggestion and a word of advice, please consider our signs and do not destroy it. Village council should also be involved in this matter.

But I will address the matter on why I stood up, Mr Speaker the matter of attractions with respect. I had learned from the speech of the Hon Minister, please correct me if I am wrong. You stated that there is only \$100,000, a hundred thousand?

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There was only \$100,000 given to restore the attraction sites. Mr Speaker, we have a lot of attraction sites. My recommendation and suggestion while the Minister of Finance is listening, allocate another \$500,000, give half a million to add on to these tourism developments for the improvement of our attraction sites. Why? It is not only the foreigners that visit these sites Mr Speaker, but you will also explore these when you are free and retired. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** I appease respectable members; it is through mutual respect that I am trying to delegate. This is one senior member of this side of Chamber, we are unaware if he will return, but these are his last suggestions and recommendation. There is this saying of the Government, let it be laid forth to you, now that he has acknowledged your work. Thank you all for the work.

I call upon Afioga Sala Fata Pinati.

**Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI:** Mr Speaker, I would like to acknowledge my brother from Itupa I Lalo for his comment. The matter that was raised if it is \$100,000, no it is true there is an addition. There is a plus with the \$100,000 that was used, the exact amount that was utilized is not mentioned. However, I am aware that a huge amount was spent. The long-term plan is to increase capital for developments done at this time. Signposts have been mentioned, there is an additional innovation, it will arrive in 3 months, it is the google maps. What is google map, it is an app you can use on your phone. For those travelling here, as well as our country, if you need directions, where the hotel is, village or family. You can ask the app, give me the location of the home of Tafua Maluelue in Matautu. Then it gives directions on which road to take. This is where this plan has been laid. In other words, Samoa will be the same as other overseas countries. You will not have to research where you are heading. Right when you enter Samoa, you have the means to communicate and use this application. It would tell you what you need to do to get to a village or a workplace that you are asking to go to.

For instance, when you jump into the car, you could ask the app to show the directions of where you are headed. That is what we call a Google Map. The restoration of our attraction sites, this is the first phase of this program, we have improved some of the sites in Savaii and Upolu. A few of these Historical Sites are, Afu Aau Waterfalls in Palauli, Saleaula Lava Fields and Lanuolaola Cave in Aopo. The falls at Fuipisia as well as in Sopoaga, with an estimate cost of NZD\$480,000 or \$913,000 that was utilized on these attractions. These are not all, we continuously work on many more, continuing on restoration of these tourist sites this year and distribute these benefits to each community, because it is their developments, the attraction sites.



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There is Papaseea falls in Seesea, Papaitai waterfall at Tiavi, Swimming with Turtles at Leapai, the Giant clam Reserve at Savaia, the Asaga Mangroves as well as the Palolo Deep in Apia. The total amount that would be allocated here is \$1.3 million or NZ\$760,000, reserved for restoration of these sites. Look at the many blessings that are pouring in. I convey my spirit of gratitude.

**MR SPEAKER:** Apologies to the member, Hon Minister, as I call upon Afioga Tiatia Liuga from Palauli le Falefa.

**Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga:** Thank you Mr Speaker, for the opportunity. I am listening yet I do not hear the tourist attractions from my district, it has been a while now since I had requested the Board and the Hon Minister, about the *Papa o le Faatolotologatama*. In addition is the Maasogi, if you caress it, the path of poverty will shorten. Another one Mr Speaker, is the Faugagana, the destination of where the old man Taemanutavae had stayed. With these as stated are beyond and will be remained forever that requires to be marked. Many tourists visit these areas, it is important that they are able to restore roads, so that tourists are able to go there and see it. Because these will bring fortunes for us, our myths and legends. With respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Please note these down .... The man Taemanutavae. I call upon the member for Falealili, Tofa Aumua.

**Tofa Aumua Isaia Lameko (Falealili West):** Thank you, Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I also thank the Hon Minister in accordance with tourist sites being read out.

I recall I had spoken about tourist sites. As of one of the sites at my village of Malaemalu, the Punaotala waterfall. Not forgetting the Togitogiga Waterfall, as it was missed out on sites noted. This is one site that is being used by many of the public. I request Hon Minister, to review these sites again. Thank you.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Hon Minister of Tourism.

**Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI:** I acknowledge the members who raised these matters. For the clarification of the House, Palauli le Falefa had been submitting their request for quite some time now. What I am emphasizing is not made up, these are facts. There is nothing kept, as we have reached the end of the Parliament term. The sun will rise again, the sun will rise, and the Almighty will provide through the days.

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When you have faith and trust that the Lord is alive, then you say. Lord, appoint me if it is your will. Works bears fruit, why? These sites have long been a dream of this country.

There is nothing to be left behind in restoring attractions of Samoa, we already have plans, as given on programs, as advertised on television, to promote vacations in Samoa. We have also received news from overseas, Sala, we thought that there are no beautiful sights in Samoa, but now that we have learned and have seen it directly, when the obligation was given. Overseas countries have seen our vacation sites displayed on television. Such is the spirit.

For Falealili, thank you. I recall when we went with Fuimaono and had a meal at the back. I could never forget the luau marinated with lemon, I am not sure if any of you have had it, maybe not. The truth is I envy Falealili.... thank you, Fuimaono and Sili, after I tasted it, I actually thought that corn beef and fried beef would be better. But now I testify, Samoan cuisines are the best. If our local accommodations in the country are listening, do not cook any more western food. According to one of the hotel owners in Savaii. I asked why not cook Samoan cuisine. the genuine answer given. It is cheaper to cook western food rather than catering for dishes for the Samoans. This is the situation if we go dine at a restaurant and they offer only fish and chips. As well as other things like... eggs, mackerel sandwich and all. And you reply, as stated by the Prime Minister, are there any flat pancakes, and the reply is no. Is there any lemonade, yet still nothing, why? Why do we not provide things that promote the country.

Those who travel from overseas are aware of it, they want to try out and see the true culture and traditions of Samoa. Mr Speaker, these will all be done in time with Gods will. We are nearing the end of the term. If a promise or a word is given now. But after the elections, some will say, alas the elder has retired after being defeated in elections. No, do not worry, leave our weaknesses to the Almighty.

I do not go to church; most Sundays I do not go to church; however I do pray. This is my prayer to Jesus the Divine Mercy. It is done at 3 in the morning and 3 in the afternoon, I will not say it in case some might think I want to be holy. But the person alone is weak, a human has weaknesses, but if you love God and are faithful, God will do great things for you and me.

For the restoration of attraction sites, the amount of NZD\$480,00 or \$913,000 will go to the continuation of the improvement of sites this year. As well as to distribute benefits to certain communities that have yet to receive it.

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The total cost is \$1 million \$300,000 or NZ\$760,000. We are in preparations on bids for the implementation of these works and will be advertised immediately. It is planned that these improvement works will be done in the month of July.

Training for unemployed workers. This work is being implemented at the moment. General hygiene and the proper use of necessary protection, for instance, masks and especially chemicals suitable for hotels. This training is done in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. This is for hotels to be aligned, especially the employees in the necessary protection from Covid-19. For the safety of workers and reduce the spread of the disease. After these trainings, chemicals will be distributed for free to assist development to ensure public cleanliness for visiting guests. There are also some training courses planned to start in April and May like Digital Marketing, or the promotion and distribution of meals such as cakes and pies. In English language it is called the Talent Training Pastry Training.

Mr Speaker, it would take more than an hour to read out numerous training courses that have been implemented within 5 years. But I think this is enough for now. However, I will still read out some of the work, because the work this member was appointed to do has not been completed. Mr Speaker most of these trainings, if our children are not prioritized, then our people should be prioritized. Educate our people so that they are aware of what should be done and be prepared. As there will come a time when our borders will open again and the country is aware, on what should be done. Noting our country's cleanliness, Mr Speaker.

More than \$1 million has been spent to improve the skills of more than 2,000 people in the last 5 years. Practical training that was implemented with the assistance of Government or Stimulus.

Training for workers will continue, this training will be funded by the Government, for the tourism industry, with a cost of \$1 million. Not only will they get their degrees, which can be used abroad, but this will increase their work skills, they will get benefits as well as weekly allowances to help their families. At the moment there are some trainings that have been completed. Communication, and modern technology, preparation of food and beverage. And other services when hosting. Certificate II for Tourism and Hospitality.

More than 500 recipients underwent these training courses with the help of the Government. And some of these training courses are still ongoing, with an increase on participants. These are some of the training courses that are planned to start this month and the next. Trainings for the housekeepers, housekeeping certificate .... leadership management. The toilet projects.

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Other programs are still on-going with the constructions of toilets for the general public. More than \$500,000 has been spent on this project. These were funds and grants from the European Union, in collaboration with our Tourism sector and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. These are the few facilities that have been completed and used. In Upolu, Robert Louis Stevenson at Vailima, Tiavea-Uta, Saleaumua, Lepa, Togitogiga, Lotofaga Safata, Saleimoa, Fasitoo-Uta, Manono-Uta. For Savaii, Vailoa Palauli, Fagafau, Aopo, Saleaula, there is a project conducted at Neiafu, at the moment it is near completion.

The Climate Change program. More than \$2 million has been spent on various programs, on reducing the effects of extreme climate sensitivity with this development. New Zealand and the United Nations have partnered, such as modern structures at Manase, where there is a wharf in Manase or the reclaimed lands to prevent the waves from eroding the sand. Hence there has been an increase of sand found inland, since there is this to separate it from the tide, it has prevented sand from eroding the coast of Manase. Some houses have also been built, which can respond to the effects of climate change and other assistance for Upolu as well as Savaii. We are currently looking for more assistance because we are still noticing that our sights are still being affected, due to the extreme changes in the weather. Let us pray that our overseas partners show kindness and be generous to give us funds to implement development for our people.

The promotional programs done within Samoa. The Government is not idle, as they encourage this development, in the country as well as the globe by promoting it in the newspaper, programs on TV, internet and others. These programs are not only to promote, but also to encourage and support our tourist attractions and restaurants, as advertised on TV in Tafaoga and Kuka.

The Kuka promotes cooking process, like the farm to table initiative. We are able to know the different methods and as well as the knowledge of the Samoan youth in the preparation of food, which is found in the lands of Samoa. Tafaoga is the promotion of numerous attraction sites in Samoa.

The members of Palauli le Falefa, we have been talking about this area for a long time, improving the attractions that you mentioned. There is a plan, if some funds are reinvested to carry out these developments of the Ministry of Tourism, I will consider. It will be implemented as help is needed, now that Samoa and the House have listened to your presentation, and the Government has responded, why would we not? If it is for the future of the country, do it and not be afraid. The Lord is observing what is good for the country and will do it.

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There will be a time in the future, that big developments will be laid forth, as in progress at the moment in New Zealand on continuous promotion for Samoa with Electronic Billboards, as witnessed in Auckland, so our citizens living in New Zealand are aware, of developments that we trying to do. We are less fortunate, but the Almighty's blessings are countless. We could never repay the love of God, make him the priority, pursue goodness, as we do what can be done, your oath on obligation is the priority for you and I. It is not just us, or workers who do the work.

You are a mother, a father, you are a matai the leader, keep in mind, we are below one umbrella, just one for Samoa and the future. Blessings be upon Samoa.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you.

**Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI:** I also take this opportunity to express our gratitude to our country, business owners, families, congregations, schools, Ministries and all Organizations that are using these services and helping out with our development. I acknowledge you; your assistance is needed for Samoa and its future.

We are not ceasing promotions to our markets overseas especially New Zealand and American Samoa, by the time borders are open, we will still be promoting Samoa overseas. But when the time flights are open again our promotional activities will still be continued. The show must go on, let us not sit back.

The Governments assistance through the stimulus has been announced, to help ease the burden through the training of those that are unemployed, to improve skills and other monetary assistance, but not only that, assistance on payment for water bills, electricity bill, wage subsidies. In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, we are currently implementing reductions on interest for loans and other things.

I am grateful to the Hon Minister of Finance, for your share as well as the Chief Executive of the Ministry. Although our wealth is limited, your shoulder is always lending a helping hand. Not only that, but the ongoing programs led by the Minister of Agriculture, well done Lopao, thank you for your patience and your work, I acknowledge you. Thank you all.

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There is high regard that this development will be visited again with assistance by the Government in the future. As stated by few members, developments the pillar of the economy, with the opinion that this will greatly contribute to the economy after the pandemic, now faced by our country and the whole world. There is also a warm thought, with the presence of our Lord, this economy will turn to its previous state, and it will be better, when compared to previous years.

Mr Speaker and respects of the House, last month in our Sitting, this branch of Government made a comment, in terms of its dreams. As I stated that there is a long-term development plan, which may reach a billion tala in the next 2 years. However, it did not happen, but leave it with God, Samoa is founded in God. What does that mean? It was not done so we could come to praise ourselves. The only reason I was appointed, and I know the reason why our Lord had appointed myself, was to become a servant, to be a humble servant.

I do not know what is good, but I confess, if you are honest in small things, you will rule over big things. Yes.

**MR SPEAKER:** Well it is true.

**Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI:** It begins from your community, from within your family, your good management of things. If you distribute well, you should love your neighbor, as God loves you, things will happen.

Mr Speaker, thoughts are endless, but because there are still a few other topics that need to be completed, with that I ask for your patience, yes.

Sitting today is very interesting, but the truth is, my feet are hurting from standing. If we are able to sing a song....

**MR SPEAKER:** Well, it all depends on your strength Hon Minister.

**Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI:** That is it. With that I move on Mr Speaker the Chief Auditors Office and...

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

**MR SPEAKER:** Well, let us take a break, gather strength while I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** It seems like the Hon Minister is requesting a break, as he is tired of standing.

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With that I..... before the Hon Minister moves on with the subject on Tourism, we have heard the clarifications of the Hon Minister. Half a billion was achieved with this development. The reason there is a drop was due to the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as measles. It started from the time of the measles.

It is here that this reflects another major challenge that would affect this big development. To be precise, this development has the biggest contribution to the economy of Samoa, and it creates a lot of employment for people. This is why it is important to encourage the restoration of our historical sites. These are the sites that people are eager to come to Samoa and see, then going to Fiji or Tonga for their tourist sites.

The importance of these sites is that it is something new. That means, it is not found in Tonga nor Fiji these are sites that attract tourists here, spending not just 2 days but 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 days here. The more days spent the more money earned by hotels. Also, more money for those selling green coconuts as well as those selling fans to compact the heat.

This is the significance of standing up again, to emphasize the topic of restoring our attraction sites, and the reason why there are drawbacks is due to the financial state. When it comes to attractions, they are new. There is sun in the country the tourist is from it has oceans, sand and waterfalls.

What does this mean? They do not have to come to see the waterfall or come to sunbathe. Nor do they come to swim in our beaches, they have beaches too. The most important thing is what is barely found in their countries. This is why when we look at it, there are certain attractions that are not found overseas. Such as the Pulemelei mound. The Pulemelei is the biggest pyramid mound within Polynesia, constructed with rocks. It is very high, and there is no other country in the Pacific that has this pyramid size like the one in Vailoa, the Pulemelei. Many people have not visited there. Therefore, such things, that are different attracts them here, not only that but Swimming with the turtles. This is something new for people, as well as the To Sua and Tolesua, it is heard as something new. This is why they are important.

But there are also some incidents that have occurred with some of our historical sites. Because for some of our historical sites there are certain limitations. Some have fallen ill from it, like the Dwarfs Cave in Savaii. A lot of people have fallen ill from there. Even at the To Sua, numerous people have lost their lives there. This is why it is important to have notices, as well as warnings, on the limitations of the sites, which is very important. It is very important for the Government to publicize these things, because if 3, 4, 5 people die from there, the Government may be sued for knowing these things but not put-up warnings.

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This is another reason why we should be cautious with our other historical sites, because there some limitations that only us Samoans understand. Thus, has resulted to some people being sick and dying from it.

Mr Speaker, there are many things that need to be done. All the work done by the Government, like roads, internet matters and the millions and millions of phones. And the transmission of these communications undersea. All these developments we can say are to encourage tourists, with expensive methods. Good ferries to travel to Savaii because for tourists, when they visit, they do so swiftly, so there should be good roads.

Also, they ought to remember that such developments are being implemented. Airports, for incoming flights, and the wharf to anchor cruise ships. These tourists do not swim here. Without these things, our development will be seriously affected. There is no small amount of work being done, it costs hundreds and hundreds of millions, to promote tourism and especially internet.

Because when the person goes to Savaii, and wants to communicate with families in Italy, the internet should be made available. Many times, we go to other countries in the Pacific, but we are unable to call back to Samoa. But what is the situation in Samoa? There is great improvement in communication, now to other things that will hold the interest of tourists to remain, there should be enough entertainment.

This is the reason for establishing the Teuila festival. Teuila for an entire week to keep people here and leave it to the time when there are no people travelling here. Hotels would be empty, also flights. So, it was decided to put it in August, which is the best time when people do not travel, but what has happened? This is the time when people, especially our families are the most crowded. Why? They want to come and watch Samoan dances. This is one thing that cannot be found elsewhere are the Samoan dances. You will find in Samoa the real Samoan dances. The food, Samoan food, these are what visitors want to eat Samoan foods not the steaks they are used to back in New Zealand. Or curry that is found in India.

What about Samoan food? A student that graduates from college would come and work here, for the service industry for caring and serving people from overseas, but when instructed to do a saka they refuse. But it is the saka that the visitor wants to eat, the Samoan dishes, there is a need to visit rural villages, where they go out and observe. That is why we started the beautification of villages, to further promote Samoa as the cleanest country. This is why when Samoa is compared to other countries of the Pacific, we are known to be the cleanest, that is one attraction, that encourages people to visit.



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The prices of hotels are good, we are tired of telling hotels to lower their prices, less than Fiji, especially with packages. Packages that include both airfare and hotel costs, but is happening? The Government has long conveyed this recommendation; however, our businesses or hotel owners are slow. They have just now become smart when Covid emerged, that it should be made cheaper, it should be made cheaper for our people. Now our hotels are full, especially on weekends. This was instructed a while back to be done, but it was not. Now they have just believed, on the matter suggested by the Government, including other forms of entertainment. Entertainment in the field of fishing, where sailors hold competitions here.

At the time of these competitions, no less than 50 people come with their families. Not only that, but the games, the games that are held. The players will go abroad, that is one way, by giving money for the players to go and the Government will keep encouraging people to go abroad, to make Samoa famous, attracting more people to come and relax in Samoa.

These are all the different things, our Government is trying to implement, so that Samoa can become well known. Even the big world meetings, this is one thing that draws meetings to Samoa. I would like to add to the clear statement of the member, of the actions that our Government is taking, is publicity so that people will come during big conferences or during a time when Samoa hosts games, like rugby, soccer and cricket. Hotels will then be full.

Mr Speaker, what I am hoping for, to add on to the Minister, are the various developments carried out by Government, which amounts to hundreds and hundreds of million, either given for roads, communication and others. Even with the services to the hospital, this is one reason why people come here, we have a dialysis unit, especially our people who want to come. Is there a dialysis unit there for me to come to? In the timeframe of 2 weeks that I am there? Before our dialysis unit was setup, there was no one that came over that was sick because they would die, because dialysis is done every 3 days.

Mr Speaker, this is further assistance, for the Minister to have enough rest, since he has been upstanding all morning, our strengths are not the same. I am much stronger in standing for longer periods than the Minister. Well over to you.

**Afioga Salausa John Ah Ching (Faleata East):** Mr Speaker an opportunity please.

**MR SPEAKER:** It is now over to Pat Mamaia who is upstanding, I call upon Afioga Salausa member for Faleata, for an additional statement.

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**Afioga Salausa John Ah Ching:** It is something I wish to explain broadly on what was mentioned by the Hon Minister in cooking, cooking classes, since it has a connection to what I mentioned in my speech about health, and the ability of Samoans, to live in a small land where they reside during times of the pandemic, to stop people from moving around.

For cooking, the program that comes on TV, Kuka Samoa is very good. It states the recipes and the different ways of using Samoan that is available in the country. The soursop, avocado and pumpkin, but the recipe has changed. Another thing that is very interesting, is that some of our people went to the Pacific competitions, for Pacific cooking, which even reached the top, probably the Quarter Final where Mr Leiataua and his wife Charlotte dropped out, but the other old man and his daughter continued. I believe they reached the Semi Final. What I observed during the show, was the use of vegetables and other food resources found in the Pacific.

A request Hon Minister, and the Ministry, is it possible to create, or print a small booklet, a Recipe Booklet in the Samoan language at an affordable price, so that Samoan people and old women in rural areas can use it for cooking, changing the way...The importance of this is to change how to eat, to change the diet as well as what the old man often talks about, cook some for soup, and some for grilling. This can change the taste of what to eat, but it is the same thing, but the taste changes. Yes, change the method of cooking, this is also important, for the health of our country, because of the use of our own food that is available within our own lands. This is a humble suggestion Hon Minister and the Ministry. Thank you for the opportunity.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you, opportunity is still given for suggestions, such as this to further improve our services. Well I call upon, perhaps the member has quite a lot he wants to talk about which has also been reminded to by the Leader of Government and the member of Faleata. Well...

**Afioga Afoa Amituanai Faleulu Maui (Palauli West):** Mr Speaker, I humbly ask for an opportunity...

**MR SPEAKER:** Is there anything else the member wishes to speak upon since it has already been reminded by the Leader of the Government as well as by the member of Faleata. I call upon the member, what was it that you mentioned that you...

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**Afioga Afoa Amituanai Faleulu Maui:** It was mentioned in my speech Mr Speaker, my brother Sala, there are many things I wanted to assist with, since I was Chairperson of the this Board.

**MR SPEAKER:** What is it that you want to clarify...

**Afioga Afoa Amituanai Faleulu Maui:** Of the Tourism Industry. I was also President of the Society the Samoa Hotel Association. Therefore I have some understanding and knowledge on the issues faced by our hotels. But thank you Hon Minister, no one will cry anymore when they come back next year incase you might not come back, but this was my plea to the Cabinet, which saw the extension of debts for some people at the Development Bank.

Thank you for the assistance given to these hotels such is a suggestion, there were not 8 people involved in these loans. Alot of people have loans at the Development Bank, whom are affected and should be given extension in this situation, please look into this matter. Thank you for taking a close look at our debts, but for debts, there are many hotels who want to pay their debts. But the problem is there is no money. We know that when our borders were closed, we did not have any tourists come in, therefore no income was earned to pay for it, but there were alot of hotels that want to pay debts, unfortunately they could not, thus this is where assistance of Government is needed, to give them time, an extension of 6 months. This does not mean they do not want to pay debts. They want to pay debts, but they do not have the revenue. As we now know, there is absolutely no money to be made from these tourists.

Therefore I would like to ask again to the Hon Minister, to ask the Minister of Finance to not only extend the time for these businesses, but also include all those who own hotels. It does not mean they do not want to pay their debts, but they do not have any money.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. Perhaps the Government has already done this initiative.

**Afioga Afoa Amituanai Faleulu Maui:** Thank you Mr Speaker. I remember the time the member cried, the Cabinet was laughing, but the time was extended and...a humble recommendation perhaps tomorrow will take longer for you.

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**MR SPEAKER:** Interruptions are concluded, Afoa. I now call upon the Hon Minister. The recommendation from Palauli West is important to assist the Hon Minister and the Ministry.

**Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI:** The member of Palauli West mentioned that I cried, but the question that I want to ask, was he there at the time this incident happened or not?

Mr Speaker and the dignity of the House, there is a mention of hotel debts. This does not mean that Tuivalea is present in this Government. How can these hotels be left alone when we are aware of the misery and suffering, we are in. Will it be necessary to foreclose these hotels? Tuilaepa and the Government have no intention of continuing this group. The only thing is that what is based on love, grows and flourishes. This includes the area I mentioned. We do not leave our people to be condemned but do what is best for those who need assistance.

This is a clarification Mr Speaker and the country. If the hotels are in trouble because they do not comply with the payments detailed, who is responsible? Was it a coincidence? The first thing is to do the research, make the agreement, open it and be sure, follow the instructions on how to pay these finances. There are times when there are a lot of funds, then plans are made whether preparations are to be increased, because there are good days, and there are bad days. There is a calm before the storm, and the storms also encounter calm.

This matter Mr Speaker, it is with the Minister of Finance and Management. It has already been addressed by the Prime Minister; the Prime Minister loves his people. For Samoa listening in, our foundation is still strong. We cannot leave our people to perish. Where will they go? This is true, it is right. I cried, and this is how I cried, (*the Minister showed how he cried while making a response*). But my eye went like this, yes, I looked like this.

**MR SPEAKER:** I call upon the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, since the matter was mentioned by the elder.

Therefore, a Supreme matter must be answered by another supreme principal point of view. The Government cannot leave the person to perish, and the Government cannot stop the person who wants to go and be perished.

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you.

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**Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI:** Thank you. Well, these are the characteristics of life, give and take, but especially here at the House and the Assembly of Samoa.

The matter mentioned by the member of Faleata on cooking, cooking is done with instinct, this is true. When we see a European cooking, you notice they mix this and that, which ends up in making a sauce. But I want to say that none of us wants to taste it, it is like an art. It is pleasing to the eye, because this is the way God made us. That said, when you take a picture, take it well. No one wants to see an ugly picture. This is how it is displayed especially in Japan and China. Japan gives priority to the display of each small dish, because it is a form of art that displays the uniqueness of that custom of the person. It is the same with us in Samoa, this is our custom, we bring everything. The whole meal is given, and it is up to the person to choose what they want. But this recipe is important, it must be done. If Faamatuainu is listening, please oversee that these booklets be given out to the Minister, Prime Minister, Mr Speaker and to all members of the Parliament, to each have a copy of these different recipes. There are other fake cooks, when it is given, and Falealili would taste it and say, “Man, these guys are really good.” Well, that is it. These things are...

**Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo (Falealili East):** Mr Speaker...

**MR SPEAKER:** Very well. Pardon the member as the member of Falealili is upstanding Afioga Fuimaono.

**Afioga Fuimaono Teo Samuelu Teo:** Since the constituency was mentioned. I thank the Hon Minister for the speech. No, the truth is, there are a lot of talented people of the constituency of Falealili in cooking. Perhaps you also believed this in our site visit, the food you tasted was new for you.

Even though the Minister is wrong that we went to see the road and tourists, I am grateful that you have tried other different dishes. It is useful for hotels. Well, this was 3 years ago, to remind our tourists of the roads to take, the reason for our visit. Please Hon Minister, with respect.

**MR SPEAKER:** Please be considerate and not interrupt again since we are nearing the time to conclude our work in case the response of the Minister is not completed. I call upon the Hon Minister.

**Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI:** Mr Speaker if a subject is treated with a smile, it is also good. Because there are times when we are hesitant, when see some are weary.

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Then some might say, we saw the photo of the old man and he was sleeping. Yes. Then they would say, papa, mama, we caught you yawning, with respect, in the photo taken. Those overseas would call and say, you looked ugly while sleeping. Yes. The reason I say this is because I am usually caught in it. My children always tell me, do not sleep in the Sitting. Then I told them, well, you all know the Sitting is long, speeches go on day and night, and Hon Tuitama also spoke for four days and nights. Yes. I want to thank my brother Dr. Tuitama. We will miss the Elder of the House. I call this day the day of God, because the faces of this House tell of the success and power of the work of the God Almighty, because it has different forms. An angry face, a smiling face, a reluctant face to do something good, and a happy face. Why are they happy? Because we are nearing the time to conclude our Sitting. This includes me. I have long wanted to stand to speak, as stated by the member from Itupa I Lalo, I do not think I will come back after elections. This is true. Therefore, I say with humbleness, Lord Father you are sovereign. Our ongoing relationship let me accept things as they are, both good things and things that I know should not happen. If my expectation for the upcoming elections does not succeed, your member will rest, and I thank God.

I thank God because His sovereignty has reached and He has said in the spirit of giving His free will and whispers to the Prime Minister has led to the appointment of this weak servant, this useless servant, I have contributed for Samoa, well, especially my village, my beloved constituency.

I will not announce the work carried out, because this is our duty, we do our best, the things that we are able to do, that makes you poor and rich, you will not get anything, you will fight with your family, you will fight with your wife if they find that there is no money. Then you say, Mama, is there money there to do this? Then she would say, why go anywhere when you do not have money? But you see, work is important. It is not done by words, but with actions. Act righteously and believe that you have done the best for your neighbor. If our people overseas are listening and throw disrespectful words, forgive them because they do not know the consequence of what they created, our boat is sunk by our own people. Samoa has been ruined by Samoa. Let us remember that you were born, you are Samoan. You are a citizen, you are Samoan. Your oath is to do the best for the general welfare of the people, the constituency, your church, your religion and especially the children. I testify that the situation of the House is not like this. However, it is not too late. There is still time given by God to gently smooth things before the eyes of God and the spirit to inspire us to see the way, to do our duties.

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Mr Speaker, I have prolonged a statement, because the document given to me is important, it is before me from the Audit Office and the Auditor. Therefore, I thought I will leave it until this evening, but I would like to express gratitude and commend those who have been chosen by Government for the good and complete preparation of your Excellency and the Office of Parliament, together with Parliamentary Committees, whom this Report is under.

Therefore, I want to say, I hope you all get a good rest, because as I can see, we might just retire Mr Speaker, I do not have control. But for me, come tomorrow morning we will hear about the outstanding and wonder of the Samoan youths that have obtained Masters, who have graduated.

Mr Speaker, alas...

**MR SPEAKER:** Thank you. I interrupt the Hon Minister. Well, since the job is not easy, and since there is a lot of preparation, not only in the Ministries that are under your supervision, but also other areas you should speak about, so that these services are clear and understandable. Not only the Government but the country in worship. Therefore, with such a feeling, seek your strength during our break, then you can continue your clarification to make clear some issues, it is necessary, it is a duty that needs to be done.

Therefore, I would like to express my thanks and congratulations. I commend members of Parliament also for your patience. Also, to the Chief Executive Officers of Government Ministries and Organizations especially the service of the Clerk and the Office of the Legislative Assembly, the Ministry of Police, also the Office of the Speaker to the Sergeant in Arms of the House.

Therefore, I say, we have arrived at our recess time as passed in the motion to conclude at 1:00 pm and resume at 6:00 pm. I announce with respect that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly will be set aside for now, thus we will reconvene at 6:00 pm. Thank you.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly was set aside at 12:57 pm and resumed at 6:00 pm.*

*Debates continued with the Governments Responses on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021.*

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I announce that Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly have resumed.

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I greet you all once again this evening the dignity of Parliament in the presence of the Leader of Government and Cabinet, Associate Ministers, as well as this side of Chamber the Chairpersons of the Parliamentary Committees, and to all respectable member of the Council of Samoa.

I also acknowledge the support of our country listening in from their homes this evening. Thank you for your prayers, thank you for your patience, the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly have now resumed. Well, I ask for your support.

I cannot forget *Afia i le vao*. We also acknowledge the respects of the holy servants of God who are worshipping and praying for the success and smooth running of the Proceeding of the country. We welcome your prayers, as well as your support.

Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside this afternoon as the Hon Minister of Tourism was addressing the issues raised in the speeches of respectable members of Parliament.

Therefore, out of respect, I call upon the Hon Minister to stand and continue his response on matters raised by members. With respect.

**Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI:** Mr Speaker, a heart of thanks to the Lord that I note He has brought us all here safely at this time of the day. But I will now continue with clarification in accordance with the queries put forth.

Mr Speaker, the Office of the Auditor General and the Auditor have summaries as of this evening. There were no speeches questioning the work of the Chief Officer, the Auditor. The only words I heard was thanks and praise.

Therefore, I would like to express my gratitude to the respectable member Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Stowers, as well as the Chairperson of the Finance and Expenditure Afioga Aliimalemanu Alofa Tuuau, you were grateful for the work and the current status of the financial statements, the examination of books and reports to Parliament, there are no more unfinished projects as there were in previous years.

The Hon Prime Minister also explained the history of the development and improvement of the Audit Office since the beginning when the office was managed by foreigners. There were also a few workers. What now? There are many Auditors who have graduated in the Audit Office. Perhaps this is also the reason why it has been possible to clear the abandoned works that existed in the past years.

The report of the Audit Office Mr Speaker and the respects of Parliament, it was not an easy task, it took a long time to clear the backlog and outstanding for the lapse work of 5 years. This project started in 2010, with only 59 projects reported by the Audit Office.



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By 2015, the number of works that could be reported by the Audit Office has tripled and the work that could be reported has reached 166.

In the year 2019, it reached a point where there was no longer any work left in the financial statements, and auditing as reported to Parliament, of the work that was reported for more than 100 jobs was maintained.

The main purpose is to continue to be in the good situation that we are in now so that we do not slip back and see the issues of the past. The strategic plan of the Audit Office implemented the solution to the problem from 2010, prioritizing the first improvement of financial statements, book tests and reports to Parliament, Ministries and Government Organizations. This is the reason why there are no more lapse work, financial statements, auditing, and reports to Parliament by the Ministry and Organization.

The clearing of this backlog and the implementation of these necessary works were done together year after year, so that we will not have to encounter issues of these lapse work at a later date and be able to do the work in the next years following. All these activities and procedures could not be carried out without the help of the Leader of Government, as well as Cabinet in terms of increasing the number of staff, increase of salaries for the implementation of services and works, increasing the level of technology and capacity building for staff. It is with a moving spirit Mr Speaker and respects of the Parliament of Samoa, I would like to mention dignitaries especially Samoa listening, the pride for many of our educated children, they remain at the best in the best skills, and this is also the reason why the work has been elevated at the highest level because of good education.

The Auditor General has started with encouragement of further education. And these are the fruits of the good work done by Afioga Fuimaono le Gafatasi. For the master's degree, 14 staff have accomplished it. There are 14 masters. Seven of which is from Australia. Five from the University in China. One from America and one from New Zealand. There are six master's degrees that are nearing completion. Five of which are from Australia and 1 from China.

Now to the degree of Doctor in Business Administration. There are three including the Auditor General Fuimaono, Afioga Gafatasi. This is the outstanding level reached by the Auditor General and Office. This means there will be no more backlogs or delays in the auditing of books for Ministries and Organizations of Government. I am grateful for our children. Blessed is those who have competed and are crowned or who hold these degrees. Well, these are also visible characteristics of our people's efforts. Because this is the truth, management is power, power. You can do all things with your wisdom.

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When you know with love and do not turn your face to God and say, Lord, I will do the best for you. But let us not forget the support of the constituency, your family and your Government.

I cannot forget the Audit Office for the support on some of the collaborative work with Chief Executives and Directors, as well as the staff of Government Ministries and Organizations. These are the measures. Good things come from good Leaders. Samoa I am giving testimony. Thus, it is a testimony that I must also point out. When you came, we opposed the HRPP Government in the past, the SNDP Party we stood behind and tried to defeat the HRPP administration. We all know what happened then. The truth is, the word spoken, and the statement removed, the story was like this...I think it was 2005 to 2004 which is now 10 plus years, 16 to 17 years. It was said that the HRPP will buy all the customary lands of Samoa. These are the words. These are the words noted. None of it was true, it was all false. Such was a notion of the men before I came to be elected in the position. I asked and said to my father, leave it to SNDP and let us go support Afioga Tofilau and the HRPP and Tuilaepa. The old man's words were not easy for me. "It is up to you, when it is your time, take your time." Today and my pledge, I will not betray anyone. If the boat capsizes and I am put in danger, I apologize son, it cannot be helped." I would like to voice an opinion in regard to false information that is spreading like fire in our country that leadership is bad, and everything is corrupt. I am grateful to the Almighty God for appointing me a weak person to serve the Government of Samoa, thus I lack wealth and ideas to express my weakness and efforts. But I leave it unto God because He gives, and God is also the one who takes it away.

The respects of the House, I say this unto the Chief Executives of Ministries. Because today is us, but tomorrow it is them. Plan your work on what is being carried out now, do not point fingers. The only thing is to act, do your work to the best of your ability but do not be biased. How is the HRPP now? Where is the SNDP? Where are the rumors that Tuilaepa has already sold lands of the country? Alas the cries, word has been given...of accusations. I always remember the saying, blessed are we, our Savior has been crucified, now the Hon Prime Minister has borne the burden of the cross that our Savior carried. And I will say, the good things you do, what we do, not only the Leader, but all of us, will testify. Ask yourself, do not whisper back.

If there is something wrong, say it, ask directly. As for hiding something, once the light is shone in the darkness, that is when we will find our purpose. Working collaboratively will give us solutions.

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Mr Speaker, I apologize, I sincerely apologize. If I have made any rude remarks and a disrespected statement in your hearing, send it to uninhabited lands. As for the speech, the speech is true. I will also put myself down where we all go, I will never betray and do anything that harms our gathering, our commitment, our reason, to fight, to seek honor, and seek good fortune for the future.

The strength and the right hand of the Audit Office is the staff as well as private Auditors who assisted in the work carried out this Parliamentary term, 2016-2021 as well as the XV Term 2011-2016. This great assistance to the Audit Office has enabled the increase of speedy and efficient performance of the Audit work in auditing of Ministries, projects, Government Organizations and the general statement of the Government's finances. May God bless them and calling.

The recommendation of the Finance and Expenditure Committee of the financial year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019, special work is being carried out by the Audit Office, Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Customs and Revenue. This special work is reviewing the remaining debts, assets and projects carried out over the past years.

This work was clearly addressed but the Chairperson of the Finance and Expenditure Committee in her speech not long ago. The intention is to complete this work in March 2021. Mr Speaker, I believe that the Audit Office has completed a tireless effort.

I want to speak about the statement of the Trust Office. My opinion on the matter is brief. In the five years we worked with the Hon Leaupepe or the Hon Sala Leaupepe. This is a short testimony to the progress and improvement of the service. It lies in a clear stance...

**Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Duffy Stowers (Gagaifomauga No.3):** Mr Speaker an opportunity please...

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pardon the member speaking as I call upon the female member for the constituency of Gagaifomauga No.3.

Perhaps there is something important. Apologies Hon Minister as I give her the opportunity. The members may speak.

**Afioga Faaulusau Rosa Duffy Stowers:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. Well will give the Hon Minister a chance to take a break since he has been speaking for half an hour.

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Before the Hon Minister moves away from the Chief Auditor, I would like to give a statement or an explanation in this regard because as agreed with the speech of the Hon Minister, all the work of Government Ministries and Organizations is up to date. And the Hon Prime Minister as well as the respects of Cabinet and Associate Ministers, all Ministries and Government Organizations, this is the result of their work. For the understanding of Samoans listening, this reflects good governance, and this is another milestone, or another part of the given conditions conveyed by the donors or Organizations from overseas assistance that is given to develop our country. This is an important part, and I would like to express my gratitude to the Hon Minister and the Ministry of the Auditor General's Office, especially the private sector that assists those who are doing this work, it is quite important work. And the presentation of the Hon Minister was informative, to also know of the degrees achieved by the sons and daughters of Samoa, given the trust of Government in finding work that is carried out. I feel proud of such achievements and the results conveyed by these works. It is not done lightly, the Government is putting in everything to do the work, there are those who are investigating whether it is fully organized and meets all the necessary conditions. Thank you.

Well, that is a word and I believe the Hon Sala has had enough rest. Thank you, Hon Sala, what a wonderful speech you gave. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you. I thank you for your motherly contribution to the Ministers purpose. But I will give the opportunity to the Hon Leader of the House.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, there are important aspects as to why I take the floor to thank the Hon Minister and Ministry under his designation.

These are important aspects this House must understand, this is one Ministry working together with Government and the private sector, the Audit Office, because of this matter and the effort of the Minister and the Ministry to speed up the operation. They have also outsourced some of their work to registered auditors. After they have audited and prepared their report it is brought back to be checked by the Auditor General in terms of the consistency of their research done with opinion, professional opinion. This means the decision made by the private Auditors, according to their findings, or what they found that needed to be improved, or whoever, whether it is the Ministry or the Organization.

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This is the cooperation between the Auditors in this skill or profession. This is the same with the Attorney General's office, there are also times when they give opportunities to the private sector on Laws that require their advice. This portrays the importance of cooperation, cooperation between the Government and the private sector, they are called the engine of growth, the engine of economic growth, especially the growth of these jobs. Because all the work done by the Government, there is only one goal, the objective, is the core of the activities carried out in the Government, which is the work for our children. These are ways to improve the lives of Samoan families. Not only is it limited to the situation of outsourcing, but this is also a reflection of the investigation carried out by those who have no interference with the Government. This is further enhanced by the independent professional audit. There is no connection, this is the important aspect that the Hon Minister is hinting. Not only is the staff increased, but also the partnership will be stronger to allow some work to be outsourced, the studies carried out by the auditors are well known and reliable.

The division of the Public Trust, there was a year, I am not sure if it has been 2 years since where a notion was given. It is best to make this office private. Stop going to the Government and taking money to finance services. This Office deals directly with the protection of those who have died, who have assets, like lands and money. If you die without a written will, who will the money go to? This Office is provisioned under the Law, as the ones who can withhold all finances of this person. They look into it and carry out fair distribution. Because for such things there are times when children are good when parents are alive.

But when they die, there is usually dispute because I have witnessed this in the 2 short years I overlooked this office, in 1975 to 1976. At 2 o'clock the other day I was awoken by some children whose parents have passed. They were arguing over the will whether it was lands or money that was stated in the will, or farms, and the children were now fighting. This is a very difficult situation, these children used to be considerate when the parents were alive.

Remember Mr Speaker, all is well in the presence of the parents. The son has a wife, his assets are halved, and the daughter has a husband her assets are halved. Then they start thinking of themselves and their children. If the old man is slightly biased towards one, one of his children because of hard work. It is not known, at that time when he will die but now the spouse is starting to complain, look how stupid you are that your older sibling will take all your parents' assets. What about you and our children? This forms hatred. This is the reason why the Europeans created wills. For the parents to consider who will get these assets before they die. In order to have, to keep love between the children.

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Other families it is only a quarter of an acre, but still, they continue to fight, even though it is only a quarter acre, they carry on fighting badly. They did not fight when the parents were alive. The meaning of the statement, all of us here in Parliament and those listening, once you know God is going to call upon you, look at your children, look at your assets and draft a will. Carefully distribute it before you die because when you do dispute will ensue.

There is an old man who often comes to me, an old man from Siumu. He has many things, shops and cattle. Whatever the old man does, he wants me to come and talk with him. He asked me, give them your advice, but the problem. He thinks it is not yet time for the Lord to call upon him unfortunately he suddenly passed. I was at his funeral and noted the beautiful funeral service. After 3 months I asked the man in charge, how is your family? Well, we have been divided, divided over the assets.

The function, is the overall work of Public Trust, is to organize all the assets of the parents, and then pay the debts first. After paying the debts properly, so that your soul can go to heaven. Because if you do not have any debts, it all rides on your soul. It is very clear in the Bible, all of those are your sins, being in debt. There is another old man I asked, who is very old, here, in the House, the first time I came into Parliament.

Do you have any debts? And how many? The old man said, Tui, when you look and value, look at all your assets from the town clock to here, how many millions. It will never reach this, the debts that I have. If I die, my children will decide. But what saddens me is when I die and go to heaven, and Peter will ask. Do you have debts? No. You are so stupid, you are given the world to rule but you are stupid like that, then we laughed. When the old man died, I heard that he had a lot of debts, confined with his assets.

There was a time when an old woman came, the family had a dispute, and I believe this was 3 in the morning. I said, go and wait for me, I am coming. I sat and thought, I looked at my wife and children. I thought, if I go out in the dark, and I will die through it, some who would come to my funeral might say, it is good I died. I died because I was stupid, even though I knew it was dark, but I still went to resolve the matter. I should have used my brain. Then I said to myself, I will wait until daytime. Then I slept soundly and went there once it was morning. When I got there, everyone was standing around, brothers and sisters with knives on both sides. I saw that I might get hurt there, then I drove my car straight into town, I went to my office and called them to come on over. When they arrived, there were already police officers beside me. It is the use of common sense to carry out our work. I keep on observing the Public Trustee that we have now, I see that the health is very good. Then I thought, this is one person that is using his common sense.

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This is where a lot of public trustees have gone too. There are times when I notice some go crazy, because you continue to face people, coming to you for advice, and find a way to resolve a matter.

Here, the majority of people live on lease in Apia, they think it is their own land. But it has just been discovered that the land of another family whose father died in 1980, cannot be shared by the Public Trust until everyone is reached. Then an announcement was sent to America, Australia and Europe, if they are not found, it will be left as is.

It is something that should be done, the administration should be completed quickly. So that it can be received by those who are living. There is another old man that did his will, but the problem was he distributed his shares while he was alive. The issue though, he gave his favorite son the best of his assets thinking he would take good care of it. But the problem was, the son likes to go gambling on horse racing and other things. He ended up spending it all, then he went to RSA and started drinking and making noise.

He got drunk and said, how outrageous it is to distribute your assets to your children however I am still alive. Now he has given the most prized possession to his favorite. But what has your favorite done? He went and sold these assets hence he is still alive. So what was done? He only went and bet on horse racing; this was spent in 3 years, yet the old man was still alive. Mr Speaker, the work carried out by them is important. This is why the Cabinet made its decision for it to continue the service that is done by the Government. In giving funds to operate it, for the families who are suffering, God called this man, but now there is work that must be done. Because if you die and you do not work, the Law we have. If you have a spouse and children, the spouse takes half, and the other half is given to the children. It is 1/3 and 2/3, but if it is only children, it will be shared equally. This is when you die and you have not written a will, then they will take over under the Law.

Mr Speaker, if not for the service done by the Government, the lawyer will have to take it on, this is what is happening. Others look for their money, but it has already been chowed by the lawyer. That is why we drafted a Law for the auditors to audit the ledgers of lawyers for trust accounts. In New Zealand it is audited three times in a year, this portrays, the dangerous of lawyers when it comes to Trust Accounts. This is where the Law is given, but is given audits are done once a year, this is one Law that should be amended, to carry out audits three times a year. Audits must be done three times in a year because I have doubts, this is what I see in other lawyers, the matter where you see that they are playing around. Trust must be deeply rooted, but there is only one thing that makes the lawyers who oversees the Trust Accounts reliable, it is for the auditors to carry out checks twice or three times a year as done in New Zealand.

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This is why some lawyers escape, because they are caught in a corner. Then they come here and do bad things. Mr Speaker, which is the whole aim of this matter. But I have assisted, because I have noted that the Minister is struggling, but this is my strength. This is my assistance in explaining the matter.

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

**Tofa Hon Laufo Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo (Anoamaa West):** I see that the Hon Minister did not get enough rest.

No, the speech of the Hon Prime Minister is right about other Sectors since there was a mention of lawyers. There are those who were wrong and made mistakes as mentioned by the Hon Prime Minister. Not only those who worked in New Zealand, but also those who worked here who were also wrong in such things. This is called a mistake, there are many other things like wording on documents and things like that. But for chow, the Hon Prime Minister stated that lawyers chowed. I am trying to think about what the meaning of the word chow is. It seems that it is a Chinese word. If chow in Chinese means eat, whether it is eating money. Well, I do not know how a person can do this. Perhaps this is also the case of misuse of money.

But remember, our Law was passed not too long ago. To check the Trust Accounts, the Prime Minister mentioned lawyers. But now I sit and think back, maybe there is no lawyer in the prison, but the majority are auditors up at the prison because of this behavior of chow. Over to you Minister.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** It is not known whether chow is the abbreviation of chow mein. I call upon the Hon Leader of the House.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, perhaps the member did not get it who is a lawyer. It was special for those who are doing it. But you are no longer involved, now that you are in Parliament. Once you come here, you will not do any business. This is also the case with many languages that you understand, such as Chinese. But what I was talking about, it is not chao but chow, the thing that is...

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** You have a part in the matter discussed. I call upon the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure since he understands these things.



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**Susuga Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. No, I do not understand what these members are talking about, is it chao or chow. I am upstanding because the lawyer has spoken, saying that we are the ones who imprisoned the accountants. The statement made is too excessive; perhaps we were not made aware of any accountants being imprisoned.

But for your information, the first ever accountant worked at the Public Trust Office. Apart from the lawyers at the time, the staff consist of lawyers, lawyers, lawyers, accountants, lawyers and more lawyers. But what made the accountant good was that he managed the Public Trust's finances. These are the words for accountants like me.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The matter has been made clear. And now the accountants and lawyers are debating. But I call on the member who is standing.

**Tofa Hon Laufo Fonotoe Nuafesili Pierre Laufo:** Mr Speaker, a point of clarification, I did not say anything about the prison as stated by the Hon Minister. If so, it means that the Hon Minister is well aware of the situation. That is the case, because lawyers do not write down statistics, unlike the accountant, since it is their profession. They are good at recording statistics and such information. There are times when the motion of the pen is inaccurate, whereas you would think that the 7 is a 2. There are multiple numbers like that. Which is also why the audit is important, to check our records properly. But Hon Minister, that is not the case.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you for your comments on this matter. I have allowed it because it is very important for the observation of the country, especially with the preservation of the assets of each family. The statement made by the Leader of the House seems humorous, but it is important for the audience of the House and the country. This is the reason why the matter is unrestricted. Hon Minister for Public Trust, I believe that this service for our country has been made fully clear. But unless there is something else that you would like to add, I would like to thank the Leader of the Government, as all the terms have been clarified, which should be looked into.

The Chair also understands because we often meet in this Office, in Committee. To clarify all these circumstances pertaining to the wills and assets that should be implemented properly. However, it has been made clear for the audience of the country, therefore, it will no longer be addressed. But I still give the opportunity to the Hon Minister.

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**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker there is one more issue. I just remembered since it is important for the country who are listening. Since this matter is addressed to me, if the Public Trust of the Trustees Office does not give their response. But the important aspect of this is that when a person passes away, all of their money will not be returned, but it goes to the Trust Office. That is the Law. This is the significance of raising this matter for the understanding of Samoa, the difficult situation faced by the Trustees Office, since it is their duty. If you have savings and you suddenly pass away, your wife will not be able to withdraw it. Whatever bank you are using, it will still be suppressed, as it all goes to the Trustees Office. The reason is that the Trust Office will make an announcement. Whether there are people owed money. Therefore, the priority is to pay off those people first, and whatever money is left, it will be given to the family.

The people of our country would regularly see me regarding various matters like this. Even though they had just returned from the Trustees Office, they would still come to me, thinking that I have the power. To give orders for the Office to use a method that is not in accordance with the Law. So, what can be done about it? They will have to take back their documents so that they are re-evaluated by the Office. They will reconsider the wife's letter to see if it is in line with the Law, this is my only proclamation whether it is in accordance with the Act. There are times when I would also write a letter to the Development Bank. To see if it is compatible with the Act, the same goes for the NPF, to consider if it is in accordance with the Law. I am not saying to break the Law, all I said is to see if it is appropriate. So, who makes the final decision? The decision is left to the discretion of the staff. So, if a wrong decision is made, it is not my fault. The blame is on the employee for not doing his duty properly. That is why our debates are important, as the country is listening. So, it does not matter how many times you visit me and Sala, we cannot overstep the authority of the Public Trustee. He is the only one who has legal authority.

The second part, and this has occurred often, regarding an illness a working man has that later kills him. Then his wife will ask about the situation of their NPF when he dies, the man replied if I have strength I will check tomorrow. As for what was written in the records of the NPF 30 years ago, at that time he did not have a wife.

Only his late mother who passed away, and his brother in New Zealand whose names were recorded. But at that time, if he dies his brother Simi would claim it, and then he dies and leaves behind this \$30,000. Then when the wife goes to the NPF, she is unable to withdraw it, because only Simi can withdraw it, but he is in New Zealand. But when she wrote to Simi, Simi replies that he cannot.

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Time has changed, since Simi has a wife and children, and he also has a lot of debts. Well, he will be happy and shout hallelujah, alas my brother, I did not know that you would provide me with this blessing. But what about the wife and the ten children. They will get nothing. This situation is important, as it is also important for us. It is important for the employees that are listening. If you have already recorded down your will 30 years, as it has just started but there is a drastic boost. It would be good to check who you wrote down in your will, re-check the person that will inherit everything. Whether it is your brother who lives in America, since it will affect your wife, whereby she will not receive anything when you die.

Mr Speaker, these discussions are important and perhaps by tomorrow many people will attend our Assemblies because of this. Mr Speaker, the issues raised by the Hon Minister are important.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** The Chair has noticed that all the men and women of the House are writing notes, as the circumstances of the speech of the Leader of the House are very important. I call on the Hon Minister.

**Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI:** I would like to thank the Hon Prime Minister. This was a huge burden that I carried, but now it has been relieved, and this concludes the presentation of our Trustees Office. Because in all honesty, whatever I will mention next, the facts have already been clearly stated by the Prime Minister, the Hon Leader. And this is a fact, whereas a letter was submitted requesting that Public Trust be privatized. We should be grateful that we have a caring Leader, the Hon Prime Minister. Otherwise, the lawyers would exploit the payment for other lawyers that handle cases for families having problems with their properties.

Mr Speaker and the sanctity of the House, this completes my statement regarding this matter, and it has been clarified completely.

But the only advice and a reminder for your information is to make a will. Make a will, and your wife and children will no longer need to worry about not getting any belongings.

Mr Speaker, there is one more part of the Ministry that has not been addressed, and that is the WESTEC. It is very brief, and then I conclude by thanking the Hon Prime Minister, this House and my constituency, there is half an hour left before I conclude. As my brother Susuga Hon Papalii the man is preparing.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** It would be great if both of you finish your speeches this evening.

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**Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI:** Hon Fiamé was selected in this Parliamentary Term to take charge of STEC. However, since the Cabinet was reshuffled, the STEC Corporation has been put under my portfolio. And I am grateful for the work done by the Chief Executive Officer Patea. Oh, I am sorry my brother, due to my anxiety I have forgotten. No, you will not be forgotten. And it is under the leadership of Patea that we are now reaping good results. And the truth is, this is one of the Government Organizations which was rumored by the country, that all the funds they are given, it is given knowingly there are employees that will misuse it, as a lot of money has been misused with the staff doing whatever they want. What about now? Thank you. As can be confirmed by the Auditor General, since now it is under the Government on the foundation of good governance, and the things that happened. Money should be used to acquire more money, as there are already existing plans which have taken shape. There is biomass in Mulifanua, which produces new electricity. There is a township that will be implemented in Mulifanua facing the port and the Sheraton, as about 300 acres will be used to implement this plan for the township. For example, in case someone wants to establish a business in this area, it is already too late. I am saying in regard to areas at Vaitele. When the Afioga Suivai bought the majority of the lands there, and I also bought some lands there, but I let it go, it was 5 acres. And I was confident that there were no people living there during this period. What now? Perhaps now it is \$100,000 per quarter acre in this area. But in those days, it was available for \$2,000+, the land was only \$2000+. See how foolish I was. This is my biggest regret.

And then this is a feeling to be said on this side of the island. There are 300 acres planned for the construction of our government's township. And there is a belief that anything that transpires from good things is also successful, because this is the reason why we have been appointed. We are the ones who protect the country's assets, as we try to do what is best for the future generations that have yet to be born. The question is, did your father or mother have a hand in the development of Government of our country? This is the most important question, as it is an important question for us to think about. Well, we are blessed; the member appointed by their constituency is blessed to be the voice of the constituency, the voice, the eyes, and the ears of the constituency. You are the voice. Now we are here in the politics of the Government. Who would have thought that we would be here? No. We give thanks to the Almighty God, because what we do now, it will be realized tomorrow. The bad things that we do here will also be seen tomorrow. Yes. But the truth is, the work carried out by WESTEC will come to fruition.

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There is a business hub in Auckland that has cost about \$1 million tala, which has already been purchased and approved by the Cabinet, and there is also a Board of Directors of our country that manages this part of the country's assets. These assets are owned by the country, they are not assets owned by me, Patea or WESTEC. They are our assets; these are our properties. Samoa, these are our belongings. Do not think that it is owned by the HRPP. No. We must keep in mind that we implement the best for our people. We are just servants, humble servants.

Mr Speaker, I believe that this concludes....

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I beseech the Hon Minister as I give the opportunity to the member for Faleata West.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi (Faleata West):** Mr Speaker, thank you for the opportunity. Thank you also to the Hon Minister. I can confirm that ever since I entered Parliament, the Government has been considering placing STEC under this Ministry, whether to be privatized or to remain under a Government Ministry. It is a similar case with the Public Trust. But I convey my gratitude to the Hon Minister and the Cabinet for retaining this Corporation.

This is one of the most important assets in the hands of the Government, as this large piece of land is over 6,000 acres. And from my observation, the airport in Faleolo has been upgraded and improved 3 times, using the stones from rocks that are drilled at STEC.

Therefore, I want to ask the Hon Minister is the Ministry have any plans to establish a permanent rock mine at this area, because we are digging rocks from various lands around Samoa, but if it is possible to reserve 100 acres of land or so, to construct a proper quarry for the Government because it still has a lot of work to be done, especially with the abundance of developments, like wharfs, airports and this township planned for this area. Furthermore, the situation with our power was implemented recently, since this rock drill can also be used here. But thank you very much, as this is my question to the Hon Minister.

But this is the only matter I wanted to address earlier because the Prime Minister pointed to me as I was seated regarding public trust and the will. Since the Hon Public Trustee is present, I have met him 2 times concerning my will, but my will was not accepted. Yes. I asked, why is my will not accepted? Compile my will, so that my debts are divided between my wife and my 3 children. This is a true story. Do you think that they were educated, raised, entertained, given land and my belongings but there is no.... these times, you should divide the debts between them.

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The reason why these people are noisy is because they are given everything growing up, but if they are also given loans, I doubt they will complain.

Hon Minister and the Public Trustee, this is the reason why we have addressed this matter twice, make a method, and find a way to implement this. Since my wife and children are listening, they will be responsible for my debts. Thank you very much.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Well, I call on the Hon Leader of the Government.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoui:** Mr Speaker, since this matter is complex. That is the case, in retrospect it seems like political will. Therefore, the only person that you should be talking to is Sala. Because this is something that the authority of the Public Trustee cannot reach, this political will, you have to first distribute your debts to them.

But Mr Speaker, in regard to the will, this is one of the important issues, since it is possible to make 100 wills. Because that is the true meaning, after composing a will, they will want to write another one. But the most important will is the final will. That is what other businessmen do, whereas they write a will and then show it to their wife, but when the wife goes to withdraw the assets, she was unable to because it was a different will. So, the final will is the one that is used.

But it is also important that the will is composed by a lawyer and a witness, who is not related to you, because these things should be protected to ensure there is no corruption.

Mr Speaker, there is an important matter mentioned by the Minister in terms of the township. There is an objective for this township. And these are the things that were usually done by Mal, to develop this part of the country. The important factor is that this is how things are meant to be. A town is built on the land closest to the other island. As we are all aware there is already a town in Salelologa, which is the entrance and exit to the big island. Well, perhaps as the years pass there will be a similar township built in Asau. So that is the reason for building a township in this area, as this is another method used by the Government to equally develop the various parts of the country. Furthermore, it is important for the people who want to travel to Savaii early in the morning, there should be hotels built for them to rest. It is also the same situation for those who are travelling from Savaii and the weather is bad, they will be able to rest before they can travel the next morning. In particular, if large stores are set up in Falelatai it can be the capital of their retail sector.

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These are the types of situations that are observed by countries with their foresight, which is also why it is important to develop a township in Aleipata directly opposite Tutuila. Because for the future, these Governments, whereby the Government of Tutuila is different from our Government. And if a suggestion is made to the American Government to create a wharf in Leone for our ships to dock, this will ensure that our ships will travel directly from Aleipata to Leone, which will only take one and a half hours if the ship travels at a fast pace. Instead of what is happening now, whereas we have to go all the way to Apia in order to travel to Tutuila and then the ferry route is also far going around Tafuna. These are all the plans that have been laid out for the future, but it is also important to establish a township in Aleipata.

Now the planning for these projects is underway, such as the existing airport, as well as the port that needs to be repaired, and we also have electricity generated from the wind.

Mr Speaker, the Government has now begun to lay out the conditions for the development of this part of the country. This is the direction to start developing these large parts of the country for the future and the continuous growth of the population in these areas as well as other matters of our country since we are now looking to the future and the potential for the rapid growth in trade and travelling, not only between Savaii and Upolu, but between Upolu and Tutuila.

Mr Speaker, this is the long-term point of view of the Government.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Congratulations to the Hon Prime Minister for the statement, as it has been heard by the island of Salafai as well as the district of Aleipata on the importance of our Government's long-term plans. Thank you very much.

I call on the Hon Minister to continue your speech.

**Afioga Hon SALA FATA PINATI:** It is with great honour and respect that I would like to thank the Hon Prime Minister for the explanation of the matters that we are discussing this evening.

A statement was also made by Tofa Lealailepule, and there is a belief that the stone mill mentioned is in the pipelines. This stone mill has already been approved by the Board of Directors. The purpose and intention is to ensure that this is the only stone mill in the country to sell stones, for the construction of the roads and other developments that require stones. A lot of money was spent on it, but the price of selling these stones to the country is cheap. It is very cheap compared to the number of stone mills in the country.

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Hon Lealailepule, perhaps this is the situation as you asked in this regard, but thankfully the situation with the water and this plan have been set up, so that our negotiations reach a good result and plans laid out for this project.

Mr Speaker, I just want to say thank you. Thank you for the opportunity, as the voice of this humble servant was heard. But I would also like to say, give me an opportunity to convey my gratitude.

Thank you to the Hon Prime Minister and I will continue until I thank my constituency before I bid farewell to this Parliamentary Term. Yes. Because I do not know if I will be returning, because all of our lives and everything we do is ruled by God. The election is created by man, but our lives are owned by God. That is the perfection of everything, the faith we give, no matter what, when the call comes you will be able to say that I did the work perfectly and God's will is satisfied with His humble servant, because that I all this servant was able to achieve.

The Hon Leader of the House or the Prime Minister, this is your authority, thank you for your praises and for appointing me as a Minister for the past 2 Parliamentary Terms. You did not look at my weaknesses and incompetency, but you have utilized me to be useful and to serve the Government.

I thank God for the traits given to you in terms of your faith and your patriotism, the self-beliefs you possess and your conviction to put God first. This is source of blessings for Samoa. There would be quarrels near you and accusations towards you, but you are never afraid, nor do you retreat, as you have made preparations for Samoa for tomorrow and you will always be remembered by Samoa, today and every day. You will also be respected for the future. As the saying goes, "He who follows God, who can go against them?"

To my fellow Ministers of the Cabinet, our burdens are lighter because of our solidarity. Thank you for your services to our Government.

The Hon Tuitama, Dr. Talalelei Tuitama, oh you will be missed, especially during times when we would interact and make jokes. Alas, our relationship is unforgettable. Thank you Tuitama, you are a pillar, a white light, as you have served the Government using your skills and qualifications. Thank you. You were the one whom the Prime Minister and the Cabinet depended on. Thank you for your kindness. May God bless you as well as your wife and children.

The Hon Associate Ministers and all the members of this House, I would like to convey my thanks for your wisdom and your contribution to our political work for this House. Thank you for the opinions and the services.

The Chief Executive Officer and the Ministry of Tourism, especially the Auditor General, Trustee Office and STEC.



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Thank you for the work, thank you for your patience during these 5 years that we have been working together. A suggestion, as I do not want to scold the Ministry. You must possess the spirit to do the best for the country through your service to the Government. May God bless you all. The same goes for Chief Executive Officers and all the Government employees, thank you very much, for it is your duty to work.

Mr Speaker, I would like to voice my gratitude to the support of my constituency of Gagaemauga No.1 or Sagaga 3 such as my village. My village of Leauvaa in all its honorific salutations. Your devotion and support have made the endeavors of your appointed member successful as well as being selected as a Minister of our Government.

Truth be told, my appointment was not easy for me, it was not easy, for it was through your authority that I was appointed. It is by your authority that I am standing here today, as I gaze at the respect you have shown, Tuala and Sala. It is also by your respect that I am standing in Tiafau, and I observe the beauty of the Parliament of Samoa. Who would have expected this kind of blessing from me, and who would have guessed that you would place me at the top of our government's politics? You have strived for what is possible and adorn it beautifully. Thank you, God, may you continue to bless our country.

I cannot forget my gratitude to my village of Lealatele in Savaii, Samalaeulu, Mauga and Patamea. Our relationship over the past many years and your support given to me, I am grateful. Although we will be separated due to the allocation of the electoral districts, our connection through blood and body will never be forgotten or removed, because we share one pillow and one bed sheet. I apologize if my services for you was not enough, for God lives and He knows everything. I cannot express how grateful I am to the elderly mothers and fathers of my village who managed the problems of the past, which is why we are able to prosper today. Thank you for the support and your prayers from home. The honorable Priests, the Deacons, the Pastors and your wives who reside in the village, thank you very much for the prayers and support.

The Ladies and Gentlemen of the Gospel, thank you for your prayers. The wives and Caregivers and Soatamaitai, thank you for the good work in our society as God is watching your hard work.

Thank you to the youths for the implemented projects. Never forget that the good things you do today will be talked about in the future. Thank you for your youthful services.

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I cannot forget in my heart and my spirit the children of my village, who have left their families to spread the Word of God in Samoa as well as in other parts of the world. The Book states, “Blessed are the feet of those who spread the Gospel. Your actions in other countries are for the prosperity of Samoa and our country”. Thank you very much for remembering your servant in your prayers. Moreover, I would like to convey my gratitude to the chiefs and untitled men, the wives and caregivers, youths and the strength of the village of God at Aleisa East and Aleisa West. As well as the Reverends who reside in Aleisa. Your simplicity and goodwill is seen through your support for the strategic plans of the Government.

Take heed, for this is the first time that you have been put together with Leauvaa. And I think that this is a simple way that is good for the long-term development plans for our community in Aleisa. Place your trust on me, for good things will emerge if we work together for a better future for our village. Even though there is still uncertainty regarding our candidates, with whom you will hand pick to represent the constituency in this coming Election.

I cannot forget to thank the sanctity of Faalagilagi, Tuala and Sala, their wives Tevaga and Vaifale, especially the children of Leauvaa, who are residing in New Zealand, Australia, America, Tutuila and other countries of the world, thank you for your compassion. To my fellow candidates running for the next Parliamentary Term, Afioga Sala Vaimili II, the Afioga Tuala Oli. Let us not be on bad terms. Whoever will be elected, we must remain courageous. The way to rule is through service. Words do not define us, our work does.

I would like to express my gratitude to my mother, whose name is Tile. Originally my mother is a Krause. She married my father named Pinati, who is half Chinese. And that is how I was born. This person is also useless because I am evil. I just want to cry and call out, Lord, let there be blessings for tomorrow and for the future of our people. Alas, we must continue to be brave. My dear sister who is still in Wallis and Futuna, she is also a monk. She would always give me advice and say, “You must become the father for the people who seek you for work.”

The Hon Prime Minister has stated I should write letters to convey my gratitude. Hon Prime Minister, this is the only time I will disobey your instructions, please forgive me. Because it should be conveyed using my own voice. Oh! Mother, alas, mama my sweetheart, you are a star, and before I sleep every night I would pray. Lord do not forsake her. But you should say, Lord, may your goodwill be near, so that you will not go astray.

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It will not happen again, because those were the days when I was healthy and foolish. You could run from here all the way to the airport without getting tired, but what about nowadays? Even standing up, luckily the Prime Minister stood up, but I would have fainted here.

Mr Speaker, to conclude my speech, may the Almighty Lord bless the Assembly of Parliament. God bless and goodbye.

*The House showed its appreciation by applause after the speech of the Minister for Tourism.*

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Congratulations to the Hon Minister. There is a saying *ua e tapa tulia I le tata*. Your speech as a senior member has been heard by the House as well as the audience of Samoa. Then I remembered the words from the Holy Bible. Blessed is those who wait on God, blessed are those who trust and depend on God for what they need. You have spoken this evening, and your speech was very in-depth. There is no aspect that the speech did not address. That is why I convey my congratulations and gratitude. The House is always eager to listen. Even the constituency was addressed; not only Malaeola and Gafoga, but you also addressed your new constituency. And so, I express my congratulations and thanks. I commend you for being considerate and I commend you for your work. You have also conveyed your gratitude to the Chief Executive Officers of the Ministries under your supervision.

Hon Minister, the Chair will never forget you, since we worked together in the Ministry of Police and Prisons, and your attitude is still the same. Like the words of the sermon that Jesus conducted on the mountain. Blessed is the meek, for they shall inherit the land. Blessed is those who love, for they will be loved. Blessed is the pure in heart, for they shall see the Lord. I beseech the Hon Member, as these were the behaviors I noticed in those days, and they are seen even now.

For us to meet again in this House of Parliament is a testimony to everything. So, there is no need for me to give you praises, anyone who depends on and trusts in God, will be rewarded greatly. Yes, may God bless your endeavors in the election of the country. As your constituency is listening, they are very lucky. You respond to everything with kindness, God bless the member.

We have now arrived at the regular recess time for our Parliament. And so, I announce that the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly will be set aside for its usual recess of 15 minutes.

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*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside for its usual recess at 7:55pm and resumed at 8:40pm.*

*Debates continued with Government Responses on the second reading of the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No.1) 2020/2021.*

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I announce the resumption of the Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly. I believe that the sanctity of Parliament has found renewed strength to continue our work this evening. We have just finished our meal and a brief break. So, I want to convey my commendations and thanks to the Clerk of the Assembly for the preparations this evening. Thank you very much.

Before the Work of the Legislative Assembly was set aside for its usual recess, the Hon Minister for Tourism had concluded his speech. We now come to the Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure. Therefore, I respectfully call on the Hon Minister for your speech.

**Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE NIKO LEE HANG:** Thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity. Before I start my speech, I would like to say something first. There is a legend in our village of Falefa, where I am also a matai of through my title of Tepafoai. The honorable Iuli would conduct his speech for 2 days and 2 nights.

Lufilufi spoke to me recently, as a reminder that my speech should be 2 nights and 2 days long. But it is okay, since I am sympathetic as we have been tirelessly struggling with our Assembly. Perhaps tonight and one day will be enough for my speech. But thank you Mr Speaker for the opportunity.

First, I would like to express my greetings and salutations to all those that have gathered here today. I acknowledge the presence of Mr Speaker, the Hon Prime Minister, as well as the Ministers of Cabinet and Associate Ministers. Also, the attendance of respectable Chairpersons and all the members of the Parliamentary Committee of the House, as well as all the honorable members of the Parliament of Samoa. I would also like to convey my greetings to His Excellency the Le Ao o le Malo, the Afioga Tuiaana and your Good Lady. The Member of the Council of Deputies and your Good Lady. I also want to express salutations to the Chief Justice, the President of Lands and Titles Court, the men and women judges and the Judiciary.

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I would also like to offer salutations to the sanctity of Samoa who are listening in support of the Assembly of Samoa from the comfort of their own homes. From the highest mountain peaks to the lowest valleys. Furthermore, greetings are conveyed to the sanctity of the ordained servants of the Gospel at every Altar throughout Samoa, as they pray for the welfare of Samoa and its people. Thank you very much for your devotion. I would also like to offer greetings to the Chief Executive Officers of the Ministries and Private Organizations of the Government. The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly and all the staff of the Government, I commend you for your patience and your perseverance. I acknowledge your religious statuses, your national statuses, and your Governmental status, in all its honorifics. There is no need for it to be explained in a statement because Samoa is like a fish that has many bones already been assigned. Mr Speaker, I also want to use this opportunity to send my empathy and condolences to the heartbroken mother, the Afioga Vaelaa and her son, as well as the bereaved family. Because of God's holy call to the politician, who is also a brother to me, the Afioga Vaafusuaga Toleafoa Ken Poutoa. May you continue to find the comfort and peace of the Lord as you are enveloped by the dark cloud, due to the passing of the father of the family and the constituency.

I would also like to express condolences to the Tofa Lealailepule, my brother in Christ as well as the father of the family especially the brothers and sisters in tears because they are unable to travel here for the funeral of their mother, due to the restriction of Covid-19. As well as the sanctity of the two families, because of the holy call of God to the mother of the grieving family.

Mr Speaker, I believe that all questions from members regarding the Ministries and Organizations that are under my supervision. I have already responded to them, and the suggestions have also been recorded, especially the new additional requests, all in response to your appeals.

Mr Speaker, there are 10 Organizations and Ministries under the supervision of the Minister of Works. These include MWTI, EPC, SWA, LTA, SPA, Airport Authority, SSC, SSS, PUMA and PFL. But I would first like to introduce the major projects of our Government that have been implemented and have been completed in this 5 years of our Governments Term from 2016 – 2021. As well as other major projects that are still ongoing. Some of our Government's major projects have been planned and scheduled for the year 2021-2026. All the major projects that were implemented in the 5 years of this Administration also include the projects that are implemented under the Ministry of Work.

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The Samoa National Action Plan for Road Safety has been reviewed and revised. The assessment of road safety and recommendations for follow-up actions has also been completed, the Samoa Road Safety Pathway Assessment 2016.

The evaluation of roads and guidelines for the construction of Samoa's roads has also been completed, Review of National Road Standards in Samoa 2016. The guidelines for the monitoring and proper management of all major Government assets have also been compiled, or the Samoa Infrastructure Asset Management Strategy 2018. The first phase for the construction of the river wall between the Vaisigano and Leone concrete road has also been completed. And this development is continuing until 2023. This is for the safety and to reduce the effects of flooding on the country, the Vaisigano Catchment Project. One of the Government's plans for the beautification of the coast and the town of Apia has also been implemented. After the construction of the Apia Waterfront Events Space, and the Clock tower in 2019.

The National Building Code 2017 has been developed for the construction of buildings. Guidelines for the Application of the National Building Code to Single Story Residential Housing 2018 have also been developed. The policy for the licensing and registration of carpenters and construction contractors has also been created in April 2020. Preparations have also been completed for the development of the coastlines of Apia, or the Apia Waterfront Development Plan 2015-2016. The guidelines for the work plan of the urban areas, the Urban Designs Standard 2018, have been written. The construction is underway for the playground for children in Sogi, which is financed by the Government of New Zealand. The construction of rest areas at Matagalalua and in front of the FMFM II House, the Clocktower plan and the Event Space. The Water Authorities carry out monthly inspections from Vaiala to Mulinuu, monthly water quality tests. Work will be carried out for the construction of the recreation ground, Friendship Park, which is planned to be completed in 2021. The projects planned for the year 2021-2026, the continuation of the work of phase 2, 3 and 4, for projects to increase the security of Vaisigano from the effects of floods, the Vaisigano Catchment Project Green Climate Fund is scheduled to be completed in 2026.

Appropriate inspections will be carried out for a joint line, for the wastewater of the town of Apia. It is being paid for under the project of the GCF, Green Climate Fund, and the feasibility study for integrated several seasons in Apia. The completion of the work for the construction of the Friendship Park is funded by the Chinese Government, in addition to the Apia Waterfront Project.

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There are also new projects planned for the future. The plans for Vaitele will be reviewed as it is a place suitable for businesses, an industrial zone. And review and find suitable locations for businesses that do not provide security due to the dust and the noise generated by the rock drill.

The Ministry of EPC or the Electric Power Corporation. These projects were implemented in 2016-2021. The hydropower plant has been completed in Tafitoala, Fausaga, Vailoa in Savaii, and Fuluasou which is expected to be completed sometime this year. Repairs are underway for the water generators in Alaoa, *fale o le fee*, *Loto o Samasoni*, *Taelefa* and an additional Generator for *Taelefa*. Batteries for storing electricity in *Fiaga* and *Faleolo*.

A 750-kilowatt biomass classification plant has been set up in *Mulifanua* on the properties of *STEC*. The hydroelectric power plant in *Lalomauga* has been upgraded, which is now 3.75 megawatts. The project that is currently underway by the EPC is the Smart Metering Program, with a total of 30,000 meters to be installed in every household. Currently only 3,000 meters have been installed. The *Vaipu Pumping Scheme* is the water that needs to be pumped towards *Afulilo*. The *Season Protection Study* is used to prevent black outs due to accidents which affects the electricity poles. The *Fiaga Power Station Lightning Protection System* is used to prevent black outs caused by lightning. It is almost similar to the problem that occurred in February last year. The projects that are planned for the future. The *Alaoa Multipurpose Dam*, costing from US\$98 to \$100 million, is funded by the *ADB*, as well as our other Development partners, especially our Government.

*Mount Lepue*, 20 megawatts wind farm at *Lepiu*. Additional generators for *Tanugamanono* for upgrade and stand by. An additional Diesel Power Station for *Savaii*. The *Lalomauga hydro plant 2.5MPa transformer*. A Smart Distribution Grid Remote Control. A Cross island powerlines from *Tanugamanono* to *Siumu*. A new hydro station at *Tiapapata*, and this project is now open for tender.

The Distribution expansion network community services application, these are aid provided through our *CSO*. Solar palms for *Savaii*, a renewable energy green market which negotiations are currently underway with the *PPA* for this purpose. It is also expected that the *EPC* will make orders for electric vehicles. Now there is an auction for 5 vans and 5 Estuaries to kick start this project.

The *Samoa Water Authority, SWA*. The projects implemented for 2016-2021, the water bores in *Gataivai*, *Sataua*, *Saleaamua*, *Satapuala* and *Nofoalii*. The new reservoirs that were built at *Gataivai*, *Saleaamua*, *Satapuala*, *Nofoalii*, *Faleasiu-uta*, the two villages of *Tanumalala*, *Lepale*, *Afiamalu*, *Malololelei*, *Matavai*, *Magiagi*, *Samata*, *Saleaula*, the two villages of *Seese* and *Aleisa East*.

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The projects planned for 2021-2026 for the Water Authorities. Improvement works for Vavau, Lotofaga, including the upper parts of Salani. Repair work for Aleisa West, ongoing work for Malololelei and Afiamalu.

The ongoing work for the Main office in Vaitele, the replacement of the pipeline to the seabed for the water in Manono-tai. To make some examples of using solar energy to electrify drilled water and water from the underground springs. To drill water from the grounds in Vailele and Moamoa-fou. To improve the range of clean water services for the people of the country, so that the coverage is 100%. Currently, the coverage is 99% at this time. But 11% of the service, whereby independent water sources are being used. To improve the pipelines for the water in the Apia town area. When you look at the major work that is being done, for these canals that would block up frequently which is why this work is being conducted. To expand the placement of pipelines for waste disposal from bathrooms, and to establish more facilities like this. To expand the program for SCADA supervisory control and data acquisition, as well as the layout for the new program for smart meters.

There is a water project that is currently being done in Samusu. That is being implemented by the Water Authority. But I have heard rumors that some people are using this project for campaigning saying that they are the ones implementing it. All the water related projects are carried out by the Government, through the Water Authority, for the understanding of this village.

The Land Transport Authority, LTA. The major road works that implemented in these 5 years. The concrete road crossing in Leone, the new cement bridge in Vaisigano, funded by Japan is \$44 million. The new concrete road crossing in Samalaeulu was funded by the World Bank and the Australian Government for \$12 million.

The concrete road crossing in Moamoa, Niusuatia and Aia in Sopoaga was funded by the World Bank and Australia. The new steel bridge in Loto I Samasoni, was jointly funded by the Australian Government and our Government. The expansion and deepening of the drains in the town area, the Green Climate Fund, the completion of repairs of the West Coast Road from Saina to Malua, these are all assistance from the World Bank and our Government. And the ongoing work for the construction of the road from Fusi Safotulafai to Paia Patamea.

Mr Speaker, the amount of funds spent on the major Capital Works projects for the construction of access roads, concrete road crossings, seawalls near the roads as well as ongoing work.



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Routine maintenance in Upolu and Salafai within the 5 years of our Administration, 2016 - \$29,568,343. 2017 - \$27,923,182. 2018 - \$28,535,677, 2019 - \$28,277,273. 2020, it is \$41,575,152. If all the members were to look at the total amount, the Government has spent more than a billion dollars on the methods used to carry out our work in the 5 years of our Administration.

These expenses do not include donations from grants from our Development Partners. The major projects planned for 2021 to 2026, the improvement of the concrete road crossing in Lelata, funded by the Green Climate Fund. The improvement of the road crossings in Lano and Sapapalii, it is an aid by the World Bank. The improvement of the concrete road crossing in Afega is also an aid offered by the World Bank. The ADB is funding the improvement of the Cross Island Road in Tanugamanono to Siumu. The World Bank Grant is used to fund the continuing improvement of the West Coast Road from Malua to Faleolo. Research is being carried out for ways to prevent landslides and rock fall from the mountains on the East Coast on the Eastern side of Upolu, as well as Safotu and Manase in Savaii. And also, the improvement of the sidewalks from Aleisa to Tanumalala.

Mr Speaker, the access roads, or road works planned for Upolu and Savaii, before the end of the Budget in June 2021. For Upolu, the road at Samalaga in Alafua, this road leads to the rock quarry. The Tufulele Road, Launiu Road, Pati Road, Solosolo uta Road, Falelauniu Road, Aleisa East, Fusi Safata, Tuvao, Sainamau Road, Manunu Road, Vini Road, Apaula Street, Salesatele Road, Vaovai and Matautu Road, Utulaelae Falealili, Lotopue and Utufa'alalafa, Salea'aumua and Satitua, roads to the Leauvaa and Satuimalufilufi Primary Schools.

These are the works intended for Savaii, Malae Road, Tapueleele Road, Lalomalava, Utulua in Asau, Satupaitea Road, Nuualofa Falelima Road, and the road towards the school in Sagone.

Mr Speaker, you are well aware of the impacts of climate change on roads. But the Land Transport Authority is still working to restore our roads that are affected by floods, particularly the rain as fast as they can. The task is quite huge due to the great impact of almost every road, but the Administration is trying its best to repair our roads as soon as possible.

I now come to the Samoa Port Authority. The developments which started from 2016 to 2020 as well as ongoing developments. Expansion of the port in Matautu, the enhancement of safety for the Apia Port funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Repairing of tugboats. Renovate the lighthouse on Mt Vaea, and beacon lights at the harbour in Apia.

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Repairing of the wharf at Matautu including the break waters seawall, funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) at a total price of US\$75,000,000. The Port for Manono uta passenger station is financed by JICA while SPA funds the port. The Lighthouse, Way of the Cross on Mt Vaea, pilot boats, study for the harbour at Satitua Aleipata, research for tugboats location including a floating facility.

The wharf in Vaiusu 2021-2026, Mr Speaker, this is one of the most important developments by the Government, which is intended for the betterment of Samoa and its people, for tomorrow and the days ahead. This development will also benefit the constituency of Faleata No.2, especially the village of Vaiusu and its neighbouring villages like Vailoa and Vaigaga. I am quite disappointed because apparently the member for this constituency who is not sitting here with his other fellows Faumuina Wayne is taking the lead in resisting and slandering this significant development for Samoa. It seems like a fairy-tale to the member, considering his continuous opposition to this important development for Samoa and its people.

Mr Speaker, most of the people from the constituency of Faleata No.2 especially Alii and Faipule have personally extended their gratitude and congratulations to the Government, for this development which can benefit Samoa, particularly their constituency of Faleata No. 2. However, the member who is also the father of the constituency does not agree with it. Mr Speaker, Hon Fiame and Laauli who are not attending today, were present during the time when the Cabinet discussed this development. And they both accepted it because it is a development which will benefit Samoa. A humble recommendation to these two, I assume you are listening right now, you are the Leaders of your family Faatuatua I le Atua, talk to and advise your younger member, he will not get any point for the election, but will only lose points, with his constant attempt to oppose and slander this important establishment for Samoa tomorrow and in future.

Mr Speaker...

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi (Faleata West):** Mr Speaker...I apologise this will be quick because I am taking note of our...Hon Minister.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pardon the member for Faleata is there anything you want...

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Yes, the member for Faleata does not stand up without a reason. There is a small matter I want to correct.

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**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** A point of order, you can proceed.

**Tofa Lealailepule Rimoni Aiafi:** Yes, as the Hon Minister stated, the father of the constituency opposes it. This is not a father of the constituency. I am the father of the constituency at the moment, and it is not yet time and it will never be. But if this is what you recommend Hon Minister, well I am looking at the layout of the port, it mainly takes up Vaitele. If he refuses this part, then name it the Vaitele Wharf, then there will be no more disagreement, because it seems the port is mainly towards Vaitele Fetalaiga Faleafa.

But this is for the record, th father of the constituency is not against the wharf, he is leading in the development of this important initiative for the whole of Samoa. As for the member mentioned by the Hon Minister, he is not a father, not a mother, not even a matai of our village, thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you.

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

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I call upon the Leader of Government.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** I would like to clarify more and correct something as well; the Government is not guided by some words that is not worthy of attention. And it is a must to elaborate that...a development which has a wide view of the Government. And this member has no right over the sea where the development will be built.

Perhaps this is the problem for the members, who talk about issues without first looking at the Constitution of the Government of Samoa. The Government of Samoa has the right to any ocean according to the Constitution of the Government of Samoa. Even the spot where the water reaches when it is high tide. That is why any beach, wherever it is, whether it is in Lepa or wherever, the sand cannot be removed unless a permit is given, although some go and dig up the beach at night. But they will be fined once the Government catch them.

Mr Speaker, that is the situation in case there is worry in the constituency. The Government looks at the overall benefit of the development for the next generation of the villages like Vaitele, Vaigaga and Vaiusu, also for Lepea, Vailoa and other villages located within the area the port will be set up. As for the issue raised by the member, there is nothing to worry about because he gets things. But the people of the district need jobs for their children.

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This is why he is not worried; thus, his announcements are not important. There is no significance, this is why those listening does not mind these irrelevant comments.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Well, the Chair will not reiterate Hon Minister of Works, I guess this is the truth about everything. I am still grateful for the development in my constituency which is in progress. Henceforth, stay focus, ignore the useless rumors.

I give you the opportunity to continue your speech.

**Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE NIKO LEE HANG:** I also thank my brother in Christ for the interruption. The important thing is that I now understand, he is not the father of the constituency, but a representative of the constituency. Thank you that it is now understood, as he is trying to destroy the establishment, I thought he is the father, but instead he is a representative of the constituency. But now that the Leader of the constituency is speaking, Tofa Lealailepule.

I also thank the Hon Prime Minister, for reminding me of this matter. Now that I have noticed again, these people do not understand, even these young members, because they are new and have not been here long. Therefore, they are not sitting there today, but I really wanted to talk to them face to face. But the problem is they are watching on the TV. Come tomorrow and let us talk. You laze around and have fun instead of coming to our Meetings.

Mr Speaker, the Government of the HRPP party is weary of trying to find assistance from our Development Partners to fund our big developments. However, these slanderous remarks, misinformation and suspicious have affected our social relations with the Government of China. Unfortunately, a complaint has come from the Chinese Embassy, due to their writings in the Samoa Observer on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February, in which this junior member said, that China's military is going to be based at the wharf. Look at how disrespectful he is; China will never think of such things.

We are safeguarded under the administration of Alii and Faipule, and we will never succumb to such situation. But these allegations are quite extreme, which saddened the Ambassador. I do not know who these people are who want to be leaders but listen to what they are saying...the HRPP party are really trying to look for assistances to develop our country, but they are always the first to slander. I am just saying that to this member of the constituency.

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The Office of the Ambassador has responded that, these accusations are groundless. And this is the English term used in the statement, it is groundless. Which means it is baseless as well as suspicious, that is the case Mr Speaker, to clarify this matter because it must be corrected for people to know that it is not a military port by China...

Mr Speaker, the close and warm relationship between our Government and the Government of China is approaching 50 years. And we have received a lot of aid from the Government of China for our developments as we have witnessed.

Mr Speaker, China also disregarded our debt of \$68 million tala in 2006. These assistances were used to build our FMFM Building, Tooa Building, and the Apia Park Gym. And I declare before this Parliament, there is no, no intention of the Government of China, in wanting to take any of our land, just because we have many debts. This is like the fairy-tale I am always hearing, most of our debts are almost finished but maybe the Government is planning to offer some lands for China, I declare, that there is no such thing.

I have already talked to China and talked about this matter, yet the Chinese Ambassador asserted that, his Government have no, not any intention but instead they wanted to help us. So, the relationship at the moment is very friendly. But with these kinds of remarks, China will never come to help again. I only pity him because...

But I will now give an update of our work at the wharf. The feasibility study has now been completed, including the surveys that were carried out at the end of 2019 to the beginning of 2020. We are waiting for the time to submit the report of the survey, and to confirm when this huge development will be initiated, valuable for the nation, especially the constituency of Faleata No.2.

Research carried out by the Samoa Ports Authority and the Company of KVA in 2019 has also been completed. Some previous surveys pertaining to the long-term plans of SPA for the next 20 years were also reviewed. And these were some of the aspects found and approved in this research, the realignment of SPA Strategic Direction including a business base to the Vaiusu Port.

Mr Speaker, the extreme reasons that were found in this research, make it necessary to build the international port in Vaiusu. The Matautu port is getting narrower for other services and additional development and there is not enough berths for ships, and places to store containers. The port is easily affected during high swells. And it often stops the work of a ship, which causes ships to avoid the port at Matautu during these times.

The oil tanks will be relocated because Vaiusu is close to Sogi. And the fuel line pipe will be removed, which are laid out from Matautu towards the town area and through to Sogi where the oil tanks are placed.

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Mr Speaker, the town can be greatly affected if there is a fire, like the oil tank which burned at Matautu in 2016. The existence of another International port will be useful for the country in case another disaster might happen like when the Forum Samoa was marooned at port in Matautu in 2009, due to strong swells, which blocked the re-entry of some ships for a month. It will also simply market Samoa overseas, a transshipment harbor of the Pacific, if there will be an availability of enough berthing spaces for large ships, and enough space for container storages.

It will also be available, the Matautu port will be open for cruise ships, cable ship, and particularly there will be enough space for ships from Tokelau, especially the ships for American Samoa.

Vaiusu port will also be able to cater to large super yachts. There will be a lot of additional services for the Private Sector, such as container cleaning, stevedoring, container drug companies, and others like employment opportunities for the people of the constituency. It is near to the Industrial Zone in Vaitele, and it will preserve the Apia town from being trampled every time by heavy trucks, and the traffic in this part of town will be reduced. Thus, ensuring the possibility of ships will be docked everyday 365 days of the year, because shipping services will no longer be affected by swells due to the secured space of Vaiusu Bay which is known as a protected bay.

Mr Speaker, these are some of the reasons for the relocation of our international port from Matautu to Vaiusu. Mr Speaker, these are some of the projects the Samoa Port Authority has planned for the next 5 to 10 years in the future for the betterment of our fragile nation, in pursuit of a better life. The renovating of the bay in Asau 2021-2026. The reconstruction of the wharf at Lelepa, Fagamalo 2023/2024, the international port at Salelologa 2022/2026, and the improvement of the harbour for visiting ships in Sinalei.

The Samoa Airport Authority, projects in the last 5 years of this Term, 2016/2021. Completed the construction of new terminal and passenger terminal with the assistance of the Government of China at a cost of US\$53 million. Completed the World Bank project for Aviation Project, for the improvement of all security assets for the airport at the price of US\$43 million. Set up a 45-meter pole on Mt Fiamoe to improve communications with airlines. Established a new building for burning left over food and other remaining from the plane. Fenced the land inhabited by the nobility of Satapuala village, to prepare for the re-expansion of the runway for airplanes to an additional length of 300 meters towards the East. Bought a machine for learning flight control simulators Samoa is the only small island nation of the Pacific with this kind of machine, and it is expected to be used for training of some members from other Pacific islands.

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Development of satellite navigation systems for rainy seasons at Faleolo and Maota Airports funded by the Government of New Zealand. Completed the first phase for the construction of the runway for the airport in Tiavea.

Completion of phase 2 for the construction of the airport in Tiavea for the setting up of the runway, aircraft parking, terminal building and passenger terminal. This work is currently being tendered for the construction of the runway.

Mr Speaker, our airport at Tiavea is designed for our Twin Otter aircraft, as well as ATR-42 and ATR-72 aircraft, which can carry 40 to 50 passengers. I still receive information from complainants, saying that the airport is too small for a huge plane to land. There is no intention of the Government to build an airport for the 737, but particularly only the Twin Otter aircraft. Now another part of the runway will be added, in order for ATR flights to be able to land and accommodate 40-50 passengers. But there is no preparation and intention to construct an airport for the 737 to land.

These accusations are misleading the country and have accused the airport of building that small airport, knowing that the 737 will not fit in there. For the understanding of the country the airport was not built for a 737. The future plan 2021/2026 for the airport in Faleolo...

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

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Apologies to the Hon Minister as I give opportunity to the member for Palauli le Falefa.

**Afioga Hon Faumuina Tiatia Faaolatane Liuga:** Mr Speaker, I acknowledge the Hon Minister for the lovely remarks, because I have mentioned this before. The suggestion I gave was, only 500 metres left, then 737 will be able to land. I only said that, but I did not say that the 737 aircraft will land there. Currently there are 1,400, therefore the remarks by the Hon Minister is absolutely right, but my advice was, it will be nice if another 500 meters is added so as to make the Airport at Tiavea a full international airport. To land the 737, it was a suggestion with all due respect.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** It is now crystal clear in the opinion of the respected member, but I ask the Hon Minister to please continue with your speech.

**Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE NIKO LEE HANG:** I offer gratitude to Hon Faumuina, of course not.

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I am not saying anything about Afioga Faumuina. This is about those who are making complaints, but not the speech...I believe he did say...therefore I want to explain this airport was built, for some time in the future, but for now, our small airport there is prepared only for the Twin Otter and ATR.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pardon me Hon Minister as I give the opportunity to the member of Aleipata Itupa i Lalo.

**Afioga Tafua Maluelue Tafua:** Forgive me Hon Minister there is no intention to interrupt your speech, but since the length of the airport at Tiavea is in our records, as of right now it has not reached 1,400 metres. At the moment there is only 867 metres long with respect. Thank you.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Thank you, for the advise, I call upon the Hon Minsiter to continue his wonderful speech.

**Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE NIKO LEE HANG:** If what was given is wrong then the information provided is wrong. But the right thing shall be done, thank you for the advice.

Now another 300 metres will be added to the runway at the East side of Faleolo Airport to provide 3,100 meters that any huge plane, such as the A-340 and the B-787, can take off with a heavy load according to its limitations.

Set up a building to carry out major repair works or a large hangar at Faleolo. Establish a Regional Aviation Training Centre for Samoa and the Pacific. The passenger terminal in Maota airport needs to be repaired. Add another 300 metres to the runway to make it 1000 metres long. Repair the fence which surrounds the field. Build the VIP lounge. At the airport in Asau, repair the runway, renew the fence surrounding the airport. The landing field at Tiavea, re-add another 700 metres, the length of 960 meters, in response to the concern voiced by the member of Itupa I Lalo. Construction of arrival and departure terminals at Tiavea.

Mr Speaker, this is the list of planned projects by the Sector that are under my supervision, which includes the operation of roads, water, electricity, hence this is a summary of these works. Mr Speaker I now come to the main statement of my speech.



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Mr Speaker, this has been the fourth Term of Parliament, that my insignificance has been chosen, as a member for the constituency, first as an Individual Voters, next as the Constituency for Urban East. These 2 constituencies were asserted, as the divinity and sacredness of the whole of Samoa. The respects of *Tama ma Aiga, Aiga ma Tama, Usoga a Tumua ma Pule, Ituau ma Alataua, Aiga i le Tai ma le Vaa o Fonoti*.

Mr Speaker, I will now prepare for the 2021 General Election in April for the Constituency of Vaimauga No.3. But let me just get to my new constituency, then I will speak upon its administrative respects. Mr Speaker, I will start my speech by offering my gratitude to my constituency of Urban East as well as an introductory statement to my Electoral Constituency of Vaimauga No.3.

Mr Speaker before I go forth and address the respects of my New Constituency of Vaimauga No.3, I turn to convey my heart of appreciation to my beloved constituency, for Urban East, who was the cause of my being in the Parliament of Samoa. Afia will not be forgotten.

First of all, I want to thank the holy servants of God within several altars in our constituency who are striking the dark cloud and bringing the light of Christ in the world through His divine will. Thank you for your evening prayers and day prayers which have granted us the strength in body, the mind, especially the soul. But the shadow of the dying sun has descended for this Term which has come to an end with everything going smoothly and well. I acknowledge the support of families, elderly fathers and mothers and the younger generations who supported this insignificant person to be your voice in the Parliament of Samoa in this Term coming to its end. As the common saying of the country goes, any activity that is well supported is a successful one. Thank you so much for your support, you have given your full support as well as prayers in vain. Thank you for the authority, thank you for your kindness.

For all my shortcomings or any service that was fallen flat in your opinion and not enough of your servant, please forgive me. If I also have not been able to execute some projects during my time, the sun of the Lord's righteousness will always rise, perhaps it will be accomplished by another Government who will rise in the next 5 years according to the will of the Almighty God.

My ship will now drift from your waters and sail across the ocean to my new electoral constituency of Vaimauga No.3 where I will contest for the 2021 elections. Mr Speaker, I now come to my constituency of Vaimauga No.3. Mr Speaker the constituency of Vaimauga No.3 consists of these villages; Matautu-tai, Matautu-uta, Faatoia, Leone, Maagao, Magiagi, Lelata, Tanugamanono, Papauta, Loimata o Apaula, Sekema-fou, Papaloloa, Vailima, Alaoa, Vaoala, Letava, Malololelei, Afiamalu, Tiavi and Palapalaloa.

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As the common saying goes systems change but the foundation remains. Changes can emerge in expressions or names, it is possible to change constituency boundaries, yet your sacredness remains. The founded honorifics of villages and districts have already been laid out by ancestors who have helped them to design and change the traditional language, which we now glorify with content. But I would like to express the sanctity of our Vaimauga, the respects of *Fuaiupolu i lena itu o le vai, i le afio o Tofaeono o le Matua, afifio Asi ma Patu, afifio Aiga e 3, maliu mai laua na tai, susu mai le Tuiataga ma le usoalii ma oulua le Launiu Saelua ma le moafagatau, alaatai le nofo a ituaiga ia Fuata. Le paia o le faletolu o Sagauga aua le afifio o Alosina, afifio laua Matua, afifio Usoalii, afifio le Aiga Salevalasi, susu Alo o le Malietoa, alaatai le Faletolu ma le Vainalepa*. Those are the taboos and sacredness of Vaimauga, that will remain and cannot be ignored in a statement of this humble servant.

Our new constituency of Vaimauga No.3 has been arranged and laid out to prepare your candidate Tapunuu Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang of the Human Rights Protection Party the HRPP for these 5 years. Despite the fact that the constituency is new, your candidate is not. We have been already together in our constituency, partaking in politics. I have been serving under the flag of the HRPP for many years. Their good works in serving Samoa at all times are notable and flourishing in serving Samoa in whichever part yet the desire is endless to serve the country and the wish to use the remaining days of my life to share to you my dear constituency, especially Samoa in its generality, in regards to a lot of things which needs to be improved especially the continued work for the success of our constituency as well as Samoa as a whole.

I would like to use this English proverb, “Actions speaks louder than words.” If translated in Samoan, *e leotele atu galuega I lo upu ma tala*. Actual actions speak louder than extravagant promises.

To my constituency of Vaimauga No.3, I value your opinion and suggestions because that is where the profound insights are which benefit families, villages and the Government, especially in being free to make your choice to vote. Remember if you make the right decision today, tomorrow will be blessed. I do not want to make any promises or affirmations, in case we might not be one in mind, and I will be blamed. Nevertheless, the appointment of the Leaders of the country, are called upon and chosen by God Almighty. We are all aware of this. But I still wish to serve you my constituency of Vaimauga No.3 if you bestow me your authority and trust.

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May God be with us and take us through the hope of Samoa pertaining its general election, let us find it on land and at the sea, those most skilful sailors who can navigate the boat of Samoa for the next 5 years. I ask that we remain in harmony and live happily for men do play but are still brothers.

Last but not least is a special thanks to my beloved village of Vailima. Such are the respects pertaining to *Tapunuu, lau Afioga Sooalo, afifio Aiga, alaalatai le Matua Fetalai ia Foitau, lo la toalua ia Puaalatamai ma Puaasegisegi, le Lauti na Laulelei ma le nofo a ituaiga i le Tulafale.* Afioga i le Sao Afioga Sooalo Harry as well as the heirs and successors Henry, thank you so much for the respect given through the paramount title bestowed upon me this humble servant.

The words pertaining to Tanugamanono, I stand in Sinave and Ulumotootua but look at the high mountain of Mateao before Vaea was born, that is how high your respect was, now I am proud to carry it, you have crowned this insignificant man with honors. You have poured from your hands the water from your springs and quiche my thirst like the saying in our village *o le vai na tuutuulima.* You have humbled yourselves, your authority and fair distribution, I commend you for your exaltation. But lend me your hand, lend your shoulder to carry this burden and lay out the palm of your hand to support Tapunuu in the upcoming General Elections and let us put our cause before God.

Mr Speaker, I will not say Jacob's words when he wrestled with the angel of God, pardon me. I am also good with Bible Studies. From Genesis 32 verse 26; the angel wanted to go because the day was breaking but Jacob was holding onto him. Then Jacob said to him, I will not let you go unless you bless me. Thank you, thank you to my constituency for the blessings.

Hon Prime Minister, I would like to express my gratitude to you for the leadership of our Government. Your clear foresight, your direct visions, your open perceptions whilst trusting the will of God, which has blessed Samoa and its respected locality, and it has placed Samoa on the top in this region of the Pacific and its relations with other Governments. The stone wall does not need to be decorated and the fence does not need to be painted, it is just something that makes it stand out. Thank you for your trust and appointing this insignificant person as a Minister of your Cabinet in this Term which has ended. The truth Hon Prime Minister, your honour is not one but great to this lowly person. Thank you, thank you very much. I pray to God to grant you a long life with a healthy body and an open mind to carry out assignments and different callings but most especially the spirit.

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Mr Speaker the Hon Toleafoa Faafisi, well, perhaps you are listening through the radio, I thank you for these 5 years of our fellowship, thank you for your patience, your royal insights and divine reflections which maintained peace within the Assembly of Samoa. May God be generous and grant you more days to live for other certain purposes of the future regarding your calling.

Mr Speaker, we will not forget in heart, mind or spirit the loyal service, efficient service, hardworking, and the patriotic service of Management and Heads of all Ministries and Private Organizations of the Government. In particular, I am very grateful to the Chief Executive Officers of the Ministries and Boards of Directors who were under my supervision, I commend you all for the effort, job well done and thank you for your courage. I have carefully observed how far all of you go in search for the best things to serve the country in general, especially the abundant suggestions you gave me, which have reduced the gaps and deficiencies within the Ministry.

A leader of one of the prominent churches once said, when performance is measured, performance exceeds, but when performance is measured and reported, performance accelerates. When this phase is translated in Samoan, *a lelei siitia maualuga ma lipoti atu la tatou auaunaga, o le a televave ma saoasaoa le faatinoga o so o se galuega*. Thank you very much, those are your blessings, be vigorous in going forward to carry out your duties.

Mr Speaker, lastly, I would like to express special thanks to my Associate Minister Susuga Seiuli Ueligitone the Son of Malietoa. We have done a lot of work in this Term; thus, we shall glorify our Heavenly Father for his grace. May God love and bless you for the upcoming election.

Mr Speaker, I am grateful to the divinities and royalty of the heirs from Tumua and those who rule in Salafai whom we worked together with under my Advisory Committees in the Ministry of Works and Water Authority. Your contribution is very important, and I would like to convey my congratulations and thanks for all the good things we have done together in these 5 years. We have witnessed a lot of work being done in our time, to praise the love and kindness of God. Work speaks for themselves instead of a lot of promises, but no work is being done.

The honor of the Parliament and Samoa, especially my fellow Ministers, now that this Parliamentary Term has come to an end, congratulations on your hard work, thank you for serving the country. Your royal insights, critical understanding and goodwill have resulted in our duties being successful. However, no journey is accomplished without trials.

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The fisherman may be wise, but his canoe cannot always be filled with fish, but whatever works we have been able to complete that are good and beautiful and reputable in this Parliamentary Term, then we should say the statement of the Bible, "we are bad and lowly servants. May it not be unto us, but praise and glory be unto His Holy Name." God is good. Good luck with your general election Samoa.

Mr Speaker, there are a few Ministries that I have forgotten, but it does not matter if I get another opportunity, since I can see that our time is up. Mr Speaker...

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** You still have the opportunity to speak, since this is your last speech.

**Susuga Hon PAPALIITELE NIKO LEE HANG:** Perhaps I will continue and conclude our time? Mr Speaker I will conclude then. If there was any indecent word, please do not take it to heart but forget. Apaula I Mateao will now return and Tapunuu will step back into vai tuutuulima. God bless and farewell, but I will continue another part of my speech to conclude my statement. Thank you, Mr Speaker, for giving me the opportunity once again.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Pardon me, Hon Minister as I give the opportunity to the Hon Prime Minister.

**Susuga Hon Tuilaepa Auelua Fatialofa Lupesoliai Lolofietele Neioti Aiono Galumalemana Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi:** Mr Speaker, before the member concludes his speech, I think it is best he takes a break. There are 2 important matters that I wish to state in case the Minister does not touch upon them. It is very important because it is related to the responsibilities under the Minister. His speech mentioned the first part, the development of the lighthouse on Vaea. This development is very important. On our way back the day before after the ceremony of officially handing over the school for Samata I tai, we came on the police boat. We arrived late at night, a little after 8 pm, then we tried to look for the lighthouse. This is a major problem and one of the developments that has started, the lighthouse has been moved from the place it stood underneath, and set up on higher ground, making it easier to guide ships to port. And this lighthouse is a cross that has already been carved, it is a very large cross that stands up on Mount Vaea to direct in the ships.

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And that is one of the prominent icons in our country, there is a huge spirit behind it, to safely direct ships into the city, but it is also the cross of the Lord which identifies this country, a Christian country, the cross is drawing their attention for them to make it through eternal life. This is one of the icons which is used by many countries, especially South America. And I am also thankful for the thought-provoking spirit to use the cross as well as signal lights from the top of the cross downwards and the same was done around the place where our Lord was crucified, as the lights flicker throughout the night.

All preparations have been made including... it is necessary to plow the ground in order to move it down and ensure the strength of the cross which is made of steel and cement to be strong, because it is standing on the plateau opposite strong winds so that its position remains unshakable. Now that the pathway to go up has been laid out, the name of the trail is the Way to the Cross. For clarification this project has already been arranged, and once it is finished construction will begin. That is the importance of this lighthouse, because now I can see very well the difficulty faced by ships that want to enter the harbor at night. That is the important point.

The second part Mr Speaker I would like to mention, which the Minister also spoke about, is the playground for children, which will be built between the Government buildings, this is the big building of the Government and towards the sea, it is easier to observe the layout of the field when the person goes up to the elevator and looks down. It is currently being on hold, because we are still waiting for the workers who went on holiday for Christmas but were immediately infected by Covid. This includes those who we are still waiting for the completion of the museum or the building which stores the heritage of Samoa. The big building that is built in Malifa, as well as our other projects or developments awaiting in Tafaigata, the police academy.

I have mentioned this point, because now I have it in front of me the announcements of the four who are not occupying their seats today, who are still making their announcements as usual and damaging and accusing China of having no money. People who are known for their lies, as I said, the country is well aware of these things of making groundless statements. And I think you should say something about not occupying their seats. These are the only declarations they are making, trying to destroy all the good things that the Government is doing. And so, there is hope that action will be taken, an action that maybe tomorrow a line will be drawn, in order to stop this kind of rude behavior, behavior that is inconsiderate in this Parliament, let alone the honor of this Assembly.

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Samoa does not need people like these, people who seem to oppose the power vested in Parliament. This country does not need these types of people, they are still busy going to constituencies of others and it seems they have more ability to do this preaching, the preaching is a false testimony to all the things that are being done now. And I never tire of confessing their characters, to make this country aware of the danger of leaders like these emerging to lead the Government of Samoa.

Mr Speaker, I have risen so that these false accusations are corrected before this night ends, preaching that are done by devils, only those whose minds are controlled by devils. May our Assembly prosper.

**DEPUTY SPEAKER:** I commend the Leader of the House for your remarks; thus, Parliament have heard especially the support of Samoa on the basis why these seats are vacant. The Chair must also say a word in regard to this matter. Up until now there has been no excuse given by these members mentioned this evening.

However, Standing Orders 24 of the House which is clear in black and white states: “Members must participate in the work of the Assembly. No member should be absent from the work of the Assembly without the Speakers permission to do so.” As stated in the speech by the Hon Leader of the House this evening, he has stated restrictions. This is also the spirit the Chair believes should be overlooked. It seems that the honor of this House has been neglected and it has been degraded, and it appears that it has fallen into disrepute. These are direct words, in the context of swearing before God, the oath of loyalty. The call is carried out, starting from the day the oath was taken until the last day. However, it seems this evening as I have been in contact with the Clerk, no excuse has been given. This portrays the Chair in a bad light. The Chair hence tries to maintain dignity, the sacred space with mutual respect and the state of our values and traditions. Nevertheless, the Chair cannot sit still, as the state of restrictions should be looked into, but the limitations of the Standing Order 24 have been laid down in the Standing Order 25 if any member is absent without permission.

Therefore, I have to announce to the House and to Samoa listening in, the Chair does not condone such matters, excuse me. As mentioned in the speech, the Hon Minister of Works also spoke and mentioned the respected members in terms of trying to weaken the development that the Government is trying to achieve, especially the port as we hope for it. So that is the feeling of this evening, I must announce this so that the House and the country listening, know that the Chair will not sit still.

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There should be a meeting tomorrow with respectable members due to their absence without the permission of the Chair. This announcement is for the House to be aware of the work that is currently being carried out.

Apologies Hon Minister of Works, Transport and Infrastructure, we have now arrived at the time to wind down our work this evening. But tomorrow, you will be given the opportunity to continue your speech and formally conclude and also offer a word of appreciation from the Chair. I would like to take this opportunity to give my congratulations and thanks to the paramount honors of the Parliament in its functions, Hon Leader of Government as well as the Cabinet, Associate Ministers and respectable members of the Parliament.

Thus, we say, well done, thank you for your patience today. This is the first day we have a night session.

The purpose is that you will receive a share of the glorious worship of our country through your calling and your work. Let us say, praise be to God, who has all power and strength, who has given you the strength to carry on with the duties and responsibilities as you are called to do. I would also like to commend the support of the country, as the work of your Parliament has been successfully concluded, because of your prayers and worship.

I also congratulate the Chief Executive Officers of Government Ministries and Organizations, thank you for your patience. Now you have heard that the potter's tool has begun to pour out by Hon Ministers because of your handiwork that you have been doing over the past 5 years. I just want to say that the Chair is very grateful for your hard work, God bless you for the work that was done. Now, to the esteemed Parliament, if the Chair had uttered any dishonorable language against your hearing and the debate of this evening, we apologize, may your will be contained in the house of God to forgive an imperfection of the Chair. I pray for the goodness of God for tomorrow to bring our lives to continue our work as assigned. Before we adjourn, I respectfully ask the member for Salega West to conclude our Meeting with a prayer.

*Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly were set aside at 10:06pm until 9:00am Thursday, 25 February 2021.*