

DISCLAIMER

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Day 7

Thursday 28th January 2021

9:31am

I. GOVERNMENT ORDERS OF THE DAY

1. SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL (NO.1) 2020/2021- second reading & Debate on the Bill cont.

i. AUMUA Isaia Lameko, MEMBER FOR FALEALILI WEST cont.

The member acknowledged the work of the Adventist Development Relief Agency (ADRA), their role in developments in the constituency through the sale of vegetables and construction of houses for unfortunate families.

HON TUILAEPA Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi, PRIME MINISTER- Point of clarification

The Hon PM re-echoed sentiments in the day prior that there are differing levels of development and the calls to rehabilitate all constituency needs is not feasible due to resources. Hence, the Government aims to rehabilitate one road per Constituency per Parliamentary Term. Moreover, the Hon PM stressed that the Government operates and executes developments for the national benefit of which all can reap the benefits on a national level.

Hon PM mentioned the playing field in Saanapu which is usually utilised for rugby tournaments of the constituency, then referred to the member's request for a separate field for Piu (this is unrealistic especially since there is already a playing field within the constituency) and the number of people in that sub-village is minute. He then reiterated to the House that Rome was not built in one day and stressed that the Roman Empire did not become a giant overnight. Rather, it was an accumulation of Years of conquest which

resulted in the Roman Empire being the power of the World at the time. He acknowledged the Member's drive to develop his constituency, but we must consider all factors, financial wise.

HON FAUMUINA Faaolatane Tiatia Liuga- Palauli le Falefa

The Member pointed out to the Member that Aiga-Le-Tai developed a solar panel system on the island of Apolima which has benefited that constituency.

Hon SILI Epa Tuiofi, MINISTER OF FINANCE

The Hon Minister noted that developments are based on urgency of needs of the Constituency. He clarified that the funds of \$1 million allocated to ADRA are specifically intended to cater for families who need renovation for their houses and requires water supplies.

HON TUILAEPA Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi, PRIME MINISTER

The Hon PM added that ADRA has compatriots from other Denominations i.e. Caritas and noted the imperative nature of these denominations assistance. He reiterated that ADRA only mobilizes post investigations of the validity of the requester's call for help. He then acknowledged ADRA in their role and their importance in assisting government in their goal to improve standard of living for our people.

AUMUA Isaia Lameko, MEMBER FOR FALEALILI WEST cont.

The Member noted that the field he had requested has been pitched to government since 2004 hence his need to remind Government. Affirmed to the Member of Falealili East that his constituency has land of which a field can be erected on for the benefits of both constituencies. Acknowledged the Baptist Church in Leone and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints for providing chairs and desks for the Primary School in the constituency. Acknowledged the Government for distributing assets from the Pacific Games to secondary schools that included Falealili College. The member requested through the Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure (MWTI) an access road in Tafatafa.

HON TUILAEPA Dr. Sailele Malielegaoi, PRIME MINISTER

The Hon PM clarified that the developments are still in the pipelines irrespective of Covid market conditions and affirmed that the developments will still be executed as planned. Affirmed that Cabinet has taken notes of the requests by the Member for Falealili East.

AUMUA Isaia Lameko, MEMBER FOR FALEALILI WEST cont.

The member continued by stating that roads leading to tourist sites such as (Moega, Maota o Maa, Tafatafa and Vaiula) need rehabilitation of roads. The erection of seawalls is needed particularly in tourist reports of Tafatafa and Maota o Maa.

PAPALIITELE Niko Lee Hang, MINISTER OF WORKS, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The Minister stated that roads requested to be done at Salailua have been done. He agreed with the member that the roads mentioned are in poor condition and reassured the member that government is prioritizing the rehabilitation of the mentioned roads at Falealili.

AUMUA Isaia Lameko, MEMBER FOR FALEALILI WEST cont.

Mentioned the PACER Plus Agreement that has led to the seasonal employment scheme and requested Government to distribute the opportunities equally to the public. He concluded by conveying well wishes for Mr Speaker, Hon Tuitama, Hon Aeau upon their retirement from Parliament. He relayed well wishes to the Head of Government, Cabinet Ministers and respective Heads of Parliamentary Committees.

ii. SOOALO UMI FEO Mene, ASSOCIATE MINISTER FOR MJCA & MEMBER FOR GAGAIFOMAUGA No. 2

The Member commenced by acknowledgement of Samoa in her honorific salutations. He then acknowledged the 3 arms of Government, the dawning of the new mornings for Samoa 'Taeao Lotu, Mataniu, Malaeola ma Faleu' addressed his constituency in her honorific salutations Lefagoalii, Paia, Samauga, Safune. The Member conveyed feelings of humility to his constituency for privilege and honour afforded to him when they elected him as their representative for the past 5 years. The Member conveyed apologies for his shortfalls throughout the term. He then recalled the pagan days of Samoa whereby there was an enchantment chanted for good luck.

He acknowledged the Hon PM for all the projects that has benefited his constituency in terms of health and education; as a healthy and educated nation is a prosperous one. He also acknowledged the construction of the new bridge at Samalaeulu over the Maliolio river which has benefitted Salafai as a whole. Also the new roads from Patamea to Fusi Safotulafai which has expedited travel within the big island. Acknowledgement was also afforded to the Speaker for all the terms he served as the Representative for his respective constituency. Afioga Sooalo acknowledged the

Village Council ‘Pulega o Alii ma Faipule’ for being the backbone of keeping law and order in Samoa. He acknowledged his fellow Parliamentarians for their role in incepting and passing bills with the intention of immense benefits for the Country. Acknowledged the Minister for Finance for his excellent financial management skills and concluded his remarks with seeking blessings from above for his constituency and all of Samoa.

Proceedings were suspended at 10:47am

Proceedings resumed at 11:37am

iii. TAPULESATELE Tamasone Metuli II Esera, MEMBER FOR VAISIGANO No.2

The Member greeted the House in all her honorific salutations, Office of the Legislative Assembly and Samoa. The Member greeted the Chief Executives of Government Ministries and Corporations. He then expressed sincere gratitude to the Speaker of the House, CEOS, and everyone present. Tapulesatele acknowledged his constituency for their support and thanked the Almighty for His protection over Samoa and keeping our nation covid-free.

He acknowledged respective Ministries for the developments implemented in his constituency. Acknowledged the Samoa Water Authority for their tireless efforts to ensure the supply of clean and safe water for his constituency. The Member also noted how important it was to have clean water to accommodate the hospital located in his constituency.

The Member then requested that roads to the water pump and the roads for Sataua need road repairs and to be tar sealed to ensure accessibility. Afioga Tapulesatele acknowledged the government projects in certain parts of his constituency whereby new street lights were constructed, however, the need still exists as there are certain parts within the constituency that are very dark but have people residing in these areas.

Hon PAPALIITELE Niko Lee Hang – MINISTER FOR WORKS, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The Hon Minister stated that the Member has made this request several times in Chamber, for streetlights in his constituency. The Hon Minister informed the House of the usual process required for requests. The request must be signed by village matai’s and submitted to the Ministry identifying which area needs street lights– the respective Authority (EPC) will conduct its survey to determine its urgency and refer this to the CDC in due time.

TAPULESATELE Tamasone Metuli II Esera, MEMBER FOR VAISIGANO No.2 (Cont.)

The Member asserted that a request was made and submitted to the relevant Ministry; furthermore, he acknowledged the Ministry of Works, the road to Papa has been improved and developed. The Member acknowledged the Minister and CEO of the Ministry of Education, the Japanese Government through JICA Aid in the construction of the new school in Papa Sataua. The Member then informed the Minister for MESC that there are 8 classes in the primary school with only 3 teachers thus raising the need for more teachers. In regards to the agricultural area, the Member requested for more crops and cocoa to be planted in his constituency for developments.

Hon LOPAOO Natanielu Mu'a, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

The Hon Minister stated that they have already distributed agri-crops (tiapula) as requested, coco and avocado has been delivered to Asau for distribution. The Hon Minister recalled that the Member also requested for a ramp for his constituency; the request has been approved but will be implemented in the next parliamentary term.

Hon LOAU Solamalemalo Keneti Sio, MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SPORTS AND CULTURE

The Hon Minister noted the matters raised by the Member for Vaisigano No.2 and clarified that the Ministry is currently undergoing a reshuffling.

Hon LOPAOO Natanielu Mu'a, MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

The Hon Minister clarified there are produce (taro, coconuts and cocoa) which will be distributed to constituencies in due time. Hon Lopaoa further clarified that they have not disbursed the aforementioned crops as they are still in nursery stage hence the delay, and confirmed that the constituency for Vaisigano No.2 is also included in the list.

HON PRIME MINISTER – POINT OF CLARIFICATION

The Hon Prime Minister informed the Chamber that Samoa has the species of cocoa needed for Chocolate (good quality and texture of local cocoa produce). The PM noted that the Ministry is executing the revitalization of the Cocoa industry, and highlighted that this has fostered a culture of dependency of growers on the Government.

The PM stated that people are now relying on the government to provide cocoa when they have the same plant/crop growing on their lands. They wait and rely on the same things that they can get outside of their homes. The Hon PM called for sustainable living to be the theme of which each districts executes their duties by.

TAPULESATELE Tamasone Metuli II Esera, MEMBER FOR VAISIGANO No.2 (Cont.)

The Member requested the Minister for Agriculture for checking if the buoys are still up to standard and touched upon the quality of the Cavendish banana which has a limited shelf as discussed in previous proceedings.

Hon LOPAOO Natanielu Mu'a, MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

The Hon Minister clarified that the Ministry for Agriculture is currently undertaking the removal of the cocoa species from Solomon which is not ideal for Chocolate making. The Forastero and Criollo species (types of the cocoa plant) will be given out to plant as they are ideal for chocolate making.

TAPULESATELE Tamasone Metuli II Esera, MEMBER FOR VAISIGANO No.2 (Cont.)

The Member noted to the House the important nature of technical skills and stated that the country needs such individuals with these skills.

Afioga Hon LAUTAFI Fio Selafi Purcell, MINISTER FOR COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND LABOUR

The Hon Minister clarified to the Member that in the previous week there was a graduation of which technical skill individuals were conferred certification of their skills. Furthermore, Hon Lautafi made note of RSE workers skilled in carpentry whom are currently working in Christchurch.

HON PRIME MINISTER – POINT OF CLARIFICATION

The PM recalled that the genesis of the RSE was during the tenure of Hon Rt. Helen Clarke as Prime Minister of NZ. The PM noted that the inception of this scheme was as a result of laborers refusal to engage in such employment (apple picking).

Furthermore, the Hon PM noted that the NZ Administration were about to close the scheme as a result of over-stayers from Tonga. Hence, the introduction of a zero tolerance policy. The PM noted that this is why he placed emphasis for good behavior from Regional Scheme Workers. The Hon PM noted that the 2015 game between the All Blacks and Samoa convened a meeting between himself and John Key in which he renewed calls to ease unskilled labor conditions. The PM noted that as a result, there was a hiring of Apple Pickers, Carpenters & Abattoir workers. The PM noted that just last week he called a meeting between himself & the Hon Minister for Public Enterprise to discuss the course of engagement for 5 individuals whom did not adhere to the stipulations set out by MPE and MPMC i.e. consuming alcohol. The result was to terminate the employment opportunity for these 5 individuals in accordance with the 'zero tolerance' policy.

TAPULESATELE Tamasone Metuli II Esera, MEMBER FOR VAISIGANO No.2 (Cont.)

The Member also acknowledged all the developments in his constituency, noted his support for the establishment of a Deputy Commissioner of Police for the Savaii Office. The Member noted the fund allocated for the development project (Sogi road) and recommended to have proper plans to ensure flooding is avoided in these areas.

Hon LAUTAFI Fio Selafi Purcell, MINISTER FOR COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND LABOUR.

The Hon Minister asserted that respective engineers have prepared a thorough plan of this project which will commence in the next month.

TAPULESATELE Tamasone Metuli II Esera, MEMBER FOR VAISIGANO No.2 (Cont.)

The Member concluded by addressing his constituency, acknowledged their support and prayers throughout the parliamentary term and conveyed blessings to his constituency.

**Proceedings were adjourned at 12:54pm
Parliament will again reconvene on Friday 29th January 2021 at 9am.**