

DISCLAIMER

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Day 8

Friday 29th January 2021

9:20am

I. PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

1 Annual Report was tabled in Parliament.

II. GOVERNMENT ORDERS OF THE DAY

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

HON TUILAÉPA Dr Sailele Malielegaoi, PRIME MINISTER

The Hon PM stated that due to no member willing to speak, he noted that today a meeting between Polynesian Island group meeting would take place. This Polynesian Group was formed in 2011 and today's discussion is integral as it seeks to resolve tension between some Pacific island nations in taking up the position of Secretary General for the Pacific Island Forum. He then formally conveyed to the House apologies as he would partake in this meeting thus his temporary absence in the House's discussions today.

i. TAEFU Lemi, MEMBER FOR FALELATAI & SAMATAU

The Member firstly greeted Samoa in all her honorific salutations. He acknowledged the support of his constituency, addressed the Head of State and his good lady, Council of Deputy, Speaker, Deputy speaker and Members of the Parliament. He also greeted the Hon PM and his cabinet and Associate ministers. Conveyed sympathies for the late Member for Lefaga & Faleseela, Toleafoa Vaafusuaga Ken Poutoa and stressed to the House to place emphasis on their

health and offered Cardiac Life Support tips. He commended the work done by the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) in visiting the different communities and checking their health. Stressed on the importance of staying hydrated.

The member touched upon past milestones achieved by the 16th Parliamentary term: the new Head of State, Tuimalealiifano Vaaletoa Sualauvi II was inaugurated; 18 Parliamentarians were conferred with a Certificate of Law to assist them with their work as lawmakers; the re-establishment of the now Samoa Airways; construction of the International Airport, in regards to roads Phases 1 and 2 completed, Phase 3 (Airport to Falelatai) yet to be in the pipeline; successfully hosted the South Pacific Games (SPG) at the last minute when Tonga was unable to accommodate the games in 2019.

The member recalled the tragic event- Measles epidemic but it resulted in providing a tunnel vision to close the borders. Moreover, resulted in enforced vaccination through amendments passed to the Infants Ordinance. As a result of the epidemic this led to the revitalization of partnership between Ministry of Health (MoH) and Grassroots level by way of Primary healthcare- *komiti tumama*.

The member touched upon climate change as a "here to stay" problem and Samoa must adapt with eco-friendly options (minimise plastic use) and mitigate the impacts; the plastic bag ban; although still in infancy stages, irrespective it is a step in the right direction. The District Development plans (DDP's) initiative by the MWCSO, he touched upon the overall plans such as Development Goals of the Nation (SDS) and asserted that the DDP's link to SDS therefore being a holistic approach whereby no one gets left behind. Suggested more copies of the DDP's be given to committee members responsible so as to monitor and administer these Plans within respective Districts. The Member further suggested that the Ministry should be at the forefront and provide support (financially) to kick start these Committees - he made reference to funds being afforded to Women Committee's, something similar could be given to the DDP Committee.

Hon TUITAMA Talalelei Tuitama, MINISTER FOR MWCSO

The Minister responded in regards to DDP's mentioned by the member that they vary. He clarified that the intention of the DDP is to conduct any developments in accordance to the constituency needs or requirements but not the Government's or the Ministry's wants.

TAEFU Lemi, MEMBER FOR FALELATAI & SAMATAU cont.

Acknowledged the Minister for clarification. Acknowledged the MJCA and the new arrangements been made and also mentioned there being exams (capacity

building opportunities) conducted for Land and Titles Court Judges and the Registration team of the MJCA to ensure the delivery of services for LTC is improved. Acknowledged the effectiveness of police raids in his constituency and was pleased with the feedback from the Ministry of Police that one of the villages was clean from any marijuana plants and urged the Ministry to continue with its monitoring role. The Member noted the progress in affordability of data for the nation & commended the Ministry. The member acknowledged the Land Transport Authority (LTA) and noted the quality of road constructions that Samoa now has compared to 5 years ago. The member noted that we are moving forward and we are doing a good job in this part amongst all other Government projects.

PAPALIITELE Niko Lee Hang, MINISTER FOR WORKS, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE- Point of Clarification

The Minister clarified that Vaimoso River is not the only cause of the flooding in town. Rather it is a product of accumulation of flooding from Lelata, Vaisigano and Vaimoso rivers.

TAEFU Lemi, MEMBER FOR FALELATAI & SAMATAU cont.

The member continued to suggest to elevate houses foundations in the town area to ameliorate the effects of flooding. He concluded by calling his constituency to be patient in regards to their developmental needs and called for patience from his constituency and reaffirmed that the Hospital and Road rehabilitation will commence. The member concluded by acknowledging the House.

SALAUUSA Dr John Ah Ching, ASSOCIATE MINISTER, MWCSO & MEMBER FOR FALEATA EAST

Affirmed statement by Member for Falelatai on the source of the flooding being the Vaimoso River. The Member noted that they had sought the assistance of the Cabinet Development Committee (CDC) of which they have suggested to cut down drift-away logs and remove them to stop the clogging of the rivers which also contribute to the flooding.

Proceedings were suspended at 10:33 am

Proceedings resumed at 11:16 am

ii. Hon AEAU Leavaiseeta Peniamina, MEMBER FOR FALEALUPO

The Member commenced by acknowledging the Creator, God of Israel, God of Samoa. He acknowledged the Head of State, Executive, Judiciary; acknowledged his Constituency in her honorific salutations; conveyed gratitude to his constituency

for affording him the honor of being their representative for the past 26 years; conveyed apologies to his constituency if his service was not up to standard. He acknowledged the Prime Minister for all the developments executed in his village; acknowledged in detail the Chief Justice, CEO's/General Managers for their role in acting as the agents of progress for Samoa.

The member then conveyed well wishes to his fellow Parliamentarians on the upcoming elections and parted with the traditional blessing offered by the Tapuitema (the morning star) which states *I will be with you in spirit*.

Proceedings were adjourned at 11:41am
Parliament will again reconvene on Monday 1st February 2021 at 9am.