

**SECOND DAY**

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**Wednesday 26 October 2016**

**DRAFT HANSARD**

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## SECOND DAY

Wednesday 26 October 2016

The Speaker (**Mr Theo Zurenuoc**) took the Chair at 10 a.m..

There being no quorum present, Mr Speaker stated that he would resume the Chair after the ringing of the Bells.

Sitting suspended.

The Speaker again took the Chair at 10.55 a.m., and invited the Member for Pomio, **Honourable Elias Kapavore** to say Prayers:

*'Oh God, the creator, you are the ruler of this world and of this country. Our country our people and our Parliament belongs to you.*

*Grant that we, the Members of our country's Parliament may fulfill our office with honesty and integrity and may our first concern be for the good for all our people. Guide our deliberation this day. Bless our decisions so that your divine design for our country may be realised through us. Amen.'*

## QUESTIONS

### Need for CT Scan

**Mr JOE KOIM KOMAN** – Thank you, Mr Speaker, for giving this opportunity to the people of Anglimp-South Waghi to ask questions to the Minister for Health.

My questions are short. Many of our people in Papua New Guinea are facing diseases such as cancer as well as other serious diseases.

(1) Can the Minister explain to our people how the cancer machine in Lae is working?

This is because many of our people have cancer related diseases and are in need of treatment.

(2) Can the Minister tell the people of this country and this Parliament how much a CT scan machine costs?

In most of our hospitals throughout the country there seems to be no CT Scans services available. This has resulted in many of our people travelling into Port Moresby to get CT Scans. Since, almost everyone is coming to Port Moresby for CT Scans, there is a long waiting list of patients which have resulted in patients even dying while waiting to have CT Scans. This also creates the problem of repatriating their bodies back to their respective provinces of origin.

**Mr MICHAEL MALABAG** – I thank the Member for Anglimp-South Waghi for his very important questions regarding the cancer disease.

Mr Speaker, there is no doubt that cancer is on the increase in Papua New Guinea. There are different types of cancer and the options for their treatment vary. The treatments of cancer are not just dependent on the type of cancer but the stage that the cancer is at and the individual persons themselves.

Mr Speaker, what I will refer to are the lifestyle cancers. These cancers are fuelled by risk factors such as tobacco use, unhealthy diets and the chewing of betelnut.

Mr Speaker, the treatment of cancer is not solely by radiation. There are other multiple treatments, for example, medicines, chemotherapy and surgery and they are all currently available in PNG. There is sufficient supply of chemotherapy and anti-cancer drugs at the Port Moresby General Hospital and Angau Memorial Hospital to continue cancer treatment.

The radio-therapy machine at the Angau Memorial Hospital has not been operational for the past two weeks and it has taken time for the staff for the radio-therapy clinic to identify the problem.

**02/02**

The Australian Government provides servicing for that machine and will be sending an engineer next week to fix that machine.

On the same token, a decision was made by the Health Department to hand over the Cancer Unit to Angau Memorial Hospital Board to manage as part of the hospital for its every day operations. The policy component of Cancer still remains with the Health Department.

Mr Speaker, the management has agreed to this transfer but they will change the Cancer Care System away from radiotherapy and refocus on prevention, early detection, early therapy, surgery and palliative care.

Mr Speaker, there are also things that need to be done in the way forward.

Mr Speaker, I might take long but I believe I must respond to this question in its right manner.

Two additional cancer specialists are being recruited for Angau Memorial Hospital to expand the services currently available.

A Bachelor's Degree in Radiotherapy is now offered at the University of Technology in Lae. The first cohort of students graduated in January 2015 providing more assistance to Cancer patients in Lae.

A contract was also signed with the United States Government to ensure security of the Cobalt sourced and an agreement has been concluded.

The International Atomic Energy Agency will acquire a new resource cobalt source pending the legal framework for radiation that has been developed and will soon come to Parliament as a member of the International Atomic Agency.

Mr Speaker, in regards to IT Scan machines there are only certain hospitals that provide those facilities and it is very essential and crucial for our people.

Mr Speaker, I cannot disclose the exact cost from the top of my head for one scan machine but they are expensive.

Mr Speaker, it will be a daunting task to include everything we want to get through our National Budget which will be handed down soon bearing in mind that we are really in a stressed situation at the moment.

As the Minister for Health, I would like that there must be a machine for all the hospitals in the provinces.

### **Important Road Links**

**Mr ELIAS KAPAVORE** – Mr Speaker, I direct my questions to the Minister for National Planning. There are 16 missing links as identified as National Highway in PNG.

The South Coast economic corridor runs from Kokopo through the Five LLG's of Pomio District to some parts of Kandrian-Gloucester, Talasea and to Kimbe and the West New Britain Province.

This is also identified in the 2030 PNG DSP.

My questions are as follows;

- (1) Is the East Coast Economic Corridor also included in the 16 missing links of PNG?
- (2) Can the Minister confirm the South Coast Corridor as a National Highway?
- (3) What is the Government's plan to funding this important road link?

**Mr CHARLES ABEL** – Mr Speaker, I thank the good Member for Pomio for these important questions.

The questions relate to some of the ongoing discussions on very important road infrastructure right throughout the country and it also relates to the National Planning perspective in the country.

Mr Speaker, we have often talked about the important national plans we have and the important transport infrastructure within those plans. We have also talked about how this Government is investing record amounts of money into those plans and we have talked about how all these can be better coordinated.

It has been well discussed on how the National Planning is undertaking this mammoth task of improving that coordination right down to the National Planning Act which we passed here on the Floor of Parliament. It contains a very important feature. That feature is the National Service Delivery Framework and it reinforces a very simple partial network in terms of service delivery. The backbone to that is the Transport Infrastructure Network.

Mr Speaker, in the past it has been established through our Transport Department and Department of Works a total of 16 National Highways.

Also established in the National Development Strategy are the 16 missing link roads.

**03/02**

Mr Speaker, from the planning perspective and some of the discussions coming from the Opposition yesterday about selecting roads, through the main implementing plans in the transport sector and through all the discussion with the development partners we simply emphasised that firstly we want those national highways constructed to a suitable all weather minimum double coat bitumen seal standard.

When our development partners come in, Planning will simply emphasis to build that core underlying infrastructure starting off with the sixteen national highways through the relevant implementing agencies particularly the Department of Works and through the Department of Transport with agencies such as the National Road Authority.

After that Mr Speaker, it is the critical missing link that the Member for Pomio is alluding to. Some of the provincial links are still missing for example Milne Bay Province linking Oro Province.

Primarily to link up the country. Port Moresby being the provincial capital, the provincial capital can be linked up with the other provincial capitals. So in a cascading manner the provincial capitals down to the district capitals and down to the local level

government capitals and through the headquarters right down to the council wards. So this is all contained in the National Government District Framework.

Mr Speaker, in terms of Pomio and East New Britain, the national highway there was a distressed highway. The question was answered on the floor several times by the Prime Minister of the work that our Government has been doing to link up New Britain Province itself. That is one of the priority national highway.

In terms of this particular highway to the south coast road, Mr Speaker, I need to check on the particulars of that. That is no doubt an economic highway and an important economic corridor in the same way as Wau/Bulolo, Menyamya is an important national highway.

All the National highway are important as well as the missing links. This Government has done more than any other governments to comprehensively address the infrastructure issues. I will bring the particulars to the Floor of this Parliament in relation to the development partners: the World Bank, ADB, JICA and the Australian Government to show how each and every national highway has been funded. So how many kilometres of road have been sealed? In the past the process was very fragmented and huge amounts of funding was allocated to unnecessary priority roads. I mentioned some of them on the Floor of Parliament yesterday.

Hundred millions was spent in different parts. Unnecessary national highways and economic roads before the main highlands highway was even completed. When you talk about the East Cape road, that road is part of the Magi Highway linking Port Moresby and Milne Bay and serves three hundred thousand people and four districts.

In terms of the East Cape Highway, I did not select that road. It comes through a comprehensive process.

Is that the only road that received funding in the last five years? I will table on the Floor of this Parliament to show exactly how the funding was distributed.

I can tell you that Morobe Province has a significant amount of funding and it is not fair to pick out one or two. You have to look at it comprehensively and look at the justifications of how this funding happened.

Mr Speaker, all these roads are important and we will approach it systematically and the role of planning is to ensure that every development partners understand what the National Government's plans are including the sixteen national highways and work in a coordinated fashion so that we can get the national highways sealed properly once and for all. That is what our government is doing.

I will give a more detailed response to the Member for Pomio in relation to the South-coast Road that he has mentioned and whether it is a national highway or not. I cannot confirm that right now and whether it is part of the east west highway, I am not sure and whether it is a missing link road, I will also confirm that Mr Speaker, and what type the funding arrangements are in place?

**04/02**

**Mr ELIAS KAPAVORE** – Point of Order! The New Britain Highway is currently pursued by the Government, if you compare that to the South Coast Economic Corridor. At that moment there's two big companies, Oil Mill that is currently operating at the moment and as I have said it goes through all the LLGs, I mean due it goes through West New Britain Province, considering the economic returns of the South Coast Corridor there is a lot more returns or revenue coming back to the country if the Government pursue and commit funding in particular South Coast Corridor because I think it is actually precisely mentioned in the PNGDSP.

Mr Speaker, if it is not in the 16 missing link, can the government makes some commitment to this particular road?

Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**Mr CHARLES ABEL** – Thank you, Mr Speaker. Yes, those points are noted to the good Member about important of this road and as I have explained I will look into the details whether that particular road is captured in the plans and how we going on supporting the opening up of the particular corridor.

Thank you, Mr Speaker.

### **Cheatings in School Exams**

**Mr ROBERT GANIM** – Thank you, Mr Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Education.

Mr Speaker, in the media this week we read reports of cheating in some of the schools in the country and this is ongoing issue that occurs every year during exams, especially in grade 10s and 12s.

I would like to ask the Minister if his Department is seriously looking into this issue and if you can tell the people of this country if the Department is going to find solutions to this particular problem?

Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**Mr NICK KUMAN** – Thank you, Mr Speaker and Member for Wabag.

Let me respond by thanking the Member. There were incidents of exam cheating this year reported on the newspapers and in some instances are not true. Up to this morning there were few schools throughout the country are reported in the media and also through our investigations we have also confirmed that some incidents that have been reported is not true.

Beginning of this year under the direction from my office we commission an investigation into a reported process, systemic process in which examination that have been prepared and conducted throughout the country. Where the incidences of cheating in the country and those investigation came back with 23 recommendations and the Department of Education has been directed to implement those recommendation.

This year is one of the best years that we had, by tomorrow the final examines for the grade 12 will be complete, grade 8 and grade 10 has completed, and there are one or two instances that has been reported but are not as serious as we thought.

So, I want to assure the honourable Member and the House and also the stakeholder's right through the country that the Department is investigating an issue that came out from Menyamya Secondary School, in Morobe Province over breaking into the Principal's Office and the criminals walked away with some exam papers. Somehow those exam papers got into the hands of some of the teachers in Gerehu Secondary School, in NCD and some schools in Southern Highlands. Apparently, they said it was the answer sheet but the answer sheets are not provided until the exams are completed.

But, if it gets to the hands of a science specialist teacher obviously he or she will note the answers and they will develop the answers and provide them to the students.

**05/02**

As far as the markings of those answer sheets coming from the schools, there is a level flagging system or examination system used by the Education Department and we will cross check between the answer sheets provided by the Department and those provided by the students. If there are elements of quote written by students then it will be picked up very quickly. At the same the Department will cross check between the internal assessment and the external assessment.

I want to once again appeal to all the teachers in this country. Not all of our teachers are bad. One or two teachers that we know of are involved in this particular scam are from a



particular province. It is happening every year and I do not know if it is a scam from within the Department of Education or from the provinces. They get those answer sheets and sell it to the unsuspecting students in the hope of making a quick buck. You are a teacher so don't forget the job that you are doing. You are supposed to be the person that will mould a student to become an elite in this country and provide leadership and development in this country.

We got three teachers from the Gerehu Secondary School behind bars. The police are working with us and we have them dispatched to Mendi Secondary School. There are three secondaries in Southern Highlands who have reported incidents of grade 12 students having access to answer sheets. There are all under investigation as we speak.

I want to also inform Parliament that those teachers will be terminated. They are not fit to become teachers of this country. This is also a warning to all our teachers that you are there to teach students and not teach them to become cheaters in this country. It is a bad leadership you are providing in the classroom. These are the very people we are trying to build to help contribute in building this nation.

### **Tuition Free Education Policy**

**Mr DON POLYE** – I direct my questions to the Minister for Education. Before I do that I will give some statistics. Since the announcement of the O'Neill-Dion Government's so-called Tuition Free education, a lot more children have enrolled in classes through the nation. The schools as a result have been forced to cater for an increase of student numbers thus causing overcrowding in classrooms. To date certain schools throughout the country have reported that much of the promised funds in the so-called Tuition Free Education Policy have not reached the schools yet. And as a result students have been sent home and parents have been forced to dig from their pockets.

For example, the Madang Educational Division Director, Mr Moses Sariki has reported that three schools in the province have sent students home because this promised subsidy funds have not reached the schools. Hagita Secondary School in Milne Bay province said it only received 70 percent of the subsidy. The latest being the Gordon Secondary School in the nation's capital advising parents of grade 12 students to fork out K250 as project fees for the children.

Mr Speaker, these are few examples of schools in the country facing fund shortages to operate because of the Government's failure to live up to its commitment. The Government is not providing the very much needed funds.

The real threat is that school children are deprived of their right to education and are being sent home. I would like to remind the Prime Minister and the Cabinet ministers that as you drive to turn off at Sir Manasupe building you will find school age children sitting there begging for money.

According to the Department of Education, more than 3380 of 13703 schools in the country have not received their Tuition Free payments and that is a lot of schools. As I am speaking more than 70 percent of schools have threatened to shut down.

In the 2016 Budget, the Government has budgeted K602 million for this Free Tuition education programme.

## **06/02**

You need to understand the statistics, more than 1.73 million students enrolled in the 7.181 elementary schools, 3 853 primary schools and 218 high and secondary schools around the country.

Mr Speaker, Morobe and Sandaun Provinces have topped the list of schools who have not received their free education fund. The University of Technology has been awaiting K40 million. The University of Papua New Guinea still owes K33 million to contractors who have done work to the institution. At the University of Papua New Guinea the building of the Law School Complex and the new Science building at Waigani Campus have stopped due to shortage of fund.

These are profoundly glaring statistics presented for the people of this country, this House and the Executive Government on the other side.

The minister who is morally and constitutionally mandated to provide education who is getting those funds and facilitating to those schools that are being administered properly think that the Government's spending of K600 million plan to host an international summit here like APEC is the same amount of money you have for your free education policy program.

(1)Does the Minister think that sustainable to spend K600 million on the APEC program where there is no economic return or education return other than on the education sector?

**Mr Tobias Kulang** – Point of Order! The Prime Minister clearly explained that APEC will cost K120 million so, he should correct himself.

**Mr SPEAKER** – I think that the Point of order is in order. I mean if you have taken note of the answer that the Prime Minister gave yesterday, I think you should reframe your question in a manner that is factual.

**Mr DON POLYE** – Mr Speaker, I will not expect that answer because that is a total misleading answer because the real facts I have are in a completely different and the Minister for Sports and Events is right in saying K600 million. I will agree with the figure given by the Minister for Sports and Events which is more detailed than the Prime Minister's figures.

Mr Speaker, my second question is that can the Minister for Education agree with Opposition that because of this –

**Mr James Marape** – Mr Speaker, you just made a ruling and the Opposition Leader is very disrespectful and he says, 'He will just make a question anyway'.

Mr Speaker, that is totally out of decorum of the Parliament.

**Mr SPEAKER** – Absolutely correct, your Point of Order is in order. I just made a statement here and he didn't say with due respect to the Chair.

**Mr DON POLYE** – Mr Speaker, I respect the Chair but what I just said is that since there is no justification by the Prime Minister on the cost that is alluded too, I have a right to choose and believe what figure I think is the correct figure based on measures taken. And I will go with the Minister's figure that was my response to that question.

Mr Speaker, the Chair does not have the justification or breakdown of the cost that the Prime Minister provided, he just said it from the blue so you don't need to debate.

**Mr SPEAKER** – You do not need to allude to what the Prime Minister said.

**Mr DON POLYE** – Okay, thank you, Mr Speaker. Whether it is K100 million or K50 million still the Education Department doesn't have it and that is my point.

(2) Can the Minister for Education morally saturated responsibility in providing quality education to the children of this nation and agree with Opposition that we should cancel the APEC Summit and put all those monies into the Education Sector which is very important for the people of this country?

Thank you, Mr Speaker.

*(Uproar in the Chamber)*

**Mr NICK KUMAN** – Thank you, Mr Speaker and the Leader of the Opposition. I am glad that you finally asked me a question before the term finishes.

*(Laughter in the Chamber)*

**Mr NICK KUMAN** – Yes, finally and as much as the people of Kandep will agree, Kandep is part of the 89 districts in this country and you also know that your statistics is not correct in terms of the school numbers in this country. Its 13 331 schools right throughout Papua New Guinea.

**07/02**

There's 56 000 teachers in this country and they spend timeless hours educating your students, including Kandep District. The TFF is not a money that the Government has set aside to buy books and training for the teachers and to make sure we have students going to the classrooms. It has given the opportunity for all our kids who are able to attend school to be educated. It provides the accessibility for more than two million children in this country.

In 2010, we had almost 1.3 billion kids that are going to school since the introduction of the TFF. We had two million students that had entered the school system in the country. The retention rate for the girls for this country and we see a lot more girls are entering the schools system now than ever before. We are relieving the parents of this country. I don't know, Kandep must have got a lot of money that the parents can afford paying school fees for their children. But I can tell you that every parent in this country appreciate what the Government has done so far. You must know that the right to education for every child in this country is a must.

It is really important that the Government is now gearing towards by making sure that legislative changes must be made and captured in this term of Parliament, that we will make sure the Free Education that is provided today continues for as long as PNC will continue to rule this country.

**Mr DON POLYE** – Point of Order! I wasn't attacking the Minister, I respect the Minister but what I'm saying is that some of your work are incomplete because you don't

have money. For instance, if you opt Free Education is going to eat up K602 million of the Budget, and if you have a similar amount for another major international program that has no value to Papua New Guinea in terms of education. Do you agree that the spending on the international program is justified and if you disagree, then join the Opposition to say that cancel the APEC meeting, put the money into the education sector where you don't even have one toea to implement the tuition free education program. I'm helping you to make a decision, don't beat around the bush.

Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**Mr NICK KUMAN** – Mr Speaker, you don't have to coach the Government on the Government programs, you raised those issues with the Prime Minister yesterday and the Prime Minister has answered those questions. So I'll go back to education so that you will know that K605 million budgeted money for this year and the previous years are being used to educate our Papua New Guineans kids. You must know that other Government intervention, and I did hear what you said, there is overcrowding in classrooms. That's why DSIP money has been provided for every Member of this Parliament, and 20 percent of that is supposed to build classrooms and teachers houses and train a lot more teachers in this country. Why can't you do that in Kandep? That's why the DSIP has gone to the districts. Overcrowding as a result of the TFF program. A lot more students are entering the school system. I totally agree with you Opposition Leader through the Speaker, that a lot more kids are going into the schools and are experiencing overcrowding, I must not deny that, we are experiencing a lot of overcrowding. The Government's interventions under the DSIP and PSIP program should be able to alleviate some of these problems in this country.

**08/02**

The question on quality education it is an ongoing problem. Apart from giving accessibility to the children in this country, every level of government in this country and our partners in education, particularly agency schools are all working together to ensure that quality education is given in this country.

The interventions taken by this government, let the people of this country be assured, that quality education is a priority of this government going forward.

## **Supplementary Question**

### **Schools Closed in Lae**

**Ms LOUJAYA KOUZA** – Mr Speaker, two weeks ago 21 schools in Lae District had to close down due to the lack of TFF arriving there to enable them to complete the school year.

What intervention has the Education Minister take since then to rectify the problem?

**Mr NICK KUMAN** – Thank you, Member for Lae, as I alluded to in my answers to the Opposition Leader, with regard to this year's TFF in know there are reports of schools closing down in the last term and going into the fourth week of this term.

We have paid K125 million of the TFF component for the last term of the school year and the government is committed to making sure that the monies that are owing in the last term and this term of the school year will be paid.

The commitment from this government is that all bills with regard to the school fees will be paid. I know that in Sandaun, Madang and Morobe are some of the provinces which continuously debate these issues in the media but it is better for you to address these issue with the department.

And most of the TFF the government paid was for the period up to last term and we will ensure that those schools will operate because we have a responsibility to ensure that the TFF will be paid.

### **Clarity on APEC Summit**

**Mr EREMAN TOBAINING Jr** – Thank you, Mr Speaker for recognising the people of East New Britain.

Mr Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister for Sports and also Minister responsible for APEC in 2018.

Mr Speaker, before I ask the question, East New Britain will be co-hosting these very important event and also today we have got meetings being held in the province and off course, we are putting Papua New Guinea into the world market.

Mr Speaker, the Opposition Leader asked a question to the Prime Minister which of course the Prime Minister answered. Today since the minister responsible is here so may be here can explain to the people of this beautiful country, Papua New Guinea, for the benefit of this House and its people.

Mr Speaker, can the minister just explain, with the politics that is going on around the country and of course, the Opposition trying to cancel the APEC Meeting in 2018, can the minister enlighten us regarding the APEC Meeting?

**Mr JUSTIN TKATCHENKO** – Thank you, Mr Speaker, and I thank the Governor of East New Britain for his question.

I think it is absolutely deplorable that the Leader of Opposition can say that we should cancel the APEC Meeting in 2018. He has no regard for our country, its place in the world and what employment and business means to our country.

For his own political gain he is trying to sabotage one of the biggest events in history. His self-interest is why he was sacked from the government and now sits in the Opposition.

**09/02**

*(Laughter in the Chamber)*

**Mr SPEAKER** – What is your Point of Order?

**Mr Don Polye** – Point of Order! Mr Speaker, the Minister is very uneducated and he is raising *(inaudible)* issues. He should not be personalising it. You have to talk on statistics.

If you want to challenge me on facts and statistics I've got it all here so that we can debate on policy matters. Therefore, do not talk *(inaudible)* because this is the House of the people of this country.

**Mr SPEAKER** – You have made your Point of Order.

**Mr Don Polye** – You do not attack me personally.

**Mr Kerenga Kua** – Quite right!

**Mr SPEAKER** – Opposition Leader?

**Mr Don Polye** – I left the government because of a *(inaudible)* UBS Loan that is eating into the cash flow of this nation.

*(Members interjecting)*

**Mr Don Polye** – You idiot! Sorry, Mr Speaker, I withdraw.

*(Members interjecting)*

*(Laughter and clapping from the Public Gallery)*

**Mr SPEAKER** – Opposition Leader, you have –

**Mr Don Polye** – Sorry, Mr Speaker, I apologise to the Chair and I apologise to the Minister.

You must talk facts *(inaudible)*.

**Mr SPEAKER** – I have to caution you, Opposition Leader. Be mindful of your language in this Honourable Parliament.

I also would like to caution the public who are in the Public Gallery that it is a privilege for you to be here. If there is more applauding from the Public Gallery I will then have you removed from the immediate vicinity.

**Mr Kerenga Kua** – Tell the Leaders not to personalise issues!

**Mr Don Polye** – Do not personalise! We are talking policy issues!

**Mr Kerenga Kua** – We are talking facts and figures!

**Mr SPEAKER** – At the same time, Minister for Sports, I would like to also advise you to be specific in your answers and not digress from the issues that are at hand.

**Mr JUSTIN TKACHENKO** – Thank you, Mr Speaker, *(inaudible)* somewhere so, anyway – it will be one of the most cost effective in the history of APEC.

The Kina amount that I mentioned this week is not the overall APEC budget but it includes costs that are part of the normal government operation. Our police and military will work on APEC but many of their normal costs are part of the recurrent expenditure.



We will also take our border protection to the next level that has been lacking for decades. Therefore, improving border protection is not an APEC expense but it is a necessary expense that we must undertake before APEC.

APEC House will be built through a tax credit scheme so it will not require direct funding and the State will own a viable commercial interest at the end of APEC.

The real cost of the APEC meetings is closer to K120 million to host all the meetings. These APEC meetings are crucial for our nation's national economic advancement. Most of the money that we are spending in preparation for APEC should have been spent many decades ago.

Now, let us look at the projection of the costing leading up to APEC. This includes better training for our Public Service Officials to bring them to global standards and this money should have been spent many years ago but was not.

We will also employ local contractors to deliver services and this money will go straight back into our economy and will stimulate more businesses and create jobs. Only a small fraction of APEC expenditure will go overseas. Most APEC spending will be in Papua New Guinea and will create jobs for our people. Full figures will be available as planning proceeds and continuous through the Budget for 2017 and the Budget in 2018.

The Opposition needs to understand the difference between the APEC budget to host meetings at around K120 million and go straight back into our economy. We all need to work together for APEC and APEC is the time to drop the politics and get behind the question.

### **Supplementary Question**

#### **Verify APEC Costings**

**Mr DON POLYE** – Can the Minister verify the cost of K120 million that he is now changed from K600 million to what the Prime Minister said by these experiences of other nations who have hosted APEC?

For instance, the Philippines spent about ten billion pesos and that is about US\$207 million equivalent to about K800 million to host APEC in 2015. This is the first case.

Now the second case, China has reported to have spent USD 6 billion to prepare for the 2014 APEC meeting. And as for the last but not the least, Russia in Vladivostok's original estimate to prepare to host the 2012 APEC Meeting was 382 billion Rubbles, which is approximately US\$606 million.

So, when you say that you are going to spend K120 million in Papua New Guinea of what standard are you verifying, Mr Speaker?

I know this because I have attended those meetings and I know this and I am talking from real facts and figures.

**Mr SPEAKER** – You have asked your question.

Minister, you may answer.

**Mr Don Polye** – Verify please? Thank you.

**10/02**

**Mr SPEAKER** – The Chair will use its discretion to recognise Member for Telefomin to ask his questions after the Minister concludes with his response. Minister continue with your answers.

**Mr JUSTIN TKACHENKO** – Mr Speaker, at the end of the day you cannot compare these developed nations to Papua New Guinea. It's a completely different cost scenario. These are bigger economic countries that are completely different to Papua New Guinea. We have most of our infrastructure already in place. That is why we can afford to spend K120 million on hosting all these different meetings over 200 meetings, to the lead up of the Leader's Summit in 2018.

We already have the International Convention Centre which was a gift from the Chinese Government, the APEC House will be utilized for the two major meetings. We also have the brand new Hilton Hotel being built for the main convention and hosting the welcome dinner.

Mr Speaker, most of the infrastructure is ready and we don't have to spend any money. We are not building any more new hotels because we are getting three cruise ships with PMO which will look after the accommodation of all our guest which is the shortfall there. Those cruise ships will be in the harbour about three of them, for the 10 days which will ensure –

**Mr Mark Maipakai** – Point of Order! Mr Speaker, the Minister is saying those infrastructure are never in Philippines, Russia or China? How do you quote the costs against those nations?

*(Members interjecting)*

**Mr SPEAKER** – Member for Kikori, questions are not supposed to be debated and you are entering into a debate right now.

**Mr Mark Maipakai** – Mr Speaker, he is misleading this Parliament. He is saying those infrastructures are already here in the country. The Statement –

**Mr SPEAKER** – Member for Kikori, you are not supposed to make a statement.

**Mr JUSTIN KTACHENCO** – Mr Speaker, Member for Kikori is totally confused about what I have stated. The infrastructure is here in our country and we do not need to build any more infrastructure. We will utilise what we have which will cut cost and make APEC 2018 Successful for Papua New Guinea and for all the world to see. Thank you.

### **Governments Investment in Education**

**Mr SOLAN MIRISIN** – Mr Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister for Finance.

We are all talking and debating about funds remitted to schools within the country. As Minister responsible for all the financing in this country can you tell the people of this country how much this Government has invested in education for the last 4 years?

**Mr JAMES MARAPE** – Mr Speaker, if the Opposition cares to listen to others except to himself he might learn a few more good figures that come from this side.

Mr Speaker, since his removal as Treasurer and since 2012 this Government has invested so far over K3.025 billion in Free Education.

Mr Speaker, when he talks on the issue on lack of spaces in classroom over the last 4 years, this Government has invested K712 million designated, quarantined for the Education Sector for all the districts in this country including Kandep.

K712 million cash remitted out of Waigani and transferred directly to all the districts and I bag this question we cannot solve every problem in 4 years but this Government and the taxpayers of this country expect some classrooms to be on the ground right across this country equivalent to K712 million lump sum.

Mr Speaker, for the last 4 years the doomsayer's have been saying that we will not deliver to Budget in every fiscal year.

**11/02**

We have kicked off on all our major ticket items as far as the O'Neill / Dion Government is concerned. Talk about free education. When we retied 2015 fiscal year all our commitment for free education was retied. When we retied 2014 fiscal year, all our commitment to free education was retied. This year up to this moment as I speak, Mr Speaker, 70 per cent of our commitment to TFF has been dispersed right across the country.

Mr Speaker, we still life left in this year's academic year. This Government commits to fully retie all our commitment to free education and remit it before we close the academic year.

Mr Speaker, it is not about asking for big money. It boils down to how we manage what is already been transferred to the national, provincial and district government institutions. We just have to combine all this in total Mr Speaker.

When I include the small investor to making UPNG, Unitech and all the technical colleges right across the country, for the first time no government has transferred money to them. No matter how small it is whether it is five or ten million kina, I believe Mr Speaker, it is will part of this budget presentation, the Planning Minister will give a score card as to exactly the total investment we made in our five key sector proposed by the O'Neill / Dion Government in 2012 elections. This details will come out in the budget. With those budget documents, I beg the Opposition Leader to tune in to the exact number of money we have remitted across from Waigani into the college, universities, the provinces, district and the schools in terms of money for the education sector.

Talk about health and other sectors. Equal amount of money we locked so far have been forwarded. Let me give an assurance to the Opposition Leader and the Members of the opposite side that we have stood to the tax of the budget in the last four years and we intend to stick to the tax of the budget for this year.

For the education sector, balance of 30 per cent will still come and I thank the good Member for Telefomin for asking this question.

The Opposition Leader is trying to propagate some of the misleading questions on the Floor, Mr Speaker.

**AUDITOR-GENERAL OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA – REPORT OF THE  
AUDITOR-GENERAL – PART 4, 2014 – PAPER – MOTION TO TAKE NOTICE**

**Mr SPEAKER** – Honourable Members I present a paper in relation to statute. I present the report of the Auditor-General Part 4 of 2014 relating to the inspection and audit of the financial statement of public bodies and their subsidiaries and National Government owned companies.

Motion (by **Mr Bob Dadae**) agreed –

That the Parliament take note of the paper and the report be referred to the Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Public Accounts.

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP SERVICE  
AUTHORITY – ANNUAL REPORTS, 2014 AND 2015 – PAPERS AND  
STATEMENT – MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

**Mr RIMBINK PATO** (Wapenamanda – Minister for Foreign Affairs & Immigration)  
– I present the following paper pursuant to Statute:

*Consequential Amendment to Implement Constitutional Amendment No. 43  
(Dual Citizenship) Law 2016*

I ask leave of the Parliament to make a statement in connection with the paper.

Leave granted.

**12/02**

Thank you, Mr Speaker. It gives me great pleasure to present the third and the fourth Annual Report of the Immigration Citizens Services Authority and to inform this honourable House of the agency's progress and achievements to date. Honourable Members will recall not long ago, that the Papua New Guinea immigrations agency was a small under-funded Division that was housed within the Department of Foreign Affairs. With a small staffing establishment it has struggled to carry out its mandated functions and faced regular criticism in the media and from the public. Following the establishment of the agency as the Statutory

Authority for which the previous Government and Parliament must be given the acknowledgement. The O' Neill-Dion Government immediately recognises the critical policy and operational role the agency provides the Nation in terms of managing our borders, facilitating travel, Administering Visa, Passports and the citizenship services to our own people and to foreign nationals wishing to come to PNG.

Accordingly, this government has approved significant increase for staffing levels for the agency to provide it with the necessary resourcing to operate effectively and significant, and efficiently. The agency has been restructured and is undergoing significant operations expansion. Staffing establishment increased from 72 to 248 with the current staff strength of 172 with final recruitment processes underway to fill the remaining positions in 2016.

With the revenue retention, arrangements in place, and in line with the Alotau Accord ICSA has established a broader post in Wutum, funding dedicated immigration officers in high priority overseas missions, rolled out the Board Management Systems to all overseas missions and provincial offices, and establish the staff a new Refugees Division.

Mr Speaker, the agency's ability to response immediately to government priorities was exemplified by the establishment in less than two months of an immigration office in Tokua in East New Britain to process international arrivals and departures and more recently, the establishment of offices at both Alotau and Mt Hagen respectively. Previously the agency was unable to fund citizenship advisory committee meetings. These meetings are now held regularly and managed by a resourced and dedicated Secretariat drawn from staff of the organisation.

Mr Speaker, continuing on from the O'Neill Government's Year of implementation in 2013, ICSA continued to implement important policies and programs in 2014 and 2015. Its activities have continued to support the key priorities of Government, capsulated in the Alotau Accord.

The ICSA facilitated a constitutional amendment bill that was recently passed by this house in March 2014 to enable dual citizenship. It has completed the consequential amendments to subordinate legislation to implement this important change. The proposed amendments to the *Constitution* are now going through the parliamentary process in usual manner. In the same manner, the draft of the revised *Migration Act* and the regulations has been finalised and will be put to parliament for its consideration in 2016.

Mr Speaker, being a lead agency in facilitating travel for business, trade and investment, tourism and sports, NEC in 2014 approved a Visa on Arrival Eligible Country

list. These innovations have all been welcomed by the general public and the travel industry at large. The ICSA has helped to make international travel easier for Papua New Guineans.

Apart from Israel, reciprocal visa arrangements were concluded for Diplomats and officials with Indonesia and Japan in 2014 and 2015 respectively.

### **13/02**

As Members would be aware the Indonesian Government has now agreed in principal to extend this facility to ordinary citizens of Papua New Guinea such that you can visit Indonesia anytime with visas to be granted on arrival in their country. The statutory authority is also negotiating reciprocal visa arrangements with key countries and economies with common bilateral and mutual interest including Macau, Russia, China, India, South Korea and the Philippines.

Mr Speaker, the Government is proud to provide leadership in regional efforts towards combating people smuggling, trafficking of persons and related transnational crime. Further, PNG is proud of its humanitarian tradition of helping those in need. A very large amount of work has gone into the establishment of the regional processing centre on Manus Island, managing asylum seekers, developing and implementing refugee status laws and planning for careful integration of genuine refugees into our societies.

This work is saving lives and hopes to protect some of the world's most vulnerable people. The construction of the refugee transit facility at Lorengau was completed on October 2014 and now houses transferees who are granted refugee status under the international convention relating to refugees. Just as important in November of 2015, Cabinet approved action to address the situation of the many West Papuan refugees living in PNG without official status. NEC decision will move people out of this limbo and enable them to obtain all of them rights and responsibilities of Papua New Guinea citizenship.

As a consequence of this action and in a matter of next or so I will have approved some 1500 West Papuan refugees as citizens of Papua New Guinea towards the end of this year. This is a major achievement for our Government and we must be congratulated for it. This issue of settling this new citizens must not only rest with the Government but with our communities throughout our country.

In October 2015, the Cabinet approved the National Refugee Policy and is now under implementation. Effective border management and control requires corporation and liaison not just with other PNG law enforcement agencies but with immigration and law enforcement agencies across the region and the globe.

In Kokopo in April 2014, I was honoured to officially open the annual conference of Pacific Immigration Directors hosted by Papua New Guinea. This was attended by heads of immigration agencies across the Pacific hosted by our statutory authority and at that conference Papua New Guinea has assumed the role of the chairmanship and facilitated the signing of an historic memorandum of understanding to establish the PIDC as a legal entity in its own right.

Mr Speaker, consistent with section 22 of the *Migration Act*, the Minister responsible for Immigration is required to report to Parliament the removal and deportation of unlawful non-citizens. In 2014, the ICSA facilitated a number of voluntary and involuntary removals from our country.

Some of this removals were the result of successful prosecutions related to breaches of entry conditions and criminal activities in our country. One of this removals was of a convicted paedophile who was a United Kingdom citizen by the name of Mr Roy Griffiths and suspected paedophile and former priest Mr Roger Mount from the Sogeri area.

In October 2015, the following removals were recorded. One was of an Australian, two were Iranians, 11 citizens of Myanmar, 15 nationals from Vietnam, 9 from Thailand, 136 from Indonesia, 1 from Ghana, 1 from Nigeria and 1 from the USA. The reasons for this removals are varied including breach of visa conditions, illegal fishing in PNG waters of the coast of Daru in Western province and Wewak, East Sepik province, illegal engagement at the Bewani Oil Palm Project at the Sandaun Province

#### **14/02**

Mr Speaker, looking at many of the other impressive achievements of the Immigration and Citizens Authority in 2014 and 2015 in the Annual Report, I am confident that the statutory authority is more than up to its challenges in what is truly an indoor connected world with challenges that affect all of the international community.

Mr Speaker, having said this I would like to acknowledge in this House the particular contribution of the Chief Migration Officer, Mr Mataio Rabura. The Chief Migration Officers Leadership has been instrumental in transferring the role of the statutory authority into a modern and highly performing government agency that we should all be very proud of. Honourable Members you will be aware that in the recognition of his achievements and long standing service to the public service, the Chief Migration Officer was honoured in 2015 with an Order of the British Empire by her majesty, the Queen and I extend my sincere



congratulations to him on behalf of this honourable House and our people for this well-deserved award.

Mr Speaker, Immigration is truly leading the way for PNG in terms of its Government Agency. It is continuing to implement its ambitious reform agenda and will continue to lift the bar in terms of responsiveness to implementing the policies, service delivery and information of our administration agendas for this Government.

Now with that, Mr Speaker, I commend this Report for 2014 and 2015 of the Immigrations Citizenship Services Authority to this honourable House

*(Mr Kerenga Kua interjecting)*

Motion (by **Mr James Marape**) agreed to –

That the Parliament take note of the Paper and the debate be adjourned to a later date

Debate adjourned.

#### **ADJOURNEMENT**

Motion (by **Mr James Marape**) agreed to –

That the Parliament do now adjourned.

The Parliament adjourned at 12 p.m..