

SIXTH DAY

Wednesday 3 July 2019

DRAFT HANSARD

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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
CORRECTIONS TO DAILY DRAFT HANSARD

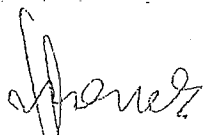
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HARRY MOMOS

Acting Principal Parliamentary Reporter

SIXTH DAY

Wednesday 3 July 2019

The Acting Speaker (**Mr Jeffrey Komal**) took the Chair at 10.a.m..

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

Sitting suspended.

The Acting Speaker again took the Chair at 10.46 a.m., and invited the Member for Mul-Baiyer, **Honourable Koi Trappe** to say Prayers:

Papa God long nem bilong Jesus yu God bilong mipela na yu God bilong Heven na graun. Papa mipela i sanap long pes bilong yu na tok tenkyu long makim mipela kamap lida bilong ol pipol bilong yu long dispela kantri.

Yu yet yu save long tingting bilong mipela na yu makim mipela. Mipela ino ol stretpela man long ai bilong yu. Papa helpim mipela long bihainim ol komanmen na ol lo bilong yu. Tasol mipela save feil long planti samting. Yu fogivim mipela wantaim blut bilong pikinini bilong yu na mipela i tok sori tru long olgeta samting mipela i mekim rong. Klinim mipela wantaim blut bilong yu.

Mipela iprei long yu long givim mipela gutpela tingting long Prait Minista na ol minista na olgeta lidas bilong kantri bilong mipela. Lidim mipela na gaidim mipela long gutpela rot long lidim ol pipol bilong mipela. Ol pipol bilong yu inidim planti gutpela samting olsem rot, hausik na skul. Helpim mipela long wokim gutpela disisen long gutpela bilong ol pipol bilong yu.

Let your anointment be upon us so that we will do the right thing to best serve your people. Yu stap wantaim mipela long ol disisen bilong mipela. Yu givim mipela gutpela tingting so mipela iken diskas long ol gutpela samting bilong ol pipol bilong yu. Mi prei na komitim olgeta lidas long maiti na pawaful nem bilong yu. Amen.

**DEATH OF FORMER MEMBERS (Mr John Wauwia and Mr Vincent Auali) –
STATEMENT BY THE ACTING SPEAKER**

Mr ACTING SPEAKER – Honourable Members, I have to inform Parliament of the death of Mr John Wauwia on 16 June 2019. He was a former Member for Yangoru-Saussia Open Electorate. He was first elected to the Third National Parliament in 1994 in a By-Election following the resignation of the sitting member, Mr John Jaminan. He was re-elected to the 4th National Parliament from 1987 to 1992.

02/06

During that term he served as Assistant Speaker between 1987 and 1991 and Minister for Civil Aviation between 1991 and 1992; and Mr Vincent Awali on the 26 June of 2019, a former Member of Parliament for Tambul-Nebilyer Open Electorate. He was first elected to the Fifth National Parliament from 1992 to 1997 and re-elected for the same seat in the 6th National Parliament from 1997 to 2002. He served as a member of the Referral Committee on Lands and Environment from July to December of 1997, appointed Minister for Transport and Leader of Government Business in December 1997 to June 1999, Minister for Corporatization and Privatisation in July 1999 to March 2000 and briefly as Minister for State and Minister for Corporatisation and Privatisation in April 2002 and he resigned from Parliament in May of 2002.

As a mark of respect to the memory of the late Honourable gentleman, I invite all Honourable Members to rise in their places.

(All Members present stood in their places as a mark of respect to the late gentleman).

**VISITORS – VOICE INCORPORATION –
STATEMENT BY THE ACTING SPEAKER**

Mr ACTING SPEAKER – I have to inform the Parliament that members of the Voice Incorporation, a young people organisation, are present in the public gallery this morning. On behalf of the Parliament I extend to them a very warm welcome to the National Parliament

PETITION

Konebada Petroleum Park

Mr Peter Isoaimo presented a petition on behalf of certain landowners of the Porebada Besena Association praying that appropriate action be taken to terminate the Board of the Konebada Petroleum Park and its operations suspended, and a full investigation and audit be undertaken into its operations, and that landowner business concerns including the proposal for a multi-purpose business centre be approved.

Petition received and read.

03/06

QUESTIONS

Commission of Inquiry into UBS Loan

Mr MANASSEH MAKIBA – Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker for recognising me, I would like to ask a question to our good Prime Minister. Before I ask my question let me take this opportunity to congratulate the Prime Minister on the election as the 8th Prime Minister. I also want to thank the 101 Members of Parliament for having confidence and support to a fellow leader and a brother from Hela and I also want to thank the out-going Prime Minister, Honourable Peter O'Neill for his service to the Country for the last (7) seven years.

My question to the Prime Minister is in relation to the UBS report that was presented in this Parliament last week.

Mr Acting Speaker, Prime Minister you have made a statement and announcement that you would set up a Commission of Inquiry into the UBS Loan Deal.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER – Honourable Member for Komo-Magarima, I believe the question you are asking the Prime Minister is about a matter already in the Notice Paper. You can ask the question when the matter is called up for debate.

Mr MANASSEH MAKIBA – Mr Acting Speaker, I am not aware that the question is on the Notice Paper. I did not see it.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER – The Report is in the Notice Paper.

Mr MANASSEH MAKIBA – Mr Acting Speaker, I am just trying to raise a question in relation the Commission of Inquiry that the Prime Minister said to set up. The question basically is;

- (1) When the Commission of Inquiry will be set-up?
- (2) Who are the persons that will be in charge of the Commission of Inquiry?

Mr ACTING SPEAKER – Honourable Member for Komo-Magarima, you can ask the question.

Mr MANASSEH MAKIBA – Mr Acting Speaker, this issue is of great concern to the general public since the report was presented in Parliament. The public wants to know what progress has been made.

My questions are;

- (1)When will the Commission of Inquiry into the UBS Loan start?
- (2)Who are the persons that will be in charge of the Commission of Inquiry?
- (3)What would be the possible terms of reference of the Commission of Inquiry?

Thank you Mr Speaker.

04/06

Mr Patrick Pruaitch – Point of Order! Mr Acting Speaker, the Parliament has not fully dispensed of this particular report as yet and I believe it is on the Notice Paper for possible debate.

The Honourable Member has asked the Prime Minister to announce an Executive Government decision which is not necessary at this stage. I think Parliament should dispense of the Report with its recommendation and then the Executive Government can deal with it at its own timing.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER – The Point of Order is out of order. Mr Prime Minister please continue.

Mr JAMES MARAPE – Mr Speaker, let me thank the Member for Komo-Magarima for asking a very pertinent question. I note from correct observations here that the report is part of the Parliament business. But since I made an announcement of an inquiry, the

Member is asking from the context of when the inquiry will be set up, who will composite the inquiry and the possible Terms of Reference for the inquiry. These are also questions hanging in the minds of many in the public.

Let me prefix my answer in the following manner.

The UBS Report that was presented to Parliament emanating from the Ombudsman Commission, was more geared towards establishing the culpability of leadership breaches in the context of those of us who held offices in relation to our subscription to the leadership code of conduct.

When I made the announcement in response to the tabling of this report on the Floor of this House, it was my humble opinion that the UBS Saga extends beyond leadership breach and culpability that relates to leadership. There must be also a greater setback and a dive into the entire UBS Saga in the first instance.

Mr Acting Speaker, the Parliament will note that the former Prime Minister made suggestions that the UBS Saga predates events as to when the events took place itself. It might be correct or might not be correct.

Mr Acting Speaker, the question of possibility of corruption doesn't only entail leadership breaches but goes beyond this only to be fully ascertained to exactly what has transpired.

In the name of giving a sincere honest response to the public who demand accurate answers to what has taken place, the Ombudsman Report is one document that has surfaced for the benefit of the public and Parliament. It is for the Ombudsman Commission to make sure that further actions are carried out to see whether those of us implicated did breach leadership codes and begin individual proceedings in this manner.

Mr Acting Speaker, a Commission of Inquiry must be established to fully ascertain whether there were also other corrupt practices involved in the entire UBS saga.

The former Prime Minister raised issues of the purchase of Oil Search shares, redemption of the IPIC loan that was held as mortgage is really correct need to be ascertained. Also the issue of whether the Government had choices at that time to redeem the Oil Search share or not, are very important issues that must be discussed and for the public to have the fullest benefit as to what transpired.

05/06

Let me assure everyone in this House, an inquiry will be set up at the earliest and I have asked the Deputy Prime Minister, in his capacity as the Minister responsible for Attorney-General and Justice to bring into Cabinet at the very earliest, the paper that will entail exactly when the Commission will start and when it will terminate and the boundaries of the terms of reference of the Commission of Inquiry.

The Cabinet is of the view that it's correct that in the absence of an ICAC, this inquiry must also be a precursor to what will eventually be ICAC because the question in the minds of everyone is whether there was corruption involved in this UBS transaction. The investigation will not stop at the leadership level, which involves some of us including the former Prime Minister.

In the process of UBS loan, the nation of PNG lost money in the billions and we need to know exactly how much we lost. For instance, if there were any losses then it will only be determined by this inquiry. When the UBS transaction took place, UBS to finance 149 million shares of oil search and UBS transacted over US\$1.2 billion to redeem the Oil Search shares from IPIC for us to own 10.01 per cent of Oil Search shares.

Today, you and I don't have ownership of the 10.01 percent. What has happen to it? Therefore, an inquiry must be established to find the loss and gain and also find out who were the middlemen. Was it James Marape as the middlemen or the Treasurers?

When the nation talks about corruption, we need to establish not only leadership breaches but the entire criminality in it, if there was any criminal offence conducted by anyone. And that inquiry will dig deeper into the transactions to money, clothes from UBS to purchase of the Oil Search shares. What happen beyond Oil Search shares? And in this instances, the inquiry might ask the Australian Security Commission for instance, to provide information in the entire transaction.

I am not an economist to be privy to what is a collar loan and a bridge loan. What happen for instance to the bridge loan? How was it retired? What happen to the collar loan? Who retired it? Did PNG Government spend any money on it?

The fundamental institutions like KPL will be brought into the picture to answer for questions. And Treasury will be brought into the picture to answer for questions. I too will be brought into picture to answer for questions. I think the nation deserves a greater scrutiny instead of just a leadership scrutiny.

For many times leaders like you and me dance to the music of the *Leadership Code*, yet beneficiaries of schemes walk away scot-free at the expense of our country. If we did lose than how much was it in the process. The revenue that was meant to support 2014-2016, and if we did lose it than an inquiry must be established to find out how much we lost.

Mr Acting Speaker, these are pertinent questions. Therefore I will leave it to the wisdom of the Attorney-General to put in credible Papua New Guineans, who have proven track record in the fight against corruption and credible senior members of the Bench whether in or outside of our judiciary to Chair the composition of the inquiry to look into this critical matter. These are questions that we are framing around to make up what will become the terms of reference.

06/06

And when it is established, we'd like it to come to conclusion at the earliest so that these questions can be answered at the earliest, and not three or four years down the line when it becomes obsolete. It must be answered at the earliest so we would like to give some time frame to it; maybe one, two or three months depending on how much information they can collect and we will be asking neighbouring economists and jurisdictions to support in the course.

You know as I did indicate UBS remitted 1.2 billion dollars. Oil Search will be also asked to answer for it. So all this are important questions that need to be answered so that the country is fully aware of it. Let me also take this time to indicate that I am and not fearful of this enquiry. If I am found by the inquiry to have conducted improperly, I will be the first one to resign from this office.

Mr Acting Speaker, but it is unfair for leaders who hold leadership positions to be paying high price. And one of the critical question that I will be asking, Mr Acting Speaker is, at what point in time did our Government germinate the idea to purchase Oil Search shares? These are the sorts of questions that I will be asking.

These questions will be put before the inquiry, so that every one of us is given clarity of mind as to what transpired, what has happened and where we are going forward.

Mr Acting Speaker. I will be seeking advice from the Deputy Prime Minister and AG as to, in the absence of ICAC, whether this inquiry can also be a launching pad for other inquiries.

As I speak on inquiries and corruption issues the public is encouraged; you can blame one of us as corrupt, but please present your evidence to this inquiry that will be established. Present your case before them. It is your opportunity now to confirm that someone has benefited or participated in corrupt practice that inquiry should hopefully embrace, or create a facility in which it would go beyond the scope of such corruption pertaining to UBS if there is any as well as other corruption issues once it terminates that UBS investigations. We would like that inquiry to be around, as a body precursor to what must be an ICAC Institution, that continues to fight put as a buffer in the face of any corruption issues that the nation is always been confronted with past and today. And today it becomes are buffer for corruptions going into the future.

Mr Acting Speaker, Cabinet is awaiting a paper from the Attorney General and Deputy Prime Minister. That paper will contain who will be the members of this Commission of Inquiry, its terms of reference and what it will entail as well as the time frame in which the Commission of Inquiry will operate so that some of this questions are delivered to the satisfaction of public. In the meantime I encourage the public to have access to a copy of the UBS Report and read it. The Ombudsman Commission and Police are all also encouraged to look at it and to make their own investigations.

Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker.

Supplementary Question

UBS Inquiry – Terms of Reference

Sir MEKERE MORAUTA – Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker. Prime Minister, may I ask you to include in the terms of reference, the role Oil Search played, UBS played and the band of private lawyers played for the Commission of Inquiry?

Mr JAMES MARAPE – Mr Acting Speaker, maybe I have used too many words but the inquiry will entail exactly this one. The 1.2 billion Kina that came out from UBS and at whose instruction? What is the dynamics that play in the collar loan and the bridge Loan? How much was retired from where, the sale of shares and which shares were sold? In the bridging Loan in itself, there were many dynamics in play. It was floated, put on call options, it was floated in between and there were small parcels being sold!

07/06

All these things must be looked at clearly to give you and me the total confidence that, our money was played out in the safest possible way outside of corruption. And you are correct, lawyers are involved, accountants are involved and UBS itself. I am Prime Minister; not scared of UBS or Oil Search.

After Oil Search bought that share, what happened to that money? Where did it end up? These are issues that need to be brought up so that some of us do not carry the tag of corruption all the time. I am committed to the cause and in the process, if I am found to have breached, Halleluiah! I will be the first one to resign from this office.

EHP – Appointment of Provincial Administrator

Mr PETER NUMU –Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker, before I proceed with my question, I apologise that I have to use the seat of the Governor for West Sepik because the microphone and the ear piece on my seat does not work.

My question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Justice and Attorney General, and it is in regards to the conduct of lawyers under his department. This is in relation to controversial court orders that are being obtained that is creating problems in my province. I will not go into the technical aspects of it but will stick with the conduct of lawyers in his department.

The NEC appointed the Provincial Administrator, Mr John Gimiseve, after a very long time and he was given the permanent position last year. He was appointed following due processes and we thought the issue of the appointment of a provincial administrator was solved, but we were wrong.

Another party took the matter of the new administrator to court and they entered into consent orders without my knowledge. As the Governor and the chairman of the Provincial Executive Council, (PEC) we followed due process and appointed the administrator. The issue of our provincial administrator is at this current stage, a court issue. A lot of money has been spent just to have an administrator. Money has been paid to lawyers and others in the process, and now we want the issue resolved so that we can look into service delivery.

The former Prime Minister, Honourable Peter O'Neill, was the first defendant. He resigned and now we have a new Prime Minister. The other group obtained consent order without our knowledge. They sought instructions from the Solicitor-General and his lawyers and now we have a very big problem in the province as a result of poor legal advice and representation. The Provincial Government office is now shut down and there is fighting and

most of the computers have been taken. Public servants are not at work as we speak and service delivery in the province has stopped. I did not attend Friday's sitting of Parliament because I was in the province to address this issue.

08/06

(1) Can the Attorney-General confirm to Parliament and my people of Eastern Highlands that the current Chairman of NEC with the defendants and the State, consented to oppose the decision which we all agreed to when appointing a permanent Provincial Administrator?

If they gave their consent, why did they?

The reasons must be valid in order to maintain public confidence in the Executive Government and the powers exercised at both the national and provincial levels of government.

If you did not consent to oppose the decision,

(2) Can the Attorney-General summon an investigation and have those lawyers and their associates including the Solicitor-General deal with administratively for professional misconduct? They should be referred to the PNG Law Society.

And thirdly, have them criminally prosecuted for misrepresentation and fraud.

Mr Acting Speaker, poor lawyering has caused the nation millions of kina and problems after problems in how Provinces and the country is managed.

I want the Minister for Justice and our Deputy Prime Minister to take action forthwith, starting with Eastern Highlands issue and signal all other lawyers in the country to take duty of care and professionally handle legal issues surrounding their affairs that us Government usually run to managed our people.

Mr DAVIS STEVEN – Mr Acting Speaker, I thank the honourable Governor for Eastern Highlands and I appreciate the opportunity to answer this question especially in the context of the discussion that is now before this House and taking que from the Prime Minister's response generally on the issues of governance systems and the rule of law, it is a question that relates to lawyers and especially to the role of lawyers as the officers of the court and the need for the public confidence in our judiciary.

One of the most important challenge that we face today in ensuring that our people have confidence in the systems of law that we have and are assured that the courts will do

justice according to law and in that regard, the legal service that government agencies receive from our the Solicitor General's Office.

Mr Acting Speaker I agree that one of the legacy issues that our Government face is in terms of the capacity and the quality of legal service that's been dispensed from the Solicitor General's office.

A case in point relates to the provincial administrator's position for the Eastern Highlands Province. It relates to a consent order as the honourable Governor has correctly pointed out. Consent orders are not easily entered into and the court normally is very careful in entering consent orders. Lawyers are also aware that consent orders are not ordinary.

09/06

In this case, it would have to come from the Secretary of Department of Personnel Management who manages the *Public Service (Management) Act*.

In answer to the honourable Governor's question, obviously the matter is currently under investigation and the Secretary for Justice is in-charge of that investigation. As soon as the leader indicated the situation, we took steps to make sure he is assisted pursuant to the *Attorney-General's Act*. The *Act* authorised a private lawyer to support him in his effort to apply to court to review this consent orders with the hope that they may be set aside if the justice of the case warrants it.

Mr Acting Speaker, since the matter is before the courts, it is safe for us to conduct a preliminary internal investigation and await the outcome of that application Obviously this arguments will be raised in court and I am looking forward to the court's response with regards to the question of whether or not the consent orders can be set aside.

In relation to the conduct of lawyers, this government is currently undertaking a review of the *Lawyers Act*. One of the emphasis that the amendments want to look into is the penalties provision and the support for the Lawyers Statutory Committee. This is the body established under the *Act* to deal with the alleged offences or complaints or inappropriate conduct by lawyers. That legislation will come before Parliament and I will expect members from both sides of the House to support that legislation.

However, at the moment the lawyers who are employed by the government in as far as the Solicitor General is concerned or the other agencies of government, they are covered under the *Public Service (Management) Act* disciplinary provisions. At the same time they fall under the ambit of the *Lawyers Act* where potential misconduct can be punished if they

are found to be guilty. Therefore it is not as if our lawyers are without scrutiny on how they conduct themselves.

In answer to the Governor's question, firstly, the internal investigation is proceeding but we will wait for the decision of the courts. Secondly, when we come to that point, we will be able to take appropriate action against the lawyers concerned.

Mr Peter Numu – Point of Order! Mr Acting Speaker. I thank the Attorney-General for his good answers but when the new Prime Minister was voted, they quickly entered into this consent order without getting instructions from me as the fourth defendant and the Governor of Eastern Highlands. I also want to know if the current Prime Minister as the Chairman of the NEC, acting upon your advice as Attorney-General, gave consent as a party to the proceedings. I want to know if he gave instructions or not? From my end as the Chairman of PEC, I was not consulted and I did not give any instructions. I am therefore very curious to know from the national level whether the Prime Minister as the Chairman of NEC gave the instructions.

10/06

Mr DAVIS STEVEN – Mr Acting Speaker, matters that arose in the supplementary question obviously intended to have the temptation of pre-empting matters that are yet to go to the NEC matters that are going to be the subject of the application before the court and also the investigation that is being undertaken so it is not safe for me to pre-empt those outcomes. Thankyou Mr Acting Speaker.

Ok Tedi Mining Trust Account

Mr TOBOI YOTO – Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker for recognising me. And While I have the floor and I would also like to congratulate our Eighth Prime Minister on behalf of my people of Western Province and would like to thank the outgoing Prime Minister.

Once again I would like to thank the Prime Minister for visiting my province, especially when Western Province as one of the economic provinces many times is overlooked by the government. Thankyou Prime Minister for giving prominence to my province.

I would like to direct my question to the Mining Minister. My question is in relation to a trust account that was established since the commencement of Ok Tedi Mining some years back. I am aware that there was a moratorium in place in the trust account and there was an investigation done to see how the money was spent, I believe that the report is ready and I would like to ask him when that report is to be tabled and how soon I can be able to access that fund so I can help develop my province.

This has been misapplied or misappropriation. I know that there's money in that account, that more money has been spent and there so much to be paid out. How much is in that account?

I would like to ask the Minister if he can verify those information and tell me when the report will be tabled and when the people of Western Province will be able to access this fund. Thankyou Mr Acting Speaker

Mr JOHNSON TUKE – Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker. I recognised the question from the Governor of Western Province. Yes, there is some money in that trust account; one trust account is called CAMCA and the other one is called non-CAMCA.

Under the CMCA there were 12 projects which the province identified and they have been completed. This comes under OTDS where OTDS runs the projects and the other one is non-CMCA which comes under the Ministry. They endorsed these projects before my time as Minister, as per the deeds-close to 148 projects.

Mr Acting Speaker, those projects are completed but we don't know how these projects eventuated and on this basis, the former government has authorised a project audit. So people of Western Province must know that this fund has come to fruition. When the audit report is completed and is in the office, we will let you know. The balance of the fund will be remitted back to you but there is also a 2016 NEC decision stating that these funds will be remitted back to MRDC.

11/06

And on the same note, I received a letter from PEC in regards to all funds be kept within my Ministry as and when NEC rescinds this decision, I will act appropriately follow the deeds on how it was established already. I hope your question has been answered thoroughly, honourable Governor for Western Province.

Thank you Mr Acting Speaker.

Supplementary Question

Table Report on Trust Fund Accounts for Western Province

Mr PETER O'NEILL – Thank you Mr Deputy Speaker, my supplementary question is directed to the Minister for Mining, the question asked by the good Governor of Western Province is clear and straight forward, his question is;

(1) When are you going to table the report on the floor of Parliament?

(2) Can the minister also confirm that this is an internal government report?

(3) Can he refer that to the appropriate agencies particularly the Ombudsman Commission and the police, can he make that commitment to this honourable House?

Thank you Mr Acting Speaker.

Mr JOHNSON TUKE – Thank you Mr Acting Speaker, thank you Member for Ialibu-Pangia, the report has not come to my attention yet, I believe it is still with the appropriate agencies. I assure you once it comes to my attention I will refer it to an independent body for vetting.

Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker.

Manam Diaster Funds Audit

Mr PETER YAMA – Mr Acting Speaker, thank you for recognising the people of Madang to ask some questions in regards to series of questions raised last week in this Chamber.

Mr Acting Speaker before I ask my questions I take this opportunity, on behalf of the Madang people and my family, to congratulate the honourable Prime Minister for being elected the Eighth Prime Minister of this nation and also congratulate his Deputy Prime Minister for his elevation.

Mr Acting Speaker, my questions are directed to the Prime Minister and they are in relation to the Manam Fund and we all must understand that this issue dates way back to 2002 and this is not an issue that has just surfaced.

The allegations raised by my brother Madang Members based on money issues over the K6 million given to Madang Provincial Government.

Mr Acting Speaker, since 2002 up to today over a K100 million has been injected into the Manam Fund.

Mr Acting Speaker, I have started to take stock of the public servants and their actions and -

12/06

Every time I stand to address this Parliament you always want to interject with a point of order because you have business interests in Madang. You spent K6 million to buy a boat and you have a conflict of interest. Can you please sit down? Investigation will soon be done into this purchase.

Mr Allan Bird – Point of Order! Mr Acting Speaker the Governor is taking too long to ask his question. Some of us want to also raise some important questions.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER – East Sepik Governor, your Point of Order is in order. Governor please ask your questions.

Mr PETER YAMA – Some of you have conflicts of interests so sit down and listen. We are getting closer and I will get to the question.

Mr Acting Speaker, this issue has been a very disturbing issue for me. Last week, I heard an issue being raised regarding Manam Islanders and two Members raised objections and they called provincial administration officers as shit. This is on record.

The Member for Bogia raised some very serious questions on malpractices and mismanagement by public servants of public funds implicating the Madang Governor's office.

My integrity is called into question because when you talk about Madang, I am the Governor of Madang and you talking about me.

Mr Acting Speaker, I welcome the decision of the K6 million investigation announced by the Prime Minister and it is in the interest of good governance, transparency and accountability. This is the way to go.

I commend the Prime Minister for what he is saying today.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER – Honourable Governor, ask your question.

Mr PETER YAMA – I am getting there, sit down and listen.

(Laughter in the Chamber)

Mr ACTING SPEAKER – Honourable Governor, every Member on the Floor needs to represent their people, and of course you have to respect the Chair.

Mr PETER YAMA – Mr Acting Speaker, I do respect the Chair but I only have four minutes to go and I will be the last Member asking questions. When the Prime Minister answers, there will be no time left to ask any further question. Be patient! Let me finish my question.

Mr Acting Speaker, my colleague Members who raised these issues and these questions are former public servants. The Member for Bogia is an example. He was the authorised requisition officer for the Bogia Member then, from 2002 -2017.

Mr Acting Speaker my question is this - .

Mr Robert Naguri- Point of Order! Mr Acting Speaker, when I asked my questions last week, I never made any personal statements. I simply asked a question regarding the investigation into how the funds were used by the Madang Provincial Administration. I would like to ask the Governor not to make any personal statements to me or my colleague Member of Usino-Bundi.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER – Point of Order in order! Governor for Madang ask your question.

Mr PETER YAMA- When you talk about investigation you must realise that it impinges on what happened before and now. You must start from the root of everything.

My questions are as follows;

While I welcome the call by the Members to investigate the K6 million Manam Island Fund and the provincial administration in question, let me highlight that I have been there for only two years. The first year I was in and out of the Courts fighting my case.

My question is,

Can the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister direct an independent audit into the Manam Funding dating right back to 2002?

The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition were former Finance Ministers and they know that well over a K100 million was paid into the Manam Fund.

13/05

My question is for you to direct an audit to start from 2002 up till now because we have expended over K100 million with nothing to show for on the ground.

Prime Minister, now that Manam has erupted, when can we have the funds allocated to the newly established Madang Restoration Authority? The K20 million approved by the last Government is still there, we haven't drawn down the money. Now that funds will be allocated to West New Britain;

(2) When will Manam and Bogia people get their funds?

If you flew to West New Britain then we didn't get our money yet, Prime Minister. Its nature's call you know, I didn't tell them both to erupt at the same time.

(Laughter in the Chamber)

K3 Million Commitment by Former Prime Minister

Mr PETER YAMA – With respect Sir, and my final question.

(3) Are we still going to get the K3 million committed by the former Prime Minister?

You were his Minister at that time and the former Prime Minister has not delivered until you have taken over as the Prime Minister. When will you give our K3 million that's what Member for Bogia should be asking for.

(Laughter in the Chamber)

Mr PETER YAMA – Prime Minister, since you have been to West New Britain because of the nature call there. We also have a nature call in Madang.

(4) When will you come and visit your people in Madang? You must know that you are also from Madang. When are you coming?

(Laughter in the Chamber)

Mr JAMES MARAPE – Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker. When the Governor for Madang in a jovial mood, we all are excited.

So, let me pay my commendation to the Governor for asking this important question. Whilst we laugh and joke about this sort of questions, but it's a serious matter before us. Our people of Manam, for a long time remain under-served and not treated well and many issues are outstanding to Manam. So they deserve to be given serious consideration by all levels of government. The greater responsibility befalls those of us who have greater access to resources, whether at national, provincial or district levels. In this instance, now with the establishment of the Manam Restoration Authority. I can say from the outset that we will avail again with some more money. I have been advised by Treasury that warrants have been released to the tune of about K5 million for further exercise to consolidate on what is intended for in our 2019 Budget in respect to Manam Restoration.

You know when there is nature calls like, this is a way of people crying to us when they are in pain and in need out there in society.

This brings my memory of going to Bialla in West New Britain, last week is very fresh in my mind. Our people out there expect on every agency of State to respond to them at the earliest and quickest. It is so compelling out there that every one of us who come in contact with government resources must make it our business to ensure that there is no wastages along the way. Our people must get to receive what is fully theirs.

The call from few Members of Government last week and today Governor, you are correct, you were not in the House. They didn't make mention of you as the Governor for Madang but they just asked for an inquiry into what has happened to the K6 million that was already remitted through and I am encourage to know that you got good plans for Manam.

Let's combine all this efforts put together and I ask you has we continue to further avail additional resources to Manam.

Let's find a permanent solution to Manam, it keeps on going off all the time. The comment I made in Bialla in last week's trip was that areas that have a propensity to facing natural disasters must have almost permanent solutions to address them.

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So care centres must be made in a more permanent structure and permanent settlements, so that our people are given the luxury and comfort of life such as clean water, provided the basic care is available and a permanent address to their future.

When we returned from West New Britain last week, we did make an impression on Treasury and our own disaster response unit so that they have a clear view as to what is happening with Manam,

I did make an undertaking that one of our next visit, in case I do not make visitations, Minister for Defence and Commander for Defence are the disaster response team. The Parliament would know now that we restructured the Cabinet. The disaster responsibility has been passed on to Defence Force. We are looking into law where we can make it congruent where Defence Force are the agency to respond to disasters in the first instance.

Down the line, if we beef up Defence aircraft facilities, Defence maritime facilities and the entire Defence medical facilities, the Defence Force can be utilised in those civic activities.

For the case of Manam, if I am not available, sometimes next week, we will get the Defence Minister, Defence Commander or the National Disaster Unit to go. Hopefully we'll attach a team from Finance and Central agency to go in and assist Madang leadership to ascertain exactly what has happened, not only in the issue dealing with the K6 million discussed here, but in matters relating to Manam restoration that predates our present time. Talking about the past is one thing, but going forward, whatever money that comes including the additional K6 million that we put in today. I beg leadership on the ground, especially those that are affected at the local level areas, the local members concern, the Provincial Governor to come with one game plan that we all can subscribe to. If you got two or three plans, then we are all caught in this quagmire where we are not moving in one united approach and our people can eventually be the biggest loser whilst you and I enjoy the comforts of chairs we sit in and the luxury offices that we hold.

So I ask the entire Madang leadership to get your plan in order in respect of Manam and we will give our blessing and combined, we can all find resources to ensure there is a permanent solution to Manam.

Manam has been blowing on and off all the time. And if we do not address this, Manam will be forever blowing off in our face. And sometimes in the future you and me will be talking about the same issue so I ask, whilst the past is to be investigated so that those who

abuse resources if any, can be brought to justice. The future must be secured in a better planned approach in handling Manam or in handling other resources for that matter. So as we disburse more funding to it, I ask Manam leadership both on the island and the resettled area, I ask local leadership, the provincial leadership and I ask the Manam Restoration Authority, you only have to look up to the Gazelle Restoration Authority. If the Gazelle Restoration Authority is a success story, in my view anyway, and I stand to be corrected and qualified, how come other Restoration Authorities are falling behind? I think it goes to deal with personalities behind organisations.

We can form Organisations after Organisations, but if people running them are not committed to the cause, the innocent victims remain our people. Our people who suffer and mind you, these people have the same dreams that you and I have. They want their children to be educated. They want live in good houses. They want to drink clean water. They want to have medical facilities to be there for them. Our people have the same dream as us leaders in this House. It is really incumbent upon everyone to lay aside politics, lay aside personal difference, lay aside which contract benefits and have a game plan that every one of us can subscribe to, including donor agencies and the National Government. A game plan that is truly born out of need on the ground as identified by leaders on the ground.

I ask the leaders on the ground to have that one game plan for Manam and have one game plan for Madang. There are important activities coming up for Madang, and I intend to visit Madang very soon. They have Ramu Nickel coming up very soon. I cannot be coming and talking to seven team of leaders in Madang. We need to come and talk to one team of leadership in Madang Province for the Ramu Nickel in this instance.

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Mr Acting Speaker, in conclusion, I ask the Governor, you are very, very senior amongst us in this current House, let us all pull together. I will come when Madang stands united. Lay aside our differences, let's unite for the cause of Madang but in this instance, Manam is grossly, and morally unjustified when we fight and Manam is left unattended to.

**AUDITOR-GENERAL OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA –
REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS OF THE OMBUDSMAN COMMISSION FOR THE
YEAR ENDING 2016 – PAPER – MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**

Mr ACTING SPEAKER –Honourable Members pursuant to *Section 214* of the *Constitution*. I present the report on the accounts of the Ombudsman Commission of Papua New Guinea for the year ending 31 December, 2016.

Motion (by **Mr John Pundari**) agreed to –

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

**AUDITOR-GENERAL OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA- REPORT
ON NATIONAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES PART II FOR
THE FISCAL YEARS, 2014 AND 2015 – PAPER – MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF
PAPER**

Mr ACTING SPEAKER –Honourable Members pursuant to *Section 214* of the *Constitution*. I present the report of the Auditor-General on the control, transaction with and concerning public monies and properties of Papua New Guinea into Government Departments and Agencies Part II for the Fiscal years, 2014 and 2015.

Motion (by **Mr John Pundari**) agreed to-

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

**AUDITOR GENERAL OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA –
REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GOROKA FOR THE
YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2015 – PAPER – MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF
PAPER**

Mr ACTING SPEAKER –Honourable Members pursuant to *Section 214* of the *Constitution*. I present the Report on the accounts of the University of Goroka for the year ending 31 December 2015.

Motion (by **Mr John Pundari**) agreed to –

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

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**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – ANNUAL REPORT, 2018 –
PAPER AND STATEMENT – PAPER NOTED**

Mr JOSEPH YOPYYOPY (Wosera-Gai- Minister for Education) Pursuant to *Section 20* of the *Education Act 1983*, I am pleased to present to this Honourable House, the following paper.

2018 Annual Report of the Department of Education.

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

Leave granted.

The 2018 Annual Report informs this Parliament of its performances, achievements and challenges and also suggests strategies to address challenges and risks. It also gives this House the opportunity to debate and contribute to the discussion on quality education for all in our country.

Mr Acting Speaker, firstly, on behalf of the people of Wosera Gaui, I take this opportunity to thank the Prime Minister Honourable James Marape for having the confidence in me and appointing me as the Education Minister. I know it's a huge challenge but I look forward to working with each one of you to support me achieve quality education for all — leaving no one behind.

I further thank the former Minister for Education, Honourable Nick Kuman who served as the longest serving Minister and over six year initiated a lot of reforms. I also thank the former Prime Minister Honourable Peter O'Neill who made education a pillar priority, he is also acknowledged. I will cover some of the progress of the reforms in this report.

Mr Acting Speaker, past governments continue to have education as a priority by investing heavily in this sector. The introduction of Tuition Fee Free Education followed by "exiting Outcome-Based Education (OBE) replaced with Standard-Based Education (SBE), curriculum development with emphasis on STEM and CCVE teacher training, procuring and supplying science equipment and mathematics kits to name some.

I will highlight some specific achievements made and challenges faced by some of them later in my statement.

I express my sincere to leaders at all levels of government for your continuous support in prioritizing education on the top of our development agenda and challenges.

Last year in 2018, the former Minister presented to this Honourable House my Department's Annual Reports for 2015, 2016 & 2017, highlighting our performances, achievements and challenges while also informing the members of our plans for delivering quality education to our people in 2018 and beyond.

A Reflection on the 2018 Annual Report

Mr Acting Speaker, the 2018 Annual Report reflects the performance of the Department against the standing policies, new interventions and resources made available to it during the year.

Today parents are more aware about the value of education and are sending their children to school. The government has also introduced interventions such as the TFF and increased government spending in education, growing from 21 per cent in 2012 to 24 per cent in 2017 as improved enrolment indicates.

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For example, the net enrolment rate has improved from 71 per cent in 2012 to per cent in 2016, and we have lower pupil/teacher ratio of 35 per teacher in 2016 compared to 37 students per teacher in 2012.

The total approved manpower ceiling for the Ministry of Education in 2018 was 1,041 public services positions and 3,416 teaching service positions in the national institutions and NCD schools. Of the public services positions, 883 are staff on strength while 446 are vacant. The teaching service positions approved by the TSC, is based on the expected number of teachers required as against the number of children who enrol in each level of school. The actual number of teachers be on the payroll by end of 2018 is 58,933.

Mr Acting Speaker, on gender basis, Education Ministry fairs relatively well to other departments employing 33 per cent of female public servants in 2018. Of notable importance is the high ratio of female staff occupying middle and top management positions within the ministry as well as across all schools and national institutions. Student enrolments continue to grow and recorded 2,139,018 in all levels of schools from prep to Grade 12, TVET, FODE, special education and permitted schools in the period reported.

Mr Acting Speaker, FODE has huge potential with a new curriculum student having equal opportunity to enrolment in tertiary institutions is performing very well. We must cascade FODE to all districts of PNG. We have Ministers of state like Honourable Chris Nangoi and academics like Dr Webster who can testify as role models.

Mr Acting Speaker, despite the difficult economic circumstances faced globally which also impacted PNG economy and the National Budget, the following significant achievements were achieved in 2018.

In relation to the Tuition Fee Free Education. The good progress of management and disbursement of TFF had continued into the period reported. A total of K602 million was appropriated and warranted to the Department for the TFF program which was paid to 11,418 eligible schools who met four basic requirements. The Department continued to pay a one-off payment to all registered permitted schools, and FODE students.

The TFF has made a positive impact on student access as well as retention in all sectors of education. Our biggest challenge is the high student-teacher ratio that is affecting quality leaning support.

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The TFF Teaching Learning Resource Component distribution was successfully completed through a central supply and regional distribution approach. The 2018, phase was procured and will be supplied at the start of this year.

As I am speaking, the distribution in all regions are completed, except for some schools in the Kandrian-Gloucester district land inland schools of Central, Gulf and Western Province. A backorder has been placed with our suppliers to cover schools that have missed out. The limited funding in distribution funding limited us to deliver to only districts and would need the support of provinces from their functional grant and districts from DSIP.

In 2018, the decentralisation of TFF management and distribution MOUs were signed with Enga, East New Britain, Morobe and New Ireland. There is a delay in creating Provincial TFF Trust Account purely due to Department of Finance and BSP compliance requirements.

Curriculum Reform: Standards-Based Curriculum (SBC)

With the Government's decision to abolish the Outcomes-Based Curriculum (OBE) and directives to introduce developing Standards-Based Curriculum (SBC), the Department began with the development of elementary curriculum in 2014. Further review will be undertaken to align with the National Curriculum Standards Framework (NCSF) as soon as practical.

Mr. Acting Speaker, curriculum development for junior Primary, Grades 3-5 had also been completed, printed and delivered to Highlands and Momase Region with Southern and NGI delivered in the first-quarter of 2019.

All schools were instructed to implement the new SBC commencing at the start of school year in 2019. The senior Primary, Grades 6-8 was completed awaiting printing and will be delivered in early 2019. This completes curriculum development, printing and delivery of SBC curriculum for elementary to Grade 8 in 2018. The training of teachers is ongoing.

Concurrently with the support of JICA, we have developed world class Science and Maths students' textbooks and teacher resource books for Grade 3 to 6. Grade 3 and 4 resources are being printed for all schools as I speak. This demonstrates our priority for Science, mathematics, Engineering and Science (STEM) subjects.

Curriculum development for junior High School (Grade 9 and 10) and Secondary High School (Grade 11 and 12) are written and in final draft stages. These will be completed in 2019, printed and delivered to all schools by end of this year, 2019. My department is expected to complete full implementation of SBC reforms by the end of 2020.

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Curriculum Development of Citizen & Christian Value Education (CCVE)

Mr Acting Speaker, Early in 2018, the department introduced a new curriculum subject called "Citizen & Christian Value Education (CCVE)". This, I believe, is a life-changing subject that we hope, is a catalyst for a better future for our people and Papua New Guinea. It really comes down to the way we mould and bring our children up early in their lives. Only then, we will produce good, respectable, responsible, God fearing, loveable and law-abiding citizens.

The CCVE will be a compulsory subject and starts at elementary level through to grade 12. The CCVE curriculum development and implementation will continue in 2019 and 2020.

New School Structure of 1-6-6

In the 1970s, students had 12 years of schooling comprising Prep and 6 years in community schools (Prep - Standard 1-6) 4 years in high school (Form 1-4) and 2 years in National High Schools (Form 11&12). Exit points were at Grades 6, 8, 10 and 12 with examinations. This structure allowed for high student attrition, for example only 30 per cent of grade 6 students entering grade 7. About 70 per cent of 12-14 year old children were pushed out. The 1991 – 3-6-2 structure addressed access issues markedly but it also has its own defects, especially its impact on quality and education standards particularly at the foundation levels -elementary education. This led to the development of the new 1-6-6- school structure.

Mr Acting Speaker, The, proposed new School Structure of 1-6-6 consists of 1 year Pre School - Prep, 6 years primary education up to Grade 6 and 6 years of secondary education up to Grade 12. The main basis for introducing 1-6-6 school structure is to improve quality of education and access whereby;

Under the 1-6-6 structure quality education and standards are promoted, maintained and preserved including teachers' standards, principal standards, students' literacy and numeracy standards. Relevant quality education and standard assessment tools are developed to monitor performance of quality education and standard education programs.

Since all school levels from elementary to Secondary are Provincial functions, the National Department of Education is only advocating and facilitating the implementation by conducting awareness. Honourable governors, I ask and urged you to take ownership of the 1-6-6 School Structure Policy, as it will improve access and also quality of education in your provinces.

Scouts and Guides

Mr Acting Speaker, as we progress in our implementation of the CCVE as a compulsory subject in 2019, and making awareness for the 1-6-6 structure. Since I took office, I have already directed my Department to develop a policy to introduce Boy Scouts and Girl Guides as a complementary extra-curricular programme and teachers paid a supervisory allowance.

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The policy will be launched in 2019. This intervention will be undertaken after school hours and on weekends. The idea behind introducing Boy Scouts and Girl guides is to prepare and enhance the children's character as well as their mental and physical development.

Containment of Examination Cheating

Mr Acting Speaker, I am now pleased to inform this Parliament once again that the Department continued to block-off cheating of examination which started in 2016.

I assure Honourable Members that we have set in place strategies to counter cheating. We have also taken steps to make our certificates more secure. It is almost 100 per cent secure, however fraudsters are still taking advantage of our un-informed and innocent people. The registration of all citizens must be hastened to mitigate such malpractices.

Posting of Results On-line

Mr Acting Speaker, in regard to posting of results on-line, whilst my Department is containing the cheating of examination for the first time, the examinations results were posted online in 2018. This in itself is a big achievement for the Department in terms of delivering fair results to all students and parents on a timely basis. Posting of results online ensures that both parents and students get their results on a timely basis, but more importantly, the parents know the performance of their children in real time. We will continue to use technology to maximise resource efficiency and transparency in service delivery.

Teachers Colleges and Technical Colleges

Mr Acting Speaker, since the enactment of *Higher Education Act 2014*, the Department of Education has been liaising closely with DHERST for the smooth transfer of all teachers and technical colleges.

We have come to the final stages in 2018 and look forward to the transition of transfer in possibly 2020. All activities undertaken with these institutions continues to be the responsibility of the Department of Education in 2018, until such time they are transferred to DHERST.

We have agreed that all teachers colleges will standardise their teacher education curriculum to offer a bachelor's degree programme for primary school teachers than the current diploma program. Few colleges have already started.

Mr Acting Speaker, the TVET curriculum is also being standardised. The design and development of TVET curriculum for National Certificate 1,2,3,4, National Diploma and National Advance Diploma is near completion.

In 2018, TVET Wing completed 13 National Diploma courses, 6 National Advance Diploma programs and 109 Certificate 1-4 courses.

Outstanding Audit Compliance the Department

Mr Acting Speaker, the Department of Education is one of the few government agencies that has a functional External Audit Committee under the Chairmanship of the Secretary for Finance.

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The Audit Committee is very impressed with the Department's performance in terms of compliance and transparency over the last three years including 2018. At this juncture I wish to inform Parliament that on Thursday, 21 May 2019, the esteemed and independent PNG HR Institute recognised and awarded my Department as the most improved public organisation award for its compliance of 49 Standards of the *Public Finance (Management) Act*.

The former Minister, the Secretary and his staff is commended for this achievement. At the same time, in 2018, the internal audit team covered 19 divisions and 6 units of the Department, completing 18 audit reports. We do not audit provincial institutions and do expect provincial authorities to take the lead and hold school boards and heads under your watch accountable for proper use of resources to achieve better learning outcomes.

Other Achievements

Mr Acting Speaker, other notable achievements included; The 2018 Education Expo. This was a huge success because for the very first time in our short history, my

Department had showcased to the general public in a big way what we are doing in the Ministry. We showed to the general public our reforms, our various trades, our products, and especially developing various skilled products by our TVET Institution, work on new Polytechnic Institutions in Enga, Chimbu and East New Britain is progressing,

The My School Roll out covered Morobe, WNB, Simbu, NCD, and parts of Central in 2018. Additional funding is required to complete the roll out in 2019.

At the end of 2018, we partnered with the Department of National Planning to register all 60,000 teachers by the end of 2019. During the 2018 Christmas holidays, 22,000 were registered and are now awaiting their ID Cards from NID Office.

Concerns and Issues

Mr Acting Speaker, my Department's major challenge is the resource allocation against many competing demands. Nonetheless, we are grateful for what we receive and are committed to optimise use of our limited resources to gain maximum benefits.

The other pertinent issue affecting implementation of policies and reforms is the leadership at the education provincial offices. We have very high turnovers and officers not appointed on merit. The capacity of provinces must be improved to deliver quality education.

Partnership

We as leaders must continue to work together and support our education institutions, schools, and teachers with the limited resources we have. I thank our other development partners, the churches and everyone in the education system for your support in 2018.

The Department of Education will also continue to implement the reforms and look forward to the undivided support of the Governors and Open Members and their administration, especially in building capacities.

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Mr Acting Speaker, I wish to end my report by stating that today that the Department under reforms to improve students learning outcomes deserves credit for its remarkable achievement in recent years. We undertaking critical reforms in the curriculum, schools standard and quality, phasing out of elementary under 166.

Papua New Guinea should know that we are on the right path but we need to do more. Hence, I will soon present to Parliament my priority policies to improve the quality of education for all and leave no one behind.

I am pleased to submit to this Honourable House the 2018 Annual Report of the Department of Education. I also acknowledge the untiring work of the Secretary, top Management and all staff of the Department in producing 2018 Annual Report on time.

Mr NICK KUMAN – (Gumine-Minister for Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology) – I move –

That the Parliament take note of the Paper.

Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker. Firstly, I want to pass my congratulations to the Member for Tari Pori Honourable James Marape who has been elected to the office of the Prime Minister in this country. At the same time, I also want to tribute to the former Prime Minister, the Honourable Peter O'Neill for are very strong leadership in the last eight years in managing Papua New Guinea.

Mr Acting Speaker, since the 2012 Elections, the O Neil Dion Government made a deliberation to introduce, what we all know as TFF. It is an investment that provides a vehicle for all our school-aged children in Papua New Guinea to enter our school system. Since then, we have seen an increased growth of students entering our school system into more than 11,400 institutions right through out Papua New Guinea.

Between that period to today, the Government has investment almost K3 billion in TFF alone. We have seen the enrolment a mere 900 hundred thousand students to today at 2.2 million students' right through out Papua New Guinea. At the same time we have seen a lot more the girls entering to our school systems and also we have seen the retention of students in our school systems have grown.

Mr Acting Speaker, in the last couple of weeks we have seen the polities at place, now we have a new Government. Under the leadership of Honourable James Marape, TFF commitment to Education to continues in remand the number one priority of Marape-Davis Government.

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This is a commitment to ensuring that every Papua New Guinean in this country has got the right to education, must enter the school system. And I want to thank the former Prime Minister for appointing me as the Education Minister and I served in that Ministry for over six years. And I have seen the growth of the department and also a lot of challenges with the policies that we had.

But those challenges are workable challenges that we can be able to turnaround, for the education system. The Prime Minister in his leadership and he has served as the Minister for Education for over many years as well. And his commitment to see that every citizen must be educated and that is the way to do business in this country today. God blessed this country

very well but all our extractive industries will not continue to remain on this earth after it is extracted. All you will have after all is extracted, will be a scar like Misima.

Mr Acting Speaker, like what we see in Panguna after the crisis, where else do we have to turn to. Our citizens must be educated well. This is a serious call and it is about quality education. What do we do as a government? There have been interventions since 2012 in education. Not only TFF but in other programs to ensure that we must achieve quality education. At the glimpse of the 2018 report, the reform started in 2014-2015-2016 and it continued to 2018.

The first priority that I undertook was to change the curriculum of the country. From Outcome Based to Standard Based Curriculum. OBC was introduced in 1999, it is prescribed for the parents of students to demand what sort of education they want that is where we started to have problems. With the standard based education, it is basically going back to basics that you and I and most of us here have been through. A lot of work has been done, the high school system where the curriculum has been developed, hopefully by the end of 2020 it will be fully implemented.

Secondly is the school structures, I do note that there were two questions raised by the Member for Markham and a supplementary question from the Governor for Chimbu on the 1:6:6 education system. The simple reason for this is to remove grade 1 and 2 away from the Elementary school system. When it was introduced and when the elementary completed their program and allowed their students to progress to grade three, these students were not able to read and write. And the language of instruction was vernacular language.

Mr Acting Speaker, and so what do we do? They were not prepared well so the only way that I could do it when I first entered the system. I said we needed change and start by changing the vernacular to the English language. The secretary at that time said it was ok, but what do we do after that? I think we need to migrate these group back to the Primary school. And allow the preparatory to remain at the elementary school.

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So that's where it is, Cabinet has made the policy decision and 166 is the way for the new system of Education, not the new system but the same system, we just bring it back to Primary School and allow everybody to speak English or taught English, that's the way it was done. It's basically the same thing that we have done or we've gone through many years all the way through the sixties, before the sixties and immediately after Independence.

Mr Acting Speaker, the third point want to make is the TFF. As I said, we invested over K3 billion in TFF alone and I'm pleased to also informed Parliament that since 2012 to 2016, we retired all Government commitments to TFF It was only in 2019 that the Government paid all the commitments except the K100 million. It was not paid to the school.

I'm pleased that the Marape-Davis Government continues to maintain the same program and this is a good program that will continue, but the challenge on the other side of education is this, when our children enter to tertiary institutions, the school fees are very high.

Having sat with the Prime Minister and going through my new role with program, we both agree that we should relook at how best we can be able to assist students entering tertiary institutions in this country. With management of TFF, Minister, there are problems. The over sight bodies in the provinces are not functional in terms of managing their schools in their provinces and the districts.

There are issues of accountability and transparency management in the TFF in the school system. I must emphasize that the leaders in Parliament have to take some ownership of the funds going through your schools in the districts and provinces.

Mr Acting Speaker, the fourth issue that I want to discuss is quality Education. What do we really talk about, when we talk about quality education? Quality Education is about teacher, and the materials taught and the resource available to our teachers in the classroom, and the number of teachers- student ratio.

First thing first, I want to remind all of us that in 2014, teacher enrolment to all our teachers college from primary school system were grade 10 students. That has been migrated to grade 12 and the GPA that was used at that time was 2.2 but now it has improved 2.4.

Certificate programs have been done away with and now we introduce diploma programs in teacher training program but there are teacher's colleges which are not sanctioned by Government. Many are located in this country with the aim of making profit.

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They are not accredited by the education system. Some of them are not following our curriculum system so many of them who graduate teachers find it hard to get them into our system. They cannot register them and they have to go through an enrichment course. Those enrichment courses cost a lot more money. I am sure that many of us leaders on the Floor of Parliament know what I am referring to. The Department has now tightened up the registration system.

Mr Acting Speaker, when I was the Minister for Education, I kept on pushing for the University of Goroka to re-look at the programs that they ran. To look at how best they can assist in training content orientated teachers. If a teacher specialises in maths, he or she must also have backgrounds in other fields as well. We train general teachers under the Bachelor of Education Program.

In 2017, for the first time in this country, we had a Bachelor of Education in Science and a Bachelor of Education in Maths being offered in Channel College in Kokopo. It is a Catholic-run institution and they graduated about 35 students. This program is still continuing. This are areas where we can contribute to quality education in this country.

Mr Acting Speaker, I want to ask a simple question to the University of Goroka. When that university was created, it was meant to graduate diploma holders to teach in high schools. But when our four national high schools were opened, what happened to the university? Only the Australians, Canadians and British people came to be teachers in those national high schools. Over time our graduates who came out later took over when those expatriates left and today we have secondary schools in our provinces. The teachers who are teaching there are graduates of the University of Goroka.

I know you have autonomy under an Act of Parliament but why do you have to migrate from teacher training to other programs. Why can't you specialise in one program alone? In education we have 60 thousand teachers in this country. You will need to produce a lot more teachers in this country. The challenge is there with 40 to 50 students per teacher and this is a big challenge that we have in this country. I am now the Minister for Higher Education therefore the University of Goroka is now under my ministry. You will have to make changes and I will fix it.

Mr Acting Speaker, my final comment. A lot of provinces or our agencies and churches in the province are continuously collecting project fees and other form of fees on top of the TFF that the Government pays.

26/06

Why do you impose project fees and uniform fees? The over sight body in the provinces are not doing your job. You can't allow the Department of Education to continuously micromanage what goes on in the province. The provinces are responsible for education. These are decentralised functions. Please take responsibility and provide the

leadership. You align yourself with national government policies on education in health, and every other sector.

Why are you continuously asking for more powers when you are not going to look after those basic things that matter the most in your province.

My second point is, we politicians have a habit especially during general elections. I know that a lot of teachers who are involved in the general election. Let's not do favours. Teachers must be appointed on merit in all their position in your respective provinces including at the national level. This *wantok* system removing of provincial education advisors and appointing new people, some provinces have three or four provincial education advisors.

We don't know which the right one is. Don't appoint all your cronies to become principals and headmasters in the schools. Some of them are on the streets in your town. Don't forget, they are on the payroll. They are paid officers in this country. They are required to be in the classroom. We need to get these things right.

I want to support the Minister. These are small contributions. You are an educationist by profession and you know what to do. I'm pretty sure that the good work that we have done in the last six years is in your capable hands and you will deliver quality education to the young people in our country. Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker.

Mr KERENGA KUA (Sinasina-Yongomugl – Minister for Petroleum) – Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker. I want to say a few things in relation to this important report and debate which is ensuing, I think it is a very comprehensive report and it very simple and straight to the point. We were able to understand and follow it very clearly. And also I am sure that parents right throughout Papua New Guinea who have an interest in this very important matter will also understands and perhaps this statement be also be published so that important stakeholders out there are able to understand what's going on in this very important Department.

I also thanked the former Minister who has now migrated upwards to Higher education for the work that he is done in that Department of Education prior to moving on to another related department and carrying on in the same area.

A lot of good things have been done Mr Acting Speaker, but also there were two fundamental areas which were also marked up in education in Papua New Guinea and its resonating throughout time now and we are beginning to feel the effects of it.

The first area is in the structure of education, the lower education. The initial structure was 166 that produce very good results and most of the senior people in this Chamber and right across the country came out of the structure 166. For some reason along the way, an important decision was made in 1991 to change from 166 to 362.

Mr Acting Speaker, I saw a lot of confusion in the implementation of that particular decision all the way up from 2012, 2013, 2014 when I became a Member of Parliament. This is because after years of having changed from 166 to 362, people were still operating a mixture of both in the districts and in the provinces and causing so much confusion.

So when we as open members came in and were invited to play a role in promoting lower education in our respective districts, we found ourselves in a state of confusion and disarray.

27/06

It took too long to realise the confusion that was been created and the adverse consequences that were coming out of it, to finally come to the point that the restructure was not working and I am so glad now that we have finally realised that we have been causing more damage than good by reverting back to the original 1-6-6 Position.

The second problem that was introduced into Education was in the content, initially along with 1-6-6 structure we had standard based education and there was no problem with it. Somewhere along the way some people came and misled the entire hierarchy of the department of Education and Department of Higher Education and they reformed it to outcome based education, simply because they probably saw it in the movies that America was doing it then as usual Australia followed and so we thought Papua New Guinea should follow without Independently evaluating it and satisfying ourselves that OBE is a good thing for Papua New Guinea. It was not long before America realised it was a mistake and as soon as America came to the conclusion, Australia then followed and they all changed, but who is stuck with it, poor old Papua New Guinea stuck with OBE up until 2019 now, it has taken us too long to wake up to the damage we were causing.

Mr Acting Speaker, before I came into Parliament, I owned a little law firm and we used to employ Lawyers, young Lawyers graduating from University of Papua New Guinea, some of them marched into my office for an interview but they could not speak to me in straight English. Mr Acting Speaker, that is what I saw, their letter were full of grammatical errors, spelling errors, etc. and that was their final letter and they sign it off and takes off,

learn from my office and of course those students didn't make it to the short list, others got the letter right, they made it in for an interview but they could not communicate properly, that is what we will see in the employment sector and especially the profession that I was involved in, we were not in quality at all because quality was destroyed in these OBE system.

So now and again we have done another full cycle, we finally learned that everybody else who's tried it, experimented with it have discarded it. Finally Papua New Guinea has woken up well lets remain in this wake up position, let us go back to that standard based education system and stay there and now that we got the structure and the content right, I want to ask the two Ministers to please make sure that these systems, both in structure and in content stays like this for next 50 or 60 years. Let us not meddle with the Department of Education in its structure and in its content, especially in those two areas again, let us stay with that.

Another important point that the Minister for Higher Education has picked up is about UOG, students/teachers demand is increasing, demand for teachers is increasing so much and yet the only institution that is dedicated to train teachers is now going into every other fields and feeling up space, space in that institution with so many other different courses Agriculture, Medicine and you name it but where will we get our teachers.

I am glad the Minister for Higher Education said he will fix it, it is a very important point and I want him to fix it and dedicate the University of Goroka solely to the training of teachers at both the lower and upper level because the population is growing, young people are growing, number of students intakes are growing we need to supply the teachers to reduce the teacher/student ratio down to manageable level of 1:35 student maximum no more, right now we are having situations in the classrooms throughout the country were one teacher is teaching more than 35. How can he manage that, how can he set assignments, how can he mark tests, how can he set assignments and mark it properly, give good attention to it and correct assignments which are wrong and give quality time to each students? He cannot do that. Too many students, too much noise in the room, they are not concentrating, they are just clocking time and not absorbing anything. So that institution needs a reform and be refocused back to the core purpose for which is was set up in the very first place.

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Mr Acting Speaker, my final point would be on Polytech. I don't know what the Government's policy is, but I assume it is one Polytech for each province.

In Chimbu, the PEC decided that they would place it in my district but I am not sure whether it is the responsibility of Minister for Education or the Minister for Higher Education. Despite the confusion, work is progressing in the Minister for Higher Education's District in South of Chimbu which is too far away from the highway and very difficult to manage.

I am asking the two Ministers to cooperate and let's bring it to the highway where it will be manageable going into the future. The site that we are providing in my district is right along the Okuk Highway and it has Yonki Power Supply running right through that plot of land and its ready and available. Let's focus on developing that one so that in the future it becomes easy to manage. This is because Polytech Colleges are national institutions and not provincial institutions. They will be available for intake for students from all over the country.

When we have institutions in remote districts the management is very difficult. I experienced this when we set up high schools in very remote areas in my district. The management was very difficult. We don't get good quality teachers, only the ones who couldn't make it elsewhere were dumped in the remotest parts of our district. Transportation is very hard for both students and supplies. All these things lead to compromising the important issue of standards, quality and output. So where there is a good sight offered right near the national highway with water and power supply. If the two Ministers can cooperate with me, I want to set it up in my district rather than in the Minister for Higher Education's district. I hope he will cooperate with me. Thank you.

Mr SASINDRAN MUTHUVEL (West New Britain -Minister for State Enterprises) – Mr Speaker, I join my other colleagues to offer my congratulations to the Prime Minister and his Government. I also sincerely thank the Prime Minister for appointing and giving recognition to the people of West New Britain in offering me this challenging portfolio.

Mr Acting Speaker, I thank the Minister for Education for a very comprehensive Report of 2018 on Education and also all the reforms on education by the former Education Minister and the incumbent.

I also extend my gratitude to the former Prime Minister Mr Peter O'Neill for introducing the TFF when everyone was talking down on but he bravely took up the challenge and introduced it. This has translated into a lot more students given opportunities in education.

Mr Acting Speaker, education is important in any society or any country. The collapse of education is the collapse of a nation.

Mr Acting Speaker, a professor once said, in collapsing any nation, “you don’t require the use of atomic bombs or any long range missile. It simply requires the lowering the standard of education and allowing cheating in the examinations by children” which our Honourable Minister has covered in his counter measures.

Mr Acting Speaker, the patients die in the hands of such doctors, the building collapses in the hands of such engineers and the money is lost in the hands of such accountants, and humanity dies in the hands of such religious colours and justice is lost in the hands of such judges.

Mr Acting Speaker, when a Russian leader was asked about his three top priorities, he said; first education, second education and third education. I do believe in his conviction that education is the only key which can bring development.

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Mr Acting Speaker, we can go on and build infrastructure after infrastructure but if we don’t give quality education, which will bring the attitude change for our people, then all this infrastructure is of no meaning.

Mr Acting Speaker, whilst I have the floor there are many other points I want to stress but I feel it is extremely important to mention this small story within my time frame. It’s about the importance of attitude change.

Mr Acting Speaker, this story is about a little child and his father. All of us fathers normally keep ourselves busy with work and after work we go home and continue with our busyness by wanting to watch TV or reading newspapers.

(Laughter in the Chamber)

Mr SASINDRAN MUTHUVEL – So when the father went home and kept himself busy by reading newspaper. When he was still reading, his child approached him and asked him to come and play with him. So the father intentionally tried to avoid the child by continuing with his newspaper reading. And then he came across a picture of a globe, and you all know what it is.

It was an advertisement of a courier company like DHL or TNT and it showed which places they had their branches located so they can deliver letters or parcels.

So immediately the father got an idea out from it and he decided to cut the picture of the globe into pieces like zig saw puzzle pieces. Then he gave it to his child and told him to join this picture again. And he said, once you complete joining it then I will come and play with you.

And so the kid got the pieces and started joining it and the father was surprised to see that the kid completed it within two minutes and brought it back.

The father was really surprised because it takes time for us adults to do such fun games. So the father asked his child how he managed to complete it within short time. Then the child got up and said, father I don't know the picture of the globe and even where Australia is located on it or America for that matter. But I only know that when you cut the picture of this globe, I saw one face of a man at the back of this picture. I don't know where Australia or America is located but I know where the nose, eyes and ears will be so when I put these parts of this human face together then the globe was formed.

Mr Acting Speaker, my point is if we can fix the people than we can fix the country. That's why it's extremely important that while it's important for our infrastructure but more importantly to bring this attitude change in our children. And that's only possible through education. I appreciate the honourable Minister and the former minister for giving emphasise for bringing this model education or Bible Stories, irrespective of any religion as long as we can teach our children all the model stories at their ages.

If you cannot bend them at five years old than you cannot bend them when they are fifty years old. If we hesitate to punish our children than someone else will punish our children. I am sure from the old school we all have been physically punished for not doing homework and all these practices are not practiced any more today.

But we are also seeing the increased change of lower quality of education and the children are not able to behave even in terms of discipline. If the parents and teachers cannot disciple then the police will discipline them. And we don't want our children to be disciplined by police.

With that I thank the Minister for giving that importance for moral education. It's extremely important at least weekly they can assigned one period to teach moral education so that they can all learn and grow up listening to all those moral education.

And another thing which is extremely important, Mr Acting Speaker, is to really consider introducing this financial literacy in our education program. Irrespective of whatever grades it's always been a norm not to talk about money all the time. We consider money as the root cause of evil and money is bad and that's how we teach our children. But instead money is not the root cause of evil.

Mr Acting Speaker, having not enough money is the root cause of evil. So it's extremely important to teach our children not only just to learn to get a job but also learn how to do business and understand numbers.

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So introducing financial literacy is one important step in helping our education programs. I note that the Minister is supporting the scout programs, which will help our bring discipline to students and involve them in various social services within our country.

Mr Acting Speaker, in the society where I came from, teachers are some of the most important persons in the society. I appreciate when Sir Julias Chan says, the house of the headmaster should be even bigger than the Governor's house.

In our custom, Mr Acting Speaker. We respect our mothers as the number one person in our lives and the second is our fathers. The third person is our teachers and the fourth is God. Without our parents, we won't be here. Without teachers –

(Members interjecting)

Mr SASINDRAN MUTHUVEL – Of course, God comes first, but who will introduce God and teach us about God? Who will make us realise about God? It is only the Teachers, we call them Guru in our language in India, but the teacher who gives that knowledge, is the one who can help us acquire that knowledge to even understand God. That is why the mother comes first, the father comes second, the teachers comes third then God comes fourth.

And to destroy any civilisation, you destroy these three things, you will destroy that nation.

Firstly, you destroy the pride of a mother or you destroy the mothers and the country by de-valuing them, by insulting them, by not respecting them in the community, then the mother feels down, then that society is bound to be destroyed.

And if you destroy education by not looking after the teachers or by not looking after the educational institutions, then you can also destroy that nation. By continuously lowering the role models of that country. Role models in the sense, it could political leaders or church leaders. We have a character of continuously talking them down, lowering the role models.

So you imagine if there is no dedicated mother in the society, when there is no hard working teacher in the society, when there are no leaders in the society, then who else is going to teach value to our children.

So Mr Acting Speaker, I conclude that it is extremely important, that we give importance to teachers and I would even support the Minister to increase the teachers' pay. And give them the conducive environment in respect of all this Tuition Free Fee. Our current Prime Minister is constantly compelling about quality education which is not going to be easy. Even just to build one classroom it costs you K200,000.

In just West New Britain alone, we have more than 534 elementary schools. We have about 174 four primary Schools. We have 10 high Schools and three secondary schools. So it is not going to be an easy task. It will be a challenge, but with the help of the society, parents and everyone put together, we can build a conducive environment. But right now, more than 50 per cent of our schools do not have conducive environment.

In most of our schools children are still sitting on the floor and learning without much learning materials available. Teachers are teaching in very hard remote areas. We should even give the teachers some kind of inconvenience allowances, especially working in those kind of remote areas like Kandrian, or any similar remote districts were teachers are willing to work. And most of this teachers leave their respective provinces to go and teach in those places.

Mr Acting Speaker, these are some of my contributions to this debate. Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker.

Mr RICHARD MARU (Yangoru-Saussia – Minister for National Planning and Monitoring) – Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker. I would like to bring a different angle to this very important debate in Parliament today.

At the moment we have 30,000 students in our school system leaving grade12, and only 7000 are able to find spaces in universities and colleges. And you are talking about 23,000 going into the streets. It is a very big number. Not only that, our country does not have the employment opportunities for our young people leaving the school system.

So I think one discussion we missing in all of this is, who are we educating these children for, in terms of the employment market of the future? Where are they going to be employed? Because Papua New Guinea will never have the absorption capacity to employ our young people. The numbers are increasing, you have just seen the figures today. We have increase enrolment of over 100 per cent because of Tuition Free Fee policy.

So the issue for me will be, producing educated young people who are skilled and able to work anywhere in the global community.

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That is really the issue. Look at Australia, education there is big business. People from all over the world are going there to be trained because they have a world class standard of education, it is recognised.

Recently, I was in India and I have noticed, Americans are now coming to school in India; firstly because they are of a world class and their fees are cheaper. So one question that I would like to raise with the new Education Minister and also the Higher Education Minister today is; what benchmark are we looking at in terms of the quality of education that we are talking about?

Recently, I was up at the University of Goroka where I met up with students from my electorate and they told me all their lecturers are degree holders. And the students that they teach have higher IQs than the lecturers themselves. These are degree qualified lecturers trying to teach students to attain degree qualifications. How does a degree holder who does not possess the same IQ as the student teach them? What quality outcome are we going to get, when they leave the universities and go out.

Mr Acting Speaker, I am happy that the Education Minister has made a very bold statement today. That he is going to bring a paper back to address the issue of quality. I think that is a very important statement. We need to take the Education Minister and his department to task, they have done a good job so far but I think the next biggest issue is, what is the quality that we are aspiring for in this country? Which market are we going to have our young people employed in, into the future? Are producing PNG standards for PNG market or are we going to produce students who are going to work in the global market because they are just as smart and good as Australia.

Even in Philippines, all the courses and institutions train students for the world market. They are the best in the world now. So the question is, what is the quality we are targeting in

our education system? We are now printing new syllabus and booklets. Are educating for PNG or for the world market? This is a very important discussion that Parliament needs to have right now. What are we targeting in terms of quality and where they are going to go?

Mr Acting Speake, I want to also make an important statement that in Australia and India, no-one teaches at a primary school unless you have a degree. Not diploma that we have in this country. In high schools, one must be qualified to a Masters level to teach there. That is the world standard now. I would like to propose to the two ministers, that there must be a cut-off somewhere. For example, in the next five years, if you do not have a degree you can't teach in the primary school. And if you do not have a Masters you won't teach at the high school level. There has to be a cut-off point now if we have to compete with the rest of the world. Our teachers must have the same quality of education. It will come at a cost but we must agree to make sure there is a cut-off and compel the system.

Why are we allowing medical programs and accounting programs in Goroka University. We are sitting here and allowing them to do whatever they want. They should be focused on bring professors and teaching Masters Programs up in Goroka, not doing what they want. The time has come. Let us set the standard on teacher quality, if we are going to compete with the rest of the world. That is the only way we can produce better citizens who can work in the global market. Because our country does not have the absorption capacity for our young people, and this is a serious issue.

If we get our quality right, we will have Australians coming to our institutions, because it is very expensive to go to school in Australia. That is the challenge of the future.

Motion – That the question be now put-agreed to.

Motion – That the Parliament take note of the Paper- agreed to.

Paper Noted.

2020 NATIONAL CENSUS PREPARATION FOR PAPUA NEW GUINEA
MINISTERIAL STATEMENT –
MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER

Mr RICHARD MARU (Yangoru-Sausia- Minister for National planning and Monitoring) – Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker, I rise to update Parliament on a decision by our Government to proceed with the National Census next year.

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Mr Acting Speaker, as the Minister responsible the National Statistics office that is mandated to carry out the Fifth National Population and Housing Census in 2020, I rise to advise Parliament that the National Executive Council in its special meeting of No.7 of 2019, has set Sunday, 12 July 2020 as the Census Night. The population and housing census is the biggest peace time operation that is conducted in every country every ten years.

In terms of coverage, it is far bigger operation that the National Elections and is a key determinant in planning and efficient management of social and economic affairs of our country and in any around the word.

Mr Acting Speaker, since 1980, four censuses have been taken, the 1980, 1990, 2000 and the last being the 2011 census. During the past 10 years, a lot has change in social economic and demographic landscape of our country.

Our country cannot rely on the statistics from the past, but must be on par with the current population and housing statistics to enable the Government to make informed decisions that are evidence-based. This is what the census is all about.

Our planning and distribution of the service delivery of the last 10 years have been challenging because of the changing social economic and demographic factors.

Mr Acting Speaker, our last census reported 7.1 million as the population of our country but the population many believed is much higher and is constantly over time. The Census 2020 is the avenue to help us established concrete statistics for the country. The population moving forward for the next 10 years.

Census taking is not an easy task but it's worth undertaking for effective planning and equitable distributions of essential services to every Papua New Guinean. Our responsibility as a Government from both sides of the House is to provide the utmost support to ensure that

the Census 2020 is a success. The Census 2020 will be the basis to which we will formulate and implement our development policies and priorities.

Our development partners, private sectors and other key stake holders will also rely on this statistic to support the country's development aspirations going forward.

Mr Acting Speaker, the National Statistics under my Ministry will be fully undertaking Census 2020 operation which will involve a whole Government approach.

This includes the setting up of the National Census steering committee and various sub-committees comprising of key and relevant department line agencies, development partners and the private sector. Similar approaches will also be applied at the provincial level to oversee and have the provinces, districts, LLG, wards, villages and every citizen taking ownership of this process. A key consideration is to improve this census from the last census by having in place the essential systems, technical and financial support effectively roll-out the census process across the country.

Mr Acting Speaker, my ministry is also supporting the National Statistics office to engage a census head as technical advisor to head the process presented by the United Nation Population Fund or by the UNFPA. The UNFPA has vast experiences in implementation of National Census around the world and will provide technical support to ensuring data collection processes and dissemination is based on international set procedures and standards. The over sight of the national census office will be managed by the National Census steering committee with four sub committees at the national level. These are the advisory committee's logistics, security, finance, procumbent and the publicity committee. At the provincial level, the provincial steering committee lead by each of the administrators will be supported by membership from the districts and the LLGs.

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The administration of the census will be managed through the political and administrative structure of each province, comprising of the district, local level government and ward level government and administration. The Census 2020 rollout given its magnitude from across the country to the last remote household and person, will be an enormous task. This census will be divided into two major operations with many supporting activities to prepare and refine the collection and processing of data. The two major operations include:

- 1) Household Listing and
- 2) Census Enumeration.

Household Listing consists of mapping and listing of basic information on households and individuals that will form the Provincial Data System. The Provincial Data System is a system for collecting, storing and using social and economic data about the population at the provincial level. Its main objective is to formulate workload for each census worker and a full coverage check for the census. The Census Enumeration will involve actual collection of data administered by trained interviewers utilizing key components of the Provincial Data System.

The output from these operations will assist other government line agencies in:

(1) Establishing a provincial and LLG database system in line with *section 106* of the *Organic Law*. This will provide the baseline data at the ward and village level also enabling the NID Office to register eligible citizens.

(2) Supporting the Electoral Commission for election processes. This will systematically identify eligible citizens and reduce cost involved. If successfully implemented, it will eliminate cost of common roll update hence saving the government millions of kina.

(3) From the basis for workload formation and control for the census enumeration to ease the collection of quality demographic, social and economic data for each household and person across the country within 3-5 days in July 2020.

Mr Acting Speaker, The Census Listing and Enumeration will be supported by other key actions which include; Census Unit registration, Map Update, Pilot-testing, Post Enumeration Surveys, Data Processing and Data Dissemination.

The National Statistical Office will be utilizing appropriate technologies such as drone in mapping and use of tablets in the enumeration exercise. This will enable efficiency, accuracy and timeliness in processing and release of census results. The use of this technology in this census is in line with international best practices.

Media publicity and awareness will also be an integral component to raise more public awareness and encourage full public's participation in the Census 2020 process. The Census 2020 preparations have begun this year and will reach the peak period in 2020 and the operations will come to close in 2022.

In 2019, the National Statistical Office has established a census office within the National Statistical Office for the conduct of census. The offices has also facilitated the appointment of the Provincial Census Coordinators with the provincial administrations.

Testing and finalization of field instruments and the listing operations will also be carried out in 2019.

A huge operation in 2019 will be the census listing operation in preparation for the actual enumeration in 2020. This will also involve a huge effort in resources mobilization such as listing materials and supplies procured and freighted. From the listing, workload formation will be created for close to forty thousand supervisors and enumerators across the country.

In 2020, the actual enumeration will take place. The office will have field census materials and supplies procured and freighted, recruitment and training of census enumerators done, security engaged, and actual population count is administered.

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Mr Acting Speaker, in 2021, the data processing will continue until the end of second-quarter of 2021. Final figures will be released by the second-quarter of 2021 and a data analysis reports for both national and provincial levels will be completed in the last quarters of 2021.

By the first-quarter of 2022, we will have the Census reports published and evaluation of the census operation will be conducted with final report produced.

Mr Acting Speaker, on the financial support, these efforts certainly require a substantial budget from the government and other partners to ensure its success.

The projected implementation cost for Census 2020 now stands at K200 million which will be expanded from 2019-2022 to sufficiently cover all operational costs under this project. This funding requires the support of this Government including key development partners.

Mr Acting Speaker, further to that, preparations of the Census 2020 had started, and we are set to officially launch the 2020 National Population and Housing Census on 13 July 2019 by the Prime Minister.

The launching will be an important occasion to inform the people across the country that the commencement of the Census 2020 process has begun.

To end, let us work together with our respective provincial governments and districts administrations to support the Census 2020 with existing administrative and logistic contributions to establish reliable statistics that will enable us to make strategic decisions for the people we are serving. Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker.

Motion (by **Mr Rainbo Paita**) agreed to –

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

Debate adjourned

MOTION BY LEAVE

Mr RAINBO PAITA (Finschaffen – Minister for Communication and Energy) – I ask leave of Parliament to move a motion without notice

Leave granted.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS – REARRANGEMENT OF BUSINESS

Motion (by **Mr Rainbo Paita**) agreed to –

That so much of the *Standing Orders* be suspended as would prevent me from moving a series of motions relating to the appointment of Assistant Speakers and discharge of Chairman and members and appointment of Chairman and Deputy Chairman and Members of the Bipartisan Committee on Bougainville Matters.

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT SPEAKERS

Motion (by **Mr Rainbo Paita**) agreed to –

That in accordance with *Standing Order 14* the following Members be appointed Assistant Speakers
1.) Honourable Henry Ame, 2.) Honourable Salio Waipo.

**BIPARTISAN COMMITTEE ON BOUGAINVILLE MATTERS –
DISCHARGE AND APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN AND
MEMBER**

Motion (by **Mr Raibo Paita**) agreed to –

That in accordance with the resolution of 5 December 2017

a) Honourable William Powi Chairman, Honourable Joe Lera Deputy Chairman, Honourable Isi Henry Leonard be discharge from the Bipartisan Committee on Bougainville Matters; and

b) That Honourable Joe Lera Chairman, Honourable Isi Henry Leonard Deputy Chairman and Honourable Dr Allan Marat be appointed as members of the Bipartisan Committee on Bougainville Matters

ADJOURNMENT

Motion (by **Mr Raibo Paita**) agreed to –

That the Parliament do now adjourn

The Parliament adjournment at 1.35 p.m.