




Speech By
Hon. Curtis Pitt

MEMBER FOR MULGRAVE

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PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Palaszcuk Labor Government, Achievements

 **Hon. CW PITT** (Mulgrave—ALP) (Treasurer, Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Minister for Sport) (10.21 am): I knew that the member for Indooroopilly could not add up, but I did not realise that he could not read as well. That report says that it is good news for Queensland. As I outlined this morning, Queensland's economy is strong. We have the fastest growth in the nation. The Leader of the Opposition and his frontbenchers would have to be the laziest opposition that we have ever seen in this House. Last week, I challenged the member for Indooroopilly to come up with some bad news in the good news. Like a \$2 wind-up toy from the Reject Shop, he has not disappointed. We know that the shadow Treasurer is very fond of running down Queensland's economy. We know that that is in his DNA—it is in the DNA of all of those members opposite. According to the member for Indooroopilly, the 3.2 per cent growth that we achieved in 2015-16 is not good enough, because it is below our previous budget forecast. He accused me of inaction and not having a plan.

As members of this House know, the Queensland Treasury provides very important growth updates and forecasts. They are forecasts based on the best evidence available at the time. What was the forecast for the 2015-16 year under the second budget of the member for Clayfield? He said that the economy in Queensland would grow by six per cent in 2015-16. I recognise that Queensland Treasury was basing that figure on information available. However, mature economic minds understand that forecasts are not set in stone; they are forecasts.

We can follow the line of attack of the member for Indooroopilly. What was he thinking about the 0.8 per cent GSP result in 2014-15 under the bloke sitting next to him, the member for Clayfield? Our growth rate is four times—3.2 per cent—that growth rate, which was the best effort of the LNP under its last year in office. For the record, when the now opposition leader was treasurer, that 0.8 per cent was the result for 2014-15. The MYFER predicted that the growth rate would be 2.5 per cent. The opposition was not able to achieve essentially one-third of its forecast in the last MYFER in its last term in office. That figure of 2.5 per cent was revised down to 0.8 per cent. Yet the member for Indooroopilly has the gall to come into this place and complain about our growth rate being revised down to a result that was four times better than what the LNP could do when it was in government.

I have to tell members that it is very concerning that the member for Indooroopilly comes in here and attacks this government on these figures. The members opposite should be ashamed of their record. We know that they are continually cherrypicking figures. We are continuing to be positive about the economy. The members continue to bring doom and gloom. They cut, we build. They sack, we save. We on this side of the House believe in jobs. We believe in talking up the Queensland economy. As Deloitte has pointed out continually, we believe that the Queensland economy has 'sweet fundamentals'. That is what sets us apart from all the other states and that is what sets us apart from those opposite.