show a swing increase in those entering on business trips - a total of 63,632 - followed closely by those on holidays registering 25,706 visitors.

TPA recorded 49,426 visitors last year.

There was a generally marked increase in visitors to all main areas visited this year.

The data, however, is yet to include statistics from other entry ports.

The numbers swelled in 2005 with an overall increase of 10,000 visitors to a total of 69,251.

Last year, a total of 77,557 visitors arrived with the biggest group being those entering on business visas with 26,526 staying in NCD and 3,557 going to Morobe.

**Politicians should be legislators: Bart**

POLITICIANS in PNG are dishing out handouts and have become project managers in their electorate instead of being just legislators, Deputy Opposition leader Bart Philenem said.

The outspoken Lae MP was speaking during the Centre for Democratic (CDI) dialogue of Pacific parliamentarians in Goroka, Eastern Highlands, last week.

“Politicians have now changed from being just legislators to implementers. Politicians are becoming project managers of their own electorate,” Mr Philenem said.

He said politicians were entertaining requests from their people in fear of jeopardising their political careers.

“This has undermined their credibility and leadership.”

Mr Philenem said the Organic Law on Provincial and Local Level Government enabled the MPs to be governors in their respective provinces and the Open MP to be the chairman of their respective district’s Joint District Planning and Budget Priority Committee.

“This reflects the fact that PNG is plagued with the so-called ‘big man culture’, where a leader in a traditional setting has the ability, capacity and resources to look after his people,” Mr Philenem said.

He said politicians had taken advantage of this mindset of the people to lure them for votes.

The CDI dialogue was attended by representatives of Autonomous Bougainville Government, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Timor Leste, PNG, Australia and New Zealand.

**Sumkar MP outlines safe**

MEMBER for Sumkar Ken Fairweather has outlined the measures he is taking to prepare his people in the event of an eruption.

Mr Fairweather said that the measures he was taking were designed to prepare the community if there was an eruption as the volcano was “heating up everyday”.

“It is important that the community be aware as volcanic experts in Rabaul have stressed that the position needs to be watched carefully, but that there is no cause for panic” he said in a statement.

Mr Fairweather said foot patrols were being