

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION  
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2006-2007 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING  
2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2006  
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplaces**

**Output Group 2.2: Workplace relations implementation**

**Output 2.2.3: Workplace relations services**

**Question Number: W764-07**

**Question:**

Senator Wong asked in writing:

SEESA (Ansett Entitlements Scheme)

How much has the government recovered through the Ansett ticket levy and other revenue raising means in response to the Ansett collapse?

**Answer:**

Refer to the answer to Question on Notice No. 3617, tabled in the House of Representatives on 10 October 2006 for the sum of the Air Passenger Ticket Levy (attached).

No further revenue raising means have been initiated in response to the Ansett administration.

**Estimated cost:** Based on the FOI calculator it has taken approximately 2 hours at an estimated cost of \$40 to prepare this answer.

- (5) This will be determined on audit of a prior year's income tax return.  
 (6) Not applicable.

**Ansett Australia: Employee Entitlements**

(Question No. 3617)

Mr Georganas asked the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, in writing, on 13 June 2006:

- (1) What sum has been collected under the Ansett Levy.  
 (2) Of the sum referred to in part (1), (a) what sum has been paid to former Ansett employees as payment of, or compensation for, lost or suspended entitlements; (b) what sum is yet to be paid to former Ansett employees as payment of, or compensation for, lost or suspended entitlements, and (c) what percentage of the sum has been paid to former Ansett employees.  
 (3) Of the sum of lost or suspended entitlements owing to former Ansett employees, what percentage has been paid.

Mr Truss—The answer to the honourable member's question is as follows:

- (1) \$286,391,000. The levy commenced on 1 October 2001 and ceased on 30 June 2003.  
 (2) Refer to the attached press release from the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, the Hon Kevin Andrews MP.  
 (3) Refer to the attached press release from the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, the Hon Kevin Andrews MP.

The Hon Kevin Andrews MP Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations  
 Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service

**MEDIA RELEASE**

Friday 1 September 2006

KA222/06

**GOVERNMENT WELCOMES FURTHER PAYMENT TO FORMER ANSETT EMPLOYEES**

The Australian Government welcomes the announcement by the Ansett Administrators, KordaMentha, of a further dividend payment to former Ansett employees.

With this dividend, former Ansett employees will have received a total of \$650.5 million in entitlement payments, of which \$382.9 million was advanced by the Australian Government under its Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett group employees (SEESA).

Under SEESA, all terminated Ansett employees have received 100% of their outstanding wages, annual leave, long service leave, pay in lieu of notice and up to eight weeks redundancy pay.

Despite recent reports in the press to the contrary, the Government has not 'profited' from the Ansett collapse.

If the Government had not stepped in to assist the ex-Ansett employees from the outset, they would have received no money until December 2003 when the Administrators made their first distribution.

The Ansett ticket levy was set up to meet the costs of payments and not pay the entitlements directly as has been claimed. Any surplus from the ticket levy will be used for the benefit of aviation and the tourism sector, including a commitment to improve security for regional airports. The amount of surplus is yet to be determined but is nowhere near the \$200 million that has been reported.

Any distribution by the Administrators reflects the legal obligation of the Administrator to distribute funds in accordance with s556 of the Corporations Act. The Government will not be fully repaid by the

**QUESTIONS IN WRITING**