

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates Hearing 21-24 May 2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** 1.1.2 National Security and International Policy

**Topic:** Sri Lankan High Commissioner to Australia - recall of High Commissioner to Switzerland

**Senator:** Senator Rhiannon

**Question reference number:** 25

**Type of Question:** FPA P6, 22 May 2012

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 6 July 2012

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator RHIANNON: Thank you. Has the Prime Minister been made aware that both Germany and Switzerland have had their Sri Lankan High Commissioner Jugath Dias recalled after the Swiss government contacted the Sri Lankan government regarding accusations that General Dias ordered troops of the 57th Division, which he commanded, to fire on civilian and hospital targets during the army's final defensive against the separatist Tamils in 2009? Has she been made aware of this development.

Ms Tsirbas: Again, I will take that on notice.

**Answer:**

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has not provided briefing on this matter to the Prime Minister.