

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(42) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry

Senator Carr (L&C 52) asked:

On how many occasions have you found there to be fraud in regard to applications for 457 visas from the Beijing post?

Answer:

In 2005-06 the Department received some 6,375 Subclass 457 applications made by Peoples Republic of China nationals. The Department undertakes caseload profiling to monitor fraud levels in particular locations. Based on these profiles and decision maker discretion 900 applicants were referred to the Beijing Post for checking. Of these some 200 returned findings of fraud related activity. This included documents and/or claims made in the application that were found to be counterfeit, non-genuine or of serious concern in which there were characteristics of fraudulent activity.