

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0194) PROGRAM – 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash (L&CA 115) asked:

Senator CASH: How many IMAs have arrived from Sri Lanka in the calendar year 2013?

Mr Bowles: There were very few in the early months but there has been a bit of a spike in the last couple of months—in the hundreds as opposed to anything like we saw in the past. We can take the exact number on notice. Once we saw things starting to move we wanted to make sure we had that dialogue with Sri Lanka.

Answer:

According to DIAC systems data as at COB 28 May 2013, there have been 1302 Sri Lankan arrivals in the 2013 calendar year (figures include SIEV 720 which arrived 29 May 2013 but was intercepted on the 26 of May 2013).