

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE13/0195) PROGRAM –

Senator Cash (L&CA 115) asked:

Senator CASH: How does our acceptance rate of Sri Lankan IMAs claiming protection compare internationally?

Mr Bowles: We will have to take that on notice specifically but my understanding, from some of the research I have done in the past, is that it has varied but it has always been about the same as the internationals. The last time I saw our primary decision rates on Sri Lankans for this financial year they were very low. I do not have a further update on the broader data through merits and the like. We can take it on notice and see where that is all up to. There has been quite a change in acceptance rates, again based on changing country information. That will move up and down depending on what we know and what are the claims, obviously.

Answer:

Annual and quarterly figures for Protection visa grant and refusal rates for IMAs and non-IMAs at primary and review stages are published on the DIAC website at:

www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/statistics/asylum/

http://www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/statistics/asylum/_files/asylum-trends-aus-annual-2011-12.pdf

Refugee approval rates for countries other than Australia can be found at:

<http://www.unhcr.org/51628f589.html>

Refugee approval rates are not directly comparable across countries as the claimants' ethnicity and type of claims presented, the manner of accessing them, and the type of status granted or denied all vary considerably from place to place.