

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(41) Output 1.2: Refugee and Humanitarian Entry and Stay

Senator Kirk asked:

- (a) How many Afghan refugees were verified by the Afghan ID checking unit?
- (b) How many of these people were then sent to Pakistan?

Answer:

- (a) The Embassy of Afghanistan has advised that, from February 2004 to 20 June 2005, 103 people in Australia and Nauru have been verified as Afghan nationals by the Afghan Government (3 requests were pending).
- (b) At this stage, no persons identified to Australia as Afghan nationals by the Afghan Government have been removed to Pakistan.