

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 30 October 2006**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**

##### **(241) Output 2.1: Settlement Services**

Senator Hurley asked:

On 25 September 2006, the government announced the introduction of an online interpreter's course.

1. When will it be launched?
2. How much is it costing?
3. Will languages from Burma be included in this scheme?

*Answer:*

1. The National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) online interpreter's course was officially launched on 25 September 2006, having been available from mid July 2006.
2. The Government contributed \$62,000 towards the development of the course. The cost of the course for applicants is \$100. During 2006-07 the course will be free of charge for applicants who speak a new and emerging African language.
3. The course is not language specific. It is designed for people who wish to become an interpreter or who are already in the profession but who need additional information about what is expected of an interpreter when working in the Australian context. The course is ideally suited for people who are applying for the most elementary levels of interpreting such as NAATI recognition and or seeking paraprofessional interpreter testing.