

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 OCTOBER 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE11/00386) Program 2.1: Irregular Maritime Arrivals

Senator Cash asked:

General questions onshore and offshore detention: How many known members of the Tamil Tigers are currently in immigration detention? Where are they? How many have applied for administrative and/or judicial review of negative decisions?

Answer:

Immigration systems do not allow reporting on membership of specific political organisations. Manual interrogation of a large number of case files would be required to provide the information requested. For example, since November 2008, 684 Sri Lankan irregular maritime arrivals have been granted Protection visas. Some, but not all of this cohort, would have been members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

Given the systems limitations listed above, it is not possible to provide details regarding the whereabouts of these clients or how many have applied for review of negative decisions.