

**HOME AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS**

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY SPOKEN QUESTION ON NOTICE

Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade
Foreign Affairs and Aid Subcommittee
Inquiry into certain aspects of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Annual
Report 2019-20 - Myanmar

QoN Number: 06

Subject: Investigations into the son of the purported military regime's Attorney-General

Asked by: Julian Hill

Question:

Mr HILL: I've received a more recent list which is being sent, I think, to a number of parliamentarians. It's narrowed it down to a list of 15 individuals, including the son of Thida Oo who is the current purported union Attorney-General. Are you telling me that there are no investigations into that person? I'll refrain at this time from mentioning his name but he's in Australia on a visa. Are you saying that there are no investigations being undertaken by Home Affairs into the son of the purported military regime's Attorney-General and the fact that his stay in Australia may be being financed by the regime?

Mr Wilden: That wouldn't necessarily be a Home Affairs investigation. That might be an AFP or an AUSTRAC investigation et cetera. It goes back to the concept of the individual. If we have information within the department provided around an individual that believes that they're in breach of their visa conditions, we would of course investigate. The point I was making is that what has come to us are a number of names and the fact that they may be related. I will go back and take on notice whether there was additional information provided in the last day or so, and if any part of the department or, more broadly, the portfolio, is looking at things. Very importantly, though—which my colleague Mr Coles would probably reiterate—if there is something that has come to the attention of the law enforcement agencies, it's not necessarily something they would talk about as a live investigation.

Answer:

Home Affairs has no investigations underway into individuals in Australia alleged to be relatives of senior Myanmar military officials. Portfolio agencies have further advised that:

- The Australian Border Force has no investigations underway into individuals in Australia alleged to be relatives of senior Myanmar military officials.
- The Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission does not comment on specific investigations.

- The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation does not comment on specific investigations.
- The Australian Federal Police does not comment on specific investigations.
- AUSTRAC is not an investigative agency. AUSTRAC produces financial intelligence to assist Commonwealth and state/territory partners to understand, identify, investigate and disrupt money laundering, terrorism financing and other serious crimes. AUSTRAC does not comment on operational matters or provide specific information regarding the subjects of its financial intelligence activities.