

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Additional Estimates 23-27 February 2015**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** Mr Gupta

**Senator:** Senator the Hon Penny Wong

**Question reference number:** 135

**Type of question:** FPA Monday 23 February 2015, page 116

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 10 April 2015

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

Senator WONG: Did it [Mr Gupta's appointment] go to cabinet? You will not even tell us if it went to cabinet.

Senator Abetz: What does that have to do—

Senator WONG: Liberal Friends of India and a political donor—you made him chair of the SBS.

Senator Abetz: And you appointed trade union officials that donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to the ALP to the Fair Work Commission.

Senator WONG: And employers. We appointed employers too. That is not an answer.

Senator Abetz: Oh, really—

Senator WONG: Could you take on notice—

**Answer:**

The confidentiality of Cabinet deliberations is the foundation for the proper functioning of the Cabinet process. It is therefore not appropriate to reveal what matters may have been considered by the Cabinet.