Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation CommitteeANSWERS TO OUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 20-24 October 2014

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Mr Nehal Gupta – declarations of interest

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 11

Type of question: FPA Monday 20 October 2014, page 125

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 5 December 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator WONG: On the appointment of Mr Nehal Gupta, who is co-chair of Liberal Friends of India, did the department identify him as the co-chair of this political organisation at any point prior to the appointment being made?

Ms Cross: I would have to take that on notice to check that.

Senator WONG: Are you aware that he was the co-chair of Liberal Friends of India? Ms Cross: I am aware of that. I know, as I said before, that we did ensure appropriate processes such as declarations of interest were provided. I would have to check for further information.

Senator WONG: I am happy with that. I appreciate that. You will check whether that was declared or on the CV or otherwise disclosed; is that what you are saying?

Ms Cross: Yes, we will check that.

Answer:

Consistent with longstanding practice of successive governments details of Cabinet considerations are not disclosed.