

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0391) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash asked:

On 16 December 2011 the Northern Territory News reported that a 28 year old Iranian asylum seeker was interviewed in relation to allegations that he was inappropriately touching young girls during a swimming pool excursion. Has that person been charged? Will the department be recommending to the Minister that this man be refused a visa under the provisions of s.501?

Answer:

The person involved in the incident referred to above has been charged by the Northern Territory Police. He remains in custody pending a court hearing to be held in February 2012.

It would be inappropriate to comment any further on this matter as it is the subject of court proceedings.