

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2006**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

**(201) Output 1.3: Enforcement of Immigration Law**

Senator Kirk asked:

Mazhar Ali was deported from Baxter on 25 July 2003 and sent to Karachi where he claims he was not initially allowed to leave the airport. How did he travel to Karachi given that the Norwegian refugee council interviewed him in Kabul in 2004 and registered to vote as an Afghan citizen and his RRT had deemed that he was an Afghan who might have spent a couple of years in Pakistan?

*Answer:*

Mr Ali was removed as an unlawful non-citizen under Section 198 of the *Migration Act 1958*.

Mr Ali travelled to Pakistan on an Australian Certificate of Identity.

The High Commission for Pakistan in Canberra confirmed Mr Ali's Pakistani nationality in October 2002 and reconfirmed this in July 2003.