

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 22 May 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(202) Output 1.3: Enforcement of Immigration Law

Senator Kirk asked:

In Mazhar Ali's case Mr Jim Williams informed the Federal Court on 26 May 2004 that it was unusual to send him to Pakistan as an unlawful non-citizen and that while it would be good to send Mrs Roqia Bakhtiyari and her children the same way it could not be guaranteed. Mr Ali claims he had to pay bribes at the Karachi airport - could the Minister please provide the travel documents for Mr Mazhar Ali (ZIL 20).

Answer:

The comments made by Mr Williams were in relation to the Government of Pakistan's confirmation of citizenship for Mr Ali, which was in the form of a letter. This letter enabled Mr Ali to be returned to Pakistan on an Australian Certificate of Identity.

The Government of Pakistan issued the Bakhtiyari family with Pakistani travel documents.

Copies of the travel document package for Mr Ali's return to Pakistan are attached:

- Australian Certificate of Identity
- Letter from the High Commission of Pakistan confirming Mr Ali's Pakistani nationality
- Pakistani National Identity Card for Mr Ali's father
- Pakistani National Identity Card for Mr Ali.