

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(110) Output 1.3: Enforcement of Immigration Law

Senator Kirk asked:

The Pakistan Government does not allow dual citizenship for Afghan citizens, yet evidence now shows that the Bakhtiyaris were indeed Afghan citizens. Would the Minister agree this is a very odd state of affairs?

Answer:

DIMIA has not received any formal notification from the Afghan Government that any of the Bakhtiari family are citizens of Afghanistan.

The Government of Pakistan confirmed that the family are citizens of Pakistan and provided the family with Pakistani travel documents.

If members of the Bakhtiyari family now choose to live in Afghanistan, that is not a matter for the Australian Government.