

PRIMARY INDUSTRIES WORKERS REGIONAL TRAVEL
AND ACCOMMODATION SUPPORT SCHEME

733. Ms M.J. DAVIES to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Premier, only six per cent of the required 7 000 jobs have been filled. What is the government's plan B to make sure that the agricultural and horticultural industries have the thousands of seasonal jobs filled for this season?

Mr M. McGOWAN replied:

As I said in reply to the previous question, we have launched a major campaign. We have launched up to \$4 000 per person in travel and accommodation allowances to attract people out there to do this sort of work. As far as I understand it, that money is tax free. We have done what we can do. We do not control the welfare system. The commonwealth government controls the welfare system. I urge the member to make her pleas to her colleagues in the commonwealth government about this matter. I have now raised this matter personally with the Prime Minister on a number of occasions. I urge there to be some urgency at a commonwealth government level.