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Media Advisory

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Parliamentary Secretary Obhrai highlights the strength of democracy in India

(OTTAWA) Deepak Obhrai, M.P. and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, today made the following statement in the House of Commons:

"Canada notes that state elections are taking place in India, the world's largest democracy. With a Punjabi background, I note with great satisfaction the massive turnout of over 77% in the State of Punjab.

Punjabis, both of Hindu and Sikh religion exercised their democratic right to chart their own destiny.

Here in Canada, the Punjabi community, again made up of Hindus and Sikhs, plays a vital role in our country's destiny. I am very happy to be a member of that community, as are some of my colleagues in the House of Commons.

However, there are certain groups which would like to create discord among these communities. To them, there is a clear message coming from communities all over the world: Stop it, let us move on toward addressing the issues that are of far more importance, like prosperity in this country."

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