

## **Media Advisory**

For Immediate Release

March 30, 2012

## Parliamentary Secretary Deepak Obhrai leads Canadian delegation to Burma to observe historic by-elections

(Ottawa) On Sunday, Parliamentary by-elections will be held in Burma and for the first time, Nobel Peace Prize laureate and Honorary Canadian citizen Aung San Suu Kyi will herself be running for a seat.

A Canadian delegation, led by Parliamentary Secretary of Foreign Affairs Deepak Obhrai, will be in Burma on Sunday to observe and report back to the Canadian Government whether they were indeed free and fair.

Canada is joined by many other nations in offering this support to Burma, including the United States, the European Union, Australia, and several Southeast Asian countries. Our Canadian presence at the elections is a signal of Burma's increasing openness to the outside world.

The Parliamentary Secretary will continue to encourage the Burmese authorities to continue advancing along the path of reform and greater democracy for the Burmese people

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