



Deepak Obhrai, MP
Calgary East
Parliamentary Secretary to the
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Media Release

For Immediate Release

November 1, 2012

Deepak Obhrai, M.P. hosts the 12th National Diwali Celebration in Ottawa

(Ottawa) Deepak Obhrai, M.P. and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, hosted the 12th National Diwali Celebration today at the Government Conference Centre in Ottawa, across from Parliament Hill.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper joined Deepak and an overflowing crowd of more than 600 people at a glittering ceremony that included Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament, Senators, diplomats and Indo-Canadians from across the country.

Addressing the gathering, Deepak said: “We have come a long way since I inaugurated this event back in 1998. As I stand here for the 12th year and look around this large auditorium with an overflowing crowd, I can be happy that we have achieved what we set out to do. “

“Today, Diwali is truly a national Canadian celebration. People have travelled from all across the country to be a part of this national celebration. We had a guest list of over 800 people registered to attend the event. I had to request our community organizations to prune their lists, because this hall cannot accommodate all the people.”

Deepak thanked Prime Minister Stephen Harper for his unwavering support for the National Diwali Celebration, by attending the event six times as Prime Minister. “His support has kept this dream alive. The credit goes to the Prime Minister for making this the National Diwali Celebration.”

More than 26 Hindu temples and community organizations sent representatives to the event, underlying the significance that the South Asian and Indo-Canadian community places on this important event. They are:

Ottawa Office:

Room 426N Centre Block
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6
Tel: (613) 947-4566
Fax: (613) 947-4569



Constituency Office:

Radisson Centre
Suite 225, 525-28 Street East
Calgary, AB
T2A 6W9
Tel: (403) 207-3030
Fax: (403) 207-3035



Deepak Obhrai, MP
Calgary East
Parliamentary Secretary to the
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Media Release

Rajasthan Association of North America (CANADA)
National Council for Indo Canadians
Indo Canadian Chamber of Commerce
India Canada Association of National Capital Region
ICA-NCR
Hindu Awareness Organization of North America – TORONTO
Canadian Museum Of Hindu Civilization
Hindu Sabha Temple
BAPS Shri Swami Narayan Temple
Arya Samaj Vedic Cultural Centre, Markham –ONT
Vishnu Mandir of Richmond Hill, ON
Hindu Mandir, Montreal
India Canada Organization, Montreal
Hindu Mission of Quebec
Vishva Shakti Durga Mandir of Ottawa
Bharat Matha Mandir, Brampton
Hindu Devotional Society of Montreal
Shri Guru Ravi Dass Temple Gurbani Sagar, Montreal
The Federation of Hindu Associations
Vaishno Devi Mandir
Sanatan Mandir
Bhavani Shankar Mandir of Brampton
Radha Krishna Mandir, Kitchener
Anand Bhavan, Richmond Hill
India Canada Ottawa Business Chamber
Hindu Temple of Ottawa Carleton

-30-

Ottawa Office:

Room 426N Centre Block
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6
Tel: (613) 947-4566
Fax: (613) 947-4569



Constituency Office:

Radisson Centre
Suite 225, 525-28 Street East
Calgary, AB
T2A 6W9
Tel: (403) 207-3030
Fax: (403) 207-3035