



Hon. Deepak Obhrai, P.C.
Parliamentary Secretary to the
Minister of Foreign Affairs and for
International Human Rights

Press Release

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Parliamentary Secretary Obhrai welcomes free and fair elections in several countries; but says this democratic right is denied to people of many more nations

(OTTAWA) The Honourable Deepak Obhrai, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and for International Human Rights, today made the following statement in the House of Commons:

“Recently we have witnessed good progress in the advancement of the key democratic principle of free and fair elections. I want to congratulate the people of Sri Lanka, Turkey, Nigeria and Mexico, to name a few, where people have exercised their democratic right to choose their leaders peacefully despite strong-arm tactics. Let me give a few examples. The defeat of former President Rajapaksa in Sri Lanka, the loss of the majority of President Erdogan's party in Turkey, and the change of government in Nigeria, where I attended the new president's inauguration.

However, sadly there are countries where this democratic right is denied. A few examples are Iran, Thailand, Eritrea and the Maldives.

This government is proud to have a strong record of supporting democracy and the protection of human rights around the world.”

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