420 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 www.house.gov/pitts 202-225-2411 Andrew Wimer, Communications Director

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 3, 2012

### \*\*\*Media Advisory\*\*\*

# Press Conference: State Department Should Continue to Deny Visa for Human Rights Abuser

**Washington**— Rep. Joe Pitts (R-PA) and Rep. Frank Wolf (R-VA) will join with family members of victims of the 2002 Gujurat riots at a press conference to oppose a visa for Indian politician Narendra Modi. The press conference will be held at 2:15 p.m. on Tuesday, December 4 at the House Triangle (direction HERE).

Modi was Chief Minister of Gujurat state in 2002 when riots led to the deaths of more than 2,000 Muslims and other religious minorities. In the past, the U.S. State Department has denied Modi's request for a visa under the authority of the International Religious Freedom Act. Now, as a possible candidate for Indian Prime Minister, Modi may be seeking to travel to the U.S. to build political support.

Pitts and Wolf recently sent a letter with 25 of their colleagues asking Secretary Clinton to continue the State Department policy of denying Mr. Modi a visa (available <u>HERE</u>).

#### **Press Conference Details**

Tuesday, December 4, 2012 2:15 pm House Triangle (outdoor podium i

House Triangle (outdoor podium in between the Capitol and Cannon House Office Building)

### Attendees:

Rep. Joe Pitts (R-PA) Rep. Frank Wolf (R-VA) Family Members of Gujurat Riot Victims