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**A/S Blake's Briefing to Representatives McMorris Rodgers and Schock  
on Gujarat Chief Minister Modi  
Wednesday, June 5, 2013; 1-2:00 PM**

**CONTEXT**

Representatives McMorris Rodgers (WA-05) and Schock (IL-18) have requested a meeting to discuss visa issuance for Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi. Both representatives traveled on a March NODEL led by Rep. Schock, sponsored by Indian-American BJP supporters, to Ahmedabad, Bangalore, and New Delhi. PDAS Pyatt briefed part of the group, including Representative Lummis and several staffers, prior to the trip. During the NODEL's meeting with CM Modi, the representatives extended an invitation for him to visit the United States. The meeting also included participation via Skype by former Speaker Newt Gingrich, who has since contacted you twice to discuss our visa policy on CM Modi. Shali Kumar, an influential Indian American businessman from Illinois and long time supporter of Gingrich, has been advocating for visa issuance on the Hill and has been working closely with Rep. McMorris Rodgers and Rep. Schock on this issue.

**POINTS TO RAISE**

**1. (SBU) U.S. Investment in Gujarat**

- Gujarat is one of the most economically dynamic Indian states and a favorite of outside investors and U.S. businesses for its competent administration and investment-friendly climate. Gujarat has shown itself to be a very welcoming environment where American businesses flourish. It is one of two states proposed for U.S. reactor construction. We continue to promote and encourage investment there through the Foreign Commercial Service officer in Ahmedabad and frequent visits by Consulate General Mumbai.

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**2. (SBU) 2002 Violence and Accountability**

- We are closely watching progress in the trials of those accused of responsibility for the 2002 violence in Gujarat, which are an important step in establishing accountability under Indian law and, ultimately, obtaining justice for victims.
- Our understanding is CM Modi has not been given a "clean chit." The Supreme Court-appointed Special Investigation Team assessment has

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**REVIEW AUTHORITY: Sharon Ahmad, Senior  
Reviewer**

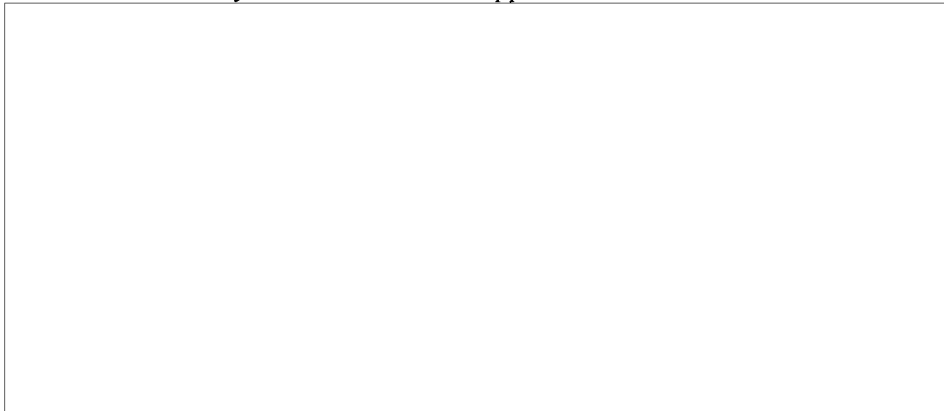
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- 2 -

been challenged and it is the subject of an ongoing trial. A final resolution is likely years away.

**3. (SBU) Visa Issuance**

- Chief Minister Modi can apply for a visa at any time. His application would then be considered to determine whether he qualifies for a visa in accordance with U.S. law. Visa decisions for all individuals are based on U.S. law and made by consular officers of the Department of State on a case-by-case basis. We cannot pre-adjudicate visas. This applies to the Chief Minister as it would to any other applicant. Visa eligibility is determined only after the individual applies for a visa.



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**PARTICIPANTS**

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Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (WA-5)  
Rep. Aaron Schock (IL-18)

Attachment:  
Biographic Information

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Cleared:

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