



Ministry of External Affairs

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Media Statement by External Affairs Minister during the visit of Deputy Prime Minister of Russia to India (May 10, 2017)

May 11, 2017

Friends,

I would like to begin by conveying my heartiest felicitations to the Government and people of Russia on the historic occasion of the Victory Day which was celebrated yesterday, on 9th May.

I have just had very fruitful and productive talks with Deputy Prime Minister His Excellency Mr. Dmitry Rogozin. We were unanimous in our intention to further strengthen the Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership that exists between India and Russia. We have made good progress in implementing the agreements that were signed during the last Summit meeting in Goa in October 2016.

We agreed to work closely in the months ahead to take forward many of the collaborative ideas that emerged in diverse fields including security, nuclear, space, disaster management, trade and economy, science and technology and people-to-people linkages.

We also took stock of preparations for the forthcoming 18th India-Russia Annual Summit to be held in St. Petersburg on 1st June 2017 between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Vladimir Putin.

As you know, relations with Russia are one of the most important pillars of India's foreign policy. My meeting with Deputy Prime Minister Rogozin has taken place in the year that we are celebrating the 70th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations. The roadmap of events adopted at the last India-Russia Annual Summit is being enthusiastically implemented, and more than a 100 events are scheduled. I am particularly pleased that Ministries, Departments, PSUs, trade and industry associations, private sector, state and city governments are all coming forward to commemorate the occasion.

Thank you.



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