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**Press Information Bureau
Government of India
Prime Minister's Office**

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PM's statement prior to his departure to Russia

Following is the text of the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi's departure statement prior to his visit to Russia.

“Greetings to the friendly people of Russia. I look forward to my visit to Sochi tomorrow and my meeting with President Putin. It is always a pleasure to meet him.

Am confident the talks with President Putin will further strengthen the Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership between India and Russia.”

AKT/SH