

## **India, Afghanistan hold bilateral talks**

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**Kabul:** Delegation-level bilateral talks between India and Afghanistan were held here on Friday, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Afghan President Ashraf Ghani respectively.

"Deepening India-Afghan friendship. PM & President lead delegation level talks over breakfast at Dilkosha Palace," External Affairs Ministry spokesman Vikas Swarup tweeted.

Earlier on Friday, Modi arrived at Arg, the Afghan presidential palace, and was greeted with a warm hug by the Afghan president.

The prime minister then proceeded to Dilkosha Palace the Afghan presidential office, for the bilateral talks.

"Bringing Delhi closer to Kabul. PM @narendramodi's engagements begin with tete-a-tete with President @ashrafghani," External Affairs Ministry spokesman Vikas Swarup earlier tweeted along with pictures of the two leaders.

Later in the day, Modi is scheduled to inaugurate the new Afghan parliament building built with Indian assistance.

Modi is visiting Kabul while on his way back to New Delhi from Moscow, where he went on a two-day visit beginning December 23 for the 16th annual India-Russia summit.

- IANS