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Putin: FIFA World Cup Infrastructure Delays Must Be Eliminated

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President Vladimir Putin has approved a list of instructions to eliminate delays regarding the construction of infrastructures for the 2018 FIFA World Cup, the Interfax news agency reported Monday, citing a Kremlin statement from July 13.

"The Russian Federation, in conjunction with the senior officials (heads of higher executive bodies of state power) of the Russian Federation, is adopting conclusive measures to eliminate gaps in the construction of both sporting and other infrastructure in the Russian Federation for the FIFA 2018 World Cup," official statement said.

The Zenit Arena in St. Petersburg won't be finished in time for the Confederation Cup football tournament, Interfax reported, citing World Cup committee chairman

Vadim Tyulpanov.

Tyulpanov, chairman of the Federation Council committee responsible for 2018 FIFA World Cup preparations, was asked about stadium readiness, Interfax reported.

The Confederations Cup — a warm-up tournament for the 2018 FIFA World Cup — begins in June 2017, with matches in Moscow, St Petersburg, Sochi and Kazan.

The World Cup kicks off in June 2018 in 12 different stadiums located in 11 Russian cities: Moscow, St. Petersburg, Kazan, Samara, Volgograd, Nizhny Novgorod, Kaliningrad, Yekatinburg, Rostov-on-Don, Saransk and Sochi.

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