

Putin Has a Cold, Is Canceling Some Appearances, Kremlin Says

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Kremlin Press Service

(Bloomberg) — Russian President Vladimir Putin, renowned for macho stunts that often involve taking his shirt off, is feeling under the weather.

"The president has a cold," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on a conference call Tuesday, adding that Putin, whose voice appeared hoarse at meetings a day earlier, would limit his public appearances while continuing to work. "It's winter."

Putin, 65, is all but certain to win a fourth term in presidential elections next month to extend his rule to 2024. State television showed him plunging into the icy waters of a lake in freezing temperatures in January as part of Russian Orthodox Epiphany traditions.

Related article: [Following Russian Religious Tradition, Putin Takes an Icy Dip on Epiphany](#)

After the White House released details of U.S. President Donald Trump's health check last

month, Peskov ruled out publishing medical reports on Putin, whom he described as "absolutely healthy." The Kremlin later Tuesday released details of Putin meeting with diamond miner Alrosa's chief executive officer, Sergey Ivanov.

The president won't attend a planned event at Moscow's VDNKh exhibition center on Wednesday and will meet instead with participants either at the Kremlin or at his residence outside Moscow, Peskov said.

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