

## Indian PM Modi to Visit Russia in July – Reports

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India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Vladimir Putin in Uzbekistan in 2022. Alexander Demyanchuk, TASS / kremlin.ru

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to meet with President Vladimir Putin in Moscow early next month, Indian and Russian media reported Monday.

The Indian English-language newspaper The Tribune, without citing sources, <u>reported</u> that Modi was expected to visit Moscow on July 8 to "underline the engagement" between the two countries.

Likewise, Russian officials quoted by state media said they were "actively preparing" for the meeting.

"I can confirm that we're preparing a visit by the prime minister of India," Putin's aide Yury Ushakov<u>told</u> the state-run TASS news agency without disclosing the specific dates of the trip.

Russian and Indian leaders have held bilateral meetings every year since 2000, except for

during the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020. Modi scrapped the annual Russia-India summit in December 2022 amid<u>reports</u> that he was seeking to distance himself from Putin's nuclear threats against Ukraine.

India has not condemned Moscow or imposed sanctions for the full-scale invasion of Ukraine, though Modi publicly <u>criticized</u> Putin in September 2022.

Russia has redirected its oil exports from Europe to India and China after Western countries hit Moscow with sanctions.

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