

## Russian PM Medvedev Sees Approval Ratings Decline Amid Corruption Claims

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Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev Maxim Stulov / Vedomosti

Approval ratings for Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev fell by 10⊠percent last month amid allegations of corruption.

Just 42 percent of Russians approved of Medvedev in March, compared to 52 percent in February, a survey by independent pollster the Levada Center revealed on Wednesday.

The number of Russians who approve of the Russian cabinet also fell, from 49∏percent in February to

43 percent last month. Russian President Vladimir Putin remained steady in the polls at 82 percent.

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Corruption Claims

Medvedev was accused of heading a multi-million dollar corruption scheme by Alexey

Navalny's Anti-Corruption Foundation on March 2. Navalny, who plans to run in Russia's 2018 presidential elections, alleged that the prime minister had channeled huge bribes from Russian businesses through non-profit organizations. The claims sparked protests throughout Russia on March 26, resulting in the arrest of more than 1,000 people across the country.

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