

Putin reappoints Mishustin as Russia's prime minister

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Online Desk: Russian President Vladimir Putin has reappointed Mikhail Mishustin as prime minister for the lower house's approval.

Parliament Speaker Vyacheslav Volodin said the house, the State Duma, will hold a session later Friday to consider Mishustin's candidacy.

Mishustin's approval is a mere proforma in the Kremlin-controlled parliament.

In line with Russian law, Mishustin, 58, who held the job for the past four years, submitted his Cabinet's resignation on Tuesday when Putin began his fifth presidential term at a glittering Kremlin inauguration.

Mishustin's reappointment was widely expected by political observers, who noted that Putin values his skills and the lack of political ambition. Mishustin, the former head of Russia's tax service, has kept a low profile, steering clear of political statements and avoiding media interviews.