

At G20 summit, Modi pitches for protecting India's energy security

Amiti Sen
New Delhi

While underlining the need to protect India's energy security at the G20 Summit in Bali on Tuesday, amid calls from western countries to cap the price of Russian oil, Prime Minister Narendra Modi stressed that there should not be any restrictions on energy supply.

Modi also met US President Joe Biden on the sidelines of the summit and reviewed India-US partnership in sectors such as critical and emerging technologies.

BILATERAL MEETS

Modi is scheduled to hold bilaterals with UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, French President Emmanuel Macron, Indonesian President Joko Widodo, Spanish Prime Min-



Narendra Modi speaks during the G20 summit in Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia. REUTERS

ister Pedro Sanchez, Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on Wednesday, a source tracking the matter told *businessline*.

"The bilaterals provide an opportunity for India to not only review relations with its key partners but also make its priorities clear on the Russia-

Ukraine war," another source said.

Modi exchanged greetings with Chinese President Xi Jinping at the official dinner on Tuesday, but there are no confirmations of a bilateral meeting yet.

ON RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR

"I have repeatedly said that we have to find a way to return to the path of ceasefire and diplomacy in Ukraine," Modi said in his address, sticking to India's stated position of criticising the war without apportioning blame to Russia.

"India's energy security is also important for global growth, as it is the world's fastest-growing economy. We must not promote any restrictions on the supply of energy, and stability in the energy market should be ensured," he added.