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## **NARENDRA MODI SEEKS TO BOLSTER TIES WITH US VIA TRADE AND ENERGY DEALS**

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John Reed, Andres Schipani and Chris Kay

Narendra Modi is expected to offer Donald Trump deals on trade, energy and defence in a meeting the Indian prime minister hopes will help fend off US action on tariffs and migration.

India is billing Thursdays meeting in Washington, their first since Trumps inauguration, as a warm meeting of like-minded leaders. However, analysts and people briefed on the trip say Modi will seek to placate a president who has previously called India a tariff king and big abuser.

While the worlds fifth-largest economy is not a top global exporter, it has high average tariffs and ranks 10th among countries with which the US has a deficit. Between January and November 2024, Indias trade surplus with the US was worth \$35bn.

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