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## **Alexander Bastrykin holds meeting on investigation into overdue wages**



Chairman of the Investigative Committee has held a meeting to discuss investigations into non-payment of wages.

The meeting was attended by heads of investigative authorities for Krasnoyarsk Territory, Moscow Region and the city of Moscow, Arkhangelsk, Bryansk, Irkutsk, Kemerovo, Murmansk, Novosibirsk, Pskov, Ryazan, Sakhalin, Sverdlovsk, Tula, Yaroslavl Regions, Altai and Krasnodar Territories, Bashkortostan, Tatarstan, Udmurtia, Khakassia, Ural and Southern Transport Investigations Offices.

According to the Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat), the wage arrears grew over a third in March 2016, which is 4.5 billion rubles. One year ago the figure was less than 3 billion rubles. The worst-hit are industry, construction and transportation. The investigative authorities have a task to protect constitutional right of citizens to be paid for their labor and to prevent possible abuses of

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employers by prosecution measures.

In the first quarter of 2016, the investigative authorities received almost 2,000 reports on crimes under Article 145.1 of the RF Penal Code, which is 6% up from the similar period last year. The number of criminal cases opened into those report in the first quarter of 2016 is 77% up and is now 283 (against 160 in 2015).

Along with positive trends in investigation of such crimes, the analysis of investigative practice has shown some drawback in the work of investigative authorities in Irkutsk, Sakhalin Regions, Krasnoyarsk Territory and some other regions.

At the end of the meeting it was decided that some heads of investigative authorities might be disciplined. The Chairman of the Investigative Committee gave explicit orders to activate the work in this field and eliminate the violations. Some other managerial decisions were also made during the meeting.

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