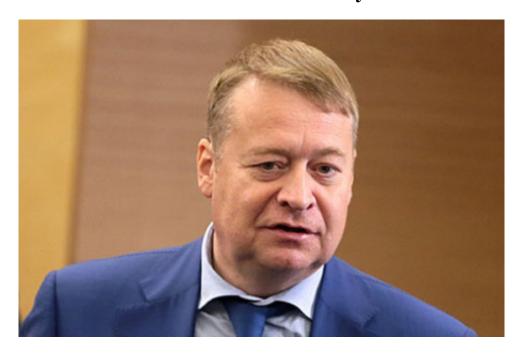
Ex-head of Mari El accused of bribery



The Investigative Committee's Major Cases Directorate has accused the ex-Head of Mariy El, the Chairman of the Republic's Government Leonid Markelov of a crime under Part 6 of Article 290 of the RF Penal Code (Bribery) and his accomplice Natalya Kozhanova under Part 4 of Article 291 (mediation in bribery).

According to investigators, Markelov being in the Head of the Republic received more than 235 million rubles as a bribe through his mediator Natalya Kozhanova from Nikolai Krivash, the founder of the Akashevskaya factory, for patronage and assistance in receiving subsidies for farming development.

The investigation is requesting to put Markelov and Kozhanova under arrest pending trial.

Official spokesperson for the RF Investigative Committee S.L. Petrenko

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