
The investigation into the criminal case of illegal export of valuable timber from Russia is completed



The Main Investigation Department of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation has completed the investigation into the criminal case against Andrey Kolesnik, a member of a criminal group who smuggled valuable Mongolian oak and Manchurian ash timber from Russia to China. He was charged with committing crimes under Part 2 of Article 210, Part 3 of Article 226.1 and Paragraph B of Part 2 of Article 173.1 of the Criminal Code (participation in a criminal association; smuggling; unlawful establishment of a legal entity).

According to investigators, members of the criminal network, which included Andrey Kolesnik, purchased at least 68,000 cubic metres of illegally harvested Mongolian oak and Manchurian ash in Primorsky Krai in 2017-2019.

In order to obtain permission to export timber, an organised group with the participation of the accused registered two commercial firms in the name of fictitious persons. Forged documents were produced on behalf of these companies to represent the legality of the purchase of the above-mentioned volume of timber. As a result, timber worth more than 1 billion roubles was illegally transported from Russia to China.

The defendant pleaded guilty and entered into a cooperation agreement, and the criminal case against him was presented separately and sent for trial.

The investigation into the criminal activities of the leader of the criminal group and the five accomplices has also been completed and they are being acquainted with the materials of the criminal case.

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