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## **In the city of Baikonur, several people were convicted of committing corruption and economic crimes**

The evidence collected by the Investigative Department (acting as management) of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation at the Baikonur complex has been deemed sufficient by the court to convict a group of individuals, including officials and entrepreneurs, for a series of corruption and economic crimes related to government procurement activities.

The investigation and the court have established that in 2019, the First Deputy Head of the Baikonur city administration and three entrepreneurs, using a scheme for participation in government procurement by nominal legal entities, significantly inflated the contract amount for the repair of roofs of residential buildings. They made sure the contract was awarded to a firm they controlled, thereby embezzling over 7.5 million rubles of budget funds.

In addition, in 2019 and 2020, the First Deputy Head of the Baikonur city administration received bribes amounting to 1.35 million rubles and 1.74 million rubles from entrepreneurs for facilitating the conclusion of several other state contracts. In the second instance, this was done with the participation of a 41-year-old general director of one of the state unitary enterprises.

To establish all the circumstances of the committed crimes, more than 70 witnesses were questioned, and over 15 forensic examinations were carried out, including phonoscopic, handwriting, accounting, and computer-technical analyses. The findings from these examinations, along with other evidence, allowed for the indictment of the individuals for committing serious and especially serious crimes. The criminal case materials are comprised of 75 volumes.

By a court verdict, the First Deputy Head of the Baikonur city administration was found guilty of crimes under Part 1 of Article 286 (exceeding official authority), Part 4 of Article 159 (fraud), and Part 6 of Article 290 of the Criminal Code of the RF (bribery - 2 episodes). He was sentenced to 11 years of imprisonment in a high-security correctional colony, with a seven-year ban on holding public office and positions in local government related to exercising representative authority, organizational, managerial, and administrative functions. He was taken into custody in the courtroom.

The intermediary in bribery episodes was found guilty of crimes under Part 4 of Article 291.1 of the Criminal Code of the RF and was fined 2 million rubles, with a five-year ban on holding public office and positions in local government related to exercising representative authority,

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organizational, managerial, and administrative functions.

The remaining accomplices, the entrepreneurs, were convicted under Part 4 of Article 159 of the Criminal Code of the RF and received probation sentences ranging from 3 to 6 years, with suspended sentences of 2 to 4 years, and were also fined between 200,000 to 800,000 rubles.

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