

## **Puppet Swindle Busted**

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The director of Moscow's Obraztsov Theater, the biggest puppet theater in the world, has been detained by police on embezzlement charges, RIA-Novosti reported Wednesday, citing a law enforcement source.

The director, Andrei Luchin, is accused of swindling almost 12 million rubles (\$385,000) of state funds allotted for production of puppets for several plays, the Investigative Committee said, Interfax reported.

Police were preparing Wednesday to file fraud charges against Luchin, who faces up to 10 years in prison if convicted in the case, the report said. ■

(MT)

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