

Fish Factory Boss Arrested After Employees Complain to Putin

By The Moscow Times

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Russian police have arrested a former director of a fish factory whose employees complained to President Vladimir Putin about a backlog of unpaid wages during a call-in broadcast this month, the TASS news agency reported Thursday.

Natalya Kashkarova, a former head of the "Ostrovnoy" fish factory on the Far Eastern Kuril Islands, was scheduled to appear before a judge on Thursday, who will rule on whether to authorize her arrest, the Interfax news agency reported.

She was detained a day earlier on the island of Shukotan and escorted to the regional center of Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk to face court, a spokesperson for the regional prosecutor's office said, Interfax reported.

Earlier this year, a court in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk found Kashkarova guilty of failing to pay 2 million rubles (\$30,630) in back wages owed to workers, and handed down a suspended 2.5-

year sentence, Interfax reported.

During Putin's call-in broadcast this month, fish factory workers complained about rough working conditions on Shikotan and wage delays.

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