

Moscow Court Jails Walt Disney Manager 2.5 Years on Drug Charges

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A man identified as Jugal Daterao. **Social media**

A Moscow region judge has sentenced a manager from The Walt Disney Company to 2.5 years in prison after he was found guilty of drug possession and smuggling, Russian state media [reported](#) Friday, citing the court's press service.

Jugal Daterao was arrested in January 2026 upon arriving at Sheremetyevo International Airport on a flight transiting from Qatar. Customs officers detained him during a routine baggage inspection after discovering THC-infused gummy candies in his luggage.

In court, Daterao testified that the cannabis gummies had been legally prescribed to him by a doctor in the United States to manage his long-term recovery following brain surgery.

A judge at the Khimki City Court found Daterao guilty of both drug possession and smuggling and sentenced him to two years and six months at a medium-security prison. He was also fined 30,000 rubles (\$420).

On his LinkedIn page, Daterao [describes](#) himself as a New York-based tech executive and program director who has been employed by The Walt Disney Company since 2019.

Russian media reports [identified](#) Daterao as an Indian citizen, though it was not immediately clear whether he also holds a U.S. passport.

The Moscow Times contacted the U.S. Embassy in Moscow for comment.

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