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Hungarian authorities uncover $20m during probe of Orbán-era minister



CHENNAI – 15 Nov, 2026 Nearly $20m (£14.8m) in cash has been found hidden in farm buildings and buried in forests as part of an investigation into a former minister of Viktor Orbán, authorities have said.

Miklós Seszták, who served as minister of national development for four of the ex-prime minister's 16-year rule, is accused of accepting bribes as part of a scheme involving the state transport company. He has denied any wrongdoing.

Hungary's new Prime Minister Péter Magyar unseated Orbán in a landslide election in April on the promise of launching a sweeping anti-corruption drive.

On Friday, following the two-day search for the cash - found in secluded locations across the country - Magyar described it as the end of the "mafia".

Investigators found wads of banknotes in safes, buried in woodlands and hidden in agricultural and residential buildings and warehouses, as part of the probe into Seszták, the National Asset Recovery and Protection Office (NVVH) said in a statement.

The cash amounted to "5,071,632,000 forints, €2,658,350 and $1,257,100", it added, bringing the combined value to $19.5m. It has been deposited into the Hungarian State Treasury, the body said.