

## **Gov't anti-graft measures to include reward for whistleblowers - paper**

Budapest, November 11 (MTI) - Hungary's minority Socialist government has unveiled a draconian anti-corruption bill which takes a leaf out of the U.S. book and offers a reward to anyone who tips the authorities off about any dodgy deals, Nepszabadsag daily said on Tuesday.

Government commissioner Ferenc Kondorosi told the paper that several billions of forints is saved when graft is exposed in a large public procurement contract. Paying a reward of a few percent of the contract's value to a whistleblower and giving them protection is well worth it, he said.

Under the anti-corruption action plan to go before the government by the end of the month, the reward would compensate the whistleblower for the associated risks and the potential detriment to their own business prospects, he added.

Kondorosi noted that in the past, the introduction of plea bargaining and bail were also met with much scepticism in Hungary and they both function well today. The same applies to mediation in criminal cases when offenders pay compensation to their victims, he added.

The well-functioning system of paying rewards for tip-offs in criminal investigations is similar to the planned system of fighting corruption, he said.

**Source: English - Hungarian News Agency Corp.**

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