

Unofficial translation

**NEWS BULLETIN ON PAST EVENTS
IN THE COUNTER-NARCOTICS SPHERE**
(based on mass media reports)

12 – 18.11.2018

№ 46

CARICC MEMBER STATES

THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

The logo for Interfax Azerbaijan, featuring the word 'интерфакс' in blue and 'АЗЕРБАЙДЖАН' in green.

**BAKU COUNTERING INTERNATIONAL DRUG CARTELS TO
PREVENT DRUG TRANSITS THROUGH AZERBAIJAN**

The Azerbaijani government is putting an end to the use of the country's territory for drug trafficking by international drug cartels, Ali Hasanov, the Prime Minister, the State Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and Drug Trafficking, said.

"The collapse of the Soviet Union led to activity of the international drug mafia in post-Soviet space, and today drug cartels seek to use the territory of Azerbaijan to transit large quantities of drugs," Hasanov said at the 53rd Session of the Subcommittee on Illicit Drug traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East on November 12 in Baku.

According to him, during the existence of the USSR, it was difficult to use the territory of the country for drug trafficking.

"Today, Azerbaijan uses most modern equipment at the border to combat drug trafficking, and, nevertheless, the territory of our country is used for the transit of drugs," said deputy prime minister. <http://interfax.az/view/749607>

THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

The logo for Tengri News, featuring a green square with a white 'T' and the words 'TENGGRI NEWS'.

KAZAKHSTAN CHANGES SYSTEM OF COMBATING DRUGS

The police will be able to quickly respond to the emergence of new types of synthetic drugs in the country, promptly scheduling them as prohibited substances. The Minister of Internal Affairs Kalmukhanbet Kasymov told deputies of the Majilis about methods used in countering this threat.

"Synthetic drugs are imported from Russia, China, Europe. They get through postal orders and are paid using anonymous electronic payments. So, we catch only those who buy. This year 125 criminal cases were instituted, including 89 reduced, because these substances are not on the list. Today we detained him, seized drugs. Dealers found out about it, quickly changed the formula. The next time they bring it - it is no longer on the schedule. 89 people were freed, although they actually imported drugs", - Minister explained the problem.

According to him, now the examination of new synthetic drugs takes up to 2 years. That's because experts are studying the effects of substance on the human body. The Minister is sure that if the harm of substance is understood, then its effects on the body can be studied even after its prohibition. "According to their peers, our experts quickly determine that it is a drug, and how it affects the body - they investigate from 6 months to 2 years. We cannot hold people in custody for 6 months, in fact, we found ourselves under the question of impossibility of implementing the law. Experts of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Health proposed to exclude this second fact from the law", -

explained Kasymov.

The draft legislation provides the government with the authority to approve 3 documents: schedule of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors subject to control in the country. The amendments will immediately allow a government decree to introduce a ban on rapidly emerging new types of synthetic drugs that were not previously on the national schedule of prohibited substances.

"We have a government meeting every Tuesday. If we adopt it on Tuesday, we can already bring to justice on Wednesday. They (drug dealers - note) cannot work as quickly. They need 2-5 months - this is the whole production," the minister explained after the Majilis meeting. The deputies approved the draft law "On Amendments and Additions to Certain Legislative Acts on the Control on Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, their Analogues and Precursors" in the first reading. "This is the case when you need to agree. Combating this evil goes on all over the world. And if they are quickly changing formulas and compositions, you should be given an opportunity to promptly make changes and prosecute them quickly," speaker of the Majilis Mr Nurlan Nigmatulin said. https://tengrinews.kz/kazakhstan_news/v-kazahstane-menyayut-sistemu-borbyi-s-narkotikami-357635/



PETROPAVLOVSK STUDENTS PAINT OVER LETTERS ON DISTRIBUTION OF SYNTHETIC DRUGS ON BUILDINGS

Students of regional center of the North Kazakhstan region united in combating drugs. They announced a "battle" to distributors of synthetic drugs. The action "We are against drugs" was organized by the officers of Department for Combating Drug Trafficking, urging all citizens not to remain indifferent to this evil. The first responded to the call of the police - not to remain indifferent and unite in the fight against drug dealers, students of colleges, universities, many of them - voluntary police assistants. Citizens do not suspect that more and more often graffiti appearing on buildings is the address of Internet resources and pass by. But young people, for the sake of curiosity, can follow the link and fall into the network of drug dealers. Therefore, police call on all to fight this evil. - To date, we have identified more than 60 electronic resources that sell synthetic drugs. All of them are blocked, but this does not prevent them from opening new Internet channels to them. With such actions, we are trying to draw attention of population to this problem, to encourage them to help paint over these addresses, "said Ivan Terzidi, Acting Head of the Department for Combating Drug Trafficking of the North Kazakhstan region.

Such inscriptions can be found on residential buildings, bus shelters, garages. In one day of the action, students painted over 100 such addresses. -We took part in this action today. Painted these inscriptions. I think this is our civic duty. Our loved ones may suffer, who may not even understand what evil it is. Today police told us that these drugs are pushing people to do terrible things, make them disabled and can even lead to death," said a college student.

Today about 800 drug addicts are registered in the regional drug treatment center. More than 50 cases of synthetic drug overdose have been established. – Painting over inscriptions, information on their application will be a real contribution of every caring citizen to the fight against evil. So far we can only fight with distributors. Now the issue of combating synthetic drugs is being considered at the legislative level, - said Ivan Terzidi. <http://www.pkzsk.info/studenty-petropavlovska-zakrashivayut-nadpisi-na-zdaniyakh-po->

[rasprostraneniye-sinteticheskikh-narkotikov/](#)

kazinform UST-KAMENOGORSK WILL COUNTER DRUG TRAFFICKING WITH PAINT

The decision was taken at a recent meeting by members of experts working group on health issues of the Public Council.

Inscriptions of dubious nature, graffiti and links to sites placed on the walls of houses and fences in the regional center will now be regularly painted over, and in their place informational posters about the harm and consequences of drug use will be installed. "Now a new method of selling drugs is emerging and is gaining its popularity - contactless," they say in the department for the prevention of Department for Combating Drug Trafficking of Eastern Kazakhstan. "The trafficker and the consumer do not meet in person, communicating only via SMS, and drugs are transmitted using secret stashes. Therefore, we will combat with this kind of drug business by any available means." In order to prevent the spread of drugs in this way in the East Kazakhstan region, law enforcement officers, youth and non-governmental organizations of Ust-Kamenogorsk conducted a raid around the city. The result was disappointing. Around the schools, hostels on buildings and fences, members of the expert group found many inscriptions and references of dubious nature. In addition, as it turned out, "nasvai" is being sold in open access markets. During the discussion on the prevention of drug addiction, alcoholism and smoking among young people, members of the expert group at round table decided to conduct regular raids, members of which will identify and eliminate facts of vandalism, simply paint over graffiti, detect and stop drug trafficking points through the Internet, as well as conduct public campaigns against the spread of drug addiction. Experts are confident that if district police officers, government officials, representatives of KSK, the KMS, housing and public utilities, the public and conscious citizens join this action, the result will be positive. According to the East Kazakhstan Narcological Dispensary for 10 months of 2018, the number of young people aged from 14 to 29 years who take psychoactive substances in the region hit 2,776 people, of whom 833 are with a persistently established dependence. https://www.inform.kz/ru/s-rasprostraneniem-narkotikov-v-ust-kamenogorske-budut-borot-sya-kraskoy_a3459273



SPORTS EVENT "NASHAKORLYKKA ZHOL ZHOK!" HELD IN TARAZ

Officers of the Department for Combating Drug Trafficking of the Police Department of Zhambyl region together with Education Department and regional Drug Dispensary held the Olympics "No to drug addiction" («Нашақорлыққа жол жоқ!») in Taraz college of "service and technology". More than 600 students participated in the competition.

The purpose of the event is to promote a healthy lifestyle and drug prevention among adolescents and young people, to strengthen measures to combat drug addiction.

The students enjoyed speeches by canine specialists from the regional police department and training officer, then sports competitions in football, volleyball, basketball, chess and checkers were held, and trainings were organized among students on this topic.

At the end of the Olympics, the winners were awarded certificates and active participants received letters of appreciation. <http://ru.zhambylnews.kz/lentanews/56901-v-taraze-proshla-spartakiada-nasha-orly-a-zhol-zho.html>

THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

🇷🇺 NAK RUSSIAN FEDERATION, JAPAN AND UN WILL OPEN IN AFGHANISTAN A CYNOLOGICAL CENTER TO BLOCK DRUG TRAFFIC

The first step in cooperation between Russia, Japan and the UN in countering the Afghan drug threat will be construction of a cynological center. This was announced on November 13 by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation Oleg Syromolotov.

"Together with our Japanese partners and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, we are launching a trilateral project to build a cynological center in Afghanistan," he said at a ceremonial event dedicated to the signing of a declaration of cooperation.

As Syromolotov explained, at the first three-year stage it is planned to build a cynological center in the city of Kabul, and then expand the geography of dogs' deployment at international airports in Afghanistan.

With the successful of this exercise, an increase in the number of dogs and expansion of geography is expected, in particular at the international airports of Kandahar, Herat, Mazar-i-Sharif. This will increase control by the Afghan authorities over the country's key airports.

The Deputy Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation also said that in October of this year, 15 Afghan staff members of the future dog training center had already completed a training program in the Rostov School of Service Dogs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation. https://www.znak.com/2018-11-12/rf_yaponiya_i_oon_otkroyut_v_afganistane_kinologicheskiy_centr_chtoby_blokirovat_narkotrafik

NEWS.am FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM BEGIN TO USE AI FOR DETECTION OF DRUG DEALERS

Facebook and Instagram are starting to use AI to identify drug dealers who interact with their customers through social networks. The technology of "proactive detection" allows one to delete photos that depict drugs, even before users can complain.

"Our technology recognizes images that contain not only prohibited substances themselves, but also information about their intention to sell, prices, telephone numbers and links to dealer accounts," said Kevin Martin, head of the Public Relations Department of Facebook.

The technology will also be developed and used by other IT companies, including Google and Twitter.

AI will replace moderators who were responsible for browsing pages, hashtags and groups for possible links to drug business.

The alliance called Tech Together to Fight the Opioid Crisis will be joined by researchers of the University of Alabama. They will track new sales tactics used by dealers, as well as new drug slang names.

Google spokesman Susan Molinari says that 50,000 queries related to opioids are registered daily in the search engine. <https://news.am/rus/news/481279.html>

🌸 VSÉ42.RU KEMEROVO GRAFFITISTS TO HELP COMBAT DRUG TRAFFICKING

Kemerovo activists are invited to take part in the action "Youth and graffiti-spray against spice!".

Kemerovo residents will gather on November 15 at the Youth Palace to take part in the action "Youth and graffiti-spray against spice!", city administration informs on the action. The event has repeatedly been held in the regions of Kuzbass. Its goal is to create an anti-drug environment in the city. To do this, volunteers take graffiti-cans in their hands and paint over inscriptions of drug dealers on the walls of houses, bus pavilions and road barriers. <https://news.vse42.ru/feed/show/id/29010753>

OTHER COUNTRIES

BELARUS

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH AUTHORITIES SHOULD WORK MORE ACTIVELY ON PREVENTION OF DRUG CRIMES

Education and health authorities should work more actively to prevent drug crimes, Deputy Head of the Presidential Administration of Belarus Valery Mitskevich said at an inter-ministerial coordination meeting on improving interaction in combating illicit drug trafficking and drug abuse prevention on November 15. Today, punitive measures alone are not enough, he noted.

"The main barrier to the spread of drugs should be total rejection by society, because drug users are more likely to be young people who do not realize the danger posed by drugs and psychotropics. Therefore, it is necessary to work here on anticipation through educational and health institutions, as well as families" - said the deputy head of the Presidential Administration.

Improving anti-drug propaganda is important. At the same time, taking into account the interests of young people, along with traditional media, social networks and other popular types of Internet resources should be actively involved in this issue. <https://www.belta.by/society/view/organy-obrazovaniya-i-zdravoohraneniya-dolzny-aktivnee-rabotat-po-profilaktike-narkoprestuplenij-325592-2018>

MORE THAN 1 TONNE OF DRUGS SEIZED IN BELARUS

The topic of drug threat in the country remains relevant.

At the same time, Interior Minister Igor Shunevich noted that the situation in Belarus is quite stable and controlled.

He also added that non-individual cases of delivery of equipment for clandestine manufacture of drugs were revealed.

"The drug market is adapting both to our efforts and to the measures that have been worked out by the state." We began to state such rather alarming facts when special equipment for domestic handicraft production of drugs is imported into the country. It is primitive in its technological process, yet gives a certain effect in the manufacture of drugs. "The cases of arrest of such equipment in the country today are not unique," said I. Shunevich.

The equipment is intended for the production of a number of synthetic drugs. Now the circumstances of the entry into the country are being established.

The main share of drug traffic goes to Belarus from Russia, including re-exported hashish.

- We know these ways of entering the country, there have been much more detentions at the border through such channels. Only this year about a ton of drugs was seized, the

minister added.<https://www.kp.by/online/news/3298060/>

PRC

TASS IMPORTANT ROLE OF SCO IN COMBATING DRUG TRAFFICKING FROM AFGHANISTAN STATED IN CHINA

On November 13, the Deputy Minister of Public Security of the PRC, Liu Yuejin, noted that the SCO had played an important role in the fight against drug trafficking from Afghanistan this year.

"The SCO has become an important platform in countering drug trafficking from Afghanistan, in 2018 it has actively contributed to solving the drug problem in this country," he said at a meeting of experts of the Paris Pact initiative in Beijing. "To this end, the organization's members cooperate with each other at the level of heads of competent departments, high-ranking officials and expert mechanisms in all directions ". The deputy minister underscored that the problem of preventing drug trafficking from Afghanistan and eradicating drug production facilities in this country should be carried out jointly with active cooperation of the SCO states and international organizations. In particular, Liu Yuejin proposed to intensify the exchange of information and important data, which will allow, according to him, to increase the detection of cross-border crimes.<https://tass.ru/mezhdunarodnaya-panorama/5785287>

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