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

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ON CARICC MEMBER STATES

THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

THE NATIONAL GUARDS MILITARY WAS INFORMED ON THE DANGER OF DRUGS
Servicemen of the National Guard attended a lecture on dangers of drugs and psychotropic substances. The Division for Combating Drug Trafficking of the Department of Internal Affairs of Almaty conducted a lecture on the dangers of drugs and psychotropic substances for 150 servicemen of the National Guard. "In particular, the types of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, their impact on health and what legal consequences result from the use of the substances are explained. The servicemen are told that drug addiction causes psychological and physical dependence, and also leads to death of a person. At the same time, the unit's employees are informed how to identify drug addicts during patrolling by servicemen and how to act when meeting them," said Acting Head of the Department for Combating Drug Trafficking of the Almaty Department of Internal Affairs, Colonel of Police Nurlan Moshkalov. https://www.inalmaty.kz/news/2135458

HOW MANY DRUG ADDICTS IN ALMATY
Currently, 624 drug users are registered. At the same time, over 700 people were removed from the register for the first six months. 701 people were taken off the register in the Almaty city Center of Mental Health for the first half of the year. This was announced by the director of this medical institution Sapar Rakhmensheev during a press conference. According to him, out of the above number of dispensary patients, 575 patients with alcoholism and 126 with drug addiction were discharged. Of these, 342 people, that is almost 50%, were removed from the register in connection with recovery. In addition, 198 patients were taken off the register in "connection with death", 106 in "connection with the lack of information", 31 in "connection with retirement". The rest were removed from the register for such reasons as in "connection with the transfer from preventive registration to dispensary", in "connection with adulthood", in "connection with the change in diagnosis". "With regard to the psychoactive substances (PS) they use, the use of opioids is leading (63 people, including 6 women), mixed use of drugs and other PS (44 people, including 8 women), and cannabinoids (17 person, including 1 woman). For the use of other stimulants or volatile solvents, only 1 person was taken into account," the speaker said. Also S. Rakhmensheev noted that currently 624 drug users are registered. Opioids (792 people, including 97 women), combined use of various drugs and other PS (716 people, including 96 women) and the cannabis group (87 people, including 3 women) are again leading in terms of the types of drugs used. At the same time, with the use of synthetic
drugs (speed, legalka, mef, salt, JWH), 24 people were registered. In addition, according to the speaker for 6 months of this year 448 people were treated in hospitals. Of these, 57 people using opioids, 3 people using cannabinoids, 19 people using other stimulants, and 369 people with combined use of drugs and other PS. Also 138 people were treated who used the above-mentioned synthetic drugs. https://www.zakon.kz/4933412-bolee-700-chelovek-snyato-s-ucheta-v.html

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

SCIENTISTS AND POLICE WILL LEARN TO PREDICT DRUG EPIDEMICS IN RUSSIA
To prevent drug epidemics in Russia a new center for toxicology and forecasting will be created. The main research will be held at the Central Chemical-Toxicological Laboratory of the Sechenov University. Within the center, specialists will synthesize possible compounds, which will allow them to carefully study their effects and develop ways to deal with them. With the help of special programs, scientists will select scientific articles related to narcotic drugs and then study publications about which of them were found in illicit trafficking. According to one of the initiators of the establishment of the institution, the head of the Center for Bioanalytical Research and Molecular Design of the Institute of Translational Medicine and Biotechnology of the First Moscow State Medical University named after Sechenov, such a structure will help to study the influence of narcotic substances on people, develop modern pharmacological means, reduce the spread of new types of drugs.
At the same time, scientists will receive samples of drugs from law enforcement officers. The scheme of interaction between scientists and law enforcement agencies will be simple, the creators of the center promise. The police will transfer the seized psychotropic substances to the experts, and they will try to reproduce them in the laboratory to assess the properties of the compounds and subsequently create test systems.
The main research will be held at the Central Chemical and Toxicology Laboratory of the Sechenov University. The center will also conduct consultations on new substances with the NSC of Narcology Center named after Serbskiy. https://360tv.ru/news/tekst/predskazyvat-narkoticheskie-epidemii-nauchatsya-v-rossii-dlia-etoto-obedinjat-sily-uchenyh-i-politsii/

IN RUSSIA, THE NUMBER OF TREATED DRUG ADDICTS DECREASED BY 35% FOR TEN YEARS
in 2017, there were 1,525 such patients per 100,000 people, including a preventive surveillance group. In 2007 their number was 2360.5 per 100 thousand people of the population.
The doctor-narcologist M.Saraev believes, that first of all the general trend for the improvement of the nation - the refusal of the population from alcohol and narcotic substances - influenced the statistics. According to him, not the least role in this was played by the state's fight with the drug business and illegal production of alcohol, as well as the ban on the sale of alcohol to minors and at certain times of the day. "State and public influence led to a decrease. To date, harm reduction programs and prevention of alcoholism and drug addiction have been made," he says. - In addition, the population itself took up the mind. The economic level of the country has grown,
accordingly, there is something to do, the institution of the family has become stronger, sport has become popular," explained Sarayev. Also for 10 years the number of private narcological clinics has increased, the expert notes. Sarayev believes that many now prefer to contact private clinics that do not provide data for official statistics. https://russian.rt.com/russia/news/547616-pacienty-rossiya-zavisimost

PENZA ACTIVISTS DISTRIBUTED MORE THAN 500 ANTI-DRUG BROCHURES
The sixth action "Sursky region - without drugs!" has started in the Penza region. Within a month, volunteers together with law enforcement agencies and prosecutors will conduct activities aimed at promoting healthy lifestyles, as well as countering the drug threat. On the first day of the action, specialists from the multifunctional youth center distributed more than 500 information leaflets. "The main goal is to inform citizens that narcotic substances have a negative impact on health. And, of course, we share contacts where a citizen can turn to, if, for example, they sell something, they use prohibited substances," said N. Dyachkova, a specialist of the multifunctional youth center of the Penza region. "Following the results of 2017 within the framework of the action, in connection with the sale of narcotic drugs, 6 criminal cases were opened. Also, a number of persons were brought to administrative responsibility, more than 30 people were caught driving the vehicle under the influence of narcotic intoxication," M. Aparov, the assistant to the prosecutor of the Leninsky district of Penza noted. http://tv-express.ru/sobitiya/penzenskie-aktivisty-razdali-bolee-500-antinarkoticheskikh-listovok

ON OTHER COUNTRIES

PRC

China introduced a new reward system to further mobilize the public to participate in anti-drug campaigns. For people reporting verified information about drug-related crimes, there is a remuneration of 300 to 20 thousand yuan, and in some cases up to 300 thousand yuan for a special contribution. This is stated in the directive jointly issued by the State Committee of the People's Republic of China on Combating Drug Abuse, the Ministry of Public Security of China and the Ministry of Finance of the PRC. The document is intended to create a mechanism for preserving the confidentiality of information, according to which the information provided should not be disclosed without their prior consent. https://news.rambler.ru/asia/40644696-kitay-budet-voznagrazhat-za-informatsiyu-o-svyazannyh-s-narkotikami-prestupleniyah/
COLOMBIA

DRONS STARTED TO PATROL THE FIELDS OF COLOMBIA

Colombian law enforcers invented a new way to deal with drug plantations, which grows raw materials for the production of cocaine. Cocaine fields will now be sprayed with toxic substances using special flying drones. The Colombian police have already tried out the new way of destroying drug plantations and was satisfied with its effectiveness.

"The treatment of cocaine fields with potent herbicides is not a new idea, we already used such a strategy, but we used light-engine aircraft for this, the method had certain shortcomings associated with the use of aircraft - with their help it is quite difficult to deliver the poison exactly to where it is needed, and not to touch neighboring fields with useful crops. Drones solve this problem," said Colombian President Ivan Duque.

At the moment, Colombian policemen have about a dozen drones for spraying fields, but it is expected that their number will be significantly increased in the near future.


MEXICO

MEXICO SPEAKS FOR THE MITIGATION OF LAWS IN THE SPHERE OF DRUG CONTROL

The future government of Mexico intends to convey to the United Nations the idea of softening international legislation in the field of combating the spread of drugs. The future Minister of the Interior of Mexico, Olga Sanchez Cordero, said in international institutions that it is necessary to raise the issue of the participation of more countries in the fight against drugs and in the relaxation of international criminal law. Mexico intends to decriminalize the use of marijuana, as well as poppy for medical purposes. According to her, the legislation is too strict for young people convicted of storing several grams of marijuana or to the so-called "mules" - people who are used without their knowledge to smuggle banned substances.


THE NETHERLANDS

IN THE NETHERLANDS SYNTHETIC DRUGS WORTH € 19 BILLION HAVE BEEN PRODUCED IN A YEAR

The market price of synthetic drugs produced in the Netherlands in 2017 is € 19 billion, according to the report of the police academy in Apeldoorn.

Experts note that € 5 billion of this amount will settle in the pockets of producers. The Netherlands holds a leading position in the market for the production of ecstasy and amphetamine. In many ways, this is attributed to the country's good infrastructure, a relatively tolerant attitude towards this type of drug, and also to a limited number of policemen specializing in combating illicit drug trafficking.


This information has been extracted from open sources and is intended only for the competent authorities of the CARICC member states, observer states and other partners of the Center
CENTRAL ASIAN REGIONAL INFORMATION AND COORDINATION CENTRE FOR COMBATING THE ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING OF NARCOTIC DRUGS, PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND THEIR PRECURSORS

ЦЕНТРАЛЬНОАЗИАТСКИЙ РЕГИОНАЛЬНЫЙ ИНФОРМАЦИОННЫЙ КООРДИНАЦИОННЫЙ ЦЕНТР ПО БОРЬБЕ С НЕЗАКОННЫМ ОБОРОТОМ НАРКОТИЧЕСКИХ СРЕДСТВ, ПСИХОТОРПНЫХ ВЕЩЕСТВ И ИХ ПРЕКУРСОРОВ