

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

14-20.01.2019

№ 3

CARICC MEMBER STATES

THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

15.01.2019 Police officers of the Garadagh district of Baku at a road patrol post in the village of Sakhil located on the 36th km of the Baku-Gazakh highway stopped a Mitsubishi car driven by a local resident. During a personal search of a male passenger, **16.26 kg of marijuana and 470 g of heroin** were found. A criminal case was instituted on this fact. <https://www.salamnews.org/ru/news/read/335151>

19.01.2019 Officers of the Garadagh district police department uncovered criminal activities of an organized criminal group engaged in the sale of narcotic substances. Five people were detained, including one woman, at whose place of residence in the cities of Baku, Sumgait and the village of Lokbatan, **3.137 kg of heroin, 2.109 kg of marijuana and 470 g of opium** were found and seized. During searches, six smoke bombs and two hand grenades were also discovered and confiscated. Drugs were previously purchased from an Iranian citizen. On this fact, a criminal case was opened. <http://interfax.az/view/754912>

THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

19.01.2019 Officers of the Organized Crime Combating Department of the Zhambyl region Police Department identified and stemmed activities of a transnational organized criminal group engaged in transportation and sale of narcotic drugs on a large scale from the Kyrgyz Republic to Kazakhstan. The UBOP, UBN, UKP, SU, UTV, OCU DP of Zhambyl region and the Ontustik Regional Office of the Border Guard of the National Security Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the Zhualynskiy district and in Astana detained a group of eight people. As a result of operational-search measures, a narcotic drug, **a rare variety marijuana (Indian cannabis) weighing 11 kg** purchased in Kyrgyzstan for further sale was found and seized. <https://www.zakon.kz/4954711-transnatsionalnaya-opg-narkotorgovtsev.html>

THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

14.01.2019 A 22-year-old resident of Moscow was detained by officers of UKON UMVD of Russia in the Smolensk region in the city of Safonovo on suspicion of illegal sale of narcotic drugs. During a personal search of the suspect, about **160 g of heroin** was found packaged in convolution for further sale in a contactless manner in the territory of the Smolensk region. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15485205>

14.01.2019 Officers of the UKON of the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Tver region detained two residents of the Moscow region aged 24 and 37 on suspicion of selling narcotic drugs. The suspects illegally stored 113 convolutions with **heroin with a total weight of more than 250 g** for the purpose of selling. Drug dealers

planned to distribute the drug on the territory of the Tver region through caches. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15485045>

14.01.2019 Officers of the UKON of the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Oryol region detained a 25-year-old resident of Oryol, who was suspected of selling drugs. During a personal search and as a result of a search at the place of residence of the detainee, **heroin with a total weight of 574.5 g** was found and seized. Investigation is being conducted on this fact, and a measure of restraint in the form of detention was selected. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15487617>

15.01.2019 Officers of the Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Kaluga region detained a 38-year-old citizen from a countries of the near abroad on suspicion of selling a large consignment of narcotic substance through a cache. During the detention, 10 convolutions **with heroin weighing about 20 g** were seized from the suspect. Later, as a result of searches at the man's place of residence, more than **200 g of heroin** were found and seized. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15496748>

16.01.2019 UKON UMVD of Russia in the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Okrug - Yugra, in collaboration with colleagues from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the city of Surgut, detained two local residents aged 30 and 33 years suspected of selling drugs. During operational-search activities and investigative actions, about **1.5 kg of hashish, about 12 g of cocaine, more than 8 g of Ecstasy and 20 g of mephedrone** as well as items and equipment used in criminal activities were seized. The defendants planned to distribute drugs in the territory of Ugra. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15506388>

17.01.2019 Officers of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia for the city of Vladikavkaz of the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania detained two 21-year-olds born in a neighboring country on suspicion of illegal sale of drugs. During a personal search, two packages containing **228 g of heroin** were found and seized from the suspects. In addition, a mobile phone was confiscated from drug dealers, with the help of which they recorded coordinated of caches. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15514325>

17.01.2019 Officers of drug control units of the Linear Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia at the Ussuriisk station and the Nakhodka Linear Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia on Transport detained a 53-year-old national of a Central Asian state. About **3 kg of heroin** were found in a compartment of a passenger train travelling from Novosibirsk to Vladivostok, when carrying out inspection of the luggage of the above mentioned passenger. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15517187>

18.01.2019 Officers of the Criminal Investigation Department of the OMVD of Russia for the Solnechnogorsky district of the Moscow region detained two local residents aged 36 and 52 who were suspected of selling narcotic drugs and seized more than **1 kg of "spice"** prepared for further sale. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15531521>

18.01.2019 Officers GKON OMVD of Russia in the Prigorodny district of the Republic of North Ossetia detained a 24-year-old resident of the Moscow region, national of a neighboring country, suspected of attempt to sell drugs. During a personal search, **123 g of**

heroin were seized from the man. The drug was packaged for sale via caches in the district. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15532706>

18.01.2019 Officers of the OKON MO of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia "Tobolsky" of the Tyumen region detained a suspect in an attempt to sell drugs on a particularly large scale to a 19-year-old resident of the Chelyabinsk region who tried to sell narcotic drugs through a cache in the city cemetery. During a personal search of the detainee, in places of caches and at the place of residence, were found and seized more than **700 g of mephedrone** as well as packaging material, scales and money obtained from the sale of narcotic drugs. Drugs were intended for distribution in Tobolsk through an Internet application. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/15535819>

OTHER COUNTRIES

AUSTRALIA

16.01.2019 As part of the joint operation of the Joint Organized Crime Task Force (JOCTF), which included representatives of the Australian Federal Police, the Victoria Police, the Australian Border Guard Service and the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission, with the assistance of the Victoria Narcotics Police Task Force, the Australian Federal Police and the Victoria Police in Melbourne arrested eight people. A drug syndicate organized delivery of drugs to the country from Malaysia using crew of the international airline Malindo Air as couriers. 4 detained women, flight attendants were charged with drug smuggling. As a result of seven search warrants in suburbs of Melbourne, Richmond, Southbank, Abbotsford, Sunshine North and Melbourne, **6 kg of heroin** worth \$ 14.5 million were seized; **8 kg of methamphetamine** worth 6.4 million US dollars; **0.5 kg of cocaine**; medicinal paraphernalia; two vehicles were arrested as well as a significant amount of cash obtained through drug trafficking.

<https://newsroom.abf.gov.au/releases/eight-arrested-as-part-of-joint-agency-drug-operation>

16.01.2019 The Australian Federal Police (AFP) with assistance of the Australian Border Force (ABF) seized about **21 kg of methamphetamine** during an investigation into activities of a drug syndicate. The drug was found in an industrial furnace shipped from Canada to Perth, located in the state of Western Australia. AFP agents executed several search warrants in the metropolitan area of Perth with assistance of the Western Australian Police and the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (ACIC). Worth of the seized consignment is estimated at \$ 19 million. Three men from suburbs of Kundula, Girravkhin and Shelley were charged with crimes related to drug smuggling. The drug syndicate responsible for smuggling has operated in Perth for a long period and has had connections with organized criminal groups in Vietnam and Canada. Investigation into this fact continues.

<https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/authorities-dismantle-wa-based-drug-syndicate-21kg-methamphetamine-seizure>

IRAN

19.01.2019 Forces of the Intelligence Ministry of Iran in the southern port of the country stemmed smuggling of **618 kg of heroin** intended for shipment to Europe. The cargo of heroin was packed in transit packages and carefully placed in four 40-foot containers.

<http://www.irna.ir/en/News/83176488>

ITALY

15.01.2019 Officers of the Italian finance military police and customs confiscated more than **115 kg of pure cocaine** in a major operation against the criminal syndicate Ndrangheta in the southern port of Gioia Tauro. Drugs were hidden aboard a cargo ship inside a container with paper reels from San Antonio, Chile. The ship had a stop at the Panamanian port of Rodman and its final destination was the port of Livorno in central Italy. The confiscated cocaine is estimated at 23 million euros. The port of Gioia Tauro in the region of Calabria is considered to be a major center for the international drug trade and is under control of the criminal syndicate Ndrangheta, which is considered the most powerful of the three traditional Italian mafia organizations. According to anti-drug services of Italy, in recent years most of cocaine smuggling into Europe has been delivered from South America through the port of Gioia Tauro.

http://www.china.org.cn/world/Off_the_Wire/2019-01/15/content_74376357.htm

CANADA

18.01.2019 In the port of Halifax, the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) discovered **4.76 kg of cocaine** during a search of a shipping container loaded with charcoal to Israel. As a result of inspection activities, 33 packages of cocaine were found. Seized drugs were transferred to the Federal Serious and Organized Crime (FSOC) Section. As a result of informing the Israeli side about this consignment of drugs, the Israeli National Police (INP) in Tel Aviv arrested 11 suspects. It was a joint operation involving international partners, CBSA, RCMP and INP.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2019/01/cocaine-seizure-at-port-of-halifax.html>

COLOMBIA

14.01.2019 Officers of the National Police through the Directorate of Counternarcotics at the Alfonso Bonilla International Airport of Aragon at the point of departure inside seven PVC pipes found **189 kg of marijuana**. Consignment was shipped from the Colombian city of Leticia and the final destination was Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

<https://www.policia.gov.co/noticia/incautamos-189-kilos-marihuana-ocultos-tubos-pvc>

MALAYSIA

14.01.2019 As a result of stemming criminal activities of two gangs of smugglers, police seized about **600 kg of crystalline methamphetamine**, most of which were in a container ship in the northern state of Perak. Special operations were carried out a month after police seized a record volume of 1.2 tons of crystalline methamphetamine imported under the guise of a batch of tea from Myanmar.

<https://news.sky.com/story/malaysian-police-seize-600kg-of-crystal-meth-in-huge-drugs-bust-11607109>

MOROCCO

14.01.2019 Police at Mohammed V Airport in Casablanca arrested a 36-year-old Nigerian citizen for attempting to smuggle **5.13 kg of cocaine** in luggage. Police placed the suspect

in custody for further investigation under the supervision of prosecutor. <https://www.moroccoworldnews.com/2019/01/263298/casablanca-airport-police-nigerian-cocaine/>

MEXICO

14.01.2019 The Ministry of Navy in Tuxpan, Veracruz, on the ship Hunan under the flag of Singapore heading to New Orleans, discovered **29 kg of cocaine**. An illegal shipment arrived from Barranquilla in Colombia. As a result of inspections by naval personnel and the Maritime Customs, 29 packs of cocaine were found in the ship's hold. <http://www.e-veracruz.mx/nota/2019-01-14/estado/buque-con-cargamento-de-cocaina-fue-detenido-en-tuxpan>

PAKISTAN

15.01.2019 Police at the Fahirabad checkpoint on the Mianwali-Talagang road as a result of stopping and fully inspecting a vehicle detected and seized **30 kg of heroin**. Two smugglers who were in the car - the driver, a man and a passenger woman, were arrested. Heroin packs were hidden in different parts of the car. Drug couriers were heading to Karachi. <https://www.dawn.com/news/1457559/bid-to-smuggle-30kg-heroin-foiled>

16.01.2019 Anti-Narcotics Forces (ANF) in a package addressed to a recipient in Canada found **1.12 kg of heroin**. Police stations in Korangi, Karachi found a suspicious package in the office of a private courier service with drugs hidden in women's suits after receiving intelligence. <https://tribune.com.pk/story/1888901/1-heroin-hidden-fancy-ladies-suits-seized-karachi/>

USA

16.01.2019 Kearney police in Nebraska together with the Central Nebraska Drugs Task Force arrested two people who illegally stored **2.27 kg of methamphetamine** in their home. <https://www.ksnblocal4.com/content/news/KPD-continues-investigating-major-meth-bust-504460471.html>

17.01.2019 Border patrol agents in Rio Grande City, Texas, inside an SUV used to transport drugs, which was removed from a river, found and seized **317.51 kg cocaine**. An investigation is underway on this fact, no one has been arrested as a result of the incident. <https://www.krgv.com/news/hundreds-of-pounds-of-cocaine-seized-in-rio-grande-city/>

17.01.2019 The Webb Sheriff's office in Texas, after stopping traffic on Ring Road 20, detained a 41-year-old illegal immigrant from Nuevo Laredo (Mexico), and about **57 g of cocaine**. Subsequently, during a search of the residence in the south of Laredo, **9.7 kg of cocaine** and about 18 thousand US dollars were discovered and confiscated by the police. The investigation also seized two cars. estimated street value of the consignment of cocaine is 670 thousand US dollars. The case has been submitted to the Drug Enforcement Administration for further investigation. <https://www.lmtonline.com/local/crime/article/Mugshot-Webb-County-Sheriff-s-Office-seizes-10-13541110.php>

18.01.2019 A police raid by officers of Drug and Gang Enforcement team at two locations in Medford seized **910 grams of heroin** and \$ 100,000 in cash obtained from drug trafficking in southern Oregon. Arrested was 34-year-old woman accused of committing a serious crime with drugs and money laundering. <http://mailtribune.com/news/crime-courts-emergencies/100k-heroin-seized-from-medford-houses>

18.01.2019 Members of the Drugs and Violent Crimes Task Force of Beckley County, West Virginia found and seized **320 grams of heroin** in a house search in Beckley. Market value of seized heroin is estimated at 64 thousand US dollars. In the house were also found two weapons. A man from Clinton, South Carolina was arrested on charges of possession for drug trafficking. <https://www.wvnstv.com/local-news/raleigh-county/more-than-1500-doses-found-in-beckley-heroin-bust/1710092598>

TURKEY

14.01.2019 In the eastern province of Van, anti-drug police groups conducted an operation on the Erzurum-Erzincan road, with resulted in discovery and seizure of **217.5 kg of heroin** in a truck trailer. The driver and alleged owner of the furniture shipment that was transported in the truck were detained.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/todays-headlines/over-217-kg-of-heroin-seized-in-eastern-turkey/1364663>

16.01.2019 In the eastern province of Van, police stopped a truck with a trailer on the Edremit highway, which carried more than **133 kg of heroin**. As a result of inspections involving a service dog, 259 packages of heroin weighing more than 133 kg were found and seized in a truck trailer. Vehicle driver was arrested. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/over-133-kg-of-heroin-seized-in-eastern-turkey/1366057>

SRI-LANKA

16.01.2019 A 53-year-old man was arrested by officers of the Colombo Police Narcotics Bureau in Kotalavale, Kaduwela in the Western Province of Sri Lanka. He carried more than **5 kg of heroin** on a three-wheeled vehicle. <https://www.newsfirst.lk/2019/01/17/police-bust-yields-5-kg-of-heroin/>