

Unofficial translation

CARICC WEEKLY SUMMARY

(based on mass media reports)

04-10.03.2019

№ 10

CARICC MEMBER STATES

THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

05.03.2019 Officers of the regional branch of the General Directorate on Combating Drugs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Azerbaijan in the southern region detained a resident of Jalilabad district suspected of drug trafficking. In total, about **13 kg of opium and 66.7 g of heroin** were found and seized from the detainee during a personal search and at his place of residence. Drugs were acquired from an unidentified citizen of Iran. A criminal case was initiated against the detainee on this fact.

<https://www.trend.az/azerbaijan/incident/3028728.html>

THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

07.02.2019 Officers of the Border Guard Service of the National Security Committee of the Republic of Kazakhstan at the "Kordai Avto" border checkpoint of the Korday border guard detachment of the Ontustik Regional Office detained a deaf-mute citizen of the Kyrgyz Republic born in 1980 traveling from the Kyrgyz Republic to Kazakhstan on foot. During a personal search, it was found that 4 plastic bags wrapped with cling film, containing **hashish weighing more than 4 kg**, were fastened around the woman's belt. To disguise the odor of the drug, drug couriers used red pepper between layers of the package. An accomplice was also identified and detained - a "customer" of smuggling, a citizen of Kazakhstan born in 1962, who offered the woman 20,000 Kyrgyz soms (about 100,000 tenge) to deliver drugs to destination. He accompanied the detained citizen of the Kyrgyz Republic at a distance. The suspects and physical evidence were transferred to the Police Department of Kordai region.

https://www.kt.kz/rus/society/kazahstanskije_pogranichni_ki_obnaruzhili_u_gluhonemoy_1377881608.html

THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

04.03.2019 Officers of the Transport Police in Vologda detained a 23-year-old resident of Vologda who was suspected of selling drugs through caches in the city. **Over 1 kg of various synthetic drugs**, as well as equipment and devices for their packaging were seized at the place of residence of the criminal. He managed to equip 5 caches, from which **750 g of synthetic drugs** were extracted. A criminal case was initiated against the detainee. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16053956>

05.03.2019 Officers of UKON of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Republic of Buryatia in Ulan-Ude suppressed illegal activities of a 22-year-old local resident suspected of attempting to sell narcotic drugs. In a forest area near the village of Yuzhny, about **750 grams of a synthetic drug** that the man purchased in the Trans-Baikal region and intended to sell on the territory of Ulan-Ude using the Internet were seized from a cache

equipped by him. Law enforcers initiated a criminal case. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16069019>

06.03.2019 Officers of UNK of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Kaluga region in Kaluga detained a 44-year-old local resident suspected of attempting to sell **80.99 grams of heroin** through a cache. The drug was packaged in 45 convolutions. The man carried out criminal activity in the territory of the cities of Kaluga and Obninsk. He was engaged in systematic sale of drugs through specially equipped caches and online messengers. Criminal cases were initiated against the suspect. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16080418>

06.03.2019 Officers of UKON GU Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia in the Novosibirsk region detained a 24-year-old resident of Novosibirsk, who organized a synthetic drugs laboratory with intention of further marketing. During an inspection of the premises rented by the suspect for manufacture of drugs, about **4.4 kg of mephedrone** were discovered and seized. In addition to drugs, two polymer canisters with liquids, packaging material, a vacuum sealer, glass flasks with residues of substance, a magnetic stirrer, electronic scales, ingredients and precursors for production of drugs of synthetic origin were seized. A criminal case was initiated against the detainee. <https://xn--b1aew.xn--p1ai/news/item/16079005>

THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

11.03.2019 SGB officers at the Sarmizhon post in Gizhduvan district as a result of stopping and inspecting a Chevrolet Lacetti car moving in the direction of Tashkent-Bukhara, found a package with **8080 tramadol tablets** in the vehicle's backseat. A similar incident occurred in the Syrdarya district of the Syrdarya region. During an inspection of a car "Chevrolet Cobalt" in the trunk were found **1980 tablets of tramadol**. In addition, in Tashkent, the SGB officers stopped a VAZ-2106 car for inspection, in the cabin of which **3,000 tramadol tablets** were found and seized. Drivers - drug traffickers were detained. Criminal proceedings were instituted on the facts of drug smuggling. http://uza.uz/ru/society/sgb-predotvratila-torgovli-tabletki-tramadol-v-krupnym-razme-11-03-2019?m=y&ELEMENT_CODE=sgb-predotvratila-torgovli-tabletki-tramadol-v-krupnym-razme-11-03-2019&SECTION_CODE=society

OTHER COUNTRIES

BRAZIL

03.03.2019 Agents of the Federal Revenue Administration in the port of Santos on the coast of São Paulo inside a container with a load of fresh lemons discovered **1787 kg of cocaine**. Drug consignment was confiscated and transferred to the Santos Federal Police Station which will continue the investigation. Lemons were packed in cardboard boxes and distributed in 22 pallets. The final destination of the consignment was the port of Cartagena (Spain) with shipment to the port of Algeciras. The drug was placed in a container with a legal commercial cargo without the knowledge of exporters and importers. <https://g1.globo.com/sp/santos-regiao/porto-mar/noticia/2019/03/09/receita-federal-localiza-1700-kg-de-cocaina-escondida-em-carga-de-limos-no-porto-de-santos-sp.ghtml>

VIETNAM

06.03.2019 Competent forces in the northern highland province of Hoa Binh detained two drug dealers traveling on a motorcycle in the direction of the northern highland province of Son La-Hanoi transporting **688.48 g of heroin**. Drug traffickers were detained on National Highway 6 in Quy Hau municipality, Tan Lac district. <https://en.vietnamplus.vn/two-arrested-with-heroin-in-hoa-binh/147831.vnp>

INDIA

09.03.2019 The Joint Narcotics and Affairs of Border (NAB) unit, together with the Narcotic Control Bureau, the Kangpokpi District Police, other units and officials of the Forest and Revenue Department carried out an anti-drug operation against illicit opium poppy crops in the Moljang Hill Ridge and surroundings. An illegal poppy plantation on an area of 66.77 hectares (165 acres) was destroyed during the special operation. About **1,650 kg of opium** could be produced from the opium poppy on the plantation. On this fact NAB Manipur registered a criminal case. <http://www.thesangaiexpress.com/poppy-plants-destroyed-8/>

SPAIN

04.03.2019 Agents of the Civil Guard of Valencia and the Directorate of Customs Supervision (DABA) seized **475 kg of cocaine** in a joint operation in the port of Valencia. Five people were arrested, of which three Spanish truck drivers, a Colombian and a Kosovo Albanian, are all members of a gang of drug dealers. The cocaine consignment was hidden in a container with legal goods in the country of origin without the knowledge of exporter or importer, and had to reach the port of destination and be retrieved before the cargo reached the end of the route. The Civil Guard detained drug dealers after they collected cocaine backpacks from the container and loaded them into a truck. The consignment is estimated at 16.2 million euros. Container arrived from Costa Rica. <https://www.lasprovincias.es/sucesos/intervienen-kilos-cocaina-20190306193606-nt.html>

IRELAND

08.03.2019 Irish Police agents (Garda Síochána) in Ballinhsig in West Cork detained a 38-year-old Hungarian citizen who was transporting about **500 g of cocaine** in his car. During subsequent search of the suspect's house in the Bandon area, detectives discovered another **1.5 kg of cocaine**. <https://www.breakingnews.ie/ireland/man-arrested-after-cocaine-worth-90000-seized-in-west-cork-909712.html>

MEXICO

05.03.2019 Agents of the Regional Police Department of the District of Sonora in the municipality of Alamos, in the state of Sonora, discovered a land plot of 12.6 thousand square meters with marijuana. In total, the regional security unit of the Federal Police discovered and destroyed about **85 tons of marijuana** after conducting tactical operations to detect illegal crops in the state. <https://www.riviera-maya-news.com/two-large-marijuana-crops-destroyed-by-sonora-feds/2019.html>

MYANMAR

04.03.2019 Police seized more than **10 million methamphetamine tablets** worth 13.3 million US dollars. Myanmar is considered the world's largest producer of methamphetamine. High-quality crystalline methamphetamine or "ice" is smuggled out of Myanmar through sophisticated networks to lucrative developed markets, including Japan, South Korea and Australia. Low-quality tablets (caffeine), known in the region as "Yaba", go to domestic market as well as to large drug-dependent communities in neighboring Thailand and Bangladesh. Two large quantities of methamphetamine were seized in the west of the country - one in the Magvey region and the other in the Maungdau region in Rakhine State. <https://www.afp.com/en/news/3954/myanmar-police-seize-massive-haul-meth-pills-doc-1e67gq2>

NICARAGUA

06.03.2019 The National Police officers during an operation in the southern part of the country near the seaside resort of La Boquita located in the municipality of Diriamba seized **150 kg of cocaine**. Drugs were inside 131 packs in a hidden compartment of a small bus. The bus driver left the scene after a bus stop. In another operation, a Guatemalan citizen transporting a cocaine consignment was detained by officers of the National Police at the Penas Blancas southern border post. http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/07/c_137875229.htm

PANAMA

08.03.2019 Police agents in the port of Colon, as a result of inspection of the ship "MSC KATHYA R" anchored in the terminal found **211 kg of cocaine** at a warehouse. The ship arrived to Panama from Ecuador. The cargo was bound for the USA. https://twitter.com/PGN_PANAMA/status/1103981698235154432
<http://ministeriopublico.gob.pa/en-menos-de-24-horas-decomisan-660-paquetes-de-sustancias-ilicitas/>
<http://www.policia.gob.pa/17686-en-coln-la-polica-nacional-en-coordinacin-con-el-ministerio-pblico-incautan-droga-y-dinero.html>

PAKISTAN

05.03.2019 The Islamabad Airport Security forces (ASF) stopped an attempt to smuggle a large amount of heroin. As a result of passenger's baggage screening traveling to Riyadh (Saudi Arabia) on a flight of the international airline XY-316, **1.5 kg of heroin** were found and seized. <https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2019/03/05/bid-to-smuggle-heroin-to-saudi-arabia-foiled-accused-held-at-islamabad-airport/>

10.03.2019 In the course of an intelligence-based counter narcotics operation on the island of Astol around Pasni, officers of the Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) using high-speed boats in the western maritime region stopped smuggling of **27 kg of synthetic heroin**. Consignment worth is estimated at 270 million rupees. <https://nation.com.pk/10-Mar-2019/pmsa-seizes-27kg-synthetic-heroin>

ROMANIA

04.03.2019 Officers of the Territorial Administration of Maramures with the support of the Territorial Services of Maramures and S.C.CO. at the checkpoint of Sighetu-Marmatiei,

Maramures district, located on the border with Ukraine, detained two citizens of the Netherlands - a man and a woman aged 29 and 44, who illegally brought a large quantity of heroin into the country. The smugglers entered the country by a car "Renault Sport GT" registered in Germany. Acting on the basis of risk analysis, border guards conducted a thorough inspection of the vehicle and baggage. A specially equipped cache was found in the floor of the car, where 167 packages of **heroin with a total weight of 84.3 kg** were concealed. <https://www.politiadefrontiera.ro/ro/sighetu-marmatiei/i-doi-olandezi-depistati-in-ptf-sighetu-marmatiei-cu-84-de-kilograme-de-heroina-16119.html>

SINGAPORE

09.03.2019 In the course of an anti-drug operation, agents of the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) arrested 136 drug suspects, including two elderly Singaporeans. During the operation, about **3.8 kg of heroin, 96 g of "ice", 88 g of cannabis, 83 g of new psychoactive substances (LEL), 56 tablets of ecstasy, five packets of LSD, two tablets of erimin-5 and 36 bottles of methadone** were confiscated. <http://theindependent.sg/cnb-arrests-136-including-elderly-singaporeans-found-with-3-75kg-of-heroin-and-other-drugs/>

USA

04.03.2019 US border patrol agents in the Rio Grande Valley, Texas, at the border with Mexico stopped numerous smuggling attempts, which resulted in about **877.7 kg of marijuana** seized. The smugglers fled to Mexico when agents tried to arrest them. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/border-patrol-seizes-over-15m-worth-marijuana-rio-grande-valley>

04.03.2019 A 53-year-old resident of Yuma and her husband were arrested by police as a result of stopping traffic for violating rules in Eloy, Pinal County, Arizona, on charges of transporting and selling synthetic opioid drug fentanyl . During inspection of the vehicle using a service dog, **3.86 kg of fentanyl** were found in her purse and under her clothes. <https://nypost.com/2019/03/08/arizona-woman-dressed-as-nun-busted-for-trafficking-heroin/>

05.03.2019 Agents of a task force as a result of stopping an 18-wheeled truck with a trailer on I-59/20 in Green County, Alabama, seized more than **453.59 kg of marijuana** and more than **11 thousand tetrahydrocannabinol vape cartridges**. 47-year-old driver was detained and charged with trafficking in marijuana in Green County. <http://www.wbrc.com/2019/03/07/more-than-pounds-marijuana-part-i-drug-bust/>

06.03.2019 A 44-year-old Mexican citizen from Caborka, Sonoran, was arrested by agents of US Customs and Border Protection in Port Loukville, Arizona for attempting to smuggle drugs. He filed an application to enter the United States on a Chevy pickup. As a result of inspection activities **24.95 kg of cocaine** were found under the door trim of the vehicle. Drug trafficker was arrested and handed over to representatives of US Homeland Security Investigations. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/lukeville-cbp-officers-seize-cocaine>

06.03.2019 US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers in the port of Nogales, Arizona sent a 57-year-old US citizen from Coolidge, Arizona, to further check his Saab car at the entrance to the US from Mexico. As a result of vehicle inspections, **15.88 kg of methamphetamine, 910 g of heroin and 2.27 kg of fentanyl** were discovered and

seized for a total value of about 239 thousand US dollars. Drugs and car were confiscated. Drug trafficker was arrested and transferred to the US Homeland Security Investigations. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/local-media-release/nogales-cbp-officers-seize-mixed-load>

TURKEY

04.03.2019 The Turkish Anti-Drug Police in a special operation in Istanbul seized **185 kg of cocaine**. The cocaine consignment was hidden in a banana banded container from Ecuador. The market value of the consignment is about 50 million Turkish liras (9.3 million US dollars).

<https://www.dailysabah.com/investigations/2019/03/04/185-kg-of-cocaine-seized-in-istanbul-amid-banana-shipment-from-ecuador>

04.03.2019 Anti-Drug Police officers in the governorate of Erzincan detained three trucks in the eastern province upon intelligence that drug groups are planning to supply large smuggled drugs to the west of Turkey by road. During a search of vehicles, 431 packages of **heroin with a total weight of about 293.2 kg** were found. Three drivers were arrested on suspicion of smuggling in connection with the incident. <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/turkey/police-seize-over-290-kg-of-heroin-in-eastern-turkey/1409066>

07.03.2019 Brigades of the District Customs Directorate and the Office for Combating Trafficking of the Ministry of Commerce of Turkey at the Hamsabeili-Lesovo border checkpoint located on the Turkish-Bulgarian border seized **42 kg of opium**. At the entrance to Hamzabeyli, a suspicious vehicle was checked with x-ray equipment. In the course of further inspections, 13 packages were found hidden in different places of the car. Opium consignment was confiscated, driver was arrested and sent to prison by a court order.

<https://www.novinite.com/articles/195631/Over+40+kg+of+Opium+Captured+at+the+Turkish-Bulgarian+Border>

PHILIPPINES

09.03.2019 The Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) with the assistance of the Philippine National Police (PNP) conducted a study of cocaine weighing **1,014.4 g** found in the waters of the city of Baras in Catanduanes. The cocaine package was caught by a fisherman and transferred to the Baras police station. The Philippines authorities consider such countries as Mexico and Colombia as the source of cocaine.

<http://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1064115>

SRI LANKA

05.03.2019 At the international airport Bandaranaike in Katunayaka, when trying to smuggle into the country in his baggage about **5 kg of cocaine**, was arrested 60-year-old citizen of Bolivia. Market value of cocaine exceeds 75 million rupees. Drug trafficker traveled from Brazil to India and then arrived in Sri Lanka via New Delhi.

<https://www.newsfirst.lk/2019/03/05/bolivian-national-arrested-rs-75-million-worth-cocaine-smuggled/>

UKRAINE

05.03.2019 Border guards of the Chernigov detachment of the State Border Service of Ukraine at the checkpoint "Senkivka" located on the border with Belarus and Russia

prevented an attempt to smuggle drugs by a citizen of Uzbekistan. The man followed to Ukraine in a Mercedes minibus registered in Ukraine. Border guards used a service dog to inspect the car. During the inspection of belongings in the man's suitcase, a jacket was found, in the lining of which 43 plastic bags of **marijuana with a total weight of 2.5 kg were** hidden. The citizen explained that he acquired marijuana in Uzbekistan. On this fact, a notice was sent to competent law enforcement agencies in order to identify signs of a criminal offense. <https://podrobnosti.ua/2286826-pod-kurtkoj-provezli-kilogrammy-narkotikov.html>

09.03.2019 Officers of the Mukachevo border detachment together with customs officers at the checkpoint "Luzhanka" in the Transcarpathian region detained a drug courier - a 35-year-old Turkish citizen who was transporting 59 briquettes with **heroin weighing 30.75 kg** in a cache equipped under the back seat of a Renault car with German registration numbers. A message was sent to the investigation department of the USBU in the Transcarpathian region for inclusion in the Unified Register of Pre-Trial Investigations of information on detection of signs of smuggling of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, their analogues or precursors. Turkish citizen was detained by USBU personnel. <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/avtomobil-z-ponad-30-kg-geroinu-prikordonniki-zatrimali-na-kordoni-z-ugorshchinoyu-/>

