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## **In Zabaikalsky Territory, group of locals charged with organization of illegal gambling**

The Zabaikalsky Regional Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation has filed charges against 17 local residents accused of committing offences under Part 3 of Article 171.2 (Illegal organization and holding of gambling committed by an organized group and related to the gaining of a large income), Paragraph A of Part 4 of Article 174.1 (legalization (laundering) of monetary funds or other property acquired by a person as a result of an offence committed by them, committed by an organized group, at a large scale), and Parts 1 and 2 of Article 210 (organization of a criminal community and participation in it) of the Criminal Code of Russia.

According to the investigators, the accused individuals had created a network of illegal gambling facilities located in Chita, Krasnokamensk, and settlements of Zabaikalsky and Aginskoe. For three years, the illegal gambling clubs had been operating as beer bars and internet cafes. The members of the criminal group had thoroughly concealed the activities of the illegal gambling clubs--only permanent clients had had access to the premises. The work of the nine illegal gambling clubs had been organized in such a manner. The illegal proceeds totaled over 30 million rubles.

Investigative actions are being conducted in order to establish all the circumstances of the offences. The criminal investigation is ongoing.

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