
A man suspected of organizing zorbing apprehended in Karachay-Cherkess Republic



The Karachay-Cherkessia investigating bodies of the Russia's Investigative Committee have launched criminal proceedings into death in the village of Dombay of Denis Burakov, 27, from Stavropol Territory. The case was started over signs of a crime under paragraph "c" of part 2 of article 238 of the RF Criminal Code (fulfillment of works or rendering of services which do not meet standards of safety to lives or health of consumers entailing by negligence grave injuries or death).

According to investigators, On 3 January 2013, Burakov and a friend of his Vladimir Shcherbov, 33, from Stavropol Territory took a ropeway to get from the village of Dombay to the peak of mountain Mussa-Achitaro, where decided to try zorbing. After being placed inside a zorbing ball of 3.5 meters in diameter, Burakov and Shcherbov were supposed to roll in it along the specially made route.

However because of unknown reasons, the ball swerved from the track and fell into the gorge Gonachkhir from the slope of 70-80 degrees. The zorbing ball fell about a kilometer and stopped on the ice sheet of lake Pavliny Glaz in Gonchakhir gorge. Burakof died of the injuries received by falling and Shcherbov was hospitalized with bad injuries.

The organizer of the zorbing local Ravil Chekunov, 25, has been questioned as a suspect. He said that had bought the zorbing ball from an unknown person only for his personal use. Chekunov does not have any documents allowing him to organize an attraction. He was detained. Investigators are preparing a petition requesting to place Chekunov into custody.

At present investigators are questioning witnesses of the accident and the victim's relatives and friends. Measures are taken to find all the persons involved in organizing the extreme attraction. Investigation is to be continued.

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