

Human Right Developments in Iran

Newsletter No.12



The Human Rights Development of Iran Newsletter,

stresses on the promotion of human rights through monitoring positive actions and developments that have occurred with regards to human rights and raising the awareness of the audience in this regard. This newsletter, compiles measures taken for the promotion and realisation of human rights for the transparency of the real human rights situation in Iran through benefiting from correct information and credible documents.



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1-Right to Education

1-1 Implementation of "Life's Actors Project" in 700 Schools

The Schoolchildren's Social Care System (NAMAD) and Life's Actors in Education and Training Project were launched towards the reduction of addiction and helping families to fight this phenomenon.

In this regard schoolchildren and their families learn necessary methods and skills to fight addiction and prevent its spread within families.

According to Education and Training Ministry reports, 700 out of 3000 schools in Tehran Province are running the Life's Actors Programme, in which period positive things have happened.

NAMAD and Life's Actors Programmes have had visible impacts on the education of schoolchildren and their families towards controlling and fighting drugs, and the continuation of this programme is an important step towards reduction of social and family harms.



1-2 Enrolment of 36,000 Children Left Behind from Education in Public Schools

According to Education and Training Ministry report, the grand total of registrations for primary school education in the education year 2018-19 reached 98.18 percent; in such way that from 2013 to 2019-20, 213,000 children left behind from education were identified by the Ministry and returned to school.

In the 2019-20 school year compared to the previous year, the number of children left behind from education has dropped. In this year 36,444 children were drawn into the education system, which compared to the previous year had a 1.7 percent increase.

Currently there are a total of 1,053,033 children in schools and the total number of pre-school classes is at 70,969, while we also have 185,000 nomadic schoolchildren who are studying in 12,500 classes in 6,100 schools.

The rate of pre-school education has reached 56 percent in rural regions, which indicates the improvement of practice indicators of education justice during school and pre-school. Towards this with drawing 72,689 new pre-school enrollers in schools in deprived and bilingual regions, the Education and Training Ministry has tried to expand education to all corners of the country, in a way that just in Sistan and Baluchistan Province 18,000



nomadic children are covered by education in nomadic schools.

1-3 Rehabilitation Allowance for Special Children

According to report approximately a budget of 40 billion Rials in the form of support package has been allocated for special schoolchildren in the country.

Rehabilitation services overall fall into two parts, one of which is in the form of hearing test and speech therapy services; these services have increased by 6 percent from the past. The other part of the services is related to rehabilitation services in the form of support packages to schoolchildren such as financial aid for walkers (Zimmer frames), wheelchairs, spectacles, and prosthetics.

In both aforementioned parts, financial assistance for special schoolchildren has visibly increased. For example financial assistance is provided for prosthetics to up to 100 million Rials, wheelchairs up to 12 million Rials, inner ear implants parts up to 25 million Rials, inner ear implants up to 80 million Rials and dental services up to 12 million Rials are provided for special schoolchildren.

Also for the preparation of prosthetics needed by special schoolchildren up to 7 million Rials, medical shoes up to 3 million Rials and hearing aid up to 3 million Rials financial assistance is provided.



This is while, financial assistance for hospital, paraclinical and ongoing medicinal services for special schoolchildren is provided in an unlimited way.





2-Women's Rights

2-1 Women Hold 15 Percent of Tehran Municipality Managerial Positions

In view of UNESCO 1995 Conference called "Women, Education and Empowerment: Pathways Towards Autonomy and also the Islamic Republic of Iran's policies with regards to allocating managerial positions for women, we are witness to increase in women's access to managerial posts in most governmental bodies. In this regard, Tehran Municipality also has eased women's access conditions to managerial positions.

According to women's achievements in five focal points such as increase in self-belief and self-confidence, become further knowledgeable about reproduction, decision-making and debating ability, increase in income making skills and awareness of Civil Code and effective participation have been placed in the working agenda of Tehran Municipality.



Article 74 of the Tehran City's Third Development Programme stresses on the promotion of the presence levels of women in municipality managerial posts. Figures show that in over a decade, women's share in Tehran municipality has continually and gradually been on the rise and currently 20 percent of employees are women.

In fact in the last two years, a notable leap has been made in women's share of managerial positions. Currently under the new mayorship's administration approximately 15 percent of Tehran Municipality's managerial posts (equal to 703 posts) are occupied by women.





3- Refugees Rights

3-1 Iran Breaks World Record on Refugee Students Attending Public Schools

While in the past, access to education was one of the problems of the country's education system, currently not only education coverage at primary school level has reached 98.18 percent, but also very good services are provided for foreign refugees such as Afghan nationals. According to figures published by the Education and Training Ministry, in education of foreign nationals, we have registered more than 540,000 refugee children, a world record number. This is while according to the Supreme Leader's decree, all foreign national children, benefit official education must from without consideration of their stay status.



It must be said that currently the Islamic Republic of Iran is host to one of the largest and most protracted urban refugee populations worldwide, with approximately 3 million Afghans (including registered and non-registered Afghans living in the country. Afghan refugees have been guests in this country for more than 30 years. Also, in terms of number of refugees, Iran is the fourth largest refugee population (979,410) in the world. Out of this number 951,142 are Afghans and 28,268 are Iraqis. Most of the refugees in Iran live in city and urban areas and only 3 percent of them live in refugee settlements in various provinces.





4- Human Rights in General

4-1 Pardons and Commutations of 531 Persons Sentenced to State Discretional Sentences

According to reports The State Discretional Sentences Organization, on the occasion of the Islamic revolution's victory in Iran around 2315 individuals convicted in general and Islamic courts, Armed Forces Judicial Organization and Discretionary Sentences Organization have been pardoned by the Supreme Leader.

In the Supreme Leader's pardons on the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the Islamic revolution's victory, 531 individuals sentenced to state discretionary sentences were included in pardons or sentence commutations, which on the order of the head of the Organization, these cases were referred to the Executive General Departments across the nation for application.



4-2 520 Billion Rials' Budget for Caring for Addicts in Tehran Province

According to reports published by "the Tehran Province's Fight against Drugs Bureau", towards prevention and fight against narcotics the number of secretariats of this Bureau has increased to three secretariats.

The drugs finds figures of the Fight against Drugs Bureau of Tehran Province in the last ten years compared to the previous decade has increased to 27 percent and 48,260 kilos of narcotics and opioids have been discovered and confiscated.

Currently Tehran Province's drugs finds make of 6 percent of the country's total and opium is the biggest find (33,810 kilos have been discovered). Tehran province's arrests also make up 27 percent of country's total arrests and 18,566 drug dealers and distributers have been arrested.

To this aim from 20 February to 20 April 2019, fifteen thousand addicts are cared for in addict centres for which 520 billion Rials has been budgeted. It must be said that 109 percent of drug smuggling has grown by foreign national and 1,587 foreigners have been arrested too.





5- Introducing Human Rights Organizations

5-1 Iranian Epilepsy Association

The Iranian Epilepsy Association is one of the oldest charity and non-governmental organizations which was founded in 1958. But this Association's activities have been full of ups and downs, where, following a period of inaction, once again with the efforts of a group of experts, this Association reached its final stages in 1994 and began its official activities in January 1996.

Towards presenting training services in the identification of epilepsy, diagnosis methods, suitable treatment for society, presentation of support-welfare services to those suffering with the ailment and cooperation in application and publication of research accomplishments this Association cooperates. Towards humanitarian goals and without consideration of race, religion and nationality of individuals, this Association provides its services to all



that need them, including foreign refugees and migrants in Iran. Also the Association tries to interact with international organizations and centres in the field in other countries of the region, as part of its mission.

In the form of a public benefit centre the Association tries to through observing medical ethics, not to damage the interests of the target group and other activists in this specialized field. Also the Association does not pursue any political, group or faction interests.

The aim of the Association is to serve epilepsy patients in such way that their empowerment, a chance for these individuals to reach an enjoyable level of life and reduction of their dependency on the Association.

Also towards its humanitarian objectives this Association provides services and assistances to vulnerable individuals particularly the patients' families.

For further information visit the Association website at: www.iranepi.org/

