



Human Right Developments in Iran

Newsletter No.16



AUGUST 2020
ORGANIZATION FOR DEFENDING VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE
www.odvv.org

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.

Contents

1- Refugees Rights	4
1-1 Expansion of Health Support for Refugees and Foreign Migrants.....	4
1-2 Implementation of Amayesh Exercise 15 for Afghan Refugees and 14 for Iraqi Refugees	5
2- Educations Rights	6
2-1 Childcare Skills Training and Drawing of Girls Deprived of Education	6
3- Human Rights	8
3-1 Renewal or Giving Leave to 36thousand Prisoners.....	8
3-2 2,574 Prisoners with Misdemeanor Crimes to be Released...9	
3-3 Opening of 40 Rehabilitation Homes in the country	10
4- Women’s Rights	12
4-1 Empowerment of Women in Various Fields	12
5- Introducing Human Rights Organizations	14
5-1 Iranian Hemophilia Society	14



1- Refugees Rights

1-1 Expansion of Health Support for Refugees and Foreign Migrants

In view of the outbreak and spread of COVID-19 in the country, with the cooperation of UN Agencies that include UN Refugee Agency and World Food Programme and also the cooperation of other national and international NGOs, the Iranian government has extensively distributed hygiene packs that include face masks, washing gloves, hand sanitizers in most towns and refugee settlements, this process is ongoing. It must be said that there are more than 950 thousand refugees living in Iran only 3 percent of which reside in refugee settlements.

Furthermore, education and hygiene measures are underway in various refugee camps with the support of the Health Ministry, and refugees and foreign migrants

receive free medical services for COVID-19 just like their Iranian counterparts.

It must be said that in addition to urgent assistance given to refugees due to various problems caused by the spread of COVID-19, basic hygiene services are given to refugees with the support of UNHCR, the Iranian Health Ministry, at a level similar to Iranian citizens. These services include vaccinations, reproductive health, pre and postnatal care, mother and child's health care, provision of crucial drugs and family planning in Health Homes in regions with high refugee population.

1-2 Implementation of Amayesh Exercise 15 for Afghan Refugees and 14 for Iraqi Refugees

Towards the Amayesh of Afghan and Iraqi refugees living in Iran, the new Amayesh exercise of these refugees has been launched. At the same time as issuing of Amayesh cards and new ID papers, for refugees aged 18 to 60 work permits will also be issued. The Amayesh card and work permit will allow the opportunity for refugees to freely work in the accepted fields and improve their livelihood. Also, their Amayesh will give international organizations such as UN Agencies the chance to access refugees and make better plans for their supports.

Also, having the Amayesh card will result in refugees having access to other services in the country such as administrative and legal services.



2- Education Rights

2-1 Childcare Skills Training and Drawing of Girls Deprived of Education

Towards support for education, especially girls deprived of education an agreement was signed between the Education and Training Ministry and the President's Deputy in Women and Family Affairs. Also joint projects were signed some of which include drawing of girls deprived of education back to the education cycle, training childcare skills to schoolchildren, training on increasing the social participation of girls and effective dialogue and communications skills training.

To this aim some of last year's Education and Training Ministry's achievements included eradication of

deprivation of education and training for girls, creation of suitable basis for worthiness development and increasing the role creation of girl schoolchildren and empowerment and promotion of jobs and management for cultural women.

With the implementation of these programmes and also cooperation between Education and Training Ministry and President's Deputy for Women and Family Affairs the education gap between girls and boys has somewhat decreased. To this aim cooperation can held expand literacy education for nomadic women and girls with the training of 9,000, strengthening parenting skills methods, empowerment of student teachers, drawing of 1,481 girls and boys deprived of education over 5 years.



3- Human Rights

3-1 Renewal or Giving Leave to 36thousand Prisoners

In view of the new Judiciary Branch's memorandum regarding issuing leave to prisoners in the new wave of COVID-19, from 8 July to-date, 36,283 prisoners have been included in these leaves plan or their previous leaves have been renewed.

In the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak until the virus's return (2nd wave of COVID-19 pandemic in Iran) and in view of humanitarian matters of the Judiciary Branch more than 114thousand prisoners have been given leave and to this aim and in view of the spread of COVID-19 new guidelines have been issued for giving leave to prisoners and the guidelines were sent to justice departments and Prisons Organization which in proportion to the current situation of the prisoners'

community to be able to receive leaves again and see a drop in prisons' population.

This reissuing of the guidelines is towards respecting prisoners' rights and help towards their health.

3-2 2,574 Prisoners with Misdemeanor Crimes to be Released

In continuation of the implementation of the Judiciary head's policies and guidelines for the reduction of prisons' population particularly among prisoners with misdemeanor crimes following the timely decision of the Judiciary to give leave to 114thousand prisoners in the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, with the joint cooperation of the Prisons' Organization and the Mostaazafan Foundation, a letter of understanding was signed according to which 2574 prisoners with misdemeanor and financial crimes were released.

Now in these difficult livelihood and COVID-19 conditions some of the concerns of 2574 Iranian families will be reduced and the hope in getting over their problems will be boosted.

According to the said letter of understanding, the Foundation of the Oppressed and Disabled of Islamic Reveloution (Mostaazafan Foundation) paid the debts of 2,574 prisoners who owed less than 5 billion Rials to the full 5 billion Rials.

It must be said that those that for whom it was not possible to be released or given leave, will receive various medical services in prison free of charge.

3-3 Opening of 40 Rehabilitation Homes in the country

The opening of 40 “Rehabilitation Little Houses” across the country took place in presence of the head of the State Welfare Organization in a video conference.

In view of the new approach to rehabilitation and society acceptance of persons with disabilities these houses were opened.

Currently there are 112 rehabilitation houses across the country. These projects were launched as pilots in all provinces various processes of guidelines have been reviewed.

In view of the new approach to rehabilitation and the presence of persons with disabilities in society and family and society focusing and family focusing the State Welfare Organization in its activities has taken particular action over these years. For the first time last year 12thousand individuals with severe and chronic spinal disabilities were given nursing care. Also last year 176 families with disabled members were covered by the State Welfare Organization.

For the first time last year income support for jobless persons with severe and chronic disabilities was put in the working agenda for more than 190thousand persons with disabilities received this income support as well as their pensions from the Targeted Subsidies Organization and nursing allowances. Also the nursing allowance for persons with spinal disabilities was raised 2.5 times increasing by 5.54 billion Rials.

One of the main policies of the State Welfare Organization is to shrink towards family focused services to persons with disabilities. Thus Small Houses are very much like a family and are run like small houses. All service providing members of these houses carry out their duties in the right way.



4- Women's Rights

4-1 Empowerment of Women in Various Fields

Towards protection of women's rights and creation of conditions for their further presence in various social, political and also managerial levels which is one of the important pillars of growth and development, various bodies such as the Presidency's Women's Office with cooperation of other various departments have implemented various programmes. Some of these activities particularly last year are as follows:

Construction of 380 new classes for girls' physical education and exercise: in view of the importance of creation of equal conditions particularly where girls can

partake in physical and sports activities 380 new classrooms were built for girls' physical education. Currently 2.5 million girl schoolchildren are participating in sports Olympiads. 120thousand trainers are in charge of physical education.

Literacy education of more than 6 thousand nomadic women and girls in deprived regions last year: towards the development of gender justice following the revolution extensive efforts have been made to reduce the literacy gap of women and men. A large part of the activities of this literacy education movement is for women and girls in deprived regions. In the current year more than 6,400 nomadic women and girls and deprived regions received literacy education.

Education of 52 thousand girl students in Farhangian University: 49 universities in the country are for girls, and 52thousand girl students are studying in Farhangian University; 11,200 resilience digital books have been given to girl students.

Training of more than 1,000 girl journalists: During the current year, more than 1,000 girl journalists are receiving journalism education.



5- Introducing Human Rights Activists

5-1 Iranian Hemophilia Society

The Iranian Hemophilia Society is a nongovernmental, nonpolitical, nonpartisan and a charitable organization is the national member of the World Federation of Hemophilia. The Society was founded in 1967 with the aim of raising the life quality of hemophilia patients and other hereditary diseases through provision of medicinal, treatment, social, educational, prevention and legal supports and also support in research and development.

Over the years this Society has had 4 great achievements in welfare and social services given to hemophilia patients:

1 – Opening of the Comprehensive Hemophilia Treatment Centre of Iran in Tehran in 2001 which with a comprehensive and advanced data bank provides all its services in specialized laboratories, physiotherapy, dental care, specialized orthopedic, infections, psychological clinics and also genetic laboratory to prevent children being born with hemophilia freely to hemophilia patients without any discrimination.

2 – Realization of the rights of 976 hemophilia patients who were infected with diseases through blood transfusions, and they received compensation. Also following up on the court's second decision with regards to 171 cases which the court made a decision and also the follow up on 1,600 cases which have been dragging in the Judiciary for the last two years.

3 – Launching and equipping the sleeping quarters for hemophilia patients from the provinces for 40 beds, has provided the opportunity for patients from the provinces to come to Tehran for treatment. This sleeping quarters which considering that more than 150 patients of the Comprehensive Treatment Centre are from the provinces is significant in providing services to these patients.

4 – Amendment of the Society's Statute with the belief in providing the participation of patients in setting up goals and programmes and also election of Society directors and promoting the inspector unit of Society from one person to a group of inspectors and foreseeing the membership of one Auditing Institute to the election of the Society's

General Assembly in the said group in 2005 was amended and is the organizational and financial guarantor of this charitable Society.

For further details on the Iranian Hemophilia Society and its activities please visit the following website:
<https://hemophilia.org.ir>