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# Human Right Developments in Iran

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**ORGANIZATION FOR DEFENDING VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE**

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**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 human rights situation in Iran.

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## **1- Refugees Rights**

### **1-1 650,000 Afghan students enrolled at schools**

According to the Center for International Affairs and Schools Abroad, more than 650,000 Afghan students enrolled for the current scholastic year.

A circular has also been issued by the Ministry of Education to facilitate the registration of Afghan children. According to the said circular, the registration of students of Afghan nationals who have migrated to Iran during the past year continues in the permitted provinces. Considering the existing problems and challenges, including the lack of education per capita in the country, the Ministry of Education is trying to speed up the registration process by using the capacity of non-profit and non-governmental schools.

It is estimated that the total number of Afghan students to reach 820,000 for the current school year.

## **1-2 Afghan university students do not need passports**

Kharazmi University in Tehran has announced that Afghan students who do not have passports, can enroll/continue their studies with their valid Amayesh cards for now.

Given that currently the Afghan Embassy in Tehran does not issue passports for its nationals and thus the possibility of these people studying in universities is not available, therefore, in order to facilitate the process of studying the nationals of this country in the Islamic Republic of Iran, it has been decided that until further notice, registration and continuing education of the aforementioned nationals will be done with a valid Amayesh card, and a commitment will be taken from these people to take action to obtain a passport after the above restrictions are lifted.

It should be noted that according to the laws and regulations of higher education in the Islamic Republic of Iran, if Afghan refugees wish to continue their education in higher education level, they must submit their Amayesh card and obtain a passport.

### **1-3 14,000 Shenاسnameh / Iranian ID document issued for children with Iranian mothers and foreign fathers**

The Head of Civil Status Registry Organization of Iran said that more than 14,000 Shenاسnameh (Iranian ID) have been issued for children with Iranian mother and foreign father so far.

Some people in Iran are at risk of not being given Iranian citizenship or being counted as a citizen of any country. Not being recognized as a citizen of any country makes a person Stateless. This greatly limits their access to government services, identity documents and future opportunities.

In Iran, people may be denied citizenship if they are not able to prove that they are of Iranian origin. This often happens when the father of a child is not Iranian. Other groups that have difficulty proving their Iranian origin are Feili Kurds, Khavaris, Zabolis, Lakzaee tribes and Baluchis.

The Government of Iran is taking concrete steps towards the prevention and reduction of statelessness by allowing Iranian mothers to pass their nationality to their children enabling them to better access education, health care and job opportunities.



## **2- Women's Rights**

### **Promulgation of the approval for the establishment and operation of the micro-guarantee fund for women heads of households**

The government cabinet notified the second resolution of the National Headquarters of Women and Family to the Ministry of Cooperation, Labor and Social Welfare with the cooperation of the Vice President for Women and Family Affairs.

According to this resolution, the establishment and operation of the micro-employment guarantee fund for women heads of households to issue guarantees to the 1st to 5th income deciles (vulnerable groups) up to one billion Rials without the need to introduce other guarantors to the operating banks and with a credit of 600 billion Rials from the funds of the fund and Refah Bank was announced.

It was also approved that the National Headquarters of Women and Family has the responsibility of dividing, coordinating, monitoring, and supervising the actions of all relevant institutions. The aforementioned institutions are also obliged to submit all their actions, programs and reports in the implementation of this approval letter to the Secretariat of the National Headquarters of Women and Family every six months (Vice President for Women and Family Affairs).





### **3- Rights to Education**

#### **3-1 Lunching special schools for working children by Tehran Municipality**

With the beginning of the new academic year in Iran, Tehran Municipality has implemented comprehensive and detailed programs for working and street children and the group of vulnerable children in the capital.

In order to support the education of working and street children, schools under the name *Poyashahr* have been designed with a new approach to bring the growth and dynamism of students in addition to providing them with scientific education services.

The approach of activities in *Poyashahr* centers is based on ethics and education, and at the same time, efforts are made to ensure that no working child is left out of

education. Since the new city administration started its activity, a detailed design has been considered for working and vulnerable children, and 16 to 17 other services have been considered in *Poyashahr* centers in addition to the scientific education services.

### **3-2 Donating 5,000 packs of stationery and 2,000 pairs of shoes to needy students**

Non-governmental organizations in Sistan and Baluchistan province distributed 5,000 packs of stationery and 2,000 pairs of shoes to needy students, especially in Indika and Zahedan cities.

The value of the gifts sent to the students of deprived areas of Endika and Zahedan is fourteen billion Rials.

In addition to that, support from other governmental and non-governmental organizations for equipping schools and helping students in this province has been concluded or is being implemented.

### **3-3 Construction of 150 new schools by Barkat Foundation**

*Barkat* Foundation opened 150 new schools at the beginning of the new academic year in order to support children's right to education, especially in deprived areas.

These 150 new schools with 632 classrooms have been opened in deprived, rural and less developed areas of the country and are currently ready for operation.

Sistan and Baluchistan province has the largest share with 45 schools out of a total of 150 new schools, and more than 12,500 students will study in the mentioned schools.

With the opening of these 150 new schools, the number of Barkat schools across the country reaches more than 1,950 schools with about 10,000 classrooms.

Currently, more than 250 thousand students are studying in the schools constructed by this foundation.



## **4- Right to Health**

### **4-1 Equipping 200 rural sports houses in the country**

In order to improve the health status of students, especially female students, 200 rural sports houses were established and equipped in the country.

Also, according to the order of the Minister of Education, all schools should dedicate time to sports so that the physical health of the students is also taken into consideration in addition to education.

Currently, there are 109 youth houses that provide various sports services to students and young people. According to the report of the Ministry of Education, another 70 centers will be completed and launched by the end of the current year.

## **4-2 The waiting time for hearing cochlear prosthesis has reached zero**

According to the published reports, with the delivery of 688 hearing cochlear prostheses to the implant centers, the waiting time of patients to receive the hearing cochlear prosthesis reached zero.

Including the 521 prosthetic devices sent to the cochlear implant centers before the announcement of the implementation of the national cochlear implant plan, the total remittances issued for the delivery of prosthetics to the cochlear implant centers from the beginning of this year to the 31 August 2022 reached 1209 devices, which compared to the number of prosthetics delivered in the first six months of last year is a good record.

## **4-3 Establishment of 53 state dental centers**

In the past year, 53 state dental centers were established that provide 14 new services at low rates, in the form of insurance and free for vulnerable people.

These 53 centers provide dental services in various dental health. Also, 14 services have been defined for these centers that have not been performed in such centers before.

According to published reports from the Ministry of Health, the expansion of these centers is one of the policies of the Ministry of Health, and the quality of dental

services is improved by increasing the capacity of accepting and better training dentists. With the assistance of the Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution, capacity has been increased in this field, which is expected to improve dental services in the coming years.

#### **4-4 Production of more than 68 million types of medicine in Iran**

The director of Red Crescent Medical Supply Organization announced the production of more than 68 million types of medicines in August of this year.

Despite the existence of financial problems as well as issues related to the US unilateral sanctions against Iran, last month's production has grown by 35% in terms of delivery and sales compared to the previous year.

The director of the Medical Procurement Organization regarding the products of this company said: In August of the current year, more than 68 million types of drugs have been sold in the *Saha* Pharmaceutical Company to meet the pharmaceutical needs of the health sector. These products include nearly 43 million tablets, 23 million eight hundred thousand capsules, three million and two hundred thousand liquids including syrup and suspension in different doses.

At present, *Soha* Pharmaceutical Company has more than 117 manufacturing licenses from the Food and Drug

Organization, an average of 60 types of drugs, produces by this company in accordance with the latest standards of the World Health Organization.



## **5- Human Rights**

### **Amnesty for 18 people who were sentenced to death**

The Chief of Justice of Tehran Province announced the return to life of 18 people who were sentenced to retribution (sentenced to death) with the efforts of Tehran Province Dispute Settlement Councils in the first four months of this year.

With the special efforts of the members of the Dispute Settlement Council of Tehran Province, the consent of the guardian of killed persons was obtained in 18 cases leading to self-retribution in the first four months of this year, and 18 convicted of retribution returned to life.

The Chief Justice of Tehran province emphasized that "reduction of the criminal population" and "de-imprisonment" are two of the fundamental policies of the judicial system and said: "It should be noted that the



reduction of the criminal population and de-imprisonment do not mean that Disruptors of public peace and security should be free in the society and challenge the public order; rather, it means to avoid imprisoning people who do not need to be sent to prison.

He pointed out, in the first four months of this year, 1,318 people convicted of financial and non-intentional financial crimes were released from prison and returned to their families with the actions of the dispute settlement councils of Tehran province.



## **6- Introducing of Human Rights Activists**

### **Charity Foundation of Special Disease**

The idea of constructing Charity foundation of special disease was originated from when the current president of the foundation was familiarized with chronic renal failure and dialysis, Thalassemia and Hemophilia through visiting number of patients in 1992. Critical medical and treatment conditions of these rare members of the society, happened to initiate field researches and studies and also proceeded interprovincial visits, with the aim of getting more acquainted to these patient's difficulties thought the country. A high number of patients were detected with social disabilities, incapability of long hours of working and low money incomes coinciding with the absence of definite cure, extravagant expenses of treatments and remedies, mental and financial conditions, which describes how heavy the burden was for their families to bear....

To manage these burdens, on 6th of May 1996 concurrent to Thalassemia Day, the charity foundation of special disease was officially registered.

Primitive measures since the beginning can be mentioned as probing patient's lifestyles, detecting factors that contribute to cause of the diseases, approaching alternatives to improve the devastated chaotic situation, attending to elevate the efficiency of treatments and remedies and also studying prevention methods. To date, the events had been carried out constantly in the fields of treatment, prevention training, education, control and reduction of damages and impacts of the diseases.

This Foundation has provided with 449 billion Rials financial assistance to 453,106 patients with special diseases and incurable patients medically. The Foundation to date has also donated 29980,000,000 Rials to more than 29980 kidney donors to admire this self-devotion of them.

### Objectives

1. Stimulating government, authorities, and various national communities contribute in resolving and supporting social-medical problems and needs of specific patients
2. Taking measures to optimize the use of the facilities and credits.

3. Elevating social-scientific awareness of patients, families and the society towards the low and quality of specific diseases through advertising and publishing.
4. Organizing the events, supports, associations and scientific programs.
5. Providing opportunities such as research, education, diagnostic, therapeutic, medical, social and services accompanied by national and international supports.
6. Represent and suggest measures to the executive authorities, in the hope that the medical and social status of special patients are improved.

#### Main Principles:

- Prevention
- Remedies and Treatments
- Education

#### Disease Covered by Charity Foundation of Special Disease can be cited:

- Thalassemia
- Hemophilia
- Chronic renal failure, dialysis, and hemodialysis
- Kidney transplantation
- EB

- Diabetes
- Cancer
- MS
- Autism

For further information on the foundation and its activities  
visit: <https://www.cffsd.org/>