Legislative Progress

- 2005: Rouhani ratifies UN CRPD
- 2010: Rouhani admin. includes disabled persons in Rights Charter
- 2011: Parliament passes disability rights bill
- 2015: Iran participates in dialogue with CRPD Committee
- 2016: Rouhani creates National Headquarters on Disabilities
- 2018: UN adopts Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

*Iran has ratified the UN’s Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities and passed laws to protect people with disabilities but has yet to implement measures to enforce these laws.

Changing Perceptions and Approach

Countries around the world take different approaches to people with disabilities. Iran has adopted the Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities (CRPD) but continues to follow a charity-based and medical approach.

FACT Sheet

5 Major Shortcomings Iran Should Urgently Address

- Accurate Data: Implement system for collecting and publishing accurate data and statistics
- Basic Rights: Provide equal access to employment, education and healthcare
- Accessible Infrastructure: Improve accessibility of roads, public transport and public buildings
- Awareness Campaigns: Implement public education campaigns to improve awareness
- Financial/Physical Support: Provide financial and physical support to enable personal autonomy

The Center for Human Rights in Iran (CHRI) is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection and promotion of human rights in Iran. CHRI investigates and documents rights violations occurring throughout Iran, relying on first-hand accounts to expose abuses that would otherwise go unreported. We bring these violations to the attention of the international community through news articles, briefings, in-depth reports and videos, and work to build support for human rights inside Iran as well. CHRI engages in intensive outreach and international advocacy aimed at defending the fundamental rights and freedoms of the Iranian people and holding the Iranian government accountable to its human rights obligations.

For more information about these issues, visit: www.iranhumanrights.org

DISABILITIES IN IRAN

August 2018

Iran’s Population: 82 Million
People with Disabilities: 12 Million

1 in 7 live with a Disability

565,000 (5.7%) registered military veterans (Iraq-Iran War)
Military veterans are registered with state-funded, charity-based organizations

1.8 million Registered
1.3 million registered with state organizations

12 Million People With Disabilities

12,000,000 Registered Students in Iran

130,000 Children with Disabilities Registered in School
75,000 in “Special Education” Schools
65,000 in Mainstream Schools

* Accurate statistics on disabilities in Iran are often unavailable and state figures are usually underreported or inaccurate. These numbers provide general estimates.
Unaffordable Living Costs

- **Electronic Wheelchair**: $2,260
- **Eye Lens Surgery**: $1,600
- **Hearing Aid**: $1,200
- **Artificial Limb**: $600

*Estimates based on 2016 currency rates and do not reflect Iran’s severe currency devaluation.*

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**Unemployment Rate**

- **National Unemployment Rate**: 12.4%
- **Unemployed Iranians With Disabilities**: 60%
- **5x**: Unaffordable tuition fees
- **Difficult registration process**
- **Social stigma of being seen in public with a disability**
- **Lack of affordable personal assistance**
- **Lack of trained personnel**

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**Main State Organizations**

- **State Welfare Organization of Iran**: The SWO is the main organization providing services and pensions to people with disabilities.
- **Special Education Organization**: Working under the Ministry of Education, the SEO is responsible for identifying students with disabilities and providing them education.

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**Inaccessible**

- **91% of metro stations in Tehran were inaccessible in 2016**
- **At least 70% of public buildings are inaccessible**
- **Medical machines are routinely inaccessible**

There is only one accessible mammogram machine in Tehran with a long waiting list.

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**Education**

Many obstacles prevent children and adults with disabilities from obtaining education including:

- Unaffordable tuition fees
- Difficult registration process
- Social stigma of being seen in public with a disability
- Lack of affordable personal assistance
- Lack of trained personnel

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**Income and Social Assistance**

Unemployment among people with disabilities is 5x higher than the national unemployment rate and disability pensions do not meet basic living costs.

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**Personal Assistant**

- **State Pensions**: $40/month
- **Private Transportation**: $140
- **Physiotherapy**: $150
- **Nursing Support**: $250
- **$400**

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**National Poverty Line**

- **$600/month**