

The Prime Minister accepts the Ombudsman's recommendations

Nowadays in Armenia a policeman fines parents of children with disabilities for parking the car in an inappropriate place in the course of a child's transfer.

Eleven years old Ani's mother expressed her concerns on this issue during the private meeting with the Ombudsman. It is considerable to note that Ani suffers from paralysis. Ani's mother reported that they had been fined by the Police for couple of times for parking the car in an inappropriate place for a few seconds in order to carry the child out of the car.

It is defined by the Government's decision, that the impact of signs providing privileges for using transportation means extends only to vehicles which are driven by people with 1st and 2nd groups of disabilities, as well as vehicles transferring disabled people. According to the provision prescribed by the Government's decision the abovementioned privileges are not provided to guardians or parents of children with disabilities. This causes serious concerns from the viewpoint of the protection of children's rights due to the large amount of children with disabilities in our society.

The Ombudsman had raised this problem and offered the Prime Minister of Armenia to make additions in the appropriate items of the Government's decision. The Ombudsman's proposal was accepted by the Prime Minister, and instructions were given to appropriate bodies for making the amendments.

According to the instructions the Minister of Transport and Communications Gagik Beglaryan has recently submitted a proposal to extend the privileges prescribed for children with the first and second groups of disabilities to guardians or parents of disabled children.

The Ombudsman's office expresses hope that the Government of the Republic of Armenia will approve the proposal in short period of time which aims to solve problems of many children with disabilities.

*Human Rights Defender's Staff
of the Republic of Armenia*