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Khoshtaria to the Minister of Health: to hold a business meeting, to resolve the issue of IDPs



Elene Khoshtaria

By *The Messenger* Staff

The leader of Droa, Elene Khoshtaria, addresses the Minister of Health to meet and discuss the issue of IDPs and the 'Kartli' sanatorium.

"I appeal to the Minister of Health! (Obviously, in agreement with the IDPs). Let's hold a business meeting and resolve the issue of 'Kartli' IDPs. 'Lawyers and IDPs will come. But it must be resolved immediately,'" Khoshtaria wrote.

According to her, if the issue is not resolved, rallies will be held and they are not going to stop.

Today, on January 16, a young man, one of the participants in the rally of IDPs living in 'Kartli' on Temka, jumped out of the building. Residents on the scene say the man committed suicide in protest.

The IDPs on Temka have been holding a rally for several days and are asking the government to provide them with apartments.

Locals said their apartment building was already damaged, and today the building began to collapse. Citizens point out that the walls and ceiling are damaged, and new cracks appear in the building every day.

Giorgi Vashadze, the leader of

the Strategy Builder, says that the tragedy in the IDP settlement is the fault of the government's negligence and inaction.

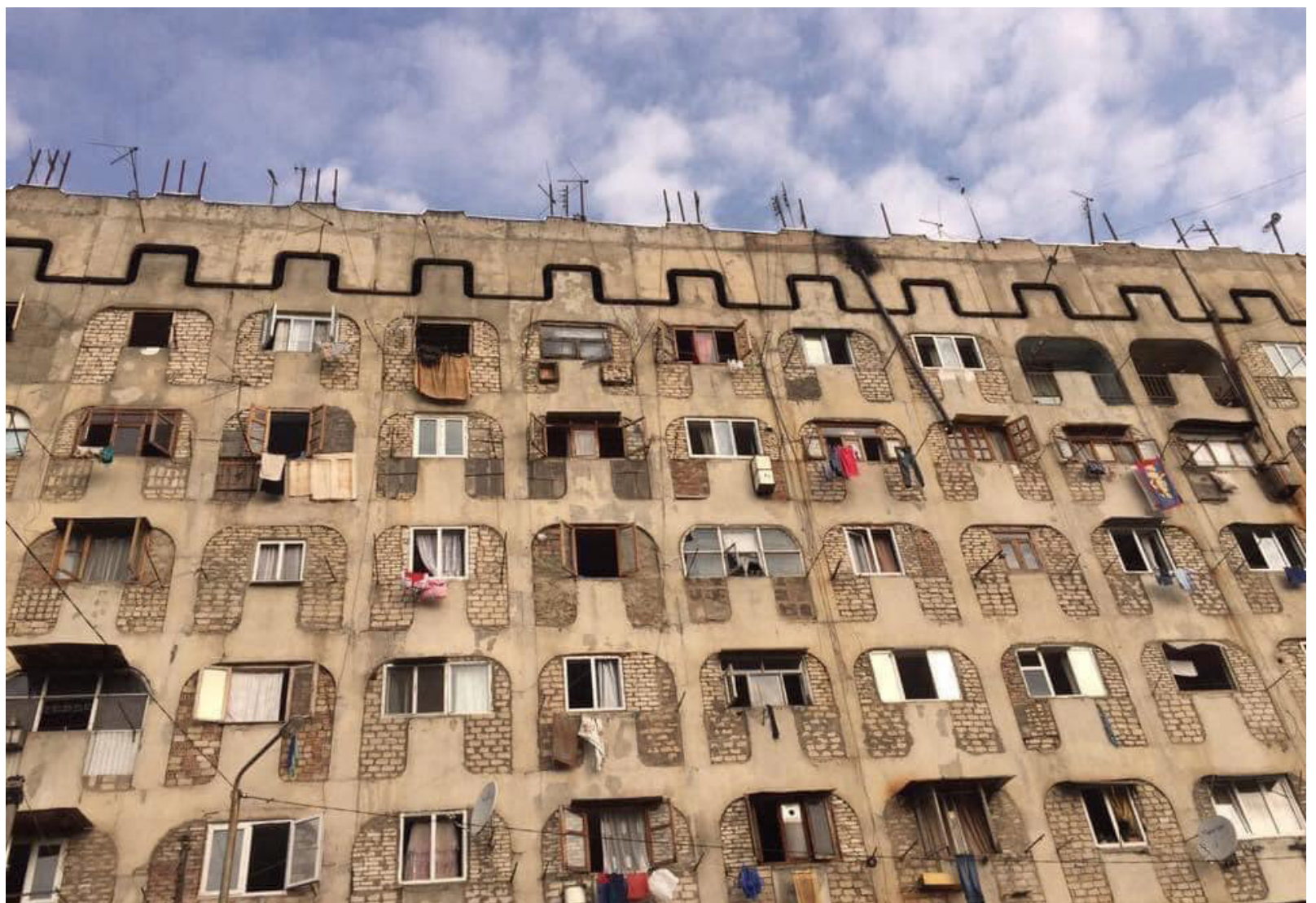
Vashadze appeals to the government and the Ministry of Health to provide immediate assistance to all families:

"I offer my condolences to the relatives and friends of the dead men in Zgvisubani. Another tragedy due to the negligence and inaction of the government! 130 families have been asking for housing for a long time due to the dangerous living conditions."

Levan Bezhashvili, a member of the United National Movement, says state officials are 'mockingly' ignoring the demands of the IDPs.

"In this particular case, the state laughed, insulted the dignity, and denied the life of one of our fellow citizens. We have reached a tragedy that we have all witnessed today. 'They were responsible and did nothing,'" Bezhashvili said.

The Ministry of Refugees, Labor, Health, and Social Affairs responded to a man jumping from a building during an IDP rally and expresses grief over the incident that took place in the former sanatorium 'Kartli'.



'Kartli' sanatorium

Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 3.0775; Euro - 3.5268; GBP - 4.2260; 100 Russian Ruble - 4.0434; Swiss Franc - 3.3778

Khazaradze Requests to Broadcast Live on Imedi TV



Mamuka Khazaradze

By THE MESSENGER STAFF

Lelo leader Mamuka Khazaradze went to the Imedi TV building with a request to broadcast live. He said he was ready to answer all the questions about the money laundering case against him.

"I posted the status today, before that I called that we are coming to TV Imedi. We told them that within the framework of the story we are ready to provide comprehensive information live to the viewers of TV Imedi.

In Georgia, in the 21st century, there should be no television channel where people with different political views have their doors locked.

"Badri Japaridze and I have not been able to enter this space for 3 years just because we look at events differently," stated

Khazaradze.

"I confirm that this fight will continue. Although we are not going to prison now, we will appeal against it, this is a matter of principle and dignity," Mamuka Khazaradze, the chairman of Lelo said after hearing the court verdict.

According to Khazaradze, until there is a fair trial in Georgia, there will be no peace. "In the conditions of such a court and justice, our country will not be able to move forward. This is a one-man court and justice, I personally appeal to Bidzina Ivanishvili that this government will end under his leadership because the Georgian people can not tolerate such an unjust justice in a country where there is no justice, there is no peace," he stated.

EFSE to step up local currency lending in rural Georgia

The European Fund for Southeast Europe (EFSE) has committed to provide US \$2.5 million equivalent in Georgian lari (GEL) to its new partner, microfinance organisation Lazika Capital. This funding will expand access to finance in local currency for underserved micro and small size enterprises

(MSEs), including individual entrepreneurs, farmers and agricultural producers in rural Georgia.

By obtaining financing in Georgian lari, micro and small enterprises can fund their growth and increase their business resilience, viability and stability in the longer run, while

being protected from the exchange rate fluctuations.

EFSE Board Chairperson Klaus Mueller said that "this investment will expand the capacities of Lazika Capital to finance the underserved groups, thus contributing to furthering EFSE's mission to promote economic prosperity in the region."



United Nations concerned over the decision of Georgian authorities to abolish the State Inspector's Service



The United Nations Country Team in Georgia expresses its regret over the decision of

Georgian authorities to abolish the State Inspector's Service. On 13 January 2022 the President has signed a new law abolishing the State Inspector's Service and creating two separate institutions: Special Investigative Service and Personal Data Protection Service.

We are particularly concerned

about the expedited manner and lack of inclusive and transparent discussions about the abolition of one of the most credible, independent and authoritative institutions in Georgia that is mandated to investigate alleged human rights violations committed by law enforcement officials and is entrusted with the

oversight of personal data protection. The lack of convincing justification for abolishing the State Inspector's Service and the absence of compelling rationale for stripping the State Inspector of her six-year mandate sends a chilling message to independent institutions of human rights protection.

We are concerned that the substantial broadening of the list of crimes falling within the mandate of a newly created Special Investigation Service entails a serious risk of overburdening the agency and distracting its team from fulfilling its primary mandate to combat impunity. We recall the recommendation by UN Special Rapporteur on

torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment on his mission to Georgia (2015) stating concerns 'at the risk that unduly broad jurisdiction, whether exclusive or discretionary, may make the task of the [State Inspector] overly burdensome [if] ... offences committed by law enforcement agents that are not part of the core group of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment... [fall within its mandate]'. We call on the authorities to request the opinion of relevant international institutions on the compliance of these decisions with the international standards.

therefore, the opinions expressed in some articles do not necessarily coincide with those of the newspaper. We take no responsibility for any claims made in advertisements.

Weather

Monday, January 17

Day Partly Cloudy
High: 3°C
Night Clear
Low: -6°C

Tuesday, January 18

Day Clear
High: 5°C
Night Partly Cloudy
Low: -3°C

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