

INTERVIEW WITH SELMA ALIYE KAVAF; STATE MINISTER FOR WOMEN AND FAMILY AFFAIRS

We have had an interview with Ms. Selma Aliye Kavaf; State Minister for Women and Family Affairs and asked some questions about the studies and implementations of the Government about the issues related to women and family affairs and asked her opinions about the current state of women and their participation in employment, education and decision making processes. Below you will find some key points of the interview which have been highlighted regarding these issues:

Türkiye is on a good level with regard to the legal arrangements about women's rights and equal opportunities. The New Turkish Criminal Code enacted on June 1, 2005, includes some contemporary arrangements about the violence against women and gender equality. Social awareness is the precondition of implementing the legal measurements. On the other hand we have been working for strengthening organizational structures on both quality and quantity issues. Our Government has adopted the principle of no tolerance for violence against women.

%27,1 rate of participation of women to working life has been targeted to increase by %29,6 until 2013. The increase in the rate of participation of women in service sector has been noteworthy. The rate of women working in professions that need expertise is high in Türkiye. The rate of women in instructors employed at universities has been %41,6.

A communication and information network active for 7 days and 24 hours will be established between the women's guesthouses located in different cities that serve for the protection of women who suffer from violence. These women will be able to stay in studio type apartments for a period of 1 to 2 years.

The year 2010 will be a golden year for the disabled, as the arrangements have been made to employ them in 38 thousand civil servant positions. The first announcement has been made by SHÇEK;

Social Services and Child Protection Agency to employ the disabled for positions of engineers, sociologists, psychologists, nurses, programmers etc.

8 March World Women's Day is very significant to increase and accelerate the studies on social awareness about the solution of the problems of women. Our fight against indiscriminate against women has been continuing with the legal and implementation arrangements. Cooperation with NGOs, public organizations and the media is significant to solve the problems in these issues.

The State Minister Kavaf also stated that she appreciates MPM's studies about the disabled people. MPM has given trainings to approximately 1000 disabled people in 22 different subjects in 21 provinces since 2004 within the context of Productivity Improvement Projects.

