

President Zourabichvili awards those who tragically died in Gudauri rescue operation with medal 'for civil sacrifices'



By LIZA MCHEDLIDZE

According to the decision, the President of Georgia Salome Zourabichvili awarded those who died during the rescue operation in Gudauri with a medal "for civil sacrifices".

Zaza Loria, Dimitri Kaadze, Levan Chokheli, Andro Kujoshvili, Giorgi Margiani, Kakha Torchinava, Girgi Venetski, Ketevan Gulaghashvili were awarded for the highest civic responsibility and exemplary, selfless actions during the rescue operation.

"When civil servants sacrifice themselves to save someone else's life, the society can freely give them the qualification of heroism," Minister of Defense Juansher Burchuladze said this after

arriving at the civil funeral of those who died as a result of the helicopter crash in Gudauri.

He expressed his condolences to the people of Georgia for the tragedy.

"I offer my condolences to the entire Georgian society, this is our tragedy," said Juansher Burchuladze.

On July 29, in Gudauri, during a paragliding flight, 2 persons fell on a rocky slope.

A helicopter belonging to the border police was involved in the rescue operation, which lost control and crashed.

There were 4 crew members on board the helicopter, as well as 2 rescuers from the emergency management service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and 2 doctors from the emergency coordination and



emergency assistance center of the Ministry of Health.

All eight crew members on board died. As for the paragliders, one survived, and the other, a foreign tourist - died.

An investigation has been launched into the incident under Article 275 of the Criminal Code, which implies a violation of air transport operation rules.

The News in Brief

PREPARED BY MESSENGER STAFF

Medvedev writes and deletes post saying Georgia should become part of Russia, assistant says account hacked

On August 2, Dmitry Medvedev's post appeared in the Russian social network VKontakte, stating that Georgia should become part of Russia and genocide of Russians was organized in Kazakhstan. The post disappeared in a few minutes, although its screenshots were re-uploaded by journalist Ksenia Sobchak.

The post mentions that 'after the liberation of the territories of Kiev and Malorossiya from the nationalists, Russia will be united again'.

"We are on our next campaign to restore the borders of our homeland, which, as we know, does not end anywhere,"

the post said.

Medvedev wrote in the post that 'before 1801, Georgia as a country did not exist and it was created only within the borders of the Russian Empire':

"North and South Ossetia, Abkhazia and the remaining territories of Georgia can be united only with Russia as part of one state".



As for Kazakhstan, the post says that "this is an artificial state" and "a former territory of Russia", and the government is evicting various ethnic groups, which can be "considered a genocide of Russians".

It is not known whether this post really belongs to the deputy head of the Security Council. Sobchak suggests that Medvedev's account was hacked. Medvedev himself did not respond to the post.

"He probably wouldn't touch Northern Kazakhstan, considering his personal meetings with Tokayev. Rhetoric is too much even for him," Sobchak notes.

Later, Dmitry Medvedev's assistant told RIA Novosti that the account had been hacked.

Changes made to park project at hippodrome, parking spaces are decreasing, Tbilisi Mayor Kakha Kaladze says

According to the mayor of Tbilisi,

Kakha Kaladze, changes have been made in the project of arranging the central park planned on the territory of the former hippodrome.

He thanked Bidzina Ivanishvili at the meeting of the Tbilisi government, saying that "the municipality of the capital will not spend a single penny to arrange the central park" and Bidzina Ivanishvili Foundation Kartu will cover the expenses of arranging the park in full.

"I would like to emphasize one circumstance that part of the society did not understand, part of it understood well, but it is trying to mislead the society. The Kartu and Bidzina Ivanishvili Charitable Foundation did not limit itself to handing over this space to the capital, all the works that will be carried out - landscaping, tidying, this person will take all the costs of rehabilitation. The municipality will not have to spend a single cent. The project is being implemented with the funding of Bidzina Ivanishvili and her family, for which I would like to thank her once again," said the mayor of Tbilisi.

Exchange Rates: US Dollar - 2.7411; Euro - 2.8030; GBP - 3.3444; 100 Russian Ruble - 4.5401; Swiss Franc - 2.8781

Ombudsman assesses 59 free canteens in 25 municipalities, says overall picture 'unsatisfactory'

By Liza Mchedlidze

The Public Defender's Office checked 59 free canteens in 25 municipalities. According to the Ombudsman's assessment, the current situation in some municipalities both in terms of

food delivery services and sanitary meets the minimum requirements, however, the overall picture is unsatisfactory.

The amount allocated per beneficiary in the free canteens of Tbilisi Municipality amounts to 1,30 GEL, which is less than the

daily amount calculated in the regions. This is mentioned in the monitoring report of free canteens distributed by the Public Defender.

According to the information of the Public Defender's office, as a result of the monitoring, it was revealed that: there is no unified standard for the management and delivery of the free canteen service in the country, and the nutritional needs of the beneficiaries are not taken into account when the service is implemented, there were cases when the menu is prepared by an accountant and not by a specialist in the relevant field, in most cases, the menu does not change throughout the year, and also, the majority of institutions do not meet universal design standards.

"In February and March 2022, the Office of the Public Defender monitored 59 free canteens operating in 25 municipalities of Georgia, based on the principle of random selection.

The free meals program is implemented in almost all municipalities, which is an important service for realizing the right to proper food. The right to adequate food means access to the food necessary for a healthy and active life, including a minimum ratio of adequate calories, protein, and other specific nutrients.

According to the Public Defender's assessment, the current situation in some municipalities both in terms of food delivery service and sanitary-hygiene meets the minimum requirements, however, the over-

all picture is unsatisfactory.

The Public Defender points out that the Government of Georgia should ensure the development and approval of the basic standards of free canteen services, which will take into account the management of the

service, the calorie content of the menu, the quality of food, safety, sanitary-hygienic requirements, the improvement and equipment of food blocks, the observance of hygienic norms and other relevant issues.



Lelo demands visa regime for citizens of Russia and Belarus

By Messenger Staff

Lelo demands a tightening of the visa regime for citizens of the Russian Federation and Belarus. The party publishes a statement about this.

As mentioned in the statement, Lelo has requested this since the first day of the war in Ukraine. However, "this issue is particularly acute today after the number of visitors from the Russian Federation has increased dramatically."

"The flow of visitors from the occupying country is beyond any control. The relevant structures do not and cannot control the citizens entering our territory from the occupying country, the country is vulnerable to the challenges and existing threats,

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"ლელო" ითხოვს საპარტოვლო რუსეთთან დროებითი სავიზო რეჟიმის შერეობას
4 მარტი, 2022

შეზღუდული დროებითი სავიზო რეჟიმის რუსეთის მოქალაქეებისთვის
6 მარტი, 2022

ვიმსჯელოთ რუსეთთან დროებით სავიზო რეჟიმის აღდგენაზე
15 მარტი, 2022

ლანა გალდავა ხელისუფლებას მიმართავს და 6 კუნძოვან გემებს სთავაზობს
5 მარტი, 2022

which have increased critically in the background of Russia's invasion of Ukraine and ongoing hostilities.

Lelo demands the introduction of temporary measures to enable the control of the flow of people entering the territory of Georgia.

- introduce a visa regime for citizens of the Russian Federation and Belarus (citizens of countries involved in hostilities with Ukraine);

- Determine the validity of tourist visas for up to 30 days (visas are issued directly at the border and/or online);

- For those who wish to stay more than 30 days, visas are issued according to the procedures drawn up according to the best practices of the European Union.

Weather

Wednesday, August 3

Day Partly Cloudy
High: 35°C

Night Clear
Low: 22°C

Thursday, August 4

Day Partly Cloudy
High: 35°C

Night Clear
Low: 23°C

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