
NUMBER OF MINISTRIES IN ARMENIA MAY BE CUT TO 9-11 - ARARAT MIRZOYAN

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The number of ministries in Armenia may be cut to nine, the Armenian Acting First Vice-Premier Ararat Mirzoyan said Wednesday at a news conference.

There are a number of ways to cut the number of ministries, he said. We are speaking today about the opportunity to leave only nine to 11 ministries from the present 17.

Mirzoyan pointed out the necessity of revision of all state-governing agencies functions and said that some of them and funds may be merged with ministries, if necessary.

Our stance on the optimization of the state-governing institutions remains unchanged, he said. We really have a quite outsized governing system, and along with ministries and agencies we have also similar agencies with the same functions.

Mirzoyan expressed hope that such mergers will make it possible to increase salaries of the public sector workers.

In some cases, ministries employees earn less than those at governing organizations and funds, though their duties are the same, he said stressing that the essence of the reforms is enhancement of the effectiveness of the government staffs work.

On one hand, it can lead to reduction of the government staff, he said, but on the other hand, new specialists may become necessary.

Therefore, the whole process should be maximally professional and should be based solely on serious studies and analyses, and any mechanical cut should be ruled out, Mirzoyan added.

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