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**Nearly Half a Million Displaced People Return to Syrian Province**

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Damascus, Aug 18 (Prensa Latina) Nearly half a million displaced persons have returned to their houses in the Syrian province of Deir Ezzor since the beginning of this year, today confirmed local administration sources.

The number of citizens who returned to their homes in the province reached 489,531 from the beginning of 2018, which shows a total number of residents of up to 1,37,000 people, according to the latest statistics.

After the Syrian army restored security in most of the province's countryside and secured thousands of kilometers of main roads to other regions, the first sector that was rehabilitated was transport.

Likewise, work was carried out on the resumption of the operations of offices for civil affairs, banks, post offices, fire stations and municipal councils, in parallel with the start of work to eliminate debris, repair streets and infrastructure in general, including water services and electricity.

The director of the Deir Ezzor Health Department Abdul Najem al-Obeid said that 26 medical centers and two medical centers were opened, as well as hospitals that provide services to citizens, which include equipment, general supplies,

ambulances and mobile clinics.

The sources indicated that the food, scarce under the blockade imposed by the terrorists of the Islamic State (Daesh) for almost three years, was guaranteed a few days after breaking the siege through convoys and prices fell and returned to normal levels. They also stated that several institutions and departments of services are working to complete the rehabilitation of the infrastructure of different sectors in Deir Ezzor within the context of a work program integrated by all the society's forces.

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