

Government of Pakistan
Benazir Income Support Programme

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**MARVI MEMON HOSTS FRENCH SENATORS ON BEHALF OF FRANCE PAKISTAN
FRIENDSHIP GROUP**

POVERTY ANYWHERE IS THREAT TO PEACE EVERYWHERE. MARVI MEMON

Islamabad: Pakistan attaches great importance to its relations with France. Pakistan believes that peace and stability is essential for global prosperity. Terrorism and extremism, the biggest of all threats to global peace can only be countered by closer cooperation amongst stakeholders. This was stated by Minister of State and Chairperson BISP MNA Marvi Memon while hosting a luncheon in honour of France Pakistan Parliamentary Friendship Group on behalf of Convener France Pakistan Friendship Group Muhammad Junaid Anwaar Chaudhary.



ISLAMABAD: Minister of State and Chairperson BISP, MNA Marvi Memon hosts French Senators on behalf of France Pakistan Friendship Group at BISP Secretariat. (Dated: April 12, 2016)

France Pakistan Parliamentary Friendship Group was established with a view to strengthen the inter-parliamentary links and promote parliamentary cooperation. Senator Pascal Allizard Chairman France Pakistan Friendship Group, Senator Francois Carton Vice president of Senate, Senator Patricia Morhet-Richard, French Ambassador H.E Martine Dorance, Ms. Nathalie Dupont represented the French side. Lt Gen ® Abdul Qayyum, Senator Nuzhat Sadiq, Senator Khalida Parveen. Arshad Khan Laghari, Rubina

Khursaid Alam, Sardar Azam Khan Musakhel and BISP management welcomed the delegates and conveyed warm wishes from the people of Pakistan.

Chairperson BISP highlighted that poverty anywhere is a threat to peace everywhere. BISP not only focuses on poverty management but poverty alleviation as well. The core objective of BISP is financial inclusion and economic empowerment of its beneficiaries. BISP E-Commerce is an initiative of BISP that aims to take the poor out of financial crisis by providing them access to national and international markets. The products of these marginalized women are now available online. The global community can lend a hand towards poverty reduction by supporting these poor women artisans. The Chairperson BISP sought cooperation of French companies through Corporate Social Responsibility.

Senator Pascal Allizard stated that it is time to reinvigorate bilateral relations. He pledged French cooperation in education, health, economy and terrorism. He added that it is high time to remove all the loopholes and move together towards a better safe future. Senator Françoise Cartron stated that lack of education is the core reason behind terrorism. Both sides need to put in serious efforts in education to get rid of extremist mindsets. The French ambassador highlighted the bilateral cooperation and emphasized the importance of friendship groups in the promotion of bilateral relations.

Parliamentarians from Pakistan appreciated French partnership in defense and commerce and highlighted that Pakistan is keen to take the relationship with France to the next level of long-term institutional cooperation. Parliamentarians acknowledged the French contributions towards global peace and reiterated that the global community should join hands to eliminate the terror menace from this beautiful planet.