

Government of Pakistan

Benazir Income Support Programme

PRESS RELEASE

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Bisp Targets To Enroll 2 Million Beneficiary Children In Schools By December 2016: Marvi Memon

DFID COMMENDS BISP FOR MEETING TARGETS ON WASEELA-E-TALEEM AND REGISTRY UPDATE

Islamabad (): BISP is all set to achieve its targets and timelines of each and every initiative. BISP aims to enroll two million children in schools by the end of this year. This was stated by Minister of State and Chairperson BISP MNA Marvi Memon in a meeting with DFID delegation, development partner of BISP, headed by Country Head Ms Joanna Reid. The other members of delegation included Ms. Louise Walker and Mr. Mazhar Siraj. Chairperson BISP was assisted by Secretary BISP Mr. Muhammad Sallem Ahmed Ranjha and the management.



The agenda of the meeting was to review progress on the ongoing BISP initiatives that included an update on National Socio Economic Registry (NSER), new payment model and implementation arrangements for the conditional cash transfer (CCT) on education. The meeting also reviewed progress on the overall reforms undertaken by BISP management.

Chairperson BISP briefed that BISP has made commendable progress on Waseela-e-Taleem (WeT) initiative. By December 2015, 1 million children had been enrolled and the target of enrolling 1.3 million children by the end of FY 2015-16 will be achieved two months in advance as 200,000 children will be enrolled in the month of April as a special challenge. The Minister stated that BISP intends to expand WeT across the country beyond the current 32 districts so that maximum number of deserving children may exercise their right to education. She reiterated that the cooperation of DFID and other development partners will be critical in the expansion drive of WeT. It was highlighted that the MoUs have been signed with provincial/regional educational departments except KPK for enrollment and attendance compliance. However, BISP was optimistic that the MoU with KP will be signed soon.

On NSER update, the delegation was informed that the task was on track. Secretary BISP apprised the participants that pilot phase of NSER update will be initiated in June 2016 in 16 districts followed by a national roll out in January 2017.

During the meeting, the new payment model for ensuring the smooth functioning of the initiatives was also discussed. The delegation appreciated the performance of BISP especially for meeting the required targets.