

Government of Pakistan
Benazir Income Support Programme

PRESS RELEASE

26th December, 2013

**BISP'S FIRST BOARD MEETING HELD SINCE THE
APPOINTMENT OF THE NEW SET UP**

IMPORTANT POLICY DECISIONS TAKEN DURING THE MEETING

Islamabad () The first meeting of Benazir Income Support Programme's (BISP) Board since the appointment of new set up was held at BISP Secretariat today. Meeting was chaired by Chairman BISP Enver Baig and attended by members of the Board including Dr. Ishrat Hussain, Mr. Shams Kasim Lakha, Mr. Ahmed Arif Nazami, Mr. Ejaz Nabi and Secretary BISP.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman BISP, Mr. Arif Nazami, Mr. Ejaz Nabi, Mr. Shams Kasim Lakha, Dr. Ishrat Hussain and Secretary BISP attending the meeting of BISP's Board. (Dated: December 26, 2013)

Chairman BISP told the other Board members about the directives of Prime Minister Mian Nawaz Sharif regarding the continuation of

Unconditional Cash Transfer Programme. At the beginning of the meeting Chairman BISP briefed the members of the Board regarding different issues pertaining to BISP. Policy matters were then presented by the Secretary BISP to the Board members.

The pilot project of Waseela-e-Haq and Waseela-e-Rozgar in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was approved by the Board. According to the project, the Chamber of Commerce of KP will be taken on board to determine the employment needs of the market. Accordingly, the skills development training would be provided to the beneficiaries and their placement in job market will be ensured by the Chamber of Commerce.

The Board members also directed the team of Waseela-e-Taleem to change the design of their initiative. It was decided that the provinces would be taken on board and the relationship will be improved in order to ensure the best utilization of Waseela-e-Taleem programme.

The ADB loan agreement and the budget of BISP were also approved by the Board. It was decided that a Sub-Committee of board on Finance, chaired by Dr. Ishrat Hussain, will take an in-depth examination of the budget presented before the Board to propose necessary adjustments.

The Board also discussed issues pertaining to Baluchistan province and it was decided that full support would be granted to the province and their problems will be resolved. The Board also directed that they will hold their next meeting in Quetta and the Chief Minister of the province will also be invited to the occasion.

Members of the Board congratulated Mr. Enver Baig on his appointment as the Chairman of BISP. The members said that they will ensure transparency under the chairmanship of Mr. Enver Baig and that the objectivity will be guaranteed in the operations of BISP.

The Board members expressed their reservations about various Audit observations regarding BISP and decided that an external audit by a 3rd party will be undertaken to examine the operations of the BISP since its inception.
