

**Government of Pakistan
Benazir Income Support Programme**

PRESS RELEASE
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BISP calls meeting of stakeholders on Fake SMS issue

Islamabad () As per the directives of Chairman Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), a meeting of all the stakeholders was held at BISP Secretariat. The meeting was chaired by Director General Admin and was attended by representatives from Pakistan Telecommunication Authority, Federal Investigation Agency, Intelligence Bureau and Cellular Companies.



Director General Admin Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Mr. Rizwan Malik chairing a meeting with representatives from Pakistan Telecommunication Authority, Federal Investigation Agency, Intelligence Bureau and Cellular Companies at BISP Secretariat. (Dated: February 25, 2014)

Chairman BISP had called this meeting because of the recent rise in fraudulent activities, involving scrupulous elements swindling innocent people using fake SMS message maligning

the name of BISP. After taking charge as Chairman, Mr. Enver Baig took this matter of fake SMS messages on priority and wrote letters to the concerned people asking them to take action against swindlers. However, there is no significant development in the matter which led to the directives by the Chairman to call this meeting and develop a concrete strategy.

The meeting was chaired by Director General Admin Mr. Rizwan Malik, who led the brainstorming session of the participants. He said that there was a need to make an earnest effort to defeat such elements and both preventive and corrective actions will be taken. Mr. Rizwan Malik took a briefing from representatives of Cellular Companies on the complaints registered by BISP so far and told them to expedite their activities.

Mr. Rizwan Malik told the participants that so far the matter is not being treated as top priority by the stakeholders and there is a need to improve these efforts. He brought this to notice that the action against scrupulous elements is confined to blockage of SIM cards. He said that there is a need to create a deterrent by accelerating efforts to capture these people and bring them to justice.

In the light of briefing by PTA, FIA and IB and suggestions by the representatives of cellular companies a strategy was finalized to incarcerate people involved in fraudulent activities. Mr. Rizwan Malik told the participants that the communication channels will be strengthened between the stakeholders and regular meetings will also be called as per the instructions from Chairman BISP.