

Government of Pakistan
Benazir Income Support Programme

PRESS RELEASE

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Egyptian Ambassador calls on Chairman BISP

Islamabad: () Egyptian Ambassador in Pakistan H.E. Mr. Said Mohamed Elsaid Hindam called on Chairman Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) M. Enver Baig at BISP Secretariat today.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Enver Baig presenting BISP's memento to Egyptian Ambassador, H.E. Mr. Said Mohamed Elsaid Hindam. (Dated: January 27, 2014)

During the meeting both the dignitaries shared their views on exchange of technical expertise in the area of social protection, vocational training and micro finance. Chairman BISP explained that the institution is in the process of re-visiting and re-designing its graduation schemes. He stated that he is looking forward for a long term relationship with Egypt.

Chairman also informed the Egyptian Ambassador that under the directives issued by the Prime Minister, monthly stipend was raised from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 1200. He further stated that BISP will continue to provide support through un-conditional cash transfer to its beneficiaries with the key objective to graduate as many families out of the poverty trap and make them stand on their own feet. BISP will also expand the un-conditional cash transfer to more identified families gradually. Chairman also apprised the Egyptian ambassador that Punjab Chief Minister, Mian Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif has shown interest in BISP's Waseela-e-Rozgar scheme and the Punjab Government is closely working with BISP to formulate a national committee on vocational and skills development training which would comprise members from all the provincial governments.

H.E. Mr. Hindam stated that Egypt also has a Social Fund for Development under which poor people are provided micro finance to start their own businesses. Moreover, the Egyptian government also provides unconditional cash grants to the poorest of the poor through its Ministry of Social Welfare to alleviate the inflationary effect on the poor. The Egyptian Ambassador lauded the services of Chairman BISP and assured full cooperation of Egypt to BISP through mutual exchange of experts and learn from each others' experiences. He also offered to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with BISP on Microfinance and skills development.
