Government of Pakistan Benazir Income Support Programme

PRESS RELEASE

6th March, 2015

BISP appreciates donor support: Marvi

Islamabad: (......) "BISP and the government of Pakistan appreciate the assistance it has received from donors like World Bank, ADB, DIFID, in making it a success story in the world of social safety nets." Minister of State and Chairperson BISP, MNA Marvi Memon gave these remarks while meeting the heads of development agencies in BISP head office in Islamabad today.



ISLAMABAD: Rachid Benmessaoud World Bank country director for Pakistan, Dr Werner E Liepach ADB Country Director and Richard Montgomery country head of DFID Pakistan called on Marvi Memon Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP).

She further said that the Prime Minister of Pakistan Nawaz Sharif's vision was to empower the impoverished, give dignity to the poor and give meaning to their lives through a transparent BISP system.

While commenting on the role of BISP, she said that the Programme is in line with the welfare-based vision of the government, and has emerged as the key platform of serving millions of families in Pakistan that needed immediate relief and support.

While appreciating the development partners for their support, she said that BISP is looking to extend its strategic partnership with different development partners including World Bank, Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Department for International Development (DFID).

For better results in future, Chairperson BISP apprised the heads of development agencies that BISP would be formulating a 100 day Plan to achieve all Disbursement Linked Targets as well as meeting PMLN welfare based vision. Programme will be focusing on giving more beneficiaries Unconditional Cash Transfer BISP cards in every district of Pakistan, updating the national socio-economic registry so as to include more beneficiaries in the net, expanding the Conditional Cash Transfer programme through enhanced collaboration with provinces, re-looking at the graduation model, and improving outreach to beneficiaries. Similarly, ensuring efficiency in delivering of payments to beneficiaries is another priority of BISP through improved service culture.

The heads of development partners, Mr. Richard Montgomery, Country Head DFID, Mr. Rachid Ben Messaoud, Country Director World Bank and Mr. Werner E. Liepach, Country Director ADB, while lauding the role of BISP said that the programme is an example for other nations around the world. It is a highway to reach the poor through which any social assistance package can be launched; a clinic where first aid is provided to the poor and a school to produce quality human capital and a true investment in the people of Pakistan. The Chairperson assured the donors that BISP will be making robust Action Plans for implementation of suggestions made by all the development partners and a strategic retreat will also be organized in order to determine the future role of BISP as a social safety net.
