

PRESS RELEASE
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BISP SHOULD NOT TO BE POLITICIZED: MARVI MEMON

LAHORE: Minister of State and BISP chairperson Marvi Memon on Tuesday said that BISP should not be politicized as it was a largest social safety network in the country which extended financial support to the poor and needy.

Talking to the media at Fountain House, she said that the BISP was issuing cards to the people since 2010 in a transparent manner, adding that it was heart rendering that some political leaders were trying to politicize the BISP for the their personal agendas but the PML-N government would not allow anyone to politicize it.

She said that the BISP had issued cards to 5.15 million deserving families out of total 7.7 million families which were identified in the poverty survey, adding that the lists could not be edited or changed on the discretion of any political one or BISP official.

The state minister maintained that cards were being issued to the people on daily basis and it was a process which would remain continued till its completion.

She said the BISP was a national programme and it provided financial support to the people of all four provinces including Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) without any discrimination so that the political leadership should not hatch conspiracies in the way of the programme and show political maturity to make it a success.

The minister said that the BISP was providing education to about 0.75 million children to equip them with the skills and training which would help them in playing effective role for the development of the country.

To a question, she said that she had taken part in the electoral campaign of NA-122 by polls as she was a political worker of the PML-N but she had neither used any governmental resources nor violated any code of conduct of election Commission of Pakistan during the electoral campaign.

Marvi Memon advised Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chief Imran Khan to concentrate on the development of the Khyber Pakhtun Khawah instead of leveling rigging allegation as the PTI could not show any performance and governance in the KPK, adding that even some secretaries have yet not been appointed in the KPK in key departments.

She said that the PML-N has won the elections of NA-122 with the support of the people and it would again elect Sardar Ayaz Sadiq as Speaker of Nation Assembly soon in the next coming session of National Assembly.

To another query, she stated that Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif's visit to America would convey a message to India that Pakistan wanted peace and resolve all the outstanding issues including Kashmir through dialogue.

She said the BISP has put in place comprehensive and solid measures to end middle men culture and strict action was being taken against those who used to collect money from widows and poor, adding that modern technology, in this regard would be used to completely eliminate role of middlemen.

The minister said that BISP would conduct a resurvey to include the poor and needy and exclude those whose living standards have been raised as it was needed again owing to the demographical changes and in this regard a technical committee of BISP has sent some recommendations. International organizations including World Bank were providing assistance to the BISP for conducting resurvey.

Earlier, she presided over a meeting with the Punjab Welfare Trust for Disabled (PWTD) regarding extension of cooperation and assistance by the BISP.

Briefed the meeting regarding the operations of PWTD, MD PWTD Dr Israr-ul-Haq said that the trust currently providing financial assistance of capital grants, operational grants for recurring expenses and others through its partner non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to the disabled persons.

He said that 116 NGOs were working with PWTD for the welfare and rehabilitation of disabled persons and to make them profitable for the country, adding that they had provided financial assistance to about four million during ten year time span.

Director General BISP Punjab Sara Saeed, Director Headquarters Ahmad Arbab Abid, Director Uzair Siddique and others were present in the meeting.