



1. OVER 0.2M CHILDREN TO BE ENROLLED UNDER WTP: MARVI

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Nowshera Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) Chairperson Marvi Memon Tuesday said more than 200,000 children would be enrolled under Waseela-e-Taleem Programme (WTP) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). About 46,000 children had already been registered in the KPK, she said during a visit to Waseela-e-Haq Registration Center here.

She said the government was committed to focus on educating the youth as no nation could progress without investment in the education sector. She said more deserving women would be enrolled in the BISP after completion of survey, according to a press release.

It may be added that Waseela-e-Taleem Programme was launched in five pilot districts (Skardu, Mirpur, Malakand protected area, Nushki and Karachi South) as part of initial test phase, in collaboration with education departments of provinces/regions in November 2012. In two years time, Waseela-e-Taleem has enrolled around 52000 children out of potential 75000 children from among the BISP beneficiary families in the target areas.

The BISP plans to extend the WET Programme -Extended Phase into 27 additional districts upon mutual consent with the provincial authorities. Experience in the Pilot Phase gave the project insights that the BISP has incorporated in its extended phase.

The BISP is targeting to reach these out of school children within two years by introducing the stipend amount to encourage the beneficiary families for sending their children in school instead of involving in child labour.

(Daily Mashriq, Peshawar also carried the story)

2. IGNORING BACKWARD AREAS: PRIME MINISTER'S NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN CRITICIZED

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National Assembly Standing Committee on Planning, Development and Reforms severely criticized Prime Minister's National Health Insurance Programme for ignoring most backward areas and recommended to upgrade public hospitals in these areas. The committee met at the Parliament Lodges with Abdul Majeed Khan Khanan Khail in the chair on Tuesday and discussed the Prime Minister's National Health Insurance Programme, Population Welfare Programme (provinces) and dualization and improvement of Mandra-Chakwal road project.

It was told to the committee members that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh governments have denied to launch the Prime Minister's National Health Insurance Programme on the share with ratio Rs 300 : Rs 1000 (federal government : provincial government). However, it was told that the programme has



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been started in 23 districts of Punjab and Balochistan provinces. The programme could not be started in KP and Sindh provinces due to political ownership.

An official of National Health Services, Regulation and Co-ordination Division told the committee that the federal government sought the names of most backward districts from the provinces to start the programme. He said that the Punjab government gave the name of Bahawalnagar whereas Balochistan government gave the name of Chaghi.

It was shocking for the committee members when an official told them that the Prime Minister's National Health Insurance Programme had not been started in these districts because the districts are deprived of public or private hospitals and again sought the names of those districts which have better facilities in their hospitals.

After listening to remarks of the official, the committee members severely criticised the Prime Minister's National Health Insurance Programme and said, "We do not need such programme if it could not provide health facilities to the poorest people and most backward areas at their doorsteps."

Chaudhry Jaffar Iqbal of the PML-N said, "If we expel the most backward areas of the country and the poorest people from this programme, which are already deprived of the basic health facilities then there is no need of this programme. He proposed that the government should upgrade the public hospitals and give them financial autonomy in backward districts, and then launch this programme. He said that the government

should upgrade districts and tehsil headquarters hospitals.

Committee Chairman Majeed Khan said that there is need of up gradation of every district hospital and provide health facilities to the poor people at their doorsteps. He said that the program is good but we are not satisfied about the implementation of the programme.

The committee directed the Ministry to focus on the up gradation of district and tehsil headquarters hospitals so that the people of under-developed areas could be benefited. An official of the Ministry also told the committee that the Prime Minister's Programme has been started on the data base of Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP). He said that two to three years are required to conduct fresh survey for this programme. The members of the committee raised serious reservations on the survey of BISP and said that it is not correct.

The official of the Ministry also admitted that the survey of BISP is not 100 percent correct and said that the people who have Pajeros also have health insurance card of this programme. Chaudhry Jaffar Iqbal said that the government should collect data from Zakat Committees at grass root level even Pakistan Bait-ul-Maal should be included in the programme for financial support. He said that even the funds of Zakat and Bait-ul-Mal could be used for health insurance programme.

He said that there may be problem of political ownership of the programme in KP and Sindh. He said that there is need of 50 percent share of each federal government and provincial government. The other members also supported



the views of Iqbal. The committee also directed the Ministry that fresh survey of Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) may be conducted so that actual figures of deserving people could be determined.

The committee further recommended that offices of Zakat Mustahqeen and Bait-ul-Maal from district and tehsil levels should also be taken onboard for considering the deserving people in Prime Minister's National Health Insurance Programme. The committee members recommended that the programme should be started and expanded to backward areas of the country.

The committee also examined the working on dualization & improvement of Mandra-Chakwal Road project and directed the Ministry to release funds for the said project so that the project could be completed within stipulated time period. The committee also directed the Ministry to ensure that PC-I of the project could not be revised in future and penalty will also be imposed on contractor, if contractor failed to complete the project within given timeframe. While discussing Population Welfare Programme, which has been devolved to the provinces but some projects are in the hand of the federal government, the provinces sought Rs 8 billion fund for the programme for next year.

(Express Tribune, Jang and Dunya also carried the story)

3. BISP NEWS

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بینظیر انکم سپورٹ پروگرام، ڈیٹا کی تصدیق یوسی سیکرٹریز سے کرانے کا فیصلہ

2956 معذور افراد کو خدمت کارڈ کا اجراء 983 کامیڈیکل بورڈ کے سامنے پیش ہونے سے انکار

راولپنڈی (راحت منیر/اپنے رپورٹر سے) 16 کی تصدیق ہو چکی ہے۔ جس میں سے 795 کو راولپنڈی ڈویژن میں اب تک 2 ہزار 9 سو 56 معذور افراد کو خدمت کارڈ جاری ہو چکے ہیں۔ جبکہ 10 ہزار 8 سو 8 افراد میں سے اب تک تین ہزار سات سو 42 افراد کی تصدیق ہوئی ہے۔ بے نظیر انکم سپورٹ پروگرام کی طرف سے فراہم کردہ ڈیٹا کی تصدیق پہلے مرحلے میں اسسٹنٹ کمشنرز کے ذریعے کرائی گئی تھی۔ جس میں 2119 افراد میں سے 909 کی تصدیق ہوئی، کی دوسرے مرحلے میں تصدیق یونین کونسل سطح پر یوسی سیکرٹریز سے کرانے کا فیصلہ کیا گیا ہے۔ 9 سو 83 افراد نے تصدیق کیلئے تکمیل دینے کے لیے میڈیکل بورڈز کے سامنے پیش ہونے سے انکار کر دیا ہے جبکہ فراہم شدہ ڈیٹا میں سے 49 سو 8 افراد دار فانی سے کوچ کر چکے ہیں۔ 1766 افراد اپنے گئے پتے پر دستیاب نہیں۔ خدمت کارڈ کی فراہمی اور ڈیٹا کی تصدیق کے سلسلے میں ایڈیشنل کمشنر کوآرڈینیشن طارق محمود کی زیر صدارت ڈویژن بھر کے افسران کا اجلاس ہوا۔ ای ڈی او سی ڈی راولپنڈی عقیل احمد خان نے بتایا کہ راولپنڈی میں ڈیٹا کے مطابق پانچ ہزار ایک سو 42 افراد ہیں۔ اب تک ایک ہزار