

# NEWS TODAY

SAT-MON, FEB 20-22, 2016

## **1. MARVI ASSURES FINANCIAL HELP TO FISHERMEN FAMILIES**

*Published in Pakistan Observer, Feb 21, 2016*



Thatta—Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) Marvi Memon Saturday assured every possible measures for financial assistance of bereaved fisher folk families whose 12 members burnt to death in a ghastly fire incident early this month. She said this while visiting a local hospital at Gharo town of district Thatta. She met with four women admitted there for suffering from burn wounds when a fire had broken out from the scattered diesel, used as fuel for the fishing boats, in their hutments in village Ibrahim Jat near Keti Bandar on February 7. Twelve people including women and children were burnt to death in that incident. Marvi Memon expressed sympathy with the patients, offered condolences to the bereaved family members and shown deep grief and sorrow over the loss of precious lives. At the occasion, she said that federal government will take every possible measure for the financial assistance of grieved family.

She convinced the bereaved family members who were still under medical treatment that she will personally talk to M.D Bait-ul-Mal for their financial aid to support them for their treatment at Karachi. Marvi

Memon also urged the local administration to take safety measures to prevent such incidents in the future. Later she visited Dargah Faqir Abdullah Missan and condoled the death of Sajada Nasheen Ali Ahmed Missan. She also visited the residence of Habib Iqbal Abbasi, Assistant Director BISP in Thatta and expressed condoled on his death and expressed sympathy with the bereaved family.—APP

*(Business Recorder, Patriot, Express, Naiabaat, Pakistan, Ausaf & Jinnah also carried the story and picture)*

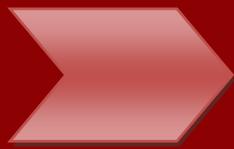
## **2. FUNDS FOR BISP DOUBLED, SAYS MARVI**

*Published in Dawn, February 22nd, 2016*



GWADAR: Federal Minister of State and Chairperson of Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) Marvi Memon has said that the government has doubled funds for the BISP to eliminate poverty from the country.

Speaking at a gathering of women beneficiaries in Gwadar on Sunday, she said the number of BISP beneficiaries in the Makran division had reached 26,545. "The federal government wants to empower



# NEWS TODAY

SAT-MON, FEB 20-22, 2016

women by financially helping them through the BISP to help them become part of the mainstream," Ms Memon said.

She said that the process of availing of the BISP facility was being simplified so that maximum number of women could benefit from the facility.

The minister said that the BISP had been running several projects to empower women across the country, especially in Balochistan, including patronising the Balochi embroidery and developing cottage industry.

She said that women beneficiaries whose BISP cards had become deactivated, could get them reactivated by presenting their ID cards to the BISP offices in their respective areas.



Balochistan Health Minister Mir Rehmat Saleh Baloch said that BISP had been proving helpful in eliminating poverty from the province.

He said that number of BISP beneficiaries in Balochistan should be increased, keeping in view backwardness and poverty in the area.

Gwadar District Council chairman Babo Gulab also spoke on the occasion and welcomed BISP efforts in the area.

(Business Recorder, Frontier, Patriot, Express, Nawatwaqt, Dunya, Naibaat, Jahan Pakistan,

Jinnah and Pakistan also carried the story and picture)

## 3. SALE OF FAKE SIMs DETECTED IN PUNJAB

Published in Dawn, Feb 22, 2016



## 4. NAB INVESTIGATING BISP FRAUDS

ISLAMABAD: National Accountability Bureau (NAB) is investigating irregularities in Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Samaa reported Sunday.

According to our correspondent, the NAB has gathered evidences against former chairperson BISP and Pakistan Peoples Party leader, Farzana Raja.

"We have proofs of misappropriation in funds allocated for advertisements," a source said, adding that NAB is also investigating illegal recruitment by Farzana Raja.

The source said federal interior minister could issue Red Warrants for arrest of Farzana Raja who is nowadays in US.

Published in leading Eng & Urdu newspapers, Feb 22, 2016



# NEWS TODAY

SAT-MON, FEB 20-22, 2016

## **5. WORLD BANK GIVES \$450M FOR PHILIPPINES**

*Published in Gulf News, Feb 21, 2016*

*Manila: The World Bank on Saturday approved \$450 million (Dh1.65 billion) of funding for the Philippines' flagship anti-poverty programme, which will provide basic health care and education to millions of families until 2019.*

*The financing, under the bank's Social Welfare Development and Reform Project II, will cover about 7 per cent of the total cost of implementing what is known as the conditional cash transfer (CCT) programme. Manila has allocated about 62.7 billion peso (\$1.32 billion) from its 2016 budget for the scheme, which is expanding this year to cover 4.6 million households.*

*"The World Bank is steadfast in its commitment and support for the CCT because we believe it contributes to reducing extreme poverty and inequality," said Cecilia Vales, the World Bank's acting country director for the Philippines.*

*A quarter of the Philippines' 100 million people live below the poverty line.*

*The Philippines' CCT programme has grown into one of the largest and best-targeted social safety net programmes in the world, with 82 per cent of the benefits going to the bottom 40 per cent of the population, according to the World Bank.*

*Recent studies show that the programme has reduced total poverty and food poverty among beneficiaries by as much as 6.7 percentage points.*

*At the national level, the programme is estimated to have reduced both total poverty and food poverty by up to 1.4 percentage points in 2013.*

*Globally, more than 1.9 billion people in 136 low- and middle-income countries benefit from social safety net*

*programmes such as CCT, according to a World Bank report, The State of Social Safety Nets 2015. India, Brazil and Mexico have the largest programmes.*

*<http://gulfnnews.com/news/asia/philippines/world-bank-gives-450m-for-philippines-1.1676610>*