



BISP TO SPEND Rs ONE BILLION ON RE-SURVEY OF 16 DISTRICTS

Published in Business Recorder, July 22, 2016

Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) will spend around Rs 1 billion on re-surveying 16 districts and use two different approaches - desk and door to door - to gather reliable data of those eligible for a monthly cash grant and update its National Socio Economic Registry.

A senior official of the organisation told Business Recorder on Thursday that data on poverty to be collected in Pakistan for the second time after a period of only five years is an exercise unprecedented in the world. He added that survey is based on moveable and immovable assets to ascertain eligibility of a person for BISP's monthly cash grant and other benefits.

"It is almost impossible in our society to get genuine information about income of a person, therefore we have decided to determine eligibility through their moveable and immovable assets," he said. The official said that survey through desk approach was in progress in four districts, Haripur, Bahawalpur, Sukkur and Naseerabad while the survey through door to door approach in 12 districts was likely to begin from October this year.

"In the desk approach, all those who consider themselves eligible for the BISP's social security programme come and register while in the door to door approach, a third party is being hired through a competitive process to visit the

people and register them for the programme," he said.

"We will analyse data of both the approaches with help of different experts and use only one of them for the countrywide resurvey," he said, adding the quality of data was important for the BISP to register the poor for the social security programme. He said the desk approach would help the BISP to keep the data dynamic to make sure that an eligible person could register with the programme even after the process of resurvey ended.

Physical verification of some random people registered through the desk approach would also be carried out later to confirm validity of the data and effectiveness of the approach, he said. He said the BISP was also in touch with the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) and other relevant government departments to verify data about members of a family, their moveable and immovable assets, passports and foreign trips. "In our application form, there are a number of filters to verify eligibility of a person for the BISP monthly cash grant and other benefits," he said.

(Daily Khabrain also carried the story)