

1. Survey being conducted to make BISP more transparent, NA told

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The National Assembly was informed on Thursday that a survey had already been conducted for Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) to make the process more transparent.

Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Sheikh Aftab Ahmed told the House that the survey is being conducted as some complaints were received about the programme.

He was responding to a resolution of Surriya Asghar about conducting new survey for BISP and extend its scope to make the programme more beneficial for the poor.

He said efforts were being made to identify the deserving throughout the country and make the programme more transparent and beneficial.

The mover was of the view that there were some irregularities in the BISP and it should be addressed.

Minister of States for Frontier Regions Lt Gen (r) Abdul Qadir Baloch also supported the mover of resolution and said that a survey of BISP was need of the hour as it was not properly conducted in most areas of Balochistan due to the law and order situation.

He said majority people in Balochistan province were below the poverty line and they needed proper attention of the government in BISP. He asked chairperson of BISP, Marvi Memon to personally visit these parts of Balochistan.

Parliamentary Secretary for Interior Maryyam Aurangzeb told the House that on direction of Interior Minister Ch. Nisar Ali Khan separate counters had been set up for women at various offices of NADRA and passport and immigration offices in first phase while efforts were being made to make such more counters.

She was responding to a resolution of Naeema Kishwar Khan about setting up of separate counters for women in NADRA and passport and immigration offices.

(The News, Jang, Express, Naibaat, Khabrain, and Ausaf also carried the story)

2. No plan to hand over BISP to provinces

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No plan to hand over BISP to provinces

PESHAWAR—A spokesman for the Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) Thursday clarified a news items appeared in a section of the press stating that the BISP was being shifted to the provinces. It clarified that there was no such plan under consideration of the government to hand over the same to the federating units.

In a rebuttal issued here today, the spokesman said BISP was working under the domain of the Federal Government and there was no description of its shifting to the provinces under the 18th Amendment.

However, it is important to note that all the welfare programmes including Waseela e Taleem (Source of Education) and initiation of new survey to update national social and economic registry have been launched by the BISP after taking all the provinces into confidence. The provincial governments were supporting the initiative, the spokesman said.—APP