

**Government of Pakistan  
Benazir Income Support Programme**

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**Press Release  
October 30, 2017**

**SECRETARY BISP DISCUSSES 'BISP ENDOWMENT FUND' WITH DFID**

Islamabad ( ): Head of Economic Growth, Ms. Patricia Seex and Team Leader Economic Inclusion and Poverty, Mr. Mazhar Siraj from DFID called on Secretary BISP Mr. Omar Hamid Khan today at BISP Secretariat to share brief findings of recently concluded Review Mission and to discuss the issues of mutual collaboration between DFID and BISP.



*Secretary BISP Mr. Omar Hamid Khan in a meeting with Head of Economic Growth, Ms. Patricia Seex and Team Leader Economic Inclusion and Poverty, Mr. Mazhar Siraj from DFID at BISP Secretariat on 30th October 2017 in Islamabad.*

DFID is the development partner of BISP. Under the first tranche of Pakistan National Cash Transfers Programme (PNCTP), DFID has provided up to £180 million grant and

£21 million in technical assistance to BISP from 2012 to 2016 against the set of 18 Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLIs) which have been successfully achieved by BISP meeting all the targets in due course of time. DFID supported two flagship programmes in the first tranche: the Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) programme and the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) programme for education.

For the second tranche, DFID has provided 11 DLIs in total amounting to GBP £ 98.4 million to be achieved by March 2021. These DLIs pertain to usage of new National Socio Economic Registry (NSER) data for UCT disbursements, building and availability of dashboard for stakeholders to access NSER data, implementation of Biometric Verification System (BVS), capacity building of Tehsil offices, expansion of Waseela-e-Taleem and increasing the numbers of BISP Beneficiary Committees (BBCs) in Union Councils.

DFID Team, during the meeting, put forth some suggestions for future endeavors and expressed great satisfaction over the performance of BISP in the wake of achieved targets. Secretary BISP urged them to provide technical and financial assistance in the design and implementation of newly conceived initiative of 'BISP Endowment Fund' under which BISP plans to provide assistance to its most vulnerable beneficiaries in the form of dowry, emergency medical support and trainings for skill development and entrepreneurship. DFID Team appreciated the initiative of 'BISP Endowment Fund' and ensured their full support in its design and implementation.

It was also discussed in the meeting that BISP is in the process of finalizing a graduation model, consisting of short and long term approaches, which would help beneficiaries to graduate out of poverty. DFID Team was also of the view that BISP needs to have a graduation framework and affirmed their support in this regard.