

Government of Pakistan
Benazir Income Support Programme
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GERMAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION VISITS BISP HEADQUARTERS

A high-level delegation led by Christoph Schmid, Member of the German Parliament and a member of its Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development, visited the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) Headquarters in Islamabad to gain first-hand insights into Germany's development cooperation with Pakistan and its practical impact in the social protection sector.

A key focus of the visit was the German-supported Mobile Registration Vehicles (MRVs), through which Germany has provided 32 vehicles to BISP to expand the outreach of the National Socio-Economic Registry (NSER). Since their deployment, the MRVs have reached and registered more than 1.37 million people in hard-to-reach areas of Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh.

Additional Secretary BISP Dr. Asmat Nawaz welcomed the delegation consisted of Dr. Manuel Winkenbach, Deputy Head of Development Cooperation, German Embassy Islamabad; Maria-Jose Poddey, Country Director, GIZ Pakistan; Tilman Nagel, Head of Unit, GIZ; and Johanna Knoess, Project Head, Adaptive Social Protection, GIZ Pakistan. He underscored the importance of continued cooperation between Pakistan and Germany in advancing inclusive and accessible social protection mechanisms.

DG NSER/CCT BISP Dr. Asim Ijaz briefed the delegation on BISP's major initiatives and interventions, including Benazir Kafaalat, Benazir Nashonuma, Benazir Taleemi Wazaif, Nutrition for Adolescent Girls, Benazir Hunarmand Programme, Mobile Registration Vehicles (MRVs) and the Digital Wallet initiative.

The delegation witnessed the practical application of the MRVs and was briefed on how the mobile registration mechanism takes the NSER registration process beyond fixed registration centres and closer to communities in remote and underserved areas. Through digital registration and household surveys, the MRVs collect essential household information required to identify and assess households for inclusion in social protection programmes.

The German delegation appreciated BISP's efforts to strengthen the social protection system through digitalization, mobile outreach and innovative service delivery mechanisms, and expressed interest in continued cooperation to support inclusive and effective social protection in Pakistan.