

**The Chairperson of BISP informed a UNHCR delegation that the development of FATA is top priority of the government. “The Poverty Survey in FATA would be launched after February 15th”.**

*Farzana Raja.* ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister and Chairperson **Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP)**, Ms. Farzana Raja has said that the present government was fully aware of the difficulties being faced by the people of FATA. Hence, the government has expedited the development process in the area by including it in the national mainstream. In this regard, she said, the **Benazir Income Support Programme** is launching its poverty Scorecard survey campaign in FATA after February 15, 2011 which would be completed in the span of two months. **S**he said this while talking to a high level delegation of United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR). The delegation was led by Mr. Kilian Klein Schmidit, Senior Advisor UNHCR. Ms. Farzana Raja informed the delegation that the deserving families identified by poverty survey would be registered with **BISP** immediately and they would start receiving monthly cash grant as well as other benefits being provided to beneficiary families. **S**he said that the data collected through poverty survey would be beneficial to initiate other programmes in the social sector as well. The chairperson of **BISP** added further that **BISP** is striving hard to enable poor and downtrodden segments of society to achieve financial sustainability. **M**r. Kilian Klein, on the occasion, lauded the steps being taken by the BISP with regard the poverty alleviation. He said that UNHCR would be happy if **BISP** could share its data with it so that it could be utilized for future initiatives of UNHCR in the FATA region. Earlier, a delegation of World Bank, led by Ms. Andrea Vermehren, met Chairperson **BISP** and expressed its satisfaction over the progress of the Social safety Net.