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**☒ Imam Khomeini Relief Foundation (IKRF) of Iran and Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) of Pakistan signs MOU regarding mutual cooperation**

**☒ The cooperation is to strengthen the humanitarian and relief activities for the promotion of social security of disadvantaged people**

**☒ BISP and Red Crescent to collaborate for provision of relief to the flood affectees of Pakistan**

Tehran: Federal Minister and Chairperson BISP Madame Farzana Raja, on her second day of high level visit to Iran, signed an important MoU with Head of Imam Khomeini Relief Foundation (IKRF) Mr. Hossein Anvari. According to this MoU, both parties express their willingness to strengthen the humanitarian and relief activities for the promotion of social security of needy and disadvantaged people, which will strengthen and safeguard their well-being, honor and dignity. This agreement further calls for closer relations between the humanitarian organizations of the two countries, in collaboration of IKRF and BISP.

By signing this agreement BISP and IKRF has pledged for utilizing their useful experience in presenting successful management and supportive models in the field of social services including employment through vocational & technical education, providing livelihood and health services, providing shelter and education for the needy and empowerment of women. Both organizations have further agreed to cooperate with each other by way of exchange of expert services groups, holding training courses and mutually sharing experiences of scientific, managerial and technical achievements of both the parties. This may be remembered that BISP is already working in collaboration with various organizations of different countries like China, Turkey and UAE.

Earlier, Madame Farzana Raja along with her delegation visited Imam Khomeini Relief and Consultancy Center and a hospital run by the Imam Khomeini Relief Foundation, where she visited various admitted patients and inquire about their well being.

Besides, Chairperson BISP had another meeting with Dr. Faghieh, head of Red Crescent in Iran, where various avenues of cooperation between BISP and the Red Crescent were discussed. Chairperson offered, the Red Crescent, services of BISP in terms of extensive mapped data available with BISP, which could be used for expedient access to the victims of any disaster in Pakistan. Dr. Faghieh while appreciating the efforts of BISP especially its technology based operations, which could be instrumental for immediate identification of the victims of any disaster, said that Red Crescent Iran would like to collaborate with BISP for provision of relief to the last year's flood affectees of Pakistan.

Chairperson BISP also had media talk with various journalists of Tehran. While answering to various questions of Iranian journalists, Federal Minister informed them about the various interventions BISP has done for the socio-economic development of the underprivileged people in Pakistan.

Secretary BISP Mr. Muhammad Sher Khan and Pakistan's Ambassador to Iran Mr. Khalid Aziz Baber were also present during the meetings.