

**August 27, 2011**

**China and Pakistan agree to look into the possibilities of launching joint Social Sector Projects;**

**Chairperson China Women Federation Lauds Farzana Raja's Role for Women Empowerment;**

Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja, during her current visit to China met Chairperson China Women Federation (CWF), Ms. Meng Xiaosi in Beijing and discussed matters of mutual interest especially the common goal of women empowerment.



Beijing: Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja meeting with Chairperson China Women Federation (CWF) Ms. Meng Xiaosi. (Dated: Aug 27, 2011)

Chairperson China Women Federation appreciated the efforts of BISP and said that

the programme is doing a great job of women in Pakistan. She lauded the efforts of Madame Farzana Raja for socio-economic empowerment of women raising their status in society and given them self respect and dignity. Chairman China Women Federation said that Pak China friendship goes back to ancient times and this common heritage has been passed from generation to generation. Presently Pakistan and china have high quality strategic partnership.

Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme thanked the CWF for its support during the last year's floods in Pakistan. She said that in the time of need CWF had sent goods worth more than \$ 70,000 to flood affected BISP beneficiaries which underlines the strong bonding between the people of China and Pakistan.

Chairperson briefed the chairman CWF about the various interventions of BISP aiming at women empowerment in Pakistan. She told that BISP is trying to achieve the Millennium Development Goal of poverty alleviation through women empowerment. Also, by virtue of BISP, 10 million women in Pakistan have got CNICs and thus got recognition in the society, she further added.

During the meeting, common initiatives were discussed, which have been started by both the organization in their respective countries for enhancing the socio-economic status of women.

Ms. Meng Xiaosi appreciated the proposal forwarded by the Madame Farzana Raja to launch various joint projects so that both the countries could learn from each others experiences. Both agreed that cooperation of this kind would add a new chapter in Sino-Pak bilateral relations and will enhance people to people contacts. Chairperson BISP invited Chairperson CWF to visit Pakistan so that the later can have an on hand knowledge of BISP's interventions in the social sector.