

December 13, 2011

BISP's initiatives imperative to achieve the goal of women empowerment in the country, Says Syeda Fiza Batool Gilani, Goodwill Ambassador for Women Empowerment

BISP making women economically self sufficient thus helping them achieve respectable place in society, Says Madame Farzana Raja

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja has said that the present democratic government has taken concrete and practical steps to advance the cause of women empowerment in the country. The passage of Anti Women Practices Bill 2011 is another example of pro-poor agenda of the government. Thus, it is being expected that the women folk would now play more vibrant and effective role in the progress and development of the country. She said this while explaining various initiatives of BISP to Syeda Fiza Batool Gilani, Goodwill Ambassador for Women Empowerment, here at BISP Secretariat today. Prime Minister's Special Assistant Ms. Shehnaz Wazir Ali, Secretary BISP Mr. Sher Khan and other officials were also present on the occasion.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja apprising Syeda Fiza Batool Gillani, Goodwill Ambassador for Women Empowerment about BISP's initiatives to empower women. Shehnaz Wazir Ali, Special Assistant to Prime Minister and Secretary BISP, Mr. Sher Khan along with others also present on the occasion. (Dated: December 13, 2011)

While speaking on the occasion, Syeda Fiza Batool Gilani declared the women empowerment in the country imperative and need of the hour. She said the role of BISP in this regard is highly appreciable and it would have far reaching impact on the overall economic and social development of the country. She expressed her good wishes and support for further progress and success of the programme.

Madame Farzana Raja said that BISP is the major programme in the country which is striving for the economic and social empowerment of the women. She informed Syeda Fiza Batool Gilani that more than 15 million women across Pakistan have obtained their National Identity Card after because of the various pro-poor initiatives of BISP, thus achieved their identification as citizens of Pakistan. She said that in a short span of three years, BISP has achieved remarkable success due to continuous support and guidance of President Asif Ali Zardari and the Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani.

Chairperson BISP said that it was first time in the history of Pakistan that a programme in the social sector has made its outreach to almost 7 million poor families belonging to downtrodden segments of society. After successful launch of its various projects i.e. Waseela-e- Haq, Waseela-e-Rozgaar and Waseela-e-Sahat, she added, BISP is now all set to enroll more than one million children of beneficiary families in schools by April next year under its Waseela-e-Taleem Programme.

Madama Farzana Raja said that the measures of BISP have contributed in the women empowerment in FATA as well where door to door poverty survey has been completed in Bajour and Kurram Agencies while it is under process in other tribal areas. She said that a 20% reduction in the poverty can be expected in the next 5 to 10 years as a result of the relentless efforts of BISP.