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BISP is a comprehensive social safety net says Farzana Raja

BISP running in a very transparent, effective way: Francisco Ayla, Technical Advisor to BISP

Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) is a comprehensive social safety net which is providing financial assistance to the poorest of the poor section of the society, said Federal Minister/Chairperson BISP Farzana Raja.

Addressing a roundtable seminar under the title of "BISP's Technology based Governance for Poverty Alleviation and Women Empowerment" on Thursday, Farzana Raja said BISP focuses on the vulnerable section of the society and has brought about a social revolution in the country. She said BISP has up till now reached out to more than 2.6 million families across the country. She stressed BISP does not aim to foster dependency on handouts and was instead promoting a self-sufficiency strategy through vocational and technical training for a member of a family.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister/Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme Farzana Raja is chairing a roundtable seminar on the title "BISP's Technology Based Governance for Poverty Alleviation and Women Empowerment". Also present are Special Advisor to Prime Minister on Social Sector Shahnaz Wazir Ali (L) and Managing Director and Director General Operations of BISP.

Speaking at the seminar, Technical Advisor to BISP Francisco Ayla said BISP was running in a very transparent and effective way. He said the federal and other arms of the government were working in tandem to make BISP a success. Director General (Operations) of BISP Dr Mukhtar Ahmad gave a comprehensive briefing on the organizational structure and the working of the programme. Dr Mukhtar said BISP has a high-

powered management and was working to move from general to targeted subsidies by providing financial assistance to the poor directly.

The purpose of the roundtable seminar was to share with the representatives of the civil society, media and academia BISP's experience of introducing technology based management systems and adoption of international best practices towards its mission to eradicate poverty and empower the women of Pakistan.

Also attending the seminar were a World Bank delegation, Farzana Bari from Centre of Excellence and Gender Quaid-e-Azam University, DG Institute of Strategic Studies

Tanvir Ahmed Khan, Chief Executive PILDAT Ahmad Bilal Mehboob, Dr Azra Khanum from Arid Agriculture University, Deputy Chairman Nadra Tariq Malik, Chief Executive of The Asia Foundation Gareth Aicken, Rector COMSATS Dr Junaid Zaidi and Special Advisor to Prime Minister on social sector Shahnaz Wazir Ali. The participants of the seminar appreciated government's efforts for poverty alleviation and women empowerment and gave their valuable suggestions.