

Dated: Jan 16, 2012

**PPP government cannot ignore poor despite of financial challenges, says Madame Farzana Raja;**

**Empowering women alongwith serving poor and downtrodden are top most priorities of the people's government, Chairperson BISP informed Finnish delegation**

**Madame Farzana Raja also holds meeting with Sindh Finance Minister; Discusses BISP's performance in the province**

**ISLAMABAD:** Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja has said that the poverty is a global phenomenon and no country can achieve sustainable development without addressing this problem. She said that the democratic government of Pakistan, despite facing various economic challenges, has decided not to ignore the needs of poor and downtrodden segment of society as this approach is imperative for the overall progress and development of the country. She expressed these views while talking to a Finnish delegation of ex-parliamentarians comprised of Mr. Vappu Taipale and Mrs. Ilkka Taipale, experts from social and health sector, during a meeting here at BISP Secretariat Monday.



**Islamabad: Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja talking to a Finnish delegation of ex-parliamentarians comprising of Mr. Vappu Taipale and Mrs. Ilkka Taipale, experts from social and health sector, here in BISP Secretariat. (Dated: Jan 16, 2012)**

Madame Farzana Raja informed the delegation that the women empowerment has always been the top priority for Pakistan Peoples Party and its leadership. Therefore, BISP is advancing the same vision through its various initiatives which are basically designed to benefit poor of the society. She said that besides reaching out to downtrodden segments of society across Pakistan, BISP has introduced them with the state of the art technology.



**Islamabad: Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja talking to Murad Ali Shah, Provincial Minister for Finance Sindh here in BISP Secretariat. (Dated: Jan 16, 2012)**

Chairperson BISP said that the democratic government of Pakistan is fighting against the terrorism as well as poverty simultaneously. She added further that BISP is a transparent and objective programme designed to serve the people indiscriminately. She informed the delegation that poverty survey was conducted across Pakistan to provide every deserving family a fair opportunity to get registered with BISP. She said that the poverty survey, towards its final stages, is underway in FATA which is the region worst effected by acts of terrorism.

The Finnish delegation applauded the steps taken by BISP to benefit poor of the country and termed the scale of Poverty Survey unprecedented and highly admirable.

Earlier, Murad Ali Shah, Provincial Minister for Finance Sindh along with Provincial Secretary Finance met Madame Farzana Raja and discussed various issues pertain to BISP's beneficiary families from Sindh including Waseela-e-Haq Scheme and disbursement of financial assistance.

Murad Ali Shah, on the occasion, assured Chairperson BISP of full cooperation of Sindh government, particularly in effective disbursement of financial assistance to beneficiary families.