

July 17, 2012

Beneficiary Families of BISP to get 10% discount in the Utility Stores;

Transparency is the hallmark of BISP; BISP is tackling the menace of poverty which is root cause of terrorism;

People should remain aware of the fake messages in the name of BISP Benefits

Federal Minister and Chairperson BISP Madame Farzana Raja Addresses Press Conference

Islamabad: Benazir Incomes Support Programme (BISP) has successfully achieved the target of making Pakistan a social welfare state as promised by the Government of Pakistan Peoples Party. The programme is regarded as one of the best among such initiatives in the social sector being in operation in the 44 countries of the world. BISP has achieved the level of success in the span of just four years for which several other countries have taken 4 decades. The success of the programme could be measured by the fact that more than five countries have contacted BISP to seek its support to replicate the programme in those countries. Federal Minister and Chairperson BISP Madame Farzana Raja said this during a press conference here on Monday.



Islamabad: Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja addressing a Press Conference here at BISP Secretariat. Secretary BISP, Mr. Sher Khan also present on the occasion. (Dated: July 17, 2012)

On the occasion, Madame Farzana Raja announced that the beneficiary families of BISP having Benazir Card would get 10% further discount in the utility stores for shopping up to Rs. 1000 and this discount would be in addition to regular 7% discount already given by the government.

She said that transparency is hallmark of BISP and that is the reason international donors and financial institutions are lending full support to BISP both in the terms of moral as well as financial support. She said that various countries including China are patronizing BISP to impart vocational training to its beneficiary families under Waseela-e-Rozgar initiative. She said that this initiative aims at enabling underprivileged families to attain financial self sustainability.

Chairperson BISP said that we are open to healthy criticism all the time. However, it would be more appropriate to understand and learn about the programme before unleashing criticism towards this national cause. She said the number of families eligible to be registered with BISP has risen up to 7 million. However, she said, 3.9 million families so far are being provided with monthly cash grant while this monthly financial support would be initiated to rest of the families when the female heads of these families would obtain their national Identity cards.

Chairperson BISP said that BISP is tackling the menace of poverty thus indirectly supporting the war against terrorism and extremisms as terrorism is the byproduct of poverty.

Madame Farzana Raja said that some elements are trying to loot innocent people through fake text messages on mobile phones by wrongly attracting them to benefits from BISP. She appealed people to remain aware of such fakers and confirm about authenticity of these messages from nearby BISP offices or BISP Help Line 0800-26477. She said that investigation is being carried out by the concerned authorities against such fraudulent elements to safeguard general public.

She said that BISP is an apolitical programme and a national asset and it has been approved by both the houses of the parliament. Chairperson BISP informed the media persons that as an alternate payment mechanism, BISP has so far distributed 1.4 Benazir Debit Cards among the beneficiary families while 4 million families would be provided with this facility till December 2012.

Chairperson BISP at the occasion urged the corporate sector of Pakistan to come forward to make BISP a self sustainable national programme. She also announced that under the Waseela-e-Taleem initiative of BISP, 3 million children from beneficiary families would be enrolled in the school in near future.

Towards the end, Madame Farzana Raja appreciated the role of media for disseminating timely information and to redress various misperceptions about the programme.