

March 28, 2012

- **BISP enjoys recognition both sides of the political divide, says Madame Farzana Raja**
- **Chairperson BISP briefed the delegation comprising diplomats of various European Union countries and international financial institutions about the working of BISP**
- **Diplomats of European Union congratulated Chairperson BISP on receiving Hilal-e-Imtiaz**
- **Madame Farzana Raja thanked the members of delegation for continuous financial and technical support to BISP**

ISLAMABAD: Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja has said that BISP has been recognized both sides of the political divide and its achievements have been recognized at both national and international level. She said that numerous local and international organizations including planning commission of Pakistan and provincial Government of Sindh and Punjab benefitting from the data compiled by BISP for their specific services in the social sector.



ISLAMABAD: Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja briefing to visiting delegation comprising diplomats belonging to European Union about various initiatives of BISP here at BISP Secretariat (Dated: 28-03-2012)

Chairperson BISP said this while talking a group of senior diplomats, including ambassadors, economic advisers, and country heads belonging to European Union countries and international financial institutions like Asian Development Bank and DFID, during their visit to BISP Secretariat Wednesday. The delegation was given a detailed presentation on the working of the BISP and its various interventions and initiative for the welfare of the marginalized section of Pakistani society.

The members of the delegation expressed their appreciation on the initiative aims at betterment of the poorest of the poor section of the society and the transparent and scientific nature of the programme. Mr. Werner Liepach, Country Director Asian Development Bank informed that considering the performance of BISP, ADB has made allocation for BISP in its next years' fiscal planning. Mr. Pirrer Mayaudon, European Union Deputy Ambassador, showed his willingness to include BISP in its potential recipients of donations in its feature plan starting in 2014.

Madam Sara Rezoagli, Italian Deputy Head of Mission, Ambassador of Hungary H.E. Mr. Istvan Darvasi and DFID Representative Ms. Alexiais Ferrand also expressed keen interest in the program and sought information about the various measures of BISP including graduation of people from poverty and its economic effects.

Madame Farzana Raja, in response to various queries, said that programme is entirely of apolitical nature in its working and providing financial assistance to almost 6 million beneficiary families without any consideration of their political affiliations or their caste, creed or religion.

Chairperson hoped that in future the scope of the BISP will be expanded further provided the availability of required resources. She welcomed the suggestion given by Asian Development Bank Country Director Mr. Werner Liepach that environmental vulnerability of the poor people should also be given due weightage in selecting the initiative for the area. She said that in future environmental mapping will also be considered for protecting the beneficiaries of the BISP.

Chairperson thanked all the visiting diplomats and representative of the donor organizations for visiting BISP and for lending financial and technical support to BISP from their respective countries.

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