

**Date: 10-11-2009**

**Development of Gilgit-Baltistan is among the top priorities of the Pakistan People's Party government says Farzana Raja**

“Following the vision of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and Benazir Bhutto, the government has initiated the development process to end the sense of deprivation among the people of Gilgit-Baltistan,” she said in a press statement.

She said under the BISP more than 50,000 deserving families are being facilitated in Gilgit-Baltistan. For the first time in the country's history, the government has stated poverty census to get the accurate data about the poor families.

Farzana Raja stated that jurisdiction of the BISP is being expanded to Gilgit-Baltistan, Azad Jammu and Kashmir and rest of the country to provide financial, technical and healthcare assistance to the deserving families.

She said the government of the Pakistan People's Party has accepted the longstanding demand of “Autonomy” by the people of Gilgit-Baltistan.

She vowed to fulfil the dream of Shaheed Benazir Bhutto to bring Gilgit-Baltistan at par with other developed cities of Pakistan. She added for the development programmes in Sakardu, the government has earmarked and released Rs 10 billion.

The Chairperson of the BISP believed that the Pakistan People's Party would win November 12 elections in Gilgit-Baltistan.