

Dated: Nov 13, 2012

**India intends to learn from the experiences of BISP, Nitish Kumar  
The programme is a wonderful initiative aiming at poverty alleviation and women  
empowerment: BISP is launched in the name of Benazir who played a great Role  
for Democracy, Says Chief Minister Bihar**

**Poverty is a trans-national menace; BISP is ready to share its experiences with  
India in social sector, Madame Farzana Raja**

**ISLAMABAD:** Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) is a commendable initiative aiming at poverty alleviation and women empowerment. Various interventions including those in health and education sector have been introduced to uplift the living standards of underprivileged segments of society. India wants to learn from the experiences and success of BISP. These were the views expressed by Mr. Nitish Kumar, Chief Minister of Indian province Bihar during a meeting with Federal Minister and Chairperson BISP Madame Farzana Raja here on Tuesday. The Chief Minister Bihar was accompanied by a high level delegation comprising of Indian Ministers, Members of Assembly and officials of Indian High Commission in Islamabad.



**Islamabad: Federal Minister and Chairperson BISP, Madame Farzana Raja talking to Mr. Nitish Kumar, Chief Minister of Indian province Bihar who visited BISP Secretariat along with a high level delegation. (Dated: Nov 13, 2012)**

Mr. Nitish Kumar said that poverty is beyond the border phenomenon. He said that various schemes aiming at poverty reduction and provision of job opportunities are being run in India, especially in the province of Bihar. However, he said, BISP is a unique intervention in the social sector as its offering various services under one roof. He said that the targeting and identification mechanisms adopted by BISP are laudable indeed which has made it a truly wonderful programme.

Chief Minister Bihar said that Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto had played pivotal role for the sake of democracy. Attributing BISP with her name is one of the major factors behind the success of this Programme due to her struggle for poverty alleviation and women empowerment, he said.

Earlier, Madame Farzana Raja welcomed the Indian delegation and appraised its members about various initiatives of BISP. She said that BISP is ready to share its experiences with India with regards to steps in the social sector.



**Islamabad: Federal Minister and Chairperson BISP, Madame Farzana Raja talking to Mr. Nitish Kumar, Chief Minister of Indian province Bihar who visited BISP Secretariat along with a high level delegation. (Dated: Nov 13, 2012)**

Madame Farzana Raja said that it is true that poverty is a trans-national menace, hence Pakistan and India have similar sort of issues in the social sector that ought to be resolved by working together. She added further that BISP has introduced various measures to empower women, children and youth.

Chairperson BSIP said that one window operation is one of the prime factors of the success of BISP as it has reduced the non-developmental expenditures tremendously. She said that the Programme is advancing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of UN in the field of health and education and has made children, women and youth its prime focus.