

Dated: Oct 22, 2012

**Republic of Korea Willing to Support BISP in Education and Vocational & Technical Training Programmes; BISP is a Complete Social Protection Package, Say KOICA Representatives;**

**Enrolment for Waseela-e-Taleem (Right to Education) has started; 20,000 youth to Complete Vocational & Technical Training this Year, Says Madame Farzana Raja**

Islamabad ( ): The Republic of Korea is looking forward to increased cooperation with Pakistan in various social sector endeavors. In this regard, Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) is willing to work with Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) in the field of Vocational & Technical Training along with Waseela-e-Taleem (Right to Education) under the Programme's net. This was stated by the representatives of KOICA during their meeting with Federal Minister and Chairperson BISP, Madame Farzana Raja in BISP Secretariat. The Korean delegation was consisting of Jeon Jun Ho and Yoen Je-Ho whereas Secretary BISP, Mr. Sher Khan was also present in the meeting.



Islamabad: Federal Minister and Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Madame Farzana Raja talking to Representatives of Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) here in BISP Secretariat. (Dated: Oct 22, 2012)

KOICA representatives declared the performance of BISP as ideal as the Programme provides so many benefits in one package. They praised Programme's technology based systems and efficient service delivery while maintaining extreme transparency in its operations. The visiting delegation expressed their keen interest in Waseela-e-Rozgar (Vocational and Technical

Training) and Waseela-e-Taleem (Right to Education) components of BISP. KOICA offered to support BISP in constructing education facilities of the children of BISP beneficiaries along with providing demand driven vocational and technical training to youth in various market based trades.

Federal Minister and Chairperson BISP while appreciating the ideas of KOICA, assured Korean Government of her full support through the platform of BISP. She said that BISP can act as a bridge for the social sector cooperation between both the countries. She told the visiting delegation that Waseela-e-Taleem (Right to Education) is being launched in accordance with the UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). This revolutionary initiative is the largest of its kind through which 3 million children of beneficiary families will be provided free quality education, she added.

Madame Farzana Raja said that 20,000 individuals of BISP beneficiary families will complete vocational and technical training by the end of current year. This training will help them become self-reliant by obtaining jobs or launching small businesses of their own. She said that BISP is aiming to train 150,000 youth every year for which it needs the support of development partners like KOICA.

Federal Minister also highlighted BISP's multi-pronged strategy aimed at providing immediate relief in the form of cash grants, providing business trainings and micro-financing for sustainable livelihood, providing health and education facilities along with insurance cover in case of death of the bread earner. Chairperson also informed visiting delegation about cross cutting objectives of BISP i.e. providing identity to women and their empowerment in social and economic terms.

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