

Government of Pakistan
Benazir Income Support Programme

No. 1(1)/Media/BISP/2016

Islamabad, the 2nd April, 2019

SUBJECT: PRESS CLIPPINGS

Enclosed please find herewith the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) and other important news in today's newspapers for kind perusal.



Media, Communication & Outreach Wing
(MC&O)

DD to Chairperson

Chairperson's Office (BISP)
Dy. No. 833
Date: 02-04-2019


BENAZIR INCOME SUPPORT PROGRAMME

No. 1(2)/Media/BISP/2016

Islamabad, April 02, 2019

Subject: SUMMARY OF BISP RELATED NEWS ITEMS

Sr. No.	Newspaper	Summary of Items	Trend	Remarks
1	The News	No intention to rename BISP	Positive	Statement from the office of Chairperson BISP published. The Nation, Pakistan Today, Pakistan Observer, Jang, Dunya, Jehan Pakistan and Jinnah also carried the story.
2	Nawa-i-waqt	Chairperson BISP meeting with PM	Positive	Picture published
3	Daily Times	No plans to rename BISP: Fawad	Positive	---
4	Business Recorder	Editorial: The launching of ehasas	Positive	---
5	Pakistan Observer	Letter to Editor: Ehsas and BISP	---	---
6	The News	Musharraf be given relief like Nawaz: Fawad	Positive	Highlighted portion in the clipping is related to BISP
7	Express Tribune	Resolution tabled against bid to rename BISP	---	Nawa-i-waqt also carried the story
8	Daily Times	'Puppet govt' installed to roll back 18 th Amendment: Bilawal	---	Pakistan Today also carried the story
9	Frontier Post	PPP to resist change in BISP name	---	---
10	Jang	Govt has no intentions to amend or remove 18 th amendment: Shah Mehmood	Positive	Highlighted portion in the clipping is related to BISP Jinnah also carried the story.


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(MC&O)



ISLAMABAD: BISP Chairperson Sania Nishtar calls on Prime Minister Imran Khan at PM Office, Monday.

No intention to rename BISP

Myra Imran
Islamabad

In an official statement issued by the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) head office, the BISP administration has denied having any intention to change the name of the programme.

A statement issued by BISP on Monday says that the Benazir Income Support Programme is the name of an Act and an institution. "No amendment has been placed before the parliament to change its name and there has been no for-

mal discussion on the subject," the statement mentions.

Recently, opposition leaders from Pakistan People's Party gave critical statements against any such possible move after a video of Prime Minister Imran Khan informally agreeing to the name change went viral.

The opposition leaders severely criticized the idea and condemn statements given in the favor of changing the name of the program. Some even suggested to also change the name of Shoukat Khanum Cancer Hospital.

Pakistan People's Party

(PPP) chief Bilawal Bhutto Zardari termed it a conspiracy to shut down the program entirely. He said that first the government will change the name, then reduce the amount before abolishing it completely.

The BISP statement says that a number of programmes are currently executed from BISP as an organization including Unconditional Cash Transfers, Conditional Cash Transfers, Waseela-e-Taleem, Graduation Programme etc.

It states that the government has recently launched a transformative poverty alleviation programme with the title "Ehsaas". "Two of the initiatives under this new programme will be executed through BISP.

These include "Kifalat" and "Tahafuz", details about which will be published shortly," it says.

No formal discussion to change BISP name: Nishtar

FAWAD YOUSAFZAI
ISLAMABAD

Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme has said that BISP is the name of an Act and an institution and there is no formal discussion on the name change of the programme.

"No amendment has been placed before the parliament to change its name and there has been no formal discussion on the subject," Chairperson BISP Dr Sania Nishtar said here.

The chairperson statement seems to be an attempt to calm down a

controversy which was generated last week when Prime Minister Imran Khan and some leaders of Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf hinted to change the name of BISP what they alleged the PPP was misusing the poverty alleviation project for political mileage.

Sindh Governor and PTI leader Imran Ismail said the PTI government is definitely going to change the name of the programme.

The PTI leader's statement drew strong reaction from Pakistan People's Party and Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari alleged

that the government was conspiring to wrap up the project by initially changing its name and then reducing its funds.

Even PTI's central leader and Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi also opposed the move and has clearly stated he does not support the idea of changing the name of BISP. Changing the programme name is a legislative matter which requires a legal process, he added.

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Cash Transfers, Conditional Cash Transfers, Waseela-e-Taleem, Graduation Programme etc, she said.

The Chairperson BISP further said that the

government has recently launched a transformative poverty alleviation programme with the title "Ehsaas". Two of the initiatives under this new programme will be executed through BISP.

These include "Kifalat" and "Tahafuz", details about which will be published shortly.

When contacted an official of the BISP told The Nation that legal experts are of the opinion that since the BISP was established under an Act (XVIII of 2010) of Parliament which said: "upon the commencement

of this act, the Benazir Income Support Programme shall stand established for carrying out the purposes of this act,".

The Act further said: "The programme shall be a body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal with powers, subject to the provision of this act, to acquire and hold property, moveable and immovable, and to sue and be sued by its name,".

The programme's establishment objects and purposes are clearly determined by the Act of parliament, said the official.

It means if even PTI government intends to change the BISP name it cannot do it, permanently by simply issuing an executive order. To permanently erase Benazir name or change the programme name the government has to go to Parliament to amend the act.

Since the government is not in majority in senate therefore it will be hard to get the amendment passed from the parliament.

However, he said that the government can change the name temporarily for 120 days through a presidential ordinance.