UNICEF, UNESCO praise BISP’s role for welfare

ISLAMABAD: Two leading UN Agencies, UNESCO and UNICEF, have appreciated the commitment and role of Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) for the cause of welfare, education and health of women and children belonging to marginalized segments of Pakistani society.

Both the organizations have shown their willingness to use Programme’s data in their future socio-economic interventions in Pakistan, especially in the region of FATA.

These developments were discussed during the separate meetings of the BISP chairwoman with UNESCO and UNICEF officials in Pakistan held at BISP Secretariat on Wednesday.

The primary focus of Farzana Raja’s meeting with Dr Kozue Kay Nagata, Representative of UNESCO in Pakistan was to collaborate in Education particularly girls’ education in the lower strata of the society. Dr Kozue Kay Nagata lauded the efforts of BISP for promotion of primary education through Waseela-e-Taleem (right to education) Programme.

He said that UNESCO is willing to get benefited from BISP data, which can be used to compile a poverty and education atlas for launching joint projects on the subject. He said that BISP is a transparent organization, which has launched effective programmes in health, and education sector that will yield great results in coming years.

During a meeting between Farzana and Dan Rohrmann, representative of UNICEF in Pakistan, the latter highlighted the effectiveness of BISP data that his organization is already using for various projects for the welfare of children in Pakistan. He said that children are also the recipients of BISP interventions, which have empowered them along with women folk in Pakistan.

Farzana in her meeting with the UN officials said that BISP is working for the socio-economic uplift of the poor according to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of the UN. She said that BISP is committed to provide education, health and livelihood facilities to its beneficiary families by empowering women, youth and children of the households. She expressed her willingness to support both UNESCO and UNICEF in every possible manner for their uplift projects in Pakistan. She highlighted various avenues of cooperation between BISP and UN agencies so that the BISP’s efforts can be augmented with the support of the global partners.