

PSPA's Brief for P&D Website

Ba-himmat Buzurg Programme

In order to protect elderly people against livelihood risks and help them to lead a dignified life, PSPA has designed the Ba-himmat Buzurg Programme, which is a social pension programme. This programme currently provides low-income elderly females of age 65 years and above with Rs. 2,000 per month. Only families excluded from Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) are eligible (having PMT score 16.18 -3). In the case of eligible female's death as per the given criteria, the male members of the family, aged 65 years and above, are eligible. An allocation of Rs. 2,400 million has been made for the FY 2021-22 for this programme. The number of beneficiaries, so far, is 75,000. Rs. 2,000 per month are provided to these beneficiaries.

Punjab Human Capital Investment Project (PHCIP)

This programme envisages to increase the access to quality health services, economic and social inclusion of vulnerable groups through life-cycle approach. The World Bank will lend US\$ 200 million and Government of the Punjab will provide counterpart funding of US\$ 130 million for this project. Government of the Punjab has allocated Rs. 5,364 million for in-kind support during FY 2020-21. Under this project, three main activities will be performed:

- i) Improving maternal and child health by improving health services and increasing demand for health services through a conditional cash transfer to the poor pregnant and lactating women;
- ii) Economic and social inclusion of adolescents and youth: This component will focus on productive inclusion of children, women and youth to enable them to get education, skills, and jobs and start own businesses, and
- iii) Service Delivery Platform: For improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the delivery of social protection services, PSPA's capacity particularly in terms of Integrated Management Information System, and Socio Economic Registry of Punjab will be enhanced.

The project will be rolled out in phased manner in 11 poorest districts selected on the basis of Multidimensional Poverty Index. In the first phase, PHCIP has started working in Bahawalpur and Muzaffargarh districts.

Sarparast Programme for Poor Widows and Orphans

The poor widows, who have not remarried and who meet poverty score-based eligibility criteria will be assisted through this program with a monthly stipend of Rs. 3,000 a month with top-up programmes of easy credit and asset transfer. The budget for this program in FY 2021-22 is Rs. 1000 million.

Masawaat Programme for Transgender Persons' Welfare

Under Transgender Persons' Welfare Policy, Masawaat programme will be initiated, with an outlay of Rs. 50 million. This programme will provide unconditional cash transfer for elderly transgender persons with the benefit amount of Rs. 3,000 per month and an unconditional cash transfer for disable transgender persons with the benefit amount of Rs. 2,000 per month.

Women Income Growth and Self Reliance Program (WINGS)

WINGS has been planned for building and sustaining productive assets of the poor by encouraging innovative, indigenous solutions. This program would help women break the fetters of poverty and achieve self-sustenance by utilizing the granted assets. PSPA will establish a competitive challenge fund to pilot, adapt and scale up livelihood packages in varied socio-economic and geographic contexts. with an outlay of Rs. 700 million in FY 2021-22. The pilot phase of the programme is expected to benefit about 25,000 women in two districts.

Establishment of Punjab Social Protection Fund

PSPA Act 2015 envisages Punjab Social Protection Fund to provide financial sustainability to PSPA. It is planned to establish this fund in 2021-22 with an initial allocation of Rs. 500 million.

Provision of Assistive Devices for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)

Assistive devices enable PWDs to live healthy, active, productive, independent and dignified lives. PSPA will initiate a project to improve access of PWDs to the assistive devices with an outlay of Rs. 100 million in FY 2021-22.

Empowerment of Religious Minorities:

PSPA in planning to initiate a program for religious minorities to provide skills in order to start small businesses with an outlay of Rs. 200 million in FY 2021-22.