

**Government of Pakistan
Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Division
Press Release**

Dr. Sania Nishtar represents Federal Government in Mirpur

October 2, 2019 – Mirpur: Dr. Sania Nishtar, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Social



Protection and Poverty Alleviation was invited by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to represent the Federal Government at the event that took place in Mirpur to distribute cheques amongst the next of kin and legal heirs of the deceased due to earthquake last week. The event was organized by NDMA. Chairman NDMA, SAPM on Information, Firdaus Ashiq Awan and members of the local administration were also present on the occasion. Speaking to the affectees, Dr. Nishtar extended her heartfelt condolences to

them and said that Government of Pakistan will never leave them alone in these hard times.

Later, Dr. Nishtar together with Lt. Gen. Muhammad Afzal, Chairman National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) paid a visit to the earthquake affected areas of Mirpur to inquire after the affecters. During the course of the visit, Chairman NDMA briefed her about the relief and rehabilitation work being carried out in the earthquake affected areas of Mirpur. He also apprised Dr. Nishtar about the damages to thousands of buildings and infrastructure in Mirpur and surrounding areas.

Dr. Nishtar keenly reviewed the situation in the area hit by 5.8 magnitude and witnessed ongoing relief activities and operations for rehabilitation. She expressed her grief over the loss of human lives and went to village Sahang Kikri to inquire after the affected families. 'I can deeply feel the pain of the people who suffered losses and extend my greatest sympathies to them', she added.

Sympathizing the affectees, she assured them that the rehabilitation and reconstruction work in the earthquake-hit areas is the top priority of the government of Pakistan. She continued that the damage assessment is currently underway to ascertain the material damages to public and private buildings and houses so that the reconstruction work is headed accordingly in the right direction. Once the assessment is done, the government will take every possible step to provide relief to the people who suffered from human and material losses.

Further, Dr. Nishtar appreciated the role of Pakistan Army and organizations working hard to rehabilitate, rebuild and support the devastated areas of Azad Jammu and Kashmir.