

20/11/92

Pioneer 20/11/92
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ban the bigger beggar

The proposed Bill to put a ban on begging is yet another instance of the Government trying to camouflage its failures. Four and-half decades after taking over the reins of the country, our politicians and planners are unable to provide basic economic and social secu-

urity to a large number of the populace. Indeed, a distorted and biased development process has displaced and dispossessed those who were eking out a livelihood, and put all natural and financial resources in the

hands of a small but powerful elite. In a haphazard development, while the rich have become richer, millions of people who are rendered destitute by such destructive development have no option left but to beg. Banning them is like blaming the victim for the crime; the

real criminals are the people who have all the resources at their command and have been unable or unwilling to use these resources for everyone's benefit.

Instead of banning the act of begging, the Government should come up with construc-

tive programmes to gainfully employ beggars. Otherwise, it should leave them alone. If at all anything has to be banned, it must be the begging that our financial planners do from the World Bank and the IMF.



Ban Manmohan Singh and his type, for it is their approach and policies which create, and are going to further create, the social destitution of even larger number of people.

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