

26/11/92

LETTERS

lurately over-emphas is being placed on Article 16(4) which empowers the Government to provide reservation in favour of back-

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Drop the Bill

■ Sir, The proposed Bill banning the act of begging is yet another instance of the Government trying to hide its failures. Ever after four and a half decades of independence, our politicians and planners are unable to provide the basic economic and social security to a large segment of population. As a result, a distorted and biased development process has displaced and dispossessed those who were earning their sustenance and put all financial resources in the hands of the elite. Millions of people who are rendered destitute thus have no option but to beg.

Banning, therefore, is like blaming the victim for the crime; the real culprits are those who in spite of having all the resources at their command failed to help the people. The Government can take up constructive programmes to gainfully employ beggars. 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. For Manmohan Singh and his team, it is their actions which give rise to the social destitution.

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