

INCREASE IN NUMBER OF BEGGARS AND PAVEMENT DWELLERS IN CALCUTTA

877. **SHRI KALYAN ROY** : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE/शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्रा be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 175 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd August, 1970 and state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there has been a sharp increase in the number of beggars and pavement dwellers in Calcutta ;

(b) if so, the number of beggars and pavement dwellers during the last three years and reasons for this sharp increase ; and

(c) what steps Government have taken and propose to take to halt this growth and find shelter and minimum food to these persons ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE/शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No survey has been made. The State Government are therefore unable to state number of beggars and pavement dwellers at Calcutta during the last three years. The reason for sharp increase in their number is the frequent natural calamities in the State and also in the adjoining States.

(c) The problem is tackled under the Bengal Vagrancy Act, 1943. There are seven Vagrants' Homes in which arrangements for maintenance and training of the vagrants are provided.

BEGGAR REHABILITATION SCHEME OF TAMIL NADU

878 **SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN** : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE/शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्रा be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India are aware of the Beggar Rehabilitation Scheme started by the State of Tamil Nadu ; and

(b) if so, what are the details of assist-

ance by the Government of India to the Government of Tamil Nadu in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE/शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY) : (a) and (b) The requisite information has been called for from the State Government and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as received.

BRANCHES OF NATIONALISED BANKS IN WEST BENGAL

879. **SHRI KALYAN ROY** : will the Minister of FINANCE/वित्त मंत्री be pleased to state whether the expansion of branches of the nationalised banks in various districts of West Bengal has been slower in comparison to the other State ; if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE/वित्त मंत्री (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN) : The number of branches of the nationalised banks in West Bengal has gone up from 320 as at the end of June, 1969 to 435 as at the end of April, 1971. Besides, the nationalised banks are at present holding licences for opening 59 offices.

The table below shows that although the population coverage per bank office in the State continues to be above the All-India average, the State average is coming down steadily in line with the All-India average.

Average population per bank Office :

	As on 30.6.69	As on 30.4.71	As on 31.12.71 (Projected)
West Bengal	87,000	66,000	57,000
All-India	65,000	47,000	41,000

L. I. C INVESTMENT IN INDUSTRIES

880. **SHRI R. P. KHAITAN** : Will the Minister of FINANCE/वित्त मंत्री be pleased to state the amount of money invested by the Life Insurance Corporation in the small scale sector, medium scale sector and the

large scale sector units, respectively, during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE/वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI K R GANESH) The information is being collected and it will be laid on the Table of the House.

M/S SHREE SYNTHETICS LIMITED CALCUTTA

881. CHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD Will the Minister of FINANCE/वित्त मंत्री be pleased to state -

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s Shri Synthetics Limited, Calcutta have not returned the application money to a number of persons nor allotted them the shares within the prescribed period of 2 months from the opening of the subscription list ;

(b) if so, what is the number of such persons to whom the refund has not yet been made ,

(c) whether it is also a fact that this was brought to the notice of Controller of Capital Issues, New Delhi but no action has yet been taken , and

(d) what action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE/वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) and (b) Shree Synthetics Limited (Registered Office-Naulakhi, Ujjain) offered for public subscription 11,12,500 equity shares of Rs. 10 each and 81,250-9.5% Redeemable cumulative Preference shares of Rs 100 each through a prospectus dated the 29th September, 1970. The subscription list opened on 20.10.70 and closed on 22-10-1970 for equity shares the offer therefor having been heavily oversubscribed, reportedly by about 68 times. The public issue of Preference shares was understood to have been undersubscribed. According to the Company's statement in the prospectus, the allotment letters and refund orders were to have been issued within two months from the date of closing of the subscription list i.e., by 22-12-70 in the case of equity issue. It is reported that the Company commenced despatch of allotment letters and refund

orders from about 21.12.1970 but could not complete the work before the end of 1st week of January, 1971 due to heavy oversubscription and enormity of the work involved all around. The Company was, however, reported to have received complaints from about 600 applicants against non-receipt of allotment letters/refund orders etc. Of this, in about 500 cases, the Company was understood to have since issued duplicate refund orders etc., and in the remaining cases completion of certain formalities was being awaited.

(c) and (d) Government received some complaints alleging non-receipt of allotment letters/refund orders etc. These complaints were taken up with the Company through one of the Stock Exchanges on which the shares of the Company are listed, namely, Calcutta Stock Exchange. According to the information available from the said Stock Exchange, the Company had issued duplicate allotment letters/refund orders, etc. to the parties concerned.

INTER-STATE SEMINAR ON CHILD WELFARE

882. CHAUDHARY A. MOHAMMAD Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE/शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state -

(a) the recommendations made by the Inter-State Seminar on Child Welfare held in New Delhi in November, 1970 ; and

(b) what is Government's reaction in regard thereto and what follow up action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE/शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (SHRI K S. RAMASWAMY) (a) The following main recommendations were made in the Inter-State Seminar on Child Welfare held in New Delhi in November, 1970 :-

(i) There exist at present both non-institutional and institutional services, but greater stress should be laid on non-institutional services in future. The educational and training programme included under the institutional services should be developed in accordance with the changing needs of the beneficiaries