

## **The New Indian Express 16.09.2010**

### **Government makes Beggars' Colony a better place**

BANGALORE: A month after debating about the ill-treatment meted out at the inmates of the Beggars' Colony, seems like changes have finally taken place and this was inspected by the Minister of Social Welfare M Govind Karjol, on Wednesday.

The minister, who inaugurated the new water purifying tanks in the colony, also spoke about the others changes in the colony. He said the BBMP had provided the colony with 20 pourakarmikas and currently, there were three doctors and 10 assistants and the new dormitory had cost Rs 32 lakh and a borewell had cost Rs 10 lakh.

Karjol said that nearly 200 beggars were released and that the government was also looking at shifting the 98 mentally ill inmates to Dharwad.

He further added that the inmates who belonged to Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu would soon be sent back to their respective states and that the Tamil Nadu government had assured to take a decision on the same, within two months.

Karjol also said that the welfare department had spent Rs 1.87 lakh on footwear and Rs 8.32 lakh on uniforms for the inmates and the government had started adult education and was providing them with employment opportunities.

Meanwhile, commenting on the deaths of two inmates in the Beggars' Colony in Mysore, he said that they had died due to old age. "Presently, the food for inmates is being provided by ISKCON and steps to provide fruits and eggs is being taken care by the welfare committee itself," he said.

Special Officer, Dr Rajanna Naik said, "we do not like to keep the inmates idle, so, we try to engage them in sports like volleyball, throwball, vocational training like carpentry and candle making."

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Written by Administrator

Thursday, 16 September 2010 07:31 - Last Updated Thursday, 16 September 2010 07:34

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