

ORIGINAL PETITION No.797/2007 Dated 8-10-2007  
M.R. Raghavan Vs. Secretary Eraviperoor Grama Panchayat

ORDER

Heard both sides.

The petitioner's grievance is that he has applied for the assistance for buying cattle as part of "Pashuvalarthar" Project formulated by the panchayat and he has deposited, as his contribution, an amount of Rs.2457/- on 15-02-2001. According to him, though he was figured as No.1 in the beneficiary list, he was not given the benefit.

The Secretary of the Grama Panchayat has filed a statement, in which he has stated that the petitioner was not No.1 in the list but was No.5. The aforesaid benefit has already been given to 4 beneficiaries . But the time the fund allotted to the scheme was not sufficient to extend the benefit to the petitioner. Therefore that benefit could not be disbursed to the petitioner in the year 2001.

Assuming that the statement made by the Secretary of the Panchayat is correct, it is the bounden duty on the part of the Panchayat to return the amount, which was deposited by the petitioner as early as on 15-02-2001. It is painful to note that even today the panchayat has not returned the amount to the petitioner and hence the petitioner has approached the Ombudsman for returning the amount deposited by him by the Panchayat.

Therefore, I direct the Panchayat to return the amount of Rs. 2457/- to the petitioner within one month with interest at 18% per annum from 15-2-2001 till payment is made.

With this direction, the matter is closed.

Justice T.K. Chandrasekhara Das,  
Ombudsman.