

W.P.Nos.8132 of 2018

T.S.SIVAGNAMAM,J
AND
N.SESHASAYEE,J

Order of the Court was made by T.S.SIVAGNAMAM,J

By way of this public interest litigation, the petitioners seek for a direction to respondents 1 to 4 to take action against respondents 7 to 9 with regard to the irregularities and illegalities committed in the utilization of funds allocated under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme by taking note of their representation.

2. Mr.G.Baskaran, learned Central Government Standing Counsel accepts notice for the first respondent. Mr.T.N.Rajagopalan, learned Government Pleader accepts notice for respondents 2 to 6.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that second and third petitioners have been arrayed as beneficiaries under the said Scheme and that no work was done on the second and third petitioners' land. Yet, funds are stated to have been paid to respondents 7 to 9 and that they have been siphoned off. There are several such instances in the village and complaints were given to the sixth respondent, who has recorded individual statements from the alleged beneficiaries, in whose names, funds were sanctioned and were said to have been siphoned off by respondents 7 to 9.

4. Petitioners 2 and 3 have also filed individual supporting affidavits to sustain the plea raised by the first petitioner, who has sworn to the affidavit filed in support of the writ petition. Copies of the hand written statements have been filed in the typed set of papers.

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5. We find that on an average, about Rs.80,000/- is being sanctioned for each beneficiary and that the funds allocated for a particular village panchayat appear to be substantial. Since the Assistant Project Officer (Panchayats), Rural Development Agency, Perambalur, Perambalur District is said to have recorded statements from various persons, the said Authority is directed to submit a report to the District Collector within a period of one week from today. On receipt of the report, the District Collector shall peruse the same, make necessary enquiries and submit a report to this Court in the form of an affidavit on the next hearing date.

6. Notice to respondents 7, 8 and 9 through court as well as privately returnable by 27.4.2018. List on 27.4.2018.

(T.S.S.J.) (N.S.S.J.)
06.4.2018

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