

applicants no. 3 to 6 has been rejected on the ground which was not available with the respondents at the relevant point of time as the list of OBC category including the "Kurmi Mahto" had already been extended to entire State of Bihar vide notification dated 10.9.1993, whereas the applicants applied for the said posts vide advertisement dated 6.9.1995, and grave injustice has been caused to them, because admittedly they have obtained highest marks so far as merit is concerned.

12. However, taking into consideration that much water has flown during the last many years, therefore, we are of the opinion that the purpose of the applicants no. 3 to 6 would be served if necessary directions are given to the respondents, which are as follows;

- (i) Respondent no. 3 is directed to consider the case of applicant no. 3 to 6 against the available vacant post of Postal Assistant/Sorting Assistant, if any, in OBC category in Ranchi Circle, if the said applicants are otherwise found eligible, while passing reasoned and speaking order, within a period of three months from the date of receipt/production of copy of this order.

13. In terms of these observations and directions as above, this OA stands disposed of, with no order as to costs.

/CBS/

(MANTRESHWAR JHA) M(A)

(SHYAMA DOGRA) M(J)