### **ORDER SHEET**

# WEST BENGAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

Bikash Bhavan, Salt Lake, Kolkata – 700 091.

#### Present-

THE HON'BLE SAYEED AHMED BABA, OFFICIATING CHAIRPERSON AND ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBER

Case No. - OA - 658 of 2024

Bishnu Halder & Ors. - Vs - The State of West Bengal & Ors.

Serial No. and Date of order

 $\frac{03}{26.06.2025}$ 

For the Applicant : Mr. D. Chatterjee,

Mr. Satabdi Das, Learned Advocates.

For the State : Mr. G.P. Banerjee, Respondents 2 Learned Advocate.

For the Respondent No. Mr. M.N. Roy, 3, 4 & 5 Mr. G. Halder,

Learned Advocates.

For the Private Mr. Sourav Bhattacharjee,

Respondent No. 12 Learned Advocate.

For the Private Mr. Soumitra Chatterjee,

Respondents (8,7,22,23 Mr. Goutam Basu, Learned Advocates.

The matter is taken up by the Single Bench pursuant to the order contained in the Notification No. 638-WBAT/2J-15/2016 (Pt.-II) dated 23rd November, 2022 issued in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 5 (6) of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985.

Affidavit of service filed, be kept with the record.

Part submissions made by the learned counsels representing all the sides. It is transpired that the entire recruitment process was completed and the final merit list was published on 18.08.2018. Later, in the month of June, 2024 some of the applicants had filed an R.T.I. application requesting for the

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aggregate marks they had obtained in the selection process conducted through both written and interview. Thereafter, the RTI queries were replied in July, 2024. From this RTI reply, the applicants came to know that their aggregate marks were higher than many of the successful candidates belonging to UR category. All the applicants as candidate are belonging to SC category.

The first and foremost question comes in the mind of this Tribunal is the delay of six years occurred in seeking such information by the candidates after the final list was published. Mr. Chatterjee, learned counsel on behalf of the applicants is of the view that such delay will not create any impediment in view of the judgements of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. On the other hand, Mr. Roy, learned counsel is of the strong view that such delay in filing an RTI application is sufficient ground for inadmissibility of this application. He also wishes to rely on relevant judgements of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Mr. Ghosh appearing on behalf of the State respondents submits that all the posts have been filled up and no panel of wait listed candidates exists.

Let the matter appear under the heading Hearing on **09.09.2025**.

(SAYEED AHMED BABA)
OFFICIATING CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBER (A)