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7. DERESERVATION

1. Scope and functions

- (1) A vacancy reserved for SC/ST should not be kept unfilled for more than one year in anticipation of SC/ST candidates, unless there is no recruitment in any particular year. The process of dereservation has three-fold functions, viz.,—
 - (i) To keep reservation alive for four years, the period during which efforts are to be made to find out suitable SC/ST candidate.
 - (ii) Administration does not suffer as the vacancy need not be kept unfilled till an SC/ST candidate is secured.
 - (iii) A general community candidate is appointed against the reserved vacancy, which is also in public interest, without detriment to SC/ST candidates, when they are not available.
- (2) Keeping the reserved vacancies unfilled till the SC/ST candidates become available, do neither help much the SC/ST whose interests are well protected by the carry forward rules. Further, they subserve the interests of administration which would have to go without persons to discharge the duties of the posts for which recruitment exercise has been initiated. Solution for these lies in dereservation.

[Order 57]

2. Application

The provisions of dereservation apply to recruitment/promotions other than all cases of direct recruitment. Dereservation in all cases of direct recruitment to fill up vacancies in posts/services in Groups 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' has been banned with effect from 1-4-1989.

[Order 91]

3. When resorted to

- (1) A vacancy reserved for Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes may be dereserved in accordance with the prescribed procedure and filled up by a general candidate in case no suitable candidate belonging to SC or ST, as the case may be, is available to fill such a reserved vacancy.
- (2) Before putting up a proposal for dereservation, the appointing authority should ensure that all the steps prescribed to secure SC/ST candidate for appointment against the reserved vacancy are invariably taken and that the claims of eligible candidates of these communities have been considered. Dereservation should be proposed only when it becomes