

on account of which it was not possible for the committee to strictly comply with the schedule prescribed by the relevant Rules.

4. Be that as it may, without going into the merits and demerits of the aforesaid and other contentions raised by both the sides, by consent of the parties, the impugned order dated 4th September, 2017 passed by the third Respondent committee is quashed and set aside.

5. The Petitioner undertakes to appear before the third Respondent Committee on **9th October, 2017 at 11.00 a.m.** without insisting for issuance of notice in accordance with law and decide the validity or otherwise of the caste claim of the Petitioner as expeditiously as possible and endeavour to do so by **28th October, 2017**. The third Respondent Committee shall do so afresh uninfluenced by any observation and/or conclusions contained in the impugned order.

7. All contentions of both the sides on merits are kept open.

8. The Petition stands disposed of as such.

(G.S. KULKARNI, J.)

(SHANTANU KEMKAR, J.)