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2315 /X1-1-/81.

From.

Shri B.N.Misra, LL.B.,
Registrar, of the High Court of Orissa.

To

All the District and Sessions Judges of the
State.

Dated, Cuttack, the 5th March, 1981.

Sub:

Constitutional obligation of the Sessions -
Judges in intimating the indigent persons
accused of offences regarding their right to free
free legal representation in Courts at
State expense observation of the Supreme -
Court in Criminal Writ Petition No.5670
of 1980.

Sir,

I am directed to enclose 5 copies of order
dated the 19th Dec.1980 of the Supreme Court of India in
Criminal Writ petition No. 5670 of 1980 (Khatri-v-State of
Bihar) in which it has been observed that right to legal aid
in the form of assistance by a counsel is a fundamental right
of every citizen, when accused of an offence and the
Sessions Judge before whom the accused appears must be held to
be under an obligation to inform him that if he is unable to
engage the services of a lawyer on account of poverty or
indigence, he is entitled to obtain free legal services at
the cost of the State.

I am to request that the observations made
therein may be strictly followed by you and the same be brought
to the notice of the Addl.Sessions judges and Asst.Sessions
judges working in your judgship for their information, guida-
nce and enforcement of the observations made therein.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/ B. N. Misra
Registrar. 5.3.81.

memo No.2316(10)/dated 5.3.81
Copy forwarded to the District and Sessions judge,
Ganjam-Boudh, for information and guidance and in favour of
communication to and guidance of the courts of Addl. Sessions
judges and Asst.Sessions Judges working in his judgship for
enforcement of the observations made therein.

Sd/ 5.3.81
IInd Deputy Registrar.

4.4.83