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Government of Orissa
General Administration Department

No. SC/6/1/83 449 /Gen, Bhubaneswar, the 15th Jan. 1983.

From

17th

Shri S. M. Patnaik, I.A.S.
Chief Secretary, Orissa.

To

- All Secretaries to Government
- All Heads of Department
- All Collectors,

Sir,

In the Orissa Scheduled Areas Transfer of Immovable Property (By Scheduled Tribes) Regulation, 1956, there is a clear prohibition of transfer of property belonging to a member of a scheduled tribe in a scheduled area to a person who does not belong to the scheduled tribe. It is true that the regulation contains a provision for effecting such transfer with the consent of the competent authority, but it is expected that this enabling clause will be sparingly used in exceptional circumstances only. Of late, however, Government have come across some cases of purchase of lands belonging to Adivasis by senior Government officers in the name of their relatives in the districts of Koraput and Phulbani.

2. It is the declared policy of Government that purchase of land belonging to Adivasis should, by no means, be encouraged. It has, therefore, been decided that Government servants and their relatives should completely dissociate themselves from such deals which are morally unjustified even if legally correct. Any violation of this instruction will be deemed as conduct unbecoming of a Government servant within the meaning of the Conduct Rules and render the Government servants concerned liable for disciplinary action.

3. These instructions may be brought to the notice of all Government servants under your control.

4. Please acknowledge receipt of this communication.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]
CHIEF SECRETARY, ORISSA.