POLICE CIRCULAR ORDER NO. 214

SUBJECT—Quick completion of investigation in Cog. cases.

Provisions for speedy investigation and trial are in consonance with the off quoted juristic principle 'Justice delayed, justice denied.'

This was the aim to the old code and it has become wider and more specific in the new code with the insertion of new provisions as follows :

(a) Under section 167 (2) (a) Cr.P.Code no accused will be kept in jail custody beyond two months and after expiry of two months he is to be released on bail.

(b) According to section 167 (5) Cr.P.Code, if in a summons case the investigation is not conclude within a period of 6 months from the date of arrest of the accused, Magistrate can stop further investigation of a case.

(c) Section 468—473 of the code prescribed the period of limitation within which investigation of cases of different categories are to be concluded otherwise Magistrates will not take cognizance of those offences being time barried.

(d) Under section 207, 208 Cr.P.Code the Magistrate are required to supply copies of the Police papers to the accused persons. It implies that case diaries must be sent to courts alongwith the Charge-sheet in absence of which the Magistrates are enjoined not to accept the C.Ss.

All these statutory provisions emphasise the need for prompt completion of investigation of cognizable cases. When the statue itself makes it clear, where will be no escape for the I.Os. from the legal and departmental action in case they fail to observe the provisions of law.

Delays in investigation have been the cause of many ills for which the Police Department is criticised both by the public, the Bench and the Bar. This was not a comfortable state of affairs in the past nor will it be in future unless we get over these shortcomings.

All District Ss. P./S.P. Rourkela and S.R.P. Cuttack are hereby instructed to attach added urgency to the matter and impress upon their subordinate officers, the need for prompt investigation of cognizable cases. The officers may be told unabmiguously that failure in completing the investigation and placing of final forms, particularly with other accompaniments like C.Ds. in time, shall entail severe consequences in future.

(N. Chand, I.P.S.)
Inspector-General of Police, Orissa.