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PROMISSORY ESTOPPEL: A DIVERSION FROM STRICT RIGOURS OF LAW

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ABSTRACT

After the abandonment of *laissez faire*, an escalation in the diverse socio-economic complexities have inevitably led to the granting of wide discretionary powers to the government or public authorities. At the same time the government has also been conferred with certain privileges and immunities in order to give them a wide horizon to establish the welfare state and perform their duties unambiguously with reason. A question arises, is the State immune to rights and liabilities which the statute seeks to impose on a person while taking commercial activities? However, Dicey's fear of encroachment upon the legal freedom of an individual by the government authorities exercising discretion or enjoying immunities seemingly true, had such authorities' representations, assurances or promises intending to create legal relationship, allowed to crop up without a check, as they would have certainly created a room for arbitrariness leading to tyranny.

*Keywords:* Promissory Estoppel, Rule of Law, Judiciary.