



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

10 September 1982

*Trade*  
*VB*  
*Trade*  
*FCO*

*Dear Sir John,*

Thank you for your letter of 1 September about the Orissa steel project. I know how much valuable work your company has already put into this.

We are certainly keen that the United Kingdom should continue to participate in this project and to this end we have initiated discussions with the Government of India on how the project might now best be taken forward. It is of course for them to decide whether to revert to the situation as it was in May before negotiations with your company broke down or to proceed on a different basis.

It was good of you to write.

*Yours sincerely*  
*Margaret Thatcher*

Sir John Buckley

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*VB*