



**PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

13 June 1980

The British Government is keenly interested in working with the Government of India to open up fresh opportunities for participation by British industry in India's continuing economic and industrial development. I believe that British industry has the potential to contribute to India's requirements in many sectors, but I should like to take this opportunity to mention in particular the important sector of steel production.

I understand that your Government may shortly be reaching important decisions about the major new coastal steelworks project. The British company Davy International, which is leading a bid for this project is a highly experienced and reputable company with a considerable international record in steelworks construction, including much experience of India. I would like you to know that the British Government is giving Davy the fullest support in their bid: and we believe that the package which Davy has put forward is technically advanced, competitive and designed to meet India's requirements. I therefore hope that the Indian authorities will decide to

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award this important contract to Davy, and I have every confidence in Davy's ability to carry out the project in a satisfactory manner, thus making a substantial contribution to meeting India's growing steel requirement over the coming years .

I had hoped to have an opportunity to talk to your Minister of Commerce about ways in which the British and Indian Government could work more closely together on projects which will be of benefit both to our industry and to your economic and industrial development. I understand that the Mukherjee has been unable to confirm arrangements for a visit this month, but I hope that you will be able to arrange for such a Ministerial visit, as I think this would be very useful at the present time from the point of view of both our countries.

With very best wishes,

(Sgd MARGARET THATCHER)

Her Excellency Shrimati Indira Gandhi