

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRADE



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A short brief on
Mr Tiwari for today's
lunch.

15/11/82



LUNCH FOR MR RAJIV GANDHI

BRIEF ON ORISSA STEEL PLANT

A last minute guest is Mr N D Tiwari. Minister for Industry, Mines and Steel, he is directly responsible for implementation of the Orissa Steel project. However, he is not well informed on recent exchanges on potential UK participation.

Line to take

Refer to breakfast meeting with Mrs Gandhi. Very pleased the way opened for renewed British participation in the Orissa Steel plant. Hope for early agreement on starting the project.

Personality

Tiwari, 57, a former planning Minister, took over Industry portfolio in 1981 to which Steel and Mines added in January 1982. Not particularly brilliant; politically flexible; ingratiating manner has found favour in Mrs Gandhi's entourage.