## PM hails efforts at major steel plant construction launch

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内容：HA- NO-I - Prime Minister Nguye-n Taán Du-ng yesterday attended a ceremony to start construction on the Ha- Tónh Formosa steel plant in the Vu-ng Aùng economic zone in Ky- Anh district, Ha- Tónh. The US$15billion project is one of the largest by the Formosa group of Taiwan (China) in the Vu-ng Aùng economic zone. The project covers 3,300ha and includes a steel metallurgy mill, a seaport capable of receiving 300,000tonne ships and a 2,100 megawatt thermal electricity plant. It is expected to produce 7 million tonnes of steel ingots in phase one. Addressing the event, Du-ng hailed Formosa-s efforts in implementing facilities on time and affirmed that the Government would create favourable conditions for international investors to do longterm business in Vie-t Nam, including the Formosa group. The same day, Du-ng inspected the construction of Vu-ng Aùng 1 thermal electricity plant in the Vu-ng Aùng economic zone. Earlier on Saturday, Du-ng visited central Nghe- An province and urged its leaders to create an attractive investment environment to make the most of its potential. He said Nghe- An should pay attention to public administration reforms, eliminate impediment to growth, increase the efficiency of commerce and tourism promotion activities and expand its export market. Nghe- An-s comparative advantages included agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry and construction material processing. During the meeting, provincial People-s Committee Chairman Hoà --ùc Ph--ùc briefed Du-ng on what the province had done this year. He said GDP was estimated at 6.63 per cent, the average annual income per capita was VN-20 million (over $950) and 15,000 households had been lifted out of poverty. Despite its performance, Nghe- An was still facing challenges it needed to work on, including weak infrastructure, high population growth rate and rampant drug addiction, he said. Ph--ùc said that for the coming year, it aimed to increase GDP to 6.57.5 per cent, reduce poverty to under 12.5 per cent and generate jobs for 37,000 people. Du-ng said the province should continue to develop education and the healthcare system and maintain public order. Special attention should go to poverty reduction in the western part of the province. As part of the working tour, Du-ng paid tribute to President Hoà Chí Minh by offering flowers and incense at Kim Liean Memorial Site. He also visited Military Zone 4. -