annual surplus with the United

gency consultations with the

United States on the auto

sanctions issue begin with 10

days. But the official said the

ministry has not had any re-

If the United States de-

clines consultations, the

Japanese government can re-

quest an international panel be

set up to rule on the dispute. It

may take over 12 months of

the panel to reach its conclu-

sponse from Washington.

Japan asked that emer-

\$4b ROK investment in India likely

NEW DELHI, May 19: Leading South Korean firms plan to invest about four billion dollars in a variety of projects in India including automobiles. power, electronics and artificial fibres, reports AFP.

South Korean Ambassador Byung Young Soh told the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry here Thursday that 26 firms would sink four billion dollars into India in the 1995-96 financial vear, which began in April.

Soh said Hyundai was keen to enter the automobile and power sectors on the heels of rival Daewoo, which already has two joint ventures in India . G and Samsung were also in the running for projects, he

The ambassador said a team of senior Samsung officials

200 striking

would be arriving next week to study the feasibility of a billiondollar electronics project while the LG Group wanted to enter the petrochemicals sec-

India and South Korea have signed 89 joint ventures worth 102.6 million dollars, South Korea accounts for only 1.5 per cent of India's total trade.

Soh said despite New Delhi's economic reforms of 1991 which ended more than four decades of socialistic-style market insulation. South Korean investors were still faced with major deterrents to investment.

These included customs delays, poor infrastructure, bureaucratic red tape and a lack of transparency in global tender negotiations, he said.

Role of education in economy recognised

PTI says from Washington: india is now recognising the crucial role of education in economic development, abolishing poverty and promoting family planning, health and nutrition, a new World Bank sector review of priorities and release said. strategies for education notes.

Releasing the report, World Bank Vice-President for Human Resources A Choksi and principal economist Burnett said yesterday that the World Bank is increasingly involved in education in India.

The International Development Association, is providing 265 million dollars to India to transform the primary education system, a bank release said

India launched its district primary education programme in 1994 to improve primary education in rural areas for the poor, girls and socially disadvantaged groups. Under the first phase, ten million children in 50,000 schools in 42 districts, and 292 targeted rural districts would be reached during the next 15 years, the

The report says the present system of education, finance and management are often inappropriate to meet the challenges facing most countries. Expenditure on education is often inefficient and inequitable.

In primary and secondary schools, the focus is on basic general skills that provide a base for further education and training.

State Bank of Pakistan makes

Pakistan (SBP), one under tight government control, has made strides towards autonomy in the last two years, according to its governor. Muhammad Yaqub, reports

Reuter. But in an interview with Reuter this week he said that the sort of independence enjoyed by some western central banks is a distant goal for developing economies such as Pakistan's.

"Are we the Bundesbank? Are we the Federal Reserve? No." he said when asked to assess the extent of the SBP's autonomy. "Are we as bad as some of the other developing countries? No.

trained Yagub, a US economist who has worked for the International Monetary Fund, said the SBP now had full administrative autonomy. It could hire and fire without referring those decisions to any-

one else. "This is the first requirement you need to build up your echnical abilities," he said.

The SBP's charter was amended in late 1993 to give it greater autonomy in con-

- "In practice, we are gradually getting close to the law. but you have to dismantle many myths and monsters in between," Yaqub said. "Mostly we are now formulating monetary policy in very close coordination with the other poli-

Yaqub, appointed in July 1993 by then prime minister Nawaz Sharif. has had to deal with an interim government led by Moeen Qureshi, as well as Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's administration, which came, to power in October

"The third element of autonomy is to have the ability and legal framework to give the government our overall view on economic management — that we have been doing much more effectively than

Yaqub, who has maintained a tight monetary policy to try to curb inflation, running at 11.56 per cent year on year to April, said price rises had begun to slow down since damary.

He admits that the govern-

in bringing inflation to single digits by the end of financial 1994-95, let alone to the original target of seven per

"One should not jump to the wrong conclusion that some different policies need to be adopted," he said.

The United States and other western countries have private sector-based, creditbased economies, in which the main determinant of economic activity and demand is credit and the cost of credit,

Thus their central banks can be given specific inflation targets because of their control over the cost of credit.

"In our country, inflation...is termined by SBP policies; but

Tokyo willing to resume talks with Washington

TOKYO, May 19: Japan's trade minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said Friday he is willing to meet US Trade Representative Mickey Kantor in Paris next week to discuss everything but auto issues," reports AP.

The United States and Japan have failed to reach agreement in 20 months of negotiations aimed at increasing sales of American cars and auto parts in Japan.

The Clinton administration, frustrated at the lack of progress in the talks, says it will levy 5.9 billion dollars in import tariffs on 13 models of Japanese-made luxury cars if a June 28 final deadline for agreement is not met.

Japan on Wednesday filed a complaint against the United States over the threatened sanctions with the newly established World Trade

Hashimoto, who heads the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, told a morning news conference Friday that he would "be happy to discuss everything but auto issues with Kantor."

The minister also indicated he is willing to discuss auto issues with Kantor only if the United States drops its demand on Japanese automakers voluntary purchasing plans to buy US auto parts.

Hashimoto told an upper house Budget Committee session later Friday that the US demand was the reason the auto trade talks broke down.

Cars and auto parts account for almost two-thirds of Japan's 66 billion dollars trade surplus with the United States.

been successful in protecting their home market from automakers in the United States and elsewhere, limiting imports into Japan to less than 5 per cent of the cars sold in

or don't try hard enough.

'US auto parts export to Japan to fall if sanctions imposed' for about 60 per cent of Japan have failed to reach Japan's 66 billion dollars trade

TOKYO, May 19: Japanese imports of US auto parts will drop by 240 million dollars if the United States imposes 100 per cent tariffs on Japanese fuxury cars, a senior trade ministry official said Friday. reports AP.

tions would effectively halt production of the 13 types of luxury cars manufactured in Japan that the United States has targeted.

on condition of anonymity.

The United States and

NEW DELHI, May 19: The

government on Thursday an-

nounced lowering of import

duties on 31 life-saving drugs

and some other products and

new incentives to a attract

foreign investment in trans-

port infrastructure, reports

cover paper, paper products,

button cells and specified raw

materials used in the produc-

tion of silicone, Finance

Minister Manmohan Singh said

while introducing the govern-

ment's 1995 Finance Bill in

equipment use in dentistry

and for treatment of diseases

of ear and throat will be fully

exempted from import duty,

India's free market economic

reforms started four years ago.

amendment to proposals that

were announced when Singh

presented the 1995-96 federal

budget on March 15. He had

reduced the maximum import

tariffs to 50 per cent from 65

per cent to further attract for-

called that in March he had

On Thursday, Singh re-

eign investment.

Singh is the architect of

The concessions are

the finance minister said.

A number of medical

Parliament.

The lower duties will also

agreement in 20 months of negotiations aimed at increasing sales of American cars and

The Clinton administration has threatened to levy 5.9 billion dollars in tariffs on imports of 13 models of Japanese-made luxury cars if a June 28 final deadline for agreement is not met.

Trade minister Ryutaro Hashimoto told an upper house Budget Committee session later Friday that the US demand was the reason the auto trade talks broke down. Japan says any government involvement in arranging such a pledge would violate free

Cars and auto parts account

propriate models.

rowed slightly in March even though the trade gap with deficit with Japan worsened in auto imports, reports AP.

The Commerce Department said Thursday that America's overall deficit declined to 9.12 billion dollars, a small improvement of 0.4 per cent-

Shipping Intelligence

Berth No	Name of vessels	Cargo	L.port call	Local agent	Date of arrival	Leaving
J/1	Indian Prestige	CISSP	Adab	RML	30/4	22/5
J/2	Loyal Bird	Rice (P)/GI	Kara	Cross	5/5	23/5
J/4	Tiger Sun	" GI	Kaws	Prog	9/5	20/5
J/5	Banglar Gourab	Wheat(G)	9040000000	BSC	' R/A	19/5
J/6	Anton Makarenko	Rice (G)	Kara	PRSA	30/4	22/5
J/7	Dizu Maru	Rice (G)	Viza	CCNL	29/4	21/5
J/8	Tu Ping	GI	Sing	Prog	30/4	20/5
J/9	Jennifer Jane	R.Seed	Shan	Seacom	4/4	215
J/11	Laconian Confiden	ce Rice (G)	Myan I	atmond	3/5	22/5
J/12	Manti	Rice (P)		Litmond	30/4	25/5
J/13	Banglar Sampad	Wheat (G)	Parenta Maria	Lams	R/A	21/5
CCI	Stormy Annie	C.Clink	Chin	PSAL	28/4	19/5
GSJ	Mikhail Stelmakh	Wheat (G)	Sout	·RSA	6/5	20/5
TSP.	linke Wehr	ldle	Sing	APL(B)	4/5	19/5
RM/4	Banglar Jyoti	Repair		BSC	R/A	21/5
DDJ/2	A. Goncharov	No continue	3 8	CT	R/A	
RM/8	Banglar Shourabh	Repair	1 -	BSC	R/A	22/5
CUFLJ	Nani	Wheat (P)	ARB	OWSL	29/3	20/5

Vessels due at outer anchorage Loading Name of vessels Date Last port Local Cargo of arrival ILA GI(Lash) 18/5 Tug Dava Kencana GI(Lash) Cal Karna Sam Houston 20/5 20/5 Kama Rice (P)/GI 19/5 Kara Ocean Envoy Cement PSAL 20/5 Asean Enterprise Hald Rice (P) 21/5 Cont Sing Irini Cont Sing 21/5 Sintra ASLL Rice (P) 25/5 Able Brigadier BBA Vechiles (Roro)/48/4/5 20/5 UK.Cont BSC 23/5 Mong Banglar Kakoli MAD Rice 21/5 ASLI. Al Salma 20/5 Cont Meng Kiat Baridhi Cont Mickhail Stenco **BDship** Cont Fong Shin 21/5 Sing Banglar Moni Thalia Litmond **BDshtp** Jiang Cheng 21/5 21/5 Cross Sugus Mong BSC Banglar Kallol 22/5 22/5 CTs Cont Srimanee SSŁ Rice (G) Vishva Vikram

Eastern Mars 25/5 Tanker due: HSD MSPL Sing Wawasan Setia 18/5 21/5 Kapitan Vessels at Kutubdia Date of Local Name of vessels Cargo Last port arrival Ancient 13/5 Wheat(G) Sing Omi Columbia KSL Wheat (G) USTC Cement Helen N Vessels at outer anchorage: Ready on

17/5 10/5 Durb Seacom Phaethon Sugar Col Baridhi 11/5 Lamka Mahapola. Cont **OWSL** 13/5 Andrey Lavroy 12/5 Prog Dong Ming Sing 14/5 Cont Sing Meng Lee 14/5 Rice|G|G| MAD State of Harvana KSL (15/5)Wheat(G) Al Tajwar 15/5 B.Abb USTC Victoria Bitumen 16/5 CTS Cont Sing Kota Bintang 16/5 T.Kor ANCL Kiang Ann 16/5 BDship Fong Yun 16/5 BSC Sing Banglar Robi 17/5 Brava(Roro/24) Sing 18/5 S.Coil Banglar Shobha HSC 18/5 Mong Wheat(G) Banglar Baami

Vessels not ready 13/5 PSAL Norbiffk Namir Cement BDship 7/5 L.Oil Arje Protessor Nebesnok SSL R/A (14/5) Rice (G) Veer Savarkar PSAL R/A(14/5) Kapitan Kadeckii Vessels awaiting instruction:

1 Vamburenko

Movement of vessels for 19/5/95 and 20.5.95

Incoming Outgoing 19/5 CUFLJ Nami to J/3 J/5 Brava J/5 B. Gourabh Stormy Annie CCJ Kapitan CCJ Imke Wehr Ocean Envoy Kafco(U) Kian Ann 20/5:

Tiger Sun Kota Bintang J/4 MPB/ Fong Yun Fu Ping GSJ Al Tajwar MPB/3Meng Lee A. Lavrov M. Stelhakm W Setta Dong Ming RM/5 Able B Brava L. Mahapola MPB/1

strides towards autonomy KARACHI, Pakistan, May ducting and framing monetary 19: The State (central) Bank of

cies."

1993.

in the past," he said.

ment and SBP will not succeed

A local resident checks Hong Kong stock prices at a paging

station outlet in the central district yesterday. The Hang

Seng index plunged more than two per cent at one stage

Dollar, stocks lower

in Tokyo

The dollar slipped following Department said the US trade

TOKYO, May 19: The US

dollar was lower against the

Japanese ven late Friday in

Tokyo as favourable sentiment

for the currency faded from

earlier this week. Stock prices

mixed trading in New York on

news of the latest US monthly

trade report and German polit-

sons to buy the dollar." said

Masahiro Yamaguchi, a Tokai

"Players have run out of rea-

At late afternoon, the dollar

was changing hands at 86.86

yen, down 0.34 yen from 87.20

yen late Thursday in Tokyo and

below 86.93 yen in late New

York trading overnight. It

ranged from 86.45 yen to

lar faced strong selling pres-

sure from traders seeking to

take profits from the cur-

rency's rise earlier this week.

Yamaguchi said that the dol-

fell, reports AP.

ical turmoit.

Bank trade.

87.05 yen.

- AFP/UNB photo

"The overall trend of a

strong yen hasn't changed,

said Kei Katayama, a Sakura

Bank trader. "Any negative

economic news would easily

deficit with Japan shot up 30

per cent in March to 6.14 bil-

lion dollars close to the all-

time high of 6.7 billion dollar

with a high trade deficit be-

cause it shows that the United

States is spending more then

On the stock market, share

The 225-issue Nikkei Stock

prices dropped on aggressive

selling by foreign investors and

Japanese corporations, traders

Average shed 171.71 points, or

1.05 per cent, to end the week

at 16,140,85. On Thursday, the

average closed down 158.79

points, or 0.96 per cent.

The dollar's value suffers

Commerce

affect the currency."

The US

set last October.

it is taking in.

following a sharp fall on the New York market overnight.

Yagub said the aim would be to push average annual inflation below 10 per cent in 1995-96, but the idea of setting the SBP a specific inflation target was not workable in Pakistan.

he argued.

not dependent on monetary policy. Money supply is not the only, or the main, determinant of inflation," Yagub said, "and money supply itself is not deby what we do with the balance or payments and fiscal policy."

MELBOURNE, May 19: Foster's Brewing Group Ltd. could be prepared to spend up to 1.4 billion dollars as it embarks on the acquisition trail following the sale of its British brewing assets, analysts said Friday.

But analysts argue that Foster's pressing need is to generate short term earnings, with some suggesting wine producers BRL Hardy Ltd. and Mildara Blass Ltd. as takeover targets.

up, now," said one analyst. "Investments in China are very nice but they won't be seeing a return until 1997." BHP Co. Ltd. has a 37 per cent stake in the brewer and

needs Foster's share price to strike 1.86 Australian dollars before it can break even on its investment. Foster's share closed at 1.23 Australian dollars Friday.

British brewing unit Courage to Scottish and Newcastle Plc. for 875 million dollars.

Kunkel has said any acquisition would be in the beverage or related industries but the company has ruled competing in

per cent in the second quarter from a year earlier, according

while heavy industry will grow 17.4 per cent, the official Financial News reported Friday, citing predictions from the information center.

31.4 per cent, and retail sales of consumer products are projected to rise by 29.4 per cent.

he's worried that the high yen could put downward pressure on Japanese corporate profits.

that wholesale prices continue to fall on a year-on-year basis. Matsushita said the yen's rapid appreciation in recent months is more a reflection of the dollar's weakness, demon-

is moving into the telecommunications business with plans to offer a global portable telephone service to Malaysians. in a statement Thursday. Sime Darby said it is entering

into a joint venture with US AirTouch Communications Inc. A Sime Darby unit will hold 70 per cent of the company with AirTouch Holding the rest.

Globalstar service, which is projected to enable users to make telephone calls to and from any location in the world with a

telecommunications department to offer the service. Malaysian users will have a dual-mode handset that will provide access both to Globalstar and the subscriber's land-

niche market, such as logging companies in remote areas.

MANILA: President Fidel Ramos and Japanese Ambassador Yoshifumi Matsuda broke ground Friday for a Japanese-funded project to renovate a 60-year-old water filtration plant that provides water to the Manila area.

reports AP.

Hyundai workers arrested SEOUL. May 19: Riot police

stormed South Korea's largest car factory before dawn today to arrest more than 200 union workers who had organised a work stoppage at the plant, witnesses said, reports Reuter

About 1.000 helmeted police moved in on the workers camping at Hyundai Motor Co's factory in the southeastern city of Ulsan to protest at a management decision to shut down strike-ridden production lines indefinitely.

Scores of other Hyundai workers were also arrested around the factory in a related police swoop, witnesses said.

There was no major clashes during the raid, which took place at 4 am (1900 GMT on Thursday). Hyundai Motor indefinitely

suspended operations on Wednesday to counter the walkout by workers supporting a hard-line faction within the union, but the management had not prevented the workers from camping out at the plant. The company, South Korea's biggest car maker, had

been hit by partial stoppages from early in the week due to union discord over a suicide attempt by a dismissed worker that provoked a wave of sympathy and anger among his coworkers. Yang Bong-Soo set himself

model, the Marcia, that he said had not been cleared by the

Yang remained in critical

on fire last week to protest his

dismissal in February for stop-

ping production of a new

condition today. The dispute caused a split in the union and a radical break away faction spearheaded the illegal strike, demanding reinstatement seven union workers dismissed since 1992, compensation for Yang and an apology

from management. A company spokesman said the shutdown was costing Hyundai Motor more than 5,000 cars in lost production

On Thursday, union leaders at other companies of the giant Hyundai conglomerate threat ened sympathy action if police intervened in the three-days strike at the car plant.

Cameroon's economy likely to expand

5.5 pc this year YAOUNDE, May 19: After years of negative growth. Cameroon's economy is expected to expand between 4.5 and 5.5 per cent in 1995. Cameroon's Finance Minister Justin Ndioro told reporters. says Reuter.

overall revival of activity with growth forecasts of between 4.5 and 5.5 per cent, according to the experts," he said. Cameroon was among 13 west and central African coun-

1995 outlook which shows an

"Everyone agrees on the

franc by 50 per cent in January After the devaluation, gross domestic product growth improved to minus one per cent for 1994 against minus three

tries which devalued the CFA

in 1993 and minus 5.5 per cent in 1992. Ndioro, speaking on Wednesday, said Cameroon had to implement major reforms to ensure that growth continued. He saw Cameroon's debt burden as the major break on ex-

He put foreign debt at 4.3 billion CFA francs (8.6 million dollar) and internal debt at 1.2 billion CFA francs.

Economists have expressed concern at the slow progress of privatisation and civil service reform. "For the first time in more

than 20 years our trade bal-

ance shows a surplus, even if

you exclude oil revenues." Ndioro said. Also on Wednesday Ndioro and the head of the European Commission delegation in Cameroon signed four finance agreements worth almost 70 billion CFA, delegation state-

ment said.

Hong Kong share prices plunge HONG KONG, May 19:

Share prices in Hong Kong plunged Friday in reaction to an overnight slump on Wall Street, reports AP.

The Hang Seng Index, the market's key indicator of blue chips. fell 102.40 points, or 1.1 per cent, to 9,013.32. On Thursday, the index had slumped 54 points. Turnover amounted to

3.849 billion Hong Kong dollars (493 million US dollars). up from Thursday's 2.753 billion Hong Kong dollars (352 million US dollars). Brokers said local investors

took profits after Thursday's slump on Wall Street, when the Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks fell for the third day in a row following six straight record highs.

They said the Hong Kong market was in a period of con solidation following last week's sharp gains.

Experts divided over ME dev bank

CAIRO, May 19: Economic experts from 31 nations and the PLO discussing a mechamsm to finance Middle-East development were split Wednesday over whether to create a regional bank or a fund requiring less commit-

ment, reports AFP. The United States, Japan and the regional countries. Egypt, Jordan, Israel and the Palestinians, are supporting quite vigorously the idea of a bank. Michael Larson. Co-Head of the American delegation,

But some bigger European countries are concerned with the idea of a bank. Saudi Arabia too was a bit

skeptical, Israeli delegate

Gideon Schurr added Delegates were to end Wednesday their two-day ses sion, the third meeting of the group created on an Israeli initiative at the Middle-East and North Africa economic summit held in Casablanca

Schurr said there was a parallel suggestion submitted vesterday by the French, called the Middle East financial organisation, which is a fund with no capital. The fund would involve no

Morocco, in October 1994.

commitments and would live off the contributions of its members, he said. Lending to projects - the big money will not come from the fund but rather from other institu-The fund would not have

the ability to lend money but

only to deal out technical assis-

tance, he said.

Asia business briefs

"There's a lot of pressure from BHP to get the share price

The planned expansion follows the sale of the company's

the soft drink market with the likes of Coca Cola and Pepsi.

to the State Economic Information Centre. Output of light industry is expected to grow 24.6 per cent.

China's fixed assets investment is expected to increase by

TOKYO: Bank of Japan Gov. Yasuo Matsushita said Friday

In a speech in Tokyo, Matsushita said lower prices. resulting largely from lower import prices, are putting He said the central bank wants to avoid deflation, noting

strating concerns that it may be difficult for the United States

to achieve sustainable growth without inflation. KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian conglomerate Sime Darby Bhd.

The joint venture will offer Malaysians the planned

constellation of 48 low-earth-orbit satellites. Sime Darby said it is awaiting a license from Malaysia's

Analysts said the venture is likely to target a specialized

The renovation of Balara Water Treatment Plant in Quezon City will cost about 1 billion pesos (40 million dollars).

joint venture in Thailand for an undisclosed sum. It said the joint venture, Custom Pack Co. Ltd., is listed on the Stock Exchange of Thailand and has interests in chemicals, trading and plastic packaging with annual sales of around dirs 11.6 million.

India cuts import duties on several items proposed a five-year tax holi-

day for the development of transport infrastructure. The proposal will be

changed to allow companies to select the initial year in which they would like to begin the tax holiday, provided the holi day is used within the first 12 years of operation, he said. The import duty on paper

and paper products was reduced to 20 per cent from 40

Japanese officials claim that Japan's car market is open, and that American automakers have not tried hard enough to sell Japanese customers ap-

US trade deficit narrows

WASHINGTON, May 19: America's trade deficit nar-Mexico hit a record and the dramatically because of a rise

	call agent arrival							
lame of vessels		L.port	Local	Date of	-			
ndian Prestige	GSSP	Adab	RML	30/4	22			
oval Bird	Rice (P)/GI	Kara	Cross	5/5	23			
iger Sun	" GI	Kaws	Prog	9/5	20			
Banglar Gourab	Wheat(G)	1042061903	BSC	' R/A	19			
Anton Makarenko	Rice (G)	Kara	PRSA	30/4	22			
Name Manage	Dies (C)	1/han	CONI	90/4	91			

24/5

Java Gulf Swissco		Kari Sing	Kama	15/1 16/1					
Vessels not entering:									
AJI	Scraping		OTL	R/A(25/4					
Tug Odin		Bada	OTL	26/4					
Mc Dermott	 Scraping 	Bada	OTL	26/4					
Kavkaz	Scraping .	Suez	OTBL	30/4					
Cali	Scraping	Sing	ARL	2/					
Knock Nalling	Scraping	Sing	UMTL	5/5					
T.T Seal Island	Scraping	Col	ARL	13/					
Liberty Belee	Wheat(G)	K.Dta	Lams	12/5					
Al Tabith	Wheat(G)		Lams	R/A(14/5					

The above were the Thursdays shipping position and performance of vessels of Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by HRC Group, Dhaka.

auto parts in Japan.

The official said the sanc-

Since the car models use some high-quality US parts. such as leather seats and audio equipment, imports of those parts to Japan will decline if car production suffers, said the official, who briefed reporters

Organization in Geneva.

Japanese automakers have

Japan. Hashimoto and other Japanese negotiators maintain that Japan's markets are among the most open in the world, and that foreigners fail because they don't know how to please Japanese customers

Chief executive Ted Kunkel has singled out China and possibly India for further long-term growth.

BELJING: China's industrial output is expected to rise 20.8

substantial pressure on Japanese non-manufacturers.

based cellular service.

Japanese grants will pay for 90 per cent of the cost. MELBOURNE: Paper and packaging group Amcor Ltd. said

Friday it has acquired a controlling interest in a packaging

"Thailand is experiencing rapid economic growth and rising living standards. The joint venture plans to upgrade existing Custom Pack facilities." Amoor said in a statement.