



Turkish Central Bank hikes late liquidity window rate

English football clubs raided over fraud probe

Fenerbahce sweep Panathinaikos in Euroleague playoffs



ANADOLU POST

Thursday, April 27, 2017

WEATHER / ANKARA
Thursday Sunny 22°C

Over 1,000 arrested in FETO raids



Süleyman Soylu, Turkish Interior Minister

Ankara-based operations target suspected infiltration of Turkey's police force, Interior Minister Soylu says

By Orhan Onur Gemici and Sertac Bulur

ANKARA - Over 1,000 Fetullah Terrorist Organization (FETO) suspects nested within the police force were arrested in simultaneous raids held across Turkey, the interior minister confirmed Wednesday. "1,009 covert 'imams' in 72 provinces have been taken into custody so far," Süleyman Soylu said in the capital Ankara. "This is an important step for

the Republic of Turkey."

An 8,500-officer Ankara-based operation targeted FETO police infiltration in 81 provinces. The operations were carried out as part of a probe led by the Ankara Chief Public Prosecutor's Office. The nationwide hunt for more suspects continues. According to the government, FETO and its U.S.-based leader Fetullah Gulen orchestrated the defeated coup of July

2016, which left 249 people martyred and nearly 2,200 injured. Ankara has said FETO is behind a long-running campaign to overthrow the state through the infiltration of Turkish institutions, particularly the military, police and judiciary. Since the defeated coup, operations have been ongoing in the military, police and judiciary, as well as in state institutions across the country, to arrest suspects with alleged links to FETO. **MORE DETAILS**



Anadolu Agency Photo By Alper Iman



Anadolu Agency Photo

Second phase of Pakistan's sixth census begins

Second phase to continue till May 24, cover some 88 districts

By Aamir Latif

KARACHI, Pakistan - Pakistan has begun the second phase of its sixth census of its ever-growing populace amid heightened security on Tuesday following a spate of terrorist attacks on census staff across the country. In the second phase, some 88 districts of the four provinces, Gilgit-Baltistan region, northwestern tribal region, and Azad (liberated) Kashmir will be

covered till May 24, Habibullah Khattak, a spokesman for Pakistan Bureau of Statistics told Anadolu Agency. The preliminary results of the long-due census, he said, are expected to be announced within 60 days after completion of the second phase. The sixth census, which is being held after a gap of 18 years, had begun in March 15, and covered some 63 districts. The house listing and the two-phase enumeration exercise is estimated to cost the national exchequer around 14.5 billion rupees (approximately \$138 million). The move by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's government came... **MORE DETAILS**

Turkey eyes extending Customs Union with EU

By Gokhan Kurtaran

DUBLIN, Ireland - An updated Customs Union agreement between Turkey and the EU would benefit both sides, Turkey's economy minister said Tuesday. "The Customs Union right now contains only industrial products. When the Customs Union is extended to include food, agriculture, electronics, and public procurements, it will put Turkey in a position to provide net contributions to the total growth of the European Union," Nihat Zeybekci told a Turkish Day event in Dublin, Ireland, held by Turkey's Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEIK) and Enterprise Ireland. Zeybekci also stressed that both sides agree on extending the deal's scope, including Turkey in the EU's Customs Union decision-making mechanisms, and making Turkey automatically a party in free trade agreements the EU signs with third countries. Zeybekci said the European Council is expected to make a decision on these points by June and the update could be completed by early 2018. Also pointing to the need to boost economic and trade ties between Turkey and Ireland, Zeybekci signaled that an Irish Day could be held in Turkey this fall. Also addressing the event, Ireland's Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Charles... **MORE DETAILS**

PKK will not be tolerated in northern Iraq: minister

By Sarp Ozer and Zuhail Demirci

ANKARA - Turkey will not allow the presence of the PKK terrorist group or its offshoots in northern Iraq, the nation's defense minister said in the wake of counter-terrorist airstrikes in both Iraq and northeastern Syria. "Our president, prime minister, our ministers, and myself have repeatedly said that we won't tolerate Sinjar becoming another Qandil," Fikri Isik told a defense industry gathering, referring to northern Iraq's Mt. Sinjar, the target of Turkish airstrikes Tuesday, and Mt. Qandil, so-called headquarters of the terrorist PKK. "Turkey will take all necessary measures in this regard, whatever the cost," he added. "Operations carried out in Sinjar and Karacok [Syria] targeted the terror group. Everyone should be aware that there can be no possibility of the PKK terrorist organization or its offshoots having a new base in Sinjar," he told the Defense and Aerospace Industry Exporters' Association in the capital Ankara. He added, "We are willing to set international cooperation at the highest level in this regard; while doing this we look to possible cooperation with our allies at the highest level." Separately, Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu told reporters in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on an official visit, about the airstrikes, "We informed the U.S., one



Fikri Isik, Turkish Defense Minister

of our allies, that we would carry out an air operation in this region soon and requested that they withdraw their armies to 20-30 kilometers south out of our border." "Under the agreement, two hours before the operation started, we shared information that we would carry out an operation in that region with the U.S. and Russia. We also shared the same information with the air coordination center of the coalition located in Qatar," he added, contrary to U.S. claims that it had not been informed. The PKK targets on Mt. Sinjar, northern Iraq and Mt. Karacok... **MORE DETAILS**

YPG in Syria targeted 'for Turkey's security'

Omer Celik calls airstrikes matter of national security, criticizes US expression of 'concern' in their wake

ANKARA - Turkey's EU minister has said that airstrikes in northeastern Syria Tuesday were done to safeguard the nation's security, also criticizing the U.S. position on the strikes. "NATO member state Turkey hit a terrorist camp that posed a threat to itself. This terrorist camp was visited by another NATO country, a U.S. commander, and [was seen with] a member of that terrorist group," Omer Celik told A Haber TV Wednesday. Criticizing a U.S. statement on the airstrikes, Celik said, "A statement which came after the operation saying 'We are deeply concerned' shows a mistaken

approach". The U.S. State Department Tuesday said it was "deeply concerned" over the strikes, which targeted the YPG -- the terrorist PKK's Syrian branch -- on Mt. Sinjar, northern Iraq and Mt. Karacok, northeastern Syria. While Ankara sees both the YPG and PKK as terrorists, the U.S. considers the PKK a terrorist group, but has called the YPG a "reliable partner" in Syria. Celik stated that photos purportedly taken after the airstrikes said by Turkish media to show a U.S. commander posing at the Mt. Karacok camp alongside a PKK commander are harming the alliance between NATO allies Turkey and the U.S. "These photos need to be mainly questioned at this point," Celik added. According to the Turkish General Staff, the military hit the PKK targets it did Tuesday to prevent... **MORE DETAILS**