

No : 51

Date :15/11/2013

ANNOUNCEMENT

Syrian civil war which was intensified since 2012, caused a remarkable increase in the number of Syrians coming to Turkey. Most of these arrivals/departures are not for the tourism purpose; most of them were realized in Gaziantep Kargamış, Hatay Cilvegözü and Yayladağı, Kilis Öncüpınar and Şanlıurfa Akçakale border gates and have showed a continuous increase since 3rd quarter of 2012.

Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) uses the border figures of General Directorate of Security in the context of the studies on tourism statistics. As these figures include the arrivals/departures that do not belong to the tourism, it is decided that starting from the 3rd quarter of 2013, calculations are made by extracting the departures of Syrians in the stated border gates from the border figures of General Directorate of Security. Also, for comparison, the figures were revised by 3rd quarter of 2012 which was the starting quarter of the problem.

Explanation about the subject was in the news release named "Tourism Statistics, III. Quarter: July-September, 2013" which was published in October 31, 2013 . Nevertheless, there have been some news in public opinion stating that this revision caused an unexpected increase in current account deficit.

According to the results of the revision, the amount of total decrease in the tourism income in 2012 is \$ 344,4 million; \$ 119,6 million for the 3rd quarter and \$ 224,8 million for the 4th quarter of 2012. And also, the amount of total decrease in the tourism income in the first two quarters of 2013 is \$ 630 million; \$ 268,7 million for the 1st quarter and \$ 361,3 million for the 2nd quarter of 2013.

Announced to the public with respect.